

SCKS Competition Report - June 2011

SCKS Competition



Report by Sensei Mark Beeby

Tobi Ishi Karate Schools took part in Simon Coope's Competition on Sunday 5th June 2011. Seven students took part in either the kata or the kumite section with varying results. Some good kata performances by individuals were not given good marks by the kata referees and left large groups of spectators baffled by the scoring. We must add at this point that the scoring was done by the point scoring system and not by flags as is the common practice these days. Having favoured the point scoring system in the past I now have to reflect over the last two competitions and I'm coming back to preferring flags.

We had good solid performances from Callum Whatmore who achieved gold in his individual category. Tara Wilson, took the bronze in her own category, despite some of the dodgiest marking of the day. It was incredible that at the end of the category the best three won medals. This was without doubt more luck than judgement. Tara also won bronze in the black belt open age group, tying for second place and then achieving third place after a tight third round play off. Congratulations to Simon Coope's sons Mathew and David who won gold and silver in this category.

Emily Davies achieved silver in her category, we all feel that it should have been gold, but once again referees from one association, who obviously prefer their brand of Wado Ryu to the rest of us, favoured their own when it came to the scoring,

Kyle Harding who achieved top eight in his own category and the open black belt group performed with good solid kata. Kyle has improved over this year and has started to take part in competitions once again. Kyle will improve over the next year as he is a student who knows that hard work and practice achieve results and many of our students should be encouraged by Kyle's attitude to do likewise.

In the junior section of Kata, Harvey Julian achieved third place bronze after mistakes were made by the table officials who miss understood how the scoring system worked. Harvey led the field after a very good Pinan Nidan kata. In the second round however, Harvey had to perform a different kata as he was over 7th kyu, other

competitors who were in the same category but were 7th kyu or below were allowed to repeat the same kata and this led to Harvey losing points in the second round. Some would say this was an unfair playing field. I am one of them.

Becky Pink, still a virtual novice in competitions is another performer with great potential, good Pinan Godan in the first round put her in sixth place to qualify for the second round. After round two Becky was joint third with two other competitors. Becky was unlucky, as 6th kyu she had to perform a different kata whilst her opponents could repeat the same one. Much like Harvey it is difficult to have two katas equally as good, harder still to have three. Points lost in this round gave Becky 4th place - a valiant effort.

The kumite section was in some ways better refereed. Our first competitor in the kumite was Jordan Price. Jordan still only nine is a great competitor. In the first thirty seconds the fight was actually over when Jordan's opponent ran round the mat screaming his head off rolling around like an injured footballer in the penalty area. The referees were not sure what had happened, Jordan was not sure what had happened and neither was I. After three or four minutes of medical attention the fight resumed with Jordan's opponent being given a warning for shamming injury. The damage however was done and Jordan was now reluctant to get too close to the lad for fear of hurting him again. Jordan ended up losing the fight in extra time with some unusual refereeing.

Callum Whatmore had his best fight to date, losing in the first round to a good opponent. Callum lost the first point and then had to chase his opponent to regain points. Unfortunately he was picked off twice more in closing him down. In Callum's favour is his natural speed with both hands and feet. Callum was both fit and sharp, threw more combinations, showed better skills, but lost on the day to experience. Callum has good potential which will be rewarded by his hard work.

A difficult day for Tobi Ishi Kai competitors - we had to fight hard for every result and position. I am proud of the tenacity of the students who stuck at it in order for us to gain the results we had. My commiserations to the parents who had to endure untold insults to the kids by the unique refereeing, Hope we don't see too much of that in the future. We must now work hard for Mushindo next week. If you can get them to as many lessons as possible that would be great.

Regards and best wishes

Sensei Mark Beeby