



Akitas Judo Club

Southend Leisure & Tennis Centre, Garon Park, Eastern Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 4FA
akitasjudo@mac.com <http://homepage.mac.com/durera/akitas>

Newsletter: Issue 3, June 2005



Welcome to the Official *Akitas* *Judo Club* Newsletter Issue 3, June 2005



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Welcome to the third issue of the Akitas Judo Club Newsletter. Another busy month for the club, although I hope that everything has remained at the pace that you want!

Grading

Without a shadow of a doubt, the most important thing this month was the grading – a first for many of you. The General Election certainly didn't help with the preparation; particularly it being the week before that we were forced to close! Once again, apologies for this, but everything was out of our control.

Without further ado, a massive congratulations to the following Juniors who achieved their 2nd Mon (2 Yellow stripes on a red belt):

Louis Pond-Thompson,
Adam Somerset,
Elliott Woodham &
Matthew Bruty;

David James, who received his 4th Mon (1 red tab on a yellow belt) and

Ben James who received his 8th mon theory.

Ben now has to fight at a regional (NHC – Northern Home Counties) event to confirm his grade – as all juniors need to past their 6th Mon. There is no rush for this for Ben who, with his brother David, had a long break in Judo before our re-opening. Another plus for the James' brothers was

converting – and surpassing – their BJC (mac) grade to BJA.

The Seniors who attended the grading got a little greedy! Not happy with one grade, they managed to get two! All 3 seniors who attended (Leanne Stockwell, Darren Ottley and Steve Sexton) obtained their 9th kyu (yellow belt). They also passed their 7th kyu (higher orange (senior kyu grades are a countdown to their dan grade)) theory. Like Ben they will have to fight at a Regional event to get past their yellow.

I'm sure you'll all join me in congratulating all that attended.

Apologies to parents that sewed on tabs, only to receive the stick-on ones in the post! I have not been involved with the admin side until the move to Southend, so was completely unaware of this. Personally, I was impressed that that the BJA take this initiative – as far as I am aware no other association does this.

Schools

We finally managed to run the school assemblies that I have continually promised, at both Friars Junior and Earls Hall Junior Schools. Both seemed to run perfectly, and seemed to be extremely well received.

The amount joining the club from these events has however been rather low. After reviewing the display, we have concluded that whilst the pupils seemed to love every second, asking their parents for permission to attend following a description of grown men flying through the air and crashing to the mat probably did little to allay the parents safety fears! Those of you at the club will know that there should be no worries. In reality, and so the next crusade will be to attempt to dispel these fears and assumptions – local newspapers are being contacted – more on this later.

Of course, this does mean that we appreciate those parents that did allow their children to attend even more! Thank You! A big thanks to those schools for allowing us the opportunity to introduce our sport, we hope they enjoyed themselves as much as we hope. Both schools were extremely impressive, easy to work with and enjoyable to attend – a credit to the area. Again, a big thanks. Finally, and certainly not least, a massive thanks to the students and Sensei's of sister club Kamiko,

Judo Suits for Sale

The club can provide all your Judogi's at low cost.
Our basic range is ideal for beginners. These bleached whites are:

110's = £19	150's = £23
120's = £19	160's = £26
130's = £20	170's = £27
140's = £22	180's = £28

We can also provide the cheaper unbleached gi's all the way to Olympic quality

– please ask for prices.

Remember though! We need at least three orders to avoid Postage & Packing charges!

Cheques made payable to 'Akitas Judo Club'



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without whos help the occasion certainly wouldn't have been possible.

THANK YOU ALL!

Badge

After a few months of development, the new club badge now has two prototypes available for view. Remember, 'Akitas' was used as at

"one time we had three clubs at different halls and this led to the strange position where members of the three sister clubs were fighting each other at competitions because the organisers had not realised the relationship. As a consequence the three clubs were given a group name, they were known as the Akitas Clubs. A parent who had researched the famous Akitas dogs of Japan suggested the name. He considered the name particularly appropriate since the dogs are renowned for their strength and gentleness, a combination that sits well with Jigoro Kano's original conception for the sport of Judo."

So, a dog really needed to be included within the badge. The difficulty for the design was to include those that were not dog lovers! We hope that the idea of using an akita head as the sun within the Japanese flag is palatable, but which flag? The old or the new? A 50/50 split has encouraged us to produce both – hopefully these will be available within the next month. We will then be having other merchandise made available; possibly even hoodies and baseball caps for those who do not want to go to Bluewater (do not say that I do not make this newsletter topical!).

Why change the badge? The old club badge incorporated the old name of 'Beauchamps Judo Club' and used as it's imagery a reath of corn. This was no considered inappropriate. The images (excuse the lack of colour!) are:

'Modern' flag:



Traditional flag:



Colour examples are available at the club.

The Japanese text is:

秋田犬	= Akitas
柔道	= Judo

Requests

If you want anything demonstrated at the club, ask! We tend to have a broad outline of what we intend to teach each session (but do change depending on the attendance), and if we miss something that you want to learn (I'll rarely admit it on the mat, but I am fallible!), ask and we will do our best to include it. Even if we are unsure ourselves, we will ensure that we clarify everything for you and demonstrate thereafter – but only when we are happy that the technique is safe and correct.

Regarding this, Seniors that are ready will be practising a technique called 'Yama Arashi' This means, Literally 'Mountain Storm'. The reason that I will be demonstrating this technique is that I have heard of a 7th Dan informing a 1st Dan that this technique does not actually exist. In the book, Sugata Sanshiro, written by Tsuneo Tomita, published by Shunpo-do in 1950, the author describes Yamaarashi. The author's father (Tsunejiro Tomita, 8th Dan) was the first Judo student of Jigoro Kano (Judo's founder) and was known as one of the 'famous four'. He left many articles about development of Judo techniques. The author of this book uses his father's articles as follows: "When Kodokan Judo fought against many other old Jujitsu schools, Shiro Saigo successfully used his unique Yamaarashi to defeat others and left many outstanding winning records. But, nowadays, nobody tries this unique technique and many black belts do not know the technique of Yamaarashi."

The Kodakan also credit the technique with enabling them successfully break away from Ju Jitsu. Therefore Judo itself owes it's existence in part to this technique.



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Don't worry seniors! It's not as bad as it sounds (well, not quite!). ☺

Badge Days

Juniors will shortly be able to attend their first 'badge day'. These are an ideal opportunity to collect badges, but also recognise progression aside from the more formal gradings. As soon as I have the details confirmed I will let you all know.

Press / Advertising

As ever, if anyone has any ideas or opportunities for advertising, please let me know!

As mentioned earlier, I have been in contact with the local press. The Yellow Advertiser have been particularly prompt and have offered to run a pictured article on the club! However, their photographers only work office hours.

Can we get a large enough group of you together during these times? Or does anyone know a professional



As part of our ongoing efforts to inform as many people as possible about the Judo Club, we intend to develop a website. We would therefore appreciate permission to take some photograph's of the Judo class in session. No individual photographs will be taken, and the photographs will only be used for the website. All under 18 year olds need to have parents permission, and so please return this slip at the next opportunity.

I give permission for my child/ren _____

To be in group photograph's taken by Akitas Judo Club for use on the clubs website.

Signed _____ Date _____

photographer that is willing to pop down on a Thursday and take a few shots for us (ideally without any cost!!)? This is of course a great opportunity for the club to recruit new members, and fingers are firmly crossed that we hear something from the other local press agents in the near future. Of course, I will let you

all know of any developments as soon as possible.

Club Number

For completing BJA licence applications, we are club 3038 & are a part of the NHC (Northern Home Counties) region.

Advertisement

NurseryRhymeTimes

Handpainted baby and children's rooms.

Stimulate your child's imagination...



Do they want to live in 100 Acre Wood with Winnie-the-Pooh and Piglet too...

Or perhaps dream on the Island of Sodor with Thomas and friends

Be a part of Fimble Valley

Or play with Tinky Winky, Dipsy, LaLa and Po?

Babies and Children's rooms transformed into your child's favourite place and filled with their favourite fictional friends.



For an informal consultation and to discuss your wishes please call Adam or Sally on 01702 296292

www.NurseryRhymeTimes.co.uk

Finally...

Finally, please accept my apologies for being so difficult to get time with on a Thursday evening. My biggest problem is working in the West End of London and therefore having an insane dash each night to try and get those mats down! I am, however, reasonably easy to contact, so please do not be hesitate to contact me by email akitasjudo@mac.com, mobile (text's are fine!) 0775 382 0439, or at home on 01702 296292.

Yours In Judo,

Adam Hutchins 2nd Dan Sensei, Akitas Judo Club