



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 2, May 2005

Welcome to the Official *Akitas Judo Club*

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Welcome to the second Akitas newsletter! A very busy time behind the scenes this month – hopefully we will start to see much of what we've been up to come to fruition shortly. I will take this opportunity, once again, to thank you all for your continued support and to all of you that have had your first taste of Judo. Hopefully you are still all enjoying yourselves, and if not – tell me!

Development

I spoke last month regarding the coaching course that Andrew James and I were attending. A few things transpired from this which I will approach later. For now, the biggest thing for the club (in my honest opinion) is that the Sensei's of this club are ensuring that they themselves continue to explore avenues to further their own education. It is sadly all too easy for instructors (as in most sports) to neglect their own training – which of course can only have negative effects on the Judo being taught.

Encouragingly, whilst Andrew and I were at one coaching course (run by Eddie Awford – the BJA's national coaching commissioner), Les Tobbell, another of our Sensei's also attended a BJC (MAC) coaching seminar. I have not had the opportunity to ask how this went yet, but of course this is a demonstration of the club's dedication in bringing as many different influences as possible.

Child Protection

One aspect that I had not considered with as much importance as I should have done is the subject of Child Protection. Whilst always being available to be spoken to, and acutely aware of the responsibilities as a coach, I had not previously been made aware of the need to inform parents and guardians of the club's intentions. Something that I have since been determined to put right. As a Judo Instructor and coach, we are 'loco parenti', and this is something that I am wholeheartedly determined to follow. We have therefore put into place a Named Child Protection Officer. My wife, Sally Hutchins is both a qualified Children's Nurse and Registered Health Visitor presently working with Southend PCT. She is involved in child protection within her role and has completed all basic child protection study days held by the Southend Area Child Protection Committee. However, if anyone feels that my wife undertaking this role for the club as a conflict of interest or has any other comments, please do not be afraid to let me know. All of the club's Sensei's are CRB

checked, and we will endeavour to ensure that anyone who will contact with the children is checked or in the process. We all also now have in place an accident book – please ensure that we are advised of anything that you feel needs to be recorded.

Gradings!

For the 7th May, I have organized the first opportunity for many of you to get some colour around your waist! This will be held at St Andrews Hall, Summer Hill, Althorne - along with sister club Kamiko.

'Kano's' (under 8's) are 'on the mat' from 9-12, there is an hour lunch break and Juniors and Seniors all on from 1pm onwards. Hopefully the day will finish around 4pm at the very latest.

Gradings are charged at £10 for Kano and Junior grades, those taking Senior grades are charged £12.

I have enclosed respective grading syllabi, although much of this has already been ably issued by Andrew.

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'

We try to keep gradings as informal as possible – we want to see what you are capable of, not scare the life out of you! Whilst you may want as high a grade as possible, if you do not perform to your maximum potential, there is always the next time!

Juniors have many 'club' gradings before attending area gradings. Seniors, however, can only obtain their



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first grade (9th Kyu – Yellow belt), before having to fight elsewhere (I can grade theory up to 1st Kyu – brown belt without aid though).

One BIG thing though! You need your BJA license to be graded! The club receives none of this membership fee, which gives you individual insurance (to be combined with the insurance that the club already has). **GET YOUR LICENSES!!!**

Where's Sensei?!

Quick apology for my absence on the 21st. A (well deserved?!) break in the Lake District. I am sure that everyone had a good time in the capable hands of Andrew and Les though!

Photo Permission Slips

A minor grumble. I have not had one permission slip back yet! Please, parents, if it is OK for your child/ren to be in photographs that will only be used to help the clubs progression via the Internet, please fill in the attached slip on the back of this newsletter.

On the subject of the Internet, I will have the domain name at the next time of writing.

Schools

My meeting with the BJA National

Schools Liaison Officer, Carole Doherty, has coincided, ironically,

with the day set aside for two school assemblies! On Thursday 28th April, Andrew and I will be visiting Friars Junior & Earls Hall Junior Schools for a short presentation. Carole has suggested that she also attends, and I am hopeful that this will be even more impressive to the school's to help encourage our own club's attendance. I am also confident that the meeting between Carole and I will be a fruitful one.

China

Bizarrely, through the wonders of the Internet, I have been in communication with a Free Fighting club based in China. Among their number is Liu Hailong, considered the best Free Fighter in China, who won the title of "Sanda King" and 80kg gold medal at the First World Cup Wushu Sanshou (free fight in English) Competition in Shanghai. I am not as yet sure what any relationship would involve, but I will keep you posted.

All official BJA events can be found at www.britishjudo.org.uk.

We have already mentioned the grading, the date of which is May 7th at St Andrew's Hall, Althorne. Juniors 9-12pm, Juniors and Seniors from 1-4pm.

We also have an invite to an International competition held by Willesden Judo Club. Another good opportunity to see how you have progressed!



BJA Membership Forms

Members who are not already BJA license holders will have found enclosed a BJA membership form. The BJA is the national body of Judo for Great Britain. The British Judo Association is lottery funded, and is the only

association who's members can be considered for the Olympics. Akitas has only been BJA for around 4-5 years now, we used to belong to the British Judo Council (Martial Arts Circle). Whilst I appreciate the technical abilities I gained from the BJC (MAC), I eventually instrumented the change due to the extra



WILLESDEN International

2005 Junior & Cadet Tournament

Capital City Sports Academy, Doyle Gardens, Willesden, London NW10

Upcoming Events

insurance and Olympic opportunities available. I was Eastern Region Head Coach, on the 3-member



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boards of referees and grading officers as well as being one of the 2 National Coaches. I surrendered these posts for the good of the club members – so please get those forms completed and handed in ASAP!

You can read more about the BJA at www.britishjudo.org.uk – where you can also complete your application online.

club is to have a full mat at all times. With Judo and the development of Judoka, it really is a case of 'the more the merrier'.

So, another Plea! Anyone that can assist with any form of advertisement, please, please,

Advertisement

that has any contacts where we can get some posters up, or anyone willing to flyer their road, please let us know. Every little helps! I am still flyering, in fact around 5000 have now been posted!

Lapsed Members

Anyone that has been down, or knows anyone that has not returned for what-ever reason, please do let me know! If there is anything at all that we can change to suit you better we will do! Unless we are told what is not going quite right, we cannot progress further – remember, it is YOUR club!

Payment Cards

Juniors will already have their payment cards, or will have found them enclosed. Juniors are charged for 5-week periods. Next payday is 12th May.

Contact Details

Please feel free to catch me at the club, or phone 01702 296292, mobile 0775 382 0439, or email akitasjudo@mac.com. Please do not be afraid to let me know if there is something you want to do more of, or if there's anything that you are not enjoying – Unless you tell us, we do not know!

Advertising

The best thing for the

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 _____

NurseryRhymeTimes

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

www.NurseryRhymeTimes.co.uk



please let me know! Anyone

Close

That's it for another month, I do hope that you all enjoy the newsletter! As ever, any comments, suggestions or cursing regarding anything involved with the club, please just let me know!

Yours In Judo,

Adam Hutchins 2nd Dan