

# ITF Wales

## Past, present, and future

### A news report for TKD-KMA

#### Ely Success.

During 2004 Ely Taekwon-Do won over 110 medals and awards throughout the year's tournaments, the highlights being Wayne Brookes I, winning a gold medal for sparring and Dave Lund I, taking two bronze medals for patterns and sparring in the World Championships in Malaysia. Later in the year they both joined the Welsh team and helped to win the Four Nations tournament for Wales in Dublin bringing the trophy home for the first time in 12 years.

The school itself won overall best school in the Welsh Open in Cardiff and the British Open in Sheffield as well as good performances in the English, Scottish and Irish Opens in the year. They then finished the year off with Lanny James winning the under 13 division and Sean Maloney winning 13-17 year old division in the Welsh Grand Prix series.

A lot of hard work will be needed to equal this feat again this year but Master John Taylor VII, believes the students are up to the task and they have already collected 33 medals from the

year's first two tournaments coming overall 4th in the English Open in February.

*Press Officer Ely TKD press@elytkd.co.uk www.elytkd.co.uk*

#### ITF Wales success in four Nation tournament.

*November 2004, Institute of Technology Blanchards Town, Dublin*

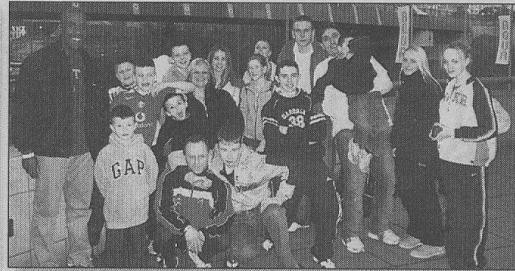
The Welsh team with some of their supporters set off early on the drive over to Bristol to catch their flight to Dublin. With the short hop done it was a pretty frantic dash to the Institute with the competitors arriving just in time for the start of the Irish Open which was preceding the Four Nations tournament. Joining up with some supporters and competitors in the Open the Welsh enclave soon grew to around forty. After a long day at the Irish Open with over 200 competitors partaking the main event of the Four Nations then came around and the English, Irish and Welsh teams entered the cheers of the spectators. The teams were introduced and the different events explained.

The first event was the team patterns

with each team taking the other on, the end result was a three way tie with Wales beating England, England beating Ireland and Ireland beating Wales leaving the field wide open for a winner. Moving into the sparring event Wales first took on Ireland and won the event 3-1 with some good all rounds sparring from the whole team, including the two players in their first ever Four Nations. This was followed by England taking on Ireland with Ireland narrowly winning this, the last round was Wales up against England, a brilliant display of sparring once more took Wales through to win this and leave the event leading the tournament with just the power to go.

Each team put up the member for each team and some good clean breaking was seen, the event finished with England winning narrowly leaving Wales and Ireland to tie in joint second, this being enough to give Wales the win overall. The small contingent of Welsh fans were celebrating wildly enjoying the moment as the team picked up the trophy to it bring home for the first time in 12 years.





For any further information please contact Mr Chris Black II secretary @itfwales.com or go to www.itfwales.com

**Ely and Fairwater represent Wales at English Open**

*Ponds Forge Arena Sheffield 26th February 2005*

The ITF Wales was represented at the English Open by 12 competitors from the Ely school along with four more from the Fairwater school this year and all competitors acquitted themselves well at the competition bringing home 7 Gold, 7 silver and 6 Bronze pennants between them (this year to mark the 50th anniversary of Taekwon-do in the UK medals had been replaced with anniversary pennants).

In the junior division Ryan Davies (gold patterns, gold sparring) and Ethan Davies (bronze patterns, gold sparring) dominated in the Yellow belt category, Lanny James (1/4 final patterns, gold sparring) fought well in the Green belt Category, in Blue belt category Kane Collins (1st round patterns, bronze sparring) did well in the new -125cm category and it was finished off with George Crews (1st round patterns, silver sparring) in Red belt category sparring soundly to reach the final.

In the 13-17 division Ben Hull (1st round patterns, silver sparring) started well in the yellow belt category. In Blue belt category Conah Prosser (silver patterns, 1st round sparring) and Sean Maloney (1/4 final patterns, bronze sparring) both competed well. In the Red belt category Tom Harris (gold patterns, bronze sparring) Lee Burridge (1st round patterns, 1st round sparring) and Gareth Francis (1st round patterns, 1st round sparring) all put in good performances but were unlucky not to go through further in the rounds. Finally in this division in the Black belt category Cassie Lund I (gold patterns, gold sparring) and

Sophie Collins (bronze patterns, 1st round sparring) both did very well.

In the adult division Victoria Phillips I (silver patterns, silver sparring), Dave Lund I (silver patterns, silver sparring) and Neville Thompson I (Bronze sparring) all performed very well to round of a very good day for the club and the ITF Wales.

At the end of the days events the Ely School was in 3rd place but unfortunately dropped to 4th after the overall winners were announced. The Fairwater School finished 25th overall which was a good achievement considering they only had four competitors. Over 39 schools with more than 200 competitors took part in the day's competition.

Despite a very long day with a 4:30 start for most people, everyone enjoyed the day and can be proud of their performances, which given the introduction of the new low/non-contact rules for sparring at short notice, were as good as our competitors always give and deserve full credit for their efforts.

**Welsh GP 2005 Stage I**

*Eastern Leisure Centre.*

In its third year now, the Welsh Grand Prix series started off well this year with more than one hundred competitors from over 15 schools partaking throughout the three divisions, in this the first of the three events for this year. As the competition goes from strength to strength improvements can be seen with a good standard of Taekwon-do was on display throughout the divisions.

This year there are still three divisions: Under 13, 13-17 and 18 plus but within each division there has been a change so the categories are now White belt, Yellow and Green belts and finally Blue and Red. This year with the introduction of the White belt category it should be less daunting for Taekwon-Do novices to start competing.

The top three rankings for the day were as follows:

- Under 13  
 1st Lanny James Ely 6 pts  
 2nd Bethan Pezzack Fairwater 4 pts  
 3rd Tammy Horrell TKD  
 Wales.com 4 pts

- 13-17  
 1st Tom Harris Ely 6 points  
 2nd Ryan Davies Ely 3 points  
 3rd Matthew Skliton Torbay 3 points

- 18+  
 1st Craig Biggs Cardiff North 4 pts  
 2nd Harry Brown Cardiff Uni 3 pts  
 3rd Mark Felton Tywyn 3 pts

So with two more stages to go things are still wide open for all competitors. The day went well with very few hiccups thanks to the prior planning and a successful day ended in the early afternoon and hopefully everyone went home satisfied having competed well and having had an entertaining time. We now look forward to seeing everyone at the second stage of the Grand Prix on Sunday April 24th 2005 once again at Eastern Leisure Centre.

Further information can be obtained from Mr Chris Black II at secretary @itfwales.com or at www.itfwales.com pressitfwales@itfwales.com

