

ATA leave a lasting impression at Bournemouth



Anxiety & excitement – these are some of the emotions that were felt by both the players and the supporters of the Allen Taekwondo Academy.

On Sunday 1st June 2008, students from the Allen Taekwondo Academy travelled as a team to Bournemouth, to compete in the Southern Taekwondo Championships.

Dubbed by the hosts as *'probably the best competition in the UK 2008'*, this was Dorset Taekwondo Association's biggest kyorugi competition since 1995 and with a total of 34 teams, 333 players, ATA was proud to be a part of it.

Armed with a selection of both novice and experienced fighters, the students had an agenda – to show the people of Dorset what south London has to offer - and show they did.

One student who came to support said *"Even though I did not compete on this occasion I feel I have learned a lot in relation to techniques. I can't wait to try some things out when sparring."*

With nerves at a high, all of ATA's fighters fought well, exceeding their expectations. This was the perfect opportunity for students to take their fighting skills to a whole new level.

Natasha Campbell, 28 said *"watching this competition has reaffirmed my notion that you need to know what you are doing in relation to techniques and flexibility before you step into the ring."*

ATA's students were on unfamiliar territory, some competing against clubs they had never met before, others competing in new weight categories.

With fighters ranging from 16kg peewees to European standard competitors, it was a whole new experience for many of Richard Allen's students, but nevertheless, they represented.

The 3-ring- competition ran continuous bouts from 10am to 7.15pm and although long, it was a challenging and exciting day.

Third dan black belt and Academy's Solicitor Ade Soyege beamed with pride, *"I am very happy to see major developments within the Academy. They are working really hard. Keep it up team."*

The students of the Allen Taekwondo Academy returned with many things gained. Some with medals - whether, bronze, silver or gold. Most with a plan set for the next time they enter the ring.

Allen Taekwondo Academy's coach, 4th dan Richard Allen, commented: *I am extremely proud of all my fighters. Whether win or loose, they have all gained something much more valuable than any medal – they have gained experience.*

Congratulations to all the Fighters who took part on the day:-

Alex Gordon, Andrew, Charlie Kelly, Christopher Coleman, Darhys Nugent, Deighton Wilson, Feyi Pearce, Joe Irving, Joseph Monl Halm, Lucy Thomas, Luke Brizeldon, Marvin Brown, Olsi Hoxha, Sian Brizelden, Stephan Edward, Thomas Coleman

Visit www.fimpmedia.com to view and purchase competition photos.



Say Cheese: Feyi Pearce, Darhys 'guv' Nugent, Marvin Brown



Grinning with pride: ATA's younger students Darnell Nugent & Rhianna came to support their fellow students

