



Akitas Judo Club

Southend Leisure & Tennis Centre, Garon Park, Eastern Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 4FA
and
Barling Magna Parish Hall, 432 Little Wakering Road, Barling Magna, Southend-On-Sea, Essex SS3 0LN
sensei@akitasjudo.com www.akitasjudo.com

Newsletter: Issue 6, September 2005



Welcome to the Official *Akitas* *Judo Club* Newsletter

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Welcome to a rather belated September edition! So why the delay? Quite simply, and once again, lots going on...

New Night!

The most obvious change is the start of a new night. Only 6 months since the start of the club at Garon's, and we will be starting every Friday at Barling Magna Parish Hall, 432 Little Wakering Road, Barling Magna. Due to the start of my new job at the start of September, I will be able to start earlier, and so Friday's will be 6pm to 7.30pm and 7.30pm to 9pm for Seniors. I am hopeful that this will encourage more Kano's and younger Juniors to start. As for Thursday nights, these will remain as usual for the foreseeable future – that is if the hall sort out the ridiculous situation with the fans!

Barling will be opened by the clubs Shacho (President), Peter Hutchins. Even those of you unfamiliar with the name will probably guess that he is my father! The website does have a history section and an articles section that will give you more details.

Area Grading

I feel, however, that the most important thing that has occurred since the last opus was the clubs (in it's current format at least) debut at an area grading. I am extremely pleased and proud to say that all who attended the event attained a grade. I think this means that Akitas was the only club to achieve this at this grading, and so the achievement of each and every Akitas Judoki is shown even more. So, without further ado, the grades achieved were:

Ben James – 8th Mon
(Orange + 2 tabs)

Andreas Killi – 8th Kyu
(Lower Orange)
James Williams – 8th Kyu

Robin Williams – 7th Kyu
(Higher Orange)
Gino Muscat – 7th Kyu
Steve Sexton – 7th Kyu
Leanne Stockwell – 7th Kyu

And, after 6 years break, Lee Ellis managed to successfully convert his BJC (MAC) brown belt to BJA, achieving his BJA 2nd Kyu. An argument has since raged concerning the best throw of the day; that of Ben James or Lee Ellis! Not a bad thing to have our members argued about!

On a personal note, it was frustrating that there were not enough Dan grades for myself to attempt my 3rd Dan, but frankly I was so worried about our own members I would have been a bag of nerves come the end anyway! I will now look towards High Wycombe to attempt my own advancement.

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	160's = £26
120's = £19	170's = £27
130's = £20	180's = £28
140's = £22	190's = £30
150's = £23	200's = £31

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'

Grading Results

We also had two juniors attend a local grading, both passing well. Adam Stockwell, belying his short time in Judo achieved his 2nd Mon (Red + 2 tabs), and Louis Pond-Thompson jumped another tab to 4th Mon (yellow + 1 tab). Louis jumping a tab at successive gradings is a marvellous achievement at only 8 years old.

New Dan Grade



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The club also had one member attend the BJC (MAC) Summer School. Paul Pasifull managed to achieve his 1st Dan, and the club applaud his efforts. Frustratingly for Paul, he now has to manage the same feat with the BJA, and will have the clubs full support in his pursuit.

School Holidays

Only two members at the local grading highlighted problem that the club has seen throughout August; that of holidays! I'm sure I will appreciate this more when I start at the school! Please be aware that Akitas Judo Clubs will not close during any school holiday, and will do our utmost to stay open at all times.

akitasjudo.com

The clubs website, akitasjudo.com has gone from strength to strength. Of particular interest has been the Forum, which enables members to chat with others about Judo, and activities away from Judo of which they share the same interest. Parents are assured that the site is policed as well as possible, and we have even included a junior-only area that only juniors and CRB-passed seniors can enter. Likewise, for the seniors, there is an adult only area!

Winners!

The club also saw a few contest-debuts recently, all achieving a medal, included with the clubs medal winners:

Adam Somerset-Butler, Ben James, David James, James Hall all obtaining Bronze; Louis Pond-Thompson achieving Silver, Andreas Killi Bronze and another Bronze in the open, Paul Pasifull Gold and Bronze in the open, and finally Leanne Stockwell winning 2 Golds. A very well done to all of you!

Coming Up

There are a number of events that are taking place in September, making this a month to get excited about!

First up is the Kamiko Judo 'Weekender', much for the socialising of the families of Judoka as much as anything! Those of us who are attending are certainly looking forward to it.

Wickford Carnival

The 16th September is obviously the opening of the Barling Magna club, but the following day is the Wickford carnival. As many as possible to attend please! Anyone with any ideas for float decoration are also urged to come forward. We intend to have 2 Seniors performing throws in the middle of the float; however rest of the float is still pretty bare. We will also be performing a short demonstration after the carnival – again as many as possible! Please speak to Lee or Victoria Ellis at the club to get involved – as I will be at my nieces wedding (also in Wickford!). Why Wickford?! Mainly to encourage some old Akitas members to travel to one of the clubs new sites – we will be attending next years Ashingdon and Southend carnivals however! We hope that the carnival

will also be the beginning of sponsorship for the club; more on this to follow...

The following weekend will be a training course with Shacho; venue still to be announced in the hope that I will be able to arrange something with the school. This should be in the Southend area, so let's prove that we can hold events here so that we can share some of the events with Kamiko.

Whilst we do not expect anyone to feel obliged to attend any events, it really is a

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good opportunity for you to further your own Judo – do when you have the opportunity, take it!

Kamiko / Akitas Squad

The Squad is also now taking shape behind the scenes, and all will be put in to action from the 1st October with our first official squad training. Shacho's course will also be considered a Squad training day. For those of you not familiar with the squad, the idea is not solely to include top fighters, more a case of making top fighters – the chance to train in a more formal surrounding than the club environments. We should also see the first Squad shoulder strips in the next month or so, and these should look fantastic.

Squad Page

Of particular interest with the setup of the squad is a 'Squad Members Page' on our website. These pages are also appropriate for members not intending to join the squad, examples can be found on the site, or direct at www.akitasjudo.com/squad/leanne_stockwell or www.akitasjudo.com/squad/lee_ellis. These pages cost just £6 per 6 months, and include competition results, grading results, and merit badge results updated after each event. Here is one example:



Email

Along with the advertised email address sale (£5 per year per mailbox (akitasjudo.com, or akitasjudo.co.uk), £2.50 if you also have signed and paid up for the webpage-Judo-CV); it is often easier to drop an email to you to let you know of upcoming events and internet updates. Please email me at sensei@akitasjudo.com if you have not already given me your email address!

This is particularly important now, as from 1st September I will no longer have the opportunity to mail as much as I currently do!

Judo Suits

A quick reminder that the club does sell Judo Gi's (Judo Suits). Whilst it is OK to wear other makes, it would be best to check suitability with the club first – Asda's are selling what looks like Gi's at the moment, but these are more suitable for Karate, and do not look as hard wearing.

Spreading the Word

Those of you receiving your Newsletter via the postman will not have been able to miss the flyers and posters enclosed. Whilst it is not essential that you do anything with these, putting up as many posters as possible, handing out flyers to friends or even leafletting your own street would be very much appreciated! We have many more if you want to help the club even further! Remember – the more members at the club, the better it is

for you. How? The club intends to buy crash mats and more mats, but to do this we need to have the members first. Plus, to really get along in Judo, you need to try different opponents as much as possible.

Parents!

Enjoy watching your progeny learning to throw? Frustrated that they know more about you in something?! Then get on one of the clubs Senior Mats! From 8.30pm on Thursdays, and 7.30pm on Fridays, we encourage a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and welcome anyone on to the mat. It's only £3 if your child attends, so no excuse! Please do not worry if you feel that you will not be able to commit every week – this is to be expected with seniors, and you will find that some is always better than none!

Ta Ta For Now...

All in all, it looks like the next months issue will also be a little tardy! I hope that the lateness of this issue hasn't spoilt your enjoyment – as usual you know how to contact me for support and insults, (email sensei@akitasjudo.com, mobile (text's are fine!) 0775 382 0439, or at home on 01702 296292) so, until next time,

Adam Hutchins
Sensei, Akitas Judo Clubs
2nd Dan