

## Scottish Karate Federation Elite Squad

There seems to be some confusion within the Federation regarding the criteria required for inclusion to the elite squad list. I hope the following will make the requirement for addition clear.

The reason for having an SKF elite squad list is that it will make selections for any Federation funded competitions (for example European Wado Championships) easier and fairer, as the selectors will only consider both Kumite and Kata competitors who are attending major competitions and attaining the results the Federation consider good enough to merit membership to the elite group. The problem in the past under the old selection process was, that anyone could and did attend selections, even if they did not come up to the standard required to compete at high level events. For example, we have had in the past possibly five or six students being put forward for selection in a particular weight group, none would be of the standard required, but the person who won that particular group then assumed they were then an automatic choice for selection when the reality was that they were not good enough to compete at the European Championships. I would like to clear up a few misconceptions regarding the criteria.

- 1- SKF and SKGB Kumite/Kata training has been put in place to help everyone improve, and for that reason it is recommended that you attend, but non-attendance does not mean exclusion from the elite list, it is competition performance that matters most. This only applies to SKF events. For SKGB purposes attendance at squad training is an essential part of selection.
- 2- Because you are not on the list at the moment doesn't mean that you never will. The selectors and Technical committee are always on the lookout for possible candidates. Three new names have been added to the list as from 3<sup>rd</sup> April. At every competition students are being assessed.
- 3- The bottom line is train hard take part in competitions, get results and the Federation will respond.

I hope this now makes the criteria for elite squad membership clear.

Hamish Adam

Chairman

Scottish Karate Federation