

## Developing UK Jodo- European Jodo Championships (EJC) 2015 Feedback

It is the intention of this document to argue that the EJC has had an essential, positive effect on the development of UK Jodo and that funding a full squad for every EJC is necessary to develop UK Jodo. Without the funding provided from central services at the 2015 AGM, attendance for most would not have been possible and this would have stalled the progress of UK Jodo. For this support we wish to give our sincere thanks to the wider BKA including the Kendo Bu and Iaido Bu.

As such what is presented is a collection of the feedback from competitors to outline the contribution that EJC 2015 has had for developing the Jodo membership. Significantly, this contribution consists of squad members returning to their own dojo, area and seminars and sharing what they have learnt; if not verbally then as an exemplar for their grade (notwithstanding the general process of improvement caused by motivation to achieve success in taikai).

What is the future of Jodo in the UK? You can decide whether it develops and flourishes by supporting the EJC competitors. We are a large and resourceful organisation; I hope as an association we can continue to support the development of Jodo in the UK by continuing to send a full squad of competitors.



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EJC Feedback by Edward Marshall, Jodo 2<sup>nd</sup> dan, Level 1 CoachDojo impacts- Taigakai, Dartford

Since participating in EJC 2015, I am now teaching Jodo solo at another dojo to my own, at Taigakai Dartford. I honestly feel that if it wasn't for my participation in the Jodo Squad then I would not have had the confidence in my own ability to teach a whole class at another dojo. I would not have felt any authority to base what I was doing on. The level 1 teaching course is not designed to give you experience teaching solo to a whole new dojo of students. I undoubtedly have more certainty and authority over technical points and my own ability to perform and demonstrate them after having participated in the seminar, referees seminar, and taikai of EJC 2015.

The Jodo side of the dojo consists of three students who would otherwise have qualified instruction very sporadically if I did not attend. I became aware of their need for instruction through another squad hopeful who attends squad training. I go once per month and teach on my own, and he goes whenever he can in addition to seminars the students go to and arrange. The number in Taigakai is likely to increase as others in their group have expressed their interest in Jodo (after they attain their first grades in laido). The three members practicing Jodo are already attending seminars and I encourage them to attend intensive training. All three have been present every time I have been to visit in the past three months.

As I would self-identify my Jodo as nowhere near a finished product, raw and unpolished, I see it as beneficial for me to reflect on the bare bones of what I do through teaching this relatively new Jodo dojo. And beneficial for students to see a broken down version of techniques on occasion. In my opinion this is particularly true of beginning Jodoka. Sometimes I must reflect on why such and such a point is so and must reflect on which seminar/where in the manual the justification for a technical point comes from. I wouldn't have this teaching experience if not for my confidence to teach, which I believe was largely fostered by my participation in the Jodo Squad.

Dojo Impacts- Ryoshinkan, Brixton & Byfleet and Kashiwa, Southfields

Since participating in EJC 2015 I have been involved in training with seven students who train in our dojo junior to me in grade; three are visiting from a sister dojo and four are our own. Of these seven, five attend regularly to train in Jodo. In addition, I also attend Kashiwa our partner dojo when I need more training time; here I practice with the three regular Jodo students there. This has been an opportunity to gain teaching hours to put into practice my level 1 qualification and to expand my knowledge of Jodo through doing some one to one teaching. It has also given me the opportunity to pass on what I have learnt at EJC 2015- and mainly more confidence to be definitive, succinct and uncompromising in my advice.

I think that the students hold my advice in higher esteem as they are aware that I have been to EJC 2015 (rightly or wrongly!). This in turn gives me more confidence to teach technical points as well as the overall form to them. I have noticed that it makes some students more excited and interested in training with any members of the Jodo squad.

This is likely to help motivate their training, and increase their aspiration for what they see as possible if they put the hours and effort into their training.

I also encourage all five to attend seminars and squad training. I know what is required to be selected due to my participation in EJC 2015. So I encourage them to compete as I know first hand the increase in development that training for and competing in taikai has. This has an effect on my teaching as I know that embedding through repetition of movements is needed for success in taikai/grading.

### Technical impacts

As a result of my observation of Yasumaru Sensei 8<sup>th</sup> Dan (whose koryu is Fukuoka style) and interaction with Yuki Shima (also competitor of EJC 2015 and fellow dojo member) my understanding that there is a multitude of ways of doing hikiotoshi has increased. This has created a focus on 'what is hikiotoshi?' (and the related complex movement of makotoshi) in mine and others training; and in turn has forced me to consider what the main points for successful hikiotoshi uchi. This has undoubtedly increased the clarity in my mind of what it is essential to the movement and what is desirable. As a result, the way I train in, demonstrate and teach hikiotoshi has become more clearly defined; whilst understanding that the movement must be improved continuously.

### BKA Impacts

As a result of the overall experience of being part of the Jodo squad in 2015-2016 and the challenges discussed in terms of funding, this has made me more involved in the BKA. This is in terms of the interest that I have in the decisions which are made on funding a full squad to attend each EJC and in terms of volunteering my own time to raise funds for attending EJC 2016.

I have volunteered to organise a raffle, cake sale and dance auction at the Summer Seminar, and I will be DJing for free with a charity duke box event at the next Summer Seminar so the costs of hiring a DJ can be avoided by the Jodo Bu. I have also helped and encouraged others to apply for funding from their local councils for EJC 2016. If it wasn't for the fact that I was inspired by EJC 2015, it would be unlikely I would be so motivated to raise funds for the next EJC or Jodo Bu.

### Summary

I passionately believe that the way to save the funds of the Jodo Bu is not to cut them from the Jodo Squad, as these are the individuals who are growing UK Jodo. Through transferring what they have learnt and their passion to others at their dojo and regionally at seminars, squad members are increasing the level of UK Jodo. To deny this by any cut in funding would be similar to cutting out someones liver to ensure blood circulation to their heart.

*EJC Feedback by Mark Ralston, Jodo 1<sup>st</sup> dan*

In September 2015, I was honoured to be asked to join the GB Jodo squad in Sweden. My Grade at the time was Ikkyu. I had been training for only twelve months and had travelled to Taikai's and intensive training sessions in the Midlands prior to this. I found the whole experience uplifting. I feel being part of a team was a new experience for me.

On return to my Jodo Dojo, a lot of interest was created when I spoke of my experience in Sweden. Subsequently, 10 members have shown considerable interest in Jodo when I talked to them about the benefits it would have on their laido.

The dojo now set time aside for introducing Jodo sessions and we are hoping to put a team together from the North East for the British National Competition in 2016. This will be a great achievement as our club is quite small. There has been a steady growth in membership which we hope will continue as Jodo develops within the North East.



Last year at the European Jodo Championships in Sweden the UK won 8 medals between 13 participants sent to compete. Our UK squad won: team bronze, bronze for yondan, bronze for nidan, fighting spirit for godan, and fighting spirit for mudan. Full results can be found here:

<http://kendoforbundet.se/ejc-2015/results/>

## EJC Feedback by David Parker, Jodo 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan, Level 1 Coach

### **Dojo Impacts:**

While at the EJC I took many notes including several important clarifications on correct foot/body positioning throughout all kata, especially Hissage and Monomi, and received a very in-depth run through of correct Hikiotoshi nuances from Yasumaru-sensei while training. These points have greatly assisted in the students' learning as they are mudan and shodan at the time of writing and have not yet had time for incorrect habits to settle in deeply.

Attending the EJC was also helpful as notes are sometimes not enough without demonstration. I was able to take a small amount of video for the dojo for demonstrative purposes. Some of the more obscure points taught would have been very hard to explain had I not been present at the EJC to film this. On transferring from another dojo to ours due to life and job changes, we currently have a member who has greatly benefited from these points and as a result is able to continue practising Jodo to a level that will help them further their abilities.

### **Seminar Impacts:**

At this year's Spring Seminar I was asked by a to be a demonstration partner for a Sensei and to help with the mudan and shodan group (approximately 12 attendees) and to assist with preparing those taking gradings for the event. During the training period for this, I was able to share information gained at the EJC including but not limited to Hikiotoshi points, correct distancing during the initial evasion in Tsuki-Zue and Sakan, the footwork in Hissage, and common misconceptions that occur when doing the evade/strike in Shamen and how to avoid them. At this seminar and subsequent events, the practising jodoka attending were encouraged to come to an intensive training event (where scouting for the EJC often takes place). At the following intensive practice at Kashiwa Dojo in London, there were several jodoka in attendance who had not attended one before.

### **Taikai Impacts:**

As a result of attending the grading at the EJC, I am now more confident with the procedures regarding floor managing, and I have also familiarised myself with the Okuridashi grading system and its associated floor managing which is used in gradings for Jodo outside the UK.

### **Long Term Development Impacts:**

In the future I hope to attend a Level 2 coaching course, as I would like to give back more to the bu and help further the newer generations' practice. The instruction given at the EJC has widened my perspective on different methods of teaching due to the varied styles of Sensei from all over Europe. From the rationality of actions taken to focusing on attention to the smaller details in the Jodo manual.

EJC Feedback by Andy Watson, Jodo Renshi 6<sup>th</sup> dan, Level 2 Coach

My primary involvement with Jodo and its involvement with the European Championships is as a referee as well as frequently supporting development of the squad by:

- 🕒 Teaching at Intensive Training events
- 🕒 Teaching at seminars within the UK
- 🕒 Organising “training exchanges” with other countries in Europe
- 🕒 Teaching at seminars outside of the UK (primarily Poland)

During the 20 or so years that I have been training in Jodo, my ability to read, understand and speak Japanese to a useful level has meant that I have been involved with services to the BKA such as translation at seminars, translation of documentation, coordination of events and liaison with Japanese sensei. After having been on the national squad or as a referee at every EJC since its inception, it would be dishonest to say that the EJC presents to me the benefit of learning new technical information. The pre-event seminars are generally focussed on the presentation and explanation of seitei and this is often coloured by the visiting sensei’s own opinion and methodology to do Jodo. As we follow a lineage of patron teachers to the UK and Europe, this information might end up being interesting although I could hardly give too much credit to its technical usefulness to me.

What is instead of far greater use, both for my personal development as well as creating teaching material, is the observation of the participants of the championships. To watch people voluntarily put themselves under extreme pressure and then to present the greatest side of their Jodo provides a unique insight into how to optimise one’s Budo to within literally one’s physical and mental limitations. Merely seeing how people have trained and developed themselves is for me an inspiration and a constant source of new ideas for how to develop myself and others. I further believe that Budo should be for the cultivation of the person; their heart, character and spirit. This is in contrast to the image that martial arts are a way of learning how to fight. The goodwill and friendship demonstrated before, during and after the event leaves me with a positive, albeit nebulous notion, of why I am motivated to continue Budo training.

Returning to the subject of being inspired by the participants, I can identify two learning experiences in particular from two people who I watched with extreme interest during the championships and from whom I now pass on their habits as a way to improve Jodo in others:

1. Adam Bienak, 3<sup>rd</sup> dan, Poland:

Adam has created a sharpness in his taking of hikiotoshi kamae after the tsuki in katas 3:Hissage and 7:Kasumi which infers a complete readiness to continue the kata into the conclusive strike or in fact do anything necessary to the fight.

2. Margherita Karratu, 4<sup>th</sup> dan, Italy:

Margherita is significantly shorter than the average Jodoka but she turns this to her advantage during the Kuritsuke of kata 8:Tachiotoshi. By lowering even more she perfectly positions herself under the jo into a state of being of maximum stability and effective power, still maintaining a wonderful posture and metsuke by doing this.

From these above two examples I have endeavoured to replicate this in myself and then help others develop in the same way.

These are just two examples among what must be numerate cases of being inspired by one's peers and juniors rather than constantly resorting and referring to one's teacher who may in fact themselves also be inspired by those more junior than themselves.

As a result of preparing and being involved with the European Championships I have helped organise two trips to Europe with promising squad members to train with other countries and exchange knowledge and skill. These have been very positive experiences for all involved.

I am very aware of the cost burden to sending members to the European Championships. It would be difficult to quantify the benefit against a very visible cost to the Association and the Bu but I completely believe that the experiences gained are unique and unobtainable by any number of national seminars or domestic events. While some might say that the squad selection and the sponsoring of the individual to represent their country in an international championships is elitist and against the principles of Budo, I would point out that in the Budo world, as well as many other arenas, the majority are pulled along and driven by an outstanding minority. Rather than resent this smaller group, we should perhaps we grateful that others are willing to sacrifice their time, money and relationship credits in order to push themselves that little bit further so that others might come along with them. This is how I believe Budo develops and grows in a large community.

2015 was a wonderful championships. It was set in a quiet, small town with beautiful surroundings. The organisers had arranged good accommodation for participants, referees and officials. They had also arranged web broadcasts from cameras set up at the event so anyone could watch the event. The management was swift, professional and friendly. I hope that our members learned something from this so that we can replicate it in the UK (I am sure they did).

Rather than seeing last year as just another one in a stream of these annual events, I mark each one as a unique experience. I see our own squad from that time continue to push themselves to come to IT sessions, seminars, taikai, international training events etc etc. We have created and we maintain a superb group, not clearly delineated because there are always new people joining in and others having to drop out. These are our elite without being the elitist. We may not be winning many medals in the current period but this is almost certainly due to how other countries have pushed themselves in the last few years after we had a very long period of success at this event. We now maintain relationships and friendships with others which will only help Budo to thrive and develop. The trunk and roots of the tree cannot live without the young leaves to bring energy to it.

EJC Feedback by Stojanka Vidinic. Jodo 5<sup>th</sup> dan, Level 1 Coach

Being a morning session, the seminar is a quick look at the 12 kata and is more a refresher than at weekend long seminar where there is more opportunity to look deeper at points. At this event I actually heard a point that I should have known: chudan no kamae is to chest level and not throat level, as I was previously doing. It has been an opportunity to correct myself, check that my dojo fellows are correct as well at seminars when I have been an assistant teacher.

A very positive point has been the post seminar practice. I was with the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> dan group. I have had the chance to train with the best of Europe, people I never get the chance to train with and experience different timings; bringing me out of the comfort zone of training with my regular partners.

The most beneficial for me is probably the taikai itself:

- Everybody is taking their fights seriously yet the level of friendship is really high once the fight is done.
- Watching the taikai: the level of jodo is really high across all grades. Strong spirit, focus, sharpness in taking the kamae. For example I have a mental image of one of the sandan competitor. This person, as it should be in gyakute no kamae, has the front wrist really seating on top of the jo. This makes for a strong hand. I have in the past doing this to a certain degree but seeing this at the taikai I have checked if I was actually doing this and changed. I have checked that my fellow dojo members are doing this, especially our two beginners.

All these points noticed at the taikai I try to emulate in my training and to pass on to my fellows at the dojo and at seminar with my partner or to the student if I am an assistant teacher.

I am always enthusiastic about seminars and intensive trainings and always try to rally my fellow dojo members as well as other member of dojos to these events.

One member picked for the squad was not really sure of attending the EJC. I pointed out to this person the benefits of participating and was really glad to see him coming. After the event that person was really glad to have come and told me the experience was very beneficial and all levels.

EJC Feedback by Daniel Silk, Jodo 4<sup>th</sup> dan, Level 2 Coach

Over the past 10 years or so, the EJC has played an important role in the development of Jodo in my dojo, and to my mind, within the BKA more widely.

Jodo is so easy when practicing with my usual dojo partners. However fast my partner moves, my strikes mostly hit the target, I seem to have so much time to manipulate the Jo and I rarely miss a Hikiotoshi. My partner's Jodo seems to be really effective too, but then when I really think about it, I notice all these unconscious adjustments I'm making so that their technique will work. And then I question what adjustments they habitually make for me, and wonder at how easy it is to fool myself into thinking I am doing things correctly if I only practice with my usual dojo partners.

I think that's why I personally improve the most at the EJC and other international events. I think there is nothing better for fast tracking your progress than the blunt reality check of a Polish Jodoka's disdain for your slow hands and unstable footwork, and how your posture crumples under some real pressure. I think that people who have been on the Jodo squad will find this familiar - at the pre-competition seminar, where you get to train with Europe's elite, and on the Shiajo, where your depth of practice is put to the test by your own nerves. The pressure cooker of the EJC is not always a pleasant experience, but it is certainly where I have learnt the most.

Over the years, the standard of competition at the EJC has grown massively. Competitors from the continent are training more and more, and there is now quite a gap between UK level and that demonstrated by the Belgian, Polish, Slovakian and Swedish competitors. This is brilliant really, because the EJC experience has become transformative. The level to be seen at the event is hugely motivating for the squad. It's the closest we can get to the rare opportunity we had to see what it is possible to achieve in Iaido when the young Japanese Iaidoka visited the UK at last year's summer seminar. It is really wonderful to see a new motivated core of lower grade BKA members who are attending nearly every BKA Jodo event, and how much we are all improving from our EJC participation. Through these events, we are passing on the lessons and experiences of the EJC to the wider BKA Jodo membership through demonstration, practice and discussion. Alongside the brilliant instruction we are receiving from seminar teachers (who themselves are a product of EJC participation), EJC participation is having an effect. Technique is improving within our lower grades (at which we haven't had an examination failure in over a year), and most importantly, seminars are filled with that hunger for learning that is typical of the countries that are currently succeeding at EJC level.

*EJC Feedback by Oliver Jarvis, Jodo 3<sup>rd</sup> dan, Level 1 Coach*

The European Jodo championships (EJC) held in Sweden was a highly enjoyable and educational experience. While this experience was an individual one for my part, I believe the impacts it has had have been more widespread.

On a personal level I believe the EJC provided three main benefits. The first was clarification of the Seitei Jodo syllabus. The EJC provided teaching from 3 hachidan sensei that we in Europe are not exposed to at national seminars. Each sensei's Jodo exhibited differences in timing and placed greater emphasis on particular aspects of Jodo. I believe in order to continue to develop one's Jodo it is key to gain exposure to as many different teachers as possible so as to increase the breadth and depth of one's understanding of Jodo.

A goal of my Jodo practice in the run up to attempting my yondan examination in the summer has been to better adapt my techniques and personal timing to my opponents. While I have been working towards this goal within my dojo and at national seminars, the EJC provided an excellent chance to measure my progress with partners I had never trained with before and whose timing and techniques were new to me.

The final benefit I experienced from competing at the EJC was getting used to managing pressure and nervousness. The need to produce the best Jodo you can creates a great deal of pressure and doing so while being watched by peers within the team, other competitors and spectators (not to mention the judges) enhances the feeling of pressure and nervousness. The only way to better handle these nerves and the pressure of the occasion is to put yourself under the same conditions over and over again until you can forget about your surroundings and the expectations of others and concentrate on producing the very best Jodo you can. I believe that my experience of dealing with the pressure found in large taikai will only serve to help my chances in passing my next grading exam.

I also feel that participation in the EJC has had wider benefits beyond my own personal development. This year I was asked to be Taisho of the three man team. In this position I acted as tachi for the team's other two members. This was the first time I had been in this position and I gained a lot of confidence from taking part in this role. Since then I have been asked a number of times to act as tachi for other people taking grading exams. The confidence I have gained from taking part in the three man team competition at the EJC has undoubtable helped me to be a better tachi and assist those taking exams in passing.

## EJC Feedback by Yuki Shima, Jodo 3<sup>rd</sup> dan, Level 1 Coach

### **Technical points**

Some technical points are difficult to tell but easier to show. Although, it's difficult to show unless I can do those techniques right. First, I need to practice the points I've learnt and understand them. However, I've shared what I've learnt to about 4 people in my grade (3rd dan) who I trust. Exactly the same words I've been told from Sensei at the EJC, even though I don't fully understood the meanings of them. I thought they might benefit from this advice because they are working on the same techniques and we are all searching for the same answers.

### **Intensive training**

I find it difficult to participate at events during weekends but intensive trainings provide very high quality practices that you won't always achieve at your dojo. With Jodo in particular, you need high grades for your partners in order to learn and this often become a problem in local dojo where only beginners practice.

### **Demonstration**

I have been used to demonstrate something that I do well in a kata quite often. Beginners won't be able to see the small things while watching embu but, watching and trying to copy what you think look good is a great start for training. EJC is also a great opportunity to see many great performances and improve your skills by watching everyone.

### **International exchange**

It's not easy to share and discuss certain techniques unless you have experienced. Because it's quite difficult to see the differences. Sometimes reading books are not enough to truly understand what it's all about. The European Championship is a place to open your eyes and minds. I can also see the differences in styles in each countries too. Observing the winner's performances and working on what you are missing is important. Making new friends and training with them at various seminars in Europe and UK are great too. After all, everyone at EJC is very good and keen to practice. Budo isn't winning and losing but participating in EJC will definitely motivate you to practice more.

### **Long term development impacts**

Next year is my 4dan grading and I will start thinking about learning to judge and coaching which will hopefully teach me how to develop my skills. I need to analyse my performances and also would like to know how others are trying to teaching me.

### **Inspiration**

I wish there was a region group Jodo training regularly, even once a month. There are not enough senior grades in Jodo and populations are becoming small every year. The problem in Jodo is that you won't be able to train properly without someone actually know what you are doing. Some dojo doesn't let you visit other dojo and this also reducing the opportunities to practice with high grades. It doesn't need to be seminars. It just needs to be like a Kendo training where senior takes the swords side and beginners line up and keep practicing Katas, and basic Uchikomi training.

### **Media interest**

EJC2015 had very good press and live broadcasting. I have managed to introduce this to many Japanese audiences and I believe this created a stronger connection to people who practice in Japan.

## EJC Feedback by Kristina Poslusna, Jodo 3<sup>rd</sup> dan, Level 1 Coach

### Introduction

At first, I was not allowed to represent the United Kingdom given the rule for the Jodo squad members to be a UK resident for at least 10 years (this is no longer applicable). As there was no Czech Jodo team in Europe at the time, I managed to create a one-man team myself with support from the BKA staff and senseis through the Czech Kendo Federation (CFK). Tomas Kyncl, the CFK technical director also helped me raise some money to be able to go and compete at the Jodo Europeans 2013 in shodan category in Linz, Austria. I have been part of the British Jodo squad ever since. I had the honour to compete alongside Stoj Vidinic and Will Heal on the Jodo three-man team in Torino, 2014 and win nidan bronze medal in Falkenberg, 2015.



### In the dojo

Getting chosen to be part of the squad takes a lot of effort as there is a squad selection system in place and we are evaluated dependant on our performance throughout the year. The participation at both UK and overseas seminars and taikai, intensive training and placement at the Nationals are all taken into account. The Europeans are both a goal jodoka work towards and a recognition of their hard training and all the effort throughout the year. In our dojo, we are reminded every year what the European level of Jodo looks like at the international seminars and especially EJC and every year we come back to our home dojo newly motivated to try harder (in my case, this is mostly fuelled by the frustration of losing over and over again).

During the EJC we get to practice with other competitors at a seminar, which is a very valuable learning time as I get to experience different styles, timing and distances (at the highest level of my own grade) and my perception of how I do Jodo techniques gets challenged in many ways. And at taikai under the pressure of aiming to give my better than best performance (as I am painfully aware that my best will not be good enough there), I try to push myself a bit further each time. These are two sides of EJC that I can experience only there and I bring this with me back to my training in the dojo.

We also run feedback sessions with our affiliated dojo (and at some intensive training or seminars) where we watch the videos from our matches and those of other competitors as we take turns during the taikai to record each other. We identify our strengths and weaknesses and learn from other countries to understand what makes them successful.



### At a seminar

I attend most UK and some overseas seminars throughout the year and not only as the Jodo events officer I encourage everyone to do the same as we cannot improve by ourselves.

The more people practice, the better we all get as Jodo techniques are not performed with a kasso teki, but with real people who are all different. In order for my Jodo to become more effective, stable and consistent I realised after facing very strong tachi at the EJC that I need experience of the variety which different people bring in. One can create a solid image when training with the same partner for a long while, but all that crumbles when any difference is brought in. Seminars are the place where I learn from other people's differences and I aim to stop making excuses about a situation that is not ideal to me such as "this chudan no kamae is not right for me, how can I do a hikiotoshi?" and instead try to face it and make my technique effective no matter the circumstances.

At seminars, I demonstrate and teach points to the best of my ability when I am asked to do so and offer my support to those grading by volunteering to partner up with them (if they are in need of a tachi) or to floor manage. I also aim to integrate points I learnt at the EJC into my own Jodo to pass it on by example.



In summary, I feel the pressure and responsibility to keep my level improving after being sent to the EJC. I hope to inspire others by working hard and by enjoying training with them in the dojo and at seminars and intensive training to also work harder and enjoy themselves.

### **Conclusion**

As sending a full UK Jodo team to the European Championships is one of the ways to develop UK Jodo, you can help by supporting this aim. We aim to compete at the European Jodo Championships, Magglingen, Switzerland 2016 from 23-25 September 2016 and are aiming to raise £4,300 to cover the trip (<http://ejc2016.ch/>).

Last year at the European Jodo Championships in Sweden team GB won 8 medals between 13 participants sent to compete. Our UK squad won: team bronze, bronze for yondan, bronze for nidan, fighting spirit for godan, and fighting spirit for mudan. Full results can be found here: <http://kendoforbundet.se/ejc-2015/results/>

We want to continue achieving medal success and development of UK Jodo, however we need the funding support to achieve our outstanding results. Share and support our [crowdfunder.co.uk](http://crowdfunder.co.uk) campaign coming soon.