

# Squad Manager Report Jodobu AGM 2019

By Ally Mihaylova

The **BKA National Jodo Championship 2019** was held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in Loughborough. A total of 24 individuals participated (4 Mudan, 2 Shodan, 6 Nidan, 7 Sandan, 2 Yondan and 2 Godan), with 9 teams in the 2-person team event and another 5 teams in the Asahi event. The Championship results were as follows:

2017	Mudan	Shodan	Nidan	Sandan	Yondan	Godan	Team	Asahi
<b>Gold</b>	Sophie Townson	David Griffiths	Mark Snowdon	Ed Marshall	Oliver Jarvis	Dan Silk	Ryoshinkan	Hereford
<b>Silver</b>	Ben Shaw	Alan Mitchell	Robert Townson	Kevin McNeill	David Parker	Martin Chambers	Kuro Inu	Ojika A
<b>Bronze</b>	Margaret Sweeney		Mark Thurman	Kristina Silk			Ojika B	Kenseikai
<b>Bronze</b>	Malcolm Smith		Mark Ralston	Jenni Wilding			Hana Abu	Ryoshinkan
<b>Fighting Spirit</b>	Ben Shaw	Sam Barnes	Brian Ford	Colin Porter	David Parker	Martin Chambers	Madame Dome	Margaret Sweeney Malcolm Smith Mark Ralston

The **17<sup>th</sup> European Jodo Championship (EJC 2018)** was held in Budapest, Hungary on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Great Britain had an almost full squad – ten competitors, covering all grades but Shodan and coming from many different dojos. The BKA also had four referees selected by the EKF (full list of the squad and referees can be found further below) and one supporter in the delegation.



This EJC was tough, we saw some surprising results throughout. Great Britain's luck was such that in almost every category our competitors had to go through an additional fight just to clear the stage to quarterfinals, which naturally diminished our chances for medals. Our squad members fought well and showed great spirit, with almost everybody passing their pools. Rob Townson secured a bronze medal for us, ultimately losing in the semi-finals to the overall winner of his category. Our team, comprised of Dan Silk, Kristina Silk and Rob Townson, narrowly missed a medal, losing to the winners of the gold medal in the quarter finals.

Due to the unusual organisation of the shiai-jos, people of the same grade would often be on different courts at the same time, which not only meant people didn't have the right tachi, but often had to run from one end of the hall to the other, rushing to 'catch' their next fight on a completely different court. I would like to use this opportunity to thank all our competitors for their discipline, their willingness to help each other with tachi and making sure people knew which court they were on at what time, and their responsiveness to my continuous nagging throughout the event! I was privileged to manage this year's squad, well done, everybody!

Special thanks go to the Squad Coach, Harry Jones Sensei, who tirelessly worked throughout another year of training and developing the skills of everyone willing to put the effort at the IT sessions! Many thanks also to our referees for their hard work, and to Andy Watson in particular for his help as always in translating at the event, helping us with ski cases and helping the Hungarian organisers.

*List of the British EJC 2018 delegation (with dan grades as at the event)*

7 dan Kyoshi	<b>Chris Mansfield Sensei</b>	Referee
6 dan Renshi	<b>Andy Watson Sensei</b>	Referee
6 dan Renshi	<b>Greg Drewe Sensei</b>	Referee
6 dan	<b>Fay Goodman Sensei</b>	Referee
6 dan Renshi	<b>Harry Jones Sensei</b>	Coach
5 dan	<b>Rachel Hahn-Morris</b>	Supporter
5 dan	<b>Daniel Silk</b>	Competitor + Team
5 dan	<b>Al Colebourn</b>	Competitor
4 dan	<b>Carolos Xilotl</b>	Competitor
4 dan	<b>Yuki Shima</b>	Competitor
3 dan	<b>David Parker</b>	Competitor
3 dan	<b>Edward Lief Marshall</b>	Competitor
3 dan	<b>Kristina Silk</b>	Team
2 dan	<b>Mark Snowdon</b>	Competitor
2 dan	<b>Rob Townson</b>	Competitor + Team
0 dan	<b>David Griffiths</b>	Competitor
3 dan	<b>Ally Mihaylova</b>	Manager