

# Squad Manager Report EJC 2019

By Ally Mihaylova

The **18<sup>th</sup> European Jodo Championship (EJC 2019)** was held in Zawiercie, Poland on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019. Team GB had an almost full squad – eleven competitors covering all grades. Three referees were selected by the European Kendo Federation from the BKA (full list of the squad and referees can be found further below) and two supporters joined in the delegation.



The squad performed brilliantly and nearly everyone passed their pools. In the Team competition, after scoring first in an extremely difficult pool, our team (comprised of Dan Silk, Kristina Silk and Rob Townson) continued to win their way to semi-finals, where they lost to the overall winners Slovakia.

Dan Silk got the Godan gold medal and Ed Marshall – the Sandan gold, with Kristina Silk taking away Sandan bronze medal and David Griffiths – the bronze in Shodan category.



The British team was disciplined and everyone was looking out for each other and the new EJC attendees in our Mudan category, for which I am extremely grateful. I felt privileged to be the manager of such a cohesive and well-spirited group! The event was organised extremely efficiently by the Polish Kendo Federation and it ran smoothly, finishing a bit early. This left plenty of time for photos!

As always, special thanks go to the Squad Coach, Harry Jones Sensei, who tirelessly works every year to help develop the skills of



everyone willing to put the effort at the IT sessions! Many thanks also to our referees for their hard work.



*List of the British EJC 2019 delegation (with dan grades as at the event)*

|              |                               |                   |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 7 dan Kyoshi | <b>Chris Mansfield Sensei</b> | Referee           |
| 7 dan Renshi | <b>Andy Watson Sensei</b>     | Referee           |
| 6 dan Renshi | <b>Greg Drewe Sensei</b>      | Referee           |
| 6 dan Renshi | <b>Harry Jones Sensei</b>     | Coach             |
| 5 dan        | <b>Elena West</b>             | Supporter         |
| 3 dan        | <b>Jenni Wilding</b>          | Supporter         |
| 5 dan        | <b>Daniel Silk</b>            | Competitor + Team |
| 5 dan        | <b>Robert Colson</b>          | Competitor        |
| 4 dan        | <b>Oliver Jarvis</b>          | Competitor        |
| 4 dan        | <b>David Parker</b>           | Competitor        |
| 3 dan        | <b>Edward Lief Marshall</b>   | Competitor + Team |
| 3 dan        | <b>Kristina Silk</b>          | Competitor + Team |
| 2 dan        | <b>Mark Snowdon</b>           | Competitor        |
| 2 dan        | <b>Rob Townson</b>            | Competitor + Team |
| 1 dan        | <b>David Griffiths</b>        | Competitor        |
| 0 dan        | <b>Sophie Townson</b>         | Competitor        |
| 0 dan        | <b>Ben Shaw</b>               | Competitor        |
| 3 dan        | <b>Ally Mihaylova</b>         | Manager           |