



Austrian Hapkido Championships 2010

It was an early start for those of us who took part in the 15th Austrian Hapkido Championships on 2nd May. Full of good spirits and high expectations, we made our way down to Graz to show our skills before the judges.

First up, was the technique competition. Two sets of five randomly chosen techniques were drawn for each kub, which we then had time to prepare before facing the judges. Both myself and Martin won silver for this event and Michi the bronze medal.



Next was free-fighting. It was an energetic and exciting competition and despite a back injury, acquired just the day before the championship, Georg managed to fight his way to the silver medal. Due to the low number of participants in the class A competition, Andy stepped in at the last minute to take the bronze.

The king of the disciplines, aka, the breaking contest rounded off the day. Again, Andy did us proud by breaking three out of four boards. He has the honour of keeping the "Challenge Cup" until the next championships. Georg came a close second.



As a first-timer at such a competition, I can honestly say that I enjoyed the experience from start to finish. It was a well organised, smooth-running event. In fact, things ran so smoothly that we finished three hours ahead of schedule! Above all though, the atmosphere of friendly competition is what really made it such a good day and an experience I would recommend to other relative new comers.

Gemma Phillips ☺

