

Police Sport UK Judo – Netherlands 28th to 30th October 2011-11-02

Following the UK and Netherlands team coaches meeting the recent USPE in Paris, the Dutch coach Richard Van Eijdsen was kind enough to invite the UK judo team to a tri Nation training weekend and match in Den Haag. (The Hague).

Unfortunately the Belgian team were not able to attend, but a 9 strong party from the UK made their way to Schipol airport where they were met by Richard and colleagues who took them the 40km to their accommodation in Den Haag.

An early start on Saturday saw the UK team at an absolutely first class police training facility with two purpose built dojos each with a full competition area and sufficient space for 40 judoka to have free practice. Many thanks are due to the head of the facility Rene who was kind enough to make it available for the day.

The morning session was spent with Andy Moss 5th Dan and Chris Hunt 6th Dan (PSUK National Coaches) giving inputs to the 40 or so delegates on the mat. Many of the Dutch delegates had travelled a great distance to take part in the event. Andy and Chris showed a variety of newaza techniques which were well received by those present, this was followed by an hour of newaza randori.

After a break for lunch, the group was joined by the current World under 63kg Bronze medallist Anicka Van Emden, who was kind enough to give up her time to give a master class in tachiwaza, including specific work around grip breaking. The input from Anicka was of the highest calibre, this was followed by a hard series of randori practices. Thanks go to Anicka for her excellent session.

After an exchange of thanks and tokens between the coaches there followed a team match, Henk Plugge (IJF referee) was kind enough to attend and officiate the team, in which the Dutch team showed their strength with a 5-1 defeat. That said the matches were all keenly fought and the gap between the two teams was not as far as the result may have suggested.

Police Sport UK	Weight	Result	Politie Nederlandse
Gary Liddle (Surrey)	U66kg	0 - 10	Chiel Willems
Scott McKeating (L and B)	U73kg	0 – 10	Jeroen Verhoeven
James Stringer (Sussex)	U81kg	0 – 10	Tom Rouwers
Lee Holley (D and Cornwall)	U81kg	10 - 0	Maarten Lelsz
Jason Moore (Grampian)	U90kg	0 - 10	Thomas Leppink
Gavin Mcneil (L and B)	O100kg	0 – 10	Rob Kroonen

The event was a great success and it is hoped that the Dutch team will be able to come over to the UK in early 2012 for a re match.

Thanks again to Richard, Rene and Henke for making the weekend such a success

Andy Moss (5th Dan - PSUK National Coach)

