



29 March 2004

COX AND GORDON BOTH WIN BRONZE IN EUROPEAN OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

Sophie Cox and Winston Gordon both managed bronze medals on the European A Tournament circuit this weekend, further securing their positions in Europe.

At the Tallin A Tournament in Estonia, Sophie Cox (22) of Rochdale gained her third consecutive medal in as many weeks, finishing third place in the Women's -57kg weight category. Her result secures her third place ranking position in Europe. Meanwhile, Britain's Michelle Rogers finished 7th in the Women's -78kg weight category.

Winston Gordon (27) of Tooting, London, continued his run of strong performances this season by winning bronze in the Men's -90kg at the Minsk A Tournament in Belarus. This result leaves him ranked 8th in the Europe.

The Tallin A Tournament was the last European A Tournament for Women, while the British Men will travel to Tbilisi in Georgia next weekend (rescheduled from January 2004).

The last Olympic qualifying event for Judo will be the European Championships on 13/14/15 May. On Friday the European Judo Union announced that it was moving the Championships from Belgrade to Bucharest, Romania due to the "instable political situation" in Serbia and Montenegro.

After the European Championships, Olympic places will be allocated to the top nine men and top five women in Europe within each weight category (only one player per country).

Note to Editors:

More information on the players is available online at www.britishjudo.org.uk/media/profiles.php

Contacts:

Emma Reed
Public Relations Officer
British Judo Association
Tel: 01509 631 692/Mobile: 07702 882951
emmareed@britishjudo.org.uk