



## Media Release

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### GEORGINA QUALIFIES BRITISH OLYMPIC PLACE

Georgina Singleton has today finished fifth at the World Judo Championships in Japan.

Although she narrowly missed out on the bronze, the Commonwealth Champions performance, on the third day of the tournament, guarantees Great Britain's place in the -52kg category for the Athens 2004 Olympics.

Singleton put in strong performances during the first round of the competition, beating Kristin Taelman of Belgium and Ioana Aluas of Romania. She lost her third fight against World Championship veteran, Amarilis Savon from Cuba, two minutes into Golden Score time, after the first five minutes finished scoreless.

The result against Savon took her into the repechage round where she triumphed over Antonia Cuomo of Italy, and Michal Feinblat of Israel in the repechage final.

In the fight for the bronze medal, Singleton faced Yuki Yokosawa of Japan. The bout stayed equal for most of the fight, with no points scored until the final seconds when Yokosawa caught Singleton in a hold down during a counter attack.

As a top five placing in Japan secures a place for the Olympics, Georgina's result will automatically qualify Great Britain in this weight category for Athens. This joins the places qualified by Kate Howey MBE in the -70kg category and Karina Bryant who won a bronze medal and qualified the +78kg place.

Scott McCarthy, Chief Executive of British Judo said: "Georgina has once again performed at a supremely difficult competition to secure a fifth place and qualify the place for Great Britain in Athens. We look forward to great things from this talented fighter."

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