This was the 26th anniversary of the British Open Tai Chi competition which was held again in Oxford. With nearly 12 years experience of practising Wudang Tai Chi Chuan and earlier experience of assisting at competitions in Sweden, this however was my first experience as a judge at the British Open competition in Oxford.

Someone who also experienced his first time as a judge was Michael Jacques, Dan Docherty’s first student from 1984. He had twice won the men’s heavyweight division more than 20 year ago. The competition started with a performance by Michael Jacques who demonstrated the Five Elements and the Eight Powers of Tai Chi.

Then the competitions began and so did my role as one of the three judges of hand form. Which was both very interesting and quite enjoyable. It was very nice to see all good competitors perform and I also found the different styles of Tai Chi quite interesting.

Apart from myself, among the competitors were some other foreigners like Paulo Salas Vazquez. He has competed in Spain but this was his first British Open competition. He participated in Open Forms and Open Weapon Form, Open Internal form, which led to several medals. I particularly enjoyed watching him perform some Ba gua.

Another first-comer was Consiglia Vicente, who has competed in France and prepared for other coming competitions. She participated in Hand form, Open Weapon form with Fan, saber and sword. Consiglia told me, in my humble opinion something very wise, while waiting for the results that: Even if you don't win any medals, it is a great experience and opportunity to learn and improve. She's already looking forward to return for the competitions next year.

Emma Akesson
26th British Open Championships

13 April 2014

RESULTS

Beginner Internal/External Hand Forms
1. Ashleigh Wykes
2. Gemma Regalado-Hawkey
3. Channell Stephens / Danyelle Kent

Intermediate External Hand Forms
1. Harry Adaway
2. Jackson Clarke
3. G. J. Blair

Junior Hand Forms
1. Ruby pierce
2. Jared Samuel
3. Chi-Ho Lau

Beginner Internal/External Weapon Forms
1. Danyelle Kent
2. Sasha-Marie Mayo
3. Ashleigh Wykes

Intermediate External Weapons Forms
1. Jackson Clarke
2. Harry Adaway
3. Billy Christie

Open External Hand Forms
1. Pablo Salas Vazquez
2. Robert Leighton
3. Simon Rowe

Junior Weapons Forms
1. Ruby Pierce
2. Jared Samuel
3. Joshua Leggate-Kenyon

Open External Weapons Forms
1. Pablo Salas Vasquez
2. Andrew Williams
3. Samuel Ovakimian

Group Forms
1. Catherine Birkinhead / Mary Callaghan
2. Emma North / Kaya Haywill / Maria Sekertzi
3. Costas Mavromatis / Nick Blake

2-Person Barehanded/Weapons Set
1. Nicole Lomas / David Muller
2. Philip Chapman / Tibor Balog
3. Emma North / Kaya Haywill

Veterans Forms
1. Steve Davies
2. Mary Callaghan
3. Lai Marsh

Intermediate Internal Weapons Forms
1. Kaya Haywill
2. Adam McKeown
3. Harry Adaway

Intermediate Internal Hand Forms
1. Marie Page
2. Harry Adaway
3. Adam McKeown

Ladies Open Tai Chi Sabre Forms
1. Emma North
2. Cherry Collins
3. Kaya Haywill

Men’s Open Tai Chi Sabre Forms
1. Nicola Bojic
2. Lenroy Wallace
3. Mark Paterson

Ladies Open Tai Chi Sword Forms
1. Lai Marsh
2. Cherry Collins
3. Emma North

Men’s Open Tai Chi Sword Forms
1. Pablo Salas Vasquez
2. Nicola Bojic
3. Lenroy Wallace

Open Tai Chi Spear Forms
1. Steffi Sachsenmaier
2. Mark Paterson
3. Jason Tsang

Men’s Open Tai Chi Hand Forms
1. Samuel Leon
2. David Wagstaff
3. Nicola Bojic

Ladies Open Tai Chi Hand Forms
1. Kaya Haywill
2. Emma North
3. Catherine Birkinhead

Men’s Open Internal Hand Forms
1. Nicola Bojic
2. Lenroy Wallace
3. Pablo Salas Vasquez
Ladies Open Internal Hand Forms
1. Geraldine Fitzmaurice
2. Emma North
3. Kaya Haywill

Men’s Open Internal Weapons Forms
1. Nicola Bojic
2. Steve Davies
3. Ricardo Joseph

Ladies Open Internal Weapons Forms
1. Kaya Haywill
2. Catherine Birkinhead
3. Emma North

Ladies Fixed Step Pushing Hands U60K
1. Emma North
2. Ketron Neesham
3. Steffi Sachsenmaier

Ladies Fixed Step Pushing Hands Over 70K
1. Geraldine Fitzmaurice
2. Sam Casey

Ladies Moving Step Pushing Hands U60K
1. Emma North
2. Steffi Sachsenmaier
3. Laura Roberts

Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands U65K
1. Steve Davies
2. Damien Houdley-Brown
3. Steven Halls

Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands U70K
1. Philip Chapman
2. Kurt Debattista
3. Grzegorz Janikowski

Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands U75K
1. Mark Paterson
2. Billy Christie
3. Eric Ling

Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands U80.5K
1. Rakshana Badovsky
2. Zbigniew Panasewicz
3. Colin English

Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands U85K
1. Samuel Ovakimian
2. Davide D’Alto
3. Tibor Balog
Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands U91K
1. Philip Irwin
2. Mark Crowe
3. William Leggate

Mens Fixed Step Pushing Hands 91+K
1. Lyndon Rankin
2. Lee Marsh
3. Mike Selby

Mens Moving Step Pushing Hands U65K
1. Damian Houdley-Brown
2. Steve Davies
3. Steve Halls

Mens Moving Step Pushing Hands U72K
1. Philip Wing
2. Eric Ling
3. Kurt Debattista

Mens Moving Step Pushing Hands U75K
1. Billy Christie
2. Paul Murrin
3. Julian Burton

Mens Moving Step Pushing Hands U85K
1. Zbigmiew Panasewcz
2. Jared Lewis
3. Colin English

Mens Moving Step Pushing Hands U95K
1. Lee Marsh
2. Marnix Wells
3. Mark Crowe