

Two Selkirk Judo Club Fighters Earn Provincial Championships

Fourteen competitors from the Selkirk Judo Club competed at the Provincial Judo Championships held in Portage la Prairie on May 5, 2012. The Club finished with 7 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze medals.

Two members of the Club were crowned provincial champions. The Provincial Championships are for competitors in the Under 15 years old (U15) and older age divisions. A junior tournament for the Under 11 (U11) and Under 13 (U13) age divisions is run concurrently with the provincials.

Winning provincial championships were Damien Ekosky (12, green belt) in U15 under 55 kg and Tanner Onagi (14, blue belt) in U15 under 50 kg. Damien's gold capped a season in which he collected gold in seven straight Manitoba tournaments, a silver medal at the Saskatchewan Open in Regina and a bronze medal at the Edmonton International Judo Championships. Tanner's provincial gold completes a season in which he earned 4 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals including a bronze at the Edmonton International.

Also medalling in the Provincial Championship portion of the tournament were Riley Malinowski with a silver in U15 Boys under 50 kg, Julien Mitchell (18, black belt) with a silver in U20 under 90 kg, Joey Kuch (12, green) with a bronze in U15 over 66 kg and Brandyn Cassidy (17, blue) with a bronze in U20 under 100 kg.

In the junior competition, gold medals were awarded to Brandon Berard, Jillian Berard and Lennon Kuch in the U11 age division. In the U13 age division, gold medals went to Justin Ekosky and Maartje Kroes while Antje Kroes won two silver medals.

"The Provincials capped off an excellent competition season for the club. Many of our athletes had great performances this year resulting from their hard work in training," said one of the club's coaches, Brian Jones.