



# W K C

## WORLD KARATE CONFEDERATION

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Open WKC South-East Asian and Oceania Championships

**Kathmandu, Nepal , 15th-16th March 2003,**

#### **> Report <**

Nepal, the country beneath the highest mountains of the world, the Himalayas, was the host of the first international WKC event in Asia-Oceania. Our Nepalese member federation *Nepal Kwanmukan Karate-Do Association* NKKA organised this prestigious event. NKKA President *Janak Subedi* and his team welcomed the participating teams and the WKC officials at the airport. While driving to the official hotels transparents over the main roads with the announcement of the championships and the WKC and NKKA logos were displayed.

A press conference with the most important Nepalese newspapers and TV stations was held before the official program with the seminars and the tournament started. Besides of the NKKA officials the WKC was represented by Ms. *Tomie Ochi*, regional WKC president for South-East Asia, Master *Ladislav Klementis*, WKC Director, and WKC President Dr. *Fritz Wendland*.

The three day Technical and Referee Seminar prior to the tournament was conducted by Master *Ladislav Klementis* (Goju Ryu) and Master *Keith Geyer* (Shotokan). Master *Klementis* (Slovakia) taught the WKC competition and referee rules as well as basic techniques and Goju Ryu kata. Master *Geyer* (Australia) taught also basic techniques and the Shotokan kata. Every day the participants had to undergo a three hour physically hard training and five hours theoretical and practical refereeing.

At the championships participated competitors from the Australia (*Karate Alliance Australia*), India (*Goju-Ryu Karate-do Federation of India, Sports Karate Federation of India*), Tajikistan (*Association of Eastern Single Combat*) and of course from Nepal (*Nepal Kwanmukan Karate-Do Association, Japan Karate Association, Shito-Ryu Federation and Shotokan Karate International of Nepal*). Master *Klementis* oversaw all referee and Master *Geyer* the technical Shotokan matters. The championships were opened by the Honourable Minister of Labour, Transport & Environment *Kamal Prasad Chaulagain* on Saturday, 15th March 2003. Folkloristic groups from different parts of the country showed ethnic dances at the opening ceremony.

The most successful athletes came from Australia: *Cindy Leask*, who won two gold medals in the Kata female individual Shotokan and the Kumite female individual heavy weight, and *Luke Byrne* who did the same in the male section. We saw many fine bouts in the kumite shiai, especially in the light weight divisions. All participants, competitors as well as coaches and officials, gave an example of discipline and fairness. This is what some European federations lack! They could learn something from our friends of the Indian sub-continent and from Australia!

All medals and diplomas were given after completion of the tournament on Sunday by the Secretary of the Nepal National Sports Council, the Honourable *Kishor Bahadur Singh*. The Regional WKC President for South-East Asia, Ms. *Tomie Ochi* (Japan), thanked the local Organising Committee with Mr. *Janak Subedi* as Chairman and the Nepalese government for their support of this 1st Open WKC South-East Asian and Oceania Championships. In the evening all competitors and officials were invited to a farewell party in a traditional Nepalese restaurant with dances and music.

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Finally Master Klementis and Ms. Ochi stated that three referees from Nepal achieved international WKC standard and awarded them the WKC referee licence: Saroj Bhattarai, Purendra Lakhe, Dilendra Vaidya. The officials from the two Indian federations promised to host the next edition of this tournament in New Delhi, India. We are sure that India will host much many more participating federations and competitors after the great success of this championships.

## **Results**

### **Kumite Ind. male Juniors Kata Ind. fem. Shotokan Kata Ind. fem. Shito-Ryu**

1. R. Maskey NEP 1. C. Leask AUS 1. P. Dangol NEP
  2. R. Panjabi IND 2. M. Sherpa NEP 2. R. Rai NEP
  3. S. Sherpa NEP 3. S. Shrestha NEP 3. S. Saji NEP
- A. Saiyad IND

### **Kata Ind. fem. Goju-Ryu Kumite Ind. fem. -50 Kumite Ind. fem. +50**

1. R. Shanmughadas 1. A. Thapa NEP 1. C. Leask AUS
  2. S. Thapa NEP 2. M. Shrestha NEP
  3. A. Kalvhor IND 3. Y. Napit IND
- H. Alvi IND R. Shanmugdas IND

### **Kata Ind. male Shotokan Kata Ind. male Shito Ryu Kata Ind. male Goju Ryu**

1. L. Byrne AUS 1. P. Balami NEP 1. S. Sreenivasan IND
2. S. Maharjan NEP 2. J. Maharjan NEP 2. R. Jamshid IND
3. R.K. Shrestha NEP 3. S. Sehegal NEP

### **Kumite Ind. male -55 Kumite Ind. male -60 Kumite Ind. male +60**

1. S. Gamal NEP 1. B. Meche NEP 1. L. Byrne AUS
  2. B. Maharjan NEP 2. B. Nagarkoti NEP 2. B.K. Shrestha NEP
  3. N. Shrestha NEP 3. D. Aidy NEP 3. R. Veeranmani IND
- R. Shrestha NEP K. Manankhar NEP S. Aliev TJK

### **Kata Team male Shotokan Kumite Team male**

1. JKA NEP 1. SKFI IND
2. SKI NEP 2. SKI NEP
3. NKKA NEP