

PRESS RELEASE – JULY 2010

DORKING FREESTYLE KARATE

GB squad selection for Dorking Freestyle Karate students

Local teenagers Gemma Upfold and Paul (Bomber) Killick definitely have something to smile about – they've been selected to represent Great Britain in September at the WAKO Kickboxing World Championships in Serbia.

Seeing off fierce competition from talented fighters from around the country, Gemma and Bomber can't wait to meet their opponents and hopefully come home with medals.

Representing team GB is not new for Gemma (16 years old, attends The Ashcombe School) who won a Silver medal at the European championships in September 2009, but Paul (17 years, previously at The Ashcombe School, currently studying at Merrist Wood College) eagerly awaits the arrival of his GB kit and the opportunity to compete for a World title, as opposed to the Welsh one, which he won in May 2009.

Both are students of Dorking Freestyle Karate Club (www.dfsk.co.uk) and are coached by Steve Foot. The Club encourages students to enter competitions and boost their confidence and Gemma and Bomber have an impressive collection of silverware from 10 years success at UK and European competitions.

Club coach, Steve says they deserve to be selected. "Gemma & Bomber have been students at DFSK since 2004 and their commitment and dedication to training has paid off and resulted in GB squad selection. This is a real honour and I'm sure they'll do well and do the Club proud later this year. It's great for all the youngsters in the Club to see them achieve at this level and encourages them to train hard and attend regular training sessions."

Kickboxing is still a minority sport and misses out of Lottery and Sports Aid funding, so both fighters are having to finance their trips to Serbia later this year themselves. They are seeking sponsorship and would be grateful for any help that can be offered. Anyone interested in making a donation should contact Claire Foot on 07966 391606, or Claire.Foot@gmail.com

Note for Editors:

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