

2002 ITFNZ Awards Nominees

Martial Arts Apparel Club of the Year (active ITFNZ club at 24 August 2002)

Dunedin
Tauranga
Mt Albert

Paul M Taekwon-Do Dan Student of the Year (registered ITFNZ black belt at 24 August 2002)

Chris Fitzgerald
Jodie Collins
Matthew Breen
Jake Pearson
Mark Trotter
Thu Thach
Nikki Galpin

WebWorld Gup Student of the Year (registered ITFNZ coloured belt at 24 August 2002)

Kirsten Smith
Thomas Young
Carl Matthews
David Butchers
Ray Savage
Kera Adams

Epson New Zealand Instructor of the Year (active ITFNZ instructor at 24 August 2002)

James Rimmer
Kris Herbison
Andrew Niven
Dave Ballard

Nibun ITF Junior Student of the Year (new; registered ITFNZ member under 18 at 24 August 2002)

Daniel Kerr
Harmony Moki
Morgan De Gregorio

The President's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Furthering ITFNZ

Gwyn Brown
Kris Herbison
Debbie Trotter
Sue Breen

Martial Arts Apparel Club of the Year (active ITFNZ club at 24 August 2002)

Dunedin

The club has always been well represented at gradings, and has a 100% pass rate over the last year, with a 25% A pass rate. At present the club has 28 members training, meeting twice a week for formal training sessions. The club spends a lot of time together outside of these trainings also. Many members make the effort to train at the other two clubs in Dunedin. The club is very sociable, and close knit, though still very welcoming to any new students or members of other clubs, who often train there. There are many social events, both planned formally and those decided on a whim. The theory nights were established as a fun environment to learn more about the mental aspects of Taekwon-Do and to brush up on Korean. There are also many 'martial art movie extravaganza' nights, also vital for training, held. The club inaugurated the infamous 'Golden Gumboot' challenge, a competition held regularly between the Dunedin clubs, the "most unsuccessful" club of whatever

event chosen for the current challenge e.g. paintball, volleyball, ultimate Frisbee and ice hockey, having the shame of becoming the keeper of the gumboot until they organise the next challenge. There are regular beach trainings/barbeques in the weather permitting months. Camps planned for the region are always well attended by the club.

Tauranga

The Tauranga club has again this year proved itself to be one of the best and biggest clubs in the country, under the leadership of Mr James Rimmer, 5th dan. They have a very broad range of ranks in the club, and recently hosted a black belt grading with 8 of their members testing at the grading.

The club usually has to be split between the two gymnasiums at Tauranga Girls College, and the instructing of each of the groups is shared between Mr Rimmer and assistant Instructor Mr Chris Fitzgerald. Once a month the two instructors do their own training while the black belts run the class.

The club has a strong social side to it, with regular outings such as rock climbing and BBQ's, and have even been known to share the occasional drink down at the local bar (adults only of course). This is a part of the magic formula that makes Tauranga the 2002 club of the year.

Mt Albert

Mt Albert has a large club with 40 students and 13 black belts who train regularly and help teach junior students. The club is friendly and welcoming to new students and provides a motivating environment that encourages students to reach their goals

The Mt Albert club has won the best club trophy at the Auckland North regional competition for the past three years and has also achieved the best overall grading average in New Zealand for two gradings in the last year. Much of the club's success can be attributed to the camaraderie of the students, this stretches out of their own club, and Mt Albert regularly have students training from other dojangs. Especially the other Nibun ITF clubs, Meadowbank and Hurupaki (Whangarei). These links spread to social events, and Mt Albert is a regular attendee to the World Challenge Paint Ball fields of North Auckland.

Paul M Taekwon-Do Dan Student of the Year (registered ITFNZ black belt at 24 August 2002)

Chris Fitzgerald

Since he commenced training on 26/02/88 he has shown unswerving loyalty to his instructor and his club and has been instrumental in many events not only for his club but for his region and ITFNZ as a whole.

He has tirelessly assisted in numerous club, regional and national activities within ITFNZ such as Gradings, Regional Tournaments, ITFNZ National Tournaments, Regional & National Camps, Fundraising Activities, Ladies Self Protection Classes, National & International Seminars. Mr. Fitzgerald is every instructor's dream "Right Hand Man". Totally unselfish, and totally reliable to the letter and is a well-liked member of the Taekwon-Do family within New Zealand. An instructor could not ask for a more well-rounded and respected role model for his or her students who is simply "ALLWAYS THERE"!

Jodie Collins

Ms Collins is a member of the ITFNZ Te Awamutu club, and graded to First Dan in May 2001. Since then her level of involvement and commitment to TKD has increased beyond those levels which saw her nominated for gup student of the year in 2001. Despite living in Hamilton Ms Collins rarely misses a training at her home Te Awamutu club, as well as training regularly at the Hamilton club. She willingly provides instructing assistance to instructors of both these clubs when requested. Both within and outside the dojang she displays the tenets of Taekwon-Do and the standard of behavior and etiquette that is demanded of a black belt holder within ITFNZ. She is the WAI-BOP representative on the ITFNZ Marketing Sub-Committee, and is a member of this year's National Tournament organising committee. As one of the very few female black belts in the Wai-Bop region Ms Collins is an excellent role model and leader for the growing numbers of female gup members in the region

Matthew Breen

Matthew Breen continues to amaze us on many fronts - as an athlete, technician, encyclopedia, motivator and helper. 2002 has been no exception. Matthew successfully graded to 4th degree late last year, and was a key member of the "Stripes on Tour" seminars run around the country in March 2002. He traveled the South Island and lower North Island demonstrating and teaching great Taekwon-Do technique. He is an excellent exponent on all areas including patterns, sparring and special techniques. He has been a member of several New Zealand Worlds Champs teams. He goes to all the Auckland Demo Team Demonstrations and is involved in their organisation. Matthew Breen is a giver, not a taker. He gives freely of his time for Taekwon-Do - often taking classes for Instructors, assisting his Mother Sue with a variety of jobs, and Father Neil with his computer skills.

He is also does the page layout for TKD Talk (a BIG job), formats many of the tournament results that are published on the website, and is always an able and reliable senior official at all Auckland tournaments.

Jake Pearson

Jake is a great asset for the Wellington Region, spending his time training between Khandallah and Berhampore clubs. He was a member of the Stripes on tour this year and always helps out and gives 110% effort. Recently he organised a team events tournament with Central Districts and when CD had to pull out he still went on with the tournament to ensure that all those Wellington students got an idea of what it was like to compete as a team. He is always there to help out and assist in training people as was seen when two members of the Wellington Region had him run training sessions for them before their grading, and he managed to go down to Dunedin and support them both for the Grading.

Mark Trotter

Mark has achieved unbelievable success within the Tournament side of the Art, every tournament or event Mark attends he places in the top 3 positions, his involvement with our International Teams is an achievement on its own. He was picked to represent New Zealand at the Senior World Champs whilst still a junior competitor and made it through some stiff competition, narrowly missing a medal. From here he's gone onto becoming Captain of the 2002 Junior World Team competing in Puerto Rico, a position he takes extremely seriously. Mark also traveled with a team to Australia early last year to compete at the Aussie Invitational, where he competed against older and higher ranked competitors and still came away with the ultimate title of Grand champion

Thu Thach

Thu is actively involved in Taekwon-Do and is always at a training or event that may be running, participating in every Taekwon-Do related activity outside of training that time permits. She trains at all the local clubs in Dunedin i.e. the Dunedin Club, the Otago University Club and the Mosgiel Club. Not only does she train at all the Dunedin clubs but also assists with the instructing of the students of all the clubs. Thu has assisted in organising the 2nd University Games Tournament in Hamilton, this year and in organising the South Island Regional Tournament this year.

Nikki Galpin

Nikki is a model student in our club and region, her work rate is extremely high as she works towards her goal at the end of this year. Nikki is one of her club's most reliable students for training and I often call upon her to assist in the taking of students. An example was Nikki taught the newly promoted 8th gup students their new pattern over several nights.

She was nominated Manawatu sports student of the year 2001

She has been selected to represent NZ at the Junior World Champs in December

WebWorld Gup Student of the Year (registered ITFNZ coloured belt at 24 August 2002)

Kirsten Smith

Kirsten has not been able to train to the same level as she would like to due to injury, but this has not stopped her contributing to helping the Wellington region in every way she can. She recently became the treasurer for the region, organized the 2002 Regional tournament and she is currently the team manager for the Wellington contingent at the 2002 Nationals.

Thomas Young

Thomas is one of those students that come along and sets the pace, his enthusiasm and dedication are a joy and source of inspiration for other members. He excels in and outside the dojang and along the way he does so much work that you often don't realise until a job is complete. He attends all extra activities that are organised in the region, gorge run/bridge swing, beach training, xmas parade, decorate the float, 2 x Mr Salton seminars, Stripes on tour, esplanade open day.

Thomas is into his second year as club treasurer, voted in last year and **volunteering** for 2002. His help in looking after membership registration, purchasing uniforms and equipment and management of accounts is a huge benefit to his club.

Carl Matthews

Carl stuck his hand up and joined the Marketing Committee at a time when Auckland North was looking for funds. 1 month after Auckland North was able to purchase the first ring of mats and is planning another. He also joined the Auckland North Regional Team management and has raised over \$10,000 towards providing the team with a new look and arranging funding for the travel and accommodation.

Carl has been one of the greatest assets that ITFNZ has found, always willing and able to help, always offering to help, he is modest and takes everything in his stride. He is courteous and polite, even while teaching some of his seniors the finer points of funding. He listens and learns, rarely do you need to repeat an instruction during training. Carl never asks for anything in return, just Taekwon-Do.

David Butchers

David is a red belt member of the Papakura club. As one of the more mature members, he finds training challenging, but also very rewarding. He is constantly practicing before and after class, as well as in his own time. He takes on the role in the club of meeting and greeting any new people that arrive, and is also active in all activities out of normal training days. For example, each year he organises a fundraising opportunity for the club at a school Gala Day.

David is well known to the Counties Manukau clubs, as he is always either competing at the tournaments, and / or working as an official such as ring Marshall. He is the type of student every instructor wished they had more of: courteous, enthusiastic and always willing to give their time freely to help the club and the organisation.

Ray Savage

Mr. Ray Savage started Taekwon-Do about 7 years ago and has since reached 3rd Gup. This may not seem like a great feat until you find out that he is 76 years of age. He trains regularly at the Riccarton Taekwon-Do Club and hardly ever misses a class. He is highly respected in the club for his dedication to training.

Despite having arthritis he still performs all the techniques in his syllabus and beyond, including flying kicks, showing great perseverance and spirit.

Mr Savage has not let any physical impairment stop him from training in Taekwon-Do, his love of the art a fine example to all those who get the chance to train with him. He demonstrated to us all that age is no barrier and you can achieve anything that you put your mind to

Kera Adams

Kera is an active member of her club who always is there to attend any events that the club and region holds. She is always eager to help out and represent her club in many ways. She is a keen student that is eager to learn and always gives 100%.

Epson New Zealand Instructor of the Year (active ITFNZ instructor at 24 August 2002)

James Rimmer

One test of a great instructor is the number of students he or she retains - and there is no better than Mr James Rimmer. Mr Rimmer runs a fun and enthusiastic class that brings the students back year after year. He is a true motivator, which he does by leading by example. Over 30 of his club and family members will join him in Brisbane later in the year for a tournament and goodwill trip - now that's enthusiasm!

James Rimmer loves Taekwon-Do. From his first lesson he loved it and was unstoppable. He learnt pattern Sam-il as a yellow belt and performed it as his option pattern at the Nationals in 1984. To this day he lives for Taekwon-Do and is a fine instructor - one of our very best.

Kris Herbison

The Otago University Club is now in its third year of operating. In this short time it has become known as the most active martial arts clubs on campus, though it is the newest. It is also the fastest growing, and one of the biggest clubs at the University, although there are another 14 martial arts clubs competing for members. His club now has over 35 students with more joining all the time, this might not be that many but he has about 30% of his members leave each year as they complete their university degrees. He has also started instructing a Taekwon-Do for beginners course at the Otago University's Clubs and Societies centre, which is being run twice per year. The Otago University School of Physical Education has also asked him to teach. His diligence and hard work obtaining funding has enabled him to purchase official tournaments mats (two sets valued at \$18,000): one set owned by his club, the other belonging to the South Island Region. He has also started a practical course in Taekwon-Do as part of their Bachelor's Degree.

Andrew Niven

Andrew is the current regional director for Auckland North and is responsible for five clubs in the Auckland region.

The large number of students who train under Mr Niven is a result of his ability as a Taekwon-Do instructor and his ability to instil enthusiasm in his students. The students' enthusiasm stems from Andrew's obvious passion for Taekwon-Do and provides the necessary inspiration to further their progress in Taekwon-Do.

Andrew is also the head coach for the Auckland North Regional Team and led them to win the best region trophy in the 2001 ITF NZ National Tournament, he has taken this role seriously and seen it as an important part of the development of the region.

A naturally talented instructor Andrew continues to improve his teaching by attending sports coaching courses, nutrition courses. Andrew is well respected by his students as an instructor, and viewed by all students as a good friend.

Dave Ballard

Dave is currently the Marketing committee representative for the Central Districts region and is the instructor for the Palmerston North Taekwon-Do Academy.

Last year he took on the mammoth task of organising the Instructors conference and did a fantastic job in the process.

He is a great role model for all his students and is always there to lend a hand in any way he can.

Nibun ITF Junior Student of the Year (new; registered ITF NZ member under 18 at 24 August 2002)

Daniel Kerr

Daniel Kerr regularly trains at the Dunedin, Mosgiel and Otago University Taekwon-Do Clubs in Dunedin. He attends all events that he can, from Umpires courses and techniques seminars to the Regional and National and Junior World Tournaments. When Mr. Jake Pearson left the South Island to continue his studies in Wellington, Daniel took over the role of Instructor of the Dunedin Club for 6 months to ensure that the club continued running.

Daniel regularly helps out at club level by instructing members in small groups or even the entire class. Not only does he do this at the Dunedin Club but he also instructs at the Mosgiel and Otago University Clubs as well, imparting his knowledge and experiences from his travels around New Zealand and the World to the students of all the clubs in Dunedin. Daniel also helps out with officiating at tournaments and marshalling at gradings.

Harmony Moki

Harmony Moki is a 14 year old 2nd dan from the Papakura club - younger sister of Toni Moki who represented New Zealand last year at the Italy World Champs. Harmony is set to do the same this year in Puerto Rico - as she has been selected in the team as Individual Patterns, Individual Sparring, and Female team event. She won two gold medals at this years Epsom Under 18 tournament in Auckland, and bronze and silver medals in the 2002 Counties Manukau Regional Tournament. Harmony recently achieved her 2nd dan and at 14 there is no limit to her potential in Taekwon-Do.

She is a member of the Auckland demonstration team and has been doing Taekwon-Do for 7 years. She achieved her 1st dan when she was 11 years old and has competed in a variety of tournaments in and outside of Taekwon-Do. (Kung fu, Karate, Kick boxing and T.U.N.Z combined tournaments around New Zealand). She has competed at every National Tournament since 1996 in Tauranga.

Harmony has helped out younger students of Papakura club and students of other clubs, teaching new patterns, seconding in sparring and giving encouragement and advice. Harmony has, in her own time, helped young students before entering their first tournament by having them come to our home where she has gone over their patterns, and told them what to expect of their first tournament, thus making it not such a daunting experience for them.

Morgan De Gregorio

Morgan consistently trains and acts as a role model for other students. He is keen to learn new techniques from his instructor and always participates in events that the Wellington Region holds. He always improving his skills. So far this year he has attended the Regionals and came second in patterns and sparring. He was also a member of one of the teams in Mr Pearson's Team events tournament.

The President's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Furthering ITFNZ

Gwyn Brown

Gwyn is always there for his club and region. He recently took up the position of Regional director for his region and is doing a great job in the process.

Gwyn is always willing to put his hand up and help out and have fun and enthusiasm while doing it.

Kris Herbison

A major contribution Kris has made to ITFNZ Taekwon-Do is having established ITF Taekwon-Do as an official event at the New Zealand University Games. Last year this was held as a demonstration only event, this year the results of the tournament counted towards the final points tally to decide which University won the shield. Kris also organised this years and last year's tournament, and this years tournament was situated in Hamilton. Currently there are plans underway to make this an event in the World University Games, where competitors can compete in a WTF tournament. Kris hopes that soon we will be able to send competitors for an ITF tournament. Kris's dedication to his club and his region has seen him spend an extraordinary amount of time in obtaining funding from any and all possible sources. There is a lot of paperwork and legwork to do to get just the smallest amount of money for equipment or travel costs; Kris has in the last two years obtained upwards of \$30,000 for travel costs, trophies for tournaments, and training equipment. The most arduous task was to obtain not one but two sets of sparring mats costing \$18,000, providing the South Island Region with the chance to train on a surface the same as that at the National Tournament, and at the World Champs.

Debbie Trotter

Debbie Trotter has been working in the background of Taekwon-Do for many years, firstly as an enthusiastic parent and supporter, and more recently as a manager and Mum to many of the younger students in ITFNZ. Debbie is currently the Manager of the New Zealand Junior Team, and last year was the assistant manager of the senior team for Italy. Prior to that she had managed the junior team to the USA also, plus many other teams to Australia and locally. In all of these "tests of patience and determination", Mrs Trotter has come out tops in my view. She has always done what is best for the students and done far more than anyone would expect of a manager.

There have been situations when anyone else may have thrown there hands up and walked away from Taekwon-Do all together - but Debbie has stuck with it... for the students. Thanks to Debbie Trotter for all her work - I hope she will be acknowledged at last with this years Presidents Award.

Sue Breen

What less can you say about Sue, other than OUTSTANDING! Here I am talking of a woman who has not only provided support for the Region that she is RD for, but also for the Auckland North Region and others. She has provided assistance with almost every tournament that I can think of, and that is a few.

This doesn't mention the fact that she was the point of contact who initiated the process of gaining new clubs for Auckland North, and then stayed on to ensure that it was completed properly. Helped with the negotiations of the Epson New Zealand sponsorship and gained the New Zealand Junior Squad some extra sponsorship from them.

She has also been acknowledged for her Contribution to Martial Arts Administration in New Zealand at the New Zealand Martial Arts Awards.

Sue dedicates her life to little other than Taekwon-Do and helping to advance gifted children. The reason for this is that there are only 24 hours in a day and when you are already taking 19 of them up with two hobbies, you need to sleep sometime.

She leads her region enthusiastically, and deserves more support than she gets. She has strong integrity and moral Character. Sue will always do what she thinks is right, however is still open to suggestions. When it comes to representing her region she does it without bias to her own beliefs and although she chooses not to train she represents a true spirit of Taekwon-Do.