

# **Nationals 2009**

## Results

Poomse:

Place – Chloe Smith, Michael Moesbergen and Jackson Latcham

Sparring:

Gold – Paul Wilson

Silver – Harrison Martin, Jelena Martin and Daniel Howard

Bronze – David Vernon, Toni Martin, Liam Browne,

Place – Erin Staib, Emily Wilson & Cameron Moesbergen.

To the layperson our results on paper may not seem so impressive, but for those of us who are competitors and who were there will agree it was a great effort by everyone. A lot of the clubs we competed against at black belt level, especially from victoria, have their competitors train in sparring full time (no general classes) and boy do they train hard.

Harry had to win 2 tough fights to make it through to the final round where he went down narrowly in the final. Emily came up against a former U.S and Korean open medal winner in her first round and did well to score a couple of points. Her competitor went on to win the Nationals. Erin was a fighting machine in her two bouts and was really unlucky in the sudden death round (extra round when scores are level – first point wins) when she clearly scored, twice, and was not rewarded. David Vernon drew his former instructor from Victoria (3<sup>rd</sup> and now 4<sup>th</sup> time national champion) in the first round and went down 1-0 (I'll get him next year!!!) There are many other stories and I'm sure we'll be talking about it for some time to come.

As our club has grown and a few people have emerged as wanting to be “the” taekwondo champion, next year will see us travel to and compete at many interstate competitions, especially the Victorian open and probably a NSW open as well. The more national experience we can get the better. All of the current black belt national champions from Queensland regularly compete interstate and internationally and this is part of the reason they are national champions. In the not too distant future, once some of our players gain valuable national experience, and are up to it, we will also be competing internationally.

Exciting times ahead!