

# Durham's karate kids chop the competition in B.C.

## Whitby kids finish top five in karate nationals

**RICHMOND B.C.** -- Durham Region's ICKF Karate School in Whitby recently represented Ontario in the Karate Canada national championships in Richmond, British Columbia.

Liam Martin, Marika Gumienny, Sami Iannuzzi, Dylan Creaney and Chris Burke all placed within the top five of the competition.

For Martin it was his first appearance at the nationals and coach Ed Docherty couldn't have been prouder.

"Liam finished top two in Ontario which is an amazing feat in itself, for him to place as high as he did on his first shot is impressive," Docherty said.

Gumienny placed fourth in her female 16-17 48kg competition. She fought well in all four of her matches, but unfortunately she missed the podium.

It was the first competition for Iannuzzi after a long break from the sport. She had recently competed on the Canadian national team and took a break last year from the competitive side of the sport. She placed fifth.

Creaney made the podium, coming third place in the 16-17 68kg division. His finish put him on the Canadian junior karate team that is currently competing in the North American Cup in Las Vegas. The Cup pits the top competitors from Canada, the US and Mexico against each other.

One of the big stories of the weekend was provided by Burke. After winning gold in the U21 +78kg division Burke was invited by Karate Canada to represent the nation at the Villa de Madrid invitational tournament in Spain. The previous tournament held in Spain had an attendance of more than 12,000 spectators.

He had a total of five matches in the tournament and an almost perfect score with 44 points for and only one point against.

"I am very happy with my students' performances, they represented themselves well, with proper focus and a good attitude," Docherty said.

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RICHMOND, B.C. -- Five members of the ICKF Karate School in Whitby travelled to British Columbia for the national championships. Along with coach Ed Docherty (in back, middle) are Chris Burke, Liam Martin, Marika Gumienny, Sami Iannuzzi and Dylan Creaney. April, 2012  
*Submitted photo*