Whitby karate students bring home three medals from nationals

Dylan Creaney wins individual bronze, team silver in British Columbia

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WHITBY -- Johnathan Klobucar, Liam Martin, Kaitlyn Morrish, Meghan Boland, Megan Sorichetti and Dylan Creaney are ICKF Karate School members who made Team Ontario, with three winning gold at provincials. February 5, 2014 - Jason Liebregts / Metroland

WHITBY -- Johnathan Klobucar and Dylan Creaney led a strong contingent of local athletes to the national karate championships in British Columbia, bringing three medals back to Whitby.

Whitby's ICKF Karate School qualified an impressive six students for the national championships, which brought together only the top two athletes from each province in each division.

Karate Ontario hosts three selection tournaments in the elite categories prior to choosing the team, and three of the six who made the grade from the Whitby club did so as provincial champions.

Joining Klobucar and Creaney were Kaitlyn Morrish, Megan Sorichetti, Meghan Boland and Liam Martin.

"I am very proud of my students' attitudes and hard work over the course of the season, very happy to have six students qualify for the provincial team," said ICKF chief instructor Ed Docherty in a press release.

Creaney won bronze in the 18-20, +78kg kumite division and helped Ontario win silver in the men's team event.

Klobucar took bronze in 14-15, -63kg kumite, while Morrish (14-15, +54kg), Boland (16-17, +59kg) and Martin (16-17, -76kg) all finished fifth in their respective categories. Sorichetti (14-15, +54kg) was an honourable mention at nationals.

Earlier in the season, Boland, Martin, Creaney and Klobucar represented Whitby and Canada at the Commonwealth Karate Championships in Montreal, competing against athletes from the likes of New Zealand, India, South Africa, Australia and Botswana.

Creaney and Boland both won bronze medals, while Martin finished fifth and Klobucar earned honourable mention.

"The ICKF students did fantastic in this very high level international competition," said Docherty. "It was a great experience for them to compete against athletes from all over the world."

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