



September 4, 2014

To: Presidents and Secretaries General

WTF Member National Association

Re: World Taekwondo GP Manchester 2014

Dear Taekwondo Family,

It is a great pleasure to extend an invitation to your member national association to participate in the World Taekwondo GP Manchester 2014 to be held on October 24-26, 2014 in Manchester, UK.

I expect that the World Taekwondo GP Manchester will serve as yet another opportunity for the top elite athletes to display their skills. Also I hope all invited athletes will come and enjoy the thrilling moments of competition and friendship in Manchester.

Rest assured that the World Taekwondo Federation and the Organizing Committee will do its utmost effort to ensure the success of the Grand Prix competitions.

We look forward to seeing you all in Manchester in October.

Sincerely,

Chungwon Choue

Chunywon Chone

President





WELCOME

Dear Athletes & Officials

Once again, it is with great excitement that I welcome you all to the WTF *Grand Prix* here in Manchester.

It was a great honor to host the inaugural WTF *Grand Prix* in 2013, laying the foundations for this new ground breaking event series in partnership with the WTF. Our ambition is to improve on the service to teams and athletes and enhance the sports presentation even further, making Taekwondo a superbly entertaining experience for TV and online audiences around the world.

I must thank UK Sport and Manchester City Council for their continued outstanding support to enable us to host this amazing event. And of course we thank President Dr Choue and the WTF for entrusting us yet again with the responsibility of hosting one of their flagship series events.

Our *Grand Prix* promises to be a spectacular three days of high level taekwondo, where our sports superstars can showcase their talent as they set their sights on the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio.

I very much look forward to seeing you all in Manchester.

Adrian Tranter

President

British Taekwondo





OUTLINE

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS ONLY THE OUTLINE AND NOT AN INVITATION TO THE WTF WORLD TAEKWONFO GP, MANCHESTER 2014

WTF World Taekwondo Grand-Prix, Manchester 2014

1. PROMOTER: WORLD TAEKWONDO FEDERATION (WTF)

ADDRESS: 7148-4, Taepyeong-dong, Sujeong-gu, Seongnam, Gyeonggi-do, Korea 461-855

TELEPHONE: +82.2.556.2505 / 82.2.557.5446

FAX: +82.2.553.4728

E-MAIL: <u>sport@wtf.org</u> (Sport Department)

WEB-SITE: http://www.wtf.org

2. ORGANIZING MNA: BRITISH TAEKWONDO

ADDRESS: Excel House, Rowsley Street, Manchester M11 3FF

TELEPHONE: +44 161 230 1132 **FAX:** +44 161 230 1131

E-MAIL: grandprix@gbtaekwondo.co.uk

3. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: GB TAEKWONDO

ADDRESS: Excel House, Rowsley Street, Manchester M11 3FF

TELEPHONE/FAX: +44 161 230 1132 **FAX:** +44 161 230 1131

E-MAIL: grandprix@gbtaekwondo.co.uk
WEB-SITE: www.TaekwondoGP.com

4. VENUE: Manchester Central Convention Complex,

Petersfield, Manchester, UK

5. QUALIFICATIONS

In accordance with Article 4: Qualification of Contestant of the WTF Competition Rules, the contestant must be:

CRITERION #1: Holder of the nationality of the participating team

CRITERION #2: An athlete must be the one invited by the WTF based on the WTF Olympic Ranking

published in July 2014 following the Korea Open. Invitation shall be extended to the pertinent member national taekwondo association that is recognised by the World

Taekwondo Federation

CRITERION #3: Holder of the Kukkiwon Poom or Dan Certificate

(* A copy of the Dan certificate should be enclosed when registering for

accreditation. In case a contestant has applied for a Kukkiwon Dan certificate but has not received it yet, a copy of the Dan application form and the remittance certificate sent to the Kukkiwon must be enclosed when registering for accreditation. Please refer to the Kukkiwon Web site (www.kukkiwon.or.kr) for

more information.)

CRITERION #4: An athlete must be 17 years old or older. An athlete who was born in the year of

1997 or before is eligible to participation in the Championships.

CRITERION #5: Holder of valid WTF Global Athlete Licence (GAL). Any questions on the WTF GAL

application please contact Mr Jeremy Mallétroit the WTF Global Licence Administation

Manager at gmsadmi@wtf.org





5. COMPETITION RULES

WTF Competition Rules shall be applied.

7. METHOD OF COMPETITION

- i. Single elimination system
- ii. Grade: G4
- iii. Number of athletes: Maximum 32 per division
- iv. Selection of athletes: Top 31 athletes per Olympic category based on the WTF Olympic ranking to be published in August 2014.
 - The last event before release of this ranking will be the 2014 Korea Open (July 11th 16th)
- v. Host country: 1 athlete from the host country per Olympic division shall be additionally invited.
- vi. Maximum quotas per MNA: 2 athletes per weight division
- vii. Seeding and drawing of lots: All ranked athletes based on WTF Olympic Ranking of August shall be seeded accordingly except athletes of host country place shall receive no. 9 seed.
- viii. Confirmation timeline
 - WTF will send out the invitation to the pertinent MNA first week of September.
 - The invited MNA is requested to confirm participation of its athlete(s) within 2 weeks from the date of receipt of the invitation. Once the MNA confirms participation, it cannot change the athlete(s).
 - If a MNA withdraws participation of its athlete(s) before October 2nd, 2014, he/she will be replaced by the next highest ranked athlete of the WTF Olympic Ranking (August version), not necessarily by an athlete of the same nationality.
 - If a MNA withdraws participation of its athlete(s) on October 2nd or after, his/her place will be cancelled and will not be replaced.
 - <u>- If registered athlete does not participate in GP Manchester without prior notice to the WTF sport department by October 2nd, he or she won't be invited for next GP regardless of their WTF Olympic ranking</u>

8. CONTEST TIME

2 minutes x 3 rounds with 1 minute break

WEIGHT DIVISIONS

Men's division		Women's division	
Under 58kg	Not exceeding 58 kg	Under 49kg	Not exceeding 49 kg
Under 68kg	Over 58 kg & Not exceeding 68 kg	Under 57kg	Over 49 kg & Not exceeding 57 kg
Under 80kg	Over 68 kg & Not exceeding 80 kg	Under 67kg	Over 57 kg & Not exceeding 67 kg
Over 80kg	Over 87 kg	Over 67kg	Over 73 kg

10. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATING TEAMS

i. Round-trip Airfare and Accommodation

Round trip airfare and and accommodation charges of room and board shall be borne by the participating National Association.

11. WTF GLOBAL LICENCE & ONLINE REGISTRATION

i. WTF Global Licence Registration

All Athletes and Team officials must FIRST be registered with a WTF Global Athlete Licence (GAL) or Global Official Licence (GOL).

ii. WTF Online Registration

National Team Entry will only be accepted through the WTF online registration system and registration is only possible with a valid WTF Global Licence. National Team GMS admins will be notified via email once online registration is open.





12. ENTRY FEES

The OC shall collect the entry fees from the participating national teams. The national team shall pay an entry fee to the Organizing Committee by cash in USD\$, at the accreditation center in Manchester, UK prior to the start of the Championships. Athletes shall not be allowed to compete without successful payment of entry fee to the Organizing Committee.

- Entry fee shall be various according to the timing and situation of the submission of entry. Please read
 carefully the following guidelines.
- Entry will be accepted only when the forms are completely filled out with all required information and signed by the President of the pertinent member national association, excluding TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption) which can be submitted to the WTF by no later than 30 days before the tournament. For detailed information on TUE, please see the following page of the WTF website: http://www.wtf.org/wtf eng/site/anti doping/06 therapeutic use exemptions.html

DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION FEES: A discount will be given to national teams that complete their registration during this period.

- US\$40 per athlete
- Discounted entry fee period will begin on 4th September 2014.
- Discounted entry fee period will end on 10th September, 2014, 17:00 Local Swiss Time.

REGULAR ENTRY FEES: The national teams completing their registration during this period will be charged the regular registration fee.

- US \$50 per athlete.
- Regular entry fee period will begin on 11th September 2014.
- Regular entry fee period will end on 2nd October 2014, 17:00 Local Swiss Time.
- ** At the close of regular registration of October 2nd, if the WTF decides to implement an extension of the Registration Period, the following late registration dates and fees will apply **

LATE REGISTRATION FEES: In the case that the WTF decide to implement a late registration period, the national teams completing their registration during this period will be charged the following fee.

- US \$75 per athlete.
- Late registration fee period can begin on 3rd October 2014.
- Late registration period will end (if implemented) on 9th October 2014, 23:59 Local Swiss Time.
- LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD ONLY APPLIES IF THE WTF DECIDES TO IMPLEMENT.

12.1 ENTRY DEADLINES & IMPORTANT DATES

- Entry deadline is October 2nd, 2014. Entry submission after this date will be not accepted under any circumstances.
- ii. In case of replacement of an injured athlete, an MNA may replace this athlete no later than October 17, 2014.
- The registered athletes or team officials may be replaced without any penalty until October 2nd,
 2014.
- iV. Entry fee of US\$50 per athlete will not be charged in case of cancellation of participation until October 2nd, 2014.
- V. Entry fee must be paid in case of the cancellation of participating athletes after September 25th, 2014 or no-show.
- Athletes: Member national association can submit entry by online for the athletes invited by the WTF. A
 member national association can send a maximum 2 athletes per weight division provided that these
 athletes are the ones invited by the WTF. The host member national association is able to send 1
 additional athlete per weight division meaning that a maximum of 3 athletes per weight division can
 participate if 2 athletes are invited through ranking. No additional athletes are accepted. No reserve
 athlete is accepted. No entry will be accepted or modified at the accreditation center(s) in Manchester.
- Team officials: Member national association can register online for maximum one (1) Head of team per





country, one (1) manager per team, two (2) coaches per team, one (1) team doctor per team, one (1) trainer per team.

- MNA officials: three (3) Member National Association (MNA) officials per country can be registered by online.
- Penalty: Penalty of US\$100 per person shall be paid to the Organizing Committee at the accreditation center in Manchester in the following cases.
 - any team official who is not registered online wants to be accredited at the accreditation center in Manchester although the total number of team officials does not exceed the designated number,
 - In case of exceeding designated number of MNA officials wants to be accredited at the accreditation center in Manchester or any MNA official who is not registered online wants to be accredited at the accreditation center in Manchester.
- Any changes or additions that are made to a national team list after 25th September 2014 will be charged a \$100 USD penalty in addition to the registration fees. This penalty will be considered the onsite fee for approved additions or changes to the national team list.
- Any WTF Global Licence registration completed <u>onsite</u> will be charged a \$30 onsite processing fee for each WTF Global Licence required.

iv. Ground transportation

Ground transportation will be provided for national teams on arrival and departure free of charge, only for teams who book via the official event agent and provided that the Organizing Committee has been informed of the date, time, and flight number of the national team's arrival and departure at the latest by **the designated deadline** (September 26th 2014). No other transportation is provided in Manchester as all official team hotels are within walking distance of all venues.

13. CLASSIFICATION OF RESULTS

Medals will be awarded to the top four athletes in the respective weight category of the pertinent championships:

1 st PLACE:	USD 5'000, GOLD MEDAL & CERTIFICATE
2 nd PLACE:	USD 3'000, SILVER MEDAL & CERTIFICATE
3 rd PLACE:	USD 1'000, BRONZE MEDAL & CERTIFICATE
3 rd PLACE:	USD 1'000, BRONZE MEDAL & CERTIFICATE

The athletes who advance to round of 8 or above will get ranking point. The points will be reflected on WTF World Ranking and WTF Olympic Ranking. The ranking points per winners of the championships shall be allocated as follows.

Position	Ranking Point
1st place	40
2nd place	24
3rd places	14.4
5th places	08.64

14. TEAM ENTRIES PER COUNTRY (MAXIMUM 29 MEMBERS)

POSITION	MAX. NO. OF MEMBERS	MAX. NO. OF MEMBERS
	MALE	FEMALE
HEAD OF TEAM:		1
MANAGER:	1	1
COACH:	2	2
TRAINER:	2	2
TEAM DOCTOR:	1	1
CONTESTANTS:	8	8





15. INTERNATIONAL REFEREES

The WTF will appoint a total of 50 International Referees. The appointed international referees shall officiate at the WT World Taekwondo GP Manchester 2014; the following conditions shall apply:

- i. International Referees are required to pay for their own roundtrip airfares.
- The Organizing Committee shall pay for the expenses for six (6) nights' stay of room and board.
 Check-in: October 21 / Check-out: October 27
- iii. The Organizing Committee shall pay a per diem of US\$100 to the selected International Referees for competition period (total three days; US\$300 per referee).

16. TECHNICAL DELEGATE AND COMPETITION SUPERVISORY BOARD

The WTF will appoint one (1) Technical Delegate and up to four (4) members of the Competition Supervisory Board. The following conditions shall apply:

- The Organizing Committee shall pay for the expenses for up to seven (7) nights' stay of room and board.
 Check-in from: October 20 / Check-out: October 27
- ii. The Organizing Committee shall pay a per diem of US\$100 to the Technical Delegate and the members of the Competition Supervisory Board for competition period (total three days; US\$300 per person).

17. WTF-RECOGNIZED TAEKWONDO UNIFORM (DOBOK) AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Protector and Scoring System (PSS) will be used for the Championships. The choice for PSS will be communicated to all MNAs once the decision is made.
- ii. Participating contestants are required to wear WTF-recognized doboks and WTF-recognized protective equipment. The latest version of WTF-recognized manufacturers' list is available at the website of WTF (http://www.worldtaekwondofederation.net/recognized).
- iii. The Organizing Committee will provide Protector and Scoring System (PSS) and the head protector to the participating contestants. Participating contestants are required to bring their own groin guards, mouthpieces, gloves, sensing socks and shin and forearm guards for their personal use.
- iv. Before entering the field of play, all contestants will proceed to the inspection desk for inspection of their doboks and protective equipment. <u>Any contestant who wears unofficial doboks or protective</u> <u>equipment will not be permitted to compete.</u> Organizing Committee shall prepare white masking tapes to cover up any kind of identification of the manufacturers not recognized by the WTF.
- v. Instant Video Replay (IVR) System will be used.

18. IDENTIFIATION OF NOC CODE AND MANUFACTURER

- i. National flag shall be located between 3cm and 3.4cm below the right shoulder line of upper garment.
- ii. NOC Code is a three-letter National Olympic Committee abbreviation, and it shall be printed at the back in black and centred at 5cm or higher from the bottom line of the upper garment within the size of 30cm width x 12cm height. The font of the letters shall be in bold "Verdana".
- iii. Manufacturer's identification (name, designation trademark, logo or any distinctive sign of the manufacturer) shall be located one per garment within 20cm except at the location of the WTF logo.

19. MEDICAL CONTROL

- The WTF Anti-Doping Rules, and where necessary the Code of the World Anti-Doping Agency, shall apply throughout the competitions.
- ii. Compulsory anti-doping tests will be carried out on random selection basis. The WTF and/or WADA may carry out random out-of-competition testing prior to the championships. Therefore, all participating contestants are required to submit their latest and most accurate Athlete Location (Whereabouts Info) Forms to the WTF.
- iii. TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption)
 - Athletes who take any substance or medicine listed in the "Prohibited List" of the WTF Anti-Doping Rules and Anti-Doping Code of World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for therapeutic purposes are requested to visit the website of WADA and make online filing of their TUE applications on ADAMS http://www.wada-ama.org/en/ADAMS/ and report to the WTF Sports Department at marcoienna@wtf.org by no later than October 24th, 2014. For more details, please see the following page of the WTF website:

http://www.wtf.org/wtf_eng/site/anti_doping/06_therapeutic_use_exemptions.html

For ADAMS login, please contact National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) in your country or WTF Sports Department at marcoienna@wtf.org





20. HEAD OF TEAM MEETING & DRAWING OF LOTS SESSION

- The head of team meeting and the drawing of lots session shall be conducted two (2) days prior to the start of the championships that is October 22nd, 2014, in the presence of the WTF officials and the representatives of the participating nations.
- ii. The method and order of the draw may be changed depending on the decision of the Technical Delegate.
- iii. Depending on the decision of the Technical Delegate, WTF officials or Organizing Committee volunteers could be designated to draw lots on behalf of the officials of the participating nations who are not present at the time of the lot drawing session.

21. WEIGH-IN

- i. Weigh-in of the contestants shall take place on the day before their respective weight category.
- ii. During the weigh-in, male contestants shall wear underpants and female contestants shall wear underpants and brassieres. However, contestants may weigh-in in the nude if they want to do so.

22. INDEMNITIES

- i. The respective national taekwondo associations shall be responsible for ensuring that all officials and participants are covered with effective travel & medical insurance coverage.
- ii. Participants without proper insurance coverage will not be allowed to compete at the championships.
- iii. The Organizing Committee will acquire general Public Liability event insurance.

23. ACCOMMODATION

The participating teams are required to submit the hotel reservation to Organizing Committee by <u>no later than</u> <u>September 26th, 2014</u>. The list of official hotels and hotel reservation forms are included in this invitation pack.

24. VISA INFORMATION

The Organising Committee can provide recommendation letters for visa applications.

However, MNA's are required to check the United Kingdom entry visa application waiting times in their own countries and submit requests for recommendation letters to the organising committee.

The Organising Committee cannot guarantee entry into the UK and can only offer assistance. It is the responsibility of each athlete and MNA to apply for and secure the correct entry visa for the UK.

MNA's are requested to complete the attached visa application recommendation form at least one week before the waiting time deadline in their own country.

25. ATHLETE REPLACEMENT

Athletes cannot be replaced after confirmation of the member national association. In the event that a confirmed athlete cannot compete due to injury occurred between October 2 and October 17th, 2014, the pertinent MNA shall submit the late replacement form together with medical certificate written by medical doctor in English to the WTF at sport@wtf.org no later than October 17th, 2014. The request may be accepted by the WTF upon review of the request provided that the replacing athlete is ranked within the top 31 of the WTF Olympic Ranking.

26. COACH's ATTIRE

All Coaches are required to wear formal suit such as tie, jacket, dress shirt (long or short), and trouser during Semi-Finals and Finals. If any coach refuses to wear abovementioned attire, he or she won't be coaching for next GP.

27. TEAM DOCTOR'S MEETING

In order to receive accreditation card, all registered team doctors or physicians must attend team doctor's meeting on October 23rd

Attachment

- 1. Timetable
- 2. Athlete Late Replacement Form





TIMETABLE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

World Taekwondo GP Manchester 2014 October 24 - 26, 2014 / Manchester, United Kingdom

Date	Time	Event	Place
Oct 20 - 22	0900-1800	Arrival and registration of teams	Manchester Central
Oct 21 - 23	0900-1800	Training	Manchester Central
Oct 22 - 23	0900-1800	Referee meeting and training	Manchester Central
Oct 22	1400-1600	Head of Team Meeting and Drawing of Lots	Manchester Central
Oct 23	1000-1200	Weigh-in for F-67kg, F+67kg and M+80kg	Manchester Central
	1400-1600	Team Doctor's Meeting	Manchester Central
Oct 24	0900-1300	Competitions (F-67kg, F+67kg and M+80kg)	Manchester Central
	1000-1200	Weigh-in for F-49kg, M-58kg and M-80kg	
	1300-1430	Lunch break	
	1430-1730	Round of 16 and quarterfinals (F-67kg, F+67kg and M+80kg)	Manchester Central
	1730-1830	Session break	
	1830-2100	Semi-finals and finals (F-67kg, F+67kg and M+80kg)	Manchester Central
Oct 25	0900-1300	Competitions (F-49kg, M-58kg and M-80kg)	Manchester Central
	1000-1200	Weigh-in for F-57kg and M-68kg	
	1300-1430	Lunch break	
	1430-1730	Round of 16 and quarterfinals (F-49kg, M-58kg and M-80kg)	Manchester Central
	1730-1830	Session break	
	1830-2100	Semi-finals and finals (F-49kg, M-58kg and M-80kg)	Manchester Central
Oct 26	0900-1200	Competitions (F-57kg and M-68kg)	Manchester Central
	1200-1330	Lunch break	
	1330-1600	Round of 16 and quarterfinals (F-57kg and M-68kg)	Manchester Central
	1600-1730	Session break	
	1730-2000	Semi-finals and finals (F-57kg and M-68kg)	Manchester Central
Oct 27		Departure of the teams	





ATHLETE LATE REPLACEMENT FORM

To: Mr. Jay Lee Sport Director

World Taekwondo Federation

Email: sport@wtf.org

NAME OF COMPETITION: World Taekwondo GP Manchester 2014

SUBSTITUED ATHLETE (to be removed from to	eam list)		
NAME OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION			
ATHELTE NAME (Family name in capital			
<u>letter</u>)			
GENDER	MALE	FEALE	
WTF GAL Number			
Date of Birth	(Day/ Month/ Year	r)	
Weight Division	KG		
Date and place of Injury			
Medical Condition			
Name of MNA President			
Signature of MNA President			
 A separate certificate by the n 	nedical doctor on th	e athlete's injury and medical con-	dition should be
attached in the language of th	ne pertinent country	and in English.	
SUBSTITUED ATHLETE (to be added to team li	st)		
NATIONALITY			PHOTO
ATHELTE NAME (Family name in capital			
lottor)			ĺ

NATIONALITY		РНОТО
ATHELTE NAME (Family name in capital		
<u>letter</u>)		
GENDER	☐MALE ☐FEALE	
WTF GAL Number		
DATE OF BIRTH	(Day/ Month/ Year)	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH		
Weight Division	KG	
PASSPORT NUMBER		
KUKKIWON DAN CERTIFICATE NUMBER		

MNA PRESIDENT SIGNATURE & STAI	ИP
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^{*} IMPORTANT: This form will be accepted only if medical confirmation in writing in English from the responsible medical doctor is attached to this form after due evaluation of the WTF.





















24-26 OCTOBER MANCHESTER CENTRAL

GET YOUR TICKETS @

ticketmaster.co.uk/WTGP



WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

From a martial arts history believed to date back to 50 BC, Taekwondo is now firmly established as an exciting Olympic sport.



- The World Taekwondo Federation was founded in 1973 and the first World Championships were held in Seoul that year.
- It became a demonstration event at the 1988 Games in Seoul and again in Barcelona four years later. The sport was upgraded to official Olympic medal status at Sydney 2000 when Britain sent two competitors, including Beijing 2008 bronze medallist, Sarah Stevenson.
- Since 2000, taekwondo has been one of only two Asian martial arts included on the Olympic Games schedule the other being judo.
- 128 athletes competed in the taekwondo competition at London's 2012 Olympics.
- Last year's Manchester WTF World Taekwondo Grand Prix was broadcast to over 80 countries.
- 256 athletes will take part in Manchester.
- Significant ranking points are up for grabs at this event as athletes attempt to qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympics.
- This event attracts almost every Olympic and major world medallist so expect some stella performances and memorable matches.

OTHER WGP FACTS:

DATE: October 24-26

OLYMPIC WEIGHTS:

Male: -58kg -68kg -80kg +80kg **Female:** -49kg -57kg -67kg +67kg

COMPETITION FORMAT:

32 athletes, single elimination, medals awarded to winner, runner-up and two bronze medallists.

WORLD RANKING POINTS:

1st: 40 points; 2nd: 24 points; 3rd: 14.4 points.

FUTURE EVENTS:

WTF World Grand Prix finals to be staged in Queretao, Mexico. 2015 World Championships to be hosted by Chelyabinsk, Russia.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: GB were one of six countries to win medals at the last Grand Prix in Kazakhstan! Six different nations claimed at least one medal. Suzhou, China has also hosted a Grand Prix in 2014.



OCTOBER 24

Female -67KG

Female +67KG

+80KG Male

09.00 - 13.00

14.30 - 17.30

18.30 - 22.00

OCTOBER 25

Female -49KG

-58KG Male

-80KG Male

09.00 - 13.00

14.30 - 17.30

18.30 - 22.00

OCTOBER 26

Female **-57**KG

Male -68KG

09.00 - 12.00

13.30 - 16.00

17.30 - 20.00



VENUE LOCATION MANCHESTER CENTRAL Petersfield M2 3GX



www.visitmanchester.com/map/











KNOW YOUR TAEKWONDO IN ONE QUICK LESSON

THE RULES AT A GLANCE

FIELD OF PLAY:

Taekwondo contests are fought on an otagonal court measuring 8 metres x 8 metres.

BASICS:

Each contest is made up of three two-minute rounds.

Over their standard white uniform, known as a dobok, competitors wear coloured electronic body and head protectors. The competitor wearing blue is referred to as chung, while the competitor in red is hong.

The object of Taekwondo is to land kicks and punches on the opponent's scoring zones; either the electronic body protector or the head. The athlete with the most points at the end of the three rounds is declared the winner. If scores are level the competition will go to a 'golden point' whereby the first player to score wins the contest.

SCORING:

ONE POINT: Awarded for valid attack (kick or punch) to electronic body protector.

TWO POINTS: Awarded for valid turning kick to electronic body protector.

THREE POINTS: Awarded for valid kick to the head. A foot must make contact with the head or head guard in order to score.

FOUR POINTS: Awarded for valid turning kick to the head.

OFFICIALS:

A centre referee controls the match whilst judges seated by the court score an extra one point for punches and spinning kicks.

BREAKING THE RULES:

Infringing the rules can see valuable points awarded to the opposition.

Penalties range from Kyong-go (a warning penalty) for acts such as crossing the boundary line, hitting below the waist or using the knee to attack. Two Kyong-go warnings result in a point being awarded to the opponent.

More seriously, a Gam-Jeom (deduction penalty) is given for actions such as attacking a fallen opponent, or intentionally attacking the face. A Gam-Jeom results in a one-point deduction.

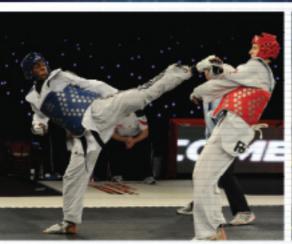
HELPING TO ENGINEER MEDAL WINNING PERFORMANCES.

uk sport

BAE SYSTEMS

Since 2008 over 20 sports ranging from cycling to wheelchair racing, have benefitted from the talents of our 18,000 engineers as part of a technology partnership with UK Sport.

That's inspiration. That's BAE Systems.











ASIA BAILEY

Date of birth: NOVEMBER 25, 1997

Weight category: -49KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 25

Rio 2016 prospect Asia Bailey feared a cruciate knee ligament injury might finish her career at the age of just 15. But a bronze medal in her first senior European Championships earlier this year was proof the Scottish teenager's career is very much alive and kicking. Bailey tore her anterior ligament during a competition in Belgium last year and admitted: "When I was told the news, I thought I might never do taekwondo again. I didn't know anyone who had suffered the same thing," added the 2012 WTF World Junior Championship bronze medallist. "But I realised Sarah Stevenson (Britain's only female world champion) had been through it more than once and she was a great help once I spoke to her." Asia is one of six GB Grand Prix debutants.

RACHELLE BOOTH

Date of birth: AUGUST 31, 1995

Weight category: -57KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 26

Joined the GB Academy in Manchester last September following selection through the 'Fighting Chance, 'Battle4Brazil' initiative after a background in TAGB - a non Olympic form of taekwondo. Already made great strides and was selected for this year's European Championships in Azerbaijan. Lost to eventual runner-up and experienced Croat, Marina Sumic. Competed at her first WTF style National Championships in Manchester last month and duly delivered a gold medal. Things you should know about Wiganer Rachelle? She used to attend drama school, is double-jointed and has three kidneys!

MAHAMA CHO

Date of birth: AUGUST 16, 1989

Weight category: +80KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 24

One of the most impressive and consistent performers in the past 12 months, justifying his decision to return to the GB Academy last year. Celebrated first major comeback competition last December with victory at the inaugural Grand Prix at Manchester Central. Since then the former promising semi-professional footballer at Erith Town has gone from strength to strength. Landed a first National title in three years just recently to add to his 2014 medal haul including golds from the Swiss and Bahrain Opens plus further Grand Prix medals in Suzhou (bronze) and Astana [silver]. Watch out for the 'Mahama hammer' - a devastating punch that secured a golden point, final victory over Brazilian Guilherme Felix on his GP debut. Cho's girlfriend is Antoinette Nana Djimou of France.

NEW PSS



FOR THE

NEW ERA

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ANDREW DEER

Date of birth: JULY 11, 1987

Weight category: -80KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 25

Handy Andy's 2014 highlight has to be a battling European Championship bronze, narrowly losing his semi-final to Russian World Championship silver medallist, Albert Gaun. The 'Tamworth terrier' also finished with bronze at the Fujairah Open. Selected as one of GB's wild card picks for the first ever GP and celebrated by eliminating Germany's 2013 world champion, Tahir Gulec, 17-8 in the opening round. He also gained valuable experience before losing to American double Olympic gold medallist, Steven Lopez. Andy swopped taekwondo codes after the first ever 'Fighting Chance' recruitment drive, designed to introduce martial arts exponents from other backgrounds into the Olympic style discipline.

JORDAN GAYLE

Date of birth: JULY 24, 1991

Weight category: -68KG

Day competing: October 26

Athletes with lesser strength of character might have hung up their dobok by now had they suffered Jordan's ill luck. Knee trouble cost him a shot at the 2011 World Championships and pushed him down the pecking order for London 2012. Selected but then forced to withdraw from last year's World Championships due to weight issues, he remains as determined as ever. Looking for first GP victory after last year's 10-9 sudden death defeat to Canada's Maxime Potvin. Picked up a silver medal at this year's Luxor Open and then won his latest National title last month.

MICHAEL HARVEY

Date of birth: SEPTEMBER 21, 1989

Weight category: -68KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 26

Beijing 2008 Olympian Michael hopes home advantage can lift him back among the world's top performers. A world championship silver medallist in 2011, he won a European title in Manchester two years ago. Considered unfortunate to miss out on selection for London 2012 with team mate and friend, Martin Stamper, chosen in front of him. Mike's adaptability hasn't always worked in his favour and continues to alternate between -63kg and -68kg. His 2014 medal successes both came during the GB squad's Middle East tour, collecting bronzes in Egypt (Luxor) and Fujairah. Mike agonisingly lost against Russian Vasiliy Nikitin on a 'superiority' judges' verdict in Manchester last time. Like fellow Mancunian Jordan Gayle, Mike prefers his football to have a red tinge about it.





FEYI PEARCE

Date of birth: JANUARY 3, 1997

Weight category: -58KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 25

Biggest tournament of the Surrey born starlet's career by a country mile. But after his double success at last month's National Championships when collecting Senior and Junior titles, GB selectors have every faith in his ability. Indeed, the Thornton Heath teenager, a member of the Allen Taekwondo Academy, was selected for the World Junior Championships in 2012 and the European Cadet Championships a year earlier. Youngest male competitor in the GB team this weekend but doesn't expect to be overawed. "I want to be a role model for my community because that is part of being a sportsman as well," he acknowledges. "I want to do more for my community and hopefully if I can become a better player I can do that."

DAMON SANSUM

Date of birth: FEBRUARY 18, 1987

Weight category: -80KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 25

Former kick boxing world champion, Damon Sansum, has proved one of the stand-out GB performers this year. And he's looking for a big finish to 2014 after a succession of near misses. Sansum has had to settle for silver medals, including at the European Championships, while he also collected bronze at the World Grand Prix in Kazakhstan, beaten by taekwondo legend, Steven Lopez. However, big 'D', who knocked out German world champion, Tahir Gulec, en route to third place, reckons: "I think I'm improving at a fast rate and still relatively new to the sport. I'm on track where I want to be and comfortable in taekwondo now. "I could have come home from Astana with gold but I'll settle for bronze. Next time in Manchester it'll definitely be a different colour medal."

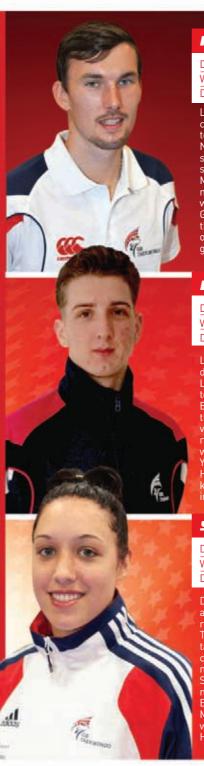
JADE SLAVIN

Date of birth: DECEMBER 11, 1992

Weight category: +67KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 24

Long-legged Jade is a 'model' player in every sense of the word. Proving brawn and beauty go together, the North East hope is a busy young lady. She studied at Northumbria University and has mixed martial arts with modelling. "It's something I've always had a passion for since a young age when many people commented on my height," says the former Miss Sunderland and Miss Earth finalist. She won a National title six weeks ago and gold at the Trelleborg Open in Sweden two years ago.



MARTIN STAMPER

Date of birth: AUGUST 21, 1986

Weight category: -68KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 26

Liverpudlian Martin was one of four GB stars who competed at London 2012 and came agonisingly close to a medal, losing 5-3 against Afghanistan's Rohulla Nikpai. By his own admission, the dad of one has struggled to re-gain the form that swept him to Olympic selection. A European junior silver medallist in 2001, Martin showed flashes of his old form to claim a bronze medal at this year's Luxor Open fighting in the -63kg weight division. At 28, he is the senior member of the GB squad in action at Manchester Central. But with less than two years to go to Rio 2016, Martin still has time on his side to fulfil his ambition of an Olympic medal to go with World and European successes.

LYLE WALKER

Date of birth: AUGUST 14, 1995

Weight category: +80KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 24

Lyle is one of six GB players making a Grand Prix debut at Manchester Central. Hailing from the South Lanarkshire village of Law in Scotland, he graduated to the GB Academy via the 'Fighting Chance, Battle4Brazil' initiative last September. Came into the sport from ITF Taekwondo - the non Olympic version of the Korean martial art. Having previously represented the Scotia TKD Club in Carluke, Lyle won a World Cup event and European title in ITF. Younger brother Luke is also involved in the sport. Hope not to be tempting fate but one thing you never knew about Lyle... he has never broken any bone in his body!

STELLA WHITEHEAD

Date of birth: MARCH 16, 1991

Weight category: -67KG

Day competing: OCTOBER 24

Doncaster is home to a League One football team, a Championship rugby league club and the St Leger, reputed to be the world's oldest classic horse race. The South Yorkshire town also happens to be a taekwondo hot bed, birthplace of former world champion, Sarah Stevenson, and also Scorpions' multi medal winning fighter, Stella Whitehead. Still only 23, Stella was a European Cadet silver medallist back in 2005 and has also fought at European senior level in St Petersburg and Manchester. She has been a regular Open medal winner throughout Europe including: Germany, Holland and Belgium.



As the nation's high performance sports agency UK Sport is committed to ensuring that British athletes achieve maximum success on the world stage and the UK attracts the biggest and most important sporting events on the international calendar.

WORLD CLASS SUCCESS

Since UK Sport was established in 1997 the British Olympic team has risen from 36th in the medal table at Atlanta 1996 to 3rd at London 2012, winning an outstanding 65 medals thanks to targeted investment of National Lottery and Government funds and a range of world class strategic support services. ParalympicsGB also secured an incredible 120 medals at London 2012 to finish 3rd in the medal table.

UK Sport's mission is to work in partnership to build a stronger more sustainable high performance system and help to inspire a generation through the power of sport.

To build on the incredible success of London, UK Sport is investing £350 million in 37

summer Olympic and Paralympic sports to compete at Rio 2016 and beyond. The ambition is for Great Britain to make history by becoming the first nation to be at least as competitive at the next Olympic and Paralympic Games following a home games with the aspiration to win 66 Olympic and 121 Paralympic medals.

UK Sport also invested more than £14million in eight winter Olympic and Paralympic sports for Sochi 2014 where GB secured a record equalling 4 Olympic and 6 Paralympic medals. Investment for Pyeongchang 2018 has been doubled as Winter sports continue to make rapid progress.

// cont. next page



The Gold Event Series is the UK's major events legacy programme which will ensure the UK continues to secure and stage some of the most important sporting events on the international calendar to help build a strong legacy from London 2012, and crucially, to help athletes preparation and qualification on the Road to Rio 2016.

THE GOLD EVENT SERIES will invest £27million of National Lottery funding to support the bidding and staging of World and European events as well as providing a comprehensive package of strategic and technical support across Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth sports.

This ambitious programme will support British athletes' preparation and qualification for Rio 2016, while research shows it will generate approximately £287 million of additional expenditure in host cities and regions and bring over 250,000 overseas visitors to the UK.

UK Sport's Gold Event Series aims to bring more than 70 of the world's most prestigious sporting events to home soil, including 26 World and European Championships.

The following are just a selection of the 47 events that have already been confirmed as part of the Series:

- 2015 European Judo Championships, Glasgow
- 2015 IPC World Swimming Championships, Tollcross, Glasgow
- 2015 European Modern Pentathlon Championships, Bath
- 2015 FIG World Artistic Gymnastics Championships, Hydro Arena, Glasgow

- 2016 LEN European Swimming Championships, London Aquatics Centre
- 2016 UCI Track Cycling World Championships, Lee Valley, London
- 2017 IAAF World Athletics Championships, Olympic Stadium, London
- 2018 FIH Women's Hockey World Cup, Eton Manor, London

The World Taekwondo Grand Prix in Manchester is a key event for the Gold Event Series, this exciting competition is supported by UK Sport to ensure that our GB athletes, who relish competing in front of a home crowd, get the best possible opportunity on their road to Rio.

The Grand Prix will bring a significant economic impact to the host city of Manchester, will engage 150 volunteers and officials and will provide the opportunity for the British public to relive the excitement of the Olympic Games with Olympic stars including gold medallist Jade Jones and bronze medallist Lutalo Mohammed.

These events are only possible thanks to people buying National Lottery tickets. If you've bought a ticket, you're part of the team.

THANK YOU AND ENJOY THE EVENT!



A Stage to Inspire

 $The \, UKS port \, Gold \, Event \, Series \, aims \, to \, bring \, the \, world's \, most \, prestigious \, sporting \, events \, to \, the \, UK. \, This \, ambitious \, programme \, provides \, the \, opportunity \, for \, you \, to \, see \, Great \, Britain's \, top \, athletes \, compete \, here \, on \, home \, soil \, in \, the \, world's \, most \, exciting \, sporting \, competitions.$

Events in 2014:

- Wheelchair Tennis Singles Masters Series, London; 26-30 November
- Track Cycling World Cup, London; 5-7 December

Events in 2015:

- European Judo Championships, Glasgow; 9-12 April
- UCI BMX Supercross World Cup Series, Manchester; 18-19 April
- ISAF Sailing World Cup, Weymouth; 10-14 June
- IPC World Swimming Championships, Glasgow; 13-19 July
- Modern Pentathlon European Championships, Bath; 16-22 August
- EHF European Hockey Championships, London; 21-30 August
- European Wheelchair Basketball Championships, Worcester; 28 August 7 September
- European Eventing Championships, Perth; 10-13 September
- World Canoe Slalom Championships, London; 15-20 September
- World Artistic Gymnastics Championships, Glasgow; 23 October 1 November

More information at www.uksport.gov.uk/events

These events are only possible thanks to people buying National Lottery tickets. If you've bought a ticket, you're part of the team. Thank you.



EVA CALVO GOMEZ

Country: SPAIN

Date of birth: JULY 28, 1991

Weight category: -57KG

Britain's Jade Jones knows all about this Spanish sensation and will tread warily should their paths cross in Manchester. Their rivalry has become one of the most absorbing in the women's competitions, with Jones out for revenge on home mats.

They met at last year's Manchester GP with Gomez taking a 4-2 final verdict. They came head-to-head again at the European Championships when Gomez claimed another high scoring win and the hat-trick of wins was completed at the last Grand Prix when Olympic champion Jones lost on golden point.

However, it hasn't always been plain sailing for the 2013 World Championship bronze medallist as Jones claimed a 2-1 win to claim the 2014 Swiss Open crown. Watch out also for Croatia's Ana Zaninovic plus China's double former world champion, Hou Yuzhuo.

STEV<u>EN LOPEZ</u>

Country: AMERICA

Date of birth: NOVEMBER 9, 1978

Weight category: -80KG

Arguably the most famous taekwondo exponent in the world and still going strong at the age of 35. Britain's Damon Sansum saluted the 2000 and 2004 Olympic champion as taekwondo's Roger Federer for his ability to stay at the top of his sport despite advancing years.

Sansum made his claim after the five-time world champion knocked him out of the last WTF GP in Kazakhstan. A winner of this year's US Open, Lopez has appeared in People Magazine's '50 Most Beautiful People' and on an American dating game show called, The Choice, whose other contestants included actress, Carmen Electra.



MILICA MANDIC

SERBIA Country:

Date of birth: **DECEMBER 6, 1991**

Weight category: +67kg

Still only 22, Milica Mandic heads the +67kg rankings at the start of this latest Grand Prix. Expect Mandic, Anne Caroline Graffe of France and Russian Olga Ivanova to shoot for the top medals. Mandic defeated Graffe to become 2012 Olympic gold medallist and saw her voted Serbian sportswoman of the year. She has been a prolific medal winner in 2014 taking gold in Luxor, Bahrain, Austria, Switzerland and Korea plus silver at the Euros.

LUCIJA ZANINOVIC

Country: **CROATIA** JUNE 26, 1987

Weight category: -49KG

Don't worry if you think you are seeing double this weekend; it's not the local ale but Lucija Zaninovic and twin sister, Ana! They both won European titles in Baku earlier this year with Lucija defeating Yasmina Aziez of France at -49kg and Ana victorious at -53kg against Ekaterina Kim of Russia. Victory yielded a third successive Euro crown for Lucija to go with bronzes from London 2012 and the 2013 world championships. Zaninovic underlined her status as global rankings leader by travelling to Astana and collecting her first World Grand Prix title at the expense of South Korea's Jaeah Kim.

TAEHUN KIM

SOUTH KOREA Country: Date of birth: AUGUST 16, 1992

Weight category: -58KG

The newest title holder competing in Manchester after enhancing his reputation by capturing the Asian Games -54kg title in front of a partisan crowd in Incheon. Kim, the reigning world title holder in the division, defeated Chinese Taipei's Huang Yu Jen 14-3 in the final. "I want to keep my form and eventually grab the gold medal at the (Rio) Olympics," he told the crowd after becoming Korea's sixth gold medallist.





HABY NIARE

Country: FRANCE

Date of birth: JUNE 26, 1993

Weight category: -67KG

A former European champion, Niare still upset the form book by becoming world champion in 2013 at the expense of Chinese favourite, Chia-chia Chuang. And if everything goes to plan they could meet in the Manchester GP final. Niare, European youth champion in 2009, claimed a GP bronze in last year's Manchester event. She finished with silver at the 2014 Euros, losing 3-2 to Russian Anastasia Baryshnikova, but travelled

to Sydney for the Australian Open and ensured the long trip was worthwhile by taking gold.

ANTHONY OBAME

Country: GABON

Date of birth: SEPTEMBER 10, 1988

Weight category: +80KG

Tops the +80kg rankings going into this Grand Prix, closely followed by Dongmin Cha of Korea and M'Bar N'Diaye of France; the latter two also confirmed Manchester competitors.

Hails from Gabon and is one of the West African country's most recognised sporting stars. He became Gabon's first ever Olympic medallist at London 2012 after 40 years of trying, finishing with silver to Italian Carlo Molfetta. However, he took the next step up the podium at last year's World Championships in Mexico and despite 'only' bronze at Manchester 2013, the successes have kept on coming for the big man from Libreville.

He claimed the African title in Tunis
earlier this year and then duly
struck gold at the second World
Grand Prix in Suzhou. Just for good
measure there have been medals
from Canada, America and
Holland for the French based
heavyweight. A close friend
of GB star, Mahama Cho.

Think big





Official schools partner –
proudly supporting the
World Taekwondo Grand Prix"

Image: Town Hall Complex Transformation Programme, Manchester



CITY OF FOOTBALL? TRY CITY OF SPORT



You can't win them all and Nottingham's award as England's City of Football raised even a few non Mancunian eyebrows over Sport England's decision. Grass roots participation rather than the stature of the respective teams: City and United versus Forest and County, was key to the accolade going to the East Midlands.

But Manchester has already shrugged off its rare defeat, preferring to bask in the glory of successfully staging world class sporting competitions and looking ahead to 2015's biggest sporting occasion.

Even Glasgow 2014 organisers doffed a collective tam o'shanter in recognition of the City's vision to bid for and ultimately deliver a fantastic 2002 Commonwealth Games.

Scotland's Games may or may not have been better but Mancunians continue to enjoy the legacy of facilities built for their own distinctly staged Games.

The doors at the National Cycling Centre had already been open eight years and staged two UCI World Championships when the Commonwealths came calling.

And while Velodromes have been erected in other parts of the UK: London, Derby, Newport and Glasgow to name some it's often said imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. But Manchester's National Cycling Centre is more than a track that launched the careers of Sir Chris Hoy, Sir Bradley Wiggins, Victoria Pendleton and Laura Trott. It recently hosted taekwondo's National Championships resulting

in gold medals for a number of this weekend's GB competitors.

The National Badminton Championships were regularly staged inside the wooden oval while netball, basketball and futsal are all enjoyed at the Sportcity venue.

But cycling is the big crowd puller because of its reputation for producing world two-wheel superstars. Bury twins, Simon and Adam Yates, debutants in this summer's Tour de France and Vuelta a Espana, learned to race on the NCC 'boards.'

Jess Varnish and Callum Skinner recently collected four titles apiece at the 2014 Track Nationals.

So, it's already been another bumper sporting year even before the first kicks are landed at this weekend's Grand Prix.

Spectators have enjoyed the BMX World Cup, the Bupa Great Manchester Run, BT GreatCity Games, rugby league's Magic Weekend, British Gas Swimming International, Sainsbury's School Games, FIRA European Manchester rugby union Sevens and the Super League Grand Final.

To end the year squash takes centre stage at





the National Squash Centre, Sportcity with Nick Matthew looking to celebrate Christmas early at the AJ Bell British Grand Prix.

Squash has been a regular staple of the city's sporting diet in recent years. Indeed, 2013 saw Matthew become world champion for a record equalling third time, defeating French rival, Gregory Gaultier, in an epic five setter.

He also won the men's singles title against James Willstrop at Glasgow's Commonwealth Games where he was English flag bearer at the opening ceremony.

New dad Matthew, whose wife, Esme gave birth to Charlotte Rose last month, is holder of the GP title last played for in 2012 while Egyptian maestro, Ramy Ashour, took the prize in 2010 and 2011.

But its rugby of a different code that will be highlighted next year in addition to the annual favourites.

Last month (September 12) marked the one year countdown to the Rugby Union World Cup and Manchester will be in the thick of the action.

The Etihad Stadium, with an increased capacity of 55,000 and planning permission to expand

upwards even more to 61,000, will host England's pool game against Uruguay or Russia on October 10.

Broughton Park, with a history dating back to 1882 and former stars including ex England captain and British Lion, Tony Neary, has been named Manchester's training base for the World Cup.

Chairman Alan Bramhall says of the Hough End based club's global seal of approval: "This selection underlines the tremendous facilities we enjoy at Hough End, the great relationship we have as a club with Manchester City Council's Events and Sports and Leisure Departments and their commitment to rugby in the City.

"We look forward to working with the City Council and the RWC 2015 to make it a great success."

Councillor Rosa Battle, Manchester City Council executive member for culture and leisure said: "It's fantastic to see Manchester selected to be both a host city and as a team base for competitors during the tournament."

So, with such a smorgasbord of sporting occasions to relish, we can live without being City of Football....for now!

WELCOME TO MANCHESTER

One of the UK's most diverse and cosmopolitan cities, Manchester attracts visitors with its fine traditions of sport, culture, music and top class events. With its welcoming attitude, range of tourist attractions, quality shopping, food and drink, not to mention its legendary nightlife, Manchester is an exciting city break destination with lots to see and do.

MANCHESTER CITY DISTRICTS

Explore the compact city centre by foot and discover the authentic mix of old and new.

Castlefield

Historic quarter dating back to Roman times, with cobbled streets and canal side restaurants and pubs to explore.

Central Retail District

The main shopping artery of the city with biggest names in fashion. Includes Market Street, Exchange Square, King Street, New Cathedral Street and Deansgate.

Chinatown

A concentration of oriental businesses centred around the Chinese Arch with a number of Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Korean restaurants.

Northern Quarter

The city's urban, creative heart with a wide choice of cafés, restaurants, bars and many independent retailers.

Oxford Road

Home to two of the city's universities, with a number of cultural attractions like The Cornerhouse art house cinema and many cool pubs and clubs.

Petersfield

The conference quarter of the city with Manchester Central Convention Complex, The Bridgewater Hall concert venue and The Great Northern entertainment complex.

Piccadilly

The main gateway into central Manchester with Piccadilly Station, Piccadilly Gardens and Manchester Visitor Information Centre all located here.

Spinningfields

Modern quarter combining public space, retail and leisure outlets including The Avenue luxury shopping quarter and a number of trendy bars and restaurants.

The Gay Village

Unique atmosphere with a number of cafes, restaurants, bars and clubs centred on and around Canal Street.

MANCHESTER VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

John Rylands Library

Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH One of the city's most historic landmarks. Winner of the Large Tourist Attraction at the 2012 Manchester Tourism Awards, the neo-gothic library was built in the 1890s and today houses a number of world renowned book collections. FREE Entry www.library.manchester.ac.uk

Manchester Art Gallery

Mosley Street, Manchester, M2 3JL Exquisite exhibitions of classic and contemporary art across three floors including a great café and gift shop. FREE Entry

www.manchestergalleries.org

MOSI (Museum of Science & Industry)

Liverpool Road, Castlefield, M3 4PF Located on the world's first passenger railway, MOSI is five huge buildings in which tell the story of where science met industry and the modern world began. FREE entry www.mosi.org.uk

National Football Museum

Cathedral Gardens, Todd St, Manchester M4 3BG 3 floors of amazing objects, incredible stories, hands-on interactivities, changing exhibitions showcasing football's links with popular culture. FREE entry

www.nationalfootballmuseum.com

People's History Museum

Left Bank, Spinningfields, M3 3ER Set over 5 galleries including 'Revolution', 'Voting' and 'Reform', PHM charts Britain's struggle for democracy, political and social change over the past two centuries. FREE entry www.phm.org.uk

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

The Football Experience

Manchester City Football Club and Stadium Tour and Manchester United Museum and Stadium Tour both offer the ultimate football fan experiences at their respective stadiums. Take a behindthe-scenes tour with either of the clubs' expert professional guides and learn about the impressive history of two of the most famous football clubs on the planet.

Manchester City Football Club & Stadium Tour

www.mcfc.co.uk/The-Club/The-Stadiumand-Club-Tours Price: £15 per adult To book call +44 [0] 161 444 1894 (select option 4) or email tours@mcfc.co.uk

Manchester United Museum & Stadium Tour

www.manutd.com/museum Price: £18 per adult To book call +44 (0) 161 868 8000 or email toursenguiry@manutd.com

The Northern Quarter

The city's bohemian and creative district, explore funky boutiques, independent record stores, vintage fashion and an eclectic mix of cafes, restaurants, bars and clubs.

www.northernquartermanchester.com

Manchester Town Hall

Albert Square, Manchester, M60 2LA Enjoy traditional afternoon tea at Manchester's historic town hall - a classic example of neo-Gothic Victorian architecture.

Price: Afternoon Tea packages start from £11 per person www.manchester.gov.uk/townhall

Chill Factore

Trafford Quays Leisure Village, Manchester, M41 7JA The UK's longest indoor real snow skiing and snowboarding slope. www.chillfactore.com

City Centre Cruises

The best alternative to exploring the city is to board a barge and sail along the waterside. Enjoy a freshly prepared, 3 course meal on board while taking in the sights of the River Irwell, Salford Quays and the Bridgewater Canal. Football cruises from the city centre to Old Trafford are also available for private hire on selected match days by pre-arrangement.



East Lancashire Railway / Rail Ale Trail intu Trafford Centre

Bolton St Burv. Greater Manchester BL9 0EY

Take a steam train ride through sweeping vallevs and beautiful countryside landscapes, stopping off at micro-breweries to sample local real ales. www.eastlancsrailwav.org.uk

SHOPPING

Luxury Brands & Personal Shopping

Check out Exchange Square & New Cathedral Street for designer labels including Burberry, Louis Vuitton, Hugo Boss, Ted Baker, Reiss and many more at two of Britain's most exclusive department stores.

Harvey Nichols

Shop high end fashion and beauty brands from across the globe including Cavalli, Mulberry, Dior, Duchamp and Vivienne Westwood.

www.harveynichols.com

Selfridges

Explore five floors of luxury retail including health and beauty, jewellery, menswear, womenswear and food hall. Shop luxury brands including Alexander McQueen, Marc Jacobs, Ralph Lauren and Gucci and Chanel.

www.style.selfridges.com/store/ manchester-exchange-square/

The Avenue, Spinningfields

Flagship outlets for high fashion including Emporio Armani, Mulberry, DKNY, Flannels and many more. www.theavenuemanchester.com

Heritage Brands

Explore King Street and the surrounding areas and discover upmarket British and European brands including Barbour. Kath Kidston, Crombie and Hermes.

High Street Favourites

Explore Manchester Arndale and Market Street for all high street stores including Topshop, River Island, Debenhams, NEXT, Primark, Boots and Doc Martens. www.manchesterarndale.com

Manchester, M17 8AA

One of the largest shopping centres in the UK, the Trafford Centre is 20 minutes drive from central Manchester and has over 240 stores including John Lewis, Selfridges, Kurt Geiger, Marks & Spencer's to name a few. Its 60 restaurants and many nearby leisure attractions means you can easily spend the entire day there. www.intu.co.uk/traffordcentre

Vintage and Independent Fashion

The Northern Quarter is home to alternative and vintage fashion including the Aladdin's cave emporium that is Affleck's, men's fashion boutique Oi Polloi, women's retailer Junk and various nearby vintage stores around Oldham Street. Find independent record stores including Piccadilly Records and Fastern Bloc Records here too as well as comic and book stores like Magma and independent art galleries like Richard Goodhall Gallerv.

WHATS ON IN MANCHESTER

Manchester Science Festival. until 02 November

Christmas Lights Switch On, 7 November

Manchester Christmas Markets. 14 November - 21 December

Christmas Bricktacular,

Legoland Discovery Centre, intu Trafford Centre 15 November 2014 - 02 January 2015

Spinningfields Ice Rink, Spinningfields, November 2014 - January 2015

Shrek The Musical, Palace Theatre. 02 December 2014 - 11 January 2015

Key 103 Christmas Live,

4 December, Phones 4U Arena

Santa Specials, East Lancashire Railway Bury, 29 - 30 November and 6 - 24 December 2014

Victorian Christmas Markets,

04 January 2015

4 - 7 December, Lowry Outlet MediaCity

Winter Wonderland Manchester. Event City, 13 December 2014 -

People's History Museum, until 18 January 2015.

Colours Community and Chemistry.

Nutcracker Christmas Mansion. Tatton Park, 25 November -21 December.

Manchester Beer and Cider Festival

21 - 24 January, National Cycling Centre

Future Everything Festival:

26 - 28th February 2015.

For more inspiration about what to see and do in Manchester go to www.visitmanchester.com/christmas

EXPLORING THE REST **OF THE NORTH WEST**

Exploring the of North West England. The neighbouring towns, cities and countryside of beautiful North West England are all within easy reach by public or private transport.

Chester & Cheshire

- 50 minutes by road/rail
- Top attractions include Chester Zoo, Chester Racecourse, Peckforton Castle and Tatton Park www.visitchester.com

Lancashire & Blackpool

- 1 hour by road/rail
- Top attractions include Blackpool Illuminations, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Lancaster Castle, Pendle Witch Trails and Forest of Bowland www.visitlancashire.com

Liverpool

- 45 minutes by road/rail
- Top attractions include UNESCO World Heritage site Albert Dock, Mersey Ferries, Beatles Story Museum and Tate Liverpool www.visitliverpool.com

The Lake District

- 1 hour 50mins by road
- Top attractions include Lake Windermere, The World of Beatrix Potter, William Wordsworth Museum and Ullswater Steamers. www.golakes.com

ALL ABOARD FROM MANCHESTER CENTRAL TO COPACABANA





IN its heyday as Manchester's principal railway station many an exotic journey started from the building that is home to this weekend's World Taekwondo Federation Grand Prix.

But Rio de Janeiro wasn't on the departure board for thousands of Mancunians who used Manchester Central after a grand opening in 1880.

And while competitors at this fourth WTF GP can't buy a direct ticket to the 2016 Olympics, they can do themselves a huge power of good for themselves and their National Governing Bodies by earning valuable ranking points towards their ultimate goal.

It's now less than two years to the opening ceremony of Rio 2016 (5th August) and thoughts have already turned to South America...



And despite all the scare stories of unfinished stadia, riots, crime and exorbitant prices, Rio staged a superb football World Cup culminating in a deserved (say it through gritted teeth) German victory.

Only the form of Roy Hodgson's England squad spoiled the occasion for fans in Brazil and millions back home watching the dismal action unfold. It's a given Team GB, after a magnificent effort at London 2012, will be far more successful. However, after 69 medals, 29 of them gold, it will take a huge effort to match that tally.

Two of those medals were won by GB Taekwondo players: Jade Jones and Lutalo Muhammad, both of them fighting in Manchester. It was a 50 percent increase on Beijing 2008 when Sarah Stevenson clinched a heroic bronze - Britain's first ever Olympic taekwondo podium placing.

Now the bar has been raised even higher thanks to confirmation of a 17 percent funding increases from UK Sport for the current Olympic cycle and the potential to send an eight strong team to Rio rather than the four: Jones, Muhammad, Stevenson and Martin Stamper.

In the busiest competition year ever for GB Taekwondo, Rio qualification points are being gained at every tournament. Some events - like the Grand Prix and forthcoming GP finals in Mexico, carry greater points - with the aim to qualify a top six place for the country not the individual.

Next year's World Championships, a first ever European Games in Azerbaijan and the 2015 Grand Prix series will ramp up the pressure on athletes to keep collecting points as well as medals. But there is cause for optimism.

Only two sports - Fencing and Triathlon achieved bigger percentage increases when UK Sport handed out nearly £350 million to Olympic and Paralympic sports earlier this year following its annual review of elite sport funding.

The decision also removed any lingering fears of a cash cut after the 2013 WTF World Championships in Mexico when Britain's squad of eight returned from Puebla empty handed.

"We were nervous but in five years, prior to the Worlds, we had never missed a target," says GB Taekwondo Performance Director, Gary Hall. "Sometimes it is good if you don't achieve your goals because it allows you to deeply assess where you are and allows you to change things up which GB Taekwondo has done.

"We put together a very strong business case and reviewed the programme incredibly deeply after Mexico.



"It is a significant amount of money and will make a huge difference to what we are trying to achieve in this Rio cycle but also through to the Tokyo cycle in 2020."

In Rio, Hall hopes to name athletes in all eight Olympic weight divisions - those being contested this weekend. It's an ambitious goal but the Manchester based programme has never taken a backward step since it arrived in the city a decade ago.

"The fact we can win eight medals in 2016, as opposed to four in the London cycle, is a huge opportunity for us as a sport and I think that was a key aspect of the investment from UK Sport," confirmed Hall

"However, the funding also allows to improve and develop across all areas, whether that be data and communication systems, making sure our coaches - who I believe are already the best in the world - have more development opportunities, while we are also looking to bespoke projects around injuries and injury management around a full contact sport."

To maximise the chance of taking up a full quota of places for Rio, 19 new athletes were introduced to the GB Academy last September, 15 of them through the 'Fighting Chance, Battle4Brazil'

initiative. That took the number of athletes training at the GB Academy in Newton Heath up to 32.

A year on and three of that intake: Asia Bailey, Rachelle Booth and Lyle Walker, have a chance to impress over the next three days. "With an opportunity to compete for a maximum of eight medals in 2016 there was a real need for us to strengthen the 'athlete pool' within each Olympic weight category," added Hall.

"One of the key ingredients our programme had been missing is that depth. Maybe in the past if we lost someone to injury, we lost a chance of a medal.

"Now we have a chance to prepare three or four athletes in one category and that improves our competitiveness on the world stage.

"I could have easily named a squad of eight for London 2012 and eight possible medal winners as well. Now the future is brighter for the team, which is why we have expanded it to increase our chances of getting those places filled.

"When we started this back off in 2001 down in Loughborough I wouldn't have expected to be where we are today. It's a testimony to the athletes and testimony to the investment principles that been in operation at UK Sport and through the National Lottery funding."



DEAR GLOBAL TAEKWONDO FAMILY,

I would like to welcome you to Manchester, United Kingdom for the 2014 WTF World Taekwondo Grand Prix.

I also wish to congratulate GB Taekwondo and their Organizing Committee for their work to bring everyone together for this great event.

The three days of competition, which will feature the best athletes of our sport, will certainly display the best taekwondo and will draw great interest from both international media and the public.

I wish everyone only the best during this Grand Prix and hope that you enjoy every second of it.



Chungwon Chouse

Chungwon Choue WTF President

Thank you.



KPMG is proud to support GB Taekwondo

kpmg.co.uk





On behalf of Manchester City Council and its partnership with GB Taekwondo and UK Sport's Gold Event Series, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the World Taekwondo Grand Prix in Manchester.

We are delighted that the Taekwondo Grand Prix is being held once again in Manchester after the success of last year's event.

Over the course of three days Manchester Central will see 250 of the World's top athletes competing, including home grown British talent who train here in Manchester. Along with

World and Olympic Champions who will all be fighting it out for vital qualification points ahead of Rio 2016.

Finally, I would like to wish the best of luck to all competitors and hope that they and all spectators enjoy their visit to our great sporting city.



Sir Richard Leese, CBE Leader of Manchester City Council

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On behalf of UK Sport I would like to welcome you all to the World Taekwondo Grand Prix here in Manchester.

UK Sport is delighted to be supporting this prestigious event through the National Lottery funded Gold Event Series. This ambitious programme will invest approximately £27 million to support the bidding and staging of up to 70 major events on home soil to build an enduring legacy from the wonderful success of London 2012.

I know our athletes relish the opportunity of competing in front of a passionate and knowledgeable home crowd. I would like to wish everyone competing the very best of luck. Finally, I would like to thank all involved in staging this event including our partners; Manchester City Council and GB Taekwondo.



Liz Nicholl, CBEChief executive, UK Sport

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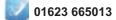


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Contact us for support and advice



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