

# 9th Open Tae Kwon Do International World Championships

*Report and photographs by Sylvio Dokov*



Phew! What a week-end, one thousand seven hundred competitors from around 20 countries and 30 different organisations and a sell out audience. All this taking place over 28 competition areas at the Telford International Centre on September 11th & 12th.

Its hard to highlight individuals performances but Warren Vice wrote himself into tae kwon do folklore by winning his 5th world title at his 5th different weights, making him tae kwon do greatest ever champion. He also won the deciding fight for the England TAGB team against Scotland TAGB in the world team final, and it must be said that the Scottish team did fantastic to get to

the final beating Switzerland, Canada and Argentina to fight out a magnificent final against England who beat Ireland, Holland and Poland to get there at the end of the five matches. It was a draw so a coin was tossed to see which weight the deciding bout was fought at, Kenny Walton England team coach won the toss and sent out Warren Vice and in thrilling 2 round fight

Vice over came James Reed to retain the title for England and just to put the icing on the cake the England ladies team also won and we saw a truly astonishing performance by England ladies captain Tamsin Clark, which saw her win the semi contact lightweight title, the WTF Olympic style lightweight, so she took home three gold's.



The WTF event on Saturday was well supported all the officials were from WTF groups within the BTC and tae kwon do international would like to thank them for their hard work. It's a shame that the BTCB put none of their fighters into the event, even though they were invited, it looks like once again their Chairman Adrian Tranter can talk the talk but not walk the walk!

Grandmaster CK Choi, 9th Dan presented all the trophies and was guest of honour for the championships, he said it was a wonderful event for tae kwon do with no politics involved and it's a great shame that more groups don't follow the lead of tae kwon do international and have an open door policy towards competing.

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