

Asia Bailey at the German Open 2012



Asia represented Scotland at the German Open in Hamburg on Sunday 4th March 2012 in the Junior Female -44kg division. It was only Asia's second A-class tournament and with 23 players in her category, representing 11 different countries, it was an exciting and daunting event for her.

As expected the standard of the players was very high. The pool included three Turkish National Team players, two from the Iranian National Team as well as Serbian, Danish, Belarusian and Bulgarian National Team players. From a large pool of fighters Asia was drawn against a player she lost against at her only two previous internationals – Katrin Koppe from Germany, the current British Open Champion.

Asia was anxious to put the record straight and was superb, scoring with head shots, back kicks and punches! It was a very convincing win against an experienced German player, 10 points to 1! This result goes to show how well she is progressing.

In her second match, against Rhonda Nat, also from Germany, she continued in the same manner. It was a high scoring game and at 6-6 in the third round an axe kick sailed high over Asia's head. Three points given and that made the difference - Asia going out by 9-7. In the quarter final Rhonda Nat was leading against Fatma Saridogan from Turkey until the dying seconds and Saridogan then went on to win gold! Turkey and Iran dominated the division but it is clear it won't be long before Asia's in there challenging for the medals.