

AN OCTOBER DREAM
TAE KWON DO
BLACK BELT GRADING

Once upon a time there was a young boy aged seven whose dream was to become a black belt in a martial art. But he never thought it would come true as it all seemed to be a dream far in the distance never to be grasped.

Then one day his mum came home from somewhere all sweaty and tired looking. So the young boy having never seen his mum like this before, raced up to her and began asking her curious questions. "Where have you been?"

He asked. "Why are you so yucky and sweaty?" He added.
"And why are you so tired and Phew stinky?" He added again as he held his nose.

She came through to the living room and sat down on the couch and explained that she had been to a Tae Kwon Do class and she explained what that was. Even Though he already knew and didn't need telling. She said it was really good. The young boy automatically remembered his dream and thought of his 'Bruce Lee' and his 'Karate Kid' DVD'S. He shouted as he ran across the living room floor "Can I go, Can I go!" His mum hesitated for a little while and came to a final decision. That decision was yes. The boy jumped for joy.

He attended the very next class and he loved it. So he pestered his mum until she signed the licence forms, paid his fees, and ordered him a suit and fighting gear. And the boy still loves it and is still attending till this day.

Five years of working hard. Five years of sweating buckets. Five years of training. Five years of fighting. The boy worked through the coloured belts as he grew bigger, stronger, faster and older.

HE was the boy who won Scottish Championship for patterns.

HE was the boy who trained with Master Darcy.

HE was the boy who won Student Of The Year, year 2007 2008.

HE was the boy who worked hard in and out of class.

HE had his hits and misses, but still.

Who was that boy you ask....

That boy That boy was **ME**.

By Aaron Irving

As I said in my story I've always wanted to be a Black Belt and still want to and even more than ever. I want the responsibility. I want the pride. I want to be THE BEST. I want to represent my club in competitions and I've worked really hard through the belts to get where I am today so why stop now.

However, without the help of my instructors, the other black belts and students in the school and not forgetting my mum I could not have got this far.

A BIG thank You To Everyone For Your Help Along The Way.

What would I like to do once I become a Black Belt you ask. Well, as I will only be 12 years old I will still have many years of training ahead of me. I would hopefully like to have my own school one day in the future so as I can carry on the good work of the master himself (Grand Master Cho). However, in the meantime I may be lucky enough to help Mr Belgacem with the younger students in the class and pass on my knowledge of Tae Kwon Do to them although I have still lots to learn myself. I can tell the that I am an example of what you can achieve if you stick in and work hard and as I was a 'buddy' when I was in primary seven I would say I was quite good with kids!!

Also, if I pass I can concentrate on training hard for my 2nd degree, then 3rd then 4th then 5th. I may even become a master one day. Now wouldn't that be great. However one step at a time!!

Like everything else there are things I like more than others in Tae Kwon Do. My most favourite things are:

Grappling
Sparring
Self Defence

The things I don't like so much are:

Linework
Stamina (Running, Press Ups, Stat Jumps ect)

However you don't pass gradings alone doing your favourite things.
You have to work at the things you don't like to.

AIMMA do not give Black Belts out for nothing. When you pass your Black Belt you know you've deserved it and a lot of hard work and dedication is required and as I said a big thanks to everybody who has helped or advised me along the way.

When I started, that was my GOAL. And this year on the
18th October I could achive my goal. I could make my
dreams come true and become a BLACK BELT.

.....Thank you for reading.....

BY AARON IRVING