

SOOKE ATHLETE EARNS A TOP REGIONAL AWARD

Bryce McMath of Sooke BC. has earned the prestigious Tiger Balm Black Belt Athlete of the Month award for August. McMath who trains at the Victoria Shotokan Karate Club garnered the regional award for his performance on and off the mat.

Training in karate since he was five years old, Bryce joined the island based dojo in June 2006, and received his Shodan (1st degree black belt) in June 2004 from Shihan Kenneth Funakoshi.

According to his Instructor Guido Arnaud, " Bryce's first visit to the dojo said a lot about him. He came to watch and was convinced to do a little sparring with one of the adult black belts. He was just recovering from being ill, but he really showed his mettle, hanging in there in spite of having to make a quick trip to the washroom. It was a sign of things to come explained Arnaud, "This boy just does not give up ".

Always ready to rise to the challenge, the 14-year old Bryce trains with adults who are all taller and heavier.

Open to learning he readily applies his new knowledge and convey it to others. As an assistant instructor with the junior class he can be counted on to work effectively with any skill level group he is in charge of. In class he is skilled, focused, determined and fun.

In spite of Bryce's success at tournaments he rarely mentions his accomplishments, which are many.

Apart from his karate endeavors, Bryce is an 'A' student at school in the Program for Academic and Creative Enrichment and is working on his NLS certification. He spent last summer volunteering with sport and recreation summer camps at the local recreation centre and has plans to do the same this year. His teacher said it well: "Continue the way you are going and great things are in store for you." On many levels Bryce has been a great addition to our club and we are so happy to have him train with us. He is a great representative of youth in karate."

The Tiger Balm Black Belt Athlete of the Month Award is given to a member in the 4700 member Karate BC system who exemplify outstanding achievement in all areas of life.

For More Information please contact Karate BC @ 604.737.3051