IRISH MASTERS OPEN - 24 OCTOBER 2026.



Numbers at the twelfth edition of the Irish Masters Open were down on the previous two years. The late rescheduling of the European Veterans Championships to the same week impacted the number of non-Irish entries this year.

YEAR	TOTAL NUMBER REGISTERED	TOTAL NUMBER COMPETED	NUMBER OF WOMEN COMPETITORS	
2023	102	89	8	
2024	124	111	16	
2025	137	112	14	
2026	115	74	4	

Mehdi Salimi from Ichiban Leeds was the first player to register and arrive to participate. Three Irish winners of World Veteran Championships were in the hall – Jack Dennis, Lydia Ritchie and Harry McGuigan.





REFEREES:

Michael Power
Renata Tekoriute
Fred Marmain
Maurice Cooper
Willie Lyons
Iain Kelly
Shaun Hester
Luke Murphy
Arteom Boldurat

TABLE OFFICIALS:

Grainne Murphy
Ciaran Cummins
Graham McHale
Eireann Murphy
Sofia Wasil
Maxim Sava

OTHER:

Mark Ford
Teresa Coughlan
Chris Horton (IOM)
Liz Dennis
Raimundas Pocevicius
Mattas Pocevicius
Abdel Meflah

PAUL CUMMINS - Event Co-ordinator

DAIGOKAN and **DANIEL MULLAMPHY** for the Friday night weigh in

DANIEL MULLAMPHY – the drawsheet co-ordinator

LYDIA

THANKS TO THE TEAM





Two players came from France this year – Jerome Schmitt and Olivia Klein Humann.

Benjamin Fauser came from Germany.







John McGrath represented Scotland.

Danny Harper and Mickie O'Hara came from DNA Judo (England).



Renbukan



Tess Jones



Danny Harper and Mickie O'Hara

Mehdi Salimi travelled from Ichiban Leeds and Tess Jones from Crewe.

NIJF and IJA players made up the numbers.

There was support from family members, amongst them Jack and Eleanor Dennis from Lusk; Philip, Jasmine, Rocco and Remy from Kerry; Aziz and his son from Cabra.




Irish Masters
JUDO







Despite my best efforts, **MASTER WOMENS** participation appears to be heading back to the stone age.

Thanks go to two absolute beginners Rachael Bleakley and Yvonne Lester from Amaze Athlone; seasoned IJA players Joanne Walker and Ayumu Perry from Triangle and Gabriela Nache from PCSJ who all entered but withdrew as they would simply have been drawn against their own club mates.

A special mention to Collette Kerr from Simply Judo, who is a regular face at this event and who gave Tess Jones from Crewe a realistic couple of bouts. Olivia Klein Humann travelled to Dublin with Jerome and her daughter, got zero contests but enjoyed the craic.

SOME OF THE PLAYERS



















PHOTO OF THE TOURNAMENT – A PODIUM FILLED WITH RED-AND-WHITE BELTS.

Senior Dan grades and still participating at the Irish Masters Open - Paul MConville (Shiken Shobu Ryu); Paul Cummins (PCSJ) and Donald Tannam (Daigokan) M7-M8 Open.



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Lydia Ritchie
1 November 2026.

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