



LUTTE NEW BRUNSWICK WRESTLING

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Fredericton Wrestlers Medal at Guelph Open

Fredericton – January 18, 2016

This past weekend six wrestlers from the Black Bears Wrestling Club competed in the Guelph Open. The event featured the top teams from across Canada and the United States. Of the six Fredericton based wrestlers, four of them earned medals.

Cj Thoms (Men's 125kg), Ilya Abelev (Men's 74kg), and Allyssa Cleaves (Women's 48kg) all finished the event in second place, while Shawn Daye Finley (Men's 74kg) earned the lone Bronze.

Thoms started the event by defeating Guelph Wrestling Club's Ronald Bingham, but dropped his final to Yakhdan Alrekabi of Montreal YMHA.

Abelev went undefeated during the event, bowing out of his final to Farshad Kaveh of Toronto's Team Impact due to injury. Daye-Finley, who also competed in the Men's 74kg division, dropped his semi-final to Kaveh, but was able to regroup to defeat Ahmed Shamiya of HWC.

Cleaves, the only woman from New Brunswick competing at the event, earn her spot in the finals by defeating American Nicole Woody. Cleaves then dropped a hard fought Gold Medal match to Saskatoon's Natasha Kramble to finish the competition with a Silver.

Grayson St-Laurent (Men's 86kg) and Alex Thoms (Men's 97kg) also competed at the tournament. Both athletes placed fourth, with St-Laurent dropping his Bronze Medal match to Clayton Pie of Brock Wrestling Club, and Thoms being defeated by Ali Alrekabi of Montreal YHMA.

The Guelph Open serves as an important event for Canada's senior athletes. Along with the high level of competition, the tournament functions as Eastern Canada's Domestic Carding Tournament. The top six placings at this event are counted towards the Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) carding program. The purpose of the carding program, which is funded through Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program, is to ensure that athletes identified with international potential are afforded the necessary opportunities in order to achieve international success.

For more information please contact:

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