



4th World Taijiquan Championships 2024

Report and Results

The 4th World Taijiquan Championships was held in Singapore, the Lion City! from August 21st to 28th 2024 at the OCBC Stadium. The BCCMA selected two officials and five athletes to represent Great Britain. The team consisted of Peter Warr (Team Leader), Simon Watson (National Coach) and athletes Barry Phelan (Team Captain), Yoko Yaghmaie, Myrsini Christodoulelli, Danae Holtby, Stanislav Baltsezak.



The World Taijiquan Championships (WTJQC) is the official world championship event which is hosted by the International Wushu Federation. With the first edition taking place in 2014, the WTJQC takes place biennially and features competition focused on taijiquan and its related events for both men and women. The Singapore Wushu Dragon & Lion Dance

Federation is responsible for the organization of the 4th WTJQC under the auspices of the IWUF.

The World Taijiquan Championships offers the world's most elite Taijiquan athletes to compete in various styles of Taijiquan and Taiji weapons at the very highest level.

The competition also runs a separate event alongside the official Championships which gives opportunity for enthusiasts not wishing to compete in the championships a chance to participate and demonstrate their taijiquan but does not include medals or world ranking.

All athletes with the exception of Stanislav Baltsezak entered the official championships. The standard of the championships was exceptionally high. Ang Mong Seng president of the Singapore Wushu Dragon & Lion Dance Federation said a total of 34 countries were in attendance and some 400 Athletes competing.

Within the Championships there was many categories which included the following;

COMPETITION EVENTS

1. Official World Championship Events:

- Optional Routines (with Degree of Difficulty)
 - Taijiquan
 - Taijijian
 - Taijishan
- New Standardized Routines (without Degree of Difficulty)
 - Yang Style Taijiquan
 - Yang Style Taijijian
 - Chen Style Taijiquan
 - Chen Style Taijijian
- Compulsory Routines
 - 3rd Set IWUF Compulsory Taijiquan (39 Movements) – (with Degree of Difficulty)
 - 3rd Set IWUF Compulsory Taijijian (36 Movements) – (with Degree of Difficulty)
 - 3rd Set IWUF Compulsory Taijishan
- Chen Style Taijiquan (56 Movements)
- Wu Style Taijiquan (45 Movements)
- Wu (Hao) Style Taijiquan (46 Movements)
- Sun Style Taijiquan (73 Movements)
- 42 Movements Taijiquan
- 42 Movements Taijijian
- Yang Style Taijiquan (40 Movements)

Simplified 24 Movements Taijiquan (14 to 17 years only)

Simplified 32 Movements Taijijian (14 to 17 years only)

Demonstration Events:

- Compulsory Routines

- Simplified 24 Movements Taijiquan
- Simplified 32 Movements Taijijian
- 42 Movements Taijiquan
- 42 Movements Taijijian
- Traditional Routines
 - Yang Style Taijiquan
 - Chen Style Taijiquan
 - Wu Style Taijiquan
 - Sun Style Taijiquan
 - Yang Style Taijijian
 - Chen Style Taijijian
 - Wu (Hao) Style Taijijian
 - Sun Style Taijijian

PLACING & AWARDS

1. Championship Events:

- - 1st Place – Gold Medal & Certificate
- - 2nd Place – Silver Medal & Certificate
- - 3rd Place – Bronze Medal & Certificate
- - 4th to 8th Place – Certificate

2. Demonstration Events:

- - 1st Category Prize: Based on the results, 10% of the participants in an event will receive a relevant certificate.
- - 2nd Category Prize: Based on the results, 20% of the participants in an event will receive a relevant certificate.
- - 3rd Category Prize: Based on the results, 30% of the participants in an event will receive a relevant certificate.

The British team placed 13th on the medal table out of a total of 34 countries and were the second highest European team other than France.

**Great Britain Taijiquan team
4th World Taijiquan Championships 2024
Single Event Results
小项比赛成绩**

World Championship Rankings:

Myrsini Christodoulelli Women's Chen Style Taijiquan (56 Movements) Silver Medalist

Barry Phelan Men's Sun Style Taijiquan (73 Movements) Bronze medalist

Barry Phelan Men's Chen Style Taijiquan (56 Movements) 4th place certificate

Yoko Yaghmaie Women's Sun Style Taijiquan (73 Movements) 7th place certificate

Barry Phelan Men's 42 Movements Taijijian 8th place certificate

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Demonstration Events:

Stanislav Baltsezak Men's Simplified 24 Movements Taijiquan 3rd Prize certificate

Stanislav Baltsezak Men's Simplified 32 Movements Taijijian 3rd Prize certificate

Stanislav Baltsezak Men's 42 Movements Taijiquan 3rd Prize certificate

Summing up:

The British Taijiquan team left everything on the mat! They performed to the best of their ability and this reflected in their superb achievement and competition results. They can come away from this competition with a feeling of pride and an enormous sense of personal satisfaction with their achievements, which can only add to their confidence and experience. Although minor technical deductions are part and parcel of competing at world level there was no basic but costly errors such as time faults, memory lapses, missing movements or worse, failure to complete the routine. Their meticulous preparation and hard work paid off. Other than China the USA and Canada who had large teams of over 14, 37 and 29 members respectively, team GB were without doubt one of the most versatile teams at the Championships, very few teams including both Asia and Europe had a team representing the many aspects of world Championship Taijiquan categories and disciplines other than the British team that competed in such a varied programme that were all performed accurately,

displaying the correct quality and authentic characteristics, features and content that each school has to offer, these included; **Traditional routines**, including; Sun Style, Chen Style; **Compulsory Routines** including 24 Taijiquan and 32 Taijijian (sword), 42 combined routine and 42 combined Taijijian (sword) and **New Standardized Routines** Chen Style Taijiquan and Chen Style Taijijian (sword). Which is quite remarkable seeing we only had five athletes in the British team! Congratulations to the athletes for your dedication, commitment and contribution to the 4th World Taijiquan Championships and to the promotion of Taijiquan. From a personal perspective I have learned and gained much from my new role as coach and as a result of this experience I have already begun to initialize a practical and effective way forward for future competitions in order to maximise the progress, effectiveness and success of Taijiquan within the BCCMA.

Final word

My deepest gratitude to our Team Leader Peter Warr my dear friend and mentor for all his encouragement and continued support, his help and many years of expertise was invaluable and added to the overall experience and huge success of the British team in the 4th World Taijiquan Championships in Singapore.



National Coach Simon Watson and Peter Warr the doyen of British Taijiquan

Simon Watson

BCCMA Executive Committee Member

Head of Taijiquan

