

# Duo fend off a global challenge to win medals

TWO Harlow martial arts experts used their fighting prowess to beat off the challenge of competitors from across the world to scoop medals at the United Nations of Ju Jitsu International Championships (UNJJ).

It was the first time that the competition, organised by the UNJJ, had taken place in Ireland, and there were more than 400 competitors at the event.

Will Murley, a 2nd Dan instructor at the Harlow Jikishin Ju Jitsu Club, and Chris Richardson, a green belt, clinched medals in different weight categories in the ground fighting competition.

They competed against fighters from the UK, as well as the Republic of Ireland, South Africa and Germany.

Murley won gold in the U-75kgs category, while Richardson sealed silver in the U-

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90kgs section.

Murley also won a silver medal in the open hand kata section.

The club's senior instructor, Earl Walker, said: "I'm very proud of the guys. They have been working hard to bring their ground fighting skills up to a higher level and all of their hard work has paid off.

"Both guys had to fight fellow entrants of all levels of skill, and were able to overcome higher grade opponents."

Sensei Walker is confident that the pair can become UK champions when they compete in the British Ju Jitsu Association Championships in November.