

My Journey From White to Black

Ethan Denny



In My Own Words

When I first started at the age of 4 $\frac{3}{4}$, I was in the Tigers family and really enjoyed it, it was just the start of an amazing journey. I moved from Tigers to the beginner's class aged 6. I was so excited, but at the same time, I was really nervous, as my friends from Tigers were doing different days to me and I didn't really know anyone. After I started, there was an in-house competition and I came 2nd. When I went for my red belt, I was quite nervous, but I passed and went up a full belt. I was really happy. Then I was a red belt, it was so much harder, but with plenty of training, it got a little easier. As time went on, I did my orange belt grading, but sadly I failed, but I stuck at it and NEVER GAVE UP. Then I went to yellow, green and purple, but I didn't go up full belts.

When I was 7 years old, I started to do competitions. My first competition was an experience I'll always remember, I was really nervous and excited at the same time. I did both kata and kumite and didn't know what to expect. Sadly in Kumite, I got disqualified, but it made me more determined.



L-R Jake, Sensei Dave Hazard 7th Dan, Me, Sensei Ady Gray 5th Dan and Oscar.



This was me competing at this years World Championships in Dublin.



These are my team mates from the World Championships



So it's possible to get your black belt at the age of 10! However, I couldn't have done it without the coaching and excellent advice from my Sensei Ady Gray and I thank him for all his dedication and hard work he's given me.

FAIL TO PREPARE- PREPARE TO FAIL

NEVER GIVE UP, NO MATTER WHAT!!!!!!

Thank you for reading!. That's my journey from white to black.

Ethan.

I was selected to go to Albania when I was a purple belt and I came home with 2 bronze medals. I started winning medals with my training partner Jake Hanson and I love competition and I would tell you all, to give it a go. This year I was selected to go to the world championships in Dublin, what an experience! I loved every minute of it. I didn't get a medal but it's an achievement to get there.

I have attended all the courses and love Sensei Dave Hazard courses and get a lot out of them. When Sensei Dave Hazard came, I was pretty scared because I did my black belt grading and it was the worst grading in my time at karate as I was so nervous and wanted it so much. He put us through our paces and I successfully passed. I feel honoured to do my black belt grading with Sensei Dave Hazard as he's such an inspirational teacher.



Sensei Ady Gray 5th Dan and Me