



★ **TWO “gutsy” jujitsu stars were robbed of the chance of a European championships bronze medal by what their coach claimed was poor judging.**

Lorna Crump, 24, of Harlow, and Harlow Ju-Jitsu Club colleague Will Murley, 17, of Thornwood Common, were part of the 16-strong Great Britain Jikishin Ju-Jitsu squad competing against 20 professional countries in Hanau, Germany, at the weekend.

They first fought Germany, ranked one of the best countries alongside France, but lost 71-91. They went on to compete against Serbia, losing 64-67.

Just three points from the five judges stood in their way of competing against Germany again, which could have seen them win a bronze medal.

Sensei Terry Parker, overseas chair of the British Ju-Jitsu Association BJJ (GB) Squad, said: “Lorna and Will have the guts to make it. They’ve improved greatly and it’s only a matter of time before they start winning medals. They could have done it this time if the judges had

given us more credit.”

Lorna, who trains at Harlow Sportcentre with Will, said: “It’s a shame we didn’t win but it was definitely worth it for the atmosphere.

“It was great but I was really nervous. It didn’t seem real until we took part in the parade with the other countries and I held the flag on Saturday night.”

Lorna and Will, who have only been training for the championships for two years, were competing against countries that had been training full-time for five years.

The pair were beating Serbia until the third set, when they were two points down. By the fourth set they were three points behind and their hopes of a bronze medal were dashed.

Sensei Earl Walker, who teaches Lorna and Will in Harlow, said: “They did very well. It was just unfortunate they were up against Germany to start with. It was very much a learning curve for them.”

Now the pair will join other countries at a training camp in Corfu.

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