

UNSW Judo News

JULY 2007

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2007 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Record Medal Tally for UNSW

This year's event in Adelaide saw a record number of entries. The venue was good, if a bit too large, and the competition well organized (except perhaps for an excessively long day on the Sunday) For our senior athletes this was an important event on the road to the 2008 Olympics, so there was intense competition, with all leading contenders doing battle. UNSW club was well represented with no fewer than eight athletes, plus State Coaching Co-ordinator Rob Maurency.



Kylie Koenig ... a sensational performance to win the 63kg category

Juniors u16yrs. Paddy Kearney (below) started well in the 55kg with a good win by a terrific haraigoshi, then faced a tough fight and a second round loss to the eventual winner. A bit of a coaching mix up contributed to a loss in the repechage, putting him out.



In the u13yrs we had Eamonn Briers (50kg), in his first big event. He had a nervous start and a first round loss, then gathered himself and showed the judo he is capable of with two good ippon wins to take bronze. Eamonn displayed good variety and determination in his fights. A chip off the old block?

We had only two entrants in the senior men, but they achieved great results - Gavin ("Dame Nellie") Kelly emerged from retirement to take out two more national titles - +100kg and Open categories. It was vintage Gavin... the legendary drop seoi and sode, and the famous scowl. His only real test came against Taka Watanabe in the Open, when the fight went almost to full time in golden score before Gav prevailed.

Matt Lipman a great (exhausting!) day to take bronze in a tough 73kg (28 entries) and back up to take silver to Gav in the Open! On the way defeating two opponents 50 kg heavier than himself. Matt fought with spirit and determination all day, and it was good to see him rewarded.

Women

Kylie Koenig put in a sensational performance to win the 63kg category. A savage draw saw her pitted first up against the favourite, Athens Olympian Cathy Arlove (VIC). Totally fired up, Kylie never let Arlove into the fight, scoring waza-ari with a beautiful tomoenage and having her under pressure all the way. She went on to win her first National title, after a tough battle in the final with Emily Bensted (VIC) which went to golden score.



Sonya attacks with Uchimata

Sonya Chervovsky (52kg) had a disappointing day. Troubled by an injury which severely limited her preparation, she suffered an early loss to eventual winner Kasumi Muramatsu (VIC) and had to dig deep to come back and take bronze.

Sarah Taylor, a late addition to the NSW team, and competing "just for fun" before heading home, easily topped the field in the 70kg. Sarah showed her experience and technical skills to score with a variety of techniques, finishing the final with a nice armlock.

Veteran Laisa Iaveti, also returning to the fray, had mixed fortunes to take Bronze in the 78kg, and also the womens Open. Laisa showed glimpses of her old form, but a lack of match fitness took its toll against some of the younger brigade.

Club regulars Morgan Endicott-Davies and Martin Kelly had to be content with silver medals in 90kg and 100kg respectively.



"...it was vintage Gavin...the legendary drop seoi...the famous scowl."

FOR ALL THE NEWS

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2007 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS PREVIEW

Like Peter Allen, we go to Rio - in September for the 2007 Worlds. This is a vital event for prospective Olympians, with the top six in each category automatically qualifying a position in the Beijing Games. Beyond that, for Australian athletes Olympic selection points will be awarded for placings in the top ten.

Australia will send a full team, in order to give all our top athletes the opportunity to press for selection. **Our team will be**

Men: Matt D'Aquino 60kg, Ivo Dos Santos 66kg, Andrew Collett 73kg, Tom Hill 81kg, Daniel Kelly 90kg, Martin Kelly, 100kg, Semir Pepic +100kg.

Women: Tiffany Day 48kg, Kelly Fong 52kg, Carli Lewis 57kg, Emily Bensted 63kg, Sarah Hunter 70kg, Catherine Arscott 78kg, Simone Dahl +78kg.

In the lead-up to Rio, the team will also compete in the Pacific Rim Tournament in Macau at the end of July.

Team officials give the team a strong UNSW connection with Natalie Galea as Manager and Coaches Gavin Kelly and Angela Deacon. And of course in heavyweight Semir Pepic we have a truly competitive fighter, who has proven his credentials with top-ten placings in the Athens Olympics, and the 2005 World Championships.

The World Championships is a massive tournament, attracting around 600 athletes from some 100 countries. Needless to say, all eyes will be on the leading countries - Japan, Korea, France, Russia, Cuba, and of course China who have emerged as a real threat, especially in the womens divisions. Then there are all the former Soviet Union countries - Georgia, Belarus,

Ukraine, all of whom now boast World and Olympic medallists.

There is no doubt the competition will be fierce, as it always is, but with the added spice of prospective Olympic spots up for grabs.

As a side note, this year's event brings a touch of nostalgia to our UNSW coaches. It was 40 years ago that JB went to Salt Lake City as part of the first full team Australia sent to the Worlds. It was 20 years ago that Warren Rosser achieved the best result by an Australian man with his 5th place in Essen.

JB will also attend the Championships this year in his role as General Secretary of the OJU.

Warren Rosser and Rob Maurency off to Japan

Warren and Rob head to the Kodokan in Tokyo on 14 July for a week's training course in Kata. The trip is sponsored by the BBR Academy as part of their technical development program which has seen athletes and coaches sent to Japan and New Zealand in the past few years. This will be Rob's third trip under the program.

The boys are taking this pretty seriously, and are already brushing up their Kata.

LATE NEWS

BBR DINNER A GREAT SUCCESS

There were two groups of people in Sydney on Saturday 23 June - those who were at the BBR annual dinner, and those who wished they were! It was certainly a big night at the Watershed Hotel in Darling Harbour, and a glittering gathering of the NSW judo community...or was it just those who like a good time?? Whatever, for many it was a good excuse to party and let their hair down after the tough grind of preparation for the Nationals.



Warren and JB help send Sarah off with a few mementos

BBR President and host for the evening, Ivor Endicott-Davies, reminded the gathering of the work being done by the BBR and its Academy towards the development of judo in NSW. This includes the regular Tuesday night training sessions at Sydney Olympic Park, overseas scholarships, technical courses, gradings and seminars by international coaches.

As our photo shows, UNSW was well represented, our members part of a large and convivial crowd that included our latest national champions Gavin Kelly, Kylie Koenig and Sarah Taylor.

Awards were presented on the night to some exceptional performers in the past year. Honoured were Alex Chew as "Rookie" black belt of the year, Matt Lipman, Judo Spirit award for his efforts in training and Nationals results, and the prestigious Jim Robinson trophy to Nik Pejic.

Jack Halber, 90 years of age and still going strong, was given a special recognition award for a lifetime of service to the sport.

Congratulations to the BBR on a wonderful night, and special thanks to Daniel Mitchell for his organisation behind the scenes.



UNSW PEOPLE...

Sarah Taylor, seen here with Kylie at the BBR dinner, has headed off home. We are all sorry to see her go, as she has been a real asset to the club (not to mention winning a National Title!) Hopefully we might see her again some day.



UNSW High performance coach **John Buckley** attended a seminar for Managers and Coaches conducted by the JFA on 2-3 June at the National offices at Sydney Olympic Park. The objective was to both inform National managers and coaches of recent developments and initiatives, and to review a number of policies and guidelines relevant to their roles.

Happy birthday **Raymond Leung!**

Several club members helped Raymond celebrate his 55th birthday recently at the Port Orient restaurant in Darling Harbour. Raymond is seen below taking flying lessons with the help of Andre Aravena.



Noa Segoly has been spending some time in Hong Kong, unfortunately because of illness in her family. We hope that all turns out ok. While there she caught up with club expats Scott Smith, Winnie Au, and Raymond Tang. Scott tells us Bill Saran is also a regular at training.



Alysha Sjarif...our ONLY competitor in the kyu grades tournament on 1 July. Alysha fought well in her first JFA event, but was unplaced. Question is—WHERE WAS EVERYONE ELSE?

Another arrival in the form of a new baby boy for **Jason Goddard and Nadine - Cooper**. Congrats. Another new recruit for Warren's baby class.



Recent grading results

Kylie Koenig – promoted to **nidan (second dan)** by the JFA just a week before winning the National title. Some would say “about time” after about 13 years as shodan.

Also promoted in club grading:

Fifth Kyu (yellow belt)

Karl Chan, Zhao Meng Dong, Tim Foley, Alan Evans, Daniel Champion, Michael Mok, Alfred Tang, William Lim

Fourth Kyu (orange belt)

Philip Cook, Adam Abbate, Alysha Sjarif, Jessie Driels

Third Kyu (green belt)

Francesca Bennet

...Speaking of **Scott and Lisa** – congratulations on their first child, Kaiden, born 23 June.



Daniel Waldmann is taking a break in Europe for some relaxation to pass the time while he can't train. We hope to see him back on the mat soon.

Was **Joe Grech** trying to impress **Nataly** at the BBR dinner?



It was great to see **Michael Briers**, former national champion, hovering in the background at the Nationals, now a typical nervous parent. Michael reckons it's harder than when he was fighting himself watching Eamonn do his stuff.

...and just what was it that **Laisa** was whispering to **Veronica**??



OLYMPIC SELECTION PROCESS CONFIRMED



The Olympic Games is the premier event for Judo, and participation is limited to only the best athletes from around the world. For Beijing the maximum number of entries will be 386 – consisting of 217 men and 147 women, plus 22 “wild cards” of either sex.

As mentioned elsewhere, athletes who place in the top 6 in their category at the 2007 WC's in Rio will secure a position for their country. After that, a quota applies to each Continental region. For Oceania this is one athlete per category – so there isn't any room for error!

Athletes from Australia who compete at the Worlds will be awarded Olympic selection points for places down to 9th. There are then two further tournaments – the OJU Open World Cup, to be held in Perth from November, and the OJU Championships, in March 2008 in Christchurch NZ.

Australian athletes must compete with those from all Oceania countries for one place per weight category. At the end of the selection process, if the top point scorer is an Australian they will be nominated to the Australian Olympic Committee.



The Beijing Judo Pictogram

MORE PICS FROM THE NATIONALS...

Summary of UNSW Results

Boys u13	Eamonn Briers	3 rd 50kg
Boys u16	Paddy Kearney	unpl 55kg
Senior men	Matt Lipman	3 rd 73kg
	Gavin Kelly	1 st +100kg
	Gavin Kelly	1 st Open
	Matt Lipman	2 nd Open
Senior women	Sonya Chervovsky	3 rd 52kg
	Kylie Koenig	1 st 63kg
	Sarah Taylor	1 st 70kg
	Laisa Laveti	3 rd 78kg
	Laisa Laveti	3 rd Open

Sonya sizes up Kasumi



Sarah attacks during final



Paddy (L) fighting hard



Above and Right
Kylie's epic battle
with Cath Arlove



Matt looking a bit second-hand
"...where's that beer?"

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