

UNSW Judo News

JUNE 2011

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2011

UNSW ATHLETES BRING HOME SIX NATIONAL TITLES



Sam Worthington gets his silver medal

As mentioned, in the cadet women we had gold for both Karen and Nina, who completely dominated their categories. Maxine Germes also competed, but was severely hampered by a shoulder injury. Max won her first fight, but that was as far as she was able to go.

Our cadet men were a little disappointing, with neither Vlad Kulikov or Luc Baumgartner able to repeat their successes of last year.

Stepping up to the juniors, Kevin DaSilva also easily won his 60kg category, continuing his domination over his NSW rival Nathan Katz. His performance in the final was a very polished display, good grips, and sharp techniques.

Paddy Kearney had a couple of good wins in 66kg, but was unable to get amongst the medals. Jack Newman again became of victim of his own enthusiasm and could not manage a win in the 90kg. Eamonn Briars was also below his best, going out in the preliminaries of the 73kg.



Kel (2nd L) on the 81kg podium

In the senior men, Gav Kelly showed he has still "got it". In the 81kg, Kel Locke-Sodhi showed he will soon be a strong contender in this category, coming through the repechage to take a bronze.

The 2011 National Championships were held in Joondalup, just north of Perth.

UNSW athletes formed a large part of the State team, and the coaching group included Phil Kearney, Phil McDermott and Kylie Koenig, taking a spell recovering from competing due to injury, and making a very valuable contribution to support her fellow athletes.

Our group had good travel and accommodation arrangements – thanks to Anabel Kearney and Anna DaSilva. Our star performers were Karen and Kevin DaSilva, Gav Kelly, Cath Arscott and Nina Takenaka, all returning with gold medals.

Undoubtedly the outstanding performer of the weekend was Karen DaSilva. Just turned 15, Karen won her cadet and junior womens divisions, then turned out to take a wonderful second in the senior women's 70kg. Along the way she defeated two senior experienced women dan grades. A fantastic effort from someone so young.

Catherine Arscott celebrated her move to UNSW, and her comeback to the Nationals, by winning the women's 70kg. Cath looked confident and smooth in all her fights.



Cath scores on Karen in the 70kg final, and they share the spoils below



Nina Takenaka also shone, winning the cadet women 52kg, and taking the bronze in the junior women's 52kg as well.

In the junior boys, young Sam Worthington (below R) made his debut in the Nationals, and came away with a silver medal for his efforts. Sam looks like a fighter, and is someone to watch for the future.



Gavin Kelly (L) rolled back the years to totally dominate the men's +100kg, and take his tally of National titles to a staggering 13! As is his style, all Gav's wins were by ippon, including a smashing seoinage over

Jake Andrewartha in the final. Unfortunately Jake's shoulder was injured in the process, we hope not seriously.

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NATIONALS CONTINUED...

Kevin DaSilva backed up well, ignoring a painful shoulder injury to take bronze in the 60kg.

Eamonn Briers also stepped up into the senior 73kg, and actually went better there than he had in the junior men, taking two wins before going down to eventual winner Ben Donegan (VIC). In the final of the category Ben rather surprisingly beat Nikola Pejic, who was disappointed to see yet another final slip away from him.



Sophie Daniels in the 63kg preliminaries

In the senior women, Sophie Daniels also made a welcome return to competition, and emerged with a fine silver in the 63kg. Sophie looked sharp in her preliminary rounds, but lost the final to classy Moe Sakio (ACT).



The 63kg Podium

Gemma Chadwick (below R) was robbed of a place in the 52kg final by an astonishing referee decision to stand her up when in a winning holding. Gemma overcame this bitter disappointment to easily take the bronze.



Nina takes bronze in Junior womens 52kg

The weekend was a triumph for the New South Wales State team, which took 79 of the 204 medals available, 50 more than the next best State. UNSW Members figured prominently in the State coaching group, with Phil Kearney, Phil McDermott and Kylie Koenig all playing their part in our success.

Thanks to Stealth Photography WA for shots from the Nationals

AUCKLAND INTERNATIONAL OPEN 2011

UNSW sent a small, but very capable, group of athletes to the 2011 Auckland International Open ON 7-8 May. We came away with some very satisfying results: Harry Grech 3rd 90kg, Kel Locke-Sodhi 3rd 81kg, Eamonn Briers 7th jun men 73kg, Maxine Germes 2nd cadet women 57kg, 3rd jun women 57kg, Nina Takenaka 1st cadet women 52kg, 2nd jun women 52kg.

Our little team arrived after a good flight, and linked up at Auckland airport. We were a bit surprised to find that Maxine had a slight weight problem, but after a spell in the sauna, all were ok at weigh-in Saturday morning. Max was a bit lethargic from having to lose so much so quickly, and this showed in her initial fights. The cadet divisions were up first, so it was up to Nina and Maxine to get the ball rolling, and they did so in style.

Nina was in sparkling form to easily win the 52kg category: Three fights, three wins, three ippons with osotogari and seoinage. Nina looked very sharp in these fights. A very impressive start to the day.

Maxine was soon on the mat, and had a confusing start where she actually lost her first fight, only to have it ruled null and void after she had been matched with the wrong opponent. Unbelievable! Max used her "get out of jail free" card to good advantage, winning her next two fights by ippon to make it into the final. Unfortunately, there her luck ran out and she was countered for ippon to take silver.

The girls then backed up in the junior women event...both still only fifteen, and fighting under 20yrs. Nina's 52kg category only had five entrants, meaning a round robin pool. Here she won three of her fights, including an impressive golden score victory over experienced Mel Brown. A single loss gave her the silver medal, and a satisfying result.

Maxine started well in her junior women's 57kg category, winning in style with ippon from ouchigari. She then went down in her second fight, but stormed back to win the bronze match with a yuko score, followed by a strong holding for ippon.



Nina and Max with their medals

Eamonn Briers started well in the junior men's 73kg, winning with two waza-ari in his first fight. He then lost in a controversial fight by a single shido, which under the mysterious NZ rules counts for yuko. In the repechage he again won his first fight with a huge counter for ippon, but then lost his next, putting him out of the medals.

Eamonn backed up for the senior men, joining clubmates Harry and Kel. His first fight was against former kiwi no.1 Peter Broom, who was just too strong and experienced, and won with seoinage. In his repechage fight, Eamonn did well, fighting hard, and almost scoring on a number of occasions, eventually be-

ing countered for ippon.

Harry Grech did not have a memorable day. In his 90kg category he started well enough, winning easily with a couple of smart ashi-waza, but then went into his shell, and lost his next. Then came a bizarre couple of fights, where both his next opponents withdrew, giving him the bronze medal virtually by default. Backing up in the open, Harry lost to the eventual winner, and again in his repechage.

Kel Locke-Sodhi had a great day, coming away with bronze in a very tough 81kg category. Kel's initial fight was against vastly experienced New Zealand international Jason King. Kel dominated much of the fight, but then walked into a big taiotoshi for ippon. In the repechage he was unstoppable, fighting with skill and maturity to take a series of ippon wins with good variety – uchimata, sumigaeshi and his trademark newaza.

Having all our fighting on Saturday left the evening free for some relaxation – a fitting end to a very satisfying weekend with some very good performances from our athletes.



Time to relax after all the hard work

UNSW PEOPLE...and events

Former club president and expatriate **Scott Smith** now has his whole family doing judo!



Lisa (with Scott on left) has started training,

and even young Kaiden has taken to the dojo. He has the task of timing the randori and banging the traditional drum. Well done Scott!



A few of our members had some fun at the Zumba session held by the University in aid of Japanese tsunami.



Many members of the club and the judo community have shown their support for **Jovan Pejic** by donating to the **Lymphoma Australia**, supporting the bike ride from Opera to Parliament on 24 June.

Blast from the past...This photo is genuine! It shows **Jason Goddard** (the tiny one) fighting a huge American at the US Open in 1995. Jason weighed 95kg, the American 260kg! Jason won!



There was a record number of 68 kids' attending the club grading on 4 June. Thanks to those who helped out. **Also congratulations to Nina Takenaka, Vlad Kulikov, Luc Baumgartner and Dylan McDermott on attaining their junior brown belts.**

Talking of Europe...

Eamonn Kearney is currently doing a year as an exchange student in Hungary. (his parents think he's at school, but we know better! Eamonn has a gruelling weekly training schedule. He tells about it in his own words:

“So on Mondays we do conditioning, this begins with a 30-40 min run. Then for an hour and a half we do circuit work, with climbing ropes, weights, chinups, situps, pushups and some other work with the ropes. Tuesday and Wednesday is basic judo where we warm up for 15 mins and then do technical things for 30 mins and then randori for 45 mins. Thursday and Friday are ne waza training sessions where we do no warm up we just start with ne waza randori for an hour and then some technique things for 30 mins.”

The training is paying dividends. Eamonn recently finished a creditable fifth in an international competition...now fighting at 66kg. Watch out when he comes back!

SONYA'S 5th in BRITISH OPEN...

The British Open is a famous competition. Many Aussies have competed over the years with some success, most notably Suzanne Williams who was a two-time winner. This year it was a huge competition - well over 400 entries from some 32 countries. All the top British athletes were there, with strong teams from France, Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Switzerland and Canada.

Next she had the French no.3 Delsalle, who she has fought many times, losing in the final seconds. DelSalle went on to win the category, and Sonya was probably her toughest fight, as she won all the rest well inside time.

This put Sonya in the repechage, where she stormed back with three strong wins. The bronze fight was Vs a Belgian, who troubled Sonya with a strong sode, with which she eventually scored waza-ari. Despite just missing a medal, it was an excellent result, which drew praise from her new French coaches.

After Britain it was on to some major competitions, including the Grand Slam in Moscow, and World Cups in Madrid and Lisbon.



Sonya in Moscow with her IJF scholarship colleagues **Moira Devilliers**, and **Jason Koster (NZL)** and our own **Mark Anthony**

Sonya is congratulated by Moira after a win in Lisbon



Sonya (L) battles with Raab (AUT)

For Sonya it was a great result. There were 23 athletes in her category. She first beat an Austrian girl in a really hard physical fight that went to flags at the end of golden score. It was a unanimous verdict for her, which was clear, but always nerve-racking!



Moscow Grand Slam



UNSW NATIONALS RESULTS

Men	Junior men	Cadet men	Junior boys
+100kg: Gavin Kelly gold 81kg: Kel Locke-Sodhi bronze 73kg: Nikola Pejic silver 60kg: Kevin DaSilva bronze	60kg: Kevin DaSilva gold	50kg: Dylan McDermott silver	42kg Sam Worthington silver
Women	Junior women	Cadet women	
70kg: Catherine Arscott gold Karen DaSilva silver 63kg: Sophie Daniels silver 52kg: Gemma Chadwick bronze	70kg: Karen DaSilva gold 52kg: Nina Takenaka bronze	70kg: Karen DaSilva gold 52kg: Nina Takenaka gold	

STOP PRESS! WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS ANNOUNCED

The Judo Federation of Australia has recently announced the National teams to contest the Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships...and it's great news for UNSW!
 In the Cadets, headed for Kiev, we have Karen DaSilva, Nina Takenaka, and Dylan McDermott.
 The junior team also includes Karen DaSilva and Kevin DaSilva
 In the seniors we are even more represented: Nikola Pejic, Sonya Chervonsky, Kylie Koenig, Catherine Arscott and Janelle Shepherd. The senior World Championships will be held in Paris in August.

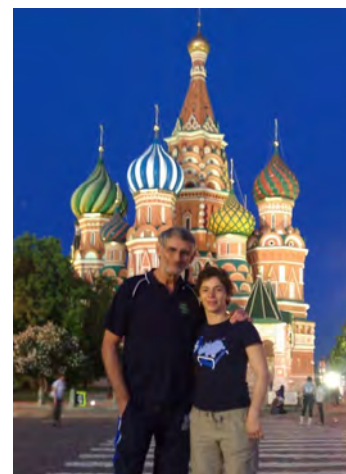
...and PICS FROM ALL OVER



Karen and Nina congratulate each other on their National team selection



From the Nationals...Maxine Germes (L) battling hard, and Nikola Pejic takes silver in the mens 73kg category



JB & Sonya in Moscow's Red Square, and below in Madrid



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