

FIRST ISSUE  
FOR 2016

# UNSW Judo News

February 2016

## ACT INTERNATIONAL OPEN STARTS OFF 2016

### UNSW ATHLETES HAVE A BIG WEEKEND

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

ACT International

NSW Kosen Comp

IJF WRL Events

UNSW People and Events

And more...

The ACT Open is the first major event on the judo calendar, and always attracts a strong field of entrants, and this year was no exception, with good fields across all age divisions. The organisation seemed to struggle, with inexplicable delays on the first day, computer glitches, and errors in seeding in some categories. On day one some of the juniors waited more than four hours before fighting! Unsatisfactory.



Oren on his way to Silver in 73kg

UNSW fielded a big team, with entrants across all age divisions, and they certainly left their mark, bringing home a swag of medals. With the new year, many of our players were making the transition into higher age divisions – junior to senior boys/girls, and from the junior ranks into cadets.

These are major changes, but several of our guys handled it with aplomb, and carried on their winning ways.



Tiana and Ephemias fighting hard

Saturday was the day for the lighter weight categories. Our senior boys and girls got us off to a terrific start, with Dylan Katz and Tiana Goutzas taking gold in their categories, and Ryan Koenig silver.

Dylan was impressive in all his fights, showing aggressive and skilful judo to dominate his opponents. Ryan narrowly lost his first fight, but stormed back to win all his other bouts by ippon. Unfortunately Tiana Goutzas and Ephemias Damianos were left with no other opponents, with Tiana coming out on top of their "best of three" encounter.

In the cadets, Josh Devine fought well to take bronze in the 55kg, as did Matt Peppas in the 73kg. Our other "new" cadets, Nick Leong, Jordan Bond, Jacob Angelou and Tas France had valuable outings, but couldn't make the podium.

Our seniors had mixed fortunes. Amy Meyer started well, then got caught with an armlock to relegate her to fighting for bronze, which she duly won. Kiarn Kelly was disappointed not to get her scheduled warmup fight, and lost out to Mikali Hill. She then had to fight clubmat Matle Fung for bronze.



Kiarn gets to grips with Mikali Hill

In the men, Oren Janiv had a good outing, but just failed to defend his title from last year. In a very tough category, Oren got better with each fight, but in the end fell to a smart transition into jujigatame by Jake Bensted, giving him silver.

Henry Han and Paddy Kearney, both in 66kg, managed a couple of wins, but finished out of the placings.

Sunday saw the junior boys and girls, and the heavier weights for the older divisions.

In the youngsters, Iakov Ivanets showed that the holiday break did him no harm by easily winning the junior boys 42kg...every fight by ippon.

## A REMINDER: NEW SENIOR SESSION TIMES FOR 2016

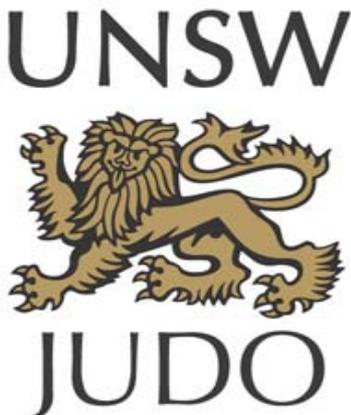
As we continue to try to meet the needs of our members, we have announced a revised schedule of senior training sessions commencing in January 2016.

Remember that training isn't just about you as an individual; your being there means you are helping out your fellow members as a training partner.

Newer members, and graduates of beginners' courses should discuss the most appropriate sessions for them with our coaches

### OUR 2016 SENIOR PROGRAM

Day and time	Program	Location
Mon 7.00 - 9.00	Advanced	UNSW
Tue 4.30 - 6.00	Technique	UNSW
Wed 7.00-9.00	Advanced	UNSW
Thur 6.00 - 7.00	Beginners	UNSW
Thur 7.00 - 8.30	Technique	PCYC
Fri 7.00 - 9.00	Advanced	UNSW
Sat 3.30 - 5.00	Technique	PCYC
Sun 9.00 - 10.00	Ne Waza	UNSW



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# ACT International Open cont'd



Jacob Angelou in his first cadet competition

Making his debut at this level of tournament, Peter Damianos fought hard without taking a win, learning a lot in the process. Sasha Spasska had a tough category, and emerged with bronze after some good fighting.



Sasha fought hard for her bronze

Tas France unfortunately only had one opponent in the cadet men 90kg. Tas was quite nervous in his first fight, but improved greatly to take the second to full time in a hard tussle.



Josh Devine pleased with his bronze



Heidi on the 63kg podium

In the senior women, Heidi Wright overcame a recent ankle injury to make the final of the 63kg, where she decided to withdraw rather than risk further damage with some important competitions coming up.

The heavier men's categories saw some spectacular action. Our guys performed well, with Dave Jordan taking a bronze, after rather unluckily losing his semi final in the dying seconds to Anthony Kouros (NSW) having led for most of the fight. He clinched bronze with a huge footsweep for ippon.



Dave Jordan bronze in 81kg

Jason Dimos and Shaun McDougall fought determinedly in the 100kg, Jason taking bronze over Shaun.

No-one in the 100kg was able to stand up to British international David Groom, who was in a class of his own. It was a similar case in the +100 kg, where the huge Chinese judoka Hao Wang was just too strong, smashing Australian no 1 Jake Andrewartha with ogoshi in the final.

Aside from the judo, the weekend gave club members a welcome opportunity for some socialising, where our parents, coaches and athletes had the chance to spend time in some pleasant company.

# BLACK BELT REGISTER KOSEN JUDO COMPETITION

This innovative tournament was once again held by the NSW Black Belt Register on 31 January. The event appears to be gaining in popularity, as numbers keep climbing. Kosen judo is effectively a ne-waza competition, and brings to the fore skills not used in today's international judo.



Indra (R) takes on Andrew Roberts (SUGC)

UNSW was well represented with both men's and women's teams.

Our women, led by Heidi Wright and Melissa Budiarto, easily won the teams event, and then backed up to take first and second in the individuals.

The UNSW men didn't fare so well, going down to Willoughby in the first round of the team event. They did a little better in the individuals, with Dave Jordan and Oren Janiv both topping their pools.



Maxime (L) with Nick Zellner (Willoughby)



Gary Noakes looks for a strangle

Dave finished a creditable third behind former English international Dave Groom, and Karl Zuvela.

All our guys fought well in this unfamiliar environment, with perhaps the best effort coming from Indra Sadeli. Making a welcome return to competition in the individuals, Indra (60kg) fought with skill and determination against much heavier opponents...giving big Alex Womersley (100kg) a fright before succumbing to a holding.



The individual women winners presentation

All in all, a good day's judo, with thanks to our supporters, Sam Asher, Matt Carpenter and Brendan Miu who came along to cheer our fighters.

# UNSW PEOPLE AND EVENTS

**.Heidi Wright receives Ben Lexcen Scholarship.** The Ben Lexcen Sports Scholarship is the highest sporting award offered by the University. It's purpose is to give tangible financial and other support to leading athletes as they also pursue their studies. Heidi is the fifth member of the judo club to receive this honour. Well done.



**Marieta becomes an Aussie on Australia Day.** It was an exciting time for our smiling Brazilian as she received her Australian citizenship at a ceremony in Sydney, fittingly on Australia Day. It has been a long wait for Marieta...now she is eligible to compete for her new country.

**First newaza session plus Coogee beach run.** Sunday morning newaza sessions began on 10 January. Following the initial training session a group had a run to Coogee beach, a quick dip, and brunch. We plan to continue this format on a regular basis.

There was a decidedly Swedish flavour to training on Sofie Haglow's last evening with us on 8 January. Sofie ran an interesting and testing session for our guys, as we gave her and John a sendoff



**Another injury for Mark Brewer...**Mark was forced to abandon his European schedule with yet more knee trouble and returned to Sydney for more treatment; a disappointing end to his Olympic hopes for Rio.



**"Power Hour" revival...**early morning sessions each Thursday 7-8am. An intense hour of judo based conditioning circuits and drills. Let's see more there!



**Tunis and Belgrade Opens** Ivica Pavlinic and Mark Brewer competed in Tunisia. Both scored wins in their first round matches, but that was as far as they could go. Ivica Pavlinic went on to compete in Sofia, seeking more Olympic qualifying points. Unfortunately he drew the eventual bronze medallist Benoit Collin (FRA) and didn't get past the first round.

**Grand Slam Paris 6-7 February** Ivica and Miranda Giambelli competed, but had no wins. Ivica vs Csoknai (HUN), Miranda vs reigning world champion Umeki (JPN).

**Grand Prix Dusseldorf 19-21 February** Ivica Pavlinic went out in a hard tussle with Elias of Lebanon, while Miranda had a great tournament, with two wins to leave her in seventh place and on track for Rio.



Miranda Vs RUS in Dusseldorf

## Illawarra Training Camp

Guest coaches from Japan and Korea added an international flavour to the traditional camp. While numbers were a little down on past years, the camp still provided those attending with the best training opportunities available in the country. UNSW was well represented. Our coaches Warren, JB, Phil McDermott, Kylie Koenig and Phil Kearney were all on hand over the weekend to support our athletes.



Still good numbers at the Illawarra training camp

## More pics from the ACT Open



The 100kg podium, with Jason in third position



Iakov was an easy winner in JB 42kg



UNSW members enjoying the action



Matle and Kiarn doing battle for bronze in 57kg

Jordan (blue) in his first outing as a cadet



## ...and the Kosen competition



Heidi, Matle and Mel ham it up after their win



Heidi vs Penny Stein in the individuals



The UNSW group wait to fight

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