

# UNSW Judo News

April 2016

## OCEANIA WIN PUTS MIRANDA ON TRACK FOR RIO

### UNSW VETERANS HAVE A GREAT DAY



The AIS Combat Centre was dressed up for the event

The Oceania Judo Union (OJU) Championships for 2016 were held over the weekend 8-10 April in the makeshift venue of the combat centre at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. The tournament was the last chance for OJU athletes to gain major points for Rio selections...a "make or break" event for most Olympic hopefuls. Unfortunately, compliance with the restrictive IJF entry regulations meant that there was a poor entry list; several weight categories having only two or three athletes, which took the gloss off some of the results.

Nevertheless it was an emotional event, producing some extreme highs & lows as dreams were realised, and some hopes dashed. The tension in the air was palpable as it came down to those final contests.

For Ivica Pavlinic there was bitter disappointment in 81kg. Ivica was drawn in a strong elimination pool. In his first fight he conceded a waza-ari early on to tough Fijian Jo Naulu, but came back strongly to win by ippon. His next fight was a disaster, caught by a strangle by Teva Gouriou (NCL).



Ivica vs Naulu (FIJ)

Naulu then beat Gouriou, which meant all three were equal on wins & points. Then came a major shemozzle as the officials tried to sort it out. Ivica was first told he had made it to final, then to find he missed out on the medal fights altogether! Unbelievable, and a cruel end to his Olympic chances. The category eventually won by Eion Coughlan. **Miranda Giambelli came all the way from Europe for one fight...but it was worth it as she won with sode over Mel Wallis (below) and garnered 400 valuable selection points.**



Australia dominated the results, taking all seven men's categories, and four of six women's contested. The athletes face an anxious wait now as the final points are totted up and WRL places sorted. In some cases qualification will depend on the number of "duplicates" from other countries ahead of them. Olympic rules permit only one entrant per country in each weight category.

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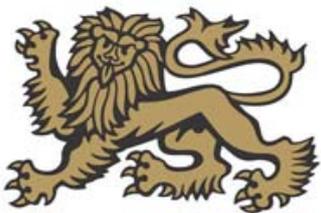
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# UNSW



# JUDO

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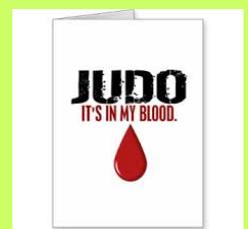
## IT'S OUR 60TH BIRTHDAY!!

THIS YEAR WE'RE CELEBRATING SIXTY YEARS OF UNSW JUDO. SIXTY YEARS OF THROWS, BREAKFALLS, ARMLOCKS, STRANGLES, SWEAT, CHAMPIONS, KIDS JUDO AND FUN! WE'RE PROUD TO HAVE BECOME THE BIGGEST CLUB IN AUSTRALIA.

HELP US CELEBRATE AT OUR GALA DINNER ON 28 OCTOBER (YES, THAT'S JIGORO'S BIRTHDAY TOO) MORE DETAILS LATER ON OUR WEBSITE.



## SAVE THE DATE!



## OJU CHAMPIONSHIPS Cont'd

There are only two more chances for our athletes to gain points before the selection period ends at the end of May, but we can't expect too much from them in the way of results. Eyes will also be on the results of the remaining Continental championships in Africa, Europe and Panamerica, as these can also change the rankings.

### OJU Senior results

<b>Men</b>	
60kg	Josh Katz
66kg	Nathan Katz
73kg	Jake Bensted
81kg	Eion Coughlan
90kg	Sebastien Temesi
100kg	Duke Didier
+100kg	Nicola Berard

<b>Women</b>	
48kg	Chloe Rayner
52kg	Justine Bishop NZL
57kg	Darcina Manuel NZL
63kg	Katharina Haecker
70kg	Aoife Coughlan
78kg	Miranda Giambelli

With the conclusion of the "main game", the attention of the UNSW contingent focussed on the veterans' competition on the final day of the championships. In a strongly supported event, UNSW had four members fighting - Rob Maurency, Con Dimos, Sylvain Lemoine and Roman Sulovsky.



Rob Maurency on the podium

All our guys fought well, and all took medals. Rob outclassed his division, winning all fights by ippon, showing off his throwing and newaza skills. Sylvain was also impressive, not only winning his division, but taking bronze in the under 50yrs open category. Con Dimos had two ippon wins in taking his gold medal, and Roman Sulovsky won bronze in his weight category and silver in the over 50yrs Open. Well done to all!



Our four medalists

## QUEENSLAND INTERNATIONAL OPEN

The Queensland Open is one of the four major points scoring events on the National calendar. As such, it is a "must" for serious athletes wishing to maintain their national ranking.

With many fighters unavailable for various reasons, UNSW fielded a small team this year, and came away with mixed results.

Best for us on the weekend was Ryan Koenig, who was untroubled to win his senior boys 45kg category. Ryan's judo is improving rapidly, and it was a pity he didn't have stronger opposition to test him.

In the seniors, Dave Jordan fought strongly to take silver in a very competitive 81kg, losing out in the final to his emerging rival Anthony Kouros. It is pleasing to see Dave's throwing techniques getting better with each outing.

Amy Meyer took second in a depleted women's 48kg, going down by yuko to Caroline Hain in the final.

Kiarn Kelly had a bad day, losing her first fight, and having to withdraw when she aggravated a knee injury.

Liesel Schmidt showed glimpses of what she is capable of in the same category, giving away years experience, but going down fighting in both her matches.



Heidi and Liesel battle for bronze in 63kg

Sam Asher, also in his first major event, proved to be a tough competitor, but was a bit out of his depth against dan grade opponents. Sam gained some good experience, though.



Matt Peppas bronze in cadets 73kg



Dave takes on Anthony Kouros

Heidi Wright was severely hampered by a recent ankle injury, but still fought well to take bronze in the 63kg.



Tin's great uchimata on Aldo Rozic



Amy ties up Emily Conran (QLD) in 48kg

Overall, a relaxing weekend away for our guys, and many thanks to Kylie for making our accommodation arrangements.

## UNSW PEOPLE AND EVENTS

.There was a HUGE kids grading on 19 March... 105 kids graded! It was a busy afternoon. Thanks to the grading panel, and especially to all those members who turned up to help out on the day with administration and the fund raising barbecue.

### IJF events

Ivica Pavlinic continued his quest for WRL points, competing in the Grand Prix in Tbilisi on 26 March. Ivica had a first round win vs Milichovsky (SVK) with an ippon counter, then unfortunately lost to the eventual gold medallist Khubetsov from RUS.

**Our youngest dan grade.** Welcome to Evan Pullinger, and congratulations to Mark and Rebecca on their new arrival. Looks like he has already bypassed the kids' judo program!



**A brief visit by French Judoka Sofiane Bellal**, in Sydney during March. Sofiane managed to get in some training before returning for a competition in France.

**Georgia Goutzas is on the way to recovery from recent knee surgery.** Georgia has begun her rehabilitation, and her attitude is an example and inspiration. She is back in the dojo, conscientiously doing her exercises and staying fit.



## NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2016 State championships was a huge day for Judo NSW, with a record number of entries, and a credit to the organisers, who moved the competition along all day. UNSW alone had some 35 participants, and emerged with eight State champions for 2016. Importantly for the club, there were good results across all age groups. Several of our youngsters were making their competition debut, while others were fighting in new age groupings...always a tough challenge.

UNSW volunteers were many, and helped to make the event run smoothly. Thanks to all who contributed.



In the "littlies" Iakov Ivanets was a clear winner, as was Sasha Spasska. Special mention must also be made of Josh Koenig, who took second in his very first competition. Aiden Miu, Cormac Hickey and Elijah Raif also did very well and will gain a lot of confidence through their efforts.

Our new cadets had a strong outing, even though none could quite manage gold...Jordan Bond was a bit tentative in taking second in the 66kg, while Will Crouch and Josh Devine had their usual personal rivalry in the 55kg. Will edged out Josh for second, with Josh in third place. Matt Peppas atoned for his disappointing outing in cadets by winning the junior men 73kg. In the senior men Henry Han took first place in a depleted 66kg category, and Sylvain Lemoine was in a class of his own in the 73kg, winning as he pleased, every fight by ippon.

Our two senior women had satisfying results – Matle Fung taking third in the 57kg, and Liesel Schmidt second in the 63kg. Liesel improves with every competition, and will soon be a force to be reckoned with in this category.

**More pics on P 4...**



Winners on the day for UNSW were juniors: Iakov Ivanets, Sasha Spasska, Dylan Katz, Ryan Koenig and Dylan Nguyen, and in the seniors Matt Peppas (cadet men 73kg) Henry Han (66kg) and Sylvain Lemoine (63kg). Good to see Dylan Katz and Ryan Koenig continue their run of successes now that they are in the senior boys' division, and for Dylan Nguyen to get back on track after an absence through injury. These three boys fought well, and dominated their categories.

## ILLAWARRA KYU GRADES COMP

This athlete-friendly competition goes from strength to strength, with a record number of entries this year. It is pleasing to see a tournament organised with the athletes in mind, and it is a credit to the organisers, the Illawarra International club. Especially good to see the number of women now supporting the event.



Liesel Schmidt made up for a long absence from competition due to injury with a great display. Liesel took out two divisions, and came second in another. Very pleasing was the variety of techniques she used in her wins.

In the senior grades Matle Fung fought determinedly to win the 57kg category, and Dave Jordan was untroubled to take out the 81kg. In the same category Nic Lowe fought well to take a win and narrowly miss another.



UNSW sent a small team, mainly our less experienced fighters looking for valuable time in the competition environment. In the lower grade divisions, Sam Asher and David Driels did battle. Our two boys were in the same division, and while Dave picked up three good wins, neither was able to make it onto the podium.

## More pics from OJU Champs



Sylvain Lemoine



Roman Sulovsky



Con Dimos



Miranda with Rob and Azita

## ...and from NSW Titles



Josh Devine hard at work



Aiden Miu in Junior boys



Henry and Sylvain were both winners



Dylan Nguyen and Brendan Miu

Tiana gets her silver medal from Kathy Meyer



Jordan bond in Cadets 66kg



Mashka Putilin tries for a hold



Sasha attacks with osoto

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