

Judo Victoria Incorporated

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Secretary's Newsletter

ADMINISTRATION

Dates

As usual, changing circumstances effect all of us, and the Judo Calendar is no exception. The first change is the Gippsland Tournament, which is changing to the 28 March and so will replace the tournament scheduled for that date.

On the original date, 14 March, there will be a visit from a Japanese High School group and so there will be special training sessions.

Second are the dates for the National Championships. Some doubt as been cast on the dates sent out in the calendar. I contacted the JFA, but have been told that the JFA cannot confirm either date at this time. So treat them as a "best guess".

Y2K

You will start to see that everywhere soon. For those that aren't completely sick of seeing it already, the phrase Y2K compliant, means that the computer system is set up to handle the year 2000. Problems arise with systems when the year is expressed as only 2 digits. So, for example when we are checking a grading the computer subtracts the date of birth from the current date in years. This works well if everything is taking place in the one century ie 99 - 90 tells the program that the person is 9 years old. But 00 -90 means the person is -99 years old, which causes the rest of the program to have a nervous breakdown ! You will be pleased to know that between Christmas and New Year during occasional bouts of sobriety I have upgraded the JVI programs to be Y2K compliant. During 1999 the new programs for which we received a Government Grant will be introduced but it will be necessary to have the old programs available until the new ones have been thoroughly tested. As these have been written by a contract programmer, corrections cannot be made "on the fly" as we could with the current ones which I wrote 12 years ago. When completed, the program suite should prepare us nicely for the new millennium.

State Champs

Once again we had a very successful State Championships in December 1998. The venue at Albert park contributes to this by providing an atmosphere of sporting endeavour and a passing crowd of people who may be being exposed to

Judo for the first time. We congratulate all those who took part and especially those who won.

This year, because of the change in the method of State Team selection (application, not selection), the results do not guarantee a person a position on the State Team for the Nationals, individuals must apply to the manager, Sandy Hollingworth.

Along with the advantages of this venue go some responsibilities and disadvantages, which may not be immediately obvious. One responsibility with a venue of this high quality is the need to be extra careful of the facilities. When moving mats and equipment any damage caused can cost the body a lot of money. Another problem is that we have much more public exposure, not just our small Judo community. This means that things like theft of money from bags etc can take place very easily. In fact money was stolen at this championship and it is something we will have to watch as we enter large, more public venues.

State Teams

As mentioned in another article and sent out in the last notices, the process for becoming a member of the State Team for the National Championships has changed. As a State Team is no longer restricted as to size, the only criterion in Victoria to be on the State Team is to apply and pay your entry fee before the closing date. The application can be done with the Team manager, Sandy Hollingworth or by mail. Entry to the team is not automatic for anyone, you must apply and pay your fees before the closing date. I assure you I will be policing this.

It will also be very important to attend the Squad Training in addition to club training sessions. This will let you meet your fellow team members and give the coaches a chance to assess your skills so that they can be of maximum assistance at the National Championships. I believe some notices were passed out last year, but a notice is enclosed. Please make sure that prospective team members attend the squads and if possible, take a training partner.

PEOPLE

Success

Story is repeating itself and again Victoria is starting to provide National Officials. Although we have always had someone on many of the sub-committees at JFA level it has been

some time since one of our number held a senior elected position in the JFA. Congratulations to Neville Sharpe on his election to the position of JFA Treasurer. This is an example of the "next generation" of Victorian Judo. The important thing is that these transitions take place smoothly, and so far things seem to be going very smoothly in Victorian Judo. It is important all members be prepared to move into positions within the structure of Judo, especially since our 'constitution' provides for a regular change over of positions, and many positions require a lot of work and can become difficult to maintain as aspects of peoples life changes. So keep your eyes open for positions you can fill.

New Resident



ictoria will be the headquarters for the JFA's athlete training program when Sharon Rendle takes up residence here in the near future.

This change of focus is a tribute to the quality of the female judoka resident in Victoria, and the coaches who have taken them up to that level. Any female judo player wishing to get some additional training should avail herself of the opportunity provided, in addition to her own club training. In the periods after peaking, the knowledge gained could be returned to the home club, to assist the next generation of champions.

More Success



his time it is competition success. Cathy Arlove, competing in the Fukuoka Womens International in Japan, has achieved a Silver medal in the under 70 Kg division.

At the same time Andrew Collett competing in the Kano Cup Mens International in Japan was given an Australian Award for "best in team".

INTERNATIONAL

Asian Games Judo

(Kyodo News; 12/12/98)

BANGKOK, Dec. 12 (Kyodo) -- By: Sarah Suk



very country has its favourite sports — whether by tradition or fad — which it follows with rapt attention and looks to for some measure of success at international events such as the Olympics and world championships.

In Asia, China has built a tradition of excellence in gymnastics and diving while South Korea holds bragging rights in its own sport of taekwondo and in archery.

For Japan, a sure bet in terms of securing medals in these multi-sport events has long been the home-grown sport of judo. It has also enjoyed moderate success in swimming as well as in some long-distance athletic events.

But a number of developing judo powers now threaten Japan's dominance in the sport, forcing Japan to look to other sports to ensure that it can remain "competitive" in the major multi-sport events.

"To compete successfully in the Olympics, we cannot depend on judo alone," remarked Teruji Kogake, chef de mission of the Japanese delegation at the Dec. 6-20 Bangkok Asian Games.

In Bangkok, Japan managed to finish atop the gold medal standings in judo with five out of the 14 golds at stake but that was nowhere near the nine victories it had hoped for prior to the games. China and South Korea followed with three gold medals each.

"All of the judo gold medals went to athletes from eastern Asia but a lot of the silver and bronze medals were taken by athletes from central Asia like Kazakstan and Uzbekistan," said Nobuyuki Sato, Japan's deputy chef de mission in Bangkok. "It used to be that judo was dominated by Europeans and East Asians but the whole of Asia is getting tougher," added Sato, who coached 1984 Los Angeles Olympic open weight champion Yasuhiro Yamashita.

Kogake, who also serves as chairman of the Japanese Olympic Committee (JOC) athlete development program, said, to make up for what may be lost in judo, Japan must work on restoring some of the lustre on sports in which it once had a strong record.

RULES CORNER

Penalties



r how to lose a tournament without really trying. Getting penalised out of a win is certainly the silliest way to lose, because you simply don't have to break the rules.

One of the most annoying ways to get a penalty is to step out in order to attack. This is known as 'jogai'. Attacks on the edge require very close observation by both the referee and the nearest side judge, since the rules situations that develop can be complicated. These attacks also merit very careful training by the contestant who hopes to use them.

If you initiate an attack and step out while initiating the attack, you WILL be given a chui so handing your opponent a yuko — free of charge. This is the clearest edge rule and the easiest to assess for the referee or side judge. It is also one of the easiest to train not to do. Having started your attack, being carried out by the defence will not get you a penalty

