

2013 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

June 7, 8, 9, 10 at Wollongong

VICTORIAN TEAM MANAGER'S REPORT

Once again the Judo Victoria team had a great weekend's competition at the National Championships in Wollongong over the Queen's Birthday weekend.

I would like to thank all the people who contributed to the success of the team, starting with the folk at Dominance MMA, without whom, when Resilience Training Centre ran into stumbling blocks with their opening schedule, we wouldn't have had a training venue. We were able to keep training at Dominance most weeks, and at Evolve MMA when Dominance was unavailable, which was greatly appreciated.

Without our awesome set of State Coaches where would we be? Thanks Maria, Daniel, Dave, Paul, Hunter and Doug – we must have about the best coaching squad in the country!

Nick Papadimitropoulos, Doug Noack, Ben Donegan Jenny Nabulsi, Jackie Farrington, Kristy Seymour-Chalker, Pat Dafter all helped me out with accommodation, attendance lists & money collection, hoodies (lots of complimentary comments from other states were heard over the weekend), back-patches, the Team Officials teeshirts – many thanks from said officials to DJN Electrical (Dave and Jenny Nabulsi) for sponsoring these- and record-keeping over the weekend. Thanks to all the athletes/parents who cooperated wonderfully with data collection, payments, training changes etc etc etc !! Apologies if I have missed naming someone who helped out!

We had a team of 16 females and 62 males who competed, some in more than one division or who did kata and shiai, with several more who entered but couldn't compete for one reason or another, and yet more who turned up to state training, whom we hope will consider entering next year. The team atmosphere/spirit was tremendous – I have to make special mention here of our Kata-only pair of Janet Lambert and Jennifer Beaton, who competed on Friday night (in full team uniform!) and who came to every shiai session, including the Open, to support the fighters. Top effort!

Over the four days of competition there were so many excellent performances, both from the players on the mat and from the supporters in the stands, that it is hard to know where to begin. It was great to see the hall full of people who came along on Friday to weigh-in and stayed to support the Kata and the Masters, a new addition to the Nationals timetable – fighting or demonstrating kata is much better in front of an appreciative audience!

We had five kata pairs – great to see some of the shiai players entering the Kata too - all of whom won medals (1 Gold, 3 silver and 1 Bronze). Well done to Kata newbies Jakub and Salome who won Gold in the Ju-no-Kata.

Over the past few years we have come to expect good work from our players on the mat and we were not disappointed this year. Our 76 shiai competitors entered 107 divisions between them, and we brought home 19 Golds, 10 Silvers and 17 Bronzes.

We had five Masters, four of whom medalled – two Gold, two Silver. I would love to see heaps more at next year's event, now that we know it is in the programme – dust off your judogis all you over-30's!

We had 6 shiai multiple-medal winners, two of whom won fights as "wounded warriors" (go Perry and Aoife – and Miki, on Friday – who didn't let broken bones and dislocated toes stop them!) – congratulations to Aoife, Kirren, Maeve, Oschuan, Perry and Phillip on their results.

Thirteen of the sixteen kata-&-shiai female competitors won a medal – that is just a fantastic result Ladies – now show off those medals in your clubs and try to get your sisters-in-judo along to State Training next year!

Five Victorians were brave (or foolhardy!) enough to enter the Open on Sunday night. Aris was a star, a huge hit with the audience – and he did some good judo too, making it to a Bronze medal fight – that man will be dangerous when he has a little more experience under his belt! Louisa too did very well, also getting to a Bronze bout, where she came up against Aoife, who had an epic “fight of the night” semi-final against Catherine Arscott that went for 8 ½ minutes! Nicolas ran foul of those pesky leg-touch rules a couple of times throughout the day – by next year everyone should be playing the new rules as though they have always been doing so! Shang-Lin gave it his best shot – seriously outweighed, as a U60Kg player, by the other guys!

We had many players who made it to Bronze medal bouts and just missed out on a medal – you should all be proud of your achievements and train hard over the next year so that the results go your way at Nationals 2014. Many more players did better than they did last year – keep up the good work so that you continue to improve for next year.

The players who were new to the team this year did a fantastic job – many medalled (take a bow Aris, Connor, Craig, Johnny, Louisa, Paige, Phillip, Ryosuke, Steve) and others were close. It’s great to see new blood – get the word out there to your clubs so that we have more newbies next year please.

Some of my favourite moments came on Monday, when several Victorians (Stefan, Johnny, Jordan) won fights with superb Ippon throws that could have been used in a textbook, when Saul fought determinedly to the end to win his Bronze with a last second Waza-Ari,, Noah and Ron recovering from recording-table errors to win Bronzes, and when Anais and Aaron lost fights but came off the mat smiling because they knew they had done their best. With young judoka of this calibre, our future is bright.

The club coaches of Victoria are obviously doing tremendous work when such young players are producing such good judo, with such good attitudes, so my final big Thank-You goes to them, because the State coaches/managers can only work with the players that the clubs are producing, and you are all producing great judoka and, perhaps even more importantly, awesome young people.

Jean Poole-Coughlan
State Team Manager.

MEDALLISTS

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Ju-No-Kata	Salome Broch/Jakub Sawczuk		
Nage-No-Kata			Christophe Legaud/Perry Papadimitropoulos
Katame-No_Kata		Christophe Legaud/ Perry Papadimitropoulos	
Kime-No-Kata		Miki Mayer/Jakub Sawczuk	
Masters 35-39 U90	Kirren Robson-Garth	Miki Mayer	
Masters 40-44 U81	Craig Farrington		
Masters 45-49 U90		Steve Terrill	
Kyu U70	Louisa Hall		
Kyu +100	Aris Parente	Phillip Cursons	
Open Women			Aoife Coughlan
Sr Men U60			Shang-Lin Chua
Sr Men U66	Ivo Dos Santos		Ryosuke Miwa
Sr Men U73			Perry Papadimitropoulos
Sr Men U81	Eoin Coughlan		
Sr Men U90	Mark Anthony		Kirren Robson-Garth
Sr Men O100	Jake Andrewartha		Phillip Cursons
Sr Women U52	Hannah Trotter		
Sr Women U57		Shyanne Stuart	Maeve Coughlan
Sr Women U70			Aoife Coughlan
Jr Men U60			Michal Valent
Jr Men U66		Noam Tidhar	
Jr Men U73	Jake Bensted	Perry Papadimitropoulos	
Jr Men U81			Kitt Campbell
Jr Men U100		Oschuan Bezuidenhout	
Jr Men O100	Liam Park		
Jr Women U48			Kim Chalmers
Jr Women U57	Maeve Coughlan		Ashlee Bensted
Jr Women U70	Aoife Coughlan		
Cadet Men U50	Bryan Jolly		
Cadet Men U73		Hayden Nilon	
Cadet Men +90	Oschuan Bezuidenhout		
Cadet Women U57	Maeve Coughlan		
Senior Boys U36			Ron Burshtein
Senior Boys U55			Saul Nightingale
Senior Boys U66	Jordan Nabulsi		Connor Wheeler
Senior Girls U48	Ana Elefterescu		
Senior Girls U52	Paige Daulo		
Junior Boys U27			Stefan Javni
Junior Boys U38			Noah Nightingale
Junior Boys U46		Johnny Kavadias	
Junior Girls U32		Anais Mott	