Adelaide University Judo Club Annual Report for 2009

Club Training
2009 was a year of consolidation for the Adelaide University Judo Club and it was the most successful year on record to the club in terms of membership and participation. This was an encouraging trend. All classes have been particularly successful with their own appropriate emphasis on a particular aspect of judo. The on campus training on Friday Evenings in the Irene Watson Room has been good for technical development, whilst Monday and Wednesday have been packed with players enjoying their own brand of judo the whole year.

New Initiatives- Thebarton Saturday Sessions
Saturdays is developing into a dual training option with Kata development in one section and Sport Judo in another. This is particularly important as Judo is not only a Competition Sport but also is now a Kata Sport. It is anticipated that more people will get involved with the Katas at Club, State and National Kata competitions.

Alumni Initiative-Mount Barker Sessions
The Adelaide University Judo Club has pioneered the formation of judo training session on Tuesday Nights in Mount Barker. This session has been quite successful so far. Thanks to our key alumni members Catherine Conway, Joe Mifsud and Chelisa Trethowan who have instigated this additional club junior judo project to give our Alumni Members an additional benefit from being part of the Adelaide University Judo Club.

State Competition Results
The club has placed well in most State Events and even came First Second and Third in the South Australian International Open Under 73 Kg Men’s Division this year. Great to get a Trifecta or two!! There have been over 10 people from the club entering in most events. It is great to see such a large contingent at the cutting edge of sport!

National Titles and Beyond
The club had three entries in the State Team in 2009. These were Jake Andrewartha, Shusuke Toden and Yoshiya Toden. Jake won a Bronze Medal in the over 100 Kg Division and continues to excel both on the National and International scene, representing Australia in the Pan Pacific Games. Even better, Jake took out the Over 100Kg Division in this event!!!
Club results are just getting better and better.

A New approach to Gradings- Two Mega Gradings
This First May Grading was very successful this year and another held in October was even bigger. It was good to see so many people preparing for their next grade. It bodes well for the club when so many people work to upgrade their technical levels.
The club now has a great system for taking people through the judo ranks all the way to Third Degree Black Belt.

Another Major Initiative- Dan Grade Development Day
There are at least a dozen Brown Belts in the Club that will be eligible for their Black Belts in the next few years. So the club hosted a Dan Grade Development Day on December 5th 2009. All those who attended received a folder explaining all the requirements and the work to be done for them to get their Black Belt in December 2010. Over 20 people attended which means it was a really successful first time event.

Club Challenge- a Special Club Event
We ran our first club challenge event recently without the endorsement of Judo SA and it was particularly successful, with matches lasting for the full two hours and everyone not only having a lot of fun but also getting invaluable competition experience. Thanks to everyone getting behind it and making it such a successful even.

Club Social Events too - A Comprehensive Calendar of Events
The Club now has a comprehensive calendar of Events, with two Mega Gradings, Challenges and Club Social Events too, including end of semester award presentations etc. We even have our own designated pub in the West too. Yes the “Wheatsheaf” has been adopted as the club pub for 2009! There is a club Social Events every Saturday too with a few drinks after club training. Lots happening at Uni Judo!