

BUDOKAN JUDO CLUB - 2017 ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS OF THE 17TH ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT 28th November 2017

Club Committee: Rob Katz, Kerrye Katz, Dave Colman, Sean Brothers, Peter Jennings, Melissa Rudgley, Andras Koltai, Belinda McIndoe, Franz Tandean, Life Member Dale Keogh, Outgoing VP Greg Tafft

Club Sponsors: Guido Scholtz (Trend Marking) - Website
Dave & Maili Colman (Bright Start Kidz) – Dino Kids
Carlo Barbarulo (Pizza Alfresco) – Awards Night catering
Kerrye and Rob Katz - Gym - S & C

Guest Presenters: Lynne Sandri, Sue Leishman

Coaches: Principal - Rob & Kerrye Katz; Elite Coach - Rob
Senior Coaches – Rob, Dale, Kerrye, Carlo, Guido
Junior Coaches – Kerrye, Rob, Dale, Andras, Carlo, Catherine, Chang, Franz
Mons Coaches - Andras & Dale + Andrea, Kate, Lubo, Daniel
Dino Kids - Amber McIndoe & Kerrye Katz

Budokan's Results at the 7th Judo NSW Awards Night - 18th November 2017

At this year's NSW Awards Night, the club's athletes held nearly one-third of the nominations for all Category finalist and State Coach nominated awards as well as nominations in both Junior and Senior Kata, and Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations to all the Budokan members who were nominated for NSW awards. Last year I had the pleasure of announcing that Budokan won the NSW Club of the Year. I am again very proud to announce that Budokan is 2017 Judo NSW Club of the Year for the fourth year in a row, and the fifth time overall. There were 10 available Age Category awards and Budokan athletes won 5 of them, which is amazing:

Bianca Tandean - Junior Girls

Sam Lobsey - Senior Boys

Beth Wade and **Mina Woo** - Senior Girls

Kyle McIndoe - Junior Men

Josh Katz - Senior Men;

Awards were also won in other categories:

Zach Colman – Coach Award Cadet Men

Bernhard & Bianca Tandean - Junior Kata Award

Nathan Katz – Coach Award Senior Men

The overall Age Category winner of the prestigious Sue Williams Award was **Josh Katz**

National Clubs Recognition Awards

At the recently held National Club Seminar, Budokan was again awarded the Best 4 Star club for membership between 100 and 200, placing it the second largest club in Australia. We were also awarded the club with the: “Best Initiative in Australian Judo” which was based on our work on promotion and marketing, our pre-school Dino Kids program, our Government & Community interaction, and our International Participation.

Sport NSW Awards

Judo NSW nominated **Lubo Petr** for the Sport NSW Official of the Year for his work as a referee. On the 27th November at the Sport NSW Gala Dinner, Lubo was awarded Sport NSW Official of the Year, a great recognition of his achievements as an international referee.

Black Belt Promotees

Our 8 Budokan Black belt promotes since the 2016 Awards Night are:

1. to 2nd Dan black belt – **Franz Tandean, Andras Koltai, Nathan Katz, Josh Katz** and **Courtney Barks**
2. to 1st Dan black belt – **Liam Stewart, Vanessa Hall**, and **Conor Edwards**

Summary of Club Achievements 2017

- **Membership:** Our growth in membership constantly amazes us. We have seen membership rise from 120 in 2015 to 140 last year and from 140 to over 170 this year. We also have the highest number of female members of any club in Australia. In time we may need to look at running additional sessions to accommodate the large numbers on the mat, which is a really great problem to have. Our Monday Senior beginner and Kyu Grade session is doing very well and we are proud to have introduced our new Pre-school Dino Kids program. Thanks go to Amber McIndoe and Kerrye Katz for running these sessions and also to Dave and Maili

Colman from Bright Start Kidz who generously sponsored the Dino Tee-Shirts. We currently have 8 registered Dino Kids. We also now have 3 very active Special Needs athletes, two who have participated in competition this year and one who is very skilled in Kata. So we are exposing Judo to a much wider community audience - great for the club, the sport and the athletes.

- **Government Relationships:**

- Our relationship across all 3 levels of Government is very strong. Federal Member for Mitchell, Alex Hawke MP visited the club during August and supported a Federal Stronger Communities Grant, which we won. This \$2500 grant will go towards additional equipment to support our Dino Kids program and Alex will visit the club early next year to have a look at the Dino program.

- **Promotion and Finance:**

- Our Treasurer Peter Jennings has done a great job this year capturing all our training fees on the new membership system. Thanks to all the parents who support us by helping with membership, fee inquiries and ID cards: in particular Rachel Lobsey, Alainya Zollinger and Suzie Tandean.
- In our merchandising, our club clothing clearly identifies us wherever we go and sales are still active as are our Judogi sales. Thanks also to Mel Rudgley for taking the lead on merchandising.
- Fundraising this year was generated from running our 2 club competitions – thanks to everyone who supported them, far too many to mention. Thanks also to Andras Koltai for running another successful Movie Night and to all those who supported the clothing collections.
- The website still attracts numerous inquiries and we are grateful to Guido Scholtz for sponsoring the site and to he and Mel Rudgley for managing the updates on the website.
- In addition to the Dino Kids program, we also invested in a marketing program and our profile has certainly been increased through the wonderful video that was produced.

- **Our venue:**

- With the Dinos classes, numerous elite athlete sessions run to support our international athletes and together with the BJJ and Aikido clubs, usage of the hall is now between 30 and 40 hours per week, but we are always looking at other programs to increase the hall's usage and improve the exposure of Judo and the club to the community.

Our Athletes and Coaches:

- **Our Coaching Team:** We can't say enough about the support we get from Dale and Andras in particular. We now have a committed new coach for our Dino program in Amber McIndoe. We are also grateful to our assistant and support coaches on the mat: Carlo Barbarulo, Catherine Roach, Chang Woo, Franz Tandean, Andrea Koltai-Bazan, Kate Hall, Lubo Petr, Guido Scholtz and Daniel Kennedy. Dieter from Vineyard Club is also a regular visiting coach.
- Budokan takes great pride in having a great mentoring culture within its membership whereby our more senior athletes come onto the mat to support the Junior sessions and provide terrific support to the Juniors at competitions. We commend you all on this display of club spirit in keeping with Judo's values.

Competition Participation & Performance –International Representation:

- A summary of results for Budokan's 8 international representatives for 2017 follows:

Nathan Katz

- Made the round of 16 at the Senior World Championships and the 2016 Tokyo Grand Slam; competed in 3 Grand Prix, 2 Senior European Cups and 1 Senior European Open
- Won the Senior Oceania Championships and came 2nd in Asian Open Senior World Cup Taipei, in all 10 international events with 2 more to go at the time of the Awards Night, the Tokyo Grand Slam and the Asian Open Hong Kong.

Josh Katz

- Competed in both the Senior and Junior World Championships
- Won the Senior Oceania Championships, came 7th in the Senior European Cup in Portugal, and took 5 wins for 9th placings at both Junior European Cups in Berlin and Hungary. In all

6 international events with the Asian Open Hong Kong still to go at the time of the Awards Night.

Kyle McIndoe

- Competed at the Junior World Championships
- Won both the Junior Oceania Championships and the Oceania Open Senior World Cup in Vanuatu, with the Asian Open Hong Kong still to go at the time of the Awards Night.

Cameron Leishman

- Japan training camp; training and camps in Europe
- Competed in Junior European Cups in Hungary, the Czech Republic and in the Junior World Championships

Naomi de Bruine

- Training and camps in Europe
- Competed in Senior European Open in Bulgaria and the World University Championships in Taipei; Won Silver medal at the Senior Oceania Championships in Tonga

Saskia Brothers

- Competed at the Commonwealth Youth Games Bahamas; Won a Silver medal at the Cadet Oceania Championships in Tonga; and was selected to Cadet World Championships in Chile

Emma Leishman

- Was selected to a camp in Japan and competed at the Junior Oceania Championships in Tonga

Amber Rudgley

- Won a Bronze medal at the Cadet Oceania Championships in Tonga

Overall, these 8 athletes had 6 World Championship selections with 1 Round of 32 win; Senior World Cup Gold and Silver medals; Senior European Cup 7th; 2 x Junior European Cup 9th; and 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze at Oceania

State Representatives to Nationals: All 39 athletes selected to the NSW State Team to the Nationals were presented. Results were:

6 Gold , 8 Silver, 9 Bronze medals + Silver in Special Needs, and 2 Gold & 1 Silver in Kata

Athlete (Division)	Budokan Athlete	Junior Boys / Girls		Senior Boys / Girls		Cadet Boys / Girls		Junior M/W		Senior M/W	
1	Bianca TANDEAN	U/32	BRONZE								
2	Lilli JENNINGS	U/44	U/P								
3	Crosby PEAKE	U/27	9 th								
4	Sam LOBSEY	U/30	9 th								
5	Max ZOLLINGER	U/30	BRONZE								
6	Francis PARK	U/30	U/P								
7	Christian CONSTANTINOU	U/30	7 th								
8	Edan KOLTAI	U/34	9 th								
9	Lion PARK	U/38	U/P								
10	Ali McPHERSON			U/36	5 th						
11	Mina WOO			U/40	BRONZE						
12	Melika TARIGHAT			U/48	BRONZE						
13	Beth WADE			U/57	BRONZE						
14	Will ZOLLINGER			U/36	U/P						
15	Oliver JENNINGS			U/40	SILVER						
16	Phoenix EDWARDS			U/40	U/P						
17	Finn TAFFT			U/50	SILVER						
18	Kevin TARIGHAT			U/55	GOLD						
19	Alex ROSS			U/55	SILVER						
20	Michael ROSS			U/60	GOLD						
21 (22)	Maddison EDWARDS					U/57	7 th	U/57	U/P		
22 (25)	Saskia BROTHERS					U/57	SILVER	U/57	5 th	U/57	U/P
23 (28)	Emma LEISHMAN					U/63	SILVER	U/63	SILVER	U/63	7 th
24 (31)	Amber RUDGLEY					U/70	5 th	U/70	U/P	U/70	U/P
25 (33)	Zach COLMAN					U/55	5 th	U/55	U/P		
26 (36)	Bjorn TANDEAN					U/60	BRONZE	U/60	U/P	U/60	U/P
27 (38)	Xavier TAFFT					U/66	BRONZE	U/66	7 th		
28 (40)	Mira CZARNETZKI							U/48	5 th	U/48	BRONZE
29 (42)	Josh KATZ							U/60	GOLD	U/60	GOLD
30 (44)	Liam STEWART							U/60	5 th	U/60	U/P
31 (45)	Kyle McINDOE							U/66	GOLD	U/66	Withdrew Injured
32 (46)	Lachlan BROTHERS							U/66	7 th	U/66	Withdrew Injured

33 (48)	Cameron LEISHMAN							U/73	SILVER	U/73	BRONZE
34 (52)	Logan O'BRIEN							U/81	Withdrew - 2 weeks	U/81	Withdrew
34 (49)	Naomi de BRUINE								(2/2)	U/78	GOLD
35 (50)	Nathan KATZ								(4/5)	U/66	SILVER
36 (51)	Mark TOBIN								(0/2)	U/66	U/P

SPECIAL NEEDS

37 (52)	CASEY EAMER							Special Needs Women	U/78	SILVER
---------	-------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	---------------------	------	---------------

KATA

	Dale KEOGH							Ju-No-Kata	Withdrew
38 (53)	Andras KOLTAI							Nage –No-Kata	SILVER
39 (54)	Bernhard TANDEAN							Junior Nage –No-Kata	GOLD
39 (54)	Bianca TANDEAN							Junior Nage –No-Kata	GOLD
39 (55)	Bernhard TANDEAN							Senior Ju-No Kata	6th
39 (55)	Bianca TANDEAN							Senior Ju-No Kata	6th

Some Budokan Statistics for the 2017 Nationals

- Our 37 athletes competed in 52 divisions + Kata; more than in any previous year
- In terms of our contribution to NSW's performance at the Nationals, Budokan won a quarter of NSW's total of 25 Gold medals and a quarter of NSW's total of 89 medals.
- In terms of National medal tally, if Budokan was counted as a State in its own right, we would have been ranked 5th ahead of ACT, TAS, SA and WA both in terms of total medals, and quality of medals.
- In Kata, Bernhard and Bianca Tandeau won Gold in Junior Nage-No-Kata and also came 6th in the Senior category for Ju-No-Kata – a great effort. Andras Koltai also won Silver in Senior Nage-No-Kata. Unfortunately Dale had to withdraw from her event due to knee issues.
- Again, this was a real family affair and we had 10 sets of siblings competing (Tandeau, Jennings, Zollinger, Park, Tarighat, Brothers, Tafft, Ross, Leishman and Katz)
- 7 athletes competed in their first Australian Championships: Crosby, Francis, Christian, Edan, Ali, Mina and Phoenix. Congratulations to these Budokan athletes for taking the major step in competing at National level.

- 8 athletes competed in 2 age categories and 3 athletes competed in 3 age categories
- 3 first time medallists at Nationals: Max (Bronze), Mina (Bronze) and Alex (Silver).
- 3 first time Gold medallists in an age category at Nationals: Kevin (Senior Boys), Michael (Senior Boys), Naomi (Senior Women)
- Great work from Casey Eamer representing NSW and Budokan for the first time in the Special Needs category. Casey fought with spirit and great attitude winning a Silver medal.
- Between Nathan, Josh, Naomi, Cameron and Kyle, these 5 athletes have now won 70 National medals, 32 of them Gold.

Budokan's participation in other major competitions:

- Our club participates in all State Opens and is one of only a couple of clubs who still host the MONSter League and Junior competition. This year was our 16th MONS and Junior Boys & Girls competition and in March we also ran our second MONS-only event:

Many of our athletes won medals and there were some special awards in both comps:

In the March MONS competition:

Best Ne-Waza - Ben Zollinger

Best Tachi-Waza - Rhys Conti

Best Spirit - Lilly Zollinger

In the August MONS and Juniors competition:

MONS: Best Ne-Waza: Aidan Barbin

Best Spirit: Lilly Zollinger

Juniors: Best Tachi-Waza: Max Zollinger

Best Ne-Waza: Crosby Peake

Player of the Day: Max Zollinger

Our Volunteers. We could not do what we do at the club without the strong and committed volunteer support from the club. We have already mentioned our fantastic coaches. Our volunteer base is also enormous, from our fantastic Committee who are involved in everything, to parents and athletes who support club activities and State competitions. I want to make special mention of:

- Belinda for sitting on the NSW Board of Management, for coordinating our competition volunteers and building up the club with NSW competition volunteers

- Dale as a BBR Kata instructor and Dan Grades examiner
- Lubo, Franz and Bjorn as NSW State referees as well as Michael and Kevin who refereed at our MONS and Junior competitions.
- The many people who operate the video camera at competitions and sort out dinners and social events
- And finally Rachel Lobsey, Suzie Tandean, and Alainya Zollinger who we heavily rely on to support our coaches at training and who support just about every State competition and club event.

The list of volunteers is really significant and we acknowledge that the club could not achieve what it has without the wonderful support provided.

Congratulations to our Committee & to all of you who have supported our activities this year.

We are all here for our athletes; if we look after them, the sport will take care of itself.

Budokan Awards Night 28th November 2017

At the Budokan Annual Awards Night, the awards were presented by the club's Committee members, sponsors and special guests. A message to the club's athletes from the coaches at the 2017 Awards Night:

- *There is no question that Judo is without doubt one of the most challenging of all competitive sports. This club aims to provide you with the most effective training environment that we can so that you can really enjoy your sport, and also so that you might reach whatever goals you set.*
- *Tonight might look like it's only about award winners, but in this club with international and National medalists, competition for these awards is fierce; so really, tonight is about celebrating yours & the club's achievements regardless of whether you win awards or not.*
- *It's very clear from our experience that as is the case for anything difficult but worthwhile in life, success in Judo is about setting a challenging goal, about training regularly, and training hard & with complete commitment, & in doing that striving to achieve your goals.*

THE 2017 BUDOKAN JUDO CLUB AWARDS

Criteria for selection of recipients for annual awards:

For all awards, Judoka must have been a member of the club for a minimum period of four months and with the exception of the Beginner Awards, have competed in tournaments

1. Awards for Improvement

Improvement Awards are selected on the basis of: consistent attendance, attitude to training, and showing noticeable improvement both at training & competition. In 2008, we separated the Junior Improvement Award into two new separate U/13s and U/16s Junior Improvement Awards. In 2010 these were renamed U/14s and Cadets (U/17s) to align with the new age Categories. In 2011 the 14s category was again split to separate the new Junior (U/12s) Boys and Girls and Senior (U/15s) Boys and Girls. The MONS award age group also changed in 2011 to U/9s.

MONS Winner 2017: **BEN ZOLLINGER**
GARY ZHANG

Junior Boy/Girl Winner 2017: **CROSBY PEAKE**

Senior Boy/Girl Winner 2017: **MINA WOO**
WILL ZOLLINGER

Cadet Winner 2017: **ZACH COLMAN**

Senior Winner 2017: **KYLE McINDOE**

2. Awards for Encouragement

Encouragement Awards are selected on the basis of: consistent attendance, attitude to training, performance in competition, and potential for future success in higher level competition. In 2008, as for the Junior Improvement Award, we separated the Junior Encouragement Award into two new separate U/13s and U/16s Junior Encouragement Awards. In 2010 these were renamed U/14s and Cadets (U/17s) to align with the new age Categories. In 2011 the 14s category was again split to separate the new Junior (U/12s) Boys and Girls and Senior (U/15s) Boys and Girls. The MONS award age group also changed in 2011 to U/9s.

MONS Winner 2017: **NICKY MOGILIN**
HARRISON BARBIN

Junior Boy/Girl Winner 2017: **FRANCIS PARK**

Senior Boy/Girl Winner 2017: **PHOENIX EDWARDS**
ALI McPHERSON

Cadet Winner 2017: **DEKLAN McLENNAN**
BERNHARD TANDEAN

Senior Winner 2017: **BJORN TANDEAN**

3. Beginner's Award

Beginners Awards are selected on the basis of: consistent attendance, attitude to training and learning, and putting in a strong effort in all club activities.

In the past, the Award could go to a Junior or a Senior, male or female. In 2004, we introduced a Senior, Junior and MONS Beginner Award. In 2016 we split the Junior Award into Junior Boys/Girls and Senior Boys/Girls.

MONS Winner 2017: RICO KING

Junior B/G Winner 2017: FLYNN MOGILIN

**Senior B/G Winner 2017: PETER CHEON
ALICIA GUNARDI**

Senior Winner 2017: REZA ASHOURI

4. Outstanding Performance at a Grading

Another special award, which was introduced in 2005, and awarding it depends on the standard of grading performed each year. It will only be awarded where it is really deserved. We have decided to award this year's trophy in recognition of the performance at their grading to:

**Winner 2017: AIDAN BARBIN
FLYNN MOGILIN**

5. Awards for Best Attendance

Attendance Awards are selected purely on the basis of attendance as recorded on the club's attendance records. Award for attendance at the Wednesday night MONS session was introduced in 2015.

MONS Session:

Winner 2017: GARY ZHANG

Junior Session:

Winner 2017: BIANCA TANDEAN

Senior Session:

Winner 2017: ZACH COLMAN

6. The John Sandri Judo Spirit Award

An award introduced in 2004, the Judo Spirit Award is selected on the basis of: spirit of participation in all activities and in particular the spirit and heart shown during competition. The Award could go to a Junior or a Senior, male or female. In 2010, to commemorate the sad passing of one of our club family members, John Sandri, we renamed this Award, the "John Sandri Spirit Award".

We have one very deserving recipient for this award. This person belongs to a Judo family who moved from Adelaide to Sydney in April just to join this club – that's right, move your family 1400km, change

homes, change jobs, change schools, change friends, just for Judo – this is something that we have never seen before in all our years of Judo. The first contact I had was from this person's father who asked me whether I could arrange for his son and daughter to join the club and play for NSW at the Nationals. He was calling from Adelaide. Within a month they had moved. Well, they came to the right place. The family fitted into the club's culture like a hand fits a glove. Together with his sister, this person trains very hard and does everything asked of him. What sets him apart from others his age is that at just 14, and moving into Cadets next year, he started the Senior session after the Nationals, but still trains regularly with the Juniors, often helping the newest beginners on the mat. He is like a sponge and you can see that he just wants it all, but is prepared to do what it takes to get there, quietly and politely getting on with the job. He performed extremely well at Nationals and won his first National title this year, whilst also supporting all his new club-mates. I have no doubt that if he maintains his current spirit and determination, he will go wherever he sets his goal, and we will be very happy to help him get there. This year's Spirit Award goes to:

Winner 2017: KEVIN TARIGHAT

7. MONS (U/9s) Award (6, 7, 8 years old in 2017)

Under 9 years ("Mons") Awards (changed from U/10 in 2011) are selected on the same basis of the Beginners Award criteria plus participation, results, and spirit in competition.

Girls' Runner Up 2017: ARIANA BAZAN-KOLTAI

Girls' Winner 2017: LILLY ZOLLINGER

Boys' Runner Up 2017: FINN McPHERSON

Boys' Winner 2017: BRYAN ZHANG

Recipients of the following awards are selected purely against a pre-set points criteria, whereby points are allocated for 1st to 3rd placings in most competitions, and for lesser rankings in higher level competitions: Best Senior Man, Senior Woman, Junior Man and Junior (or Young) Woman, Junior Shonen (U/16) which changed in 2010 to Cadets or U/17 Boys and Girls; and Yonen (U/13) which changed in 2010 to U/14s, and in 2011 to Junior U/12 & Senior U/15 Boys and Girls. Points allocated vary according to the level of competition ranging in increasing importance from PCYC, to State, to National, to International events.

8. Awards for Best Junior Boys and Girls (9, 10, 11 years old in 2017)

Junior Girls' Runner Up 2017: JESSICA BARBIN

Junior Girls' Winner 2017: BIANCA TANDEAN

Junior Boys' Runner Up 2017: MAX ZOLLINGER & CROSBY PEAKE

Junior Boys' Winner 2017: **SAM LOBSEY**

9. **Awards for Best Senior Boys and Girls** (12, 13, 14 in 2017)

Senior Girls' Runner Up 2017: **BETH WADE**

Senior Girls' Winner 2017: **MINA WOO**

Senior Boys' Runner Up 2017: **MICHAEL ROSS**

Senior Boys' Winner 2017: **ALEX ROSS**

10. **Awards for Best Cadet** (15, 16, 17 in 2017)

Cadet Girls' Runner Up 2017: **AMBER RUDGLEY**

Cadet Girls' Winner 2017: **SASKIA BROTHERS**

Cadet Boys' Runner Up 2017: **BJORN TANDEAN**

Cadet Boys' Winner 2017: **ZACH COLMAN**

11. **Awards for Best Junior Woman and Junior Man** (18, 19, 20 in 2017)

Junior Woman Runner Up 2017: **MIRA CZARNETZKI**

Junior Woman Winner 2017: **EMMA LEISHMAN**

Junior Man Runner Up 2017: **JOSH KATZ**

Junior Man Winner 2017: **KYLE McINDOE**

12. **Awards for Best Senior** (Cadets & older)

Senior Woman Runner Up 2017: **MIRA CZARNETZKI**

Senior Woman Winner 2017: **NAOMI de BRUINE**

Senior Man Runner Up 2017: **JOSH KATZ**

Senior Man Winner 2017: **NATHAN KATZ**

13. **Pat & Ian Daniels Award for the Budokan Volunteer of the Year**

This award was introduced in 2008 to acknowledge the value and the benefit to Judo of

Volunteering duties, whether at club, State or National level. Budokan's Volunteer of the Year Award is dedicated to the memory of Kerrye's parents, Pat & Ian Daniels, and the selection of the recipient is based primarily on club-level volunteering in all areas.

We have one deserving recipient of the Volunteer award this year. As is always the case with so many willing and dedicated volunteers in the club, it is very difficult to select recipients of this award. So many people in this club put in such a lot of time and effort to various club projects and in supporting State and National activities. This year, the recipient of this award has focussed on the club. They have served on the Committee of the club for some years and championed our merchandising strategy, taken responsibility for updating our website and downloading our newsletters, taken on key roles in the running of our two competitions, supported all our social and fundraising activities, assisted with the membership system and been a supportive Judo parent and part of our travelling circus for many years. Budokan owes a debt of gratitude to this year's Volunteer of the Year:

Winner 2017: MEL RUDGLEY

14. Craig Leishman Award for the Distinguished Service

A new award introduced this year (2017), which is dedicated to the memory of Craig Leishman, a member of one of the longest standing families in this club. The purpose of the Distinguished Service Award is to recognise the service to Judo of one of our club's members through their dedication and commitment to a specific aspect of Judo, one which contributes significantly to the club's performance.

This person is a quiet achiever who just does what she does and keeps moving forward doing everything she can to support the club's athletes, specifically our juniors, both on and off the mat. She is one of our coaches, a black belt for over 30 years and started here shortly after her older grandson began training at the club 7 years ago. He lived on the Central Coast as she does, but when he decided to join a closer club, her other grandson had started the MONS session. That was 4 ½ years ago, and she stayed on with the MONS session on Wednesday nights even after he outgrew the Wednesday session and moved into the Junior group. So she did the logical thing, and that was to come to training on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays despite the lengthy travelling time. She attends MONS and Junior competitions and is the definition of a real Judo matriarch. At nearly 75 years of age, she has been doing Judo for nearly 60 years, is the oldest member of this club and a proud Judo grand-mother of a talented grandson. If I had a hat on, I would take it off and bow to this very worthy recipient of the inaugural Budokan Distinguished Service Award.

Winner 2017: CATHERINE ROACH

15. Coaches Awards for Junior or Senior Judoka

The Coaches' Award is selected for overall spirit in all aspects of Judo. The Award could go to a Junior or a Senior:

Casey has only been a member of the club for 3 years but has certainly made an impact on everyone around her in that short time. She started in the Seniors classes on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and when we commenced the Monday beginner and Kyu grade class at the start of 2016, Casey attended the first session but still continued the Senior sessions despite the intensity and challenges of that program. Keen to be graded to be able to go in competition, if anything, we have had to temper her eagerness to ensure that she would be ready and safe before competing. Graded in March 2015 to Yellow belt and in May 2016 to Orange belt she has already competed in open Kyu Grade events and also in Special Needs categories, sometimes against much bigger opposition. Admirably she trained for, qualified for and competed for NSW at the 2017 National Championships winning a Silver medal in her special needs category. Always wanting to try new things and learn more, to get fitter and stronger, her confidence has grown with each week as she works her way into becoming a Judo junkie. She even changed her hair style to suit Judo so that it wouldn't get in the way. Her enthusiasm is infectious and with the addition of other special needs athletes in the club now also looking to compete, she is an inspiration for people who think they can, but are unsure if they want to try - there really is no excuse. Congratulations to this year's Coaches Award recipient.

Winner 2017: CASEY EAMER

Other presentations:

- 1 . Coaching.** Presentations to our Coaches, Assistant Coaches and other club support athletes
- 2. Volunteers/Committee.** Presentation to club volunteers for their contribution
- 3. Presentation by Club.** To Kerrye and Rob Katz

Rob and Kerrye Katz, Budokan Judo Club Coaching Coordinators

28th November 2017