

BUDOKAN JUDO CLUB - 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS OF THE 19TH ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT 3rd December 2019

Club Committee: Rob Katz, Kerrye Katz, Dave Colman, Sean Brothers, Peter Jennings, Andras Koltai, Franz Tandean, Kate Peake, Scott Young (2019), Life Member Dale Keogh
Outgoing (2019): Belinda McIndoe

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 - Strength & Conditioning

2019 Major Donations: Constantine Philips; Ann Hao; Chang (Wesley) Woo

Guest Presenters: Lynne Sandri, Cameron & Emma Sue Leishman (representing Sue Leishman)

Coaches: Principal Coaches - Rob & Kerrye Katz
Elite Coach - Rob Katz
Senior Coaches – Rob Katz, + *Dale Keogh, Kerrye Katz*
Junior Coaches - Kerrye Katz, + *Rob Katz, Dale Keogh, Andras Koltai, Lubo Petr, Cathy Roach, Chang Woo, Dieter Riechert,*
Supported by Daniel Kennedy, Neal Conti & Scott Young
Mons Coaches – Jarrad Cooper & Dale Keogh, *Supported by Cathy Roach, Zach Colman, Phoenix Edwards, Will and Max Zollinger, Daniel Kennedy, Neal Conti, Scott Young*
Dino Kids - Kerrye Katz, *Supported by Ali McPherson, Phoenix Edwards, Max Zollinger*

Budokan's Results at the 9TH Judo NSW Awards Night – 30TH November 2019

Last year for the second year in a row, Budokan athletes won 5 of the 10 individual award categories and 4 more of our athletes won awards in Special Needs, Kata and NSW State Coach nominated awards. Budokan also won the NSW Club of the Year for the fifth year in a row. This year, club award categories changed significantly and volunteer and coach awards were introduced. Prior to the Awards Night, Judo NSW released the list of 10 finalists in each of the 10 individual awards, those being best male and female athletes in the 5 competition age categories. Of the 100 finalists, 25 Budokan athletes were listed, exactly ¼ of all NSW nominations, quite an achievement for one of over 80 NSW clubs and more than any other NSW club.

5 more Budokan members were nominated in the State Coaches and Kata Awards. During the Judo NSW Awards Night, 4 of the 10 category winners went to Budokan members and 3 more won Kata awards:

Individual Age Category Award winners were:

Nicholas Platonov (Junior Boys);

Mina Woo (Senior Girls);

Will Zollinger (Senior Boys)

Saskia Brothers (Cadet Women).

Bianca and Bernhard Tandean (Kata Competitor)

Dale Keogh (Kata Volunteer Award)

Congratulations to all of Budokan's 25 finalists and winners of the 2019 Judo NSW Awards.

Budokan Judo Club was also a finalist in the "Performance Club of the Year" award and Kerrye and Rob were finalists in the "Talent Coach of the Year" award.

Although it was disappointing that we didn't win either of these last 2 awards, we are proud to say that the club has performed exceptionally well this year and this is really all the reward that we need. All our athletes and parents need to understand that these events are not just about winning awards - winning awards does not define who you are, or your ability, or the value of your achievements or your potential; the same can be said for not winning an award. **Your reward** is in both the effort you put in to meet the challenge, and the progress you make to reach your goal. As far as the Judo NSW club and coach awards go, recognition and reward came for for Kerrye and I from these (amongst other) events:

- **Sport NSW Awards.** Budokan was named as a finalist in the Community Club category of the 2019 NSW Community Sports Awards, an event capturing all NSW clubs in all NSW sports.
- **Nationals Participation & Results.** The club's participation at the 2019 Nationals was up 20% and our medal tally was up 15% on last year. In the 9 major National and Open competitions held this year, our athletes contested 25% more divisions than last year and our medal tally and number of Gold medals at these events was also up by 25%.
- **International Results.** Our 4 international athletes had their best results ever. They contested 29 international events including 4 World Championship selections; with Top 16 results at Senior Worlds, 4 Grand Slams and the Asia Pacific Continental Championships, 5th and 7th placings in Grand Prix events, 5th in Junior Asia Pacific Continentals, 7th and 9th in Cadet European Cups, Gold and Bronze in Cadet Oceania Open and Gold and 5th in Junior Oceania Open. Details of the results of our international athletes will be covered later.

These are all great achievements and the result of a consistently huge effort by all the club's coaches, Committee members, volunteers, and in particular all the athletes who do all the hard work on the mat.

Kerrye and I could not wish for anything more than these great club achievements. As coaches, they represent the most important recognition and reward that we could hope for.

Black Belt Promotees

Two weeks ago at the NSW State Black Belt Grading, Saskia Brothers satisfied the requirements for promotion to 1st Dan. Bjorn Tandean (who is currently training in Japan) was also graded to 1st Dan earlier this year. Congratulations to Saskia and Bjorn on your promotions to Black Belt during 2019.

Before we go into the achievements of Budokan's athletes in competition, I would like to briefly talk about the most critical item in the club's future; that is our positioning in the developing Castle Hill Showground. A lot has happened since this time last year. **Council contracted** a Design company to develop a Showground Masterplan. The club has met with them and with Council and made presentations and submissions which provided Council with our requirements. We have been assured that community clubs like ours will be looked after and accommodated in the Showground, and although we are yet to venture into the detail, we are optimistic that we will end up with a venue that is significantly more modern than our current one.

I now want to explain why we believe that this is a very special Judo Club. We see 7 reasons which make this club, your club, so special:

- 1) **Our Growth.** We hit an all-time high of 191 members earlier this year and our numbers on the mat in every class remain consistently high. With very little marketing, we continue to see many new people coming through the door wanting to try Judo. There must be a reason for this.
- 2) **Our membership.** Is as diverse as there are techniques in Judo. Ranging in age from 3 years to 79 years from our pre-school Dinos, to numerous State Team members, Veteran athletes, parents of Juniors, "No Limits" athletes, elite National Team members, Kata competitors, referees, coaches, and an amazing group of State volunteers.
- 3) **Our Culture.** We are an incredibly tight family-oriented group who travel together and who

look after each other. We have our branded merchandise, we run State competitions, we do a lot of fundraising and we run social events, **but the club culture is far deeper** on the mat. Our Seniors support our Juniors both at their sessions and at competitions and in turn, our Juniors support our Dinos and MONS groups. This support accelerates the development of our athletes and provides an active mentoring and “team” culture in the club for which we are very proud.

- 4) **Our high level of participation in competition.** This is acknowledged by Judo Australia and Judo NSW. 1/3 of our eligible membership participate in competition and this year we made up ¼ of the NSW Team to the 2019 Nationals despite there being 58 NSW clubs
- 5) **We sponsor our committed and talented athletes.** This includes financial support to the Nationals, sponsoring the training for our AWE-categorised Seniors, running elite athlete sessions, sponsoring athletes with strength and conditioning programs and gym access, and by setting up unique opportunities like the 3 week Junior Japan training trip that Kerrye will be heading with 9 of our most accomplished 10-14 year old Juniors.
- 6) **Very importantly, we acknowledge participation and reward effort and achievement** This is done through all of our behaviours and in all of our communications; for example, through our newsletters and website, through events like our post-Nationals presentation and tonight’s Annual Awards Night. Tonight not only acknowledges results but also spirit, improvement, participation, skill in grading and service to Judo and to the club
- 7) **Our Coaching Team.** Kerrye and I can’t say enough about the support we have received from our main coaches Dale and Jarrad. We are also very grateful to our assistant and support coaches on the mat: Cathy Roach, Andras Koltai, Lubo Petr, Chang Woo, Dieter Riechert, Daniel Kennedy, Neal Conti, Scott Young, Zach Colman, Phoenix Edwards, Will and Max Zollinger, Neal Conti, and Ali McPherson. Thanks also to Cameron Leishman who has filled in for me on some Senior sessions.

These are the reasons why we believe Budokan is such a special and unique club and why we have happy and successful athletes.

Competition Participation & Performance in International Events:

Budokan's 4 international representatives for 2019 were presented to the club: **Nathan, Josh, Saskia, and Zach**. Results for these athletes since last year's Awards Night follow:

- **Nathan Katz** - Nathan competed in 12 international events: the Senior World Championships, 4 Grand Slams, 3 of which he made the Top 16, 6 Grand Prix events achieving his first Grand Prix medal round with a 5th place, and placed Top 16 in the Asia Pacific Continental Championships.
- **Josh Katz** - Josh competed in 8 international events: the Senior World Championships achieving a Top 16 result, 3 Grand Slams with one Top 16 placing, 3 Grand Prix with one Top 16 placing, and 7th place in the Asia Pacific Continental Championships.
- **Saskia Brothers** - Saskia competed in 7 international events in Cadets and Juniors: the Cadet World Championships, 3 Cadet European Cups placing 7th and 9th, Asia Pacific Continental Cadets and Juniors placing 5th, and Cadet and Junior Oceania Opens in which she won Gold in both.
- **Zach Colman** – Zach Competed in the Cadet and Junior Oceania Opens in which he won Bronze and placed 5th.

These are great results for truly great athletes.

State Representatives to Nationals: All 34 athletes selected to the NSW State Team to the Nationals were presented to the club. These included Zach and Ben who were selected but could not compete due to injury or illness.

Our National Results were amazing given that over one-third of our athletes had never competed at Nationals before:

7 Gold, 5 Silver & 4 Bronze medals, plus

1 Gold & 2 Silvers in Veterans, plus

1 Gold in Kyu Grades, plus

2 Gold and 1 Silver in No Limits; for a total of:

11 Gold, 8 Silver and 4 Bronze medals.

Additionally, Budokan won 3 Gold, 2 Silver & 2 Bronze medals in Kata.

Athletes (Divisions)	Budokan Athlete	Junior Boys / Girls		Senior Boys / Girls		Cadet Boys / Girls		Junior M/W		Senior M/W	
1 (1)	Lilly ZOLLINGER	U/32	SILVER								
2 (2)	Sergey PHILIPS	U/27	U/P								
3 (3)	Nicholas PLATONOV	U/27	GOLD								
4 (4)	Crosby PEAKE	U/30	U/P injury								
5 (5)	Marcus LIAO	U/30	U/P								
6 (6)	Bryan ZHANG	U/34	9 th								
7 (7)	Marwan ABDELFAJIL	O/50	BRONZE								
8 (8)	Jaeda LIAO			U/32	U/P						
9 (9)	Bianca TANDEAN			U/40	SILVER						
10 (10)	Ali McPHERSON			U/44	BRONZE						
11 (11)	Clarissa VUMBACA			U/48	5 th						
12 (12)	Mina WOO			U/48	GOLD						
13 (13)	Vicki VORILLAS			U/52	5 th						
14 (14)	Sean GOLDTHORPE			U/32	U/P						
15 (15)	Max ZOLLINGER			U/36	SILVER						
16 (16)	Will ZOLLINGER			U/40	BRONZE						
17 (17)	Phoenix EDWARDS			U/45	9 th						
18 (18)	Ali YULDASHEV			U/55	BRONZE						
19 (20)	Jacinta VUMBACA					U/52	GOLD	U/52	5 th		
20 (23)	Saskia BROTHERS					U/63	GOLD	U/63	GOLD	U/63	SILVER
21 (24)	Peter CHEON					U/55	U/P				
22 (25)	Michael ROSS					U/66	SILVER				
23 (27)	Alex ROSS					U/73	5 th	U/73	U/P		
24 (28)	Isabella VUMBACA							U/52	5 th		
25 (30)	Bjorn TANDEAN							U/66	5 th	U/66	U/P
26 (31)	Josh KATZ									U/60	GOLD
27 (32)	Nathan KATZ									U/66	GOLD
28 (33)	Logan O'BRIEN									U/81	U/P

VETERANS

29 (34)	Aziz YULDASHEV							M1-M2	U/81	GOLD
30 (35)	Scott YOUNG							M5 Kyu	U/81	SILVER
30 (36)	Scott YOUNG							M5	U/81	SILVER

NO LIMITS

31 (37)	Lynne McCREDDEN							Special Needs Women	U/78	SILVER
32 (38)	Bernhard TANDEAN							Special Needs Cadet Men	U/60	GOLD
32 (39)	Bernhard TANDEAN							Special Needs Cadet Men	U/66	GOLD

KYU GRADES (Seniors)

32 (40)	Bjorn TANDEAN							Kyu Grades Men	U/66	GOLD
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KATA

33 (41)	Andras KOLTAI							Senior Nage-No-Kata		GOLD
33 (42)	Andras KOLTAI							Senior Katame-No-Kata		SILVER
34 (43)	David WILLISON							Senior Nage-No-Kata		U/P
34 (44)	David WILLISON							Goshin-Jutsu		SILVER
34 (45)	Bernhard TANDEAN							Junior Nage-No-Kata		GOLD
34 (46)	Bianca TANDEAN							Junior Nage-No-Kata		GOLD
34 (47)	Bernhard TANDEAN							Senior Ju-No-Kata		BRONZE
34 (48)	Bianca TANDEAN							Senior Ju-No-Kata		BRONZE

Some of Rob's interesting Budokan Statistics for the 2019 Nationals

1. These 34 athletes competed in 40 divisions plus 6 Kata divisions
2. This was another strong Budokan family affair with 7 sets of siblings and family members competing (Zollinger, Liao, Tandean, Vumbaca, Yuldashev, Ross, and Katz).
3. Our contribution to NSW's performance at the Nationals was significant with Budokan winning **one quarter** of NSW's total of 22 Gold medals and **one fifth** of NSW's total of 84 medals.
4. If Budokan was counted as a State in its own right, we would have been ranked 5th ahead of ACT, SA, NT and TAS both in terms of total medals, and quality of medals.
5. 10 athletes competed in their first Australian Championships: Lilly, Sergey, Marcus, Marwan, Clarissa, Vicky, Jacinta, Isabella, Aziz, and Scott.
6. There were 8 first time medallists at Nationals and 5 first time Gold medallists in their divisions. First time Gold medallists in their divisions were: Nicholas (Junior Boys), Jacinta (Cadet Women), Saskia (Junior Women), Aziz (Veterans Men), and Bjorn (Kyu Grades Men)

7. Significant milestones: Nathan won his 10th National Gold medal with a total of 18 National medals. Josh won his 11th Gold medal with a total of 16 National medals. Saskia is now establishing herself by having won her 5th National Gold medal with a total of 9 National medals.

Regarding Budokan's participation in other major competitions:

- Budokan participates in all State Opens and is one of only a couple of clubs who still host the MONSter League and Junior competitions. This year we held our 17th MONS and Junior Boys & Girls competition and in March we also ran our third MONS-only event. Many of our athletes won medals & there were some special awards in both competitions. These athletes were presented to the club:

In the March MONS competition:

Best Tachi-Waza (Throwing) Technique – Ethan Zhang

Best Ne-Waza (Ground) Technique – Zach Watmore

In the August MONS and Juniors competition:

SPECIAL AWARDS - MONS

Best Tachi-Waza – Ethan Zhang

Player of the Day – Dasha Platonov

SPECIAL AWARDS - JUNIORS

Best Ne-Waza – Grace Wilson

Best Spirit – Joey Wang

Players of the Day – Crosby Peake & Nicholas Platonov

Finally and very importantly, our Volunteers. We could not do what we do here 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 many club activities and State competitions. I want to make special mention of:

- Dale as a BBR Kata instructor and Dan Grades examiner
- Lubo as our International referee, Franz and Bjorn as NSW State referees.
- Our sponsors: Bright Start Kids (Dave and Maili) for the Dino Kids, Guido and Trend Marking for the website, Carlo Barbarulo and Pizza Alfresco for his support tonight, and to

The Phillips family, Woo family and Zhang family, all who all of whom made generous donations this year

- To our fabulous co-Committee members: Sean, Dave, Peter, Andras, Kate, Franz, Dale, and Scott, with outgoing member Belinda.
- The many people who coordinate dinners when we travel, who coordinate the Bunnings BBQs, the Movie Nights, Bingo Night, chocolate drives, prizes for raffles, who take training fees and sell Judogis, and who consistently volunteer at State and at our club competitions, too many to name all, but a special mention to Andras, Jo, Kate, Susi, Alainya, Sue, also Rachel, Lin Zhang (Joey Zhao's Mum), Yuan Dong (William's Mum)

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 all of our volunteers and 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.

Last year at this point in the night I said that "Next year with your help we will keep growing, learning and building". We believe that we have done exactly that. The strength of our athletes is matched only by the commitment of the coaches and the strength of character and unique family spirit of this club and we continue to be very proud to be a part of it.

The following club Committee members, coaches, sponsors and special guests were called up to present the trophies:

Committee: Sean Brothers, Kerrye, Kate Peake, David Colman, Andras Koltai, and Scott Young; Club Life Member Dale Keogh, Sponsors: Dino Maili Colman; Guests Lynne (and Aidan) Sandri, Cameron and Emma Leishman, Coaches Jarrad Cooper, Cathy Roach, Carlo Barbarulo, Int'l Ref: Lubo Petr. Unfortunately Committee member Peter Jennings and Franz Tandean, Website sponsor Guido Scholtz and Sue Leishman were unable to attend.

On the program which was placed on many of the chairs at our Awards Night, Kerrye and I left a message which we provide the club's athletes every year. I won't read it all out but it basically says that because this is a club with so many international & national medalists, competition for the awards tonight is fierce. So tonight is really about celebrating not only the achievements of your club-mates, but also what **you** have personally achieved this year.

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 2019: ISAAC MURKINS

**Junior Boy/Girl Winner 2019: NICHOLAS PLATONOV
BRYAN ZHANG**

**Senior Boy/Girl Winner 2019: CLARISSA VUMBACA
PHOENIX EDWARDS**

Cadet Winner 2019: JACINTA VUMBACA

Senior Winner 2019: SCOTT YOUNG

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 2019: WILLIAM DONG
JOEY ZHAO**

**Junior Boy/Girl Winner 2019: MARCUS LIAO
MARWAN ABDEL FADIL**

Senior Boy/Girl Winner 2019: FLYNN MOGILIN

Cadet Winner 2019: **MONTANNA POULSEN**
PETER CHEON

Senior Winner 2019: **DANIEL KENNEDY**

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 2019: **CHRISTIAN SIGVART**

Junior B/G Winner 2019: **LUCY DAWSON**

Senior B/G Winner 2019: **SYLVIA HU**

Senior Winner 2019: **MONTANNA POULSEN**

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 2019: **MARCUS LIAO**
MATTHEW HU

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 2019: **ETHAN ZHANG**
WILLIAM DONG

Junior Session:

Winner 2019: **CROSBY PEAKE**

Senior Session:

Winner 2019: **CAMERON LEISHMAN**

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".

As was the case last year, again this year we have two very deserving young recipients for this award. It is very unusual that for the first time in 15 years, one of these athletes is winning this award for the second year in a row. Both of these guys belong to committed and supportive Budokan Judo families. Both have persevered with their Judo to gain inroads into their competitiveness. Their performances in Nationals and State Opens indicates they are on the right track. They travel to all competitions, local and interstate and this year their level of maturity and their attitude to training has increased significantly as they transition into the Cadet age category next year. If they follow the path they are on, we are confident that both these athletes will reach the goals they set themselves. At the same time, for a large part of this year, they have volunteered to support the Dinos and MONS classes, to provide support to their younger club-mates. This is a real indication of their club spirit and their desire to put something back into the club. They also actively support the two club competitions and participate in all club fundraising activities. They are truly team people who demonstrate the Budokan culture very openly and willingly. They are 2 of the 9 Budokan Juniors who will spend 3 weeks in Japan over Christmas and the New Year. We look forward to working with them next year as they move into Senior Judo. This year's Spirit Awards go to:

Winners 2019:

**ALI McPHERSON
PHOENIX EDWARDS**

7. MONS (U/9s) Award (6, 7, 8 years old in 2019)

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 2019:

MILLY JORDAN

Girls' Winner 2019:

DIANA PLATONOV

Boys' Runner Up 2019:

JACKSON YOUNG

Boys' Winner 2019:

ETHAN 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 club, to State, to National, to International events.

8. Awards for Best Junior Boys and Girls (9, 10, 11 years old in 2019)

Junior Girls' Runner Up 2019: **EVA MURKINS**

Junior Girls' Winner 2019: **LILLY ZOLLINGER**

Junior Boys' Runner Up 2019: **NICHOLAS PLATONOV**

Junior Boys' Winner 2019: **CROSBY PEAKE**

9. Awards for Best Senior Boys and Girls (12, 13, 14 in 2019)

Senior Girls' Runner Up 2019: **BIANCA TANDEAN**

Senior Girls' Winner 2019: **MINA WOO**

Senior Boys' Runner Up 2019: **WILL ZOLLINGER**

Senior Boys' Winner 2019: **MAX ZOLLINGER**

10. Awards for Best Cadet (15, 16, 17 in 2019)

Cadet Girls' Runner Up 2019: **JACINTA VUMBACA**

Cadet Girls' Winner 2019: **SASKIA BROTHERS**

Cadet Boys' Runner Up 2019: **ALEX ROSS**

Cadet Boys' Winner 2019: **MICHAEL ROSS**

11. Awards for Best Junior Woman and Junior Man (18, 19, 20 in 2019)

Junior Woman Runner Up 2019: **ISABELLA VUMBACA**

Junior Woman Winner 2019: **SASKIA BROTHERS**

Junior Man Runner Up 2019: **ALEX ROSS**

Junior Man Winner 2019: **BJORN TANDEAN**

12. Awards for Best Senior (Cadets & older)

Senior Woman Runner Up 2019: **ISABELLA VUMBACA**

Senior Woman Winner 2019: **SASKIA BROTHERS**

Senior Man Runner Up 2019: **NIL (for the first time)**

Senior Man Winners 2019: **NATHAN KATZ & JOSH 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 a single recipient. 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. Kate is one of the club's numerous committed super-mums. A Judo-Mum of a mini-Judo-superstar, also daughter of super-Judo-Grandmother and 2017 Distinguished Service winner Cathy Roach. If they gave frequent driving points for travelling time, she would be eligible for a round-the-world trip by now. She is a Judo junkie who I am sure I will get back on the mat one day. Kate is at the club all the time, an active member of our club Committee, she takes inquiries on new memberships, processes training fees, sells Judogis, vacuums the hall, coordinates entries for interstate and domestic competitions, volunteers at our club and at State competitions, researches interstate accommodation, coordinates fundraising activities, and travels and supports our athletes as part of our travelling circus. She coordinated Budokan's bookings to the Judo NSW Awards dinner, and provides input to all committee projects. Showing encouragement and empathy to all club members, she is a great volunteer ambassador and a worthy recipient of this award. Budokan owes a debt of gratitude to this year's Volunteer of the Year:

Winner 2019: **KATE PEAKE**

14. Craig Leishman Award for Distinguished Service

A relatively new award introduced in 2017, this award 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.

Andras started Judo nearly 35 years ago. He won 2 Junior Nationals in the 90s and then in mid-2000 I encouraged him to come to the club, start competition again and train for his black belt which he achieved in 2007. In 2008 he won the Senior Men's Nationals at 60kg and in the same year won the BBR's rookie Black Belt of the Year

award. He competed for the club in teams events and contributed further to the club through coaching support, eventually taking on responsibility for the MONS session with Dale from 2013. He maintained this role for 5 years to 2018 and did a great job always looking for innovative ways to stimulate his sessions and create enthusiasm within the MONS group. He competed in Masters even at National level in 2015 and also took up Kata as a competitor after being promoted to 2nd Dan in 2017. He won National Kata medals in 2017, 18 and again this year. He has been a member of the club committee since 2014 but was always involved in the club's activities before that including many years of packing up the hall for the Castle Hill Show, working bees, our MONS competitions, producing our first club DVDs, and arranging demonstrations at schools and festivals. He initiated the club's movie nights and sourced the equipment needed, helping me to upgrade it all this year. He is always looking for ways to improve the club, from sourcing carpet tiles and coordinating the laying of them, to manufacturing and installing the chin-up bar and storage racks. Andras has previously won the club Spirit Award, the Best Senior Man, and in 2015 he won the Coaches Award. Since handing over the MONS class to Jarrad, he still finds time to support the Junior sessions and we can always rely on him to take sessions when we are away. Andras supports the club both on and off the mat showing his passion for Judo and enthusiasm for the club which fit perfectly into the Budokan culture. The recipient of the Distinguished Service Award this year is:

Winner 2019:

ANDRAS KOLTAI

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:

I have said before that as parents of 2 of the elite athletes in the club whom we also coach, it is very difficult to objectively assess them against all the athletes in the club for an award like this; however, this year we believe the selection of Nathan and Josh for this award is quite defensible. What an enormous year they have had...Josh again suffering injuries this year which resulted in having to miss international events, yet continuing to find form showing his competitiveness in just missing out by a few positions on selection to the World Masters. Nathan had a dry run of matches early in the year and then turned this around with some of his best performances and results later this year. Nathan competed in 12 international events this year achieving 3 Top 16s in Grand Slams and in the Asia Pacific Continental Championships and achieved a career best 5th place in the Montreal Grand Prix.

Despite drawing 4 World Top 10 and 3 Top 20 opponents in the first round of his events, Nathan won a third of his international matches – with some of his best being against the world's best. With 8 more major Olympic qualifying events next year and with nearly 900 Olympic Qualifying points on the table, he is only 10 positions and 200 points away from the qualification zone. Now onto Josh.

Josh competed in 8 international events achieving a Top 16 result at the Senior World Championships, Top 16 in one of the GSs and one of the GPs and a commendable 7th place in the Asia Pacific Continental Championships. He also drew his share of Top 20 opponents and won 40% of his international matches. Now out with injury until February, Josh will likely compete in more events than originally planned next year. With over 800 Olympic Qualifying points he is only 10 positions and 380 points away from the qualification zone.

We wish them both well on their Olympic journey and we are confident that with their current form, both will qualify directly for Tokyo 2020. When home, the boys continue to support the Junior sessions at the club and run many NSW Clinics, providing a personal touch to everyone they help on and off the mat or at competitions. Between them they have won 35 National medals, 21 of them Gold. They have won 22 Oceania medals, 18 of them Gold. This year, they have given presentations to over 30 schools around NSW as part of the Olympics Unleashed program and in doing so have acted as ambassadors for the Olympic movement and of course for Judo. Finally, and very importantly, Nathan won the Budokan MONS award 18 years ago and Josh did the same 4 years later – these were their humble beginnings and show what can be achieved with resilience, commitment, determination, patience, and with fantastic coaches, and a great club behind them.

Winner 2019:

NATHAN KATZ
JOSH KATZ

Before making presentations to the Committee Members and volunteers, Sponsors, Donatees, Guest Presenters, and then for Kate to make presentations to the club's coaches, an appeal was made to all members and parents of the club to support a very important activity in the dojo early next year:

On Saturday 11th January at 8.00am, we will be cleaning up the hall and scrubbing the mats. Dave and Sean will be coordinating this – please mark 11th January in your calendars.

Presentations:

Committee: Peter, Dave, Sean, Andras, Franz (Melbourne), Kate, Scott, Dale

Sponsors/Donatees: Bright Start Kidz (Dave, Maili); Pizza Alfresco (Carlo);
Ann Hao & Junping Zhang; Phillips Family; Woo Family; Trend Marking
(Guido)

Volunteers: Lin Zhang, Yuan Dong, Alainya, Kate, Susi, Sue, Rachel

Guest Presenters: Cameron (+ Coach Support gift), Emma, and Lynne

Coaches: Kerrye, Rob, Dale; Jarrad, Cathy, Andras, Chang; Lubo, Dieter, Scott, Daniel,
Neal, Zach, Amber; Ali, Phoenix, Will, Max