Australian Commonwealth Games Association INC



Media Release

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New Faces as Judo Makes Commonwealth Return

A team of fresh faces will represent Australia in judo at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games with just four of the 13 named by the Australian Commonwealth Games Association having previous major Games experience.

Judo is making just its third appearance at a Commonwealth Games, having made its debut at the Auckland 1990 Games and its only subsequent appearance at the Manchester 2002 event.

So it is hardly surprising there are no athletes with Commonwealth Games experience repeaters amongst those nominated by the Judo Federation of Australia, but the fact that just four competed at the London 2012 Olympic Games two years ago illustrates the degree of change.

Heading the way as far as experience goes is 24-year-old Mark Anthony who competed in both the Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Olympics. Anthony, from Geelong, will compete in the 90kg division in Glasgow.

Three other male judoka – Ivo Dos Santos (66kg), Arnie Dickins (73kg) and Jake Andrewartha (+100kg) – competed at the London Games but the remaining three men and all of the six women have not competed at an Olympics or Commonwealth Games.

Another Geelong youngster – 19-year-old Jake Bensted – will compete in the 73kg division, Melbourne's Tom Pappas is selected in the 60kg division and Duke Didier – the self-described "Duke of Canberra" – competes in the 100kg division.

The youngest member of the team – Queensland's Chloe Rayner, is named in the lightest category, 48kg, along with 22-year-old Amy Meyer from New South Wales.

Victoria's Hannah Trotter is named in the 52kg division and Katharina Haecker will contest the 63kg. Haecker lives in Germany most of the year and has dual citizenship.

Rounding out the team are two competitors in the 70kg class. Sara Collins is from the ACT but lives in Melbourne and Catherine Arscott of New South Wales is the veteran of the team at the age of 32.

The team has just completed a training camp in Korea, at Yong-In University, 40km from Seoul, which began life in 1953 as the Korea Judo School and retains a strong physical education and martial arts focus.

The team will spend the next four weeks in Australia, with most competing in the Australian national championships on 6-0 June in Wollongong before departing at the end of the month for a 10-day training camp in Spain and a further training camp in England en route to the Games in Glasgow.

Australia's only judo gold medals were won in Manchester in 2002 by Maria Pekli in the 57kg division and Tom Hill in the 73kg division.

Judo at the 2014 Commonwealth Games will be contested at the SECC Precinct on 24-26 July.

Australian Judo Team for the 2014 Commonwealth Games Men Women

Tom Pappas, 23, Vic (60kg) Ivo Dos Santos, 28, Vic (66kg) Arnie Dickins, 22, Qld (73kg) Jake Bensted, 19, Vic (73kg) Mark Anthony, 24, Vic (90kg) Duke Didier, 25, ACT (100kg) Jake Andrewartha, 24, Vic (+100kg) Chloe Rayner, 17, Qld (48kg) Amy Meyer, 22, NSW (48kg) Hannah Trotter, 22, Vic (52kg) Katharina Haecker, 21, Vic (63kg) Sara Collins, 23, ACT (70kg) Catherine Arscott, 32, NSW (70kg)

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