



MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN JUDO TEAM HEADS FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Australia will send a team of four women and seven men to the 2009 world Judo Championships, to be held in Rotterdam from 26-30 August.

Like many nations, Australia is rebuilding its team following the Olympic Games in Beijing, which saw the retirement of many leading athletes. The Australian team contains only four of its Beijing participants, but there is still a wealth of experience.

In the women, both Kylie Koenig and Stephanie have recently returned from training and competing in Europe, which has given them a lot of confidence leading into this major event. Emily Bensted (VIC) lines up for her third World Championships.

The men's team includes dual Olympian Semir Pepic of NSW, who has consistently shown he is capable of a top-ten placing, and fellow Olympian Morgan Endicott-Davies (NSW) who is nearing the end of his career, but still a formidable fighter. Also there is rugged Priscus Fogagnolo (TAS) who has recently been making his mark on the Ultimate Fighting circuit, where he is undefeated.

Most of the team will arrive in Rotterdam fresh from taking part in the Pacific Rim Championships in Taiwan, a very useful tune-up for the Worlds.

Their final preparation before departing from Australia will be an elite training camp at the Australian institute of Sport in Canberra, where they will reach peak fitness and sharpen their skills under the supervision of the national coaching panel.

World Championships Team

WOMEN

57kg Emily BENSTED VIC
63kg Kylie KOENIG NSW
70kg Catherine ARSCOTT QLD
78kg Stephanie GRANT TAS

MEN

60kg Matt D'AQUINO ACT
66kg Josh COOK QLD
73kg Dennis IVERSON VIC
81kg Brent IVERSON VIC
90kg Priscus FOGAGNOLO TAS
100kg Morgan ENDICOTT-DAVIES NSW
+100kg Semir PEPIC NSW

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