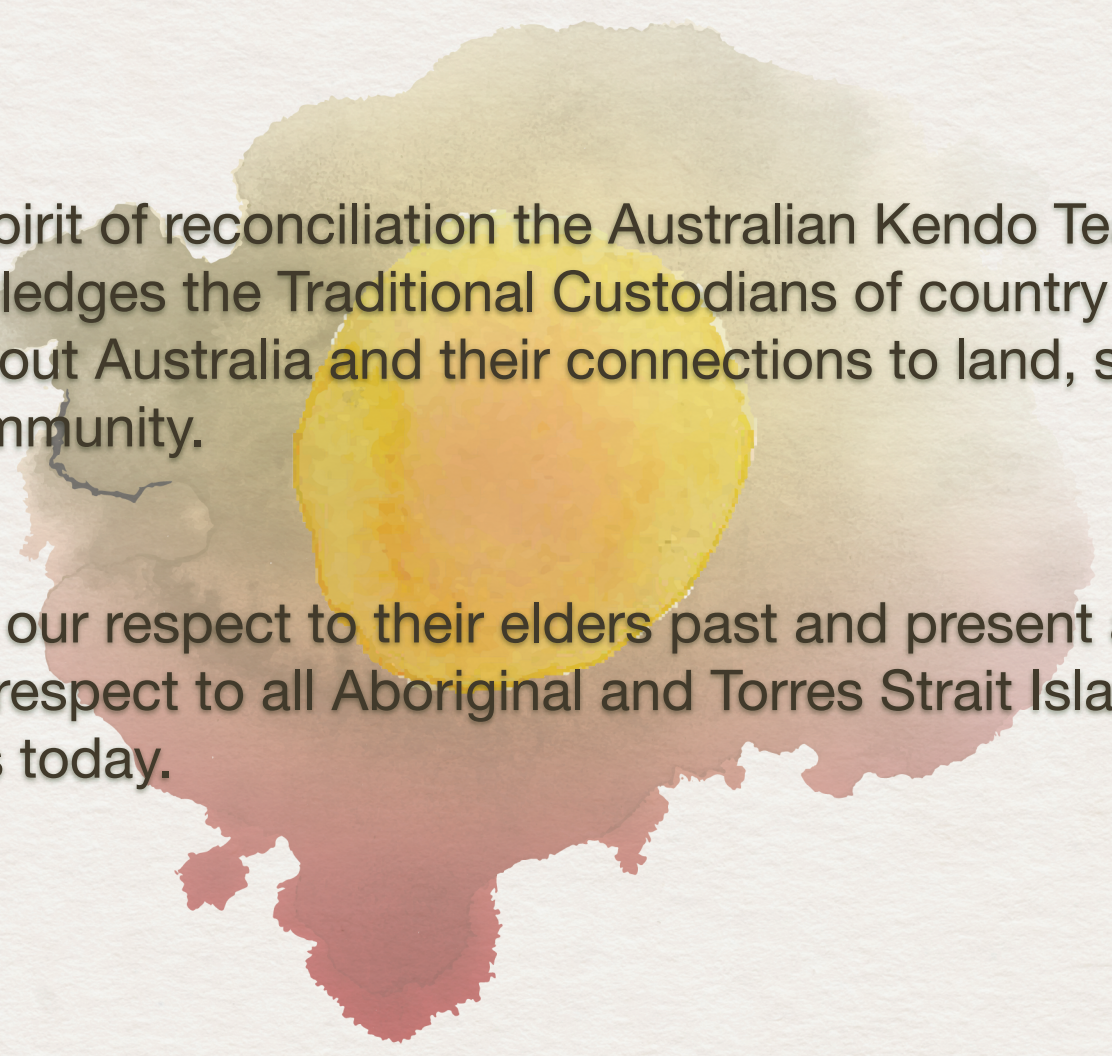


17th
World
KENDO
Championships

Korea 2018



A watercolor illustration of the map of Australia, centered behind the text. The colors used are traditional Aboriginal colors: a large yellow circle in the center, surrounded by shades of ochre, brown, and red, with some blue and green accents on the left side.

In the spirit of reconciliation the Australian Kendo Team acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

AKR President's Address

The Australian Kendo Renmei (AKR) was part of the group of national and regional associations which formed the International Kendo Federation (FIK) in 1970, the world governing body for FIK members. That same year the first ever of the triennial World Kendo Championships (WKC) were held in the Nippon Budokan, Tokyo, Japan, in which 17 regional and national kendo associations took part. The numbers of participation have been steadily growing and reached 56 countries participating at the 16th WKC in 2015. These Championships are important not only to allow countries to gauge their progress in competitive kendo, but also to exchange ideas, as well as foster and develop relationships between countries and individuals throughout the world.



The AKR has a proud tradition of being represented at each and every WKC since the beginning and this year is no different. We are sending a group of dedicated kendoka with Kate Sylvester (coach) at the helm, aided by KwangYul (Daniel) Jeong (assistant coach), Rob Reid (team manager) and Yaya Bongogetsakul (assistant manager) to compete at this year's 17th World Championships.

I would also like to acknowledge the significant contributions made by the immediate past President, Richard Ward, and the immediate past Kendo Board Chair, Brian Brestovac for their enormous support during the preparations for this event.

Richard set up and maintained the social media presence for the team, in addition to the 'Team News' page on the AKR website, and not only travelled with the team to New Zealand for the Trans-Tasman Taikai, but also supported funding opportunities.

Brian's support provided the team with an opportunity to travel and train in Hungary. The competition practise with European National Teams has proven invaluable and provided the team with the opportunity for the best possible preparation.

At this point I would like to also acknowledge those who were not successful in their bid to make the team and the rest of the ancillary helpers and officials, without whom we would not be able to send our best.

To the competitors, firstly, congratulations on your selection. It has been a long and committed road to get to this point. Know that we stand with you in spirit, and that you have the fullest support from all your fellow Australian kendoka. We encourage you to be the best that you can be and ask that you compete with the AKR motto in mind, 'In spirit united, in skill opposed'.

Yours in kendo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stilts Polichroniadis'.

Stylianos (Stilts) Polichroniadis
President

Overview



1979 ○ *Sapporo, Japan*



1985 ○ *Paris, France*



1988 ○ *Seoul, South Korea*



1991 ○ *Toronto, Canada*



1994 ○ *Paris, France*



1997 ○ *Kyoto, Japan*



2000○ *Santa Clara, USA*



2003○ *Glasgow, Scotland*



2006○ *Taipei, Taiwan*



2009○ *São Paulo, Brazil*



2012  *Novara, Italy*



2015  *Tokyo, Japan*

2018 Incheon, Korea



The 2018 Australia Kendo Team's travel to Hungary and New Zealand





World Kendo Championships: 1970 - 2018

By Julie Feng

Since its inaugural event in 1970, the World Kendo Championships (WKC) has stood as the largest gathering of kendo practitioners across the world. Every three years, many travel not only to compete but also to shimpan, support and meet others who share the same passion as themselves. This year's competition in Incheon, Korea may very well be the largest WKC to date. However, the championships have not always maintained its current form, but rather have changed in its forty-eight year history to reflect the evolving nature of the international kendo community.



4th WKC Opening Ceremony, 1979

On April 4th 1970, the International Kendo Federation was officially launched and the following day, seventeen federations from across the world took part in the first World Kendo Championship: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chinese Taipei, France, Great Britain, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, Morocco, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Okinawa, Switzerland and U.S.A. There were one hundred and twenty eight individual competitors, of which four were women, and eleven national teams.

The final of the team event was between Japan and Chinese Taipei after the respective defeat of Okinawa and Brazil in the semi-finals. Japan's victory in the team event would set the precedent for the individual placements with M. Kobayashi (JPN) achieving first place, T. Toda (JPN) second and Y. Taniguchi (JPN) and T. Ota (JPN) in equal third.



Warren Hughes, 1985



Australian Team at the 8th WKC, 1991

The second WKC was held in Los Angeles and San Francisco for the team and individual events respectively. Again, Japan took top honours in the men's team event with Canada second and Hawaii and USA placing equal third. T. Sakuragi (JPN) was the winner of the individual competition, with H. Yano (JPN) second and T. Fujita (JPN) and J-R. Rhee (KOR) in equal third place.



Australian Team marching in at the 9th WKC, 1994

Japan's success in the team and individual events of the championships would continue uninterrupted for many years. The 12th WKC in Glasgow Scotland 2003 saw a close team final between Korea and Japan and it was in daihyo-sen that N. Eiga managed to claim victory for Japan with the famed tsuki against K-N. Kim. However, it was the following Championships in Taipei 2006 that would prove to be the biggest upset in WKC history.

The semi-final match between Japan and USA resulted the Japanese team's first ever loss with 3-2. Team USA would then face Korea in the final with Korea claiming victory 2-0. Following Taipei, Japan has firmly maintained their dominance in the competition with Korea tenaciously nipping at their heels. Although the Japanese men's team has been proven beatable, the Japanese women have so far remained steadfastly undefeated.



Men's Team at the 11th WKC, 2000



Women's Team at the 11th WKC, 2000

Although women have been a part of the WKC since its founding in 1970, the official inclusion of women's events did not occur until 2003, with the 2000 Santa Clara WKC being only semi-official. This, however, did not stop female kendoka from competing in the early championships with individual women such as Sue Lytollis of New Zealand representing her country in the 6th WKC as part of the men's team.

The 8th WKC in Toronto 1991 featured women and children's exhibition matches. Similarly, the 9th WKC in Paris included a demonstration match between a fifteen member Japanese women's team against a combined European men and women's team. The Japanese women won decidedly. With the 10th and 11th WKC in Kyoto and Santa Clara respectively, the inclusion and format of the women's competitions started to resemble its current form. However it was only semi-official. Eventually with the 12th WKC in Glasgow 2003 came the official induction of the women's individual and team events into the Championship program. Since then, the number of women's teams has steadily grown with thirty four participating in the 16th WKC in Tokyo 2015. As mentioned previously, the Japanese women have remained undisputed champions on the international stage with the Korean team claiming second, bar the 11th WKC in Santa Clara in which the Brazilians proceeded to the final.

Since the inaugural event in 1970, Australia has participated in every WKC to date. Our very first delegation consisted of Rex Lawley and Darryl Morris, with the former winning his division in the Goodwill Tournament. Ron Bennett represented Australia in the second WKC as well as the third along with Daniel Strenger, Masako Strenger, Andrew Melito, Max Gardner and Mark Denovan. The 4th WKC in Sapporo was of particular significance as it was the first time that Australia had sent a full team to the championships.



Vivian Yung, receiver of a 15th WKC Fighting Spirit Award, with her team, 2012

The team consisted of James Fennessy, Michael Payne, John Butler, Ron Bennett, Rod Prince and Eric Jeffrey who placed second in the Goodwill Match Shodan and below division. Steven Lawley served as captain with Sumitaka Nagae-sensei as coach and Rex Lawley as team leader.

As the Australian kendo community grew over the decades, the identity and presence of the national team also continued to develop.

In 1991, Sofie Macak carried the Australian flag and led the national team into the opening ceremony of the Toronto Championships. She was the first woman to represent Australia at the WKC, having participated in the individual event and serving as reserve for the team event.



Sofie Macak carrying the Australian flag at the 8th WKC Opening Ceremony, 1991

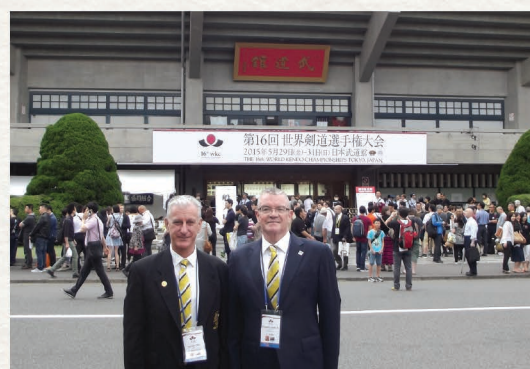
In the 2003 Glasgow WKC, Melanie Smith was presented with a Fighting Spirit Award. At the 12th WKC Santa Clara, the Australian men's team narrowly missed out on a top four placement, having been defeated by Brazil by a single point. However the effort of the Australian contingent was recognised with Hayami Aboutaleb and Brett Smith both received Fighting Spirit Awards. Followed in Taipei 2006, Hayami Aboutaleb once again won the Fighting Spirit Award. In Sao Paulo 2009, Kirby Smith faced Shoji Teramoto in the quarter finals; the Japanese captain prevailed and proceeded to claim the championship.

Kirby Smith attained a top eight result and, along with women's team captain Kate Sylvester, Fighting Spirit Awards in recognition of their efforts. The 2012 Novara WKC was an excellent year for the Australian women's team who just missed out on top four after losing to Brazil in daihyousen. Daseul Chun and Vivian Yung attained top sixteen placements in Novara with Vivian Yung also receiving a Fighting Spirit Award. The 2015 WKC in Tokyo saw Jayson Chaplin and Jenny Song both advancing to the third round with a top sixteen finish.

This September, the Australian Kendo Team will head to Incheon Korea to participate in the 17th World Kendo Championships. As we advance towards our goal, it serves us well to look back on the progress of the WKC and reflect on the path that those before us have taken.



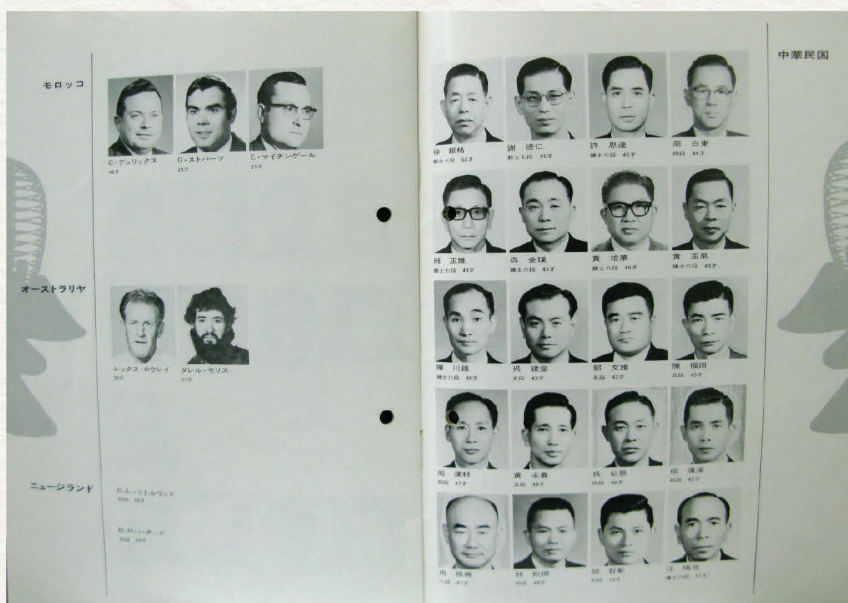
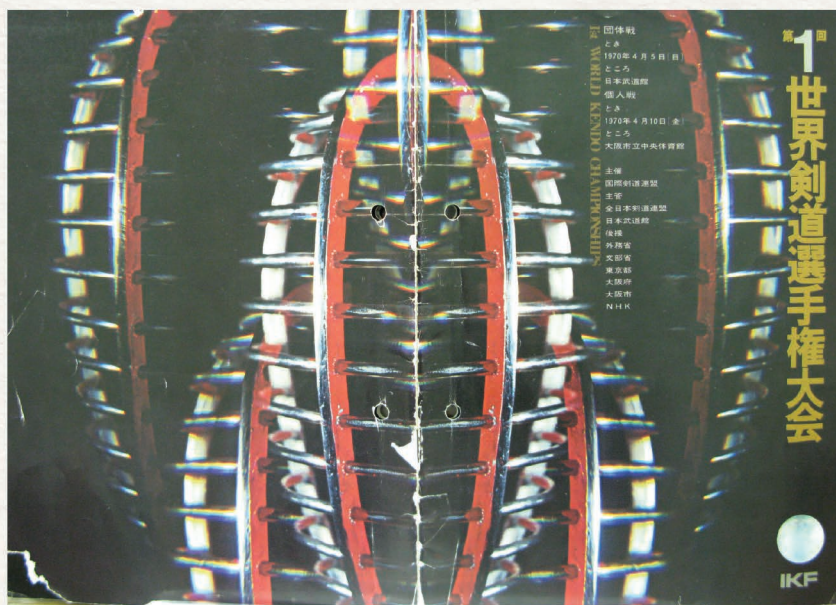
16th WKC Tokyo, 2015



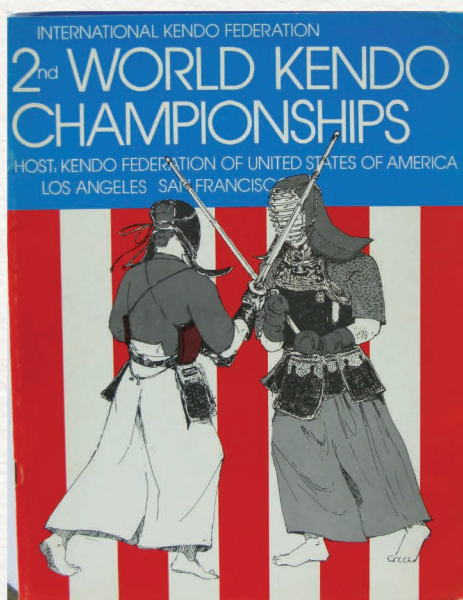
Richard Ward and Brian Brestovac at the 16th WKC, 2015

WKC Programmes

1st WKC 1970



2nd WKC 1973



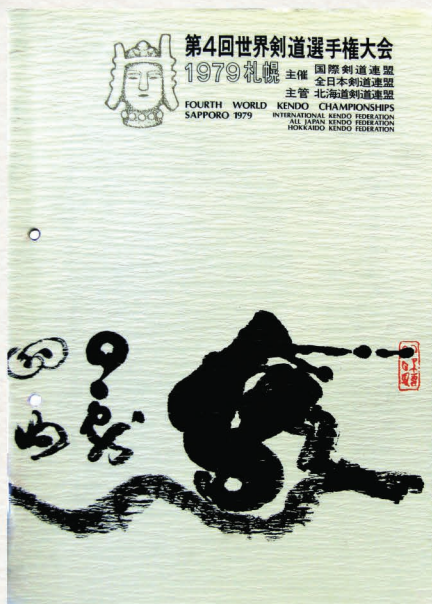
3rd WKC 1976



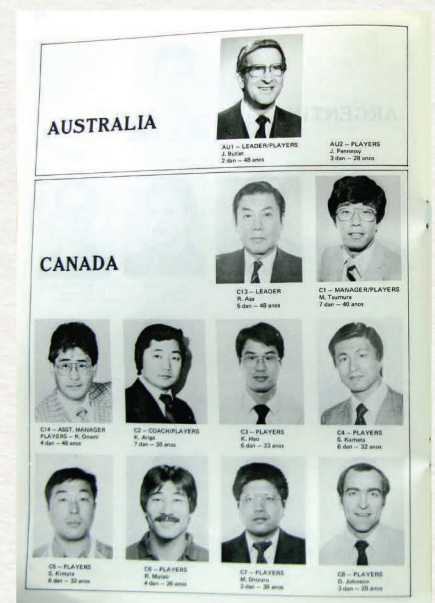
Officials and Competitors taking part in Team and Individual Events



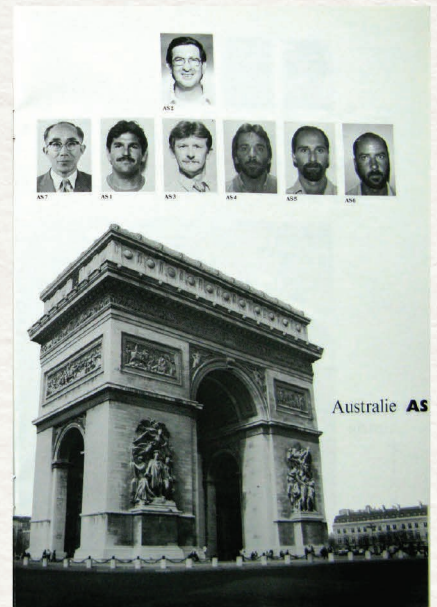
4th WKC 1979



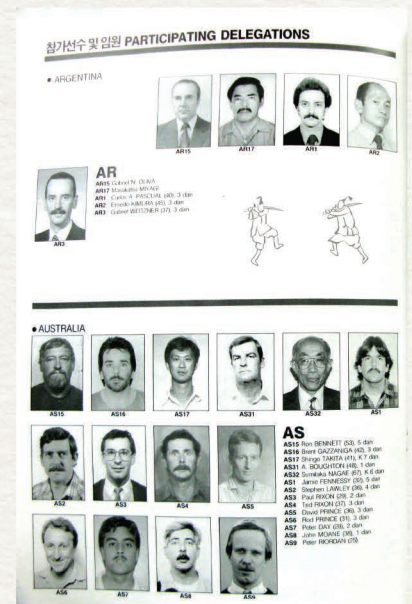
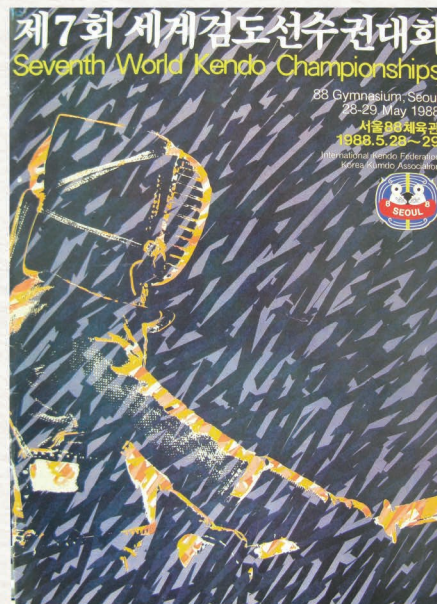
5th WKC 1982



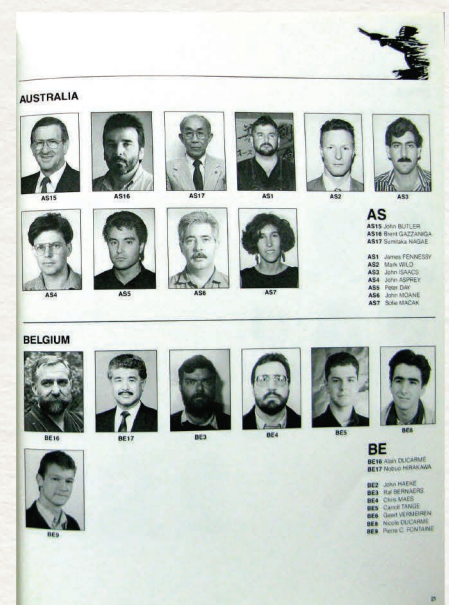
6th WKC 1985



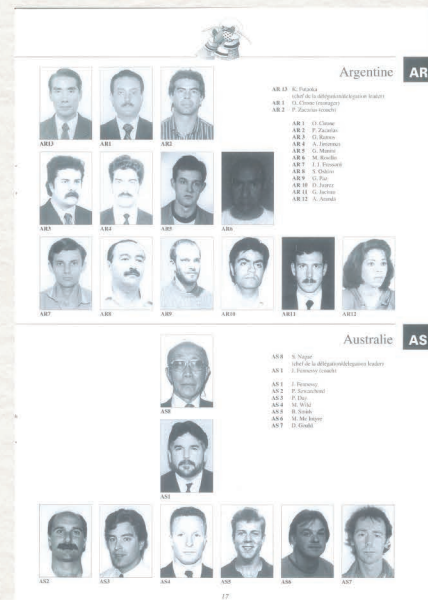
7th WKC 1988



8th WKC 1991



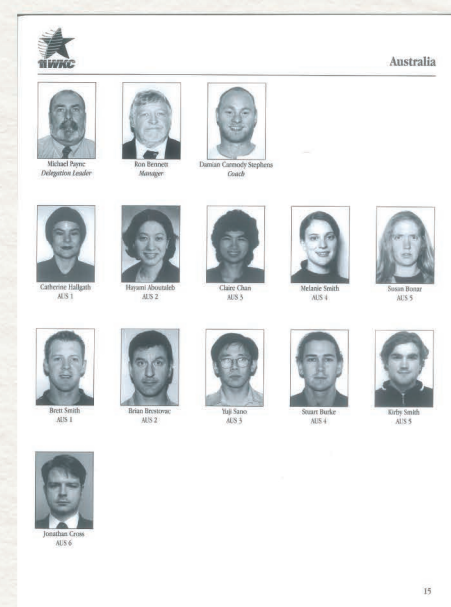
9th WKC 1994



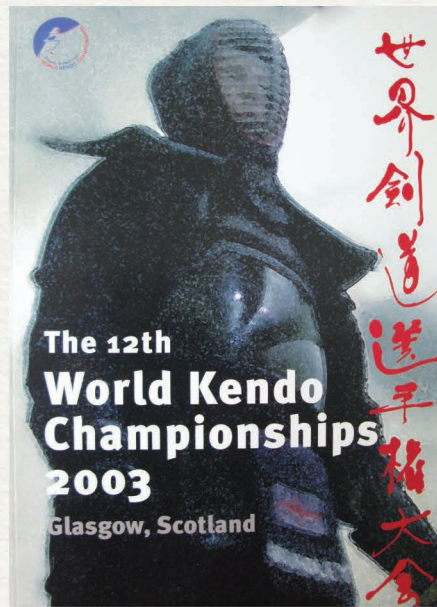
10th WKC 1997



11th WKC 2000



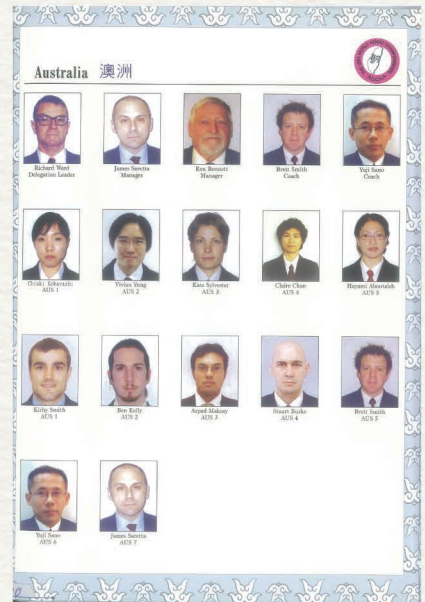
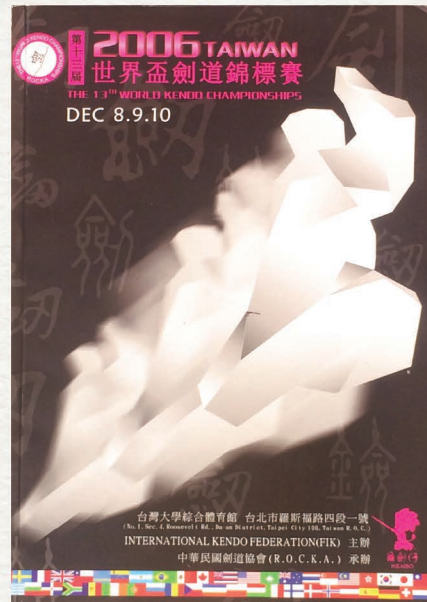
12th WKC 2003



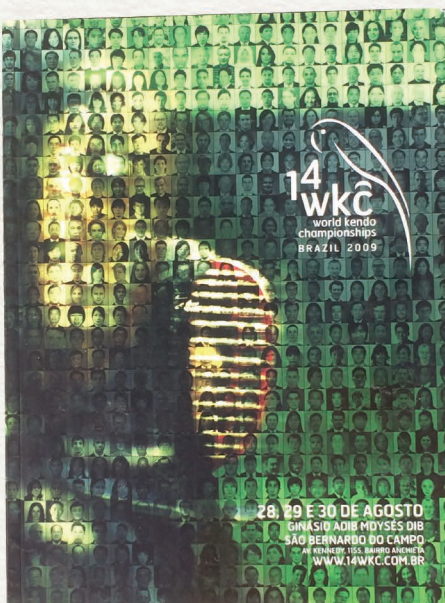
Australia



13th WKC 2006



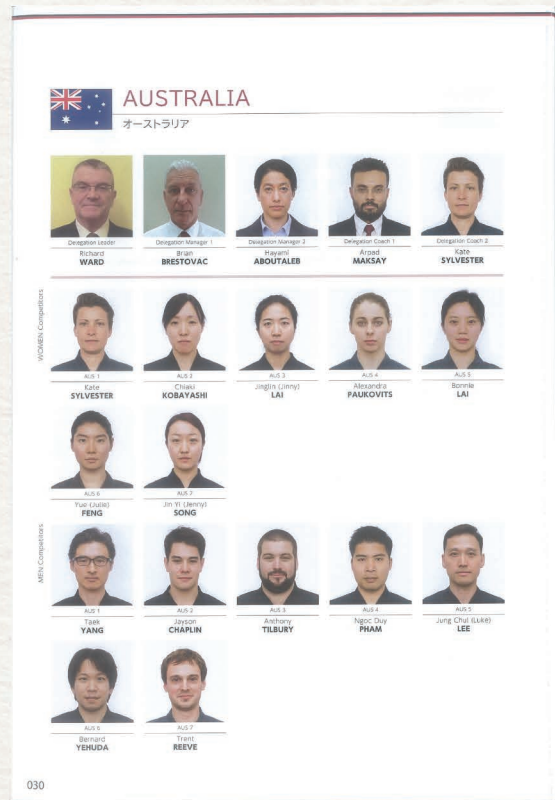
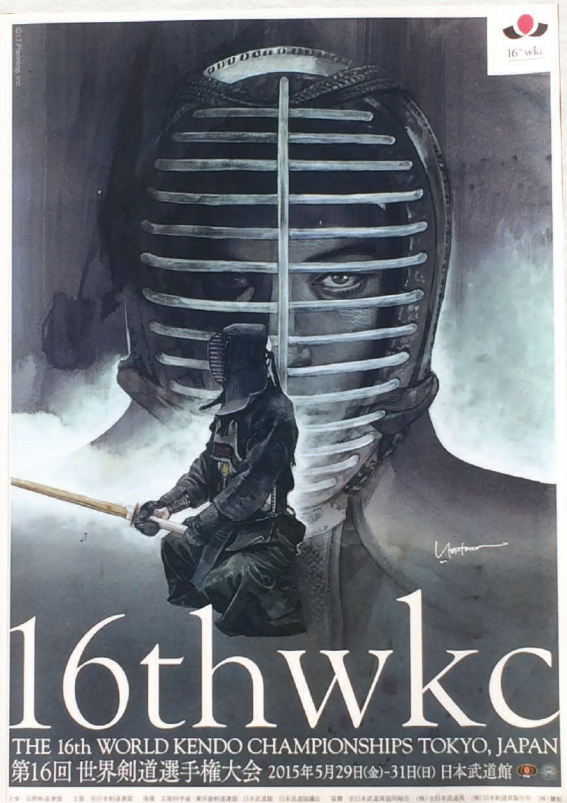
14th WKC 2009



15th WKC 2012



16th WKC 2015





tenugui Designs



Kendo Australia
11th World Kendo Championships
Santa Clara, USA. March 2000

11th WKC

12th World Kendo Championships
Australian Kendo Team - Glasgow 2003



Delegation leader:
Ron Bennett
Coach:
Damian Carmody-Stephens
Manager:
Dave D'Aprano

Team:
Arpad Maksay
Kirby Smith
Brett Smith
Stuart Burke
Yuji Sano

Susan Bonar
Kate Sylvester
Hayami Aboutaleb
Claire Chan
Melanie Smith
Sharyn Wragg

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Performance. Quality. Value.

12th WKC



TOYO

AUSTRALIAN KENDO TEAM
13TH WORLD KENDO CHAMPIONSHIPS
TAIWAN 2006
オーストラリア剣道チーム
第13回世界剣道選手権大会
台湾2006年

13th WKC



AUSTRALIAN KENDO TEAM
14th WORLD KENDO CHAMPIONSHIPS, BRAZIL 2009
Kirby Smith (C.)
Nicholas Bartlett
Stuart Burke
Michael Henstock
Ben Kelly

Brett Smith (Coach)
Yuji Sano (Asst. Coach)
James Saretta (Manager)

Kate Sylvester (C.)
Sue Bonar
Claire Homsey
Chiaki Kobayashi
Vivian Yung



FUJITSU TEN
ECLIPSE
SANKEI AUSTRALIA

14th WKC

AUSTRALIA

15TH WORLD KENDO CHAMPIONSHIPS
第十五回世界剣道選手権大会
オーストラリア
ITALY 2012



15th WKC

AUSTRALIA

16th World Kendo Championships Nippon Budokan Tokyo 2015



16th WKC



17th World Kendo
Championships
Korea 2018

TEAM AUSTRALIA

17th WKC



The Gold Badge

By Brett Smith

(Australian Kendo Team Coach 2006, 2009, 2012)

The intention of the gold badge and number system is to acknowledge those members who compete for the Australian Kendo Renmei at the World Kendo Championships in the team event. The gold badge and number represents each Australian Kendo Team member's contribution to the Australian Kendo Renmei and is symbolic of pride in representing Australia at the World Kendo Championships.

The idea for the Australian Kendo Team numbers evolved from some conversations between Damian Carmody-Stephens and Brett Smith over shared WKC campaigns. When Brett and James Saretta were appointed for coaching and management positions of the 2006 campaign, they approached the Kendo Board for approval of the idea to initiate and allocate team badges and numbers to all those who represented Australia as part of the Team matches at all WKC.



Once approved by the Board, the task of gathering past representatives details and orders was undertaken over quite some months with multiple email requests to AKR membership, and many telephone conversations with various AKR 'historians' in an effort make a record of details that had seemingly not been recorded. As the WKC now included the official women's team competition, it was decided to compile a list for each team with the women's team numbers starting from the first formation of that team.

A badge manufacturer was sourced and the order was placed. The inaugural presentation of team badges was made at the AKC of 2006 to past and current members who were in attendance at that event.

Unfortunately, it was only then discovered that Ted Rixon had indeed replaced his injured brother Paul in a team match at the 7th WKC in Seoul in 1988. By that stage the badges and numbers had all been assigned and team wear (including application of those numbers) had been ordered and made. Disappointing as it was to all involved with the organising, it seemed the Rixons did not wish for a big fuss to be made, and as such, the numbering system was left as it was at that time. Correctly, Ted Rixon and Paul Rixon are assigned the gold badge numbers, "12" and "12A".

1979

Sapporo

- 1 John Butler
- 2 James Fennessy
- 3 Steve Lawley
- 4 Michael Payne
- 5 Rod Prince
- R Ron Bennett



Australian Team march in at WKC, 1988

1985

Paris

- 1 John Butler
- 2 James Fennessy
- 6 Chris Denton
- 7 Brent Gazzaniga
- 8 Warren Hughes
- 9 Yakov Macak

1988

Seoul

- 3 Steve Lawley
- 5 Rod Prince
- 10 Peter Day
- 11 David Prince
- 12 Paul Rixon
- 12A Ted Rixon



Australia v France, 1988

1991

Toronto

- 2 James Fennessy
- 7 Brent Gazzaniga
- 10 Peter Day
- 13 John Asprey
- 14 John Isaacs
- 15 John Moane



Senseis Lawley, Miyasaka,
Nagae and Hirano

1994

Paris

- 2 James Fennessy
- 10 Peter Day
- 16 Mark Wild
- 17 Brett Smith
- 18 Peter Szwarcbord



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
greeting AKR President
Ron Bennett, 2003

1997

Kyoto

- 2 James Fennessy
- 17 Brett Smith
- 19 Phil Baker
- 20 Jonathan Cross
- 21 Kirby Smith

2000

Santa
Clara

- 17 Brett Smith
- 21 Kirby Smith
- 22 Brian Brestovac
- 23 Stuart Burke
- 24 Yuji Sano

- 1 Hayami Aboutaleb
- 2 Sue Bonar
- 3 Claire Chan
- 4 Cath Hallgath
- 5 Melanie Smith

2003

Edinburgh

17	Brett Smith	1	Hayami Aboutaleb
21	Kirby Smith	2	Sue Bonar
23	Stuart Burke	3	Claire Chan
24	Yuji Sano	5	Melanie Smith
25	Arpad Maksay	6	Kate Sylvester

2006

Taipei

17	Brett Smith	1	Hayami Aboutaleb
21	Kirby Smith	3	Claire Chan
23	Stuart Burke	6	Kate Sylvester
25	Arpad Maksay	7	Chiaki Kobayashi
26	Ben Kelly	8	Vivian Yung

2009

Sao
Paolo

21	Kirby Smith	2	Sue Bonar
23	Stuart Burke	6	Kate Sylvester
26	Ben Kelly	7	Chiaki Kobayashi
27	Nic Bartlett	8	Vivian Yung
28	Michael Henstock	9	Claire Homsey



Opening Ceremony of the 15th WKC, 2012

2012

Novara

17	Brett Smith	6	Kate Sylvester
21	Kirby Smith	7	Chiaki Kobayashi
25	Arpad Maksay	8	Vivian Yung
28	Michael Henstock	10	Daseul Chun
29	Jayson Chaplin	11	Sharyn Wragg
30	Anthony Tilbury		

2015

Tokyo

29	Jayson Chaplin	6	Kate Sylvester
30	Anthony Tilbury	7	Chiaki Kobayashi
31	Luke Lee	12	Jinny Lai
32	Duy Pham	13	Alex Paukovits
33	Trent Reeve	14	Jenny Song
34	Taek Yang		
35	Bernard Yehuda		

The gold badge numbers were allocated to female team members from the year 2000 as this was the first semi-official 5 member team event for women. However, it is important to acknowledge that there was a 3 member team event for women at the 1997 WKC. Female team members in the Australian team in the 10th WKC, Kyoto are as follows:

Jacqueline Barone

Nicki Connal

Anne Eggington

Catherine Hallgath

Erica Hewitt

Jenni Rose

Keiko Jones

Hayami Aboutaleb

Claire Chan

Jenny Hawkesworth

Karen Russell

The Australian Kendo Team

Head Coach



Victoria
**Victoria
University**
Kendo Club



“

The Australian Kendo Team will deliver our strongest team performance at the 17th WKC. I will support our team members to achieve self-development in the process and to execute their best Kendo performance at the WKC.

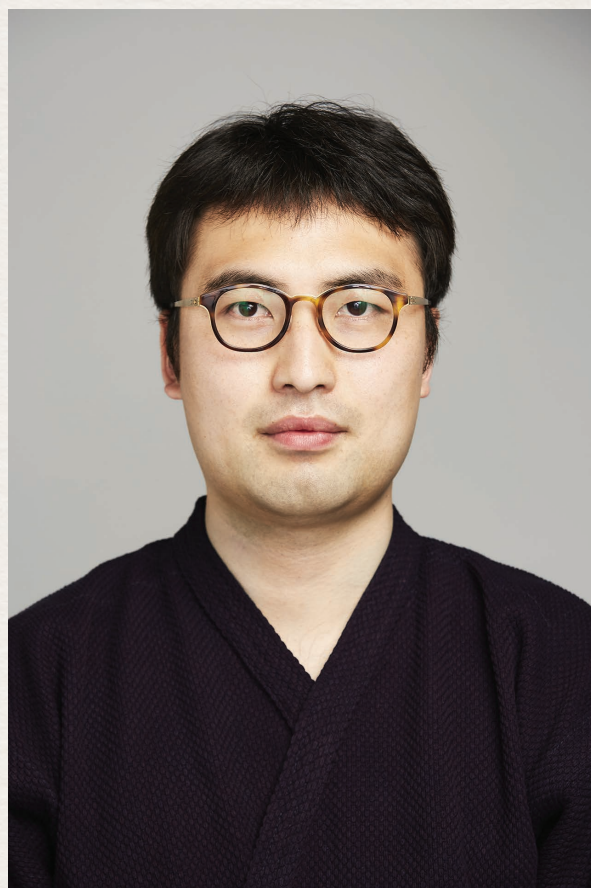
”

Assistant Coach



Victoria

**Melbourne
University**
Kendo Club



“

I would like to support the Australian
Kendo Team to reach our highest
potential and have the best memories
together at 17th WKC.

”

Team Manager



Victoria

Fudoshin
Kendo Club



“

I will support team harmony leading up to and during the WKC so that our team can concentrate on their physical and mental preparation and performance. Through good planning and organisation, I will do my best to ensure each team member is able to compete at their peak.

I will take great pride when our team achieves a strong performance at the WKC.

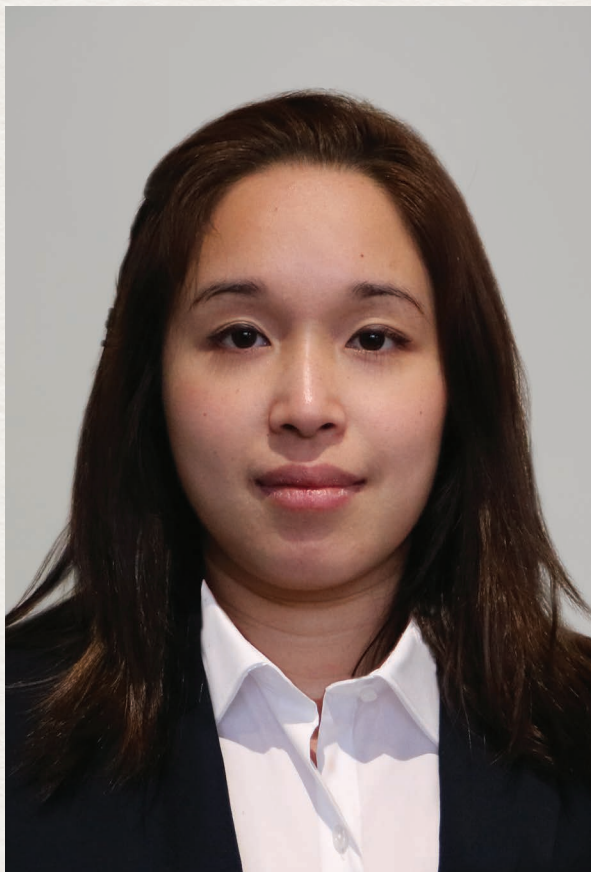
”

Assistant Manager



Victoria

Melbourne
University
Kendo Club



“

I would like facilitate the Australian Kendo Team to achieve their goals at WKC. I hope to create a great memory of the experience for our team members.

”

Women's Team ○



Women's Team

Captain



**Vivian
Yung**

New South Wales

Sydney
Kendo Club



“

I want to fight well as a team and
make Australia proud. My blood
runs green and gold.
Aussie Aussie Aussie! Oi Oi Oi!"

”

Vice Captain



New South Wales

Dae Han
Moo Do Kwan



“

I want to perform my best Kendo and demonstrate the high standard of Australian Kendo.

It is a great honour to represent Australia and to be part of an amazing team. To be on the team with my husband is an added bonus!

”



New South Wales
**University of
NSW**
Kendo Club



“

It is a great honour to represent your country in something that you love and in this WKC I want to give everything, every ounce of strength and spirit to show the best of Australian Kendo.

”



New South Wales

Dae Han

Moo Do Kwan



“

I will fight the hardest and strongest I ever have.

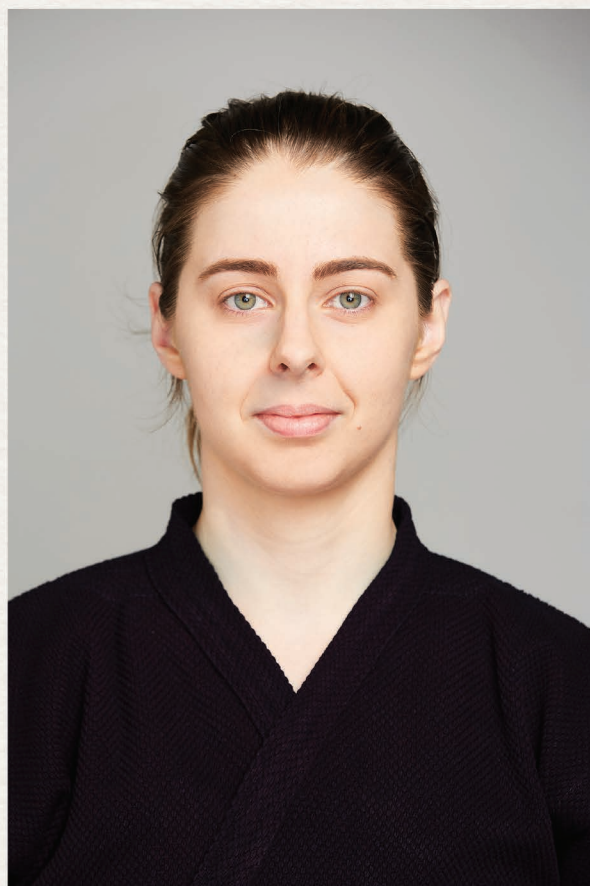
It is a great honour to represent Australia
and I hope to inspire many young Australian
kendoka in their kendo journey.

”



Queensland

Goshu
Shobukan
Cairns



“

My goal is to achieve a performance on the day worthy of the efforts of our team's campaign. I am so honoured to represent Australia and to be given this opportunity.

”



New South Wales
**University of
NSW**
Kendo Club



“

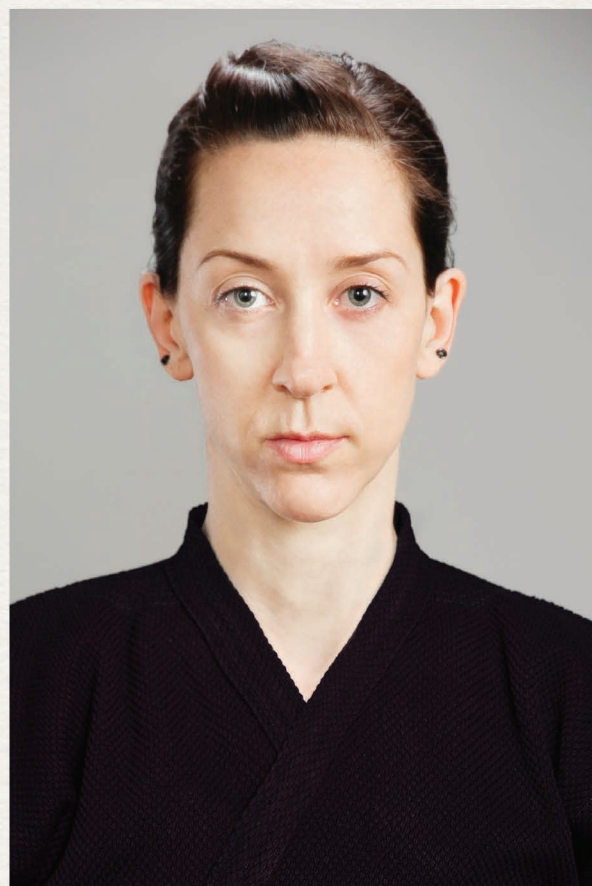
I want to show all what Australian Kendo can do.
To represent Australia in Kendo is so close
to my heart. It is a gift. You can strive and
achieve your dreams if you fight for it.

”



Queensland

Goshu
Shobukan
Cairns



“

I will display my best kendo on the world stage
to thank everyone who has invested in me.

I will live my dream by creating history
for Australian Women's Kendo.

I believe I can achieve anything I set my mind to.

”

Men's Team ○



Men's Team

Captain



New South Wales

UTS Kendo Club



“

I want to discover and develop stronger qualities and strength in myself through this WKC.

I hope what we present at this WKC helps to create more motivation and inspiration for the future Kendo generation of Australia to go even further.

”

Vice Captain



New South Wales

Dae Han

Moo Do Kwan



“

I want to make an impact on the world and show them how strong Australian kendo is. It is an honour to represent Australia and be on the team with my wife.

I am dedicated to the growth of Australian Kendo and I hope to inspire and motivate others.

”



New South Wales

UTS Kendo Club



“

I want to demonstrate to the AKR community that anything can happen if you continue to persevere.

Representing Australia at the WKC is an honour and privilege at the same time responsibility to all of those who support you.

”



New South Wales
**University of
NSW**
Kendo Club



“

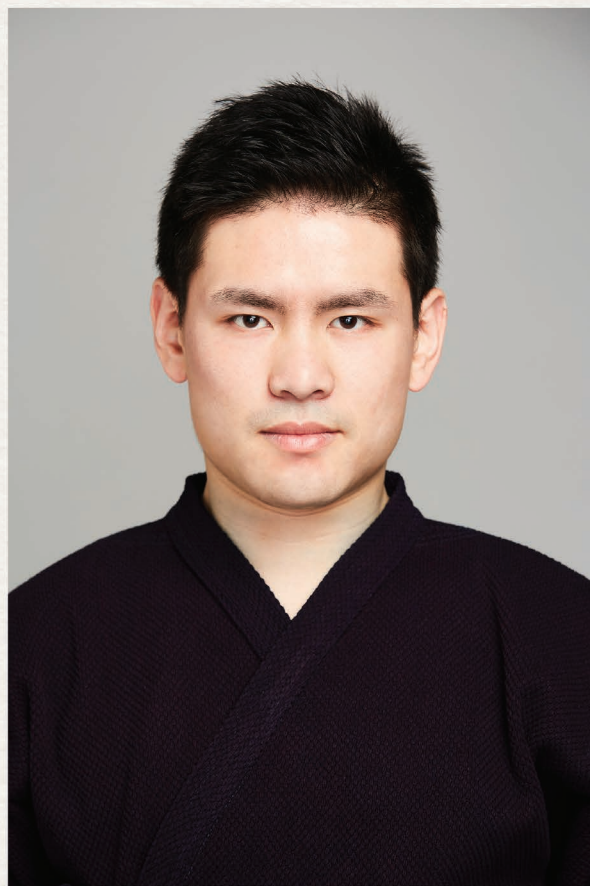
I will fight and win. I will fight for the people who have supported us and make them proud. To represent Australia at the WKC is a privilege and a responsibility.
This is not a holiday.

”



**Kelvin
Tran**

New South Wales
**University of
Sydney**
Kendo Club



“

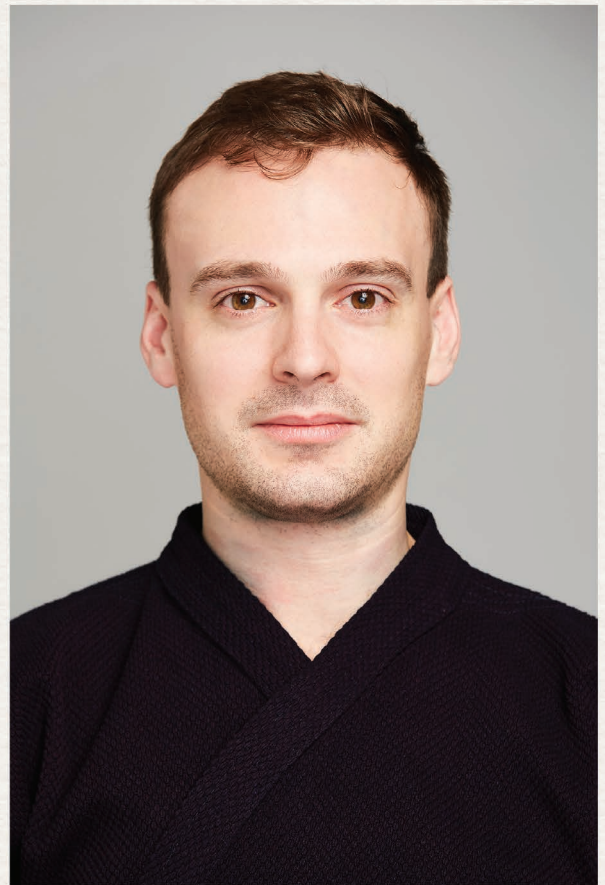
I want to achieve my best performance at the WKC to repay those whom I have ever crossed swords with.

I am honoured and privileged to be able to justify why we go this far. I am proud of my roots in Australian Kendo.

”



Victoria
Mumeishi
Kendo Club



“

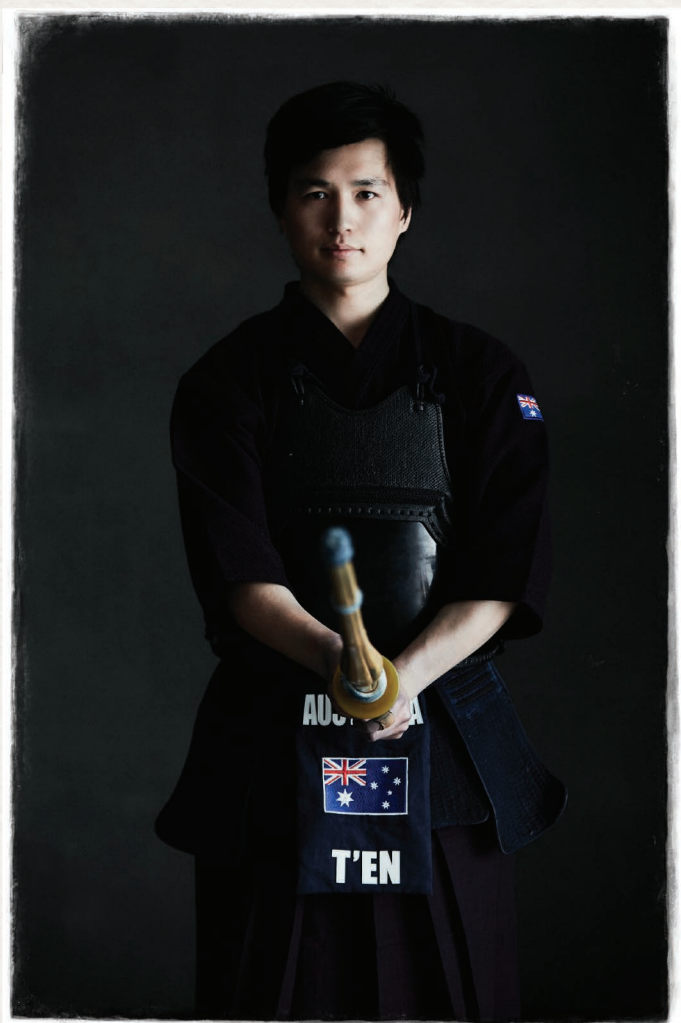
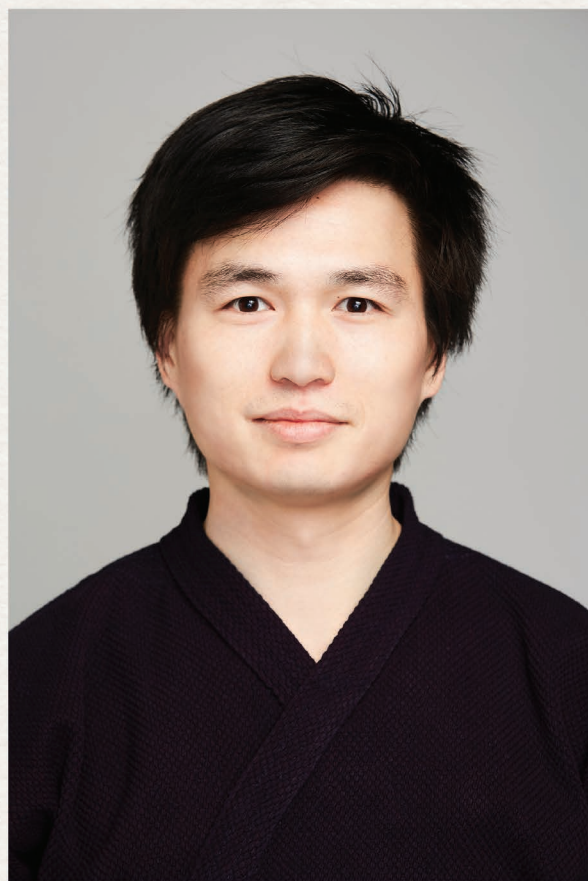
To wear the proverbial ‘green and gold’ and be a representative of the AKR community is an almighty honour. Through our community’s continued support, the Australian Kendo Team will strive to deliver the greatest performance for Australia.

”



Victoria

Melbourne University Kendo Club



“

I want to achieve a performance that demonstrates the strength, discipline, depth and courage that is present in Australian Kendo.

Australian Kendo has played a great role in shaping who I am. This opportunity greatly humbles me. I want to achieve self-actualisation at the WKC.

”

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