



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY WRESTLING CLUB

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The Sydney University Wrestling Club had a very successful year in 2023, in developing and promoting the sport. The club has a healthy membership list of nearly 200 people, with many strong athletes from around Sydney, and indeed around the world.



We aim for every training session to be accessible to absolute beginners while also offering value to competition-level athletes. This is a difficult balance, but by keeping the focus on the sport we love and trying to spread it to as many people as possible, it seems we are doing very well at achieving our aim. Our freestyle Head Coach, and Club Founder, Leonid Zaslavsky leads the way in this regard (and many other regards as well).

The year started with a very successful O-week, where we brought mats from SUSF and demonstrated various wrestling holds and manoeuvres for interested students. Everyone involved had a lot of fun, and I personally saw many faces from O-week turn up in the training room throughout the year.

While we are not a competition-focused club, we have athletes that compete, and they did well in 2023. One standout was Sheng Zhang who took a silver at the Oceania games in Greco and is training for the upcoming Olympic qualifiers. We also had a strong showing at the Super Series in freestyle and beach wrestling.

Our Tuesday night Greco training continues to be very popular, led entirely by the Head Coach Yassine, who is much loved amongst club members.

The MMA program, led by Ricardo Berandi, is doing very well with a lot of interest from dedicated athletes who train diligently in the various disciplines needed (striking, wrestling, grappling).

The Sunday morning jiu-jitsu program, whose Head Coach is Clayton, is also thriving and very popular.

Unfortunately, in December 2023, long standing member and former youth Coach, Martin Doyle moved to the UK with his family. Martin brought a lot of joy to the Club, and his presence will be missed. We currently do not have a youth coach, and so are not offering youth classes.

We plan to build on last year's success and make 2024 an even stronger year for the Club, with hopes of organising a tournament near the year's end to showcase our skills, test them against the best competition we can find, and inspire others!

JESSE BURKE
PRESIDENT

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WILL SUWANTO
Secretary