



2012 Judo Saskatchewan Awards

U13 Female Athlete of the Year

Miranda Bellisle – Miranda is 11 years old and is from the Kenshukan Judo Club in Prince Albert where she does judo 2 days a week. During this past season she moved up to the senior class and has easily transitioned into a wonderful athlete and a joy to have on the mat. She attends all the Judo Saskatchewan camps. Her tournament results for the year are:

- Saskatoon YMCA - gold
- Watrous – gold
- Sask Open Under 15 – Bronze
- Inner City Winnipeg – gold
- Inner City Winnipeg U 15 - gold
- Provincial Championships – gold
- Edmonton International – gold

U13 Male Athlete of the Year

Benjamin Flaman – Benjamin is 12 years old and is from the Avonhurst Judo Club in Regina where he practices Judo once a week. He is a well rounded athlete participating in many other sports. Since starting Judo Ben has won gold at every tournament that he has participated in and he has been the provincial champ in his weight class since his first provincials in 2008. Ben is a very talented Judoka and has a very competitive spirit. His tournament results for the year are:

- Saskatoon YMCA - gold
- Inner City Winnipeg – gold
- Provincial Championships – gold

U15 Female Athlete of the Year

Brett Poliakiwski – Brette is 13 years old and is from the Lloydminster Judo Club where she attends judo 2-3 times per week. Brette plays hockey, is involved in 4H, and wants to be a national champion in judo. Her tournament results for the year are:

Jr Nationals – silver

University of Alberta Open – gold

Saskatoon YMCA - gold

Sask Open - gold

Sask Open Under 17 – Bronze

Inner City Winnipeg – gold

Inner City Winnipeg U 17 - gold

Provincial Championships U15/U17 combined – silver

Edmonton International – gold

U15 Male Athlete of the Year

Mathew Pullar – Mathew is 14 years old and is from the Avonhurst Judo Club in Regina. Mathew trains twice a week with the Avonhurst club and twice a week with the Regina Y. He is very dedicated and talented. He learns well and fights well. His coaches describe him as one of the most respectful dedicated students they know. His tournament results for the year are:

Saskatoon YMCA - gold

Saskatoon YMCA U 17 - gold

Watrous – gold

Watrous U 17 - silver

Sask Open – gold

Inner City Winnipeg – gold

Provincial Championships – gold

Edmonton International – 4th

U17 Female Athlete of the Year

Kenadee Thompson – Kenadee is 15 years old and is from the Regina Y Judo Club where she does judo 3 times a week of Judo. Kenadee is a committed Judo athlete, she teaches kids class before her own training 2 x a week. She has shown that she can compete against older and more experienced girls and even when she doesn't win she gives them a very hard time! Kenadee has also started to discover that in fact she is strong and can lift a lot of weight. Her tournament results for the year are:

- Jr Nationals – 9th
- US Jr Open – bronze
- Que Open – silver
- University of Alberta Open – gold & silver
- Saskatoon YMCA - bronze & silver
- Sask Open - silver
- Sask Open Under 20 – silver
- Provincial Championships - gold
- Edmonton International – bronze
- Edmonton International Sr Women – 7th

U17 Male Athlete of the Year

Bryce Martindale – Bryce is 15 years old and is from the Regina Y Judo Club where he does judo 3 times a week of Judo. Bryce is a hard worker, so if you ever need to challenge someone during a drill or randori to see what you can do he is the person you want to be with. He is a natural athlete and is competitive in any sport he plays. Bryce has always shown continuous improvement year after year and is now showing a great understanding of the tactical side of a Judo match. His tournament results for the year are:

- Que Open – 7th
- Saskatoon YMCA - gold
- Saskatoon YMCA U 20 - gold
- Sask Open – gold
- Sask Open U 20 – silver
- Inner City Winnipeg – gold
- Inner City Winnipeg U20 – gold
- Provincial Championships – gold

U20 Male Athlete of the Year

Travis McNeice – Travis is 16 years old and is from the Pense Judo Club where he practices judo a minimum of two times per week. Travis cross trains in wrestling on his off nights. Travis is a great example of how young judo players should train. His tournament results for the year are:

- Saskatoon YMCA - gold
- Sask Open – silver
- Sask Open Sr – gold
- Inner City Winnipeg – silver
- Provincial Championships – gold
- Edmonton International – gold
- Edmonton International Sr Novice – gold

U20 Female Athlete of the Year

Emily Schaan – Emily is 18 years old and is from the Ju-No-Ri Judo Club in Watrous and she too practices judo 2-3 times a week. Emily excels at two sports and she won her third national title in Wrestling a few weeks ago in Halifax.....Emily is maturing into being a young adult and is trying to find her way and how deal with being a top athlete in 2 sports. Her tournament results for the year are:

- Jr Nationals – bronze
- Sr Nationals – 5th
- US Jr Open – gold
- Saskatoon YMCA - gold
- Sask Open - gold
- Sask Open Sr. – bronze
- Pacific International – gold
- Pacific International Sr - silver
- Provincial Championships - silver
- Edmonton International – gold
- Edmonton International Sr – gold

Senior Female Athlete of the year

Bishop Sommerfeld – is from the Regina Y Judo Club but practices her judo at the Saskatoon YMCA Judo Club. Bishop attends judo 3 times a week and she is attending University studying to be a pharmacist. She is very dedicated, hard working, great personality and spirit. When she was on the winner podium at Sr Nationals she was the only athlete that had not been to the Olympics. Her tournament results for the year are:

- Sr Nationals – bronze
- US Open – gold
- Que Open - bronze
- Saskatoon YMCA - gold
- Pacific International – gold
- Provincial Championships - gold

Senior Male Athlete of the year

Ian Macdonald – Ian is from the Lloydminster Judo club but is currently residing in Calgary and practicing his judo there. Ian is known for his extreme dedication to training and his support of the younger athletes. He loves kata, is a father to one son, and did we say is an extremely hard trainer. His tournament results for the year are:

- Senior Nationals – 5th
- Saskatoon YMCA – gold
- Sask Open – gold
- Pacific International – 2-2
- Edmonton International – silver

Most Improved Male Athlete

Kirkland Francis – Francis is from the Pense Judo Club where he trains 3 times a week. Kirk is a very serious player with a real practical sense for functional training in complete Judo. Kirk also has a keen interest in assisting with the kids classes too. Kirk does compliment the Pense Judo club with his leadership qualities.

Last year Kirkland won bronze at Sask Open, and gold at the Senshudokan tournament. This year Kirkland won gold in Saskatoon, gold in Watrous, gold at Sask Open, gold at Provincial championships and gold at Edmonton International.

Most Improved Female Athlete

Eden McPherson – Eden is from the Kenshukan Judo Club in Prince Albert where she does judo 2 days a week in Prince Albert. On top of her training schedule, Eden has taken a great interest in helping with the junior class. She is always willing to help out on the mats. At Youth Nationals last July Eden competed in the Under 15 age division and won a bronze medal. Had they given out medals at the windup dance Eden would have won a gold medal in the open dance category. This year Eden moved up the Under 17 age division and won gold in Saskatoon, gold & silver in Watrous, gold at the Sask Open, gold at Inner city and silver in Edmonton. She has been selected as the Most Improved Female Athlete of the year for Judo Saskatchewan.

Master Athlete of the Year

Robb Karaim – Robb is from the Senshudokan Judo club in Regina and teaches and practices judo at both Senshudokan and the Regina Y Judo club. In addition to competing in the master division he also competes and practices in kata, and officiates at all tournaments. Last year Robb won a silver medal at Nationals and he recently won a gold medal at Edmonton International.

Spirit of Judo

Nicole Dyck – Nicole is from the Ju-No-Ri Judo Club in Watrous and attends University in Saskatoon and practices judo at the Saskatoon YMCA. Nicole always has a pleasant attitude wherever she goes. She is friendly and helpful to all the athletes regardless of their age. She is the Athletes Representative and in addition to her own training and competition has taken time out to help instruct the younger class at both Summer Camp and Winter Camp. She truly demonstrates the spirit of judo at all times.

Club of the Year

Regina Y Judo Club – Over the past two seasons the Regina YMCA has been one top competition judo clubs in Saskatchewan with their members winning national and international medals. The Regina YMCA hosted the Saskatchewan Open in January 2012 with many provincial teams commenting that it was the best Sask Open ever because of the venue and the organization of the event. The Regina YMCA is heavily involved in the Regina kata development group who practice 2-3 times per week and have competed at the interprovincial level. Aside from the competitive side they have four very good beginner referees who obtained their Provincial C grade this season. The Regina YMCA has also increased their membership over last year with several new judoka coming out regularly to both the beginner and senior classes.

Volunteer of the Year

Winnie Schroeder – Winnie is a long term volunteer who has gave of her time to work in the kitchen at every summer and winter camp for the past 16 years. When her volunteer efforts resulted in recognition at her place of employment she had a \$500 donation presented to Judo Saskatchewan. As with all great things, they pass and Winnie has advised that she will retire from the Judo Sask kitchen so that she can spend more time with family and her garden. There were more than a few tears shed with this announcement however we wish her every happiness in her future.

Vince Seymour Memorial - (Referee of the year)

Pat Pattison – Pat is from the Saskatoon YMCA Judo Club. Pat has been at every tournament this year to referee and is always there to help out. In addition to the in-province tournaments he also went to Pacific & Edmonton Internationals to referee. Pat is also a member of the provincial grading board. In addition to his referee he is an avid kata practitioner and instructor and will be attending the 2012 National championships where he will compete in Nage no Kata; Katame no Kata; Kodokan Goshin Jutsu and Ju no Kata

Merv Pointer Memorial (Coach of the Year)

Blair Taylor – Blair is from the Kenshukan Judo Club in Prince Albert and was nominated for this award by several other coaches in Judo Saskatchewan. Blair is hard working and trying to improve and is always looking to become better at what he is doing and this is the key to improvement and the key to improvement as a coach. He is open to all suggestions and ideas. Blair is always out helping at every Judo Sask function from coaching and doing other things at the Summer and Winter camps, coaching at tournaments and every team training, and traveling out of province with the Judo Sask team. Blair gives his time for the kids and is not looking for personal gain from his time spent of these activities. He is still developing as a coach and is heading in the right direction. He has encouraged his athletes to attend competitions and has created a good training group that travels to events. He is respected by his athletes, their parents and fellow coaches.