

## Australian Open & Senior Oceania Championships 2019

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The Oceania Senior Karate Championship was held Friday 12 April 2019 and immediately followed by the Australian Open Karate Championships which continued through Saturday 13 April and Sunday 14 April 2019.

Our Rebecca Sullivan represented Australian at the Oceania Championship in the –68kg Female Kumite. Rebecca succeeded in winning a silver medal at this championship. Huge congratulations to this young lady—your conduct on and off the tatami is exemplary and you are an inspiration to all our young athletes.

The Australian Open started immediately thereafter with West Coast Karate represented by Nathaniel Cowey, Daniel Uglow, Natalie da Souza, Ella Bridge, Ella Skewes, Blake Skewes, Hannah Sullivan, Rebecca Sullivan and accompanying Rebecca from the Netherlands to further our relationship with Unity 99 — Oniell Zuiverloon.

We are very proud of all our students on their performance on and off the tatami. Special thank you to Oneill and Rebecca for coaching and to Hannah and Blake for assisting our younger athletes.

For the younger athletes attending the Australian Open and the Australian Schools tournament, which precedes the Open and acts as a warm up event, this trip was a wonderful opportunity to train with Oneill Sensei, experience a large tournament and compete at the highest level available in Australian Karate. All performed extremely well, gained valuable experience and had a great time.

To our senior and or more experienced athletes the Australian Open is undoubtedly the premier event in Australian Karate and the main selection event for selection in Australian teams. Our students simply excelled with Rebecca, Hannah and Blake winning Gold and therefore being Australian Champion in their respective divisions. Rebecca and Blake also winning Bronze medals in the Open weight divisions. We are also delighted to announce that Ella Skewes, Ella Bridge and Oneill won bronze medals in their respective weight divisions.

Overall WCK finished with 3 gold medals - three individual Australian Champions—and 5 bronze medals. This placing WCK 11th on the overall medal count from close to 100 other clubs from Australia and the Oceania region. Despite being one of the smallest clubs in terms of total student numbers WCK were the highest ranked West Australian club.

We also must thank Shelley and the families who attended to support our athletes.



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Brian with Hannah after her win at the Australian Open



Rebecca at the Australian Open with Natalie, Ella B, Danielle and Nathaniel





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Coach with Rebecca, Hannah, Ella S, Oneill and Blake.



Hannah being congratulated by her students after winning the Australian Open Championship



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Oneill with Ella B



Rebecca with her students, Natalie, Ella B, Danielle and Nathaniel



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Rebecca competing at the Oceania Karate Championship

