

WA Kendo Coach's Report

February 2025

Version: 1.0

Last Updated: Fri 21 Feb 2025

1. WA Campaign

- a. To date, the coaching team has arranged 5 Squad Trainings and 3 events: Mock Grading, Competition Practice, Kata & Komp. Note that while the last two are Murdoch University Kendo Club events, Bernard & Mitch had significant contributions and facilitation.
- b. Squad training notes, as well as notes from the kata seminar, have been uploaded online: <https://wakendo.com.au/2024/12/16/wa-kendo-squad-training-notes/>
- c. Booking venues is still a major issue. Events this year have been run at Murdoch University – all other venues seem to be unavailable. Again, I would like to thank *Mitch Fenn* for sorting this out.
- d. Attendance has significantly improved since the beginning of the year, especially the events. We have also received good feedback, both verbally and in writing.
- e. We have the following events scheduled:
 - i. 23 Feb 2025: Squad Training #7.
 - ii. 8 Mar 2025: WA State Kendo Championships.
 - iii. 23 Mar 2025: Squad Training #8.
- f. The Australian Kendo Championships will be from 18-22 Apr 2025 in Canberra, ACT.
- g. We are planning a final campaign debrief in May 2025.

2. Australian Kendo Championships – Competitor List and Draw Allocation Process

- a. Kendo Board has announced an updated process for the allocation of competitors from state / territory affiliations.
 - i. Affiliations to submit a list of individuals to be competing in priority order.
 - ii. The first 6 will be guaranteed entry for each division.
 - iii. If the division has not reached the maximum number of players (48), then affiliations with more than 6 players will be invited to a Zoom call with Kendo Board to distribute the remaining spots in a specific order (as per the AKR Manual of Documents).
 - iv. This process is not new from previous years – the only difference is that the allocation of remaining spots will be done as a group, not “behind the scenes”.
 - v. We do not foresee that WA will have more than 6 competitors in any division, so should not be affected by this at all.
- b. ACTKR is intending to open up registration shortly (by end of February).

3. UniSport Nationals Kendo Competition

- a. This year's *UniSport Nationals Kendo Competition* will be on **27-28 September 2025** in **Gold Coast, QLD**. Venue is expected to be the same as 2023 – Gold Coast Recreation Precinct.

4. Shogo

- a. Congratulations to **Zafar Singham**-sensei from Goshinkai Kendo Club for receiving *Renshi* from AJKF in November 2024.

5. Other Events / News

- a. Current discussion regarding the *Australian Junior Kendo Championships and Seminar* – proposal by Jayson Chaplin, Chairperson of the Kendo Board. Jayson is seeking feedback from all state / territory affiliates, by end of February 2025.
- b. 8-9 Mar 2025 – *FIK Asian Zone Kendo Referee Seminar* in Taiwan.
- c. 17-24 Mar 2025 – *AJKF International Kendo Leaders' Seminar* in Chiba, Japan. **Jane Hung** from ACTKR will be attending as the Australian delegate.
- d. **Mitsugu Fukuda**-sensei (*Kyoshi* 7th Dan) from NSWKA has been selected as the Australian National Team Head Coach.
- e. The next **World Kendo Championships** will be in Tokyo, Japan in 2027.

WA Kendo Campaign Schedule

Date	Past Event
14 Jul 2024	Squad Training #1
4 Aug 2024	Mock Grading
19 Oct 2024	Squad Training #2
17 Nov 2024	Squad Training #3
1 Dec 2024	Squad Training #4
15 Dec 2024	Squad Training #5
12 Jan 2025	Squad Training #6
25 Jan 2025	Competition Practice
9 Feb 2025	Kata & Komp

Date	Scheduled Event
23 Feb 2025	Squad Training #7
8 Mar 2025	State Championships
23 Mar 2025	Squad Training #8
18-20 Apr 2025	National Championships
21-22 Apr 2025	National Seminar & Grading
May 2025	Campaign Debrief

- Bernard Yehuda