

Expression of Interest for Under 15 European Tour

Budapest, Hungary, April 2024

Following the success of the 2023 tour, Judo Australia (JA) once again is planning a developmental opportunity around the April 2024 school holiday to Hungary for Australian athletes born in 2009 or 2010. This opportunity includes:

- Ten days of training at a high-level, well-established judo club ([Budapesti Honved Judo Club](#)); and
- Participation at the 37th Budapest Cup, a prestigious international tournament followed by two days of international training camp.

JA recognises that unlike their international counterparts, our athletes are not exposed to international competition until they are into their second cadet year. With this opportunity we wish to open up the international pathway for athletes a little earlier. This will ensure our athletes have the opportunity to adjust to international judo before entering higher-level events. Based on the learnings from the 2023 tour, we are opening EOI earlier so the coaching staff can follow and support applicants well before the tour to ensure athletes get the most out of this opportunity.

Who is this opportunity suitable for?

Athletes who wish to pursue their sporting career in judo and are as a minimum blue belt. Athletes must have been born in 2009 (first year cadet) or in 2010 (final year senior boy or girl) and have extensive competition experience in Australia. Athletes will need to be able to cope with the training load, therefore this opportunity is mostly suited for those who train all year around and are more experienced. They also need to be able execute and defend strangles and armlocks as these techniques are already used in competition in Europe for senior boys and girls.

Weight division for the Budapest Cup Under 15 age group:

Girls	36 kg	Boys	36 kg
	40 kg		40 kg
	44 kg		45 kg
	48 kg		50 kg
	52 kg		55 kg
	57 kg		60 kg
	63 kg		66 kg
	Over 63 kg		73 kg
			81 kg
			Over 81 kg

Cadet divisions are the same as in Australia and are in accordance with the IJF categories.

What will Judo Australia provide?

Kyle McIndoe, JA under 15 national coach and a female coach/manager (still to be appointed) will be traveling with the team. JA will organise all logistics for the tour. Parents are allowed to travel with the athletes but are asked to not interfere with the training, coaching or team activities.

How will the EOI applications be assessed?

JA wants to make sure that this opportunity is a positive experience for all athletes. We ask that you please only apply if you know that your son/daughter will be able to cope with the training and competition pressure and will be able to be away from home for the duration of the tour. JA high performance staff will interview the coaches and parents of all applicants before agreeing who is accepted for the tour. We will closely monitor the athletes in competition from the application to the selection date. Athletes as a minimum must participate in most NES events and at the 2024 January Futures Camp. If the athlete is based in Sydney or Melbourne they should also attend the State Performance Centre Sessions.

What is the estimated cost of the tour?

Unfortunately, JA doesn't receive any government funding for this age group and families will have to self-fund this tour. The estimated cost is:

Item	\$
Airfares	\$2,500
Accommodation	\$1,000
Backnumbers	40 euro
IJF approved blue and white gis	\$ 400
Entry fee tournament and camp	40 euro

How do I apply for this opportunity?

Please submit an [electronic EOI form](#) by Friday, 9 June 2023. Interviews with the personal coaches and families will be held early 2024 and final selection will take place at the end of February 2024. Places for this tour are limited to 10-12 athletes as a maximum due to the child to coach ratio and close monitoring requirements.

Who to contact with questions?

If you have any questions regarding this opportunity before or after you apply, please contact either:

- Maria Pekli – maria.pekli@ausjudo.com.au or 0425 350 700, or
- Kyle McIndoe - kyle.m2103@gmail.com or 0401 232 661