



Women Leadership Committee of Judo

Volume 2

June to September 2013

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National Coaching Certification Program

Last July, 8 women from Canada participated in the competitive-judo development program (previously known as NCCP 3)



Bianca Ockedahl (Québec), Émilie-Claude Leroux (Québec), Laurie Wiltshire (Alberta), Anne-Marie Smith (Québec), Nicole Dyck (Saskatchewan), Janine Yuen (Saskatchewan), Josée Daigle (New-Brunswick), Joëlle Couture (Québec)

Two female referees represented Canada at the Junior US Open in Fort Lauderdale, Florida:



Donna Hanson (BC)
Laurie Bélanger (QC)

Women's Committee Members

Marie-Hélène Chisholm

-President



Isabelle Pearson

-Committee Member



Émilie-Claude Leroux

-Committee Member



Diane Couture

-Project leader referees



Shu-Thai Cheng

- Women's leadership Rep.



The well-known judoka Gisèle Gravel retires from competition

At 72, the Saguenay-native, who has been practicing judo for 47 years and has obtained a 6th degree black belt, has to unfortunately retire from competition as a consequence of knee injuries. She is disappointed because she would have liked to compete at the Canadian Judo Championship that will take place in Saguenay in May 2014. Gisèle Gravel has received numerous distinctions throughout her career, including a gold and a silver medal at the World Championships in Japan in 2003. She is a member of the National Order of Québec. Most recently, she has received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Congratulations for your great career!



Projects receiving funding from the Women's Committee in 2013-2014:

The women's committee received many requests for the funding of various projects for women's development. Here are the projects that the committee will be funding in the upcoming year:

- Six training sessions for females U15 to Senior (green belt and +) that will be organized by Pedro Guedes and Judo Ontario. These sessions will take place in the Toronto region and will be opened to female athletes from other provinces. For more information about these training sessions do not hesitate to contact Judo Ontario.
- Women's refereeing projects across Canada. Diane Couture will be in charge of these projects.
- Creating promotional videos for three female athletes. In collaboration with Judo Québec, these three athletes will participate in a female tour of schools and judo clubs in the province of Québec.
- Two coaches from Québec will participate at a coaches meeting in collaboration with the National Sports Institute.

Best Results of Canadians women at International Competitions

(June to September 2013)

European Cup, Celje (Slovenia)

- Catherine Beauchemin-Pinard (-57 kg), 3rd
- Amy Cotton (-78 kg), 2nd



Pan-American Open San Salvador (El Salvador)

- Sarah-Myriam Mazouz (-70 kg), 3rd

Junior European Cup, Berlin (Germany)

- Catherine Beauchemin-Pinard (-57 kg), 2nd



Cadet World Championships, Miami (USA)

- Jessica Klimkait (-52 kg), 1st
- Ana Laura Portuondo-Isasi (+70 kg), 5th



Senior World Championships, Rio de Janeiro (BRA)

- Catherine Roberge (-78 kg), 5th



Francophonie Games, Nice (France)

- Catherine Beauchemin-Pinard (-57 kg), 3rd
- Kelita Zupancic (-70 kg), 1st
- Alix Renaud-Roy (-70 kg), 3rd
- Ana Laura Portuondo Isasi (-78 kg), 3rd



Grand Prix, Rijeka (Croatia)

- Catherine Beauchemin-Pinard (-57 kg), 3rd

European Cup, Tampere (Finland)

- Aurée Francis-Méthot (-52 kg), 3rd



Women's Team Cadet World Championships 2013, Miami (USA)

A.-L. Portuondo-Isasi (+70), A. Portuondo-Isasi (-63 kg), E. Brochu-Joubert (-57 kg), J. Klimkait (-52 kg), M. Burt (-57 kg), A. Lyod (-48 kg), S. Poliakowski (-52 kg), M. Besson (-44 kg), M. Coulombe (-70 kg)



Women's Team at European Cup, Celje (Slovenia)

A. Cotton (-78 kg), C. Beauchemin-Pinard (-57 kg), A. Renaud-Roy (-70 kg), S. Tremblay (-57 kg), Kelita Zupancic (-70 kg)

Judo Québec Bursary: Céline Darveau

Céline Darveau is a judoka who has been devoted to excellence since she started practicing the sport in 1966 in Chicoutimi. In the following years, she started competing and advancing in rank, obtaining her black belt in 1972. Mrs. Darveau was one of the first women to obtain such a rank and also to start participating in Kata competitions in Canada and the United States. In 1973, Céline began competing at international tournaments in Europe. She would later return to competition in a different capacity, performing as a referee.

During the 1975-1976 season, she completed her provincial referee grading of level B and A and joined the provincial referee commission. Passionate and hard-working, Céline obtained the rank of 4th dan in 1993 while simultaneously passing her referee grading until she became an International Referee of level A in 1995, the highest attainable international level.

As an example of her versatility and pursuit of excellence, she was a member of the organizing committee for judo at the 1976 Olympic Games. To top off such an amazing career as an athlete and referee, Céline obtained her 5th degree black belt in 2001.

In addition, we would like to include some examples of her activities throughout the years in the world of judo:

- 1st female instructor of kata training camps across the province
- 1st female member of the Board of Directors of Judo Québec,
- 1st woman to referee provincial and international male tournaments
- 1st female international referee from Canada
- 1st female member of the grading commission
- 1st female president of the provincial board of referees



*This prize, named in the honour of Mrs. Céline Darveau is inspired by her great accomplishments and her pioneering work that paved the way for young female judokas across the province. With this **annual \$500 bursary**, we hope to encourage female judokas to follow in the footsteps of this great woman of judo.*



This bursary was awarded to Stéfanie Tremblay at the Gala of Excellence of Judo Québec last June.

Outstanding Female Athletes

Catherine Roberge (-78 kg)

By winning three matches, Catherine finished 5th at the Senior World Championships in Rio de Janeiro. It has been 8 years since a Canadian woman obtained such a result. Congratulations Catherine!



Jessica Klimkait (-52 kg)

She is the first Canadian to win a world title in the cadet category. Jessica had a perfect day and won her five matches. Congratulations Jessica!!



Judo Canada
1725 St. Laurent Blvd. (suite 212)
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3V4
www.judocanada.org
613 738-1200

Marie-Hélène Chisholm
(Women's Committee President)
mh.chisholm@judocanada.org