



June 5-7, 2026

Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre,
Carrara, Queensland

2026 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



EVENT GUIDE

Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre

Gold Coast, Queensland

June 5 – 7, 2026

AUSTRALIA'S **GOLDCOAST**.™

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CONTENTS

PART I	INTRODUCTION	5
1	DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION.....	5
2	PURPOSE OF THE EVENT GUIDE	5
3	REVISING THE EVENT GUIDE	5
4	COMPETITION OFFICE	5
PART II	GENERAL INFORMATION.....	6
6	COMPETITION INFORMATION.....	6
6.1	EVENT ORGANISER	6
6.2	COMPETITION VENUE	6
6.3	EVENT DATES	6
6.4	ENTRY FEE	6
6.5	SPECTATOR TICKETING	6
6.6	ACCREDITATION	6
6.7	WEIGH-INS	6
7	ACCREDITATION / IDENTIFICATION.....	6
7.1	ACCREDITATION	6
7.2	IDENTIFICATION	7
8	DIVISIONS OF COMPETITION.....	7
8.1	AGE GUIDELINES.....	7
8.2	DIVISION MINIMUM REQUIREMENT.....	7
8.3	MINIMUM GRADING	7
8.4	WEIGHT CATEGORIES	7
9	ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE	7
10	DRESS CODE / JUDOGIS.....	8
10.1	DRESS CODE.....	8
10.2	JUDOGIS.....	8
11	WEIGH-INS	8
12	ANTI-DOPING.....	8
13	SERVICES	9
13.1	INSURANCE	9
13.2	MEDICAL	9
13.3	PHOTOS / FILMING	9
PART III	ENTRY PROCESS.....	10
14	ATHLETE ENTRIES.....	10
14.1	ONLINE ENTRY FORMS	10
14.2	LATE ENTRY	10
14.3	CHANGES TO ENTRIES	10
14.4	PAYMENTS	10
14.5	REFUNDS.....	10
15	DRAW.....	10
16	NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP ENTRIES	11
16.1	ONLINE REGISTRATION	11
PART IV	COMPETITION RULES	12

17	MIXED TEAMS COMPETITION	12
17.1	COMPETITION DURATION	12
17.2	COMPETITION FORMAT	12
17.3	DRAW.....	12
17.4	NUMBER OF TEAMS.....	12
17.5	REGULATIONS.....	12
17.6	WEIGHT DIVISIONS.....	12
PART V	TABLES, FIGURES & APPENDICES.....	14
	TABLE 1 - JUDO AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE	14
	TABLE 2 - DIVISION OF COMPETITION	16
	APPENDIX A - COMPETITION VENUE MAP A.....	18
	APPENDIX B - COMPETITION VENUE MAP B.....	19

PART I INTRODUCTION

1 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following acronyms and terms shall have the following meanings:

AEDT: Australian Eastern Daylight Time.

BoH: Back of House - is the area where access is restricted to accredited athletes, event staff, officials and volunteers.

COB: Close of Business - 5:00 pm local time.

GCSLC: the Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre.

JA: Judo Australia.

JANC: Judo Australia National Championships.

2 PURPOSE OF THE EVENT GUIDE

This event guide has been developed to establish the standards and guidelines set forth by JA and serves as the primary source of information with relation to the JANC.

The intended purpose of the guide is to provide participants with a resource that will enable them to better understand the JANC, and includes event information, entry requirements, nomination processes, competition rules and regulations, and other pertinent information.

All information contained within this document has been approved by and is an official corporate document of JA; all rights reserved.

3 REVISING THE EVENT GUIDE

JA has the sole authority to approve any additions, amendments, changes, and deletions to this guide and the JANC event.

The JA Sports Committee will annually review this guide and may update its contents as required.

Any revisions of the current event guide will be posted on the JA website and electronically distributed to all relevant stakeholders.

4 COMPETITION OFFICE

If you have any questions, please contact Luis Val - JA Sports Director:

Email: luisval@inet.net.au

PART II GENERAL INFORMATION

6 COMPETITION INFORMATION

6.1 EVENT ORGANISER

Judo Australia

6.2 COMPETITION VENUE

Gold Coast Sports and Leisure Centre - 296 Nerang Broadbeach Rd, Carrara QLD 4211

6.3 EVENT DATES

June 5 - 7, 2026

6.4 ENTRY FEE

Entry fee per athlete per division is \$80.

6.5 SPECTATOR TICKETING

Spectators are warmly invited to attend the 2026 Judo Australia National Championships.

Pre-purchasing tickets is encouraged to ensure smooth venue entry and to take advantage of discounted pricing. Tickets will be available online prior to the event and at the venue during competition days.

All spectators must present a valid ticket to gain entry to the Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre. Children under six years of age may enter free of charge.

CAF accredited coaches will be provided with a registration link to ensure free entry.

Multi-day passes provide the best value for families and supporters wishing to attend throughout the weekend.

Full ticketing options and pricing are outlined below, with JA to provide links for the purchase of tickets.

	Pre Sales 2 Day Pass	Pre Sales 1 Day Pass	At Event 2 Day Pass	At Event 1 Day Pass
Seniors Concession	\$40	\$25	\$45	\$30
Adult	\$60	\$35	\$65	\$40
Juniors	\$30	\$20	\$35	\$25
Under 6 years	free	free	free	free
CAF accredited coach	free	free	free	free

6.6 ACCREDITATION

Friday 5 June between 10.30 am - 12:00 pm in the Currumbin Room

See '[Appendix B - Competition Venue Map B](#)'.

6.7 WEIGH-INS

See '[Table 1 - National Championship Schedule](#)'.

7 ACCREDITATION / IDENTIFICATION

7.1 ACCREDITATION

The allocation of accreditations for State Team Coaches and Managers is dependent on the number of entries entered by the State. Attachment 16 of the JA Sporting Code, provides the accreditation quota.

Additionally, accreditations will be allowed for persons to act as Athlete Liaisons to look after athletes under the age of 18. These accreditations will only be issued to people who have a Working with Children Check (or similar in your State).

All athletes, team managers, coaches and Athlete Liaisons will be required to wear accreditations to access the BoH, Field of Play and other event areas that are restricted.

Athletes, coaches, team managers and Athlete Liaisons will need to provide a current passport sized photo as part of the entry process.

All photographs must be submitted before 1 May 2026.

7.2 IDENTIFICATION

Each competitor will be required to bring their accreditation pass to the weigh-in.

The competitor shall present this document to the official who will verify the identity of the competitor.

8 DIVISIONS OF COMPETITION

There will be 17 main divisions of competition at the JANC:

- U13 Girls & Boys
- U15 Girls & Boys
- Cadet Women & Men
- Junior Women & Men
- Senior Women & Men
- Kyu Women & Men
- Veteran Women & Men
- Adaptive Judo
- Kata

8.1 AGE GUIDELINES

To determine an athlete's division of eligibility, based on the athlete's year of birth, please use the table below as a reference:

Division	Born On/After 1st January	Born On/Before 31st December
U13 Girls & Boys	2014	2015
U15 Girls & Boys	2012	2013
Cadet Women & Men	2009	2011
Junior Women & Men	2006	2011
Women & Men	-	2011
Kyu Women & Men	-	2011
Veteran Women & Men	-	1995
Adaptive Judo	As per Adaptive Judo Sporting Rules	

8.2 DIVISION MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

If there is only one entry in a weight division, the player will be entered and compete in the next weight class.

If the heavier weight division has no entry, an expression of interest for an "Open Division" will be made.

Special rules apply to Veterans.

8.3 MINIMUM GRADING

U13 and U15 Girls & Boys - 4th Kyu.

All other divisions, except Adaptive Judo, 3rd Kyu.

8.4 WEIGHT CATEGORIES

See ['Table 2 - Divisions of Competition'](#)

9 ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

Eligibility Rule to Compete in the National Championships

Competitors must be JA members and be entered by an affiliated State or Territory body.

To be eligible to compete in the national championships, a competitor must be an Australian resident who resides in Australia and has permission to remain permanently—either because they are:

1. an Australian citizen
2. the holder of a permanent residency visa
3. a protected Special Category Visa holder

4. a refugee with official status with valid insurance coverage (Proof of status required to accompany individual entry to Judo Australia, General Manager of Pathways and Performance)
5. a holder of a subclass 124 Global Talent Visa or subclass 858 Global Talent Visa (Proof of Visa required to accompany individual entry to Judo Australia General Manager of Pathways and Performance).

Additionally:

1. persons who have resided continuously in Australia for a minimum of 12 months immediately preceding the championships and have initiated, or their parent(s)/ legal guardian(s) have initiated the process of gaining Australian citizenship or permanent residency, as evidenced by documentation from the relevant Australian authorities are eligible to compete in the national championships
2. junior men/women, cadets and girls and boys foreign athletes residing in Australia are eligible to participate in the national championships under the following conditions:
 - Proof of residency in Australia for a minimum of three (3) months
 - Demonstration of their parents' or legal guardians' integration in Australia for at least three (3) months
 - Evidence of integration into the school or university system or proof of employment for a minimum of three (3) months
 - Membership with a judo club affiliated with Judo Australia.

Any competitor failing to meet the above criteria shall be ineligible to participate in the national championships.

10 DRESS CODE / JUDOGIS

10.1 DRESS CODE

Coaches entering the field of play (competition area) must respect the following dress code:

- formal or smart casual attire (e.g. - blazer, blouse, collared shirt, jacket, pants, skirt)
- State tracksuit with long pants
- official State short sleeved or long-sleeved shirts or polo shirts
- covered footwear.

The following are forbidden:

- short trousers
- singlet tops
- undressed upper body
- any kind of head cover (such as caps, hats or hoodies), unless for religious reasons
- sunglasses
- flip-flops or similar footwear.

10.2 JUDOGIS

White and Blue judogis shall be worn in all age divisions.

Judogi Control for Cadets, Junior Men & Women and Senior Men & Women will be performed and judogi's must meet requirements as per JA Sporting Code, Attachment 11.

11 WEIGH-INS

Only accredited officials and athletes are allowed in the weigh-in areas – please advise parents and other people of this rule.

Kyu, Adaptive Judo and Veterans who have competed on Friday or Saturday will not need to re weigh-in on Saturday for the kyu weigh-in.

Random weigh-ins for cadets and above, including kyu competitors on the day of competition may take place and selected athletes cannot weigh-in more than 5% of the official maximum weight limit of their category and division. The weight of the athlete cannot be more than 5% higher than the official maximum weight limit of the category. The drawn athletes will be given only one chance for an unofficial weigh-in.

If over the weight limit the athlete will not be allowed to take part in the competition and the athlete's opponent will go onto the tatami where they will be declared the winner by fusen-gachi.

12 ANTI-DOPING

The Senior event at the National Championships is a [Declared Event](#) under the Judo Australia Anti-Doping Policy and doping control will be executed during the event. Athletes competing in the senior divisions at the JANC should be familiar with their anti-doping rights and responsibilities.

13 SERVICES

13.1 INSURANCE

Each JA member competing at the 2026 National Championships will be covered under the JA National Injury Insurance policy. However, competitors are also recommended to obtain their own additional private health insurance coverage.

13.2 MEDICAL

State Managers must notify any significant medical conditions of their players (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc) including allergies and medications.

This information and medical advice are essential for the provision of a safe environment for the athlete.

The final decision as to whether a player can compete is at the discretion of the tournament's JA appointed medical officer.

Concussion

Any athlete who suffers a first concussion prior to the Nationals – must adhere to the [JA Concussion Management Policy](#) and if within the guidelines to return provide evidence to the JA Sports Director that the athlete is medically cleared prior to competing at the 2026 JANC.

Any athlete suffering further concussions – must refer to the [JA Concussion Management Policy](#) and if within the guidelines to return provide evidence to the JA Sports Director that the athlete is medically cleared prior to competing at the 2026 JANC.

Mouth Guards

Mouth guards are permitted provided they are properly fitted by a dentist. The player must present the mouthguard to the referee prior to each match.

13.3 PHOTOS / FILMING

Photos and filming of athletes may be taken by JA during the JANC and these images may be used by JA in the promotion of JA business.

PART III ENTRY PROCESS

14 ATHLETE ENTRIES

The JA Sports Committee will circulate entries received from State Managers for their revision approximately 5 weeks prior to the 2026 National Championships.

Unless it is a late entry, no changes to cadets, junior women/men, senior women/men, kyu, veterans and adaptive entries will be allowed 4 weeks prior to the 2026 National Championships (8 May 2026).

The athlete must make weight as entered to be eligible to compete (for example, if the athlete is entered in the 60kg division in senior men's and weighs in at the official weigh in at 60.2kg, he will be excluded from the competition).

Weight changes for U13 and U15 girls and boys will be allowed during the official weigh-in. Athletes will compete in the weight division of their weight recorded at the official weigh-in.

The athlete entries and other timeframes outlined in this Event Guide specify the timeframes that all States must follow. Each State will establish its own internal timeframes for their State Team to ensure compliance with the timeframes set forth in this document.

14.1 ONLINE ENTRY FORMS

State entries are required to be received by 1 May 2026 in the form advised by JA Sports Director by the State Manager or the authorised State representative.

14.2 LATE ENTRY

Entries after 8 May 2026 need to be forwarded to the JA Sports Director, Luis Val – luisval@inet.net.au and will attract a late payment fee. No late entries will be allowed within 2 weeks of the JANC – 22 May 2026.

14.3 CHANGES TO ENTRIES

NO changes will be allowed 4 weeks (8 May 2026) prior to the JANC except for weight changes for girls and boys.

14.4 PAYMENTS

An invoice for entries will be forwarded to States after the cut-off date based on entries received as at 8 May 2026. Payment must be received as per the JA invoice provided.

- \$80 per entry, per age division.
- Kata entries \$80 per person per Kata.
- Adaptive Judo entry fee of \$80 per division entered.
- Kyu grades entry fee of \$80.
- Veterans entry fee of \$80, for each Kyu Veterans and Veterans Open divisions.
- U13 Girls and Boys Team Event - \$300 per team.
- U15 Girls and Boys Team Event - \$300 per team.

Late entry fees of \$200 per entry will apply if received after 8 May 2026.

NOTE: If an athlete is competing in multiple age divisions an entry fee is required for each division entered.

14.5 REFUNDS

Refunds will only be given on presentation of medical certificate.

No refunds will be allowed within 2 weeks prior to the JANC – 22 May 2026.

15 DRAW

There will be 2 draws.

Friday 5 June 2026 at 1:00 pm for cadets, junior womens/mens, senior womens/mens, kyu's and adaptive in the Currumbin Room.

Saturday 6 June 2026 at 4.00 pm for under 13's and under 15's.

See '[Appendix B - Competition Venue Map](#)'.

To speed up the draw proceedings - changes to names will not be permitted, as these should be corrected as part of the entry checking process.

The National Points System shall be used to seed players in the Senior, Junior and Cadet Men's and Women's divisions. Maximum separation by State and Clubs will be applied to the Boys and Girls divisions where possible.

States are able to separate their top two players in the Boys and Girls divisions by providing this information by email to the JA Sports Director, Luis Val - luisval@inet.net.au by 24 May 2026.

Any separated player who changes weight divisions after this date will have the separation removed and there will be no further separations for that State in that division.

After the draws are completed, the draws will be published on JudoManager. Please note, photocopies of the draws will not be provided to each State.

Note: For Cadets, Junior and Senior Men's and Women's divisions with 4 - 6 competitors, a division redraw will be conducted if a competitor should withdraw prior to the start of the division block. This is done to avoid the potential scenario of a player being placed with a medal without having won a match. For other categories where there is a withdrawal, the draw will be maintained.

16 NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP ENTRIES

Judo Australia will run a 2-day National Training Camp that will begin at the conclusion of the 2026 JANC.

The camp will begin at 9:00 am on Monday 8 June and conclude on Tuesday 9 June 2026.

16.1 ONLINE REGISTRATION

Training camp online registrations are required to be submitted through the Revolutionise system – link, conditions, and other information will be provided by Judo Australia.

PART IV **COMPETITION RULES**

17 MIXED TEAMS COMPETITION

17.1 COMPETITION DURATION

The duration of each contest:

- Girls and Boys (3) minutes (real-time), plus golden score

17.2 COMPETITION FORMAT

The system of competition will be determined once the number of teams entered has been determined.

17.3 DRAW

A draw will be made for the starting division for the first round. The following rounds will start with the next division in the sequence.

17.4 NUMBER OF TEAMS

A State can enter a maximum of 2 teams per age division. Team members must be from the same State.

NOTE: Athletes cannot be switched between teams if a State enters more than 1 team.

17.5 REGULATIONS

Each State team in the Girls and Boys mixed team will consist of up to eight (8) athletes with a minimum of five (5) athletes.

Only athletes who have entered in individual categories can take part in the mixed team category. Two (2) coaches per team will be allowed to enter the Field of Play.

Before each match, the State Manager or authorised State Representative must select the team and athletes for each contest / weight division.

For the Girls and Boys, an athlete is entitled to compete in their own weight category or, if applicable, one weight category higher, but not two categories higher (for example, a -44kg U15 girl can compete in the -48kg division but cannot compete in the 57kg division).

During the contests, the non-competing athletes must stay within a marked area on the field of play behind the coaches' chairs.

If one team does not arrive for a match, the other team will be declared the winner.

The team winning the majority of matches (5) will be declared the winner in the Girls and Boys Mixed Team event.

If there is an equal number of wins, a draw is done from all categories. The athletes from the drawn category will re-fight a golden score contest to determine the winning team.

During the team competition each athlete must compete within the weight divisions outlined below. Each division consists of two weight categories as defined in the regular competition.

17.6 WEIGHT DIVISIONS

An athlete must be within the weight limits of the category (as recorded at the official weigh-in) in which they competed as an individual.

U13 Girls and Boys

Girls, -35kg division (-32kg category and -35kg category)

Boys, -38kg division (-35g category and -38kg category)

Girls, -41kg division (-38kg category and -41kg category)

Boys, -45kg division (-41kg category and -45kg category)

Girls, -50kg division (-45kg category and -50kg category)

Boys, -54kg division (-49kg category and -54kg category)

Girls, -56kg division (-50kg category and -56kg category)

Boys, -66kg division (-60kg category and -66kg category)

U15 Girls and Boys

Girls, -40kg division (-36kg category and -40kg category)

Boys, -40kg division (-36kg category and -40kg category)

Girls, -48kg division (-44kg category and -48kg category)

Boys, -50kg division (-45kg category and -50kg category)

Girls, -57kg division (-52kg category and -57kg category)

Boys, -60kg division (-55kg category and -60kg category)

Girls, -63kg division (-57kg category and -63kg category)

Boys, -73kg division (-66kg category and -73kg category)

PART V

TABLES, FIGURES & APPENDICES

TABLES

TABLE 1 - JUDO AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

Thursday 4 June 2026		
1400 - 1800	Referee Seminar - theory	Currumbin
1700 - 1730	Veterans & Veterans Kyu's Weigh-ins	Females – tbc Males - Currumbin Room
Friday 5 June 2026		
From 830	Scales Available	Females – Surfers Paradise Room Males - Currumbin Room
830 – 900	Veterans & Veterans Kyu's Weigh-ins	Females – Surfers Paradise Room Males - Currumbin Room
900 – 1100	Referees Seminar – practical on the mat	Back of house warm up area
900 – 1200	National High Dan Grades Examination	Competition Area
1030 - 1200	Managers to Collect Accreditations / Verify Entries	Currumbin Room
1215 -1415	Veterans & Veterans Kyu's Competition, divisions will be conducted based on entries received	Competition Area
1300	Draws - Cadets, Junior Women & Men, Senior Women, Men, Senior Kyu's	Currumbin Room
1330 – 1415	Adaptive Grouping / Classification	Back of house warm up area
1430 – 1500	Adaptive weigh-in	tbc
1430 – 1530 – 1700 1700 - 2030	Kata judges briefing Kata competitor warm-up Kata competition preliminary rounds Kata competition final rounds	Tallebudgerra Room tbc Competition Area Competition Area Competition Area
1500 - 1530	Cadet Women & Men Weigh-ins	Females – Surfers Paradise Room Males - Currumbin Room
1530 - 1600	Junior Women & Men Weigh-ins	
1600 - 1630	Senior Women & Men Weigh-ins	
1615 - 1700	Referee Coaches briefing	Back of house warm up area
Saturday 6 June 2026		
830	Cadet Women & Men followed by medal presentations	Competition Area
TBD	Junior Women & Men Adaptive, followed by medal presentations	
TBD	Senior Women & Men followed by medal presentations	
1400 - 1500	U13'S and U15's weigh-ins	Females – Surfers Paradise Room Males - Currumbin Room
1500 - 1530	Kyu Grade Weigh-ins (for those athletes who have not previously weighed in)	
1600	Draws - U13'S and U15's	Currumbin Room
Sunday 7 June 2026		
830	Official Opening Ceremonies	Competition Area
TBD	Senior Kyu's, U13's and U15's Medal Presentations	
TBD	U13's Girls & Boys Team Event and U15's Girls & Boys Team Event Medal Presentations	
TBD	Closing Speech	

Monday 8 June 2026		
900 – 1100	National Performance Camp – Session 1	Courts 1 & 2
1600 - 1800	National Performance Camp – Session 2	Courts 1 & 2
Tuesday 9 June 2026		
900 – 1100	National Performance Camp – Session 3	Courts 1 & 2
1400 - 1600	National Performance Camp – Session 4	Courts 1 & 2

Indicative times will be provided after entries close.

Schedule remains subject to change prior to the competition.

Competitors should be at the venue at least 90 minutes prior to the scheduled commencement of the indicative times for each competition.

TABLE 2 - DIVISION OF COMPETITION

DIVISION	AGE	YEAR OF BIRTH	MINIMUM GRADE	CATEGORIES
U13 Girls	Must be 11 or 12 years in calendar year	2014 - 2015	4th Kyu	u32, u35, u38, u41, u45, u50, u56 +56
U13 Boys				u32, u35, u38, u41, u45, u49, u54, u60, u66, +66
U15 Girls	Must be 13 or 14 years in calendar year	2012 - 2013		u36, u40, u44, u48, u52, u57, u63, +63
U15 Boys				u36, u40, u45, u50, u55, u60, u66, u73, u81, +81
Cadet Women	Must be 15, 16 or 17 years in calendar year	2009 - 2011	3rd Kyu	u40, u44, u48, u52, u57, u63, u70, +70
Cadet Men				u50, u55, u60, u66, u73, u81, u90, +90
Junior Women	Must be 15 - 20 years in calendar year	2006 - 2011		u48, u52, u57, u63, u70, u78, +78
Junior Men				u60, u66, u73, u81, u90, u100, +100
Women	Must be 15 or older in calendar year	2011 and earlier		u48, u52, u57, u63, u70, u78, +78
Men				u60, u66, u73, u81, u90, u100, +100,
Kyu Women				u60, u66, u73, u81, u90, u100, +100,
Kyu Men				u48, u52, u57, u63, u70, u78, +78
Veteran Women	Must be 30 up to 70 years of age	1996 - 1956		u60, u66, u73, u81, u90, u100, +100,
Veteran Men				u48, u52, u57, u63, u70, u78, +78,
Adaptive Judo	As per Adaptive Judo Sporting Rules			

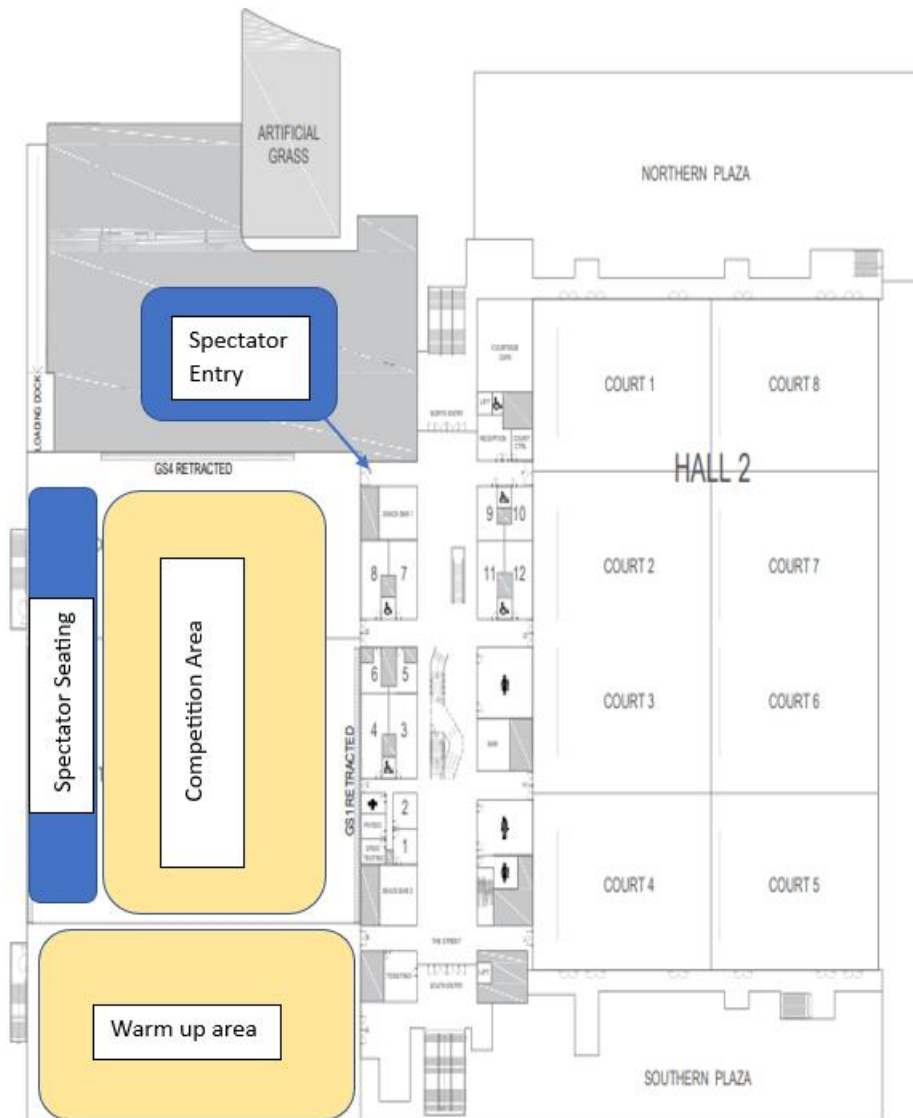
Entry fee per player, per division - \$80.

Late entry fees apply after 8 May 2026.

Note: if there is only one entry in a weight division, the player will be entered and compete in the next weight class (if the heavier weight division has no entry, an expression of interest for an Open division will be made). Special rules apply to Veterans.

APPENDICIES

APPENDIX A - COMPETITION VENUE MAP A



APPENDIX B - COMPETITION VENUE MAP B

