

# A NEW SOKE



## (FAMILY HEAD OF STYLE)

On the 14th of August, my teacher, whom I've had the privilege of learning from for 38 years (and will continue to do so for life), will pass on the leadership baton to his son, Naoyuki Chitose, known as Sodai. Sodai will become the new world head of Chito Ryu Karate Do in a Succession Ceremony (Shu-Mei Hiro), inspired by the traditions of the Japanese Royal Family, which will be held at Fujisaki Shrine in Kumamoto, Japan. This historic event will be witnessed by our entire Soke Cup Team. Even though, the current Soke, is handing over the leadership, he will continue to teach senior students, serve as an ambassador of the style, and be a guiding presence for his son.



## MY FUTURE ROLE



Regarding my own role, I am expected to play a minor role in the Shu-Mei Hiro ceremony, however, looking ahead, my involvement in the international organisation will become more varied, with increased leadership responsibilities and teaching duties overseas. This will require spending more time away from my beloved Tasseikan Dojo. However, I have been preparing for this transition for quite some time by assembling a talented team of Instructors. Each of them has been trained by me for over a decade, participated in international competitions, achieved Japanese standard certifications, and are more than capable of fulfilling their roles in my absence. You are in good hands.

## BECOME A TOURNAMENT TEAM MEMBER

**(THERE'S A TRACK SUIT JACKET AND TEAM SHIRT!)**



**Please note that this opportunity is not available all year round.**

Apart from participating in international tournaments, we are also in the process of forming a squad for local and national competitions. This presents an excellent chance for students of any rank to elevate their Karate skills and test their abilities. It's not essential to be the most naturally talented fighter or a star athlete; rather, what matters most is the commitment to undergo additional training and attending tournaments. The key is to be open to challenging yourself!

Competing can be a truly incredible experience, and rest assured, the divisions are organised based on age and rank, ensuring fair competition. If you find this prospect intriguing, don't hesitate to reach out to Sensei or email us [info@karateinstitute.com.au](mailto:info@karateinstitute.com.au) to express your interest and get involved!



THE  
KARATE  
INSTITUTE  
空手道

14TH  
INTERNATIONAL

SOKE CUP



## HERE'S YOUR TEAM FOR

# JAPAN

Students, Parents and Supporters of the Dojo have something to be very proud of, our Team! And it's time to cheer them on. Their dedication has been nothing short of remarkable, with many months of preparation, devoting a minimum of 12 hours per week, with early mornings, late nights, and weekends being sacrificed. The school holidays were spent in the Dojo. Their journey has been tough, demanding both physically and mentally, and required significant financial commitment on their part.

Even if you're unable to represent the Tasseikan Dojo (The Karate Institute) in Japan this time (and that's perfectly alright), remember that these individuals are representing you, and they are sure to make you proud.

Take a moment to express your gratitude for their hard work, offer words of encouragement, let them know how much you value their contributions, and wish them all the success they deserve. If you haven't met them yet, now is the perfect opportunity to get to know these wonderful people.

Being a member of the Tasseikan's Soke Cup Team has undoubtedly been a transformative experience for all participants. I am confident that the valuable lessons learned from this journey will positively impact other aspects of their lives, making them better versions of themselves. As a Karate Sensei, witnessing such personal growth and development in my students, and preparing the next generation to become Chito Ryu's future leaders gives me great satisfaction.





# MICHAEL NOONAN

**RANK** 7th Dan, Kyoshi (Professor)

**YEARS TRAINING** 43

**EVENTS** Coach

**FAVORITE FOOD** Ribs, Sashimi

"As a Karate Sensei, witnessing such personal growth and development in my students, and preparing the next generation to become Chito Ryu's future leaders gives me great satisfaction."



## NICHOLAS ONIE

"It's been a tremendous experience in personal growth, including; mental strength and resilience, focus, technique and physical fitness, and friendships with Karate-ka around the world."

**RANK** Black Belt (Shodan 1st Dan)

**YEARS TRAINING** 14

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Wagyu Beef



## RAY NG

"I feel the Soke Cup preparation has completed me and made me a better person."

**RANK** Black Belt (Shodan 1st Dan)

**YEARS TRAINING** 13

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kumite, Kobudo (Bo & Sai)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Steak and Red Wine



## TRISTAN LABROSKI

"Being in the squad has allowed me to be part of something greater than myself to achieve a united set of goals with like minded individuals."

**RANK** Brown Belt Black Stripe (1st Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 12

**EVENTS** Kumite, Kata, Team Kumite, Team Kata, Kobudo (Bo & Sai)

**FAVORITE FOOD** American Cheeseburger



## JAYDEN LABROSKI

"Training for this soke cup is the hardest I have ever trained in my life which has tremendously strengthened my training ethic."

**RANK** Brown Belt Black Stripe (1st Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 12

**EVENTS** Kumite, Kata, Team Kumite, Team Kata, Kobudo (Bo & Sai)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Burger with some form of spice



## DEAN PETKOWSKI

"Being in the squad has been the next step in pushing my karate to the next level, and achieving heights I didn't think were yet possible."

**RANK** Brown Belt (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 13

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kata, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Inari Zushi



## ANDREA MARSHALL

"Being in the squad has taught me the value of self-discipline and mental training in achieving personal goals."

**RANK** Brown Belt Black Stripe (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 11

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Sashimi and Udon



## JASPER COX

"Being apart of this squad has allowed me to understand the sophisticated techniques used in both Kata and Kumite, as well as developing a more resilient and confident mindset."

**RANK** Brown Belt (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 10

**EVENTS** Kata, Team Kata, Kumite, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Burgers



## MYA COX

"Squad has profoundly impacted my life, providing me with a sense of purpose and enjoyment, motivating me not only in my training but also in my daily life."

**RANK** Brown Belt (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 10

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kata, Team Kumite, Kobudo (Bo & Sai)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Ramen



## MATHIAS TARANEC

"Squad training has made me understand that if you want to achieve in something you love, put all you can into it."

**RANK** Brown Belt (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 13

**EVENTS** Kumite, Kata, Team Kata, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Garlic Felafel



## JULIA DOMORADZKA

"Being in the squad has taught me commitment and that constant hard work is the only thing that will help me achieve my goals."

**RANK** Brown Belt (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 7

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kata, Team Kumite, Kobudo (Bo)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Vegetable Pasta Bake



## JACK MILIC

"I realise that I am part of a team, with people that share similar goals and are taking their karate very seriously. I have also become more committed to becoming a great Karate-Ka."

**RANK** Brown Belt (2nd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 8

**EVENTS** Kumite, Kata, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Ramen



## ETHAN SORIAL

"Being in the squad has strengthened my fighting spirit, not only do I want to train harder every day, but also I want to push my peers to surpass me so I can surpass them"

**RANK** Brown Belt White Stripe (3rd kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 12

**EVENTS** Kumite, Team Kumite, Kata, Kobudo (Bo)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Pork Ribs



## KATE MILIC

"Being in the karate squad has allowed me to improve my techniques, gain confidence and make lifelong friends."

**RANK** Brown Belt White Stripe (3rd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 7

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kata, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Pasta



## JACKIE COX

"Squad training has refined my mental fortitude, resilience, perseverance, and self-belief."

**RANK** Brown Belt White Stripe (3rd Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 7

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kata, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Sashimi





## GAIA EL KHABBAZ

"The squad has benefited me in many ways, but most importantly, it has made me realise that karate is like my second family, essential to my life."

**RANK** Purple Belt (4th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 9

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Kobudo (Bo), Team Kata, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Pesto Pasta



## MADELEINE NOAH

"Being part of the squad has allowed me to be committed to a sport that has both challenged me physically and mentally, changing my life for the better."

**RANK** Purple Belt (4th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 7

**EVENTS** Kata, Team Kata, Kumite, Team Kumite, Kobudo (Bo, Sai)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Tacos



## SAMI GHIMIRE

"Being in the Soke Cup squad has done wonders for my mental health, discipline and confidence."

**RANK** Green Belt White Stripe (9th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 3.5

**EVENTS** Kata, Team Kata, Kumite, Team Kumite, Kobudo (Bo)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Sushi



## CAMIL EL KHABBAZ

"Being in the squad has inspired me and taught me to believe in myself."

**RANK** Orange Belt (10th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 6

**EVENTS** Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Dumplings



## NICHOLAS HAIKALIS

"Dedication to my team has pushed me to perform beyond my limits and to never stop training hard to achieve my goals."

**RANK** Blue Belt White Stripe (7th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 8

**EVENTS** Kata, Team Kata, Kobudo (Bo, Sai)

**FAVORITE FOOD** Yemista (Meat and Rice Stuffed Vegetables)



## KICO AMATA

"Being in the squad pushed me to my limits and unlocked skills and techniques in my karate that I thought I could never reach, especially in such a short period of time."

**RANK** Blue Belt White Stripe (7th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 4

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Team Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Italian and Japanese (ex-aequo)



## FREDERIC DOMORADZKI

"Being in the squad has helped me improve and strengthen my kata and kumite."

**RANK** Green Belt White Stripe (9th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 2

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite

**FAVORITE FOOD** Chicken Soup



## AMY NGUYEN

"This experience has taught me the meaning of hard work to achieve my personal best and to place complete trust in myself because I am always capable of much more than I think."

**RANK** Orange Belt White Stripe (10th Kyu)

**YEARS TRAINING** 1.5

**EVENTS** Kata, Kumite, Kobudo (Bo), Team Kumite, Team Kata

**FAVORITE FOOD** Black Garlic Ramen

# SPECIAL THANKS



## JACKIE COX

I and the entire Tasseikan Team extend our heartfelt gratitude to Jackie for her immense dedication in organising and coordinating the extensive preparations needed for our participation in the Soke Cup. She has literally worked on this daily for months. Jackie is a Dojo student herself with two children training, so in addition to the administrative burden, she has been preparing for her own tournament performance.



## CHARBEL EL KHABBAZ

**PHOTOGRAPHER**



## KON MAKRYPODIS

**TEAM COORDINATOR**

We also wish to express our formal appreciation to Charbel, a professional photographer by trade, who will serve as our Team Photographer. He has already done a great job, and he'll be kept very busy capturing memorable moments during the tournament. Additionally, we want to thank Kon, who will be traveling with us and assuming the crucial role of Team Coordinator. With a team as large as ours, his support and coordination are invaluable. Both Charbel and Kon are fathers of students at the Dojo, and we are grateful for their involvement and contributions to the team's success.

## BLACK BELT GRADINGS

Apart from participating in the competition, eight of our brown belt students have been invited to take the challenging path and attempt their black belts. Additionally, two of our current black belts are striving for their 2nd-degree black belts. The grading will take place on the 15th of August in Japan, evaluated by a senior grading panel that includes myself. This journey has demanded extra training and unwavering commitment from these individuals.

It's essential to note that each of these individuals has dedicated close to a decade or even more to their training with me. As a result, I can confidently assure you that achieving a Black Belt at this Dojo carries genuine value and profound significance.