



13 August 2020

## **DSACR MOURNS PASSING OF JUDO CHAMP – PRESTON DAVIDS**

It is with shock and sadness that the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) has received news of the untimely passing of Preston Davids – the reigning Judo Africa Champion in the under-60kg weight class. Davids joined the Free State Sport Science Institute (FSSSI) in 2013 as a High Performance athlete where he represented the Free State Province and achieved in several competitions at a national level. He also represented South Africa in a number of International Events.

Commenting about these tragic developments, the Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation Mrs. Limakatso Mahasa stated that, “As a South African and African Judo champion, Davids had high prospects of becoming an Olympian in the near future. He rose to become one of the country's top talents in martial art and his sudden passing is blow in the development and promotion of Judo in our country.”

MEC Mahasa further commented that, “Davids was an outstanding individual and was a mentor to many athletes at the FSSSI and motivated them to reach higher goals. He reached success at a young age and was loved and respected by his friends and opponents. May his soul rest in peace.”

End.

**Issued by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR)**

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