

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

KENDO

14th WKC: Congratulations Team USA !!!

2009-2011**OFFICERS:****PRESIDENT:****Arthur I. Murakami***EXECUTIVE VP:***Koki Ariga***VP-PROM & EXAMS:***Shinichi Koike***VP-COMPETITION:****Yuji Onitsuka***VP-EDUCATION:***Yoshiteru Tagawa***TREASURER:****Tomoji Kato***SEC-HISTORIAN:***Yoshinobu Yonekawa***AUDITOR:***Jeff Marsten***RECORDER:***Tsuyoshi Inoshita, MD***LIABILITY INS. COORD.***Mark Uchida***LAIDO:***Takeshi Yamaguchi***DIRECTORS:***Daniel Ebihara**Atsushi Hori**Spencer Hosokawa**Shozo Kato**Shinobu Maeda**Norman K. Otani, Esq.**Robert Stroud**Christopher Yang, Esq.*

**= non-elected 2009-2011 AUSKF director*

**FROM THE
PRESIDENT:**

On behalf of the AUSKF board of directors, officers, and members; I would like to congratulate the 14th WKC-Team USA/ Men's & Women's Team members for their respective 2nd Place and 3rd Place results.

During the course of the competition at the 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil; I received many good comments from both the Japan and Korea sensei's as to how much improvement was shown by the Men's and Women's Team USA members.

When you have an opportunity to do so; please congratulate the following Team USA individuals for their combined overall leadership/participation/supportive efforts leading up to, and at the 14th WKC on behalf of the AUSKF:

Charlie Tanaka-Team USA Manager.
Yuji Onitsuka-Men's Team Coach.
Spencer Hosokawa-Women's Team Coach.
Sean Shinada, M.D. - Team USA Physician

Men's Team:
Chris Yang, Captain.
Marvin Kawabata, Assistant Captain.
Daniel Yang.
Brandon Harada.
Sandy Maruyama.
Simon Yoo.
Jason Brown.
Kevin Huh.
Han Soo Kim.
Jarrod Hatakeyama.

Women's Team:
Shannon Mikuni, Captain.
Kaori Kikunaga.

Mitsuyo Sakae.
Sachiko Tamura
Michiye Cabral.
Grace Lee.
Nishiki Sano.
Aya Kuwabara.
Linda Tanaka.
Akane Kinjo.

Also, special congratulations to Daniel Yang, Jason Brown, and Grace Lee for being awarded the Kantosho-Fighting Spirit Award in their respective 14th WKC Men's Individual and Women's Individual Competition.

In addition, I would like to congratulate the AUSKF-14th WKC referee's Yoshiteru Tagawa, Koki Ariga and Shozo Kato for their outstanding efforts.

Looking ahead; on July 24-25, 2010, the AUSKF will be initiating the 1st Annual AUSKF Junior Open Championships, which will be held in Santa Clara, California. I encourage each of the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations to plan to have your young kenshi compete in this inaugural event so that they can begin to enjoy the excitement and build their competitive experiences at an earlier age.

It is hoped that by having this level of national junior competition; the younger kenshi will be able to see their future chance to become a Team USA member.

Sincerely,

Arthur I. Murakami, AUSKF President
4305 Mountain Shadow Dr.
Whittier, CA. 90601
Tel. (562) 692-4943
FAX: (562) 463-3604
e-mail: ichiro_kendo@earthlink.net

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Highlights from the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, San Jose, CA.:

Report by Norman K. Otani, Esq.

[Note: This report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the November 7 & 8, 2009, AUSKF Board of Directors meeting; the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification; in addition, per agreement by the AUSKF Newsletter Editor and the 2009-2011 AUSKF board of directors; beginning with the Volume 12 No. 2 edition of the AUSKF Newsletter, the Highlights Column will no longer cite to specific speakers, in response to concerns that previous reported matters resulted in allegations of slander and/or libel to affected individuals.

I. OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of the April 4 & 5, 2009 AUSKF board of directors meeting was submitted by Yoshinobu Yonekawa. With several noted corrections, the minutes were approved.

A. 13th WKC-Team USA Results/Press Release and DVD to Major USA Newspapers and Television Sports Editors [Final Report].

The 14th WKC-Promotional DVD that highlights the 13th WKC-Team USA Men's Team historic win vs. Japan, was reported to have been successfully completed on or about August 2009.

The Limited Edition of the 14th WKC-Promotional DVD released only 250 copies; 200 of these copies were distributed to the following: AUSKF board of directors/officers, AUSKF Member Federations, AUSKF supporting members [7 dan & above], AUSKF Team USA-Men's & Women's members, and to the major television and newspaper media agencies in major cities in the United States.

The remaining 50 copies of the Limited

Edition of the 14th WKC-Promotional DVD will be put on sale, on a first-come, first-serve basis [see 14th WKC-Promotional DVD For Sale article].

B. 14th WKC-Sao Paulo, Brazil-Team USA Travel/Expense [Final Report].

It was reported that the 14th WKC-Team USA approved budget was \$170, 732.55; and the actual total amount spent was \$179, 692.39. It was noted that the 14th WKC-Team USA members held fundraisers that raised approximately \$25,000.00.

Recommendations were made for the 15th WKC-Team USA, to improve budget management; including the identification of a financial expert to assist in making every effort to review all expenditures and determine if a less expensive product/item is more reasonable than a very expensive item that may not be completely necessary.

Also, in a related matter, it was reported that the 14th WKC-AUSKF shimpan representatives: Yoshiteru Tagawa, Koki Ariga, and Shozo Kato, all did an outstanding job in carrying out their difficult shimpan duties.

C. 14th WKC-FIK Anti-Doping Committee [Updated Report].

It was reported that Norman Otani, FIK Anti-Doping Committee Member; attended the 14th WKC to assist in the implementation of the 14th WKC-FIK Anti-Doping Testing Program.

Initial report indicated that there were 14th WKC- OOC [Out of Competition Testing] urine samples taken of randomly selected 14th WKC-Men's Individuals on Friday, August 28, 2009. Then, during the 14th WKC-ICT [In Competition Testing] urine samples were taken from the 1st place Men's Individual competitor on August 28, 2009, the 1st place Women's Individual competitor and 1st place Women's Team/Taisho on Saturday, August 29, 2009, and the 1st place Men's Team/Taisho on Sunday,

August 30, 2009.

D. 2009 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp Report.

A written report regarding the 2009 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp held on June 18-21, 2009 in Meridian, Iowa, was submitted by Takeshi Yamaguchi, Chairman: AUSKF Iaido Committee

It was reported that over 130 participants attended the 2009 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp; the AJKF guest instructors were: Chihiro Kishimoto Iaido 8 Dan Hanshi and Masahiro Yamasaki Iaido 8 Dan Hanshi.

The Iaido camp consisted of two days of seminars, one day for the AUSKF 2009 Iaido Taikai, and the AUSKF Iaido Promotional Examination on the fourth day.

E. Proposed AUSKF Promotion Criteria: 1-dan and above [Update].

2009-2011 AUSKF VP- Promotion & Exam/Shinichi Koike reviewed the following matters:

#1. AJKF letter dated 10/22/08
RE: Abolishment of the special treatment on the duration of practice years for 60yrs and older.

Discussion included clarification that the FIK Directors/General Assembly meetings held in August 2009, did not address this matter; therefore, as the AJKF policy in the 10/22/08 letter, is not binding on FIK member countries, it was determined that no further decision is needed by the AUSKF.

However, AUSKF members planning to take a 6 dan and higher exam in Japan, are on notice that this is the current "new policy/rule" approved by the AJKF effective April 2009.

Also, it was clarified that the current AUSKF Promotion Regulations follows the 12/7/06 IKF [FIK] Standard Guideline for Dan/Kyu Examinations; which includes special treatment on the duration of practice years for 60 years and older applicants who apply for 6 Dan and higher exam.

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Highlights from the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, San Jose, CA.:

E. Proposed AUSKF Promotion Criteria:
1-dan and above [Update] [continued]

#2. AJKF letter dated 10/22/08

RE: Dan Examiners in FIK Affiliates.

Discussion included understanding by AUSKF that this is the required procedure to obtain the approval from the AJKF in advance, if a AJKF high dan holder, is being requested to be an examiner by another country.

#3. IKF Rev. December 7, 2006

RE: Standard Guideline for Dan/Kyu Examination [9pages].

Documents reviewed.

#4. Proposed Change in AUSKF Written Questions for Promotion Exam 1-kyu to 7 dan & Shogo eff. 2009.

It was reported that the "new" written questions for promotion examinees for 1-kyu to 7 dan & Shogo has been submitted to the AUSKF webmaster Jean Kodama for updating on the AUSKF website.

Discussion held regarding the need to continue having a written question requirement for the Kodansha examinations of 5 Dan and above; this matter to be reviewed further by the AUSKF Promotion & Examination Committee.

F. Treasurer's/Auditor Report.

Jeff Marsten, AUSKF Auditor previously sent a AUSKF Membership Benefits document to the 2009-2011 AUSKF board of directors for review. After further review of the various suggestions made by AUSKF members; it was determined that these matters will be referred to the respective AUSKF committees for further review and followup if appropriate.

G. AUSKF Liability Insurance Policy: Coverage for board of directors and officers [Update].

As the 2009-2011 AUSKF Liability Insurance Coordinator Mark Uchida was not present for the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF board of directors meeting; this specific matter was tabled.

Although the above specific matter was tabled; other discussion was held regarding the following concerns:

1. Current AUSKF liability insurance policy does not provide coverage for non-AUSKF member participants at AUSKF kendo tournaments, e.g. kendo participants from Canada, Hawaii, etc.

It was reported that there is an option to purchase a rider to the current AUSKF liability insurance policy for \$2.25 per person; it was not clear if there is a requirement to have the names of the non-AUSKF members submitted in advance of the AUSKF tournament with payment for the rider. Followup review was requested to be done by AUSKF Liability Insurance Coordinator Mark Uchida, regarding the concern described in #1 above.

2. Current AUSKF liability insurance policy only provides secondary insurance medical expense coverage; also, the medical expense claims process usually takes about six (6) months to receive compensation after a claim is submitted.

Followup research to consider other liability insurance companies to possibly replace the current AUSKF liability insurance policy was requested to be done by AUSKF Liability Insurance Coordinator Mark Uchida; other 2009-2011 AUSKF board of directors/officers to submit suggested alternative liability insurance company information [if available] to Mr. Uchida for followup and review.

H. 2009 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp Report.

It was reported that there were 131 participants at the 2009 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp held in Memphis,

Tennessee on July 17-19.

The AJKF guest instructors were:

Toshiaki Takahashi, 8 Dan Hanshi
Eiji Sueno, 8 Dan Hanshi

Discussion was held to consider a change in the current AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp participation fees charged per AUSKF member; to not have a participation fee [free] or a reduced fee.

In the past, due to the poor fiscal condition of the AUSKF treasury, a budget process was initiated to include a summer camp participation fee that would cover the expenses for the AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp; however, with the much improved current fiscal condition of the AUSKF treasury, it was suggested to consider a change in the need to have a summer camp participation fee for the future AUSKF Kendo Summer Camps, as long as the fiscal conditions continue to improve as has been experienced for the past several years..

An additional suggestion was made to consider having a longer AUSKF Summer Kendo Camp, e.g. 4-days. Discussions regarding this suggestion included reference to the additional couple of days that would be required for the AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp committee/instructor staff to make the necessary preparations for the longer event [this is the current experience of the AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp committee/instructor staff when making the preparations for the AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp, which is currently a 4-day event]; also, it was mentioned that with any increase in participation at the AUSKF Summer Kendo Camps, this will require the need to have a larger venue/facility to have enough space for all of the participants. It was noted that larger venue/facilities are both very difficult to locate in most U.S. cities, and if located the costs are much higher to use these larger type of venue/facilities.

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Highlights from the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, San Jose, CA.: [continued]

I. AUSKF Tenegui.

It was reported that to date, orders have been received from several AUSKF member federations for the AUSKF tenegui, at a cost of \$7 per tenegui.

In order to hold down shipping expenses; it was requested that the orders be made only by the AUSKF member federations; and a minimum order of 20-tenegui is required.

AUSKF member federations can continue placing orders for the AUSKF tenegui by sending the payment for the number of tenegui ordered [\$7 per tenegui and a minimum order of 20 tenegui] to:

Arthur I. Murakami
4305 Mountain Shadow Dr.
Whittier, CA. 90601

The AUSKF ties with logo was discussed. It was decided that due to the past experience of having difficulty to sell the AUSKF ties with logo when previously purchased by the AUSKF; the AUSKF members will be individually responsible to purchase their own red ties for use when requested to be a shimpan.

Also, an AUSKF tie pin/lapel pin was discussed; it was decided to table this matter.

II. New Business:

A. 14th WKC-Directors & General Assembly Meeting Report.

Arthur I. Murakami, AUSKF President, attended the FIK Board of Directors & General Assembly meeting held on August 27, 2009 in Sao Paolo, Brazil.

The newly elected FIK Officials [2009-2012] included: Vice-President(new): Arthur I. Murakami.

The 15th WKC will be held in Novara,

Italy in 2012.

FIK is invited to participate in a GAISF Event with the Theme: The Soul and Secrets of Kendo, to be held in Beijing, China on August 28 to September 4, 2010. The AUSKF board of directors approved a motion for Yuji Onitsuka, AUSKF VP-Competition to be authorized to followup and find out the details of which FIK countries will be participating, determine if the AUSKF is recommended to participate, etc.

B. AUSKF Committee Reports:

1. Budget/ Finance & Auditor Committee:

AUSKF Treasurer, Tomoji Kato, reported that as of 10/31/09 the AUSKF Treasury balance was \$620, 985.52. During the financial reporting period of January 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009 the total income was \$264, 480.70 and the total expenses was \$340, 276.82; resulting in a negative balance of (\$75, 796.12).

AUSKF Treasurer reimbursement policy was stated as follows:

(a.) Reimbursement requests must be submitted by the VP-Education, VP-Promotion, VP-Competition, and Iaido Committee Chairman.

(b.) Exception to above rule: AUSKF officers/directors expenses incurred for AUSKF board of directors meetings; and, expenses incurred within the Team USA budget.

All request for reimbursement must be submitted on the *AUSKF Reimbursement Request Form* with receipts attached.

AUSKF Treasurer reported that as of 10/31/09, the total AUSKF membership from the fifteen(15) AUSKF member federations [218 dojos] was 4,708 individual members.

Document Review Sub-committee report by Jeff Martsten, was presented. Updates for the AUSKF Promotion Regulations were forwarded to the AUSKF Promotion & Examination Committee for review. Also, several matters were updated in the AUSKF bylaws and AUSKF policy and

procedure guidelines. However, as there were no individual copies of the proposed updates for review by the AUSKF board of directors, no further action was taken. An e-mail document of the updated AUSKF by-laws and updated AUSKF policy and procedures guidelines will be sent to the AUSKF board of directors prior to the next AUSKF board of directors meeting [April 2010].

2. Competition Committee:

AUSKF VP-Competition, Yuji Onitsuka presented preliminary information regarding 1st Annual AUSKF Junior Open Championships to be held on July 24-25, 2010 in Santa Clara, California.

In light of the current amount of AUSKF financial reserves, a reduced entry fee [\$25 per competitor] was approved by the AUSKF board of directors for the 1st Annual AUSKF Junior Open Championships; this is the first time [since the inception of having balanced budgets for AUSKF events] that an AUSKF event will not emphasize the requirement of a balanced budget in making the final plans.

RE: 2011 AUSKF Championships; possibility of having this event in Atlanta, Georgia is still under review by the SEUSKF and AUSKF Competition Committee.

It was also discussed by the AUSKF board of directors that for future AUSKF Championships, a policy and procedure guideline [”PPG”] will be developed to outline the AUSKF prerequisites that a hosting AUSKF member federation must agree to, in order to be considered for approval. [Note: It was suggested to model the proposed AUSKF PPG on the FIK guidelines/prerequisites for hosting the WKC]

3. Promotion Committee:

AUSKF VP-Promotion & Exam, Shinichi Koike discussed the concern that currently, there are many versions of the AUSKF promotion application form

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Highlights from the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, San Jose, CA.: [continued]

3. Promotion Committee:[continued] being used by the AUSKF member federations; some of the AUSKF application forms are outdated. It was agreed by the AUSKF board of directors that only an updated version of the AUSKF application form should be used by all fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations/dojos; to ensure uniformity of required information, etc., an updated AUSKF application form will be prepared and submitted to the AUSKF webmaster for posting on the AUSKF website.

NOTICE: AUSKF Member Federations

Also, another concern was regarding the AUSKF Menjo Request forms being submitted by the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations. It was reported that many AUSKF member federations are submitting the AUSKF Menjo Request form in handwritten form; as a result, many names of those promoted by the AUSKF member federations are *illegible*, and this causes problems when the menjo is issued with an incorrect spelling of a name, etc. In order to correct this concern, the AUSKF Promotion & Examination Committee recommended and the AUSKF board of directors approved that the AUSKF Menjo Request forms should be submitted by the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations in a computer typed format, after downloading the AUSKF Menjo Request form from the AUSKF website[Go to: www.auskf.org: Fees, Forms & Documents] and submitting the form to the AUSKF VP-Promotion & Exam online by e-mail attachment.

In addition, the Document Review Committee recommendations to update the AUSKF Promotion Regulations will be reviewed further by the AUSKF Promotion & Examinations Committee, and an update will be provided at the next AUSKF board of directors meeting [April, 2010].

Lastly, an updated report was made

regarding the seminars RE: Preparation for Promotion Examinations; seminars have been recently held in the Northern California Kendo Federation, and the All Eastern U.S. Kendo Federation. Any of the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations can continue to request to have this seminar conducted in their area.

4. Education Committee:

AUSKF VP-Education, Yoshiteru Tagawa, reported on the following matters:

(a.) March 27 & 28, 2010- FIK American Zone Referee Seminar, Vancouver, Canada.

(b.) 2008 AJKF Champion Tour; it was reported that the 2008 AJKF Champion Kenji Shodai will conduct education seminars in selected AUSKF member federation venues, beginning November 14, 2009. The 2009 AJKF Champion-Mr. Uchimura is proposed to conduct a similar AUSKF tour in the East Coast areas.

(c.) 2009 AJKF Youth Champion Tour will be conducted in 2010.

(d.) 2010 AUSKF Education Tour will be held on February 11-20, 2010, in the East Coast areas/AUSKF member federations [Chicago, New York, Atlanta]. Guest instructors will be: Toru Kamei 8 Dan Hanshi, and Funatsu sensei 8 Dan Kyoshi.

(e.) 14th WKC-Team USA: *Giving Back Program*. In appreciation for the AUSKF support of the Team USA to attend the 14th WKC, selected individuals have agreed to volunteer to travel to all of the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations areas to teach, practice and provide kendo training at seminars, camps, joint practices and/or tournaments.

The AUSKF VP-Education will approve 2-3 Team USA members to visit the AUSKF member federation area for the requested weekend seminar, camps, joint practices and/or tournaments. The AUSKF will be responsible for the round-trip airfare of the Team USA individuals selected; and the AUSKF member federations will be responsible for the local travel, hotel and meals expenses. An updated AUSKF Policy &

Procedure Guideline will be drafted for approval at the next AUSKF board of directors meeting [April 2010].

(f.) 2010 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp will be held on July 2, 3 & 4, 2010; the proposed venue is Seattle, Washington [pending approval by PNKF].

5. Iaido Committee:

AUSKF Iaido Committee Chairman, Takeshi Yamaguchi reported that the 2010 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held on June 23-27; the proposed venue is San Antonio, Texas.

6. Development Committee:

AUSKF Executive VP-Koki Ariga presented an updated report on the AUSKF Proposal for Office/Headquarters and Full-time/Half-time Office Assistant as follows [Note: It was reported that Atsushi Hori/2009-2011 AUSKF board of director had joined the Development Committee]:

(a.) At the April 4 & 5, 2009 AUSKF board of directors meeting; an inquiry was made as to the AUSKF Mission Statement. The 2009-2011 AUSKF board of directors were reminded that on 11/10/07, the AUSKF board of directors approved an updated AUSKF Mission Statement [see AUSKF Newsletter Issue January 1, 2008, Vol. 11, No. 1: page two: Highlights from November 10-11, 2007 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting. I. Old Business: A. Committee Recommendation to Adopt Proposed Mission Statement].

(b.) At the April 4 & 5, 2009 AUSKF board of directors meeting; an inquiry was made as to proposed location of the AUSKF Office/Headquarters. It was reported that as the historical development of kendo [post WWII] can be traced to the leadership of (late) Torao Mori and other southern california sensei; and then quickly spread to other parts of the United States with the assistance of other kendo sensei in those areas;

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Highlights from the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, San Jose, CA.: [continued]
6. Development Committee:[continued]

for this reason, and as there is still a sizeable kendo population from which to recruit volunteers [SCKF, SCKO, WKF], etc., the location of the AUSKF Office is proposed to be opened in the southern california area.

(c.) At the April 4 & 5, 2009 AUSKF board of directors meeting; an inquiry was made regarding what considerations had been made as to a job description for the fulltime/half-time AUSKF staff person, guidelines for supervision of the staff person, and legal responsibilities.

As to the above inquiries; the Development Committee determined that a revision of the prior proposal for a fulltime-half-time AUSKF staff person was needed. Therefore, two revised proposals were made for an AUSKF Office/Headquarters staffed by a Team of Volunteers.

After further discussion as to the importance of having a permanent address for the AUSKF, etc., and in consideration of the newly revised proposals noted above, the 2009-2011 AUSKF board of directors approved a motion authorizing the Development Committee to locate an office space for an AUSKF Office/Headquarters that conforms to the newly revised proposals, and to present an updated report at the next AUSKF board of directors meeting [April 2010].

Additional Development Committee report updated progress on the following ongoing projects:

AUSKF Newsletter: Next issue to be published (tent.) December 2009-January 2010.

AUSKF Oral History Project:
Individual oral history projects are in progress; further research is pending as to what type of format(s) will be used to make available the oral history projects to the AUSKF members. This is a long-

term project for the AUSKF.

AUSKF Website:
Jean Kodama, AUSKF webmaster submitted a separate written report requesting the AUSKF board of directors to consider the following matters:

1.) Dojo information updates currently comes in via individual e-mail requests, which results in a time consuming process requiring checking the information, formatting the new information, and entering the information onto a master spreadsheet; this process could be made easier if there is one (1) authorized person, e.g. AUSKF Member Federattion President or one (1) designated authorized person for each of the fifteen (15) AUSKF Member Federations, to submit this information.

2.) Currently, the AUSKF webmaster has established a "blog" page using wordpress.com as a collection point for upcoming events and other news; again, to make this a workable process, it is recommended that one (1) authorized person, e.g. AUSKF Member Federattion President or one (1) designated authorized person for each of the fifteen (15) AUSKF Member Federations, to submit this information to the AUSKF webmaster.

In response to matters #1 & #2 above; the AUSKF board of directors approved a motion to authorize each of the fifteen (15) AUSKF Member Federation Presidents or their designated representative to submit the Dojo Update Information, and to submit Upcoming News Events via the AUSKF webmaster's designated procedure. By implementing this newly approved procedure; the AUSKF webmaster will be better able to assist the AUSKF to manage these two areas of importance.

3.) Clarification is needed as to who is authorized to submit information for posting onto the AUSKF website.

The AUSKF board of directors approved a motion authorizing the fifteen (15) AUSKF Member Federation Presidents or their authorized representative; and, each of the AUSKF board of directors to submit information to be uploaded and posted to the AUSKF

website.

The above new AUSKF procedures will be incorporated into the updated AUSKF PPG 27.00.00 *AUSKF Website.*

7. Anti-Doping Committee:

AUSKF Anti-Doping Committee Chairman, Norman Otani, presented a written report, which included the 6/27/09 AUSKF Anti-Doping Committee meeting minutes, and a request to receive copies of the minutes of the FIK Directors and General Assembly meeting held in August 2009 in Sao Paolo, Brazil. [Note: This information was requested so that the AUSKF Anti-Doping Committee can review and consider what future policies will be recommended for AUSKF to begin the development of an anti-doping program]

In response to the above inquiry regarding the minutes of the FIK Directors and General Assembly meeting held in August 2009 in Sao Paolo, Brazil; it was reported that this information was not yet distributed to the FIK officers, directors, etc.

Also, as recommended by the AUSKF Anti-Doping Committee, the AUSKF board of directors approved the selection of two (2) AUSKF Doping Control Officers ["DCO"] as follows:

Norman Otani, Adminstrative DCO
Steven Roosevelt, Medical Issues DCO

C. AUSKF Jodo: Inquiry from Rick Poland.

AUSKF President, Arthur I. Murakami reported that Rick Poland, Jodo 3 Dan, has made an inquiry to request AUSKF support to develop an AUSKF Jodo Program.

Discussion included comments t that Mr. Poland has only made an initial inquiry

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Highlights from the November 7 & 8, 2009 AUSKF Board of Directors

Meeting, San Jose, CA.: [continued]

C. AUSKF Jodo: Inquiry from Rick Poland. [continued]

about the AUSKF support of a Jodo program; a formal proposal was suggested to be prepared to assist the AUSKF board of directors to better understand what is being requested, including the following:

- 1.) Background information of Mr. Poland's jodo training and experience.
- 2.) Current number of practitioners of jodo in the U.S., (if known) number of persons interested to learn jodo in the U.S.
- 3.) Short-term goals, long-term goals, etc.
- 4.) What type of jodo organization structure is being considered, e.g. dojos, and their relationship to the AUSKF.
- 5.) Promotion and examination guidelines, etc.
- 6.) Are there other organized groups currently practicing jodo in the U.S., e.g. Aikido.

*****NOTICE: AUSKF Members*******

Please contact AUSKF President, Arthur I. Murakami, if interested in having the AUSKF develop a jodo program in the U.S. [see address on cover of newsletter]

D. AUSKF Policy RE: For Profit Kendo Dojo Joining AUSKF Member Federations.

It was reported that there were recent inquiries from AUSKF member federations [SEUSKF, NCKF] asking whether or not a Kumdo dojo that is operating as a commercial entity [and wanting to join an AUSKF member federation] would affect the AUSKF non-profit status.

Based on the reported experience of the PNKF regarding the above described inquiry; it appears there has been a thorough review [including legal concerns] of the issues raised; AUSKF member federations can contact the PNKF if interested in following an already developed procedure regarding

this matter.

E. Other:

1.) SWUSKIF Mentor Reimbursement for Jeff Marsten.
AUSKF President, Arthur I. Murakami, explained the background information that there was a request for mentor assistance from SWUSKIF approved for a January 2009 event; however, it was also explained the reason why the AUSKF did not approve the payment of the reimbursement request for travel expenses incurred by Jeff Martsten to be a mentor for a shimpan seminar and shinsa at a SWUSKIF event in October 2009, as the approval process required by the applicable AUSKF.PPG was not followed.

After discussion, it was noted that there are overlapping procedures for approval of a mentor, approval to send an instructor for a shinsa, etc.; however, in this specific situation, it was clear that the AUSKF PPG 10.00.00-10.06.01 Mentor Program guidelines were not followed in its entirety. Although, technically, the AUSKF was correct in its initial denial to reimburse the SWUSKIF for the mentor expenses of Jeff Marsten; an exception was made in this one case only, as it was clear that due to the circumstances, the intent was to try to follow the AUSKF PPG, but due to confusion, etc., was not.

Hereafter, the AUSKF member federations are on NOTICE that the AUSKF PPG 10.00.00 - 10.06.01 must be followed in its entirety in order to receive AUSKF reimbursement of the travel expenses for a mentor which must be approved in advance by the AUSKF, and the mentor designated by the AUSKF in advance of the requested event.

E. Other:

2.) Invitation from Sweden Kendo Federation for Yuji Onitsuka to participate in kendo seminar December 9-11, 2010.

F. Spring, 2010-AUSKF Board of

Directors meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. on April 10 & 11, 2010.

Fall, 2010 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting to be held on November 13 & 14, 2010; location TBA.

REGIONAL MEMBER'S NEWS:

1. Midwest Kendo Federation. Submitted by Les Wilson, and Yoshiteru Tagawa.

MWKF Tournament held on 11/14/09, hosted by Chicago Kendo Dojo.

Jr. Youth:

Igi, Choyokan: Gold

Sr. Youth:

Umakoshi, Detroit: Gold
Ponchart, E. Michigan: Silver
Iijima, Hokkyokusei-Bronze
Matsuyama-Cleveland: Bronze
Women:

Takashima, Wisconsin: Gold
Saathof, Wash.U: Silver
Miyamoto, Chicago: Bronze
Kang, Detroit: Bronze
Mudansha:

Walther, Bloomington: Gold
Choi, Purdue: Silver
Williams, Minnehaha: Bronze
Yang, Minnehaha: Bronze
1dan-2dan:

Hill, Battle Creek: Gold
Chaffin, Battle Creek: Silver
Tamura, MSU: Bronze
Beste, Wisconsin: Bronze
3dan and above:

Yoshida, Battle Creek: Gold
Iwasaki, UIUC: Silver
Hori, Choyokan: Bronze
Murakami, Detroit: Bronze

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REGIONAL MEMBER'S NEWS: [continued]

1. Midwest Kendo Federation.
MWKF Tournament held on 11/14/09, hosted by Chicago Kendo Dojo [continued]

Youth Team:

Cleveland/Detroit/E. MI: Gold
Hokkyokusei/Moline: Silver

Adult Team:

Detroit A: Gold
Choyokan A: Silver
Chicago A: Bronze
Battle Creek: Bronze

Fighting Spirit:

Travis Stronach, Wisconsin

12th Annual Detroit Open Tny:

February 13 & 14, 2010
Birmingham, Michigan

For details contact:

Akira Inoue
detroitkendodojo@hotmail.com

2. Northern CA. Kendo Federation
Submitted by George Nishiura and Court Tanouye.

AUSKF Kodansha Shinsa held on 11/8/09; resulted in the following three (3) NCKF kenshi promoted to 5 Dan:

Jin Echizenya, Palo Alto Dojo
Dennis Martinez, Sact'o Dojo
Yasuyuki Shimada, San Jose Dojo

3. Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation.

Submitted by Thomas Bolling and Jeff Marsten.

4th North American Women's Invitational Kendo Championship.

The Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation will host this event as follows:

Saturday: June 26, 2010
9:00am-4:00pm
Renton Community Center
1715 Maple Valley Hwy.
Renton, Washington

For details contact:

Jeffrey Marsten
616 SW 135th St.
Burien, WA. 98146
(H) (206) 246-2239
E-mail: jmarsten@comcast.net

IN MEMORIAM:

HAYASHI, AKIRA sensei 7th Dan Kyoshi, passed away in Japan on November 5, 2009. Head instructor of Vancouver Kendo Club.

4. Southern California Kendo Federation.
Submitted by Jamie Inouye.

AUSKF Kodansha Shinsa held on 11/8/09, results were:

Tom Tew, Ind. Sheriff. -5 dan
Kevin Abe, Sho Tokyo-6 dan
Yuji Hosokawa, Costa Mesa-6 dan
Moonil Kang, Chuo-6 dan
Saeko Tew, Covina- 6 dan Renshi
Chris Yang, Torrance-6 dan Renshi
Katsuo Chinen, Gedatsu-7 dan Kyoshi
Takao Shoraku, Costa Mesa-7dan Kyoshi

AUSKF 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil: Promotional Release, DVD-Limited Edition.

For Sale: While Supplies Last
AUSKF will sell to the first fifty (50) purchasers, one (1)-copy of

the AUSKF 14th WKC Promotional DVD for \$15 per DVD.

Order must be submitted with payment in the form of a bank cashier's check, money order or Pay Pal check, payable to: All United States Kendo Federation.

Send order to:

Norman Otani
2338 E. Minarets Avenue
Fresno, California 93720

Orders received in order of postmarked date, will be filled, until the final 50th DVD is sold.

No other edition of the 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil Promotional Release DVD is planned to be issued by AUSKF for sale, as of this date.

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

Future news items for the next issue to be published on or about May, 2010, can be submitted to:

e-mail:

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or:

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