

**PAN-AMERICAN GOJU RYU KARATEDO
SEIWA KAI NEWSLETTER**

**全米剛柔流空手道
誠和会社内報**

**Dedicated to Traditional Goju Ryu Karatedo
ISSUE 29: March/April 2018**

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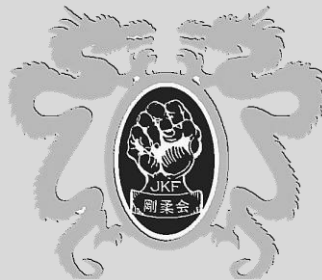
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Pan-American Seiwa Kai Newsletter

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The Treasure of Training with Gogen Yamaguchi Shihan

By Vassie Naidoo



(L to R) Me (Vassie Naidoo), Gogen Yamaguchi Shihan, and Jesse Moodley in 1978

Back in 1978, I was a member of the Yamaguchi Goju Kai organization, and I made my first trip to Japan for two weeks of Karatedo training. In order to understand how I felt on this trip, you have to know that Gogen Yamaguchi Shihan was a semi-legendary figure in his own time. He dressed in traditional Japanese clothes, wore his hair long, practiced both Shinto and yoga, and meditated regularly. His name was synonymous with Japanese Goju Ryu, and everyone who was involved in Karatedo knew his name. Even the Emperor of Japan knew who Yamaguchi Shihan was. A decade earlier, Emperor Hirohito had recognized his achievements in Karatedo by personally awarding him Japan's Blue-Ribbon Medal of Honor (藍綬褒章), and this was the man that I was about to meet.

When I landed in Tokyo, I was picked up by Shihan Gogen Yamaguchi's son, Goshi Shihan. He drove me to the family compound which contained both a home and dojo. As we drove onto the premises, I saw Yamaguchi Shihan for the first time. With his long hair and long robe flowing, he

seemed to float across the grounds, and I began to shake from the awe and excitement that overcame me. I felt this was the greatest moment of my karate life.



Then I met him. His wife (*Mama-san*) served tea, and he thanked me for taking good care of the Japanese members of our organization when they had been in South Africa. After that, *Mama-san* showed me to my room. It was a traditional Japanese room with not much furniture, a sliding door, and a tatami on the floor. When I woke up in the morning, *Mama-san* had placed a bowl of fresh fruit outside of my door. I wanted to show my appreciation for her kindness, so I went to the market and picked up a flower arrangement and gave it to her.

During the training, Yamaguchi Shihan was usually present, but he did not teach. Most of the training was conducted by Hiromasa Kikuchi Sensei. One day, we all hiked high up a mountainside until we found a suitable spot to train, and we trained for several hours. Then we headed back down the mountain until we found a spot to rest. There we ate some food, and soon bottles of beer were opened and enthusiastically consumed. I thought that training was over for the day, and we continued our journey down the mountain until someone found another good place to train. So, we trained for a couple more hours. When we finally reached the bottom of the mountain, we were tired, but not too tired to find a tavern where more beer was consumed. We all had a great evening of partying after a great day of training.

One day, I was assigned the honor of training the other non-Japanese students. The room that we were to train in was a room that Yamaguchi Shihan used for his personal meditation. I noticed that on the shrine in this room, there was a photo of the Indian yogi who had been Yamaguchi Shihan's teacher in yoga. In his book, *Karate: Goju-ryu by The Cat* (1966), there is an extensive section devoted to yoga. Before I left Japan and returned to South Africa, Yamaguchi Sensei presented me with a signed copy of this book.

The day before the scheduled Shinsa, Goshi Shihan invited me to train at his dojo in Oyama which is about 45 miles (or 72 kilometers) from Tokyo. I was driven there by some of Goshi Shihan's students. When I arrived at the dojo, we practiced kihon and kata until we were near exhaustion. Then Goshi Shihan said "Vassie, come forward." All of his students began to get ready, and I quickly realized that he intended for me to spar all of his students – one at a time. In those days, the Japanese wanted to kick the ass of any foreigner who was training in their martial art in their homeland. Each one came at me hard and tried to knock me down, but I was fit because I trained

hard all of the time. On the way back to Tokyo, Goshi Shihan's students complimented me on my kumite and told me "Your spirit is very strong."

The next day, it was time for the Shinsa, and sitting prominently on the grading panel was Yamaguchi Sensei. I was successful and was awarded my Sandan. Two years later I was awarded my teaching credentials from Gogen Yamaguchi Shihan. This document is framed, and I proudly display it on the wall of my Santa Monica Dojo.

One day after training, Yamaguchi Shihan took the time to discuss South Africa's apartheid policies with me. This was a policy of segregation of society according to color and ethnicity. It was the law and was strictly enforced. Yamaguchi Shihan looked at me and told me "Apartheid has no place in Goju Ryu." He was telling me that everyone should have the opportunity to train in Goju Ryu, and that the only thing that should distinguish one person from another is what they achieve from their efforts.

Before I returned to South Africa, I flew to Connecticut to visit Leo Shihan who was living near Yale University at the time. From there I flew to London, England and spent some time there. Eventually, I returned home to South Africa and resumed my teaching.

I will always treasure the time that I spent with Yamaguchi Sensei, and I wanted to share some of that treasure with you, my Seiwa Kai Family.





Why Train in Japan? By Jim Pounds

Okay, I've done it.

Once again, I've committed to traveling to Japan to train. Just the price of the airline ticket is enough to make me cringe, but by the time I factor in all the costs of training seminars, hotels, food, a Japan Rail Pass, and gradings (if applicable), I've invested a tidy sum of money. Then there is also the vacation time I will have sacrificed to do this. I try to rationalize it all to my wife, who doesn't train anymore. Thank goodness, she trained for years and has also trained in Japan, so she, better than most, understands that this is my passion and why it is necessary. But she is also aware that she'll be a single parent to our 5-year-old for the three weeks I'll be away. I get 'the look' when I announce that I feel the need to go back to Japan this year. I've tried inviting her to come along probably so I'll feel less guilty, but she's lived in Japan in the summer and is not too keen on being hot and sweaty *and* a single parent there while I'm training. Plus, it is simply too expensive for all three of us to go except every once in a great while.

So why am I doing it again? Every year there's that unusual feeling of nervous anticipation coupled with utter joy as I enter the airport for the first leg of my long flight. Getting packed was stressful enough with all the karate gis, passport, Gojukai and Seiwakai documents, and everything necessary to live out of a suitcase for three weeks, so by the time I slide exhausted into my seat on the plane, I am ready to zone out. That's when I can finally think about my why for these trips.

Training in Japan is all about immersion. Not only immersion into karate-do, but also immersion into the culture. I try to explain this to my students, but I am reminded of the Zen saying, "You may talk about water, but the mouth will not become wet." Until you experience that difference, you are only intellectually able to understand an experiential event. All of the expectations of a student of karate are no different from the values and obligation of every member of Japanese society. In the West, we tend to think the discipline, courtesy, respect, and hard work of karate training are something apart from our everyday lives, whereas in Japan, you'll begin to understand these are cultural qualities, not just martial qualities. Japanese culture is built upon mutual respect and cooperation, and while training there you begin to get that. For example, a conductor on the *Shinkansen* (bullet train), who bows to the passengers when he enters and leaves each railroad car, is paying the same respect to you that you pay to your Sensei and fellow students in the dojo. The act is one of respect rather than a show of subservience. I always try to fly Japanese airlines to and from because they are true traveling emissaries of the country, and by flying them I find myself easing back into that courtesy, respect, and attention to detail that makes Japan special. And coming back, I'm trying to extend that cultural phenomenon as long as I can.

Peter Urban, an early pioneer of Japanese Goju-Ryu in the United States proclaimed three rules for a dojo, which are a microcosm of the expectations in Japan of anyone in any martial art – or any Japanese art for that matter, whether calligraphy, puppetry, or ikebana (flower arranging):

- Everyone works
- All start at the bottom.
- Nothing is free.

These are the expectations and there are no exceptions as far as I can tell.

Everyone works. If you put on your karate gi, it is understood you are willing to put 110% of your effort into every minute of training, no matter how hard or how long it continues. I'll be on the training floor dead tired and soaking wet and whining to myself about how hard this is, then I look around me and there are Japanese kids, male and female, working just as hard with a cultural stoicism that embarrasses me to ball up and get with it. It is such a cultural difference from students in the West who would wither under those expectations, not that they can't do it, but because *it isn't expected of them*. That's the difference and so they never realize they can. In the Budokan, eight-year-olds stay on the floor as long as we do and never complain and never slack. Heat, humidity, and being tired are the norm. They accept it. As Fumio Demura once said, "It's okay to quit...you just can't be first." Buck up and stay with it. *Ossu!*



All start at the bottom. There are no prima donnas and humble pride is considered a virtue. You start with a white belt and a white gi. From there it is up to you. If you chop wood and carry water long enough you develop character. You also get good at it and become undaunted by the hard work involved. If someone chops and carries for you, they are depriving

you of an important step in your own development. In Japan, this is a cultural understanding. If the nail sticks up, it must be pounded down...not to take anything from you, but to develop something unbendable within. Chopping wood and carrying water in itself is not particularly

enlightening, but your ability to do it to survive is. Punches and kicks are not that enlightening either – especially thousands of them but do them long enough and improve over years you just may become a Sensei yourself. To get there you start at the bottom. The bottom is a beginning and even the Munchkins knew you had to start there to follow the yellow brick road.

Nothing is free. You pay a lot of money to do this training, but you pay a lot more in hard work and stamina. From that hard work and testing of your stamina you learn the value of discipline. Discipline hones willpower. Willpower creates character and caliber. You see where this is going, don't you? Of course, you do, or you wouldn't stay with your training. The ones who don't understand the concept behind discipline leave. The ones who stay on the path are continually honing the blade of their totality. Country musician Billy Joe Shaver wrote a song titled "I'm just an old hunk of coal (But I'm gonna be a diamond someday)" Uh huh.

When I'm in Japan I feel that I'm surrounded with these qualities twenty-four hours a day, not just in the dojo. It is embedded in the culture and is why you are treated with respect by everyone, why there is no litter on the streets, and why you don't have to complain about the amount of noise in your apartment after ten at night. These qualities are larger than martial arts. To really understand and embody them will not only make you a better martial artist, they will make you a better member of your society. I train in Japan to remind myself that is the true essence of the martial spirit. Anyone can learn to punch and kick or perhaps to fight like a demon, but if you don't yet realize the importance of respect and cooperation to society, especially for those with a warrior bent, then I suggest you train in Japan.

Seiwa Kai Canada – Vancouver, Seminar and Shinsa 2018
With Vassie Naidoo Shihan, 8th Dan, Seiwa Kai International Vice President,
And Pan-American Seiwa Kai President & Chief Instructor
March 9, 10, 11, 2018
By Jan Stefanovic



Vancouver and Squamish, British Columbia, Canada

Considering how busy Shihan Vassie Naidoo's schedule is, traveling and teaching seminars every single month this year, we were very, very lucky to have him agree to come to Vancouver and share his knowledge with us for 3 days - March 9, 10, 11, 2018

The seminar with Vassie Shihan in (surprisingly) sunny Vancouver and Squamish was probably the best seminar that many of us have ever attended. We had a group of 25 adult students from 4 clubs attending, with Shihans Alan Chan, Michael Casinha and Raymond Fujino assisting during the seminar.



The number of techniques coming straight from legendary masters like Akira Shiomi Shihan, Shuji Tasaki Shihan, Seiichi Fujiwara Shihan generously shared with us by Vassie Naidoo Shihan was simply unbelievable. Sometimes we practice kata for years and never notice or understand some little details. For example, the reason why one has to put one's thumb on the index finger or ring finger during Tensho kata? I had no idea. Now I know why; Vassie Shihan demonstrated the reason with a tiny amount of educational pain. Why should we put our elbows a little deeper for gedan barai? As our very own Alan Chan Shihan joked: "Well, looks like we all have to re-learn Gekisai kata!"



We have learned many, many techniques during this seminar, hidden techniques so effective and logical, that we started to believe that Vassie Shihan actually may be Japanese in his previous life!

The Seiwakai Shinsa was held after the seminar in Squamish. It was a big success as well, with a few swollen faces and 3 cracked ribs, but even those unfortunate students did not mind at all. I really liked it when Hannah Morrow chose her own mom, Alison, as a

kumite partner during the test. Everybody was dead tired, proud and happy!

After the Seiwakai Shinsa in Squamish, we had a great dinner at Gingeri Chinese Cuisine in Richmond, organized by Alan Chan Shihan (or should I say his lovely wife Dora?). Food was out of this world, the atmosphere even better, and the feeling? Just one word: Family... Seiwakai family!

Shihan Vassie shared great stories from the past, tournaments, grading, and conversations with Tasaki Shihan, Fujiwara Shihan, stories from dojos in South Africa... he opened the book of his life in front of us.

We were sitting around and listening like there was no tomorrow. Even our non-karateka spouses were spellbound.

Thank you very much, Vassie Naidoo Shihan for your teaching, for opening your heart to us, for sharing your wisdom, for the sweat, laughs and camaraderie. You made us work hard and yet we still had fun! Hope to see you again very soon, Shihan!

Let Loose the Lion By Mark Cramer



The truth is like a lion; you don't have to defend it. Let it loose; it will defend itself. – Saint Augustine

I have been reading *Classical Fighting Arts* magazine for many years. Their articles on Karatedo history are usually accurate and quite interesting. However, in the latest issue there is some discussion about Japanese Goju Ryu and the JKF that contains some horribly inaccurate and misleading information. The information to which I am referring is in an interview with Meitatsu Yagi, a Sensei in Okinawan Goju Ryu.

Yagi Sensei describes a meeting that supposedly took place about fifty years ago between several Okinawan karate leaders and several representatives of the Japan Karatedo Federation (JKF). He asserts that the Japanese asked the Okinawan Karatedo organizations to support Japan's national games which included sport Karatedo. Specifically, the Japanese wanted the Okinawans to support both the kata and kumite events in the national games. Yagi sensei said that the Okinawans agreed to accept Japanese kumite but wanted the JKF to accept the Okinawan versions of the various kata. That request was rejected by the Japanese, and full cooperation between the Okinawan Karatedo organizations and the Japan Karatedo Federation (JKF) failed to materialize.¹

¹ *Classical Fighting Arts*, Vol. 3 No. 5 (Issue #55): page 21

According to Yagi Sensei, a couple of months later one senior Okinawan instructor (who was not named) changed his mind, went to Japan, and joined the JKF.² Even though the senior Okinawan instructor was not named in the interview, it seems all too likely that the unnamed sensei is Eiichi Miyazato who was a senior student of Miyagi Sensei and became an advisor to both the JKF and the JKF Goju Kai.³

Then things became quite inflammatory in the interview when Yagi Sensei asserted that this senior instructor's change of mind "involved money, people changing their political positions, influence being exerted by some of the biggest names in the Japanese commercial-industrial complex, and so forth."⁴ In short, Yagi Sensei makes it sound as if this "unnamed" senior Okinawan instructor was bribed and browbeaten into complying with the JKF, and he completely ignores the possibility that this senior instructor could have sincerely believed that by working with his counterparts in Japan he could get better results than by opposing them.

Since no names and no specifics were given in these accusations, it is impossible to verify their truth. Quite simply, without specifics the assertions are impossible to verify one way or the other. However, if Miyazato Sensei is the unnamed "senior instructor" referred to in the article, I find it quite difficult to believe that money and cohesion were involved in him becoming a JKF Goju Kai advisor. He was known to be an honest individual who sincerely believed that cooperation with his Goju Ryu counterparts in Japan was the best course to take in promoting traditional Goju Ryu in Okinawa, Japan, and around the world.

Eventually, things became even more distorted and incendiary in the interview when Yagi Sensei explained how Goju Ryu gradings were held in the JKF. "There is a big difference between dan grade examinations in Okinawa and the (Japanese) mainland... Maybe the person taking the test has studied Goju Ryu for a long time, as much as thirty years, but the examiner has studied only two or three years. So the novice is judging the kata of someone senior to him by decades of training."⁵ If this were true, it would be problematic to the integrity of Japanese Goju Ryu.

However, nothing could be further from the truth. As we all know, the requirements to be on a JKF Goju Kai grading panel are quite stringent. If someone has several decades of experience and is grading for Rokudan or above, the five examiners must be a minimum of Hachidan and possess a Hanshi title. It would take a minimum of thirty-seven years of training to achieve this JKF Goju Kai grade and title.⁶ Clearly, no one with thirty years of training could be graded by someone who had been training only two or three years.

² *Classical Fighting Arts*, Vol. 3 No. 5 (Issue #55): page 21

³ Miyazato Eiichi: *Okinawan Den Goju Ryu Karate-do*: page 167

⁴ *Classical Fighting Arts*, Vol. 3 No. 5 (Issue #55): page 21

⁵ *Classical Fighting Arts*, Vol. 3 No. 5 (Issue #55): page 22

⁶ JKF Goju-Kai All Japan Karate-do Federation Goju-Kai (Regulations): page 20

JKF Goju Kai Grading Panel in Santa Monica, CA in November 2017 – All are JKF Goju Kai Rokudan or higher and all possess a Kyoshi title or greater.



This interview with Yagi Sensei

is replete with other glaring inaccuracies about Japanese Goju Ryu and the JKF, and one must ask why. Is Yagi Sensei simply misinformed and unintentionally giving this inaccurate information

Chapter 17 Authorization/Award Process for Dan and Title

The followings are the Conditions for Dan and Title acquisition.

Article 17-1 Dan

Rank of Dan	Acquisition Condition	Practice Years	Age
1st Dan	1st Class holder	2 or more years after starting Karate	Older than 15 years
2nd Dan	1st Dan holder	1 or more years after promotion to 1st Dan	No condition
3rd Dan	2nd Dan holder	2 or more years after promotion to 2nd Dan	No condition
4th Dan	3rd Dan holder	3 or more years after promotion to 3rd Dan	No condition
5th Dan	4th Dan holder	4 or more years after promotion to 4th Dan	No condition
6th Dan	5th Dan holder	5 or more years after promotion to 5th Dan	Older than 38 years
7th Dan	6th Dan holder	6 or more years after promotion to 6th Dan	Older than 44 years
8th Dan	7th Dan holder	7 or more years after promotion to 7th Dan	Older than 51 years

Article 17-2 Title

Title	Condition of qualification and application	Age
Renshi	3 years or more passed after promotion to 5th Dan	Older than 30 years old
Kyoushi	5 years or more passed after promotion to 6th Dan and acquisition of Renshi	Older than 45 years old
Hanshi	7 years or more passed after promotion to 8th Dan and acquisition of Kyoushi	Older than 60 years old

Article 17-3 Dan promotion examination, Judge Qualification, and requisite Number of Judges

Dan level	Examiner	Number of Judge
1st to 3rd Dan	5th Dan or higher Dan rank or higher title than Renshi	5 or more
4th to 5th Dan	6th Dan or higher Dan rank or higher title than Kyoushi	5 or more
6th to 8th Dan	8th Dan or Hanshi title	5 or more

to the magazine’s readership, or is there a nefarious motive to intentionally mislead people about Japanese Goju Ryu and the JKF? I certainly can not answer that question, but I sincerely hope that the glaring inaccuracies and unverifiable accusations are unintentional.

As I mentioned earlier, I enjoy *Classical Fighting Arts* magazine. In the past, their articles and interviews have been interesting and accurate about traditional Karatedo. However, I am struggling to understand why this issues’ interview with Okinawan Goju Ryu Karate Sensei, Meitatsu Yagi, contains so many glaring inaccurate assertions about Japanese Goju Ryu.

JKF Goju Kai Dan Grade, Title, and Promotional Panel Requirements

Goshukan Canada

Laurentian University Karate Club Scholarship

By Craig Vokey

The Laurentian University Karate Club provides a student bursary every year. The bursary is the brainchild of Charles Fink who over the years has made this item possible. This year's recipient is Kristy Chan. Congrats Kristy!



Goshukan Canada

Karate Canada

By Craig Vokey



There were six athletes from Goshukan Canada dojo at this year's Karate Canada National Championships which had over 500 athletes competing. Congrats to Marissa Meandro for winning gold in Junior Female Kata and bronze in Senior female kata – a great achievement. Also, congrats to Daniel Mustapha for gold in Para Karate, standing mobility impairment. Special mention to Conner DiSalle for 5th in Youth Kata and to Nicholas Mustapha and Micah MacMullen for attending their first nationals. Chloe Thompson (separate picture) was attending her second nationals.

Other Goshukan Canada members attending were Charles Fink as the master of ceremonies, Ian Boyne as a National Referee A, and myself, as the President of the national federation.

Upcoming Events

Great Lakes Seiwa Kai Gasshaku, Shinsa, and Friendship Tournament with Vassie Naidoo Shihan



This coming **May 4, 5, and 6**, Great Lakes Seiwa Kai will be hosting a series of **Seiwa Kai Goju Ryu Karatedo Seminars** and the **Seiwa Kai Friendship Tournament**. This series of seminars will be taught by Hachi-dan Vassie Naidoo Shihan who is the President and Head Instructor of Pan American Seiwa Kai, President of the JKF Goju Kai USA, and Vice President of Seiwa Kai International. Vassie Naidoo Shihan is one of the few instructors who is authorized to teach Goju Ryu Karatedo Seiwa Kai internationally. Take advantage of this opportunity to train with one of the world's great instructors

of Goju Ryu Karatedo Seiwa Kai.

The seminars will cover a variety of traditional Goju Ryu katas and some prior knowledge of those kata is recommended for participation in the seminar sessions. The Seiwa Kai Friendship Tournament is open to all of our friends who train in traditional Karatedo. The schedule and costs are as follows:

Friday, May 4 (Toledo School for the Arts; 333 14th St., Toledo, OH 43604)

- Session 1 – 6:30 to 8:30 (Instructors, adult yudansha, brown belts, and invited students.)

Saturday, May 5 Douglas Rd. School -- 6875 Douglas Rd; Lambertville, MI 48144

- Session 2 – 10:00 to 11:30
- Lunch Break
- Session 3 – 1:00 to 2:30
- Session 4 – 2:45 to 4:15
- Shinsa 4:30
- Banquet – 7:00 to ? (Location TBD)

Sunday, May 6 Seiwa Kai Friendship Tournament Douglas Rd. School 6875 Douglas Rd

- 10:00 to 5:00 Kata and Kumite (1st through 4th place metals will be awarded.)
No food or drinks (except water and clear sports drinks) will be allowed

Fees – Seminar

- \$45 Total for all 3 days (Make **Checks** Payable To: **Mark Cramer**)

Fees – Tournament:

- **Entry Fees:** *No entry fees for any competitor*
- **Spectator Fees:** (Make **Checks** Payable To: **Mark Cramer**)

Adults – \$7

Students (non-participant) – \$5

Children (under school age) – \$3

Hotel Info: Accommodations: The Seminar/Tournament Hotel is the Quality Inn 3560 Secor Rd, Toledo, OH 43606 [419-531-2666](tel:419-531-2666) The special group price is \$94.99 Mention **Great Lakes Seiwakai** for the discount.

Info: Mark Cramer greatlakesseiwakai@gmail.com

SEIWAKAI GOSHUKAN CANADA

Spring Training Seminar

誠和会



剛柔流



With
FUJIWARA
HANSHI

Friday June 8th - Sunday June 10th
Orangeville Ontario

Friday, June 8

11:00am-1:00pm Waterfall Training
5:00pm-6:00pm Registration-Athlete Institute
6:00pm-9:00pm Training-Athlete Institute

Saturday, June 9

9:00am-11:30pm Athlete Institute
11:30am-1:00pm Lunch Break (on your own) 1:00pm-3:00pm Athlete Institute
4:00pm-6:00pm Orangeville Dojo–Seiwakai Grading
7:00 pm-9:00pm Dinner-Tony Rose Arena

Sunday, June 10

9:00am-12:00pm Athlete Institute
1:00pm-3:00pm Orangeville Dojo–JKF Grading

Cost

Pre-Registration: Adults \$180; 12 & under \$120 (\$200 & \$140 at the door)
One Day Training: Adults \$120; 12 & Under \$80 (\$140 & \$100 at the door)

Dinner:

Adults \$50; 12 & Under \$30 *Second family member pays 75% of fee, third member onwards pays 50%

Accommodations

Athlete Institute

Coach Room – One Queen/Double, one twin bed –Private bathroom – Only two rooms available
\$150 per night

Dorm Room –Sleeps four per room –Shared bathroom (4 rooms available) – Common Bathroom (4 rooms available) – Use of common room with TV –Free wifi – On site of training location – Continental Breakfast in common room \$60 per person, per night Contact The Dojo to inquire about availability and to reserve 519-941-3656 info@dojofamilymartialarts.com

Hotels

Best Western 1-866-216-1988 Nightly rate: \$189.00 plus tax-Book under “Seiwakai Goshukan Canada Group” <http://bestwesternplusorangeville.com>

Register by May1, 2018 and Receive a Free T-Shirt

For more details, speak to your instructor



The Dojo

Your Family Martial Arts Centre

10 Second St
Orangeville, ON

736 Steeles St
Shelburne, ON

(519) 941-3656
info@dojofamilymartialarts.com
www.dojofamilymartialarts.com

**North America Seiwa Kai Seminar
Taught by Fujiwara Shihan**



Save these Dates: November 9 –11, 2018
Santa Monica at The Rustic Canyon Recreation Center



Seiwa Kai Around the Globe



Goju Ryu Karatedo Seiwa Kai International

From Seiichi Fujiwara Shihan



Dear Members,

We are pleased to inform you about our 44th JKF Gojukai All Japan Tournament held in Akita on July 28th to 29th in 2018. Kata seminar and Dan promotion test are also done on July 26th and 27th



We hope many of you join the 44th Tournament and Kata seminar and Dan promotion test.

Sincerely yours,

Seiichi Fujiwara
Head of Overseas Committee JKF Gojukai

Please send the entry form by e-mail to:
ALL JAPAN KARATE-DO FEDERATION GOJU-KAI OVERSEAS COMMITTEE OFFICE
Mr. Naoya Shioji
839-Musota, Wakayama-shi, Wakayama 640-8482 Japan
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(Submission of the entry forms should be made by E-mail)
Details are described later in this brochure.

The 44th JKF Gojukai All Japan Tournament – Akita 2018

Tournament (Date / Venue / Program)

- 1) Date: July 28 (Sat)~ July 29 (Sun)
- 2) Venue: Akita Prefectural Budokan (秋田県立武道館) (“Akita Kenritu Budokan”)
(〒010-1623 Akita-ken, Akita-shi, Arayamachi, Sanuki- 2 - 2 / Phone +81 18-862-6651)
(<http://www.akisouko.com/budokan/>)
- 3) Opening ceremony July 28 09:30 - 10:30
Competition Day1 (Preliminary round) July 28 10:50 - 18:00
Day2 (Final round) July 29 09:00 - 15:00
Closing ceremony July 29 15:30 -

Kata Seminar (for overseas members)

Date/Time: July 26 (Thu) 10:00 -17:00 (12:00 -14:00 for Lunch)
July 26 (Thu) 17:30 -19:00 (Overseas representative Meeting)
July 27 (Fri) 10:00 -12:00

(Registration desk for overseas members open at 9:00)

Venue: Akita Prefectural Budokan (see tournament venue address)

Dan promotion Test

- i) Dan promotion test up to 5 Dan for overseas members
Date & Time: July 27 (Fri) 13:00 - 17:00
Venue: Akita Kenritu Budokan Kendojo
- ii) Dan promotion test for all members 6 Dan - 8 Dan
Date & Time : July 27 (Fri) 10:00 -17:00
Venue: Akita Kenritu Budokan Syodojo

Meetings (Akita Prefectural Budokan - meeting room)

Overseas representative meeting	July 26 (Thu)	17:30 - 19:00
Executive Board director meeting	July 27 (Fri)	17:00 - 19:00
Referee meeting	July 28 (Sat)	08:20 - 08:50
Manager meeting	July 28 (Sat)	09:00 - 09:20
Referee meeting	July 29 (Sun)	08:30 - 08:50

Welcome Party

Date/Time: July 28 (Sat) 19:00 -

Venue: Akita View Hotel (2-6-1 Nakadori Akitashi) (Phone: +81-018-832-1111)

Fee: JPY 7,000

Seiwa Kai South Africa By Ben Mare



Congratulations to Jarrod Odendal and Candice Leslie who were the winners of the Etekweni karate junior kata division. They are seen here with Sonny Pillay, KSA President and WKF Technical Board Member.

Seiwa Kai Goshukan South Africa

By Gary Mahnke

Goshukan ReachOut is proud to announce the opening of yet another FREE dojo at Dawn Park Primary in Gauteng, where we will be teaching Karate and functional fitness to over 400 kids per week.

Under the expert guidance of Marius and Tarryn Madgwick, these children will train at absolutely no charge to the student or the school.

Goshukan ReachOut is the nonprofit division of Goshukan Karate South Africa.



Congratulations

Goshukan South Africa proudly introduces Armand Boucher. This young man, with the courage warrior, battled all adversity and his opponents to become the very first Goshukan athlete to ever win the Disability Division of the WKF KSA South African All Style Championships by taking Gold at the 2018 Nationals last weekend.



Seiwa Kai England

Gurmit Singh Shihan with Gogen Yamaguchi Shihan



Many of us in the Seiwa Kai were once members of Gogen Yamaguchi Shihan's Goju Kai organization, and some of us were lucky enough to train directly with him. Gurmit Singh Shihan, President of Seiwa Kai England, was one of those lucky people. He also had the pleasure to converse directly (through a translator) with Yamaguchi Shihan.

I hope to report more of his experiences with Yamaguchi Shihan in a future issue of the newsletter.

Seiwakai Seminar in Slovakia-Topolcany With Rastislav Mraz Shihan



The seminar covered the following:

- Techniques from Goju Ryu Kata: Gek Sai I, Gek Sai II, Sanchin, Tensho, Saifa, Seiunchin, Sanseru, Shisochin, Seipai, Seisan, Kururunfa, Suparinpei
- Application of techniques (Bunkai)
- Explanation of Goju Ryu principles
- Work with energy
- Information about the organization of Seiwa Kai International and history from its formation until today

Seiwa Kai Portugal

By Abel Figueiredo



A recent seminar in Portugal united 102 karate practitioners of Goju Ryu Karatedo Seiwa Kai. A special memorial ceremony for Shihan Leo Lipinski was conducted, and the memory of two students was celebrated.

Our hearts become bigger and smaller at the same time, and the miracle of flow under Karatedo as education for body - mind - spirit become reality for some moments during this day.

We are only learners between brothers in Karatedo. The deep lessons we take from each other are always about the values of care by ourselves and other ones! These are the values of Budo.

Memorial Seminar in Portugal.
Shihan Leo Lipinski (+2018)
Sensei Ricardo Ribeiro (+2017)
Sensei José Antunes (+2016)