



Hui-O-Judo Beltsville

January 2007 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

January

2	Beginners class starts	Beltsville, MD
13	Shufu Referee Clinic	Beltsville, MD
14	14 th Annual Starrett Cup Judo Championships	Brooklyn, NY
20	USJI – Maryland Interim Promotionals	Glenn Dale, MD
28	Northeast Y Invitational Judo Tournament	Philadelphia, PA

February

3	Shufu Open Judo Championships	College Park, MD
24	Virginia State Open Judo Championships	Arlington, VA

March

6	Beginners class starts	Beltsville, MD
10	Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships	Beltsville, MD
10	New York Mens Open	New York, NY
24-25	High School and Colligate Nationals	Miami, FL
31-Apr	Liberty Bell Judo Championships	Philadelphia, PA

Happy New Year

Happy New Year greetings to all. We wish each of you a very happy and prosperous New Year. Thank you for supporting the club and making a great 2006 for us. We are looking forward to an even better year in 2007. Our dojo continues to grow and change. We welcome our new beginners, some new friends joining us and welcomed back some old friends who have been away for a while. We are happy that all of you can share your judo and we can learn from each other. Please continue to bring family and friends into judo and help our dojo to grow and develop. Best wishes to all of you.

Hui-O honors award winners At our annual Holiday party, we had a great time playing games, eating lots of great food and visiting with families of judoka. We presented the Hui-O-Judo Honors Awards. Outstanding Junior Competitor was awarded to Ernest Kwong. Outstanding Senior Competitor was awarded to Jose Luis de Leon. A judo Spirit award went to Cameron Reed. Sensei Kevin and Sensei Mark presented plaques in recognition of service and dedication to the club and to the development of judoka. The James Gosnell Inspirational Award went to Robert Kirk. The Sensei Ken Tamai Memorial Award went to Sensei Jimmy Takemori. There are plaques with the names of all of the previous award winners in the lobby of the community center. We also recognized the student athletes who have maintained honor roll status of grades 3.0 and higher while participating in judo and excelling in knowledge. The honorees for the year were: Aaron Robins, Mary Grimm, Sharon Leaman, Abel Kwong, Ernest Kwong, Kyla O'Connor, Shannon O'Connor, and Ben Soto Reiner.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following individuals who got promoted in November. Cameron Reed to Junior Gokyu, Aaron Robins to Junior Gokyu, Sharon Leaman to Junior Gokyu, Ryan Leaman to Junior Gokyu, Helen Leaman to Junior Gokyu, Anaudia Hussian to Junior Gokyu, Henry Hernandez to Junior Gokyu, Keven Hernandez to Junior Gokyu and Maksym Shevenko was promoted to his junior Yonkyu. Edward Burkett III, Jafar Jussian and Will Balgiano were all promoted to their senior Gokyu and will now wear their green belts. Congratulations to all of our fellow judoka.

Judo Clinic

Throughout the year, Hui-O hosts clinics for Shufu Yudanshakai. I encourage all of you to try to attend them. The clinics cover a variety of topics. Topics vary from coaching, refereeing, standing techniques, mat techniques, advanced competition skills, different katas, tournament operations, and a variety of other topics. The clinics are held in Beltsville at the Academic Center. They are open to all judoka, regardless of skill level or rank. The clinics are an excellent way to get instruction from different instructors, see new techniques, work with judoka from other clubs, and gain valuable experience and knowledge. Shufu has some of the oldest and best referees, who are all former great competitors, now they are our sensei's and coaches. They live judo in every sense of the word.

Hui-O-Judo Beltsville will host a Shufu Referee Clinic on Saturday, January 13, 2007 at the Beltsville Academic Center, 4300 Wicomico Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland. This clinic is open to all Judoka with a current USJF, USJI, or USJA membership. Membership in USJF or USJI can be obtained during registration. Roy Englert, IJF Referee Class A, will be the clinician. If you are a referee, teacher, coach, competitor, or technical official, you should attend to find out the latest interpretation of the rules and how they are applied. If you need another reason to attend this clinic, the new electronic scoreboards will be at this event. This will give referees and scorekeepers a chance to use them and get comfortable with them. It will cover all of the topics Refereeing. There have been many new changes and interpretations of the rules. Roy Englert has given numerous clinics on this topic. It is good general knowledge for any judoka to stay current on the rules and regulations, as well as all of the current changes. I strongly encourage all judoka who currently compete or are planning to referee in judo to attend. It is also a good way to learn rules and regulations of the sport. We also need some judoka to have some practice contest, randori, for the people attending the clinic to practice their skills. Please try to attend. It is open to all skill levels.

MJI Interim Promotionals - Maryland Judo, Inc. will hold its Winter Interim Promotions on Saturday, January 20, 2007 at the Baltimore Judo Club in Baltimore, Maryland. This is a small interim promotion consisting of examination and demonstration only. There will be no competition. The intent is to serve special needs Judoka, non-competitors, Maryland residents and those who could not participate in Shufu's November promotion due to circumstances beyond their control such as disability, illness, school or business functions, religious reasons, etc. Shufu Yudanshakai members, who successfully test for promotion, will be recommended for promotion to Shufu Yudanshakai.

Promotionals: The promotionals are rapidly approaching again. There is a great deal of information that each of you needs to review and know. Promotional requirements should not be studied just before an examination. All of the students should be constantly studying their examination requirements throughout the year. It is very important that you all know the terminology, in both Japanese and English. We are able to

spend a limited amount of time reviewing all of the materials. All of you should have the judo study book. There is a great deal of information contained in this book. I realize that all of you have many other responsibilities in your lives. Please take the time to look over the requirements at home and bring your questions to class. Anyone who is going to try for their promotion should see Sensei Kevin or Sensei Mark as soon as possible. Even if you are not going to be promoted you should try to attend. It will be a great learning experience.

Hui-O travel team – We are looking at taking small teams of judoka to local tournament a few hours drive from here. Hui-O supports many of the local tournaments to help build fellowship in judo and to challenge us with different types of competition. There are tournaments in Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York, and the Carolinas. However, Sensei Mark and Sensei Kevin both work all day at the events as well as drive and help to manage the team. We would like to have a few parents or senior students volunteer to go along on the trip to help drive and to assist with team management. You can help keep stats on the tournament and take photos at the events for us. Robert Kirk was a huge help to us for our trip up to Connecticut. Having additional people along allows us to take the newer judoka to help them gain experience at small events or allow us to take more seasoned players to high level competitions. Two larger tournaments we attend are the Liberty Bell in Pennsylvania in April and the AM CAN in Niagra Falls, NY in May.

Beltsville Spring Open – Hui-O will once again host the Beltsville Open on Saturday, March 10th at the Beltsville Academic Center. We renamed the tournament in honor of our Sensei. It is called the Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships. All judoka are encouraged to participate. We need EVERYONE's assistance with the tournament. The tournament setup is Friday night from 7-9pm. We have to move all of mats up from the dojo to the school and return them on Saturday night. Saturday we need help with registration beginning at 8:15am!! We also need help with the referee food area, concession stand, mat tables, raffle ticket sales, t-shirt sales and general tournament operations. Please enlist the assistance of your family. We look forward to seeing you at the tournament.

Colder weather. With the colder weather now here, please bring a jacket to class to wear home. Getting hot and sweaty in class then going outside in the cooler weather will bring on a cold. We want everyone in the club to be healthy and happy. If you are sick, please do not come to class, since we do not want to get the rest of the class sick, too.

Winter Weather policy Please use common sense in the winter months. If government and schools are closed, there is a good chance that the Community Center may also be closing. If you are uncertain, call the Center at 301-937-6613. If you are uncomfortable driving in winter conditions, especially if the roads are icy, we do not want anyone to take an unnecessary risk coming to practice.

PG government is closed - Community Center is closed

PG Schools are closed - Community Center is OPEN

Delayed PG schools opening - Community Center is OPEN

Early dismissal at PG Schools - Community Center is OPEN

Please listen to radio and television stations concerning the status of schools and government. You can ALWAYS call the community center at 301-937-6613

USA JUDO - Listed below is a very important message from the USA Judo National Office regarding a major change in USA Judo membership registration. First the good news. USA Judo now offers nice discounts on family memberships. This is something that has been urged for a number of years by folks and is now a reality. Please take advantage of this option if you have multiple members of your family involved in Judo.

In regard to other important news effective January 1, 2007, USA Judo has eliminated the joint liability insurance partnership with the USJF and now has its own separate insurance plan. The joint liability insurance partnership is now gone so the USJF primary with USA Judo secondary membership option is no longer allowed. Note that if you had already renewed your USA Judo-USJF membership BEFORE the end of 2006, the USJF primary choice is still indeed valid and will be in effect until the expiration date listed on your current Judo card. There is no need to worry, however when you reapply in 2007 it will be done under the new membership policy. There are still a few questions I have about this but most have been answered in the announcement. Please visit the USA Judo webpage at <http://www.usjudo.org> and the USJF webpage at <http://www.usjf.com> to get more information on this. The Shufu Judo Yudanshakai and Virginia Judo Inc. webpages will be updated to reflect this major change as soon as possible. Life Memberships discounts with USA Judo and the USJF are still in effect and are a valid, but the Life Member secondary membership discounts are not an option anymore. Here is the official announcement from USA Judo. Please pass this information to others. Thank you.

USA Judo Announces Start of New Membership Program - As the 2007 New Year arrives, USA Judo is pleased to announce a new membership program. Beginning January 1, USA Judo will no longer offer secondary membership as the two-tiered structure is replaced with a single level of membership.

As the 2007 New Year arrives, USA Judo is pleased to announce a new membership program. Beginning January 1, USA Judo will no longer offer secondary membership as the two-tiered structure is replaced with a single level of membership. All USA Judo members who have registered by midnight, December 31, 2006 will be referred to as of January 1, 2007 as "USA Judo member" regardless of whether they registered as a "primary" or "secondary" member. Memberships previously known as "secondary" will be honored as "USA Judo members" through their individual expiration dates in 2007. "Over the last year or so we at the USA Judo National Office have been studying how to improve the membership services. We have introduced as part of these membership improvements a family membership plan in order to encourage and save money for our members," said USA Judo CEO **Jose H. Rodriguez**. "We have also introduced a youth membership program which is now being implemented with our new Police Athletic League, and Boys Scouts/Girl Scouts programs. We will soon make this eight-week youth membership program available to all USA Judo member clubs to encourage more young people to try out judo. The secondary membership program we used to offer hinged on the fact that we were sharing insurance policies with U.S. Judo Federation; however once that changed this year it was a matter of business decision to discontinue the secondary membership." Rodriguez continued: "We have been discussing this change in our membership structure with the USJF leadership since last October and at the meeting we had in Dallas a few weeks ago we created a working committee where we will begin to look at the possibility of a mutually beneficial membership program that would include USA Judo, USJA and USJF". USA Judo would like to encourage as many of our members as possible to please use our ONLINE membership registration by going to www.usjudo.org. When you register online you will get your membership card and number on the spot. This will save USA Judo members a tremendous amount of time. Further, if you happen to lose our card, you can go back and reprint it completely free of charge. As part of USA Judo's new online systems, our members will be able to register for all of our events online later this year which also will save you both money and time. Very soon, USA Judo members will be able to complete coaching background screens online as well as apply for ranks and promotions. All of this is part of USA Judo's continued effort to provide our members with quick and timely services. "We want to assure all of our members who have signed up as secondary members by Dec. 31 that you will lose no benefits and your membership to USA Judo is valid through the expiration date of your membership," added USA Judo President **Dr. Ron Tripp**. "We are striving to find better ways to serve our members and we do hope that more of them look into registering online - it is the way of the future for our sport!" All State Organizations already have received the new USA Judo membership forms and clubs will be receiving them soon. The online registration program at www.usjudo.org already has the new membership structure and the family membership information.

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