

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

KENDO

Vol. 11 No. 2
May 14, 2008

2008 AUSKF CHAMPIONSHIPS-LAS VEGAS!!

**2006-2008
OFFICERS:**
PRESIDENT:
Atsushi Hori

EXECUTIVE VP:
Norman K. Otani, Esq.

VP-PROM & EXAMS:
Ichiro Murakami

VP-COMPETITION:
Koki Ariga

VP-EDUCATION:
Yoshiteru Tagawa

TREASURER:
Tomoji Kato

SEC-HISTORIAN:
Yoshinobu Yonekawa

AUDITOR:
Masaharu Makino

DIRECTORS:
*Arnold Matsuda
Yuji Onitsuka
Masashi Shikai
Shozo Kato
Shinichi Koike
Maki Miyahara
Shinobu Maeda
Takeshi Yamaguchi
Charlie Tanaka*

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Report submitted by Atsushi Hori.

Greetings to all members and their families of the All United States Kendo Federation ["AUSKF"]; I hope that each of you are just as excited as I am in anticipation of the upcoming 2008 AUSKF Championships that will be held on July 3, 4 & 5, 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For the first time in the AUSKF Championship event history, there will be three(3) days of competitive events. The first day will feature the Jr. Youth, Sr. Youth and a "NEW" division added for the first time: Women's & Men's Mudansha individual matches; the second day will be the Men's, Women's & Senior Division individual matches. Then, the third day will feature the Jr. Youth, Sr. Youth, Men's & Women's Team matches.

In addition to the kendo matches, plans have been made to have a traditional Nihon Kendo Kata, Iaido, and a special Kobudo demonstration on each of the three days of the 2008 AUSKF Championships event.

So, all in all, the 2008 AUSKF Championships event looks like it will be one of the best in the history of the AUSKF, providing exciting kendo matches, special demonstrations, and an opportunity to try one's luck at any one of the many Las Vegas gaming facilities.

I also want to mention that the 2006-2008 AUSKF board of directors held their bi-annual meeting on April 12 & 13, 2008, in Detroit, Michigan. As per the past established AUSKF protocol, the Highlights of this AUSKF board of directors meeting can be reviewed,

**2008 AUSKF Board of Directors
Meeting, Detroit, Michigan:**

following this *From the President* article.

Of the many agenda items reviewed by the 2006-2008 AUSKF board of directors; special mention is made of the Final Report and Recommendation by the AUSKF Member Association Committee to confirm that the Western Kendo Federation has maintained all of the prerequisites set forth in the AUSKF policy and procedures for new member associations during the one-year period following the initial approval. On behalf of the AUSKF, we warmly welcome the Western Kendo Federation members and look forward to a long-term relationship to bring together the mutual interest to practice kendo, and in doing so the diversity of kendo membership has now been broadened even further.

Lastly, I would like to briefly share with everyone, that the AUSKF has started to explore and consider the expansion of the types of benefits available to its members, e.g. scholarship programs, etc. Please look for future announcements about these new benefits when approved by the AUSKF board of directors.

Again, as in the past, if you have any questions or concerns about the day-to-day operations of the AUSKF or any of its several programs; please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,
Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President
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Reported by AUSKF Executive VP
Norman K. Otani

[Note: This report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the April 12 & 13, 2008, AUSKF Board of Directors meeting; the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification]

I. OLD BUSINESS:

A. 13th WKC-Team U.S.A Results: Press Release and DVD of 13th WKC Match Between Team U.S.A. and Japan to Major U.S.A. Newspaper & Television Sports Editors [update].

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, reported that the efforts to compile a list of the Major U.S.A. Newspaper & Television Sports Editors is still in the process of being finalized. The initial approved plan is to have an edited copy of a DVD made with permission of Kendo Nippon of the 13th WKC-Men's Team U.S.A. v. Japan matches; this DVD will then be distributed to the Major U.S.A. Newspaper & Television Sports Editors to promote the development of kendo in the United States.

In addition, an AUSKF press release will be sent to the local Las Vegas, Nevada, television stations and newspapers with a copy of the above noted DVD, to promote media coverage of the 2008 AUSKF Championships events.

B. Korean Kumdo Association,U.S.A.: Proposal To Join AUSKF.

B.(1.) Proposed Update: PPG 4.00.00-4.06.00 Guidelines for Member Association.

[See AUSKF Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 1] As explained in the Highlights of the November 10 & 11, 2007 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting under I. Old Business: Item H. A proposed update to PPG 4.00.00 -4.06.00 was presented by Norman K. Otani, to address the previous concerns raised by Atsushi Hori and Koki Ariga, RE: PPG 4.00.00 -4.06.00, to make very clear the following: (a.). After the initial new member association
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application is approved, during the one(1) year review period, the new member association will be eligible for all AUSKF membership benefits, and will be eligible to participate in all AUSKF events and activities. (b.) If the new member association applicant does NOT have prior FIK(IKF) country status prior to submitting the application, then they could not conduct promotional examinations as allowed under the current AUSKF promotion examination regulations. (c.) The new member association must maintain the prerequisites of having a minimum of five(5) dojos and a minimum population census of one hundred (100) individuals., during the one(1) year review period following approval; failure to maintain the above prerequisites during the one (1) year review period will result in consideration for termination of the initial approval as a new member association.

After the above proposed update of PPG 4.00.00 - 4.06.00 was presented; Takeshi Yamaguchi requested the AUSKF board of directors to reconsider the Position Paper on WKF Application submitted previously for review at the AUSKF board of directors meeting held on November 10 & 11, 2007 [see AUSKF Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 1. Highlights of November 10 & 11, 2007 AUSKF board of directors meeting: I. Old Business. Item H.].

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, reminded the AUSKF board of directors that the Position Paper on WKF [“Western Kendo Federation”] Application was carefully reviewed at the November 10 & 11, 2007 AUSKF board of directors meeting; and after final review and approval by the AUSKF board of directors, a formal reply was made.

Shozo Kato also reiterated previously discussed concerns raised during several prior AUSKF board of directors meetings as to why the new member association/WKF, could not join one of the current AUSKF member federations if their dojos are within one of the **2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Detroit, Michigan:**

geographical areas covered by the existing AUSKF member federation.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, reminded the AUSKF board of directors that the current AUSKF by-laws and AUSKF policy and procedures was previously amended to remove the criteria of limiting the formation of new member associations due to geographical location. It was also pointed out that several current AUSKF member federations consist of dojos overlapping the geographical boundaries of another AUSKF member federation.

Atsushi Hori also reminded the AUSKF board of directors that he has previously stated that at some future time the AUSKF should implement an amendment to the AUSKF by-laws and AUSKF policy and procedures to establish and limit the number of AUSKF member federations to only one(1) per each of the fifty (50) states. The achievement of this suggested change in the AUSKF by-laws and AUSKF policy and procedures, would resolve the current concerns of having more than one AUSKF member federation existing within the same geographical location as another AUSKF member federation.

The proposed update of PPG 4.00.00 - 4.06.00, as described above, was approved by the AUSKF board of directors.

B.(2.) Western Kendo Federation [“WKF”] representatives: President Peter Kim and Vice-president Bruce Partlow.

At the suggestion of Shozo Kato made at the November 10 & 11, 2007 AUSKF board of directors meeting; WKF President Peter Kim and WKF Vice-president Bruce Partlow were requested to attend the April 12, 2008 AUSKF board of directors meeting, to participate in a question and answer session and also meet all of the AUSKF board of directors.

Reported by AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani

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B.(2.) Western Kendo Federation [“WKF”] representatives: President Peter Kim and Vice-president Bruce Partlow.[continued]

Prior to beginning the question and answer period; Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP and chairman of the AUSKF Member Association Committee presented the Final Report and Recommendation regarding the WKF; notably, the report stated that the WKF had maintained the prerequisites of having a minimum of five (5) dojos and a minimum of one hundred (100) members, during the one year period, since the submission of the WKF application to become a new member association.

After a productive period of questions from the AUSKF board of directors and the responsive answers from WKF President Peter Kim and WKF Vice-president Bruce Partlow; the WKF representatives were requested to leave the board meeting room so that further discussions could be held by the AUSKF board of directors.

With the passage of the updated AUSKF PPG 4.00.00 - 4.06.00; and, per the Final Report and Recommendation of the AUSKF Member Association Committee, the Western Kendo Federation is officially welcomed as the 15th AUSKF Member Federation.

K. 2008 AUSKF Championships: Las Vegas, Nevada: July 3,4, 5, 2008.

Koki Ariga, AUSKF VP-Competition provided an updated report as to matters not previously discussed regarding the plans and arrangements being finalized for the 2008 AUSKF Championships, as follows:

1. Vendor Policy:

A vendor policy was reviewed for the 2008 AUSKF Championships event; after further discussion by the AUSKF board of directors, it was agreed to allow all interested vendors to have one (1) table each, with the further understanding that Page four

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they would have to comply with the restrictions placed by the facility to only allow vendors to make available at cost kendo supplies and equipment for the AUSKF kendoists attending the 2008 AUSKF Championships.

2. AJKF Kanto Gakusei Kendo Renmei.

It was reported that the AJKF is considering approval to send nine (9) kendo instructors from the Kanto Gakusei Kendo Renmei., led by AJKF/FIK(IKF) Vice-president Shuji Fukumoto sensei, to participate in the 2008 AUSKF Championships.

The AUSKF board of directors approved the participation of the nine (9) kendo instructors from the Kanto Gakusei Kendo Renmei to be shimpan at the 2008 AUSKF Championships; on the condition that the AJKF approves to provide for the payment of the groups travel costs and the suggested plan noted above.

3. \$10,000 Donation from Toyota Motor North America, Inc., for 2008 AUSKF Championships.

It was reported that Koki Ariga was successful to have a \$10,000 donation made to support the 2008 AUSKF Championships from the Toyota Motor North America, Inc.

4. Program Booklet for 2008 AUSKF Championships.

Yuji Onitsuka reported on behalf of Chris Yang, Program Booklet Chairman, that currently a majority of the advertisements have been collected in the Southern California area; each of the AUSKF member federations have submitted supporting advertisements, except none has been received from the Midwest Kendo Federation. Also, a production advance of \$5,000 was requested for the publication of the 2008 AUSKF Championships program booklet; this amount was approved by the AUSKF board of directors.

5. AUSKF Travel Expense Policy for Board of Directors and Shimpan.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP reminded the AUSKF board of directors **2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Detroit, Michigan:**

that it had approved at the November 10 & 11, 2007 meeting to pay a maximum of \$800 for travel and hotel expenses for each of the seventeen (17) AUSKF board of directors attending the 2008 AUSKF Championships to assist in some capacity.

In addition, the AUSKF board of directors approved to pay a maximum \$800 for travel and hotel expenses for each approved AUSKF shimpan at the 2008 AUSKF Championships.

6. Updated PPG 15.00.00 Regulations for the AUSKF Kendo Championships.

It was reported by Koki Ariga that the AUSKF member federations were provided with a copy of the updated PPG 15.00.00 Regulations for the 2008 AUSKF Championships on March 20, 2008.

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D. 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil-Team USA [Update].

1. Dates of 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil. Atsushi Hori reported that the confirmed dates of the 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil are August 28, 29 & 30, 2009.

2. Team USA-2nd Tryouts Results. Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF Team USA Manager reported on the results of the 2nd Tryouts held on March 2, 2008:

Men's Team:

15 finalists and 6 coach/mgr selection.

Women's Team:

9 finalists and 6 coach/mgr. selection.

The above finalists and coach/mgr. selections will continue kyoka renshu training for the next two months.

3. Team USA-Final Selection.

Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF Team USA Manager reported that the Final Selection will be made on June 1, 2008:

Men's Team:

7 members and 3 future competitors [coach/mgr. selection].

Women's Team:

9 members

Reported by AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani

D. 14th WKC-Sao Paolo, Brazil-Team USA [Update]. [continued]

4. Estimated Costs for 14th WKC-Team USA.
Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF Team USA Manager reported that the total estimated 14th WKC-Team USA costs will be \$110,000; plus or minus any unaccounted for necessary expenditures.

Tomoji Kato requested clarification regarding payment of AUSKF Team USA coach's expenses to attend European Kendo Championships, All Japan Kendo Championships, Korean Kendo Championships, etc.

Atsushi Hori advised the AUSKF board of directors that if the 14th WKC-Team USA Manager Charlie Tanaka approves of a coach's travel to attend European Kendo Championships, All Japan Kendo Championships, Korean Kendo Championships, etc.; this will be considered an acceptable necessary expenditure.

Charlie Tanaka reported that he approved the 14th WKC-Team USA coach's attendance at the European Kendo Championships, All Japan Kendo Championships, and Korean Kendo Championships events; and that only 50% of the coach's travel expenses would be paid for by the AUSKF.

Masaharu Makino requested to make one other clarification regarding the 14th WKC-Team USA estimated cost which included payment for the Farewell Party. This type of expense was NOT paid in the past by the AUSKF general funds for the WKC-Team USA members; however, if the Team USA fundraising amount is sufficient to cover the Farewell Party expenditures for the Team USA, then this can be paid from this separate funding source.

Charlie Tanaka also reported that he has approved a 14th WKC-Team USA medical doctor/Dr. Shinada, to be on duty during all training practices and also travel with the 14th WKC-Team USA to Page five

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Sao Paolo, Brazil.

5. 14th WKC-Preliminary Entry Due: October 31, 2008.

Atsushi Hori requested that Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF Team USA Manager be responsible to submit the 14th WKC-Preliminary Entry information to the FIK(IKF) officials by the DUE DATE: October 31, 2008.

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E. Anti-Doping Committee Proposal for AUSKF.

1. FIK Anti-Doping Rules adopted 12/7/06.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, provided copies of the FIK Anti-Doping Rules adopted on December 7, 2006 and requested that the AUSKF board of directors to consider approval for use by the AUSKF. After allowing time to review the document; the AUSKF board of directors approved and adopted the FIK Anti-Doping Rules adopted on 12/7/06; copies will be sent to each of the AUSKF member federations.

2. List of Prohibited Substances & Athlete Guide published by WADA. Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, reported that WADA [World Anti-Doping Agency] has offered to provide 100 copies of the List of Prohibited Substances & Athlete Guide for the cost of shipping.

The AUSKF board of directors approved the acceptance of the offer to pay the shipping costs to receive 100 free copies of the List of Prohibited Substances & Athlete Guide; distribution will be made to each AUSKF member federation, AUSKF board of directors, and 14th WKC-Team USA manager/coach/men's and women team members.

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F. 2008 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar report.

Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President reported that about twenty (20) AUSKF kendo instructors attended the 2008 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar in Sao Paolo, Brazil. Also, it was reported that **2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Detroit, Michigan:**

the AJKF appreciated that the AUSKF was able to have such a large delegation attend the 2008 FIK America Zone Seminar.

AJKF/FIK Director Masami Matsunaga was the Head Instructor for the 2008 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar; and assistant instructors were: Masaaki Arimitsu and Tadahiho Ajiro.

In addition, it was reported that the hosting America Zone country/Brazilian Kendo Federation provided warm hospitality to all of the AUSKF participants upon their arrival and at their departure; and overall there was a positive impression made by the AUSKF participants about the interesting environment of the Sao Paolo, Brazil area, which will be hosting the 14th WKC in August 28, 29 & 30, 2009.

Comments made by some of the AUSKF participants about the 2008 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar include the following:

Shinobu Maeda stated that he enjoyed the opportunity to attend the 2008 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar.

Masashi Shikai stated that the opening comment made by AJKF/FIK Director Head Instructor Masami Matsunaga at the 2008 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar. Matsunaga sensei made very clear that although the kendo instructors may have achieved the ranks of 7th Dan or 8th Dan; these referees must always strive to practice kendo regularly in order to be a good referee, and they must also practice being a referee to sharpen their ability to make correct judgments. Also, Mr. Shikai learned from Arimitsu sensei's referee seminar instruction in the 6-Dan and above group; that a yuko datotsu/valid strike judgment when the shinai contacts the datotsu bui area depends on how the kendoist making the strike is using the correct tenouchi with the left hand. Even if the kendoist's body position is not exactly correct, at the time of the kendo strike, a correct yuko datotsu may still be called if the correct tenouchi has been used.

Reported by AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani

G. 2008 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp:
August 29, 30 & 31, 2008.
[See III. New Business: A. Committee
Reports]

1. Review Proposal for August 31, 2008:
AUSKF Kodansha Shinsa Examiners
Reimbursement for Additional Expenses:
hotel, bento, etc.

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H. 2008 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp.
[see III. New Business: A. Committee
Reports]

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I. Review "Regional Member
Federation" RE: AUSKF: By-laws, PPG,
Promotion Regulations & **Website**.
Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP
reported that the deletion of the term
"Regional Member Federation" is still in
the process of being done. It is
anticipated that the updates will be done
by the next AUSKF board of directors
meeting in November, 2008.

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J. Set Record Date for 2009-2011
AUSKF Board of Directors Election:
Date: 4/15/08.

1. Election Procedure for 2009-2011
AUSKF Board of Directors.
Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP
provided the various dates for the
Election Procedure for the 2009-2011
AUSKF Board of Directors.

2. Amend: AUSKF By-laws Article VII:
Section 7 RE: Date to Submit Statement
of Representation.
Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP
reported that upon review of the above
described AUSKF by-laws section that
currently states: "Each member shall
submit a written statement of
representation to the corporation **on or
before** the "record date" established by
the Board of Directors..." This language
would NOT allow sufficient time for the
member federations to provide the written
statement of representation, as for
example: the record date set at this time is
April 15, 2008.
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The proposed Amendment to the AUSKF
by-laws Article VII, Section 7 would
state: "Each member shall submit a
written statement of representation to the
corporation WITHIN 14-days after
notification of the member's population
census as of the "record date" established
by the Board of Directors..."

The AUSKF board of directors approved
the above described proposed amendment
to the AUSKF by-laws, Article VII,
Section 7.

3. Appoint: Two (2) Board of Directors to
Election Committee.
Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP
reported that pursuant to AUSKF By-
laws Article VIII, Section 2, two (2)
board of directors are required to be
appointed by the AUSKF President to
serve on the Election Committee for the
purpose of counting the ballots for the
2009-2011 AUSKF Board of Directors
Election.

Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President
appointed: Ichiro Murakami and
Masaharu Makino to serve on the 2009-
2011 AUSKF Board of Directors
Election Committee.

4. Eligible 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of
Directors/Officers to Attend November
2008 AUSKF Board of Directors
Meeting.
Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP
reported that the past AUSKF custom and
practice has been to ONLY invite the
"Newly elected board of directors" to the
AUSKF Board of Directors meeting
immediately following the new election
results; except for the AUSKF President
who is invited to convene the AUSKF
board of directors meeting immediately
following the new election.

After discussion, the 2006-2008 AUSKF
board of directors decided that for the
purpose of conducting the Old Business
matters, the 2006-2008 AUSKF board of
directors/officers will be eligible to attend
the November 2008 AUSKF Board of
Directors meeting. The newly elected
2009-2011 AUSKF Board of Directors
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will then begin their term of office upon
the opening of discussion as to the New
Business matters at the November 2008
AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

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K. AUSKF Menjo Logo Review.
Ichiro Murakami, AUSKF VP-Promotion
and Examinations provided several
designs for the "new" AUSKF Menjo
Logo.

After allowing time to review the several
designs, the AUSKF board of directors
approved the "new" AUSKF (English
language only) Menjo Logo which will
be in GOLD color on the menjo
certificate.

[Note: At press time; due to oversight, the
AUSKF board of directors approved by
conducting an Action By Written
Consent on May 12, 2008, as allowed by
the AUSKF By-laws: Article VII, Section
9, to **REPEAL** AUSKF Promotion
Regulation Page 14 Section VI, Article 4.
AUSKF Menjo in Japanese language.
Therefore, effective June 1, 2008, the
AUSKF will NOT accept any further
AUSKF member federation requests for
an AUSKF menjo in the Japanese
language. This decision conforms with
the previous reported discussions as to
the proposal by Ichiro Murakami,
AUSKF VP-Promotions & Examinations,
to only issue the AUSKF Menjo in the
English language]

L. Disneyland Martial Arts
Festival/Anaheim, CA: February 16,
2008.
Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP
reported that due to a change in the
format of the 2008 Disneyland Martial
Arts Festival, i.e. the Showcase event was
taken out of the program. However, as
the AUSKF notified the Disney officials
that an Iaido Demonstration had been
approved for the 2008 Disneyland
Martial Arts Festival; a suggestion was
made to have an Iaido Competition as
part of the 2008-2009 Disney/Disneyland
Martial Arts Festivals.

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Meeting, Detroit, Michigan:

Reported by AUSKF Executive VP
Norman K. Otani

L. Disneyland Martial Arts
Festival/Anaheim, CA: February 16,
2008. [continued]

After consideration by Takeshi
Yamaguchi, AUSKF Iaido Committee
Chairman, of the above
Disney/Disneyland Martial Arts Festival
suggestion to have an Iaido Competition; it
was decided to NOT pursue this idea as
there are not enough AUSKF Iaido
referees to have this type of Iaido
Competition at this venue.

Also, as the Disney/Disneyland Martial
Arts Festival has eliminated the
Showcase program; the AUSKF board of
directors decided that they will no longer
need to consider doing a kendo
demonstration at these venues.

Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President stated
that the AUSKF would be willing to
consider other future suggestions made
by the Disney/Disneyland Martial Arts
Festival officials on a case by case basis.

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M. Proposed AUSKF Promotion Criteria:
1-Dan and above.

Ichiro Murakami, AUSKF VP-
Promotions & Examinations reported that
this matter is requested to be tabled; as
further review is needed before
implementing this proposal.

-N. Spring 2008 AUSKF Education Tour.
Yoshiteru Tagawa, AUSKF VP-
Education reported that Hiromitsu Sato,
8 Dan was invited to conduct the Spring
2008 AUSKF Education Tour seminars
starting in the Midwest area, followed by
the New York area, then the Dallas,
Texas area and completing the tour in the
Los Angeles area.

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O. 2008 AUSKF Kumamoto Exchange
Tour: August 2-11, 2008.
Yoshiteru Tagawa, AUSKF VP-
Education reported that there are 25
AUSKF youth who submitted
applications to attend the 2008 AUSKF

Kumamoto Exchange Tour.

Shinobu Maeda, AUSKF Education
Committee member reported that he was
able to develop a Health Insurance and
Health History document that each of the
AUSKF youth's parent's will be
requested to sign, prior to going on the
2008 AUSKF Kumamoto Kendo
Exchange Tour.

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II. NEW BUSINESS:

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Competition Committee.
Koki Ariga, AUSKF VP-Competition
reported that in addition to the
information stated under the II. Old
Business: Item C, there was additional
matters discussed as follows:

(a.) Shimpan:
32 will be needed; depending on the
decision made by the AJKF, AUSKF
may only need to select 23 shimpan and
the other 9 shimpan will be from the
AJKF group, if approved.

(b.) Volunteers:
9 co-ordinators will be needed; and
AUSKF will provide up to a maximum of
\$800 for travel & hotel expenses.

For the 4-courts, an additional 32
volunteers from the California kendo
federations will be needed. AUSKF will
provide a \$200 stipend, Staff T-Shirt,
and a bento for each day of the 2008
AUSKF Championships.

(c.) Chief Judge will be Daniel
Ebihara; and Court Judges: Yoshiteru
Tagawa, Charlie Tanaka, Ichiro
Murakami, and Takeshi Yamaguchi.

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2. Promotion Committee.

Ichiro Murakami, AUSKF VP-
Promotions and Examinations reported
that only the AEUSKF and CCKF have
submitted the dates of their 2008
Promotion Examination dates as required
by the AUSKF Promotion Regulations
Section 1, Article 7; which was due by
the end of February of each calendar
year. [Note: Atsushi Hori, AUSKF

President requests that all other AUSKF
member federations please comply with
the above noted requirement to submit
the dates of the member federation
promotion examination dates in 2008, to
Ichiro Murakami, AUSKF VP-Promtion
Examinations ASAP!]

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4. Education Committee:

(a.) Yoshiteru Tagawa, AUSKF VP-
Education had an additional discussion
item regarding the 2008 AUSKF
Kumamoto Youth Exchange Program.

Due to the increase in air fares since the
previously approved \$1,500 for each of
the two chaperones expenses was decided
in November 2007; it was recommended
to increase the amount to \$2,250 for each
of the two chaperones expenses.

The AUSKF board of directors approved
the increased amount as recommended
and described above.

(b.) 2008 AUSKF Summer Kendo
Camp will be held on August 29, 30 &
31, 2008 in San Jose, California.

Seminar fee=\$50
Bento fee= \$10
Dinner Party= \$30

Also, there will be an AUSKF
Kodansha Shinsa on August 31, 2008
from 2pm-5pm.

Hotel arrangements for participants
of the 2008 AUSKF Kendo Summer
Camp are being made at the San Jose
Airport Wyndham Hotel; a shuttle bus is
available from the airport to the hotel.

Additional details and registration
materials will be sent to each AUSKF
member federation at a later date.

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5. Iaido Committee.

Takeshi Yamaguchi, AUSKF Iaido
Committee Chairman reported the
following:

(a.) 2008 AUSKF Championships-
Iaido Demonstration will be done by
Shozo Kato.

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Highlights from the April 12 & 13, 2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Detroit, Michigan:

5. Iaido Committee.[continued]

(b.) 2008 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held on June 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, 2008 at the Bryn Mawr College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
The AJKF will send two (2) instructors: Masahiro Yamsaki 8 Dan Hanshi Iaido and Takaharu Saiki, 8 Dan Hanshi Iaido.

6. Development Committee:

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP reported on the following programs:

A. AUSKF Newsletter.

There was one issue published on January 1, 2008: Vol. 11 No.1.

B. AUSKF Archives, Hall of Fame, and Oral History Project.

Individual oral history projects are in progress; currently reviewing copyright laws, etc., to determine the feasibility of posting this information on the AUSKF website.

Plan:Expand the committee members to assist in moving these projects further forward.

C. AUSKF Website.

Jean Kodama, AUSKF Webmaster reports that plans will be put into place in the near future to make the website more user friendly.

D. Marketing and Advertising.

Proposed distribution of DVD from 13th WKC-Team U.S.A., Men's Team Match with Japan, to major news organizations in the major cities where kendo is practiced in the United States [see report under Old Business: 13th WKC above].

E AUSKF Policy and Procedure Guidelines.

This document was updated on 11/10/06 and distributed to the AUSKF board of directors and AUSKF member federations; a followup update will be made.

6. AUSKF Office & Part-time Staff Person.

Ichiro Murakami reported that the Little

Tokyo Recreation Center project has recently finalized the acquisition of the property on which the facility will be built; it is anticipated that ground-breaking could take place in about one year.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

B. Treasurer's 2007-End of Year Financial Report.

1. Tomoji Kato, AUSKF Treasurer provided copies of the 2007-End of Year Financial Report ending 12/31/07.

The ending balance was reported as: \$628,524.79.

(a.) Yoshiteru Tagawa requested clarification about whether or not the AUSKF is responsible to pay for the member federation facility rental fees to conduct the AUSKF Shimpan Seminars hosted by a AUSKF member federation for the AUSKF Shimpan Seminar.

After explanation by Koki Ariga, AUSKF VP-Competition, that the AUSKF made the request that the AUSKF member federations make the arrangements [e.g. facility rental, etc.] for the AUSKF Shimpan Seminars held in 2007; Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President agreed that the AUSKF is responsible to pay for the facility rental fees paid by any AUSKF member federation(s) to host an AUSKF Shimpan Seminar; any AUSKF member federation that paid facility rental fees under these circumstances can submit a request for reimbursement from the AUSKF treasurer.

(b.) Tomoji Kato requested clarification about the current AUSKF mileage reimbursement fee paid for approved AUSKF travel expense. Previously, the AUSKF board of directors approved in 2005 the IRS mileage fee of .40 per mile; currently, the IRS mileage fee has been increased to .54 per mile. No change in the AUSKF mileage reimbursement fee was recommended at this time.

2. 2008 AUSKF Membership Dues Report.

Tomoji Kato, AUSKF Treasurer provided the report as to the 2008 AUSKF membership dues paid by each of the

fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations as of 4/8/08.

3. AUSKF Membership Benefits Document.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, provided a "draft" of a AUSKF membership benefits document.

Koki Ariga had made an inquiry recently as to whether the AUSKF had an information document for the AUSKF dojos/member federations to explain to their members what benefits are derived by joining the AUSKF.

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C. AUSKF Liability Insurance Policy Update Effective 4/1/08.

Masaharu Makino, AUSKF Liability Insurance Co-ordinator requested assistance to review a recent liability/damages insurance claim made for \$12,000 due to using tape on a gymnasium floor for a kendo tournament; which resulted in removing the paint from the gymnasium floor.

Shozo Kato informed that he has had good experience with the use of a green/orange color tape or a tape/marker that can be erased off of the gymnasium floor.

Atsushi Hori requested Shozo Kato to provide a sample of the green/orange color tape and the tape/marker with eraser to test this at the 2008 AUSKF Championships facilities; some type of recommended tape or tape/marker alternative is needed ASAP to avoid multiple liability/damages insurance claims similar to the recent case noted above.

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D. 2008 AJKF Foreigner's Summer Kendo Camp.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP reported that the AUSKF received eleven (11) applications from the AUSKF member federation federations; based on the AUSKF PPG 24.00.00 Appendix rotation order for 2008, the priority list of 4 candidates will be submitted to the AJKF/FIK(IKF) for consideration and

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Highlights from the April 12 & 13, 2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Detroit, Michigan

D. 2008 AJKF Foreigner's Summer Kendo Camp. [continued] selection. [Note: At press time, the AJKF released its announcement that SEUSKF Larry Scanlon and ECUSKF Dr. Titus Schleyer were selected as the 2008 AUSKF participants in the 2008 AJKF Foreign Kendo Leader's Seminar]

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E. Proposed: Recognition Awards/Scholarship Committee. Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP proposed that the AUSKF board of directors consider the "draft" proposal to appoint an AUSKF Recognitions & Scholarship Awards Committee consisting of the AUSKF Executive VP, and the VP-Competition, VP-Education and VP-Promotions & Examinations.

The AUSKF Scholarship Program will be presented to the AUSKF member federations for further input and possible initiation by 2009.

The AUSKF board of directors took immediate action as to the AUSKF Distinguished Service Awards; nominations were made to recognize three individuals at the 2008 AUSKF Championships.

Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President requested that Tomoji Kato, AUSKF Treasurer be responsible to arrange the certificate/placque and gift to be presented to the nominated recipients at the 2008 AUSKF Championships.

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F. Fall 2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting Date, Location. After discussion, Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President announced that the Fall 2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting will be held on November 8 & 9, 2008 and hosted by the SCKO Masaharu Makino.

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G. Other: Maki Miyahara announces retirement from AUSKF board of directors.

REGIONAL MEMBER'S NEWS:

Southeastern U.S. Kendo Federation. Report submitted by Ken Strawn.

There will be a kendo seminar on June 21, 2008 at Baltimore-Annapolis Kendo. Instructor will be Shinobu Maeda. For more information go to website: www.baltimoreannapoliskendo.com

IN MEMORIAM:

NAKABARA, TORATARO sensei, 8 Dan Hanshi, passed away March 10, 2008 at the age of 94 yrs old.

Funeral services were held on Monday, March 17, 2008 at the West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple.

Nakabara sensei came to the United States in 1957, and he soon thereafter joined the West Los Angeles Kendo Dojo.

Within a few years, Nakabara sensei was recognized for his leadership and high level kendo skills by being elected as the President of the Southern California Kendo Federation.

Then, after having selflessly dedicated himself to assisting to promote the development of kendo in the United States; Nakabara sensei was elected to be the President of the Kendo Federation of the United States of America in 1969 and served in this position until 1990.

An outpouring of appreciation was shown for Nakabara sensei's polished life as both a kendo sensei and iaido sensei; in remembrance for all of his life's efforts, there was a presentation of large floral wreaths by most all of the current kendo federations that are now affiliated with the All United States Kendo Federation..

In addition, there were many floral wreath remembrances from the Southern California Kendo Federation dojos, and from his most recent affiliations with the dojos from the Southern California Kendo Organization.

We will always remember Nakabara sensei as one of the founding fathers of kendo in the United States of America.

AUSKF NEWSLETTER
Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

Future news items for the next issue to be published on or about December 10, 2008, can be submitted to my e-mail address:

norm_otani@auskf.info

or news items can be sent to:
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