

Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - December 2024

Our annual fund raiser, Zippy's ticket sale, ended successfully. Thank you for your help. Because of fund raised, we were able to fund Children's Team Hawaii for the 1st time to Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation Tournament on November 2 in Tacoma Washington. Jo Etsumi came in 3rd in 11 to 12 years old division. Dr. Braxton Fukutomi finished 3rd in 4 Dan and above division. Adult Team Hawaii consisted of Junsei Tanizaki, Shu Etsumi, Kevin Chun, Braxton Fukutomi and Sang Oh achieved 3rd out of 22 teams. The tournament had 275 entries, one of the biggest one we participate. The important things for me was that kids enjoyed the trip and seemed to increased their motivation toward kendo.

Melvyn Naidas and Leighton Ogawa passed lai-do 1 Dan examination on November 3 in Okayama, Japan. Congratulations! Folks in Tsuyama, Okayama, have been inviting Hawaii people twice annually now. We are so grateful for there hospitality and generosity.

Our club members for Aiea Taiheiji Kendo Club Tournament on Saturday, November 16 did not place but they enjoyed participating in the tournament. They got some experiences and enjoyed being with friends from other clubs.

Peyton Ching got promoted to Kendo 1 Kyu and Yoshinori Imagawa showed his 4 Dan caliber in Hawaii Kendo Federation 1 Kyu and Dan examination on November 17. Congratulations to them. Pursue for higher ranks by practicing as much as you can though you are busy.

International Kendo Leaders' Seminar is from March 17 to 24 in Nippon Budokan Kenshu Center in Chiba. At the last day, they have 6 Dan and 7 Dan examination. If you want to attend, contact HKF President before the deadline of December 2.

We are happy to know that Chris Goodin Sensei organized Children's Team Hawaii for Torrence Kendo Dojo's 50th Anniversary Tournament on Saturday, January 25. Three children are Kyouka Lim, Kenzen Hino and Carter Goodin. Chaperons are Eiji Lim, Rie Okamura-Lim and Goodin Sensei. They started special team practice along side of Sunday Honbu Dojo practice. Good luck to them. Enjoy the trip and make friends.

We reproduced Wahiawa Kendo Club T-shirts. We originally created our T-shirts for fundraiser. However, it is no longer fundraiser because the price stays same as \$15 while costs increased greatly. The back of T-shirts says, "Kendo will make it better." Sizes available S, M, X and XL. If you want it as Christmas present, contact me.

I have been going to Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation Tournament continuously almost every year for about 40 years. This year was the 1st time I organized Children's Hawaii Team (15 years old and under) to participate. They did very well even though most Hawaii children members were much younger than 15 years old. I am so glad to see them enjoy being together with friends and having good time. During this tournament lunch break, one boy opened a book and studying. That made me come to my usual thinking, "If I studied like him, I should be a much better person by now." I am so glad that I have been insisting kids, "If you do not study hard, I do not teach you kendo." By studying hard and practice hard, kids eventually achieves how to live happily and successfully.

Iwao Sato
Chief Instructor, Wahiawa Kendo Club
Club website - www.wahiawakendoclub.com