



Monthly Newsletter World Karate Organization

March 2009 Issue (Vol. 107) Contents

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1. Message from WKO President

Dear Branch Chiefs and Contacts

I hope you all are doing fine, and your Branch and Dojos are growing! By reading the reports that you have sent to us, I can see that there are a great deal of activities going on around the world. It is a proof that you all are working very hard. Thank you so much!

Already two months of the New Year have past, and there are only four months left to the Karate World Cup. The WKO Office has received most of the applications for the World Cup, and the draw will be made by the end of March.

To those of you who will fight in the World Cup: it is a great honor to you representing your Region in this tournament, and at this moment, everyone has the chance to become the Champion. So please have faith in your ability, and spend the remaining months training hard without doubts - you may become the World Champion. I believe that the one who will have been training most and hardest will become the Champion. Do not waste any day, any moment, but use the 100% of the time you have. I am looking forward to seeing your fights at the tournament!

I also hope that our competitors will have a big audience and many people cheering for them. Bring as many supporters as possible from your branch, so that the competitors from your Region will receive the encouragement that he/she deserves. The competitors will show greater and stronger fights further, if they get power and energy from the support.

As you all know, the three essential factors of Budo are Mind, Skill and Body. Though Budo Karate is spreading throughout the world, I feel that we should look at the factor: Mind. Of course we will gain a strong mind (spirit or heart) through severe training, but we also need to



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develop a mind full of gratefulness - a caring mind that thinks about other people. There will be no fight without an opponent. There will be no tournament without an organizer. There will be no training without training partners or teacher. Actually, there is not much we can complete only by ourselves. If we think like this, we will also learn modesty. Budo starts and ends with gratefulness and good etiquette. Respect your opponent and respect your opponent's country.

At the World Cup, I believe that the most important for us is this factor; the Spirit of Budo. I would like you to please pass on this message to your students. I always say that WKO is OUR organization, so please let our organization be a true Budo Organization that we can be proud of.

Finally, I also would like to thank the Russian Branch for their hard work. Please continue your efforts, and make this World Cup a great success. And to all of you, Branch Chiefs and Contacts, I ask you for your continuous support to the organizer of the tournament.

Osu!

Kenji Midori
WKO President



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2. Activities of Japanese instructors (at the date of 25. February omit titles from names)

(1). Kenta Mori

Date: March 4th - 10th

Place: Belgium

Purpose: Camp

(2). Shigeru Aoyagi, Mizuki Sakai,

Masaya Yamamoto, Yuko Yoneyama

Date: March 27th - 30th

Place: Russia

Purpose: Tournament

(3). Kenji Midori, Isao Kobayashi,

Kazuo Miyoshi, Yasukazu Koi

Date: April 2nd - 6th

Place: Ukraine

Purpose: European Championship

(4). Kazuhiro Yamada, Norio Hayashida,

Kosuke Ishizaki

Date: April 2nd - 9th

Place: Ukraine

Purpose: European Championship, Seminar

(5). Kensaku Yamamoto

Date: May 27th - 3rd June (TBD)

Place: India

Purpose: Camp

(6). Tadashi Ishihara, Tsutomu Murayama

Date: June 26th - 30th (TBD)

Place: Holland

Purpose: Camp

(7). Kenji Midori, Yasukazu Koi

Date: July 2nd - 6th (TBD)

Place: Indonesia

Purpose: Seminar

(8). Shuichiro Tada

Date: July 4th - 7th

Place: Korea

Purpose: Grading Examination

(9). Kazuhiro Yamada

Date: July 5th - 11th

Place: Greece

Purpose: Camp

(10). Yasuharu Fujihara, Shinichi Sotodate

Date: July 5th - 12th

Place: Switzerland

Purpose: Camp

(11). Kensaku Yamamoto

Date: July 6th - (TBD)

Place: Bulgaria

Purpose: Camp

(12). Norichika Tsukamoto

Date: July 22nd - 28th

Place: Poland

Purpose: Camp

(13). Satoshi Niiho

Date: July 23rd - 31st

Place: Mauritius

Purpose: Tournament, Seminar

(14). Kenji Midori

Date: October 23rd - 26th

Place: Switzerland

Purpose: Tournament



(15). Kenji Midori, Isao Kobayashi,

Keiji Sampei, Yasukazu Koi

Date: November 17th – 24th (TBD)

Place: Belgium

Purpose: Tournament, Seminar

3. Information for the 4th World Cup

(1) Number of MEN Fighters from Each Region

WKO Board decided to increase the number of MEN fighters from each region, from 16 fighters to 32 fighters. And also there are some changes of the number of WOMEN fighters from each region. The exact number from each region will be as follows.

TOTAL MEN FIGHTERS: 32

Europe: 6, Russia: 4 (as the host), Asia: 4, Middle East: 2, Africa: 2, South Pacific: 2, North America: 2, Central America: 2, South America: 2, Japan: 6

TOTAL WOMEN FIGHTERS: 16

Europe: 3, Russia: 2 (as the host), Asia: 2, Middle East: 1, Africa: 1, South Pacific: 1, North America: 1, Central America: 1, South America: 1, Japan: 3

(2) Selection Tournament for the 4th World Cup (NEW!)

<In 2008>

I. Japan Region

Date: 17th, 18th May, Place: Osaka, Japan

Date: 18th, 19th October, Place: Tokyo, Japan

II. South Pacific Region

Date: 23rd August

Place: Geelong, Australia

III. Central American Region

Date: 27th, 28th September

Place: Aruba

IV. South American Region

Date: 25th October

Place: Uruguay

V. Russian Region



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Date: 26th October

Place: St-Petersburg, Russia

VI. North American Region

Date: 22nd, 23rd November

Place: Montreal, Canada

VII. Asian Region

Date: 7th December, Place: Sri Lanka,

Date: 2nd November, Place: Kazakhstan

<In 2009>

VIII. Middle Eastern Region

Date: 7th March

Place: Lebanon

IX. European Region

(They have already selected two-thirds of the competitors. This will be the final selection.)

Date: 3rd April

Place: Kiev, Ukraine

- Please notify the WKO Office if the result of selection tournaments for the 4th World Cup is fixed in each countries/regions.

(3) Supporters Package - Tournament Tickets and Hotel Reservation - (NEW!) (Attachment-B)

Please refer to the Attachment-B for the supporters package information.

The information about the International Seminar will be out soon.

Please check your emails carefully not to overlook new information from WKO Office.

4. New Branch Chief in Czech (NEW!)

We have pleasure in informing you that Mr Jiri Zofcin, who became our member in June 2003 as a Contact, was promoted to a WKO Branch Chief on 8 February. Best wishes in their future Karate endeavors!

5. Progress of the Registration on WADA (NEW!)

WKO signed the "Acceptance of the World Anti-Doping Code" and it was accepted officially by WADA on 17th February.

WKO Anti-Doping Code is now on the review by WADA, and the WKO will be registered as the WADA Code signatory after the payment of annual fee.



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WKO Doping Control Committee
Takatomi Naito

6. WKO Website

Visit our renewed website!

<http://www.wko.or.jp/>

We have been working on the improvement of the WKO Website since the end of last year. Therefore, we would like you to send the information of events which you would like to put on the website if you have any. Please provide us the basic information as mentioned below.

1. Events

- 1) Name of the event (Name of the tournament, camp, e.t.c.)
- 2) Date and the place where the event was held
- 3) Host branch
- 4) The number of participants to the event
- 5) List of prize winners (in case of tournament)
- 6) Details about the event (including the impressions by host)
- 7) Photos (Please give an explanation for each photo. About 5 to 10 photos will be put on the website.)

2. News

- 1) Details about the news such as date, place, what happened and by whom, e.t.c.
- 2) Photos

- Please be noticed that your report may not be introduced on the website if the report is recognized as inappropriate to put on the website by WKO Office.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SENT US THE ANNUAL REPORT SHOULD HURRY UP!

7. ISAMI Dogi

Please contact Ms Hayasaki at ISAMI: Email yuko@isami.co.jp or Fax (81)480-24-0713

For your enquiry, please put "Shinkyokushinkai Dogi" as a subject.

8. Notice from WKO Office

①. WKO Office Contact Information:

- **E-mail address:**

wko.one@shinkyokushinkai.co.jp

.. For Ms. Fumie Matsuno, and for Russia/Asia/N. C. S. Americas/S. Pacific regions

wko.two@shinkyokushinkai.co.jp

.. For Ms. Kazuko Sato, and for Europe/Middle East/Africa regions

- **Postal Address:** 9-20-2F Shin-ogawamachi Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 162-0814, Japan
- **Telephone Number:** +81-3-3268-1494
- **Fax Number:** +81-3-3268-1495



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②. Annual Fees

Payment of 2008 Annual Fees is due MARCH 2009.

All the Branch Chiefs/Contacts are requested to pay the **Annual Fees** (at least US\$1 per member) and the **New Member Registration Fees** (US\$5 additional per new member) for 2009 earlier.

Please check Attachment A once again! Those who have not paid the overdue annual fees (2005 – 2008) are highlighted in yellow (printed one is in grey).

If you need invoice from WKO, please kindly contact WKO office.

REQUEST from the WKO office: For those who are paying the annual fees together with other branch(s) in your country, we would appreciate if you could also provide us with the breakdown, the number of members of each branch.

***All Japanese Branches decided to pay US\$4 per member as annual fees from 2008. Please refer to the Attachment-A, as the newest information of increased annual fees from other branches and countries/regions is shown on the list.**

NOTE:

- * No order for **Black Belts and Dan Grading Certificates** can be accepted from those who have not paid the annual membership fees.
- * **You will NOT get the financial support from the World Championship organizer** unless you pay the applicable annual fees.

We accept your annual fees and other payments through one of the followings:

(Please do NOT use any other methods such as bank checks or cash. Cash payment with exact amount may be acceptable only when you are in Japan.)

• **Bank transfer**

Has to be “WKO” only. Do not put anything after the name, please.

Account name: WKO
Account number: 0848604
Name of the bank: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Kagurazaka Branch
Address of the bank: 3-7 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0825, Japan
Their SWIFT code: BOTKJPJT

- Please add US\$15 when you remit money because Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi charges us 1,500 yen every time we acknowledge the remittance.
- Please avoid a bank that uses the third bank, which may deduct US\$20-25 from your remittance.

• **Western Union International Money Transfer Service**

- **Please note that this service is not available. Please make remittance by Bank Transfer.**



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- We would like to know if there are better ways of sending money. Please give us your suggestions.

③ . Various Forms

The WKO Office would like the Branch Chiefs and Contacts to use the designated form when they contact us. We have:

- Order and Payment Form (for payment of grading fees, annual fees, membership fees)
- WKO Official Invitation Letter Form (for inviting Japanese instructors)
- Request Form for Invitation Letter (for whom needs Visa to enter Japan)
- Application Form for a Candidate of new Branch Chief & Contact

Though we understand that some Branches/Countries have their own way, the forms helped us to do administrative work efficiently. We appreciate your kind understanding in the matter.

④ . Students from abroad to Japan

When your student(s) come to Japan for training, please contact WKO Office first. Most of the Japanese Branch Chiefs prefer receiving a request from overseas Branch Chiefs officially, rather than letting their students talk directly to the overseas students. We are thanking you for your kind understanding in advance.

⑤. Personnel Leaving (NEW!)

Ms Kazuko Sato leaves the WKO office on March.

Greetings from Ms Sato:

Dear All

It is always hard to say good-bye, but I have to leave the WKO Office by the end of February. I might be able to visit the office occasionally in March, but no chance from April, so please e-mail to Ms Matsuno at wko.one@shinkyokushinkai.co.jp from Sunday 1 March.

Ms Matsuno is one of the most capable person whom I have ever worked with. I asked her to look after the rest of my work – making travel arrangements, issuing belts and certificates, etc.

As we do not know when/if the office will hire another staff for WKO, she will be extremely busy with taking care of overseas members in 75 countries by herself.

Please give your cooperation to her – this is my last request to you.

I do not know if I can contribute to you and the organization.



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I do not know if the current situation is better in comparison with the situation in November 2002 when I was employed, either.

All I can say is it was my pleasure working with you and I wish you every happiness.

Yours truly

Kazuko Sato

9. Current Status on Payment of Annual Fees as of February 25, 2009

- See Attachment A-