

## Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - February 2025

Torrance Kendo Dojo 50th Anniversary Tournament was held on Saturday, January 25, in Torrance California. Kyouka Okamura, Kenzen Hino and Carter Goodin participated in Elementary School (11 years old and under) Division. We were very happy that their team came in 2nd. They practiced hard to prepare for the tournament by adding special training sessions on Sunday Honbu Dojo besides their own dojo practices. Congratulations to them.

George Ogawa Sensei of Stanford University Kendo Club is back in Hawaii. So far, he visited our club on January 27 and 29. He plans to stay till February 6 and practice as often as he can. I am impressed by his enthusiasm and vitality even though he is a bit older than me.

Steveston Kendo Club 61st Tournament will be held on Saturday, February 8 in Richmond B.C. Canada. I was surprised to see the list of around 50 participants, coaches, referees and chaperons going. We are not good at handling cold weather. Stay warm. Be safe. Enjoy the tournament and vacation if you are adding some winter vacation time there.

American Zone FIK Referee Seminar will be held on Saturday and Sunday, February 22 and 23 in California. We are happy to have Yuichi Miura Sensei go and attend the seminar from Hawaii. Enjoy meeting with many Kendo friends there.

Kenshikan Kendo Club is hosting their tournament on Sunday, March 16 at Manoa Valley District Park Gym. Gym doors open at 7:30AM and the tournament starts at 8:30AM. Let your sensei's know if you want to participate. The entry deadline is quickly approaching.

We expect some senseis from Japan to come and assist Kenshikan Dojo Tournament with refereeing. Kamiya Akihiro Sensei, Kyoshi 7 Dan, is one of them. He arrives on March 14 and stays till March 20. He plans to visit Wahiawa Kendo Club practices on March 17 and 19. Please come to our club to learn from him when he visits. Ugajin Toru Sensei will be joining Kamiya Sensei with his University student son on March 15. I am anxious to be with them.

International Kendo Leaders' Seminar will be held on March 17 through 24 at Nippon Budokan Kenshu Center in Chiba. Tina Kaku Sensei is attending and shares her experiences with us after coming back.

We are collecting Hawaii Kendo Federation and Wahiawa Kendo Club dues for year 2025 now. Most people who attend practices regularly had submitted payments. I normally pay to HKF dues out of our club money as soon as I can, even before members remit money if I know that individuals will maintain memberships. Let me know if you want to keep membership as soon as possible.

When I was striving for Kendo 7 Dan, one sensei was very eager to get me improved. When I asked him for practice every week, he told me same, exact thing I was doing wrong. I almost told him, "You told me the same thing every time I came to you. I am trying!!" When I finally corrected my faults and passed 7 Dan Rank, he was no longer with us to thank him. One night I told a girl what she had to improve. Next day, I noticed what I told her was followed and noticeably improved. No wonder whatever she gets involved in, she accomplishes good. Listen sensei's advice and try it out. Some people who do not go to senseis and seek advices are slower in their improvements.

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