



JAA NEWS

JAA News No.32 September 2009

2009.9
No.32

¥ 300

Publication: JAA PR division.

Tanaka Bldg. 4F, Nishiwaseda, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
Printing: Brains Network Design: Minatsu Akiyama

Tel: 03-3204-2575 e-mail: DZF1141@nifty.ne.jp
Copyright: JAA, www.aikido-kyokai.com

Publisher: Shigeru Uchida, Editor: Masaharu Komatsu.

Outline of the proceedings of the Japan Aikido Association (NPO) General Assembly

■ date and time: 5 May 2009, from 14h30 until 16h30
< Presided by Masako Tomiki, recorded by Kyoe Omori >

● Progress of the Proceedings

Account statements of 2008 and approval of the settlement of accounts (1st agenda point) .
Debate on the budget proposal for 2009 and its approval (2nd agenda point) .
Report on this year' s course of action, the introduction of officials and a word of greeting by every division head.
Explanation of change of the membership system and approval of the new membership system (3rd agenda point) .
Explanation on the Kyoto International Tournament.
Report on the Progress of the Tokyo Honbu Dojo.
Notices on other matters.
Self-introduction by the members.

Head of the Board of Directors, Komatsu appoints President Tomiki as chairperson.
Before proceeding, the directors Futami and Tanabe are approved as signers of the General Assembly' s particulars.

Statement of accounts of 2008 and approval of the settlement of accounts (1st agenda point)

Head of the Board Komatsu gives an explanation about the earnings and expenses statements (Please refer to handouts) .
No particular questions were asked.

Approved with applause (1st agenda point accepted) .

Debate on the Budget proposal for 2009 and its approval (2nd agenda point)

Head of the Board Komatsu gives an explanation about the budget proposal (Please refer to handouts) .

• Budget is drafted reflecting the policy to give full support considering the forthcoming International Tournament. In view of the international financial crisis, participants from abroad are given consideration.

Approved with applause (2nd agenda point accepted) .

Report on this year' s course of action, the introduction of officials and a word of greeting by every section head.

Head of the Board Komatsu gives an explanation about the outline of this year' s course of action.

• I would like to have an increase of the number of corporate members. This is necessary for the development of our association. I think it would be better to break away from a management relying mainly on income through grade promotion, as in the passed.

• I would like to have a further development of "Culture Classes" . At present we have a contract with SHiDAX for aikido classes. This sort of instructing is rather unique so with the aid and know-how of experienced people I would like to improve on the quality as well.

• Further development of the youngsters division. Children' s tournaments are also

important. More activities for children will prove beneficial for the future. I would like to encourage activities rooted in the local communities..

Head of the Instructor Division: Junji Morikawa

- I would like to increase the number of instructors to help the association further spreading Aikido. To this purpose measures are being developed.
- Structurally the body of instructors consists of: instructors actually running a club, instructors who were instructed directly by the technical directors Tomiki and Oba and 5 instructors of the Instructors Division appointed by the two present technical directors.
- To expand it is necessary to think about a way of fortifying and increasing every club' s number of instructors. Therefore an increase of the number of instructors in the Instructors Division is necessary. Firstly I would like to appoint associate instructors in the Instructors Division and I want to establish a structure so that the association can give assistance to every club. I invite all clubs to actively share their problems and/or requests with the association.

Head of the International Division: Sekio Endo

- The International Division is the JAA' s international contact point. Our duty also includes passing on the JAA' s policy towards foreign countries. There are plenty of problems but bit by bit I would like to make some progress.
- This year we are the hosting country for the International Tournament, so our first

priority is bringing the tournament to a successful end.

Head of the Referee Division: Ryuichi Omori

- Last year we carefully examined the refereeing rules used in the past and we standardized the various rules followed in different tournaments into 1 refereeing system. In order to have a successful tournament we are holding referee seminars in every area. I would like to reach a consensus concerning the techniques.
- An international referee seminar is planned during the International Tournament. I would like to exchange opinions with every country.

Director in charge of sales: Yoshiomi Inoue

- At present the association's aikido suits are sold with 60% discount, other suits with 30% discount. Books with 10% discount. We are also preparing for orders in large quantities. We are also selling the Instructor Division Textbook and the referee rules.

Below: questions and answers

Explanation of change of the membership system and approval of the new membership system (3rd agenda point)

Head of Administration Sakai explains about the membership system (please refer to handouts) .

Beginning with the introduction of the points changed.

- There are two types of membership: regular members and supporting members as the articles of the association postulate.
- Applications for corporate membership remained unchanged last year. However I would like to request a list of dan grade holders belonging to the organisations concerned. (Further explained in the latter part on supporting members) .
- I would like to put a hold on applications for individual membership as a part of regular memberships.
- The proposal concerning the membership

system including supporting membership is put on the agenda following the decision of the board.

Presentation of the handouts.

Explanation of the total image

- The General Assembly is the highest institution for decision-making in the association. Members are the elements that make up the base of the association. Until now this base was formed out of corporate members.
- The supporting membership system will drastically change the management structure of the association. It is a system where management with its base of corporate membership representatives will shift to a management based on dan grade holders. It is thought that behind the corporate representative there exist many members and dan grade holders. To deal with internal and external demands, the present general assembly and board is not sufficient to settle everything. To this purpose this system broadens the base of the association with dan grade holders and encourages active participation in managing the association by many of its members. As a rule dan grade holders are invited to participate as supporting members.

Specific explanation of the membership system

- It will become possible to share information on individual level when required and at the same time answer to individual demands. Also by issuing personal membership cards, members will become more conscious of the association and feel more inclined to give support.
- Supporting membership has no relevancy to the right to vote (in the general assembly) but one by one supporting members do form the supportive base of the association. Corporate representatives will represent the supporting members and participate in the general assembly. In other words it is a bottom-up structure.
- As in the passed corporate representatives will have voting rights. They will have the right to vote in the general assembly as corporate members of the association.

- I would like to have one more thing approved together with the institution of the supporting membership system. Put specifically, I would like to make people who are eligible for a grade registration cost return, into supporting members. With persons eligible for a grade registration return as supporting members, this system will return the registration cost for the applicants. Supporting members join the association with the intention to support so the funds of the association to be returned, will be related to members who are cooperating.
- As for promotion of supporting members, the return will happen according to this year's manner and will be for the benefit of corporate members. In case of the presence of promoted persons who are not supporting members, their will be no return for these persons.

Below: questions and answers

- I think the system for registering individuals is good. The registration will occur by submitting a name list of dan grade holders when applying for corporate membership. By submitting name lists it must be easier to understand the situation of dan grades and get a better global view, is that not right?

Indeed. In the light of this purpose, I would like to have as many dan grades as possible participating. In stead registration cost for the first year and renewals will not be charged. In case of promotion only 1000 yen will be charged.

- Registration for persons who are not supporting members will still be possible, right?

Of course. But they will not be eligible for a return.

- What about members who are currently not active?

For currently non-active members, registration will be possible by adding their names to the list submitted at the beginning of the year. The same counts for the second year and after that. Also yearly

renewals will not be charged. Updates will happen once a year with the corporate membership application. The database will be easy to set up.

- Will the same be possible in the event names are forgotten to be filled-in?

Yes, no problem.

- If there is a dan grade holder who does not wish for supporting membership, then is it sufficient not to add his name?

That's right. Supporting membership is entirely voluntary. However there are no other costs besides promotion and it does not involve any duties, so registration is preferable.

Approved with applause (3rd agenda point accepted) .

5. Explanation concerning the Kyoto International Tournament Explanation by Head of Tournament Operation Yamagata

- The official name of the event is 2009 International Aikido festival and 8th International Aikido Tournament.
- It will be held at the Kyoto Butokuden for 4 days starting on September 20 and ending on September 23.
- 20 Sep – Morning: seminar. Afternoon: higher dan grading, referee seminar, international meeting.
- 21 Sep – Morning: referee meeting, opening ceremony. Afternoon: enbu competition, mixed categories team event, men's individual randori event qualifying rounds.
- 22 Sep – one full day of randori qualifying rounds and guest demonstration.
- 23 Sep – Tournament at Butokuden. Morning: semi-finals of each event, guest demonstration (naginata) . Afternoon: finals of every event, scheduled end at 17h30. Followed by the prize-giving ceremony and closing ceremony. After that party at a nearby location.
- Deadline for participant's applications is the end of June. Accommodation reservations are requested to be handled swiftly.
- End of August last year there were

provisional entries from abroad for 311 persons, but after that also due to the economic crisis, there have been application for 250 persons from 14 areas. Out of these, only 150 also included application for accommodation. This creates difficulties for our private use of the facilities. I would like to advise all Japanese participants to make use of 'Ishicho' accommodation to compensate for the shortage of foreign guests.

- A website for the International Tournament will be up just before the tournament, so it can be used for advertising..

* Below: questions and answers

- ? When will the homepage be up?
> I think just before the tournament. From September. This website will be up until the end of December.
- ? Do you have examples or other means of information to show when asking sponsors for advertisements?
> Please show the tournament poster (currently still in the galley proof stage) . As for samples please refer to the website.
- ? I would like to have a pamphlet containing a written request for adds, tournament information and samples..
> That can be arranged.
- ? Is the seminar on the morning of the 20th the only one? What about the final of the mixed team event?
> At this point the seminar on the 20th is the only one scheduled. The final of the mixed team event will be on the 23rd.

6. Report on the progress of the Tokyo Honbu Dojo. Report by Head of the Board, Komatsu

- We have setup a project team. 3 persons are responsible: Komatsu, Sakisaka and Osugi (all 3 are directors) . Sakisaka is requested to function as advisor for the funding plan etc. I want to propose several plans to discuss.
- Land prices are getting cheaper but it is many think that it is better to wait just a little bit longer. I want to proceed by gathering more information on land. All ideas or information are welcome.

Notices on other matters

- *Introduction of representatives of newly registered corporate members
< Shunbyokai (?) 俊猫会 > A word of greeting from Yokoyama
- Erio Yamada (presently on business in Nara) and I have started a club with the Air Self-Defence Force.
- There are 10 members. Practice is on Wednesdays. Because absence of Yamada, we have requested Komatsu sensei to lead the classes.
- Besides Jujo (十条, name of the venue) I want to do my utter best to set up other clubs with your help.

Noted with approval.

- * A word of conclusion by Chairperson Tomiki
- Thank you for your cooperation.
- I feel it is important that the right information at the proper time is evenly available. I would also like to know more about the opinions of our members.
- I am very grateful for your continuing effort in the activities of the association.

End of meeting

Results of the 39th All Japan Student Aikido Tournament
Sunday 9th November 2008
Venue: Kinki University Memorial Hall

● Randori Team Event

(Men)

Winner: Seijo University, 2nd: Teikyo University, 3rd: Kokushikan University

(Women)

Winner: Waseda University
2nd: Kokushikan University
3rd: Kansai Gakuin University

● Randori Individual Event

(Men)

Winner: Kota Hashimoto (Osaka University of Commerce)
2nd: Manabu Yoshikawa (Kokushikan University)

3rd: Shintaro Iwashita (Seijo University)

(Women)

Winner: Rie Yamamoto (Tenri University)

2nd: Kaori Sasada (Kinki University)

3rd: Sayuri Kita (Kinki University)

● Enbu

(Men, unarmed partner)

Winner: Kinki University (Shunsuke Morita – Kentaro Izumi)

2nd: Waseda Sports (Hiroaki Kaneko – Masafumi Horikawa)

3rd: Kansai University of Welfare Science (Daisuke Takii – Kento Kaji)

(Men, armed partner)

Winner: Kokushikan University (Hayato Negishi – Manabu Yoshikawa)

2nd: Kinki University (Nobuyuki Baba – Masaki Honda)

3rd: Osaka City University (Kohei Yamamoto – Ogawa Hiroyuki)

(Women, unarmed partner)

Winner: Waseda University (Shino Kawahara – Miwa Tamaki)

2nd: Kansai Gakuin University (Ayako Tamada – Keiko Komada)

3rd: Tenri University (Rie Yamamoto – Hitomi Yamamoto)

(Women, armed partner)

Winner: Kokushikan University (Mutsumi Juji – Yuki Miyara)

2nd: Waseda University (Tomomi Arai – Ryoko Hirasawa)

3rd: Kansai Gakuin University (Naoko Oka – Sayuri Kita)

37th Kanto Aikido Tournament

20th July 2009 Musashino city Sports centre

Randori Individual Event

Men's Championship

Winner: Tim Wolput (Sanshiroka)

2nd: Satoshi Yasuda (Teiokai)

3rd: Yasuhiro Matsubara (Shodokan Musashino)

Men's general category

Winner: Reo Mihashi (Shodokan Musashino)

2nd: Ryo Munakata (Shinbukai)

3rd: Ren Nemoto (Shinbukai)

Women's Championship

Winner: Sanae Sakakibara (Sundaikai)

2nd: Miho Ito (Tomonaikidokai)

3rd: Keiko Konaka (Ryokokai)

Women's General Category

Winner: Yumi Ota (Aso Sports Aikido Club)

2nd: Hanako Sekishima (Shodokan Musashino)

3rd: Tomoko Shihara (Shodokan musashino)

Enbu – Dan grades

Winner: Yasuhiro Matsubara – Yoshinori Tsuzaki (Shodokan Musashino)

2nd: Taeko Yamazaki – Haruka Mizushima (Shodokan Musashino)

3rd: Tsuneko Tokuno – Masashi Abe (Shodokan Musashino)

Content of the pre-meeting about the TAIN-meeting at the International Tournament

Before the JAA General Assembly, members of the JAA International Council held a meeting.

The meeting was about themes and plans for the TAIN-meeting and the chair was held by Head of International Affairs, Endo.

JAA Board Head Masaharu Komatsu suggested that the loose network of TAIN should change following the trend of times. He further suggested to exchange opinions about the situation of getting more members in every country and to talk about present difficulties and problems and how the JAA can assist in these matters. For this purpose he proposed to have fundamental lectures and a brain storming session operating as the main axis.

It was decided to present a questionnaire to every country and evaluate the results afterwards.

Head of the Referee Division Omori reported on the preparations for the International Referee Meeting.

After this the International Affairs Division talked about specialised and detailed topics following the lead of the concerned divisions.

JAA Instructors seminar

On August 8th and 9th a seminar for black belt instructors was held under the supervision of the JAA Instructor Division. Many people engaged enthusiastically in practice on these hot summer days.

On the 9th JAA Technical Director Nariyama

explained from a historical angle about how the association's training system was formed and became what it is today.

He especially stressed that he didn't just invent it by himself. Rather that it developed from systemizing the teachings of Tomiki and Oba while focussing on the 'tsukuri' practice method as presented at the Budo Conference by Tomiki in his later years.

This explanation showed the influence of Hirokazu Kobayashi shihan and was a valid expression against a lack of understanding about methods differing from the ways of Tomiki and Oba.

As a university student of almost the same generation as Nariyama shihan, I was instructed by Oba sensei on Randori no Kata and Nage no Kata. The content of the grading syllabus is now different in various points from what Oba sensei taught and many of Oba's old students of the same generation gathered at the Waseda Aikidojo and unhesitatingly posed questions to Nariyama shihan. The person asking the most questions was the late Mr. Harada, Meiji University Head Coach.

The question 'Why is the Randori no Kata technique Oshi Taoshi not followed through to the end and changed to controlling on the knee for tsukuri-practice?' was symbolic for the many questions about the changes in the system of tsukuri-practice. In such occasions Nariyama answered that he did not change it but rather that is was Tomiki sensei who gave directions.

At this seminar it was explained in detail how the grading syllabus evolved from combining the tsukuri-practice system with skills developed by daily practice.

Lately there are persons who insist on their experience received from Oba sensei's teachings but I feel that ignorance of the developmental process and time slipping is counter-effective in teaching and shows of a conservative attitude opposing progress.

Masaharu Komatsu