



Hui-O-Judo Beltsville

Monthly Newsletter for September 2005

Upcoming events:

September 10	Faye Allen Kata tournament	Glenn Dale, MD
September 24	Navy Senior Team Invitational	Annapolis, MD
October 8	Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships	Beltsville, MD
October 9	Shufu Katame No Kata Clinic	Beltsville, MD
October 22	Naval Academy Senior Tournament	Annapolis, MD
November 5	Shufu Junior Promotional	Beltsville, MD
November 6	Shufu Senior Promotional	Beltsville, MD
November 19	Maryland State Championships	College Park, MD

Flyers on all above events are available at class. For more information – see one of the senseis at class.

REMINDER – Please scan your membership card at the front desk BEFORE every class!!

Welcome new senseis – We have three new senseis from Guatemala. Please take time to introduce yourself and to get to know them. They are very good judoka and can teach each of you a great deal. We are very fortunate to have them joining us. Sensei Jorge is a 19 year old ikkyu, 66kg (145lbs), he has been in the US for one year, and has had not had an opportunity to practice judo since he left Guatemala. He works as a trim carpenter. He remembers seeing Sensei Diane & Sensei Karen at a Pan American Judo Championships tournament in Venezuela. Sensei Sergio is 21 year old Shodan, also 66kg (145lbs) promoted 2 yrs ago. He came to US two months ago & was working out just before he came. Sensei Guillermo is 24 year old Shodan, 60kg (132 lbs). Currently he is looking for a job, he was a baker of bread in Guatemala. He came to the US two months ago.

Guatemala is just south of Mexico, with the pacific coastline on the west, & caribbean coastline on the east. It is about as big as the state of Tennessee. There are lots of things there we would consider extremely amazing, such as volcanos, Mayan pyramids, LOTS of coffee, bananas, & dense rain forest. Their jungle is full of jaguars & monkeys. They have a democratic government, like ours, with similar branches and they are friendly with the US. Their currency (money) is called “quetzal”, named after Mayan god of the wind/rain. The god Quetzal is a serpent with wings from the planet Venus. Sergio & Guillermo have never seen snow, but are looking forward to it. They have seen it in photos, movies, & TV, but never the real thing. Jorge saw snow here last winter -- knee deep!

Reigisaho (Etiquette) - We all need to practice and pay closer attention to good judo etiquette. It is the foundation of the sport. It covers everything from proper posture, bowing, salutations and general movements. When you come to class you and your judo gi should be clean. You must take proper care of your judo uniform. It should be properly folded after each practice, and then hung up at home. Your judo gi should always be in order before your bow. Please remember to bow upon entering/exiting the dojo, ALWAYS use your zoris and keep them at the edge of the mat, bow on/off of the mat and to your partners,

be mindful of the way that you enter your bow and exit it. When we line up, no one should be talking or playing. After we bow, no one stands up until the senseis have all stood up. Reigisaho starts with respect for oneself and the others around you. Always present yourself in the proper manner. We have traditions that must be followed. Use proper etiquette.

Cooler weather – Summer is ending and cooler weather is coming in. All judoka must wear a shirt (and a jacket or sweat shirt) when leaving the dojo. Although you are hot and hopefully sweaty when you leave, it is important to gradually cool down rather than having your body go through rapid temperature changes. It may cause you to get sick.

Club dues – Many of you have not been keeping up with your monthly club dues. Please stop by the front desk to verify when your payment is due. We do not have the time or resources to track you down. If we have to stop class each night to see who has not paid it will cost everyone in the class valuable instruction and practice time.

Jita Kyoei Judo Club – At the lead of our fellow judoka, Chris Howell, we have a new judo club in the area. It is called Hui-O Jita Kyoei Judo Club, which means “Club of mutual welfare and benefit”. The club is just 15 minutes north of our dojo. It is at the New Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church, 15121 McKnew Rd., Burtonsville, Maryland 20866. Practices are being scheduled for Sunday afternoon from 3-5 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to add a weekend practice to your judo development. See Chris, Sensei Kevin or Sensei Mark for more information.

Eastern Open Championships – The Shufu Yudanshakai Eastern Open Championships were hosted by our club at the Beltsville Community Center on August 20 and 21. Competitors came in from as far north as Rhode Island and as far south as Georgia. Our team, though small in numbers, competed and preformed very well. Congratulations to Sensei Mark and Bradley who won first place while competing uncontested in the Nage No Kata competition. Abel Kwong took two first place awards, competing in the boys 8-9 yo 60-64 lbs division and the boys 6-8 57–65lbs division. Dominic Ong took two second place awards, competing in the boys 9-11yo 49-58 lbs division and the boys 10-11yo 58-62 lbs division. In the senior competition, Robert Kirk took a third place award in the mens 220 Sankyū and below division and Brad Mason took two third place awards, one in mens 220 Black belt division and one in the 220 masters division. Congratulations to all of our members who represented our judo club at the Eastern Open Championships

Club Picnic – Sensei Mark Smith and his family hosted our annual judo club picnic at their house. It was a wonderful day to meet everyone's families and to relax. Each person brought a dish to share. We were able to sample a variety of different ethnic foods. We enjoyed the swimming pool and the water gun battles. Everyone took lots of pictures to share. We are all looking forward to next year's picnic.

Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships – The Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships will be held on October 8th at Beltsville Academic Center. Hui-O hosts this event every spring and fall. I NEED everyone to help. All of your family and friends are needed to help with set up of mats, running the scoring tables, running the concession stand, tournament operations, and so much more. Please plan to be there to help with this event. Everyone is encouraged to participate as a contestant. The more people who attend the better showing we will have.

Shufu Katame No Kata clinic – Hui-O will be hosting a Katame No Kata clinic for Shufu Yudanshakai on October 9th at the Beltsville Academic Center. The clinicians will be Sensei Karen, Sensei Diane, Sensei Fran and Sensei Peggy. These are all World Class competitors and champions. Senior students are encouraged to attend.

Shufu Website - Shufu has launched a new updated and revised website. (www.shufujudo.com) Please check it out. There is a lot of good information, especially the promotional requirements, as well as links to other sites.

Yudanshakai Forms – Sensei gets preprinted forms for each of you to renew on each year. They are handed out one month prior to expiration. Many of you still have not yet returned your Yudanshakai registration forms. In order to practice at the club you are **REQUIRED** to join USJF, USJI or both. The fee is \$50 for one year and an optional \$15 for additional membership in USJI. There are many benefits to being a member of Shufu Yudanshakai. If you have lost your form, please see one of the Sensei. If you still have it, please return it to us as soon as possible. Membership is good for one year from when you join. Please remember, with promotions coming up, you can NOT be advanced in rank if you are not a member of USJF. If you are not a member, you will not be allowed to be on the mat for practice.

Club logo apparel – Take pride in the judo club while helping promote and advertise it. We have a variety of club shirts available. Club logo t-shirts are offered in two styles. One has the traditional club logo just like our patch in Red, White and Blue on a white t-shirt. The other shirt is blue and has the other logo. They are offered in sizes S to XXXL. The price for club members is just \$10 per shirt. There are also a limited number of navy blue golf style collared shirts available with one of the two club logos. These shirts are \$20 each. Also there are a limited number of grey fleece pullovers, sweatshirts and two types of backpacks. We encourage all club members, family members and club supporters to have and to proudly wear the club logo items. Visit our website to see pictures of these items or see Sensei Kevin.

Being ready for class - I am asking for everyone to help get ready for class. We get the gym at 7 pm. It takes time to get the mats out and set up for class. The longer this process takes, the short amount of time we have for class. Right now, we get in at 7; it takes between 20-30 minutes to set up the mat that only leaves 1 hour for practice. Of that time, 20 minutes are spent on taiso (warm ups) and zempo kaiten (forward break falls). That only leaves 40 minutes for practice if we are lucky. Every time we have to stop for water breaks or other problems takes away from YOUR practice time. Those of you who arrive late for class often disrupt the class as you enter and break the routine of practice time.

Please be prompt - arrive early. HELP to set up the mats - DO NOT stand around and talk to everyone.

Zoris – Part of every judo uniform is zoris. These are slip on “flip flops” or some type of slipper. You MUST have these at practice. They are part of your judo uniform. You should never leave the mat area without first asking the sensei, then bowing off the mat and putting zoris on at the edge of the mat area. All of the dirt your feet pick up on the floor is brought onto the mat area and gets on our gis and our bodies. Many of the kids have been caught going to the bathroom and out to get drinks of water without putting on zoris. Class is only one hour, you should NOT have to stop for bathroom breaks and water breaks. We are only at class for a very short period of time. Please purchase a pair of zoris, bring them to class and USE THEM.

Care for judo gis – Many of you are not taking care of your judo gis. I see very dirty judo gis at class. Your gi must be taken care of. It is your uniform. It should be folded properly after each class and carried in a bag so it does not get dirty. The club has two different judo back packs to carry your gi in, as well as offering larger judo bags for other manufactures. Your gi should always be washed and clean. I recommend NOT putting it in the dryer, instead, hang it up to air dry. The heat of the dryer will reduce the life of your judo gi. When you get home at night after practice, you should hang our gi up to air out. Your gi should NOT be worn when you are eating. There are four parts to your gi. Make certain you have all of them with you for every class. It is your responsibility, not your parents. When you outgrow your gi, consider giving it to another judoka who can use it. Get a friend to join you in judo and offer your old gi to them.

Many of the tournaments are requiring that you provide you own blue or white belts for competition. Please consider purchasing your own belts and putting your name on them. Upper level tournaments require you to have both a blue gi and a white gi to change for every match. National and international tournaments require you to have two of each gi available at site.

Promotions:

The Shufu Promotions are the first weekend in November. Everyone should attend these. **Please review your requirements** and look to see if you feel that you have meet all of the “minimum” requirements for promotions. If you feel that you are eligible, please see Sensei Tamai. If you are not yet eligible to be promoted then you should attend for competition only or to support the other club members. If you can not compete then you should come to assist with all of the support staff functions. It is a great learning time. You also never know what may happen. **Even if you think you meet the “minimum requirements” DO NOT expect be promoted.**

Since the last promotional in the spring we have given written examinations for you to practice. We will give one more before the fall promotional. These happen at the very beginning of class. Be on time if you want to take advantage of this opportunity. Everyone should be studying his or her promotional information. Everyone should be reviewing his or her general testing materials and terms. Everyone should be reviewing their terminology, throws, pins, and if applicable, chokes and arm locks. If you are unsure of anything, please ask us to review it in class. There is a great deal of material to cover. Everyone should have all of the basic information in his or her head. I realize the Japanese is difficult for some of you but you must at least be able to associate the techniques with the names.

Everything that you need to know is covered in the study book. The club has some books and video tapes available. Please borrow these and do not keep these. I had multiple copies of all of the tapes but never seem to get any of them back. Now only a few exist. There are also hand outs available. The local book stores also have some books. Another place is your **local library**. If you have other information at home, please copy it and share it with all of us. For anyone who has been away from judo for a period of time or is new to this area, I really need to get any kind of back up information that you can get a hold of to attach to your file. I also need it for promotional record keeping. But anyone who has additional information can pass it along to me also.

Please remember this is a club. It belongs to all of us. It is a part of all of us. Together we all make it up. If you have ideas, comments or suggestion to make this a better club, please let me know. All of you have many talents. I do not know what most of them are. Please let me know what you can do or would like to do to help out.

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Please visit our website at <http://connect.to/huiojudo>