**43rd ANNUAL WASHINGTON STATE INTERNATIONAL**

**KARATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Saturday, May 14, 2011**

***Presented by: Washington Karate Association***

Dear Sensei, Coach, and Athlete,

Once again it is with great pleasure and privilege that I invite you to participate in the 43rd Washington State International Karate Championships. This long-running competition has featured some of the best athletes in the world and some of the highest ranking officials in the international arena. We truly appreciate the past support from Senseis, officials, athletes, and volunteers, and hope you will join us again for this exciting event.

The tournament will be held on Saturday, May 14th at Edmonds Community College Seaview Gymnasium, 20000 68th West, Lynwood, WA 98036. Registration will open at 8:00am, there will be an officials meeting at 9:00am, and the competition will begin at 10:00am. This competition will provide an excellent competitive opportunity for karate-ka of all ages and levels to test their skills and gain valuable experience. Divisions will be divided according to age and level with medals awarded for the top three places.

Competitors are required to wear a traditional white gi, and all officials must adhere to the official dress code, which is: Gray pants, white shirt, blue tie, blue blazer, and black non-marking soft-soled shoes. For kata competition, we will use the traditional scoring system rather than the flag system, except for in the WKF kata divisions. For kumite competition, modified WKF/USA-NKF rules will apply. Approved red and blue fistpads, mouthguard, and groin protector (males) are required. Optional equipment includes: approved chest protectors, shin/instep protectors, soft cloth arm guards, athletic safety glasses and headgear (for 13 & under).

Online registration will be available after March 1 at www.

Please feel free to contact me at (425) 641-8123 or [sensei@wkabellevue.com](mailto:sensei@wkabellevue.com) for any questions.

I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Sincerely,

Junko Arai