

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Vol. 18 No. 2
November 10, 2015

KENDO

CONGRATULATIONS: 16TH WKC-Team U.S.A.

2015-2017

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Yoshiteru Tagawa

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Tim Yuge

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Shinobu Maeda

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Yuji Onitsuka

VP-EDUCATION:

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TREASURER:

Kotaro Yoshida

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Norman K. Otani, Esq.

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Shuntaro Shinada, M.D.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Report submitted by Yoshiteru Tagawa.

Congratulations to the 16th WKC-Team U.S.A. Men's & Women's Team members on their 3rd place finish that was held on May 30 & 31, 2015 respectively, in the Budokan, Tokyo, Japan.

I am very proud of the strong results that the 16th WKC-Team U.S.A. Men's & Women's Team members achieved, and would like to thank the Team U.S.A. managers and coaches and each of the Team U.S.A. kendoists for their dedication and personal sacrifices that they had to endure, during the training period leading up to this tri-annual international kendo competition event.

I would like to encourage all interested AUSKF kenshi to consider participating in the upcoming AUSKF kendo training sessions that will be soon announced to start anew the selection process for the men's & women's Team U.S.A. members, that will travel to Seoul, Korea for the 17th WKC event.

The AUSKF has been able to develop over the past two decades a world

class national kendo federation, through the combined efforts of the past leadership & board of directors of the AUSKF; in collaboration with each of the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations and their respective kendo dojos in the United States. By continuing to build upon the past hard work and contributions made by all concerned to date, the AUSKF will continue to train and bring our best competitors to the future international kendo competition events.

In addition to the continued efforts to support those AUSKF kendoists interested in training for the future international kendo competition events; I would like to also focus on providing a full spectrum of programs that are currently being updated and developed by our AUSKF officers in the areas of kendo education, promotion examinations/seminars, competition/referee seminars, iaido/jodo summer camp/workshop, and other areas that provide support to the AUSKF members.

Please contact me, if you have any questions or want to share your concerns with me about the AUSKF.

Sincerely,
Yoshiteru Tagawa, AUSKF President
e-mail: duketagawa@gmail.co

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Highlights from the April 11 & 12, 2015 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Denver, Colorado:

Reported by Norman K. Otani, Esq.

[Note: this report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the April 11 & 12, 2015, AUSKF board of directors meeting; **the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification**]

II. Old Business:

A. AUSKF Liability Insurance [Update]

a.) AUSKF Liability Insurance Policy effective April 24, 2015:

It was reported that on or about March 2015; the AUSKF received notice from Francis L. Dean, current AUSKF liability insurance company [Note: Current AUSKF liability insurance policy coverage ends on April 23, 2015], that the previous formula used by Francis L. Dean, to determine the amount of premium for the AUSKF liability insurance would no longer be used to determine the annual AUSKF liability insurance premium after the current AUSKF liability insurance policy ends on April 23, 2015.

Effective April 24, 2015, Francis L. Dean advised AUSKF, that the method of determining the AUSKF liability insurance policy premium [Note: Based on current level of AUSKF liability insurance coverage amount] would be changed to require EACH AUSKF dojo to pay their individual liability insurance premium coverage, based upon a per AUSKF member amount of approximately \$10 [50 member minimum] or if less than 50 members [minimum \$480]. Also, the current sexual abuse and molestation coverage would be additional \$1,000 per year; and medical coverage would be additional \$10 per year. Total yearly premium for each AUSKF dojo would be \$1,490 per year [if AUSKF dojo has less than 50 members]. Based on current number of AUSKF dojos [266], the annual premium effective 4-24-15 would be \$396, 340.00. In addition, each AUSKF dojo would request that AUSKF be included as additional insured.

After further negotiations were attempted by the AUSKF, the Francis L. Dean, current AUSKF liability insurance company would not change the method of determining the AUSKF yearly premium, described above, for the new coverage period effective

4-24-15. Subsequently, the AUSKF contacted two other insurance agents, and it was confirmed that a sports liability insurance company in Philadelphia, would be interested to provide the current AUSKF liability insurance coverage levels for the same or nearly same current premium. AUSKF received tentative confirmation that the prior liability insurance coverage method currently used for the current AUSKF policy provided by Francis L. Dean, at the current levels of coverage referenced above, could be negotiated with the Philadelphia sports liability insurance company for the new AUSKF liability insurance policy effective April 24, 2015, at or around the current annual premium paid by AUSKF. **It was recommended and approved, that AUSKF change the current Francis L. Dean AUSKF liability insurance company; and allow AUSKF to negotiate a new AUSKF liability insurance coverage policy effective April 24, 2015, with the Philadelphia sports liability insurance company, at the current level of liability insurance coverage and for the same or nearly same current annual premium.**

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Highlights from the April 11 & 12, 2015 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Denver, Colorado: (cont)

b.) Directors and Officers Liability Insurance Policy [update]: It was reported that a three (3) year coverage [\$3 million liability insurance coverage amount] from January 2015 through January 2018, was purchased by AUSKF for \$2,030.00 per year.

B. Committee Action Items:

i. Budget/Finance:

The final 12-31-14 AUSKF End of Year Financial Report was submitted and approved.

Finance codes [update]: It was reported that each AUSKF committee will submit future expenses with a code [Note: A new financial program proposed will have a code for expenses for each committee, etc.] which can then be used by the AUSKF treasurer, to allocate the expenditures to the correct budget account [e.g. competition, education, promotion, etc.].

It was recommended that the future AUSKF treasurer report should be more detailed with each of the AUSKF committee income and expenses; this type of report would be helpful for the AUSKF board of directors to review where the reported total net losses, etc., occur

each fiscal year.

A question was asked about the use of the AUSKF Office 365 database for the yearly financial expenses and if the more detailed income and expenses information for the AUSKF committees was available; it was confirmed that this type of information was available and could be reviewed if needed. The AUSKF treasurer agreed to provide a more detailed AUSKF financial report, to include each AUSKF committee's income and expenses, for the future AUSKF board of directors meetings.

The AUSKF treasurer's report as of April 10, 2015, was submitted and reviewed; it was reported that the total number of AUSKF registered members was 4,795, as of 3-31-15.

The AUSKF treasurer made a Power Point presentation that reviewed the current AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365 database, which has the capability to share information [e.g. membership records, financial records, promotion records, etc.], with all AUSKF board of directors [password req.] via the i-cloud. Upon review of the current AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365 database, and the related costs; it was suggested that an alternative database option for the AUSKF to maintain the same membership records, financial records, promotion records, etc., at a lower cost to the AUSKF, may be needed.

It was determined that the current AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365 was managed by a person, at a cost of \$250 per month, to input AUSKF membership records, financial records, promotion records, etc.; any changes to the AUSKF database, had to be arranged with this person who was currently doing this work for the AUSKF. When the current AUSKF treasurer attempted to change the current AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365 passwords, make corrections of misspelled names in the membership database, etc.; due to the difficulty to have the AUSKF person hired to manage the AUSKF database to facilitate the process to do such things, these matters seemed to get bogged down, and was found to be inefficient, for the current AUSKF treasurer, to make these type of changes needed, etc. Also, the total financial cost to the AUSKF to maintain the inputting of data annually for the AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365, including the cost for a person to manage the AUSKF database was found to be about \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year.

The AUSKF treasurer made a proposal to go "off-line" to continue having the AUSKF Virtual Office, that includes maintaining the AUSKF membership database, etc. The "off-line" proposal, initially does not require a password to have access for input, etc.. In coordination with two other AUSKF board of directors,

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Highlights from the April 11 & 12, 2015 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Denver, Colorado:

B. Committee Action Items:

i. Budget/Finance: (cont)

the AUSKF treasurer has started utilizing the "off-line" AUSKF Virtual Office, by inputting the AUSKF membership database, promotion records, etc., and has successfully moved the prior Office 365 records to the "off-line" database; as a result, the prior total annual costs to AUSKF to hire individuals for inputting the data, and managing the AUSKF Office 365 database, has been almost eliminated.

The "off-line" program proposed to be used by the AUSKF, for the purposes described above is called "Dropbox." It was recommended that the current AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365 database information be transferred to the AUSKF "Dropbox" software; and the AUSKF can issue the passwords for access by the AUSKF President, AUSKF VP, etc. Also, when, there is a future change in the AUSKF treasurer office; the outgoing AUSKF treasurer agrees to assist to make the smooth transition for the new AUSKF treasurer so that the continued use of the "Dropbox" software, AUSKF database, is maintained. The cost of using the "Dropbox" software, is free to all of the AUSKF board of directors. However, there is a fee of \$10 per

month or \$100 per year, to allow the AUSKF treasurer to manage the AUSKF database, as described above.

One of the board of directors reported having used the "Dropbox" software; and in his experience, when transferring data from his laptop computer to a flashdrive, if not done carefully, could result in changes in the original data, and there would be no way to know that this has occurred. The AUSKF treasurer agreed that the example given is a possible situation. Notwithstanding this possibility; as initially only a limited number of AUSKF officers and board of directors will be issued a password, the AUSKF will carefully monitor the overall AUSKF database changes/input to the AUSKF database into "Dropbox." The AUSKF treasurer agreed to intervene and correct any errors, problems, etc., that he becomes aware of, in regards to the "Dropbox," AUSKF database.

Another AUSKF board of director asked about the sharing of the AUSKF "Dropbox," membership database records with each of the AUSKF member federations; the AUSKF treasurer agreed that the AUSKF membership excel files for each AUSKF member federation will be shared with each of the AUSKF member federations.

The AUSKF treasurer discussed that in order to more efficiently manage

and prepare the future AUSKF financial reports for each of the semi-annual AUSKF board of directors meetings; a new policy is proposed for the **reimbursement procedure for each of the AUSKF board of directors/officers**, to be done through an on-line banking system payment. The drawback to the on-line banking system reimbursement system, is that there will not be a signed written record from the AUSKF treasurer, that the reimbursement payment has been paid, for the submitted expenses.

In addition, the AUSKF treasurer reported that currently, the AUSKF Virtual Office: Office 365 has uploaded copies of the submitted AUSKF request for reimbursement documents and copies of receipts submitted by the AUSKF officer/board of director; however, to review these same expenditures, and to determine which expenses are for a specific AUSKF committee, etc., is very difficult. For this reason; K. Yoshida proposed a "**new**" **reimbursement procedure** as follows: AUSKF officer/board of director must scan the AUSKF reimbursement request document, and the receipts, and send to AUSKF treasurer as e-mail attachment or, submit to the designated AUSKF "Dropbox," folder.

Further, it was reported that effective immediately, the "new

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**Highlights from the April 11 & 12,,
2015 AUSKF Board of Directors
Meeting, Denver, Colorado:**

B. Committee Action Items:

i. Budget/Finance: (cont)

groundrules" will be that if there is no itemized receipt for a requested AUSKF reimbursement, the AUSKF may not be able to pay these types of unsupported expense requests for AUSKF reimbursement.

Discussion held that the AUSKF officer/board of director requests for expense reimbursement should not be submitted for reimbursement by the AUSKF officer/board of director, no later than six (6) months after the expense is incurred.

The suggested reimbursement time periods, to submit receipts, ranged from 1-month to 90 days; it was approved that a request for reimbursement by the AUSKF officer/board of directors shall be submitted at a minimum no later than three (3) months [90-days] after the expense is incurred. After additional concerns were raised that the ninety day time period may initially be too short a time; a grace period of up to six months after the AUSKF expense is incurred ,was approved until the AUSKF board of directors meeting in November, 2015

It was reported that the **AUSKF ID card issuance system**, may no longer be cost-effective to maintain, due to the number of AUSKF "new"

members [approximately 200 "new" AUSKF members annually] who do NOT renew their AUSKF membership, etc., and as a result, the AUSKF annual cost incurred to issue the current AUSKF ID cards, which are only used in many cases for one year is a significant amount of AUSKF expense.

As the current cost of issuing the AUSKF ID card is \$8.00 per card, the amount of expense incurred annually for the short-term "new" AUSKF members, appears to be an area that should be reconsidered as to whether an AUSKF ID card is required any longer, and possibly can be discontinued.

After further discussion, it was recommended and approved that the issuance of AUSKF ID numbers for "new" AUSKF members, can continue to be done, without the issuance of the AUSKF plastic ID card.

Due to the historical significance of having a past "yellow card" system of verifying attendance at AUSKF seminars, etc.; it was requested that the Budget/Finance committee discuss developing some type of AUSKF "yellow card," to provide verification of attendance at AUSKF seminars, etc.

ii. Education:

1. (2015) FIK America Zone Referee Seminar (update): It was reported

that this event was successfully held in Las Vegas, Nevada; about 70 participants. For the 7 Dan participants group; it was decided that to have a better shinpan judging experience, the AUSKF arranged to provide (10) shiai sha from different AUSKF member federations [AUSKF paid about \$100 per shiai sha-stipend for travel, double occupancy hotel room, bento & Sayonara party]. Income was also received from the AJKF =Y\$150,000 (approx. \$1,200 U.S. Dollar). Total expense to host 2015 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar = \$15,000 (approx.); cost to AUSKF was about \$10,000.

2. 2015 AUSKF Iaido Education Tour:

It was reported that Chihiro Kishimoto sensei and Toshio Maehara sensei successfully conducted the 2015 AUSKF Iaido Education Tour from March 13 to 23, 2015; the host federations included: AEUSKF, EUSKF, GNEUSKF, SWKIF, PNKF, and NCKF. In addition to the iaido education/training, jodo training was provided by Maehara sensei as part of the AUSKF efforts to continue building and developing the AUSKF Jodo program.

3. 2015 AUSKF Kendo Education Tour-East Region:

S. Kato reported that Koji Onda sensei, successfully conducted the 2015 AUSKF Kendo Education Tour-East Region from

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**Highlights from the April 11 & 12,,
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B. Committee Action Items:

ii. Education: (cont)

March 27 – April 7; the host federations included: AEUSKF, SEUSKF, EUSKF, GNEUSKF, ECUSKF, and MWKF.

4. 2015 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp:

It was reported that related to the development of the AUSKF Jodo program; the Canada Kendo Federation ["CKF"] has agreed to assist the AUSKF; by inviting the interested AUSKF members to participate in the CKF Jodo promotion examination, planned for later in 2015 by the CKF. The AUSKF members interested to participate in the CKF Jodo promotion examination, later in 2015, will be required to follow the current AUSKF promotion exam regulations to take a promotion examination in a [FIK] foreign country.

The 2015 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held June 18-22, 2015 in San Jose, California, which will include a Jodo workshop; the proposed budget was submitted for review.

5. 2015 AUSKF Kendo Summer

Camp: It was reported that the 2015 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp will be held on July 24-26, 2015, in Dallas, Texas. Two (2) AJKF instructors have been requested; AJKF provides one

(1) instructor paid by AJKF, and the second instructor, AUSKF pays ½ of travel expenses.

Discussion about whether or not there was a way to reduce AUSKF costs for the AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp, by utilizing the current AUSKF 8 Dan kendo sensei: Y. Tagawa and S. Kato, as the instructors for the AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp. It was requested that the AUSKF Education Committee review this suggestion.

iii. Competition:

1. AUSKF Zone shinpan seminars

[update]: It was reported that the AUSKF Zone shinpan seminars were completed, except for the New York area; a two-day shinpan seminar, is planned. It was recommended that the future, AUSKF Zone shinpan seminars be a 1 day & ½ format, having more practicum.

2. 16th WKC – Team USA [update]:

It was reported that the Team USA kendoists travelled to Korea to train with the Korean kendoists; the Korean kendoists provided very warm hospitality each day for the Team USA members. It was suggested, that the AUSKF invite the Korea kendoists to practice kendo with Team USA in the United States, at some future date.

3. 5th- AUSKF Jr. Open National

Championships and Youth Seminar:

It was reported that this event will be held on Saturday: August 1, 2015, at

Marina High School, Huntington Beach, California, and the Youth Seminar will be on Sunday: August 2, 2015.

A \$500 stipend was approved for the ten (10) AUSKF member federations (out-of-state) to receive a maximum stipend of \$2,000 to support up to four (4) youth competitors [\$500 stipend per youth competitor] to attend the 5th AUSKF Jr. Open National Championships and Seminar.

3. Request to Review: "Regulations of Kendo Shiai and

Shinpan."[Revised 12-7-06];

Chapter 2. Shiai. Section 2. Yuko-datotsu: Pronouncement of kote, men, do, and tsuki= Hassei.

Clarification of Pronouncement during kendo matches tournament.

Before the discussion, the prior background information was reported explaining that at the 2014 FIK America Zone Referee Seminar, held in Vancouver; the rules regarding the kenshi vocalizing kote, men, do and tsuki, were explained by the FIK referee seminar instructors, to be required.

However, a followup review of the current Regulations of Kendo Shiai and Shinpan [Revised 12-7-06]; Chapter 2. Shiai. Section 2. Yuko-datotsu. Article 12, defines *Yuko-datotsu* as "an accurate strike or thrust made onto *Datotsu-bui* of the opponent's *Kendo-gu* with *Shinai* at

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**Highlights from the April 11 & 12,,
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B. Committee Action Items:

iii. Competition: (cont)

its *Datotsu-bu* in high spirits and correct posture, being followed by *Zanshin*.

To clarify, the above referenced rule; the AUSKF administrative officers asked the FIK officials if this was going to be changed in the "rule book," and the reply was no. However, the FIK officials explained that the vocalizing of kote, men, do and tsuki, should be a Kendo Education matter, instructed at the dojo level.

The current AUSKF problem is that "some" ASUSKF referees are telling the AUSKF kendoists at the AUSKF kendo tournaments, if the kenshi do not vocalize kote, men, do and tsuki; then, it will not be taken as a yuko-datotsu point. Some of the AUSKF board of directors agreed with this type of referee decision.

However, upon further discussion; when two AUSKF referees raise the flag for a yuko-datotsu; if there is a protest by a coach that there was no vocalizing of kote, men, do or tsuki, this unwritten rule, could not then be enforced at a AUSKF kendo tournament.

The AUSKF president confirmed that after discussing this matter with the

FIK officials; it is strongly recommended that the AUSKF develop: **Shido**: Education for the AUSKF member federations members to explain clearly that the vocalizing of kote, men, dojo and tsuki during local dojo practices, regional kendo tournaments, regional promotion examinations, and at AUSKF kendo tournaments & AUSKF promotion examinations, is part of the AUSKF kendo training requirement and expectation.

iv. Promotion:

1. Letter to AUSKF member federations regarding private invitation (update): TABLED.

2. Review "Draft" PPG: Appendix A. Promotion regulation for Shogo.

After discussion; this matter was referred for review by the AUSKF promotion examination committee.

3. Promotion Testing for Jodo within AUSKF.

Discussion regarding the promotion testing for Jodo; allowing the AUSKF members :jodo practitioners to go to Canada for Jodo promotion testing. Comment that the AUSKF should consider inviting [if needed] Jodo examiners from Canada, for a Jodo Promotion examination conducted by the AUSKF. It was explained that currently, the AUSKF has only four (4) 5-Dan Jodo sensei, and one of the AUSKF 5-Dan Jodo sensei may not be in good health to be a Jodo examiner. For this reason, the AUSKF jodo

practitioners are recommended to go to the upcoming Jodo Shinsa in Vancouver, Canada.

It was agreed that the AUSKF jodo practitioners who go to Vancouver, Canada, to take the Jodo promotion examination; should complete the current AUSKF promotion examination in a foreign country application document, and pay the AUSKF registration fee, etc., and then, the Jodo promotion menjo could be issued by the CKF, as a FIK affiliate country.

4. Request for Japanese menjo.
TABLED.

iv. Development:

1. College Liason Committee (update): TABLED.

2. How to manuals [Need national tournament manual developed].
TABLED.

III. Committee meetings.

a. Committee reports.

i. Budget – Finance. It was reported that after further discussion in the Budget-Finance committee, it was recommended that the AUSKF reconsider whether budget codes will be helpful for each AUSKF VP [e.g. education, competition, promotion, etc.] to better determine how to allocate AUSKF expenses by each of the AUSKF

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Highlights from the April 11 & 12,,
2015 AUSKF Board of Directors
Meeting, Denver, Colorado:

III. Committee meetings.

a. Committee reports.

i. Budget – Finance (cont)

programs [e.g. education, competition, promotion, etc.]; and to authorize K. Yoshida to review how this matter should be determined in the future.

ii. Education.

Copies provided to all board of directors of e-mail and attachment outlining the 2015-2017 AUSKF Education programs and budgets proposed. Proposed resolution prepared by AUSKF VP Education was approved.

iii. Promotion.

It was reported that the AUSKF promotion committee agreed that the current AUSKF PPG: Appendix A. Promotion Regulations need to be updated; updates to be completed by the AUSKF Executive VP.

Also, it was reported that the AUSKF promotion committee recommends that the AUSKF promotion examination seminars, held in the past several years, should be continued.

v. Iaido.

No further report.

vi. Anti-Doping.

A copy of the March 14, 2015 AUSKF Anti-Doping Committee ["ADC"] meeting agenda, list of 2015-2017 AUSKF Anti-Doping Committee members contact information, and AUSKF Anti-Doping committee historical summary document was provided.

Also, a verbal summary report was provided of the 3/14/15 AUSKF ADC meeting recommendation: Tentatively, effective 2017 AUSKF Championships; AUSKF ADC considering to begin anti-doping testing on a limited basis. However, before, making a final recommendation, the AUSKF ADC will be planning to meet with the USADA in Colorado Springs, Colorado in Spring 2016, to review the type of contract language used by the USADA, and whether or not this type of contract language can be negotiated to limit the degree of the control, as to how the doping tests and results are managed by the USADA, etc., vs. AUSKF ADC being able to follow current AUSKF anti-doping rules developed and currently approved, if a positive test result occurs.

iv. Competition: (additional updates; after the AUSKF Competition Committee meeting)

Y. Onitsuka reported that the bids for hosting the 2017 AUSKF Championships will be accepted after a formal e-mail announcement is sent. The East Coast AUSKF member federations' bids will be given first priority, when reviewed by the AUSKF Competition committee.

vii. Development.

AUSKF Newsletter:

Proposal made to the AUSKF board of directors: Effective immediately; to only distribute the AUSKF Newsletter by electronic attachment to the AUSKF board of directors and AUSKF member federation presidents [except: EUSKF president requests a hard copy].

AUSKF website:

Facebook: It was agreed that the AUSKF Anti-Doping manual for kenshi, currently on the AUSKF website, could be linked to the AUSKF Facebook address.

V. New Business:

i. 2015 Foreign Kendo Leaders Seminar.

It was reported that the

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**Highlights from the April 11 & 12,,
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V. New Business:

**i. 2015 Foreign Kendo Leaders
Seminar. (cont)**

AUSKF received notice from the AJKF that due to the 16th WKC in Tokyo, Japan; the 2015 Kitamoto Seminar would not be held. As a result of this the AUSKF PPG: Appendix D will be adjusted to reflect the priority status for 2015 be moved to 2016, etc.

**ii. Review AUSKF Policy for
Education Tour programs.
TABLED.**

**iii. Reimbursement Policy for
Appointed AUSKF Advisors.**
After discussion; it was agreed that the AUSKF Executive VP will review this matter and make a recommendation at the November 2015 AUSKF board of directors meeting.

iv. November 2015 meeting.
It was agreed that the November 2015 AUSKF board of directors meeting will be on November 14 & 15, 2015 in Detroit, Michigan.

v. Other:

a. Bokuto ni-yoru Kendo Kihon-waza Keiko ho status.
Discussion regarding the AUSKF

plans regarding: *Bokuto ni-yoru Kendo Kihon-waza Keiko ho.*

It was agreed that the AUSKF promotion and competition committees are requested to review this matter. **TABLED.**

AUSKF OFFICERS REPORTS:
AUSKF Executive VP: T. Yuge

In addition to the congratulatory message made by Yoshiteru Tagawa sensei; I want to add a "Thank you" to all the AUSKF members who traveled to Tokyo and were there to support Team U.S.A.

AUSKF Treasurer: K. Yoshida

NOTICE-NOTICE-NOTICE

Effective January 1, 2015, the AUSKF board of directors approved that there will NO LONGER be issued a plastic AUSKF ID card. However, the AUSKF will continue to issue the AUSKF ID numbers, for new AUSKF members.

**REGIONAL MEMBER'S
NEWS:**

1. Midwest Kendo Federation.
Submitted by: Steve Voss

As a result of elections at the Midwest Kendo Board of Directors meetings; after two terms, Steve Voss has been replaced as Midwest Kendo Federation President by Yuka Saathoff from St. Louis Kendo Dojo; also, Zia Uddin has been replaced by Bobby Lee of Choyokan Dojo as Treasurer.

Contact information for:

Yuka Saathoff

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Highland, IL. 62249
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SAVE THE DATE:

submitted by: Yoshiteru Tagawa

We are pleased to inform you that the 18th Annual Detroit Open Kendo Tournament, hosted by the Detroit Kendo Dojo, will be held on the weekend of **February 13th & 14th, 2016.**

I cordially invite you and request you please save this date on your calendar as the tournament, seminar, and promotion exam weekend. Details to follow in the next several months.

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REGIONAL MEMBER'S NEWS
(continued)

2. Pacific Northwest Kendo
Federation:

submitted by: Tom Bolling, Editor
KENYU : Volume 29 No. 8
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2015 Western Canada Jodo Shinsa
August 15, 2015 Vancouver, Canada

1st Kyu:

Narbeh Bagdasarian (Pasadena),
Garrett Evans (Honshu), Terry Fukui
(Ken Zen), Kathleen Jorgensen
(Tonbo), James Maestas (Yamakage),
Mineko Matreyek (Hoshu), Gary
Moulder (Palo Alto), Norman Otani
(Fresno), Levon Sukiasyan (San
Fernando), Naoki Tamesue
(Yamakage), Bruce Vail (Hoshu
CKF).

1st Dan:

Patrick Allard (Hoshu CKF), Lance
Lloyd (Hoshu), Arthur Wolak (Hoshu
CKF).

2nd Dan:

Brian Blomquist (Everett), Hiroaki
Fukumoto (Seattle), Gao Gai Tian
(Hoshu CKF), Jeffrey Kamo (Hoshu
CKF), Kathleen Newcomer (Tonbo),
Michael Park (Hoshu).

3rd Dan:

Ivan Andrews (Hoshu CKF), Tim
Archer (Hoshu CKF), Ben Lew
(Hoshu CKF), Edward Olson
(Tonbo).

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

Future news items for the
next issue to be published on or
about January 2016, can be
submitted to my e-mail address:

norm_otani@auskf.info

[Note: Please accept the AUSKF
Newsletter Editor's sincere
apologies, for the extreme lateness,
of the current November 10, 2015
publication date of the Volume 18
No. 2 "barebones" newsletter; due to
an unexpected medical emergency,
requiring hospitalization for several
days, followed by a thirty day period
of home health nursing supervised
care until completion of IV
antibiotics; resulted in a slow
recovery time, until very recently,
regaining sufficient energy to slowly
restart my duties as the AUSKF
Newsletter Editor]