



SCKF YOUTH PROGRAM INFORMATION



The Manager and Coaches of Team SCKF have decided to implement a new Youth Program in connection with the upcoming U.S. National Kendo Championships. This Youth Program is designed to involve young SCKF kenshi in Team SCKF training and competition in order to encourage younger kenshi and establish the next generation of kenshi to represent SCKF. **A maximum of up to five (5) kenshi will be selected at the tryouts on October 28, 2007 to be a part of this SCKF Youth Program.**

The general goals and intentions of the SCKF Youth Program are as follows:

- Create a program by which younger kenshi can receive top-level instruction and training from SCKF instructors and Manager and Coaches of SCKF.
- Invest in the future kenshi of SCKF to ensure that SCKF is properly represented in future U.S. National and World Championships.
- Create an opportunity for younger kenshi from various dojos to forge friendships that will encourage them to continue kendo.
- Allow younger kenshi to attend the U.S. National Championships and have them experience first-hand the excitement of a National Championships.
- Involve parents of younger kenshi at the SCKF (Federation) level at an earlier stage – particularly since younger kenshi need the support/cooperation of their parents to continue and succeed in kendo.

Selected members of the SCKF Youth Program will be treated as a member of Team SCKF, except that they will not be able to participate in the U.S. National Kendo Championships.

As a member of the SCKF Youth Program, members will:

- Be required to attend each and every Team SCKF practice, unless otherwise excused by the Manager and Coaches.
- Participate in every aspect of the Team SCKF trainings, including practice shiai and “ensei” or practices at other locations.
- Receive all keiko-gi, warm-ups, zekken and other equipment provided to members of Team SCKF.
- Attend the U.S. National Kendo Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada on July 4-6, 2008 at the expense of SCKF.

The Manager and Coaches of Team SCKF hope that the implementation of this new program will further enhance the level of kendo in SCKF. We look forward to the success of this new SCKF Youth Program and look forward to working with these young kenshi.