

2009 Mori Hai Tournament



Torao Mori, 1914-1969

*Sunday, January 18, 2009
Wilson Park Gymnasium
Torrance, CA*

2009 Mori Hai Kendo Tournament

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Wilson Park Gymnasium
2200 Crenshaw Blvd
Torrance, California

*Sponsored by the Southern
California Kendo Federation,
Hosted by Torrance Kendo Club*

Program

(The sound of the taiko will officially open this tournament)

National Anthem

Welcome..... Mr. James Yamasaki, President SCKF

Introduction of Guests..... Mr. Brian Olson, 1st VP SCKF

Return of Perpetual Trophies

Pledge of the Competitors Mr. Brandon Harada, Sho Tokyo Dojo

Rules and Regulations Mr. Maki Miyahara, Chief Judge

Kendo Kata..... Uchitachi: Mr. Nathan Brown, 4 Dan, Torrance Kendo Club
Shitachi: Mr. Han Soo Kim, 4 Dan, Torrance Kendo Dojo

Iaido Demonstration..... Southern California Iaido Association

Tournament

Kyu matches: 3 Minutes, 2 min extension, hantei (except semifinal, final)

Yudansha matches: 4 Minutes, 2 min extension, hantei (except semifinal, final)

Perpetual trophies: 1 per division (divisions with 2 groups will have a play-off)

- Women's Kyu (14 and over)
- Women's Yudansha
- Senior Yudansha (50 to 59)
- Senior Yudansha (60 and over)
- 1-2 Dan (2 groups)
- 5 Dan and above
- 0 thru 6 Kyu
- 5 Kyu thru 4 Kyu (2 groups)
- 3 Kyu thru 1 Kyu (2 groups)
- Adult Kyu (2 groups)
- 3-4 Dan (2 groups)

Presentation of Awards Mr. James Yamasaki

Closing Address..... Mr. Brian Olson

(The sound of the taiko drum will officially close this tournament)

Tentative Schedule of Divisions

Court A	Court B	Court C	Court D	Court E
0-6 kyu	5-4 kyu A	5-4 kyu B	Senior	Women's Dan
Women's kyu	3-1 kyu A	3-1 kyu B	Adult kyu A	Adult kyu B
Exhibition: Mohan Keiko				
1-2 dan A	1-2 dan B	3-4 dan A	3-4 dan B	5 dan above

Note: actual court assignments will be based on tournament flow

About Mori Sensei

A passion for kendo and fencing made Torao Mori sensei not only a legendary swordsman, but also the father of modern kendo in the United States. A champion kendoist, Olympic-caliber fencer/coach, and actor, Mori Sensei promoted kendo in many forms. The Mori Hai Tournament, held every three years, honors his dedication, spirit, and love of kendo.

Born in Kiryuguma-ken, Japan, on June 21, 1914, Mori Sensei began studying kendo in the second grade and eventually became captain of the school's kendo team. He won the Japan National Kendo Championship while in his teens. At this time he also began studying fencing, concentrating on the sabre due to its similarity to the kendo katana. His dream was to become a member of the Japanese Olympic fencing team in the 1940 games.

Mori sensei came to the U.S. in 1939 as a reporter for the Rafu Shimpo newspaper. Tirelessly promoting kendo, he taught and performed demonstrations all along the West Coast. In 1940 he returned to Japan to prepare for the Olympics, but World War II shattered his Olympic dreams. Mori sensei actively pushed to remove the ban on kendo and other martial arts in Japan after the war. Saying "there is nothing wrong with kendo," his efforts were instrumental in helping lift the ban.

Returning to the U.S. in 1948, he met the challenge of reviving kendo in the U.S. with the same determination. As a technical director for films and television, he prepared actors like Peter Ustinov, Claire Bloome, and Rod Steiger for their swashbuckler roles. He appeared on the Johnny Carson Show and worked on films such as *House of Bamboo* and the Broadway production of *Rashomon*.

An accomplished swordsman, Mori sensei's fencing skills led a ladies fencing team to a national title. His Olympic dreams were finally realized when he coached the U.S. Olympic fencing team to victory in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.

In 1950 he and others established the Kendo Federation of the United States (KFUSA), and later Nanka Yudansha Kai, which was renamed the Southern California Kendo Federation (SCKF) in 1959. In 1957 he was awarded hanshi, a special title for individuals who have attained the rank of 8 dan or higher. At the time of his award, Mori sensei was the youngest person ever to receive the honor. Mori sensei passed away on January 8, 1969 at the age of 55. His wife Junice, daughter Jeannie, and son Chris still reside in Southern California. Mori sensei's dedication and spirit remains the foundation of American kendo. The SCKF strives to perpetuate his memory with the Mori Hai Tournament.

SCKF Dojo Listing

Dojo	City	Contact	Schedule
All Nations	10000 Foothill Blvd Lakeview Terrace	I. Murakami 562-692-4943	Mon 7:00-9:00 Thu 7:00-9:00
Chuo	202 N Saratoga St Los Angeles	M. Shikai 323-727-7060	Mon 7:30-9:30 Thu 7:30-9:30
Costa Mesa	254 Victoria St Costa Mesa	E. O'Brien 714-717-6464	Mon 7:30-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00
Covina	1203 W Puente Ave West Covina	K. Kinjo 626-919-5311	Tue 7:00-9:00 Thu 7:00-9:00
Cypress	6125 Chip Ave Cypress	J. Park 714-933-0303	Mon-Fri 5-9p Sat 10:30, 4:30
Gardena JCI	1964 W 162 nd St Gardena	L. Hada 310-324-1303	Fri 7:30-9:00
Gedatsu USA	7872 Hill Dr South San Gabriel	T. Matsumoto 909-980-4621	Tue 7:30-9:30 Fri 7:30-9:30
Industry Sheriff's	841 7 th Ave City of Industry	I. Murakami 562-692-4943	Wed 7:00-10:00 Fri 7:00-10:00
Joshua Tree	6171 Sunburst Ave Joshua Tree	D. Yamaguchi 760-366-0236	Tue 6:00-7:45
Los Angeles	690 Wilshire Pl Los Angeles	J. Park 714-933-0303	Mon-Thu 6-8a
Norwalk	14615 S Gridley Rd Norwalk	norwalkkendo@ gmail.com	Mon 7:00-9:30 Fri 7:30-10:00
OC Buddhist Church	909 S Dale St Anaheim	K. Kinno 714-655-2771	Tue 7:00-9:00 Thu 7:00-9:00
Pasadena Cultural Institute	595 N Lincoln Ave Pasadena	J. Yamasaki 626-676-0318	Tue 7:30-9:00 Fri 7:30-9:00
San Diego Kendo Bu	2650 Truxton Rd San Diego	J. Yamamoto 619-479-4231	Tue 7:00-9:00
San Fernando Valley	8850 Lankershim Blvd Sun Valley	D. Bailey, info@ sfvkendo.com	Mon 7:30-9:30 Wed 7:30-9:30
Santa Barbara	1015 E Montecito St Santa Barbara	S. Timbrook 805-682-4207	Thu 7:30-10:00
Seishin	Oxnard Buddhist Temple 250 S H St, Oxnard	G. Urata 805-988-8876	Thu 7:30-9:30
Sho-Tokyo	815 E 1 st St Los Angeles (Downtown)	M. Sakae 323-888-0027	Wed 5:30-7:00 Fri 5:00-7:00
Torrance	3340 Civic Center Dr Torrance	T. Yuge 310-655-0302	Tue 7:30-9:00 Fri 7:30-9:00
Venice	12448 Braddock Dr Los Angeles (West Side)	J. Inouye 310-413-9034	Wed 7:30-9:00
Westside	Penmar Recreation Center 1341 Lake St, Venice	C. Mizobe 310-532-2196	Mon 7:30-9:30 Wed 7:30-9:30
Yun Kum Jae	505 S Virgil Ave Los Angeles	Y.B. Kim 213-458-2663	Mon-Fri 2:00-9:00

For maps and updated information see <http://www.eanet.com/sckf>