



SCKF Iaido

Date: December 5, 2015

To: SCKF Officers and Dojo Representatives

From: Dennis Ralutin, Chairman, SCKF Iaido Committee

Subject: 2015 SCKF Iaido Seminar and Shinsa

The SCKF hosted an Iaido seminar and shinsa at OCB Kendo Dojo on November 21-22, 2015. Shozo Kato Sensei, kyoshi 7 dan Iaido and Chairman of the AUSKF Iaido Committee, led the seminar on Saturday and Sunday and was the head shinsa-in during the shinsa on Sunday.

The following 4 dan and above sensei from SCKF were also present and were seated on the shinsa panel:

Samuel Okuno (5 dan Iaido, SCKF Iaido Head Instructor)

Jean Kodama (4 dan Iaido, SCKF President)

Setsuo Tanaka (4 dan Iaido)

Dennis Ralutin (4 dan Iaido)

George Nishiura Sensei (4 dan Iaido) from the NCKF/NCIA was in attendance, but did not sit on the shinsa panel.

25 participants (including the sensei) were in attendance during the seminar. The breakdown by regional federation and rank are as follows:

SCKF: 16 attendees; 8 mudansha and 8 yudansha

NCKF/NCIA: 5 attendees; 2 mudansha and 3 yudansha

RMKIF (Zen Bu Kan Dojo): 2 attendees, both mudansha

CCKF: 1 attendee, Norman Otani Sensei (3 dan Iaido)

GNEUSKF: 1 attendee, Kato Sensei (kyoshi 7 dan Iaido)

Kato Sensei provided instruction in reiho (etiquette), kihon (basics), and the twelve ZenKenRen Iaido kata (forms).

After the conclusion of the seminar on Sunday, November 22, the shinsa was held for eight mudansha candidates. Below is a list of the candidates and the ranks that they received:

4 kyu

Gary Lee Moulder Palo Alto Kendo Dojo (NCKF/NCIA)

Paul Ige, Nestor B. De Vera, and Wanda Maengkom Venice Iaido Dojo (SCKF)

2 kyu

Cliff Asai and Harry Mott Venice Iaido Dojo (SCKF)

1 kyu

Jordy Davis and Celeste Rosell Zen Bu Kan (RMKIF)



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Overall, the seminar and shinsa was a success and could not have been possible without the support of Kato Sensei, SCKF, and OCB Dojo. The SCKF Iaido Committee hopes that this event can be an annual event in the years to come.

Special thanks go out to the following individuals:

Kato Sensei, for making time during his busy kendo and iaido schedule to travel to Southern California and providing excellent instruction and sitting on the shinsa panel.

Tim Yuge Sensei, for taking care of Kato Sensei during his arrival on Friday.

SCKF Iaido Sensei, for providing your support during the seminar and shinsa – especially Jean Kodama Sensei for providing the best donuts out of Cerritos!

Narbeh Bagdasarian and Levon Sukyassian, for providing the entertainment during the Saturday night dinner and taking care of our Saturday night post-dinner drinks.

Group picture taken on Saturday, November 21:

