Dear James Yamasaki Sensei:

On behalf of myself and all of the members of the U.S. National Kendo Team ("Team USA"), I would like to thank all of the members of the Southern California Kendo Federation ("SCKF"), the SCKF Officers and Dojo Representatives for all of their support, words of encouragement and financial assistance in connection with the 14th World Kendo Championships.

As you know, the Women's Team was able to place 3rd and the Men's Team was able to place 2nd in the Team Competition in Brazil. In addition, many members of Team USA were able to place in the Top 8 or 16 in the Individual Competition, and some earned the Fighting Spirit Award for their achievements. We could not have succeeded without the cooperation, dedication, and devotion of all of the members of SCKF.

We hope that our achievements in Brazil will inspire a new generation of kenshi in Southern California to aim for success at the next World Kendo Championships. The SCKF members of Team USA are dedicated to "give back" to SCKF in any way possible, and are willing and able to assist SCKF with any initiative or program going forward. Please let us know if there is any way we can contribute to the continued success of SCKF kendo.

Respectfully Yours.

Christopher Yang

September 20, 2009

Dear SCKF Senseis and Kenshis,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest appreciation. I am deeply grateful for your support and generosity for Team USA for the past a year and a half. It has been a long journey, but it is through the support of individuals like you that we were able to continue to strengthen as a Team, and I truly believe that the support of SCKF members was a crucial element for our success.

It was an absolutely amazing opportunity and I am deeply honored to be able to represent my country. I hope to share the incredible experiences of the WKC to the younger SCKF kenshis, and encourage them to continue to strive as a top team in the world.

Again, thank you for all of your help and support.

Sur Jann

Sincerely,

Sachiko Tamura

Septmeber 27th 2009

Dear Members of SCKF,

I am writing to express my appreciation for all the support and encouragement that SCKF has given us. The accomplishments of Team USA at 14th WKC could not have been possible without the support of SCKF members. I was truly honored to be able to represent SCKF as one of the team members, for SCKF represented majority of the team.

Your commitment and effort throughout the year is what made us stronger. Please let me know if there is any way that I can give back to the federation. Again, thank you for all the support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Nishiki Sano

September 17, 2009

Dear Members of SCKF,

The 14th WKC was my first experience being on Team USA and I truly could not have done it without the SCKF family supporting me through it all. I was very proud that I could be one of the members on the team representing SCKF.

Thank you for your commitment and all your efforts this year to make Team USA stronger. As the majority of the members were from SCKF, please know that you were a great part of this team and your attentive support and encouragements were greatly appreciated.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Grace Lee

Dear Members and Board of SCKF:

I would like to extend my appreciation for the tremendous amount of emotional as well as financial support I have received from SCKF during both my preparation for and journey to the 14th World Kendo Championships in Brazil.

The US National Kendo Team (Team USA) did extremely well, placing second in the Men's Team Competition and third in the Women's Team Competition. Though only ten men and eight women represented the United States in Brazil, these results reflect not only the efforts of those eighteen individuals, but also the efforts of each and every member of the All United States Kendo Federation and, in particular, SCKF, whose tireless effort enabled us do a great deal in preparation for Brazil such as our biweekly gasshuku.

Again, I would like to thank each and every member of SCKF for the huge amount of support I have received over the past year and a half. Without all of your efforts, none of what Team USA has accomplished would have been possible.

Sincerely,

Simon Yoo

Dear Southern California Kendo Federation,

I will like to extend my deepest gratitude on your support of Team USA at the 14th World Kendo Championships, Sao Paulo, Brazil. If it was not for your unwavering confidence in our team we could not have achieved the bronze or the silver medal.

Especially, on behalf of the Women's Team, we had a mission to accomplish. That mission was to show the world our true strength. Although we obtained the bronze medal, I believe this is a stepping stone for all US women kenshi to reach for the gold in the next World Championships in Italy.

Thank you for the many kind words of encouragement through out the long journey to Brazil. It was because of all the support from Southern California I was able to stand with confidence and represent our country with pride.

Sincerely,

Mitsuyo Sakae

4 Dan

Shotokyo Kendo Dojo

September 26th 2009

Dear members of SCKF,

Being on Team USA for the past year was an experience of a life time, but none of this was possible without the continuous support from the Southern California Kendo Federation. Everything SCKF has done for us, from donations to words of encouragement, directly helped Team USA with all of our success at the 14th World Kendo Championships.

I would like to thank everyone in SCKF for their support. I am proud that I was able to represent our country, and also to represent the Southern California Kendo Federation.

Sincerely,

Jason Brown

prou During

My name is Han Soo Kim, and I was a member of the Team USA for the 14th World Kendo Championships, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support and contribution you have given us.

I've realized that we wouldn't have been able to become stronger if it hadn't been for the all people who came to Sunday practice early in the morning to practice with us. It was an awe inspiring moment to see that everyone be so passionate and be so committed to helping us train. We wouldn't be where we are if it hadn't been for you.

I hope that everyone continues to support the kendo community with great passion to raise the level of kendo in United States. And also, that the future generations will be just as inspired to become stronger to represent United States in the future WKC.

Once again, thank you very much for all your support and contribution.

Sincerely,

Han Soo Kipa

September 21st, 2009

Southern California Kendo Federation

Dear Officers, Members, Family and Friends:

I am writing to thank you all for your constant and unwavering support of myself and the rest of the members of the 2009 Team USA. Without all of you, our accomplishments would not have been possible. The Southern California Kendo Federation had a total of 8 men and 5 women who competed along with various coaches, making our federation the most represented out of all the others in the United States. With everyone's continued efforts, I am sure that we will continue this tradition. Thank you all again.

Sincerely,

Brandon T. Harada

To the Southern California Kendo Federation,

Thank you for all your support for Team USA for the past year and a half. Though I was not able to make a record at Brazil, it was a great and unforgettable experience. It was a hard, long year and a half, but I would go through it again to experience what I felt at the stadium in Brazil. The feeling was indescribable. A rush of excitement and tears coming to my eyes. I am glad I was able to be there.

My goal was to just get through the hardships and go to Brazil with the rest of the team, but I have a new goal. It is to become stronger and aim to be on the team once more without the help of the coach or manager's pick but with my own skills.

Thank you once again for all of your support for the team. I can not thank you enough for all that you have done for us.

Sincerely,

Aya Kuwabara

My name is Sang Hwan Huh, and I was a member of the Team USA for the 14th World Kendo Championships, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil. I am really appreciated about all the support that you given us so that we were able to make such a great result.

I'm pretty sure it was all your encouragements and efforts to help us to be passionate in training that made us very confident for this championship. We were also able to form a good team work through your support.

I hope that everyone continues to support the kendo community with great passion to raise the level of kendo in United States. And also, that the future generations will be just as inspired to become stronger to represent United States in the future WKC.

Once again, thank you very much for all your support and contribution.

Sincerely,

Sang Hwan Huh

September 21st, 2009