# **CKF laido Newsletter**

**BY: CANADIAN KENDO FEDERATION** 

**WINTER 2015** 

ISSUE 01

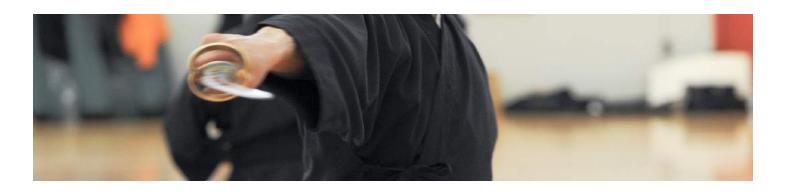






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# **President's Column**

BY: DR. CHRISTIAN D'ORANGEVILLE



"It is my sincere hope

is able to promote

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members in the CKF

laido community."

this newsletter

communication

I'd like to congratulate the Chief Editor of this newsletter, Mr. Patrick Suen (Mu Mon Kai Dojo), for the launch of this new communication tool for members of the Canadian Iaido Community.

Je félicite Mr. Patrick Suen pour la première publication d'une infolettre dédiée au laido canadien qui certainement deviendra un important instrument de communication entre nos membres.

There is no doubt in my mind that such a tool is essential for the advancement of this demanding martial art in our country, from the West Coast to the East Coast. It is my sincere hope that this newsletter

is able to promote new communication opportunities for each and every one of our members in the CKF laido community. I expect that members of the Kendo and Jodo communities will follow this example.

Cette infolettre va certainement creer des possibilities nouvelles d'echange entre les membres de la communaute de laido. Je souhaite que les membres du Kendo et du Jodo suivent mot cette exemple.

This initiative is an active confirmation of the commitment the CKF Board of Directors had taken in 2014 to foster transparent governance,

open communication, and the transcendent values of martial arts education.

In recent years, the laido of our country has opened to the world. Many senior laido members of the CKF have also become our martial arts ambassadors on the international stage. They are more and more frequently invited by our neighbours (Brazil, Mexico, and the United States) to sit on grading panels and teach at seminars.

For over 25 years, the Guelph seminar has welcomed students from all over the world. This September, our country will celebrate the

2nd Canadian National laido Championships in Montreal. More than ever, the CKF aims to offer our members the highest quality of grading in accordance with FIK rules and regulations, and to continue to provide a rich program of seminars for all levels.

In each publication, the links between our country's dojo will tighten. Ideas will collide, and our members will be informed of new learning opportunities by various influential members of the CKF and FIK. Everyone will be informed of the CKF grading results, nationally and internationally.

laido, Jodo, and Kendo practitioners share a common universe of budo values: the importance of etiquette (rei-ho), the cultivation of the mind, and a personal discipline and respect for others. laido is a demanding, long-term practice as each practitioner has no enemy, except oneself; a manifestation of his or her own desires and delusions. In that sense, laido is designed for all the stages of human life.

We know where come from – a foundation grounded in Japanese martial arts culture – for which we owe much gratitude. However, we must also be cognizant of where we are going in a world enriched by

internationalization, and the intermingling of a multitude of cultural values. This vision of the future of our Martial Arts will be facilitated by the regular publication of this newsletter, which, I hope will be studied by all members of the Canadian Kendo Federation.

Please welcome into our hearts and minds the newsletter of Mr. Suen.

Dr. Christian D'Orangeville

**CKF** President





## Editor's Note

BY: PATRICK SUEN

I am delighted to present for your reading pleasure, the first issue of the CKF laido Newsletter. This initiative is the culmination of months of hard work and effort from laido practitioners all across the world, and would not have been possible without the support and contributions of some truly inspiring individuals. It is not a cliché to say that it was created "by the members, for the members".

At the core of this simple communication tool is the goal of engagement and empowerment in order to facilitate our endeavour towards the FIK's Concept of Kendo. It is a platform for you to learn about yourself and about others in the laido community. It exists to provide you with the knowledge and opportunity to study deeply and to improve in your practice and understanding, in your mindset and attitude, and in the ways that you can contribute to your community.

While there are many individuals whose efforts have successfully made this idea into reality – and the recognition page at the end will cover and promote them (please read it thoroughly!) – I would like to give special thanks to the following people, without whom you would not be reading this right now:

- CKF President, Christian D'Orangeville-Sensei (Québec), for his vision, strength, and guidance in serving all members of our federation.
- Matsu-Kai Chief Instructor, Bruce Campbell-Sensei (British Columbia), for helping me lay the foundation for producing this newsletter.
- Higashikaze dojo Chief Instructor, Bill Anderson (New Brunswick), for helping to launch this inaugural edition with the idea for our first "From the Federation" piece.
- Mu Mon Kai President, Hanna Ikeda-Suen (Ontario), for her empathy and compassion towards all our members; and for her tireless, behind-the-scenes support as wife and mother.
- Kenshokan Chief Instructor, Jim Wilson-Sensei (Ontario), for providing ideas, feedback, and editing services to make this first attempt as polished as it is.
- Simon Guertin-Armstrong and his translations company <u>Version Originale</u> for enabling this
  entire issue to be reproduced in French!

This issue was a long time in the making, and there are so many topics we could cover and people to recognize. As with our training, the newsletter will also be a constant work-in-progress. We will experiment, we will take your feedback, and we will constantly search for new and better ways to improve your experience. I hope you enjoy this first issue and share in my excitement for the future of CKF laido!

Sincerely Yours,

Patrick Suen



At the core of this simple communication tool is the goal of engagement and empowerment in order to facilitate our endeavour towards the FIK's Concept of Kendo.





# From the Federation | The Benefits of Membership

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

Why are you a member, and why should you care? Contrary to popular belief, awarding and managing ranks (e.g. black-belt) is not the primary reason our organization exists. In fact, the Canadian Kendo Federation is more than just your typical non-profit, sport/culture charity in the country. It is one of many affiliates of the global entity known as the International Kendo Federation (FIK). As a result, everything we say, do, and achieve, may have international ramifications.

Recognizing that each individual derives value differently, we've implored respected members from across the world who have generously provided their insights and opinions on the "Benefits of Membership". On a personal note, the fact that we are able to tap into such a rich and diverse group of experienced and knowledgeable people is immensely valuable.

## Bruce Campbell, Canada Canadian Kendo Federation

The most important benefit of the CKF for me is the unification that it provides us. There are very few of us (<1000) spread across an immense country. Yet, through our common membership in the CKF we have things in common. For example our grading process is, for the most part, common as well as our expectations of what criteria make a given dan. But perhaps the most important thing

is that we share a common expectation about our laido teachers. Anyone teaching laido in Canada is either godan or higher or has a sponsor that is of that rank. This has a huge impact of the

consistency and accuracy that we enjoy. Of course, there are variations from one instructor to another but, in the main, we are all going in the same direction because we are part of the CKF. (November 2015)

## Paul Shin, United States of America All US Kendo Federation

When you're studying a relatively esoteric martial art such as laido, especially outside of Japan, you need all the support you can get.

The bulk of that support will come from within your dojo, but as you progress in rank, it becomes increasingly important to tap into the resources of a wider network of fellow laido practitioners. The importance of this becomes all the more apparent when you consider the three pillars that comprise your practice of laido: keiko (regular practice), shiai (competition), and shinsa (promotion)

exams). Neglect any one of those three pillars and your laido training will become a bit lopsided.

If the only thing you did was keiko, and you never ventured beyond your own dojo, then in theory you wouldn't need to join a national federation. But as soon as you start to progress beyond the

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beginner stage, you will naturally consider taking promotion exams, and to do that, you need to join a national federation. Same thing for competitions.

In addition, when you do laido outside of Japan, the reality is that your opportunities to have contact with higher ranking visiting sensei

will often be limited to events organized or sanctioned by the national federation, such as at national or regional seminars. Attending these seminars also gives you a sense of community -- a fulfilling sense of camaraderie that you are not alone on this journey. The friendships you make on this shared path will enrich your life beyond just learning the technical skills involved in laido.

And in this sense, the saying katsujinken, or "life giving sword," genuinely applies to your practice of laido in that wider arena afforded by belonging to a national federation.

### Andy Watson, United Kingdom, British Kendo Association

As an laidoka of some 20 years now and having worked extensively in the kendo

association that I am a member of, the benefits of this arrangement are very clear to me, both in terms the core values of budo as well as making my training something enjoyable and something to be sustained.

The first argument for being in an organisation is one non-specific for budo. Homes, cities, hospitals,

bridges etc are not likely to be constructed by an individual; in fact, these days even the simplest of inventions require the input of a multitude of individuals and organisations. The simplest act of inviting a teacher from Japan to visit one's country is made unimaginably easier when one has a large body of people from which a considerable number of individuals are likely to volunteer to fund and assist in the organisation of the event that would bring such a teacher. This is only one example of a mass-movement to bring about something desired which requires money and organisation.

consider the three pillars that comprise your practice of laido: keiko (regular practice), shlai (competition), and shinsa (promotion exams). Neglect any one of those three pillars and your laido training will become a bit lopsided.







We'd also love to hear from you!

What benefit do you derive from your federation? How well does your federation meet your needs and what can be improved?

Please submit your comments: <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/htQbjp8ceY">http://goo.gl/forms/htQbjp8ceY</a>.

A selection of responses will be included in the next issue.

# From the Federation | The Benefits of Membership

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

Second, and more specific to being part of a kendo organisation (by which I am referring to being part of a large international network of similar organisations) are the benefits from so called "peer review" of one's art and the way in which it is performed. The martial arts are always developing and anyone who claims that their art is pure and unchanged from Japanese feudal times suffers from a

mix of confirmation bias and delusions of grandeur regarding the human ability to recall information. By having a group memory, recordability and sensible modification is far more likely than being reliant on an individual or a small group which is likely

to be dominated by a strong individual. Conversation and argument actually lead to progress.

Last, and possibly the most important, to be part of an international network allows me to meet and train with people from all around the world. I have been inspired by people of considerably lower grade than I currently hold and continue to learn from juniors, peers, and seniors alike. Spending time with these people provides a considerable part of the enjoyment I get from budo without which I might have gone off and done something more sociable instead.

This isn't a particularly elegant argument for this point but I have seen smaller organisations led by an individual shatter and scatter when the main head passes away. This then leads to even smaller and less mobile sub-groups who then become led by a similar but possibly less able individual. I haven't yet seen this happen with the ZNKR/IKF organisation. (November 2015)

## Robert Rodriguez, France Comité National de Kendo

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juniors,

First of all, kendo and laido share the same martial universe. Though kendo focuses on sword fighting and sparing, and laido focuses on unsheathing the sword and perfecting forms, there is a certain

coherence to being a member of a group that is dedicated to the study of the Japanese sword.

Pertaining to relationships, federal systems allow practionners from different lai koryu to meet on many occasions. In France and

in many European countries for instance,

an overwhelming majority of laidoka are federated within Kendo National Committees. These committees are recognized by the European Kendo Federation, which likewise recognize by an federative organization of a higher level, in this case the AJKF (All Japan Kendo Federation). Within this framework, laidoka

practice the lai kata of ZNKR (Seitei lai or Zen Ken Ren lai) in addition to the forms of their koryu. Not only do laidoka share the same set of forms and techniques learned form Seitei lai, they also convene a few times every year for national seminars, teachers' seminar, competitions, etc. These events, replete with learning and sharing opportunities, enrich lai tremendously.

As to the development of our discipline, being linked to a kendo federation affords laidoka a significant surge of visibility. Indeed, kendo is better promoted and more broadly known than laido. This is why laidoka who are linked to a kendo federation can benefit from its greater promotion and communication means.

Financially, being members in order of a larger federation implies that laido dojos can access its great resources and thus organize major events. In France for instance, a few laido national seminars are organized each year by the Kendo National Committee. On these occasions, there are sufficient funds to invite high ranking Japanese sensei. Moreover, the budget endowed by a kendo federation allows to support the development of laido: early capital for

new dojos (a set of bokken, for instance), formation of teachers, etc.

Finally, the federal framework offers legal certainty. In France for instance, when a dojo is member of the Kendo National Committee, it is automatically insured against mishaps that happen in a "sport-related"

context. The dojo membership and the official recognition that comes with it also allows the transportation of swords. In fact, Japanese swords are designed as "weapons of the 6th category" by French law; their transport is thus restricted to "sport-related" use and proof of official recognition must be provided. In addition, the only ranks recognized by the French Ministry of Youth and Sports are those delivered by the federation.

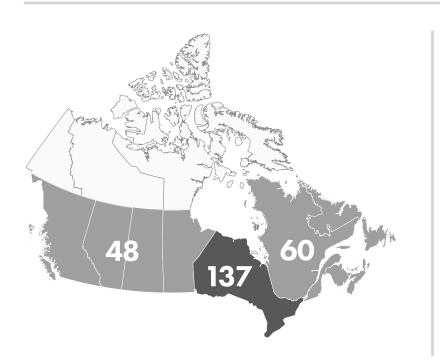
"The harmony and progress of a body, consisting as it does of different individuals, however few or many the number of those individuals may be, can best be kept and attained by mutual aid and concession."



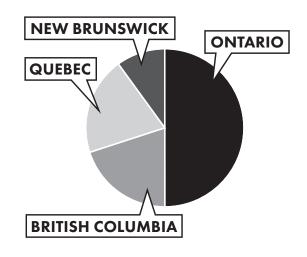


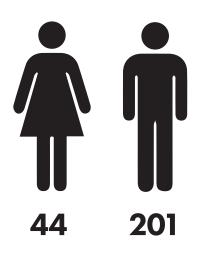
# Did you know...





# OF THE 10 LARGEST IAIDO DOJOS IN CANADA:





31 FF
DOJOS
CONTAIN
95%
OF THE OCKF IAIDO
COMMUNITY



# From the Federation | The Benefits of Membership

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

I'll conclude with this citation from Jigoro Kano, which is highlighted on the Kendo National Committee website: "The harmony and progress of a body, consisting as it does of different individuals, however few or many the number of those individuals may be, can best be kept and attained by mutual aid and concession."

## Nicolás Díaz, Chile (Confederação Latino-Americana de Kendo)

Once you are an active member of your local Kendo federation you will be granted both rights and duties. This second point is very important to consider, because most people only focus on "what will they do for me?" instead of "what can I do for my laido community?"

You will have the right to learn laido according to international standards through seminars, tournaments, and grading events; in many circumstances led by top Japanese sensei. If you want to attend such events in other countries, you will also need your local Kendo federation's permission. This is essential for us in Latin America because we still lack the capacity to organize large laido events; with only a once-a-year CLAK sponsored laido seminar and grading up to 4-Dan. So as you can guess, we in Latin America need to open our horizons and

travel around the world to seek the best opportunities to improve; not only for us, but for the sake of all other Latin American laido practitioners.

Now the important part, which is our duty to the laido community once we are part of the local Kendo federation:

 First, be present – support your local dojo as it enables you to practice regularly

 Second, attend en masse to your laido events – support your Sensei in their efforts to bring you a big seminar nearby

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 Third, show your local Kendo federation, and local community, that laido is a big deal – demonstrate the need for more events in your laido community.

 Finally, help your laido community grow big and strong – we all know that Kendo has

more people, but it is up to us to show the local Kendo federation that laido also has great interest.

For us in Latin America this is vital because our laido is still in diapers, but growing strongly each year with a lot of very motivated Kenshi all over the continent.

## Michael Hodge, Canada Canadian Kendo Federation

As with anything concerning students and their practice, they should follow the wishes

> of their instructor. Hopefully the instructor recognizes the value of their membership in the kendo federation, and by extension the larger federation which includes Japan and other participating countries.

The benefits of membership of course are multifold: access to instructors -- from Japan and elsewhere -- whose merit has been

measured by a consistent criteria; inclusion into a group liability insurance policy which supports students and instructors, as well as exposure to an internationally-standardized curriculum and ranking system which are designed to provide the student a means

of progression that assists in developing expertise in a logical and graduated fashion.

One also cannot discount the sense of family that membership in a federation helps create, both at home and abroad. As I have experienced, the majority of federation members appear to understand

this implicitly. Personally, I have been welcomed with open arms by the members of kendo federations in three countries aside from my own.

Above all, membership in a federation may be regarded as a contribution to an organization that ultimately helps you as well as the arts themselves. It is my belief that membership in the kendo federation serves as excellent motivation for a diligent martial artist to develop fully, both technically and mentally.

Stay tuned to the next issue for more insights on the "Benefits of Membership" including contributions from Sandra Jorgenson -Sensei (Canada), Pam Parker - Sensei (US), Agnes Lee - Sensei (Hong Kong), and more!

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# Spotlight: Event | Bill Mears 10-Year Memorial Practice

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

On July 11, 2015, a seminar was held in St. Catharines, Ontario in memory of Bill Mears-Sensei, who contributed greatly to the development and growth of laido in Eastern Canada, and unfortunately, passed away early in 2005. On behalf of his memory, Chris Sora, Mears-Sensei's first Canadian student, and his dojo, Kaigen Kai, organized a "Memorial Practice" that was led by Goyo Ohmi-Sensei, Kim Taylor-Sensei, and Stephen Cruise-Sensei.

## A BUDDHIST MEMORIAL SERVICE

BY KANYU CODY KROLL

The traditional mourning period [for a deceased loved one] lasts 100 days, giving bereaved family and friend's time to overcome the initial deep grief and sadness. A ritual is held to mark this end of mourning and to express appreciation and thankfulness to those who helped at the funeral and afterwards. In Buddhist countries, there is only a 1% mental illness rate due to grief.

Bill Mears-Sensei was a Nichiren Shu Buddhist when he passed away. He was a member of the Enkyoji Lineage tradition through Rev. Kanto Tsukamoto Shonin in Toronto, Canada as well as Rev. Kanjin Cederman Shonin then of Buffalo, NY an laido student of his. Kanyu Kroll Hosshi leader of the Enkyoji Buddhist Temple of Rochester, NY, as an Enkyoji Lineage priest and former student of Mears-Sensei, will take responsibility for remembering Mears-Sensei every year going forward.

In Buddhism it is important to honor the deceased with memorial services even if the remaining family or friends are not Buddhist. [The service I performed at the Bill Mears Memorial Practice was for his peers, students, and fellow laidoka on the Budo path]. Gassho

## SEMINAR PROCEEDINGS

Following the service, all participants were led through warm-ups by Stephen Cruise-Sensei who had learned a few useful exercises while training in Tokyo following the World Kendo Championships in May 2015. The morning session was focused on Seitei, as participants were split into 5-groups for instruction at different levels, led by Sensei who travelled from as far as Ottawa (David Green-Sensei) and Whistler (Sandra Jorgenson-Sensei). In the afternoon, participants were divided into groups to work on Koryu, with Goyo Ohmi-Sensei leading MJER, and Stephen Cruise-Sensei leading MSR.

# INTRODUCING THE CKF IAIDO STARTUP "BILL MEARS" FUND

In honour of Mears-Sensei's commitment to helping others, Kaigen Kai generously donated the net proceeds of the memorial practice to various charities, including the Canadian Kendo Federation.

In November 2015, the CKF Board of Directors met in Toronto and approved the allocation of the \$700 from Kaigen Kai to the CKF laido/Jodo Development Fund, specifically earmarked for supporting laido dojo startups. The funds will be available through an application process and will be introduced early in 2016. The sole purpose of these funds are to support members looking to create new dojos, which help to develop and promote the practice of laido in Canada.

# Interested in learning more about this influential figure in Canadian Iaido history? Please visit:

- Remembering Bill Mears (thoughts and anecdotes from the laido community)
- Bill Mears, Hard Bastard (an interview)
- First Brock laido Summer Seminar (recap of the seminar he organized, but never got to see come to fruition)
- Losses, Lineage and Lessons (an editorial by Kim Taylor-Sensei shortly after Bill Mears' passing)



**Buddhist Shrine** 







## Around the CKF

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

## THE CKF WELCOMES A NEW 7 DAN

In November 2015, Takeshi Kimeda Sensei passed his 7-Dan examination in Tokyo. Kimeda Sensei is only the 5th Canadian to achieve the rank of 7-Dan in laido. Let us all congratulate him for his achievement!

#### **WINTER 2015 EXAM RESULTS**

Results from the December 5th (Toronto) and 6th (Vancouver) exams:

**1-KYU (20/20):** S. MACMULL, G. MACCAGNAN, Z. LIU, F. CHARBONNEAU, D. LOPEZ, X. BAI, M. RICCI, N. VERTON, X. MOU, E. CHAPPELL, A. CAMPOS PENA, S. HILL, K. ISHIKURA, J. BERNARD, P. LEWIS, D. MALONEY, A. ARAGHIAN, E. CAO, C. TANG, J. FISCHER

1-DAN (13/13): M. NISHIONO, H. TRUONG, A. HUM, H. KEVORKIAN, M. TAYLOR, B. RATKOVIC, P. XIAO, G. FENTON, E. GAAL, R. ROY, I. BALZOLA, H. ACOSTA, T. LUTZ

**2-DAN (12/14):** T. LAM, A. TAYLOR, J. HOPKINS, J. VIRGIN, E. LADA, F. PENIR, W. TAYLOR, K. TAKHAR, N. ISHIGAKI, S. NISHIO, T. EWART, T. SUZUKI

**3-DAN (8/11):** M. WILSON, J. VASQUEZ PINTO, F. SILVA, Y. PEDOE, S. WU, A. CHARLESCHIU, G. CLARKE

**4-DAN (7/8):** M. ROMASCHIN, P. MORGAN, A. KONOVALOV, C. ZUMELZU, O. YIGIT, G. VARGAS, H. VETTER

## **ABOUT IAIDO EXAMS IN THE CKF**

laido Examinations in Canada occur, on average, twice a year and have traditionally been hosted once in the late-Spring/early-Summer and again in the late-Fall, both in Southern Ontario and British Columbia. As the CKF laido community continues to grow, the federation has looked for ways to support members living in more remote regions, with the inaugural Montreal grading in February 2015, and a Maritimes grading planned for mid-2016. The CKF will also be hosting a high-level (5-Dan and 6-Dan) exam at the Canadian National laido Championships (CNIC) in Montreal in September.

Ranks earned in the Canadian Kendo Federation are recognized worldwide, wherever affiliates of the International Kendo Federation (FIK) are present. These standards are maintained and refreshed through cross-border relations and teachings from Japan.



have achieved the rank of 7-Dan in laido recently in Tokyo, Japan. The whole experience, including the 3.5 weeks of intensive training with Atsumi Hatakenaka Sensei (pictured with Kimeda Sensei) prior to the exam was one of the best experiences in my life.

Like big fish in small ponds, us Canadians often don't think about how big the ocean really is out there. I would encourage all of us to seek opportunities to go to Japan and to experience the intensity and commitment of training that they conduct on a daily and weekly basis. That is my hope for all of us in the CKF laido community.





# For the Community

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER



The CKF is constantly striving to find ways to support, develop, and promote the traditional martial arts of Kendo, Iaido, and Jodo. As an organization, we focus on the long-term and are looking to develop initiatives that are sustainable and have long-lasting impact. We must recognize that process and structures don't keep things running – people do. The following initiatives are designed to provide ongoing support for the CKF Iaido Community, and we could use all the help we can get! If you have any suggestions (the more actionable the better!), please submit to the CKF Iaido Advisory Committee at IAC@kendo-canada.com



## CKF IAIDO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SPRING 2016)

In 2016, the CKF will be putting together an advisory committee to leverage the extensive knowledge and skills that our membership possesses. The core mandate of the laido Advisory Committee (IAC) is to support the proposal, execution, and sustainment of initiatives for the development and promotion of CKF laido. The group is not a decision-making group, but instead will focus on knowledge sharing and presenting evidence-based recommendations. If you are interested in joining and feel you have something unique to contribute, please see the next page (volunteer opportunities) for application details.



## CKF IAIDO OPEN FORUMS (SPRING 2016)

In addition to the IAC, the CKF is looking to engage the laido community in continuous dialogue for improving our services. Starting in 2016, members of the IAC will host presentations and open discussion forums at major seminars and events. We would love to hear from you, so please submit your questions and suggestions: <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/fw7Czz4B7B">http://goo.gl/forms/fw7Czz4B7B</a>



# CKF YOUTUBE CHANNEL – IAIDO PLAYLISTS (SPRING 2016)

Exposure to high-level laido from Japan is crucial for our development. Unfortunately, opportunities to train with and receive instruction from Japanese laidoka is limited in Canada. Fortunately, recordings are a great way to expose yourself to the best in the world without having to travel. The CKF would like to facilitate this service by curating these videos on our YouTube Channel. We will continue to add videos that are relevant to laido practiced in the Kendo Federations. If you have any suggestions, please submit them to: youtube@kendo-canada.com.





# For the Community

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER



laido is growing around the world, and it has become easier and easier to connect with members of the international community. It won't be long before these relationships culminate in a friendly competition between countries (it is already occurring in Europe). The CKF will be using the CNIC as a proving ground for the creation of the CKF's first Team Canada laido. All participants will be eligible (not only winners) for selection. More information will be provided in the upcoming months.

We are always looking for ideas to improve our service. If you have any suggestions (the more actionable the better!), please submit to the CKF laido Advisory Committee at <a href="IAC@kendo-canada.com">IAC@kendo-canada.com</a>



# CKF WEBSITE REDESIGN (SUMMER 2016)

The CKF is officially looking for a web design and development solutions company to bring our website into the modern age. A Request for Proposal (RFP) is currently in the works, but if you know of, or work for, a company that could provide us with a topnotch team at a modest price, please contact: support@kendo-canada.com



## CKF WOMEN'S IAIDO SEMINAR (JULY 2016)

The CKF is proud to announce its inaugural Women's laido Seminar, scheduled for July 16-17 at the Etobicoke Olympium in Toronto. Long-time Canadian laido supporter, Atsumi Hatakenaka-Sensei – the 2nd woman ever to achieve the rank of 8-Dan in the All Japan Kendo Federation – will lead the event, and impart her experiences in practicing with, leading, and instructing laidoka of different body types and strengths. There will also be a segment free of charge to instructors who are interested in how to customize their teaching of laido to women. Details will be provided on the Facebook event site.



# CANADIAN NATIONAL IAIDO CHAMPIONSHIPS (SEPTEMBER 2016)

The 2nd Canadian National Iaido Championship in Montreal, Québec, will pit 2013 defending winners against a crop of up-and-comers. The event will showcase the best that Canada has to offer and will be a platform for greater exposure of Iaido in the country. For the latest information, check out the Canadian Kendo Federation's Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/KendoCanada/">https://www.facebook.com/KendoCanada/</a>





# **Volunteer Opportunities**

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

The CKF is run exclusively by volunteers. From instructors, to organizers, to the board of directors the CKF exists because of the generous donations of time, effort, and money of individuals who believe in the potential for the martial arts to make better individuals, better organizations, and a better society, as a whole. The future of CKF laido is literally in your hands and what you choose to do with them. If you have the time and energy, please help out! We are currently seeking volunteers who share our passion for making the CKF a world-class organization. All committees are dedicated to equal opportunity recruitment and welcome applications from any gender, rank, ethnicity, and experience level in the CKF.

## CKF IAIDO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The IAC is a working group that is responsible for the active execution of CKF initiatives that benefit the Federation and its members. Positions are open for individuals that can contribute the following services.

- Be a voice: Represent an underrepresented group (i.e. remote practitioners, high school/university students)
- Be a doer: Bring your time, energy, and skills to produce tangible outcomes (i.e. planning, logistics, budgets, referrals, and design & development)
- Be a connector: Refer our members to services that will help with promoting their dojo and developing their members

Please apply through the following link:  $\underline{\text{http://goo.gl/forms/qPcyfysxS4}}$ 

**Open Positions (5-7 available):**General Member

**Application Deadline:** April 30, 2016

## CKF IAIDO/JODO DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Every year, the CKF allocates \$5,000 to the laido/Jodo Development Fund to support the development and promotion of laido and Jodo. The committee is primarily responsible for reviewing applications for funds and providing recommendations to the CKF President and Treasurer for distribution. Positions are open for individuals who have experience in:

- Organizing an laido or Jodo event with a budget greater than \$1,000, or has been a
- member of a non-profit fund allocation committee with distributions greater than \$1,000

Please apply through the following link: <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/FOI0WyEjqf">http://goo.gl/forms/FOI0WyEjqf</a>

**Open Positions (3 available):** Chair (laido), Chair (Jodo), Secretary

Application Deadline: March 31, 2016

# CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

The CKF Iaido Newsletter is (currently) the primary tool for communication between the federation and its members. Our goal is to ensure the most relevant and valuable information is communicated equally to CKF Iaido members across the country.

Positions are open for individuals who have experience in:

• Desktop Publishing, Data Visualization (Infographics), Web Design and

Development, Copywriting and/or Editing

Please apply through the following link: <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/Ld2WQUuVmz">http://goo.gl/forms/Ld2WQUuVmz</a>

**Open Positions (4 available):** Associate Editor, Graphic/Layout Designer, Copywriter/Proofreader, and Japanese Translator

Application Deadline: April 30, 2016

# CKF IAIDO TEAM CANADA COMMITTEE

The CKF is exploring the potential of developing a national team for participation in laido tournaments around the world. The goal is to provide valuable experience and exposure to high-potential laidoka by representing Canada on the international stage. Skill and etiquette will be equal requirements for members of the team and the organizing committee.

Positions are open for individuals who have experience in:

- participating, managing, or coaching a team in a Provincial/National/ International competition
- or conducting fundraising activities for a team in a Provincial/National/ International competition

Please apply through the following link: <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/BwLNjjrzx7">http://goo.gl/forms/BwLNjjrzx7</a>

**Open Positions (3-4 available):**General Manager, Assistant Manager, and Fundraising Manager(s)

Application Deadline: June 30, 2016





# **Special Thanks**

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER

VERSION ORIGINALE

## French Translations were provided by Version Originale

Simon Guertin-Armstrong, M.A.

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## Op-Eds provided by senior members of the following national federations:

Bruce Campbell Sensei (Matsu-Kai) Canada

Michael Hodge Sensei (Mu Mon Kai) Canada

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Andy Watson Sensei () United Kingdom

Robert Rodriguez Sensei (Arts Martiaux Saint-Jean) France

Nicolas Diaz Sensei (Santiago Budokan) Chile



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## **Next Issue**

THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER



A few things to look forward to in the second issue of the CKF laido Newsletter:

### FROM THE FEDERATION: WHO DOES WHAT IN THE CKF?

The CKF is a registered non-profit corporation in Canada and is entirely run by volunteers. While it takes the whole community, working together, to make our organization strong, a few individuals have taken upon leadership positions and the responsibilities and accountabilities that come with them. If you have any questions or concerns regarding how the CKF goes about its business, these are the individuals with whom you should speak. Issue #2 of the CKF laido Newsletter will provide an overview of all the individuals responsible for ensuring your experience in the CKF is beneficial to your development in the arts of Kendo, laido, and Jodo.

#### FROM THE COMMUNITY:

Throughout this inaugural issue of the CKF laido Newsletter, we have asked for your feedback for both specific and general topics. If you have indicated that you'd like to share your comment, we will ensure it is posted here for all to see. If a response is required from the CKF, we will include it here, or provide a timeline for when the topic will be addressed.

### SENSEI'S CORNER

The CKF laido Community is distributed across our country's large geography, thus limiting our opportunities to reconcile our teachings and form a consistent base and standard. As it is the Chief and Regional Examiners' responsibility to ensure standards are maintained across Canada, this section will help them clarify and communicate some very basic points for all of us to keep in mind in our practice.

## .... AND MORE!





# **Contact Us**

## THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER



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CKF Youtube Channel	youtube@kendo-canada.com
CKF laido Team Canada Committee	<u>iaidotc@kendo-canada.com</u>
Feedback Form for the "Benefits of Membership"	http://goo.gl/forms/htQbjp8ceY
Feedback Form for the CKF laido Open Forums	http://goo.gl/forms/fW7Czz4B7B
Volunteer Application Form for Iaido Advisory Committee	http://goo.gl/forms/qPcyfysxS4
Volunteer Application Form for Iaido/Jodo Development Fund	http://goo.gl/forms/FOI0WyEjqf
Volunteer Application Form for Iaido Newsletter Committee	http://goo.gl/forms/Ld2WQUuVmz
Volunteer Application Form for Iaido Team Canada Committee	http://goo.gl/forms/BwLNjjrzx7





# **Notes** THE CKF IAIDO NEWSLETTER







