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Newsletter from Prefectural Headquarters of Gifu District

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April 29, 2005 JKS Gifu Karatedo Championship **We never know until we try...**



It's not easy to verbally express how the player feels the day before the match. Lying on the bed, closing the eyes, and turning around, he imagines the scenes of matches in full

screen. Sweating hands, pounding heartbeats, and emerging faces of the rivals he will see again and play with after a long absence. Every player must have spent such a long night. Time passes properly, the sun rises as usual, and he welcomes the day of the match.

"I shall win" and Rebellious Spirit

No one wants to be a loser. Everyone is greedy for victory but will shed tears as well. The more obsessed with victory he is, the more anxiety of defeat grows in him. The more aware he is of his talent, the more fear of failure increases in him. Not only the technique but also the control of mind - it is the self that can overcome such a battle against the self. The tension hanging in the site of fight must come from the conflict among the souls of players who fight against their own selves.



The Moment When the Self Meets the Self

The strained nerves of full body, and the match begins with the order of "Go" by chief referee. Excitement and anxiety oddly fade away and the



body starts to respond naturally. One-to-one fight against the opponent in the square court or the clash of heart, technique, and body marks a short history of few minutes in the long life of two players. When the referee makes judgment, one rides a wave of triumph and the other droops his shoulders. How do the loser and the winner meet each self? Since the karate isn't a team play but an individual fight, every result comes back to the self. This is the moment when the self meets

the self and only the players can feel it. It is nice to praise himself or to blame himself and this is the privilege of players, not the parents and not the coaches.

Sense of Superiority, Regret, Achievement, and Reflection ... Springing Emotions

It is the player's decision whether to participate in the match or not, and because he does participate, he feels emotions. To be a champion is the last goal with tons of efforts each day, some players are rewarded, and some are not. There is nothing untrue in the emotions that spring out naturally. This challenge lasts forever and even when there is no reward for the effort, this is not the end but a new starting line to run.



Grand Gifu Championship Tournament took place at Gifu Memorial Center (Deai Dome) with over 1,000 of players, staffs and referees on April 29, 2005. There was a miracle on that day that 12 courts were set up in 30 minutes by the headquarters. Where did this collaboration of Gifu Shoto League come from? We will focus on this event this time.

Pursue a Sense of Responsibility over Individual Roles and Reach Achievement...

We heard the Russian players praise the collaboration saying "How come they can carry out things like that in the timeframe by minute" at the exchange party held in Gifu Grand Palais Hotel the day after the tournament. As soon as the matches were over, staffs began to roll up the green carpet spread over the court. We know Ms Keiko Hayakawa was there. Regardless of the positions and ranks, many people engaged in cleaning the floor picking up the smallest pieces of dust for the pursuit of the sense of achievement for the success of the event. We should not talk about the success of the event at the closing ceremony but at the time when we leave the building of the event site.

Mr. Anisol Genghis, a Turkish resident in Japan as a member of Gifu Headquarters, said at the party "I remember the day when I first visited the headquarters for the enrollment of karate lessons. It was a big cleanup



day that day. Trainees were playing their respective roles, and I noticed Mr. Tanaka, chief director, was cleaning the toilet room. I was amazed how the chief director of Gifu Headquarters with the highest rank engaged in brushing the toilet. I was also very impressed that he takes it as one of his normal duties." The energy offered by the regional staffs was also one of the main factors of success. They cooperated greatly to carry on the matches while they were worrying about their own children playing at different courts. We know some branches had a progress simulation beforehand so as to carry on the matches one after another.

Reviewing the entire tournament, we can say the key of success is not only the complete preparation and the acknowledgment of respective roles, but also the collective image for "Success" that each one had in mind regardless of positions and ranks. The other key is the unseen efforts such as the compilation of program and the preparation of uniform numbers made several months in advance. We should not forget those tasks were carried out invisibly and sleeplessly. The history inherited tells that people start up for the next action on their own decision, they unite their power into one, they enlarge it further, and they convey it for the success of event. In addition, a Russian player as he saw the operation, murmured "No one gives orders." The pleasant feelings we have at the end of the event is similar to that we have and feel at the time of victory. *There are more stories on Grand Gifu Championship Tournament in the issue of May, 2005.



Ceremony of 30th Anniversary of Establishment of Takkujuku, Okazaki Branch of Aichi-ken



Okazaki Castle was filled with people who visited there for viewing the cherry blossoms on April 10, 2006. On the same day the grand ceremony of 30th anniversary of the establishment of Takkujuku was held at Okazaki New Grand Hotel.



The ceremony was celebrated for Mr. Naohito Imaizumi, Chief Director of Aichi Headquarters, Junior Director of Head Office, and President of Takkujuku, and was attended by Mr. Asai, Senior Instructor of Head Office, Mr. Tanaka, Chief Director of Gifu Headquarters, Mr. Hayashi, Chairman, and Junior Director of

Head Office, by Mr. Matsui, Director of Head Office and Chief Director of Shizuoka Headquarters, Mr. Imaizumi, Director of Saga Headquarters, Mr. Nagaki, Chief Director of Ehime Headquarters, and many other people. Takkujuku founded with 10 trainees in 1975 has made brilliant achieve-

ments so far producing many talents during 30 years of its history. The relationship between Mr. Imaizumi and Gifu Headquarters is not only of neighbors but of a leader who enabled Gifu team to win All Japan Group Kumite Tournament. We cannot help but have a strong fraternity feeling with him. In addition to the commemorative exhibition of group kata given by Teikyo University All Japan National Team, Kata by Ms Naoko Onishi of Gifu, and Shiwari (trial break) by Mr. Makoto Hirose, Mr. Ken-ichi Yoshikura, and Mr. Shinji Sugihara made the ceremony more impressive. Gifu Headquarters takes this opportunity to celebrate the ceremony and to wish further development of Takkujuku in Okazaki Branch.



Schedule of Gifu Headquarters in May & June, 2005

May 4 (holiday) - Gifu Karate Championship for Young People, at Gifu Memorial Center

May 27 (Saturday) & 28 (Sunday) - Black Belt Training Camp, at Kobushinosato

Please contact each headquarters for information.

June 4 (Saturday) & 5 (Sunday) - JKF Official Grading Test and Qualification Test of Regional Referee, at Sports Center of Biwajima, Aichi-ken

Please contact each headquarters for more information.