

## CAA MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 25, 2024 LIVE & VIA ZOOM

OPENING: Elaine Yoder, CAA President at 12:31pm  
Welcome to everyone Zoom and in-person attendees.

CAA WEBMASTER REPORT: Michael Smith Sensei

STATISTICS: Overall traffic is up 8% from last year. Daily averages are 18 site visits for 13 unique visitors and 50 total page views. Aside from the Home Page, the most visited areas of the website are, in order, the Fees and Minimum Requirements, Promotions Lists, CAA Directory

NEW CONTENT: Events Calendar, Promotions list (June, September). Kagami-biraki Promotions list (January). Dan paper by Greg Moffitt.

REMINDERS: For dojocho, the CAA Directory can be a valuable tool in reaching potential new members. Not only does the directory list member dojos by Division, it also lists all CAA dojos by state and country. Essentially the CAA Directory provides free, world-wide advertising for your school. Please make sure the information is up to date. Likewise, the Events Calendar is a free means of promoting or discovering seminars, world- wide, featuring CAA teachers. If your school is hosting a public seminar, please submit the details to the webmaster via the Event Calendar Submission form on the website: <https://ai-ki-do.org/event-calendar> If you have Dan papers or Articles that you would like to share with the Aikido community, please submit them to the webmaster at [cal.aikido.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:cal.aikido.webmaster@gmail.com)

The CAA website exists to promote the Way of Peace and to facilitate the sharing of ideas and information related to Aikido between our members as well as the general public. Encourage your students to visit, explore, and contribute to our website

BOOKKEEPER REPORT: Carla Garrett

Balances as of February 25, 2024

- A) \$12, 492.94 Yudansha Account
- B) \$18,652.66 Rank Processing (most of it going out for December and March batches)
- C) \$8,164.70 Business account. Yearly money collected from the \$100 dues. (covers FTB \$800 fee, CPA doing LLC and 1099 tax forms, liability insurance, training expenses, etc.).

RANK PROCESSING PROMOTIONS: Molly Hale

SEPTEMBER BATCH

- 5 Yondan
- 6 Sandan
- 9 Nidan
- 4 Shodan

DECEMBER BATCH

- 1 Yondan
- 6 Sandan
- 3 Nidan
- 13 Shodan

KB BATCH (ANNOUNCED JANUARY 2024)

- 2 Shichidan
- 5 Rokudan
- 12 Godan

All of the promoted individuals are on the California Aikido Association website.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS: Division Heads

Michael Friedl announced that Karen Karis' dojo in Netherlands has joined his division.

#### IAF REPORT NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH WORK GROUP: Louis Jumonville

The larger plan is to organize a working group to link Dojo that offer classes for children.

Working together to organize Aikido retreats for children and other programs.

Group is recruiting members to plan next actions. Jumonville Sensei asked for volunteers.

#### UPDATE ON IAF EVENTS, WORK GROUPS AND MEMBERSHIP: Pat Hendricks

There will be a group representing CAA traveling to Tokyo for the IAF meeting and training in September/October this year.

**BIG NEW FOR THIS YEAR:** the 2024 Summit in Yoyogi Olympic Center Tokyo. This event takes place every 4 years, but the 2020 summit was canceled due to COVID so this is first meeting since 2016.

- General Assembly IAF September 30th and October 1st:
- Seminar, Ikigai meetings and Country Embukai October 2nd - October 6th

### Recent Events

**2023 Sept 15 to 17 in Kyoto:** IAF SEMINAR FOR YOUNG ADULTS (1st time seminar for 18-25 1st through 3rd Dan. Part of the seminar was taught by Doshu.) More than 200 Young Adults from 14 country members of the IAF were present - France, Guam, USA, the Netherlands, Belgium, Hong Kong, Australia, Romania, Poland, Norway, South Africa, India, Azerbaijan and Japan.

- **2023 October 24 to 25 in Riyadh:** WCG (World Combat Games): This martial arts event is designed to encourage youth participation in martial arts as well as community involvement. The IAF is a main participant in this event. Saudi Arabia has put together the a promo video.
- Japan's Cultural Grant Assistance gave 200 tatamis to the Algerian Aikido Federation.

### Working Groups and Members

- **The IAF has 84 member countries**
- **Africa and MENA (Middle East North Africa Working Group:** The IAF will select, assist and recommend new Aikido organizations in these countries and help them join the Aikikai and IAF
- **Similar working group exists in Latin America. ULA (Union of Latin American Aikido).**
- **The IAF also has *Gender Balance* and a *Disability Working Groups***

#### *Gender Balance Working Group<sup>1</sup>*

The IAF Gender Balance Working Group has been making continuous efforts to bring a better gender balance in Aikido. Our current target is to increase the number of female board members and high ranking teachers, who are absolutely minority in the world Aikido community at this stage. The group consists of 28 delegates from all over the world, holding online meeting bimonthly, to exchange ideas and to raise awareness in gender balance in and out of her own country.

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<sup>1</sup> Note from the Chair Satomi Ishikawa Sensei

They organize and support activities such as Gender Day, female instructor seminars and campaigns which sheds more light on female teachers as role models. These activities are entirely open to all the IAF members. Moreover, your engagement is highly appreciated.

### *Disability Working Group*

- Consists of 7 members: Magali Chambenoit-Levy (France), William Burrel and Martos Aineias (Greece), Jacqueline von Arb (Norway), Molly Hale (USA), Lydia Zydel (Netherlands), and Timo Reilmann (Germany). Molly mentioned she would be sending out inquiries to each dojo regarding people training in their dojo who have disabilities.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were seminar announcements from various dojos (see calendar on CAA web site). Michael Friedl thanked everyone for supporting the CAA through the continued voluntary Yudansha fees. This year the announcement went to dojo chos, so they should pass it along to their students.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING: August 25, 2024 @ Location TBD.

MEETING ADJOURNED: President Elaine Yoder at 1:13pm.