

THE WORLD KENDO NEWS

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I. RESULTS OF THE 3RD SUMMER CAMP FOR KENDOKA FROM ABROAD

The Summer Camp 1977 was held from 2 to 14 August at the same place as the last camp, namely Gedatsu Renshinkan in Saitama Prefecture. Forty-three Kendoka (including 4 ladies) participated and came from thirteen countries: Australia, Brazil, France, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Hawaii, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, U.S.A. and Poland.

Because we had twice as many participants as the previous camp, they were divided into two groups and practiced at Renshinkan-Dojo and at a school gymnasium. In spite of the heat and humidity day after day, the training began with one hour morning practice as of 6:30, and other lessons of two hours in the morning and three hours in the afternoon were carried out in accordance with the following program: Manners, Fundamental Practice, Drill in Techniques, Ji-Geiko, Instruction of Boys, Kendo-Kata, Judging and Iai, etc.

Although their level of skill was not so high, their attitude toward kendo was so earnest that some remained in the Dojo for voluntary practice until 10 o'clock at night.

The representative of the participants ended his speech at the Farewell Party by remarking that "one thing is sure, whenever we come back we will not simply come to Japan, but we will find our home here."

We are sure that the experiences acquired during two weeks camp must have done much to attain the aim of kendo -- "the final purpose of practicing kendo is to contribute to the development of culture and to promote peace and prosperity among all peoples."

II. RESULTS OF THE 6TH GERMAN INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

On 12th March 1977, the 6th G.K.C. (Individual) was held at Braunschweig. 47 kendoka competed on the basis of the knock-down system.

The results were:

- 1st place : Wolfgang Demski
- 2nd place : Peter Krause
- 3rd place : Rainer Jättkowski
- 4th place : Gerd Walsdorf

III. RESULTS OF THE 3RD SWISS KENDO CHAMPIONSHIP

The 3rd Swiss Kendo Championship was held in Geneva on 3 September. 25 kendoka participated. After each of them had competed four times, 8 players put on the final tournament.

The placement was as follows:

- 1st place : Otto Hnatek
- 2nd place : Richard Isenschmid
- 3rd place : Herbert Meierhofer
- " " : Urs Dettwiler (Fritz's son)

IV. GOODWILL MATCH OF FRANCE VS SWITZERLAND

On 8th October 1977, the French team visited the Swiss team in the suburbs of Basel and the two had a goodwill team match. Although the Swiss team fought nicely, it lost. After the match, both teams gathered in a mountain cottage and enjoyed a fun-filled keiko with wine and singing.

V. THE 3RD EUROPEAN KENDO CHAMPIONSHIP 1978

FFJDA/CNDK (France), organizer of the 3EKC, has announced the following operational plans.

Venue: Chambery (Savoy)

Note. This town is located in the French Alps and is well equipped for the practice of kendo.

Schedule: April 1978

7th (Fri.) : Arrival, EKF-Meeting, Drawing

8th (Sat.) : Team Championship

9th (Sun.) : Individual Championship,
Dan-Grading (Kendo & Iai)

10th to 15th : Course in Kendo and Cross-country Skiing

VI. DECISIONS AT THE IKF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 1977

The IKF meeting of this year was held by written correspondence in accordance with the IKF Constitution.

The results were as follows:

Agenda 1. The Financial Report 1976

Surplus brought forward	US\$ 102.19
Income of this period	1,245.13
Expenses of this period	1,171.84
Surplus carried forward	175.48

Agenda 2. Date of the 4th World Kendo Championships

9 officials agreed to April 1979;

9 officials agreed to early August 1979.

The chairman has carried over the decision to the next meeting in 1978.

Agenda 3. Board of Directors' Meeting 1978.....will be held in Japan in May 1978.

Note. At the above meeting, the programme schedule, ground rules, and other details of the 4WKC will have to be discussed.

VII. DISPATCH OF KENDO INSTRUCTOR TO SWEDEN

ZNKR sent Mr. T. Tsukamoto (7-Dan, Instructor at Osaka Police School) to Sweden as a kendo instructor, thus accepting the offer of the Swedish Kendo Section. He came to Sweden on 10 September and will stay there until the end of this year.

VIII. DISPATCH OF KENDO INSTRUCTOR TO FRANCE

ZNKR sent Mr. S. Kohda (7-Dan, Instructor of Fukuoka Police Force) to France as a kendo instructor, receiving an appointment under the Comité National du Kendo/FFJDA. He will remain in France from 1 October 1977 to 30 June 1978.

IX. DISPATCH OF KENDO MISSION TO CANADA

ZNKR dispatched a 4-man Kendo Coaching Mission to Canada accepting the invitation of the Japanese Canadian Centennial Society. They travelled around Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa from 1 to 16 July. The members were Mr. T. Kikuchi (8-Dan), Mr. M. Oki (8-Dan), Mr. T. Kurasawa (8-Dan) and Mr. K. Tsumura (7-Dan).

X. PHASES OF KENDO IN COUNTRIES NOT YET AFFILIATED TO IKF

ARGENTINA : They have had close kendo contacts with Brazil for about ten years already. In 1975, ZNKR sent 4 missions. Organization of kendo was formed on 23 October and the first Taikai was held. They will apply for affiliation to IKF in the near future.

POLAND : Since kendo clubs were organized in Warsaw and Lodz several years ago, young kendoka have been training very hard at kendo. Some of the members participated in the Summer Camp in Japan in 1976 and 1977. ZNKR sent 3 missions in 1974.

SPAIN : They have kendo dojos in Madrid and Barcelona. Three missions were sent by ZNKR in 1974. In April 1977, the Spanish team took part in the European Kendo Championship and the Seminar.

OTHERS : Kendo fans are increasing in the Philippines, Mexico, Thailand, and other places.