

August Announcements

August 9th, 2025 | JKA NorCal



THIS MONTH

1. **Belt Testing:** We will be hosting an in-house belt test for our students on **August 29 at 6 pm.** Instructors will confirm which students are testing during weekly classes. After all testing has concluded, stick around for a small celebration and your results! Pizza and refreshments will be provided.
2. **Shinkyu Shotokan Tournament:** We have another tournament coming up in the area! This is a great opportunity for all students, regardless of age and experience. All competitors are eligible to register for both Kata and Kumite events. Kumite competitors will need handpads and mouthguards. Male competitors require a groin cup. Registration closes on **August 17.** Check Slack or the QR code directly below for the registration form!

Date: August 24th, 2025 10:00am



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Last month, six of our dojo members travelled out to Florida for Miami Shotokan's (MSKC) Anniversary camp! This year, the camp was taught by two amazing guest instructors from JKA HQ, Sensei Kunio Kobayashi and Sensei Hikaru Hirose. Sensei Kobayashi is currently a Japanese National Team coach and a 3x kumite, 2x kata All-Japan champion. Sensei Hirose is a 2x All-Japan kumite champion and current kumite World champion.

Katas covered included Chinte, Sochin, Gojushihosho, and Kankusho. General themes that were emphasized included generating force from the lower body and leg-drive, the importance of intensity during even basic kumite, and observing proper distancing from your opponent.

The camp ended with the MSKC tradition of beach training and a BBQ with great energy and fun by the water. Thank you to Sensei Jose Ferrand and MSKC for hosting such a great event! We appreciate the hospitality and look forward to attending again next year.



FUTURE EVENTS

Hirayama Seminar: We're thrilled to announce that our dojo will be hosting a two-day seminar with Sensei Yuko Hirayama (7th Dan, JKA World Headquarters)! Sensei Hirayama is an exceptional instructor and an accomplished competitor in both kata and kumite.

This is a rare and special opportunity to train directly with a world-class JKA instructor right here in San Francisco — no need to travel to the large, national seminars in New Orleans or elsewhere.

Location: Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (Japantown SF)

Dates: October 25–26, 2025

Even if you are unable to attend the full seminar, you can still register on-site for individual classes or participate as a volunteer!



COMPETITION TEAM

1. **JKA Panamerican Championship:** Some of our dojo members have been selected to represent the JKA USA team in Bogota, Colombia. Wish them luck!

Dates: September 26-28, 2025

2. **2025 JKA/AF Nationals:** Competition team members will be representing JKA NorCal at the annual national championship in New Orleans, LA.

Dates: November 21-23, 2025