

武徳殿道場

BUTOKUDEN DOJO

January 17, 2017

Dear Kendo Friends and Senseis:

As many of you know, I have been coaching the Portuguese National Team for the past 12 years. After building our Dojo, I started hosting annual Kendo Gasshukus here at our Dojo. This Gasshuku was originally designed as part of the training for the Portuguese Kendo leaders, mainly national team members and the Dojo Senseis. I have set the objective of this Gasshuku to “Teach the correct Kendo and introduce the leaders with the correct method of teaching.” Since 2014, we have extended the invitation to not only Portuguese Kenshis, but to other countries as well. We have hosted Kenshis from various countries, such as Portugal, Mexico, Colombia, Aruba, Ecuador, Venezuela, Trinidad & Tobago, and Serbia.

This year, we will be holding our 5th Annual Butokuden Gasshuku from April 9 to 15, 2017. I would like to extend our invitation to Kenshis across the world interested in participating in this event. This will be beneficial to all participants, by giving each other a chance to practice and make Kendo friends around the world. Following the Gasshuku on Sunday April 16, we have a Dan Promotion Exam being held by the Southern California Kendo Organization for ranks of Kyu to 4 Dan. If you are interested in taking the examination after the Gasshuku, please inquire with your country’s Kendo federation president the possibility to test in the USA.

Gasshuku information:

Location: BUTOKUDEN Dojo, 1581 Browning, Irvine, CA 92606 USA

Dates (See “2017 Butokuden Gasshuku Schedule” for details):

Arrival Date: Saturday, April 8, 2017

Gasshuku: Sunday, April 9 to Saturday, April 15, 2017

Dan Promotion Exam: Sunday April 16, 2017.

Instructors:

Taro Ariga (Kyoshi 7 Dan) and Butokuden Dojo Senseis

Language: Portuguese, Spanish, English, and Japanese

Participation Fee: Free

Application deadline: **February 28, 2017**

url: www.butokuden.com

Phone: +1.949.756.8880

Participation requirements:

- 1) Member of an accredited Kendo Organization in your country.
- 2) Authorization from your Country’s Kendo Organization leader.
- 3) Participants must participate for the entire Gasshuku.
- 4) The Gasshuku is focused to Kendo leaders or future leaders in your country.
- 5) The training is very rigorous. Participants must be in good health condition to participate.
- 6) Participants must have medical insurance valid in the USA.
- 7) Due to the logistics, a maximum of 2 people from each country (please inquire if more people want to participate).
- 8) The participating Kenshis must be 2 Dan or above from accredited FIK organization

Important information:

- 1) Gasshuku Participation Fee: Free
- 2) Breakfast and lunch: E-BOGU will provide basic food (Bread, butter, milk, coffee, etc.). In the past, participants made a pool to buy some extra food. There is a Walmart within walking distance. Approximate budget for one week is about \$50/person.
- 3) Most nights, we will go out for dinner. Dinner is to be paid by each participant (Approximately \$15/meal). In the past, Butokuden Dojo members volunteered to cook for the Gasshuku members for some evenings.

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- 4) Transportation to the Gasshuku is to be arranged by the participant. If arriving at SNA (Orange County Airport), pickup can be arranged. If arriving in LAX, please let us know as we will try to arrange a ride. In case we cannot arrange a ride, you will have to find your own way to the Dojo. See additional information below.
- 5) Participants will have the choice of sleeping in the Dojo or staying at a hotel nearby:
 - a. Dojo: FREE (bring a sleeping bag, or you can purchase at Walmart for approximately \$25)
 - b. Hotel: there are hotels near the Dojo starting at approximately \$35 to \$50/night per person (double occupancy). About 10 minutes walking distance from the Dojo.

I lived in Brazil for many years, and I understand that travelling to the USA may be challenging especially for Kenshis from countries in Central and South America, both financially and acquiring travel documents. To have as many participants from various countries, my goal is to make this Gasshuku as affordable as possible.

Please let me know if someone from your country is interested in being part of this Gasshuku. Please reply to me with the application form to ariga@e-bogu.com by February 28, 2017. I am looking forward to having many countries participating.

Sincerely yours,

Taro Ariga
Kendo Kyoshi 7 Dan
Butokuden Dojo Head Instructor
E-BOGU.COM, Inc. CEO

Additional Information:

- Nearby airports:
 - John Wayne (Orange County, Santa Ana) Airport (Airport code SNA): 5 min by car
 - Los Angeles International (Airport Code LAX): 1 hour by car (Approximate cost, shuttle bus \$30, UBER \$60)
 - Long Beach Airport (Airport Code LGB): 30 minutes by car
- Accommodation near the Dojo:
 - Motel 6: 1717 E Dyer Rd, Santa Ana, CA 92705 (0.8 Miles from Dojo) (\$35/person double occupancy)
 - Candlewood Suites: 2600 South Red Hill Avenue, Santa Ana, CA (\$102 + Tax per room, for 2 people in a room) (0.4 Miles from Dojo)
- Places to see:
 - Disneyland (15 minutes by car)
 - Knot's Berry Farm Park (20 minutes by car)
 - Newport Beach (15 minutes by car)
 - Universal Studios (1 hour by car)
 - Hollywood, Santa Monica (1 hour by car)
 - California Science Center – Space Shuttle Endeavour (1 hour by car)
 - Sea World (1.5 hours by car)
 - San Diego Zoo (1.5 hours by car)