

TREMONT SCHOOL OF JUDO, KARATE, AND JU-JUTSU

535 East Tremont Ave, Bronx NY 10457 Tel: (718) 731-9067

February 6, 2006

Letter from the Soke:

In the four hundred odd years since the beginnings of weaponless combat in Japan, the art of yawara or Ju Jutsu as it is now called, has gone through many changes. Originally not accessible to the average person and reserved only for a select few, each Ryu or school developed complex teaching systems that required years of dedication. The techniques and movements of each Ryu were considered their "secrets" and jealously guarded and protected from those of different systems. Yet, from the beginning, kata or pre arranged movements played an important role in the development and teaching of Ju Jutsu.

All martial arts systems use some form of kata as a teaching tool. These pre arranged forms are both protective and instructive to students of the arts. In following the movements and instructions of their more knowledgeable teachers, students are taught to move in ways less likely to cause injury to themselves or their partners. Thus they begin to learn the tedious and repetitive movements, which will eventually give them the skills and abilities to grow into their next level of training. Mi Yama Ryu Ju Jutsu is no exception to this process, and all our movements, techniques and skills are taught and learned using this centuries old method.

It is of paramount importance that the instructors, at each level of training, be educated and competent not only in the movements and techniques themselves, but in the manner in which these movements are taught. For this reason, the Shinan created within our promotional procedures, a system of teaching both internal instructors, (those teaching inside the Hombu Dojo), and external instructors, (those teaching outside the Hombu Dojo), in exactly the same manner. The instruction of Mi Yama Ryu Ju Jutsu whether at the Hombu Dojo or at any outside school or facility should appear exactly the same. It is through the uniformity of movements, skills and techniques that a system remains strong and intact. I have every confidence that Shihans Medina and Palzer are as dedicated to that goal as I. To further that end, I have asked Shihan Medina and Shihan Palzer to post the entire promotional procedure on our website to eliminate any confusion or questions as to what is required at each level of our training. The karate and judo divisions are being asked to provide and post this same information. In addition they will be available at the Hombu Dojo. Please contact Shihan Medina or Shihan Palzer for further information. They may be reached at 1-718-731-9067 or through the website at www.mi-yamaryu.com.

The Hombu Dojo and the system are open to anyone and everyone who wishes to participate in the growth of Mi Yama Ryu. Our system was created without secrets and has had more than thirty-thousand students pass through its ranks. Those who wish to learn and perhaps gain or extend their rank through Mi Yama Ryu Ju Jutsu will be taught in the same manner and be expected to fulfill the same promotional requirements as has been done since the system was created. The standards and

TREMONT SCHOOL OF JUDO, KARATE, AND JU-JUTSU

535 East Tremont Ave, Bronx NY 10457 Tel: (718) 731-9067

traditions of the Ryu will remain, as the Shinan, Antonio Pereira, my father, would have expected.

As in the past, testing for significant grade of 1st Kyu and above will take place at the Hombu Dojo on **April 7th and 8th at 10:00am**. Instruction and training for this exam has just begun at the Hombu Dojo. I would encourage all those wishing to advance in Mi Yama Ryu to take advantage of this opportunity. All grading will be done according to the promotional procedures. The Soke of the system and the directors of the Hombu Dojo will sign all diplomas. They will also contain the seal of the Hombu Dojo which has been passed down from the Shinan. Our spring ceremonies will occur on April 29, 2006 at 7pm. The fall exam has not been scheduled yet, but information regarding this will be posted shortly. Testing of students in our Judo and Karate divisions will be done according to the standards set forth by the United States Judo Association and the International Tae Kwon do Federation. The testing of the Judo division will be done under the auspices of Shihan Medina, a 4th degree Black Belt in Judo and an official United States Judo Association National Rank Examiner as well as myself, a Godan or 5th Degree Black belt in Judo. The grading of the Karate Division will be done under the auspices of Sensei Miguel Lopez Sr. who holds an 8th degree black belt from the ITF and his son Miguel Lopez Jr. a 2nd degree black belt from the same organization.

The grading of students up to the grade of 1st Kyu in their own dojo's, by their own instructors has always been encouraged and maintained. Shihan Medina as well as Shihan Palzer stand ready to assist, in any way possible, to further the growth and training of all the students of the Mi Yama Ryu system. To this end I have asked Shihan Palzer to begin writing a newsletter, which will address the training and techniques of our system.

I, as Soke of the system, am available to all of the students and dojo's in the Mi Yama Ryu system. As we look into the growth and future of Mi Yama Ryu one of our primary goals must be to maintain the standards of teaching and grading that has always been at the foundation of our system. I am dedicated to that end, and know that the Shinan, my father, would have expected no less.

In the Spirit of Miyama Ryu,

Soke A. Pereira Jr.

email: sokepereirajr@mi-yamaryu.com

[previous 'Letters from the Soke' archived at www.mi-yamaryu.com]