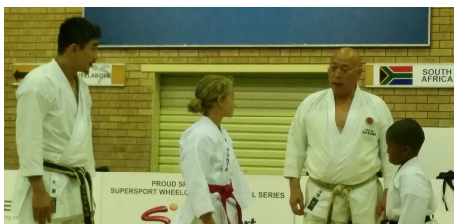


AFRICA CUP WEEK - SEPT. 2015

SA JKA had the privilege of hosting this wonderful inaugural event from 22 to 26 September 2015. What an honour to have Mori Toshihiro Sensei (7th Dan) and Okuma Koichiro Sensei (6th Dan) from JKA WF HQ in attendance. Mori Sensei is the Executive Director at JKA WF HQ and has an impressive tournament kumite record including All Japan Champion twice and IAKF World Champion in 1980. Okuma Sensei heads up the Foreign Affairs Division and has won kata and kumite medals from All Japan Champs and Shotocup. It was wonderful to have guests from Angola, Botswana, DRC, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Zambia, Egypt, Namibia, and Swaziland.



Training sessions were conducted separately for juniors and seniors on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 September in the morning and the evening at the Mandeville Sports Complex in Johannesburg. Attendance was excellent and the training included Jion and Bassai dai as well as kihon and basic kumite.



The training session on Thursday morning was specifically aimed at assisting the Dan grading candidates for the grading that was to follow.



Dan gradings from Shodan (1st Dan) to Nanadan (7th Dan) were conducted on Thursday 24 September. A special mention must be made to the following Sensei's on successfully passing their 7th Dan grading - Bruce Smith Sensei, Mike Lester Sensei, Norman West Sensei and Ian Le Roux Sensei. Full results to be posted as soon as they are available. Well done to all the successful candidates.



Above: Senior Masters at the Grading

International Qualification Examinations were conducted for Instructor, Examiner and Judge. Once again we congratulate all those who successfully passed their exams.

Friday was a day off for our Japanese masters to visit an art gallery and enjoy some much needed rest. Teams from all the African countries could do their final preparations for the JKA AFRICA CUP on Saturday 26 September.



The Africa Cup included divisions from 9 years' old in both kata and kumite. We look forward to a much greater participation in the junior divisions in the future. The senior divisions were a highlight with good participation from other African countries and the team events were a wonderful finale to a historic JKA Africa tournament.

A special word of thanks to the working committee for all the arrangements relating to the Africa Cup week. As many of you know Les Stevens Sensei was admitted to hospital (ICU) on Monday 21 September, sadly he passed away on 11 October. The SA JKA family mourns the loss of not only our General Manager and Tournament Director but a friend and Sensei to many. Our sincere condolences to his family. Many people stepped up and assisted due to these difficult circumstances and we thank each and everyone.



The results of the team events were as follows:

Ladies Unison Kata -

- 1st - South Africa
- 2nd - Botswana

Mens Unison Kata -

- 1st - South Africa
- 2nd - Botswana
- 3rd - Zimbabwe

Ladies Team Kumite -

- 1st - Botswana
- 2nd - South Africa
- 3rd - Botswana

Mens Team Kumite-

- 1st - South Africa
- 2nd - Angola

Joint 3rd - DRC & Zimbabwe

