

News letter



World Alliance of Shorinjiryu Karatedo

Special member submission from
← Shihan Alain Bujold Page 5!

WASK Gashuku! Philosophy Corner

More important event details for WASK's premiere bi-annual event held in Canada this November! Plus, some special leaks on what attending members can look forward to! Details on page 2-4!

Hanshi Scott Brown expands on his Shorinjiryu Karatedo philosophy peice from the last volume of the WASK Newsletter!

Upcoming events including: The WKKF World Championships in Brisbane Australia and The 39th Shorinjiryu Shinzen Shiai in New York USA!



WASK Board Member Hanshi Michel Laurin inducted into the Candain Black Belt Hall of Fame!

Latest News

Catch up on all the latest events and achievemnts of our amazing WASK members and associates!



WASK Gashuku

The inaugural WASK Gashuku is fast approaching and we've been delighted to see a great deal of Shorinjiryu practitioners from all over the world signing up and registering their attendance! Remember, this is the premiere WASK event and our first one will set a high precedent for those to follow. It promises to be a historic occasion and is selling out fast! There are a few things you need to do!



WASK INTERNATIONAL GASHUKU

**IMPORTANT EVEN IF YOU REGISTERED
YOU STILL NEED TO CALL THE
RESORT TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT
FOR THE BUFFET/GALA
THANK YOU**



November 29th-30th, 2025
L'Auberge du Lac Morency 42 Rue de la Chaumine
Saint-Hippolyte, QC J8A 2N4, Canada

An immersive experience of training, learning, and karate camaraderie with practitioners from around the world.

All training and discussions are free of charge (WASK is a nonprofit dedicated to preserving Shorinjiryu)

Buffet Dinner: \$69.00CA per person (plus TPS and TVQ)

Room Rates: \$135CA (first night), \$100 per additional night (special resort discount)

Reserve Your Room & Buffet Today by calling this number: 450-563-5546 and mention you're with the group Karate Gala.

Also please complete registration form and submit to this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/JxwVSWkHze>

Please RSVP as soon as possible as the number of seats and rooms are limited

Register for the first WASK Gashuku online here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/JxwVSWkHze>

This isn't just a training camp—it's a celebration of lineage, friendship, and the shared pursuit of growth through Shorinjiryu Kenkokan and Kaisos legacy – Hanshi Scott Brown

WASK Gashuku Schedule



WORLD ALLIANCE OF SHORINJIRYU KARATEDO INTERNATIONAL GASHUKU

WASK

Dedicated to Preserving Shorinjiryu for Generations to Come

Dear Shorinjiryu Yudansha

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to the first World Alliance of Shorinjiryu Karatedo International Gashuku, a unique and wonderful opportunity to gather the Shorinjiryu Family for an amazing event.

November 29th–30th, 2025

L'Auberge du Lac Morency

42 Rue de la Chaumine, Saint-Hippolyte, QC J8A 2N4, Canada

A Unique Opportunity to Unite the Shorinjiryu Family

Join us for the first World Alliance of Shorinjiryu Karatedo International Gashuku—a special event bringing together Shorinjiryu practitioners from around the world.

Enjoy a day of training, thoughtful discussion, and the sharing of our art's traditions in a beautiful lakeside resort setting.

Topics & Training:

- Shorinjiryu Kihon, Katas, and Bunkai
- In-depth workshops led by senior instructors
- Historical discussions and video presentations

Sample Schedule Highlights:

- Saturday 9:00 AM: Kihon and Kata discussion with Hanshi Donivan
- 1:30 PM: Kata Naihanchin Bunkai with Hanshi Laurin
- 3:30 PM: Kata Seisan Bunkai with Hanshi Brown
- 6:00 PM: World-Class Buffet (\$69.00 per person, includes complimentary sparkling wine)
- 7:00 PM: Shorinjiryu Kenkokan History Video
- 7:30 PM: Lifetime Achievement Awards
- 8:00 PM: Tributes to Deceased Karateka
- 8:30 PM: Hall of Fame Presentation (Wall of Honor)
- 9:30 PM: Closing Speech on Mission & Preservation

Cost:

- All training and discussions are free of charge (WASK is a nonprofit dedicated to preserving Shorinjiryu)
- Buffet Dinner: \$69.00 per person
- Room Rates: \$135 (first night), \$100 per additional night (special resort discount)

About the Venue:

L'Auberge du Lac Morency is a luxury lakeside resort in beautiful Quebec. Enjoy fantastic cuisine, exceptional accommodations, and additional family-friendly activities to turn this weekend into an unforgettable karate-themed holiday experience.

<https://lacmorency.com/>

Reserve Your Room Today by calling this number: 450-563-5546 and mention you're with the group Karate Gala.

Please RSVP as soon as possible

Contact information:

Hanshi Michel Laurin

661-478-8517

michellaurin@sbcglobal.net

[wask_site](#)

worldallianceshorinjiryukaratedo.com

WASK Gashuku Venue & Accommodation



WORLD ALLIANCE OF SHORINJIRYU KARATEDO INTERNATIONAL GASHUKU



ABOUT THE VENUE:

L'AUBERGE DU LAC MORENCY IS A LUXURY LAKESIDE RESORT IN BEAUTIFUL QUEBEC. ENJOY FANTASTIC CUISINE, EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS, AND ADDITIONAL FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES TO TURN THIS WEEKEND INTO AN UNFORGETTABLE KARATE-THEMED HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE. [HTTPS://LACMORENCY.COM/](https://lacmorency.com/)

RESERVE YOUR ROOM TODAY BY CALLING THIS NUMBER: 450-563-5546 AND MENTION YOU'RE WITH THE GROUP KARATE GALA.



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<https://forms.office.com/e/JxwVSWkHze>

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Shihan Alain Bujold - Martial Arts: Two Paths



About Shihan Alain Bujold

Shihan Alain Bujold has over 30 years of martial arts experience across Shorinjiryu Karatedo, boxing, judo, taekwondo, and ninjutsu. He received extensive training extensively under Hanshi Masayuki Hisataka and Shihan Wayne Donivan, achieving the rank of 5th Dan (Shihan).

He is a former instructor of Shorinjiryu Karatedo at Université du Québec à Montréal, where his programs achieved some of the highest student retention across 72 athletic disciplines. Beyond the dojo, Alain has coached national and international champions, including guiding athletes to success at the World Koshiki Karate Championships.

Drawing on his background in human factors and biomechanics, he has also developed protective training equipment used by law enforcement and military units worldwide. His career blends martial tradition with modern science, and his passion remains teaching with clarity, empathy, and innovation.

Shihan Alain Bujold - Martial Arts: Two Paths

By Shihan Alain Bujold, (5th Dan Shorinjiryu)

Martial arts is more than a collection of techniques — it is a lifelong practice that combines the path of the learner with the path of the teacher. After more than 30 years of practice, I have seen how these two paths often overlap, but not always successfully.

Many black belts unconsciously replicate how they were taught, applying adult methods to children. This mismatch can lead to frustration, disengagement, and high turnover. Children learn differently: they respond best to encouragement, interactive lessons, and structured play that matches their cognitive and emotional development. Common pitfalls in teaching children include:

- Demonstrating techniques while facing students (creating mirror-image confusion).
- Giving too many corrections at once.
- Using vague directional cues like “left” or “right” without spatial anchors.
- Rushing into advanced combinations before foundations are secure.



Shihan Alain Bujold – Martial Arts: Two Paths

Instead, effective instructors act as learning facilitators, adapting to each child's pace and style. Practical strategies include:

- Breaking movements into manageable steps, paired with immediate feedback.
- Using fixed reference points in the dojo ("Face the Dragon Wall") to reduce confusion.
- Integrating games and creative drills to build agility, balance, and focus.
- Encouraging resilience through positive reinforcement and recognition.

Teaching children martial arts is not only about shaping technique but about instilling confidence, discipline, and passion. When we meet young students where they are — with structure, empathy, and creativity — we not only preserve tradition, but also nurture the next generation of martial artists.

For those interested in exploring this subject more deeply,



Shihan Bujold's full reflections can be found [here](#).

He can be contact by email at:

alainbujold@hotmail.com .

(Pictured left are each of Shihan Alain's children with their instructors, successful in their respective martial arts disciplines with his guidance)

WASK News

Hanshi Michel Laurin, WASK co-founder, is selected for admision into the Candian Black Belt Hall of Fame!

A 9th degree black belt (Hanshi) in Shorinjiryu and 6x time Koshiki World Champion, Michel Laurin is the founder of the International Shorinjiryu Shindo with associated dojo's located in Canada and the U.S.

For his accomplishments as Karate black belt, Hanshi Laurin was nominated for the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame and selected for admission this year. Hanshi Laurin said the following:

"Even though I'm at a stage in my life where I'm not looking for awards, I have to admit that the call I received to let me know about my induction into the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame 2025 made me happy and proud. It is always nice to be recognized by your peers! But most importantly I think it is great for our beautiful style, Shorinjiryu, to be recognized!"



October 4th 2025

**CANADIAN
BLACK BELT
HALL OF FAME
2025**

Palace de Laval
1717 Boul. le Combustier, Laval

Martial art seminar 12:30 pm - 3:30pm
Dinner 6:00 pm
Induction Ceremony 7:00 pm

Buy Your Ticket Now!
450-689-7011
CBBHOF25@gmail.com

On behalf of WASK and all of its members, we extend the biggest congratulations to Hanshi Michel and feel a deep sense of pride in his accomplishment and desire to put Shorinjiryu Karatedo in the spotlight amongst the greater Karate community!

Upcoming Events Highlight

A promotional poster for the WKKF World Championship Karatedo. The top features the event title 'WKKF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP' in large, bold, white letters against a blue background. To the left is the WKKF logo, and to the right is the Shorinjiryu Karatedo logo. Below the title is a scenic view of a city skyline (Brisbane) reflected in water, with many sailboats in the foreground. The text 'OCTOBER, 3RD-5TH • BRISBANE • 2025' is overlaid on the water reflection. The bottom half of the poster shows several karate practitioners in white gi, some in action and some standing. The text 'KOSHIKI KARATEDO' is written in large, bold, white letters at the bottom of the image.

WKKF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

OCTOBER, 3RD-5TH • BRISBANE • 2025

KOSHIKI KARATEDO

For more information, contact Shihan Andrew Riley at brisbanekoshiki@gmail.com

Upcoming Events Highlight

The 39th Shorinjiryu Shinzen Shiai – A Gathering of the Shorinjiryu Karate Family.



Dear Instructors, Black Belts, and Non-Black Belt Contestants,

On behalf of the Shorinjiryu Shinzen Kyokai, we cordially invite you to participate in the Thirty-Ninth Shorinjiryu Shinzen Shiai dubbed "A Gathering of the Shorinjiryu Karate Family" which will be held on Saturday, October 11, 2025. This prestigious event is the largest strictly Shorinjiryu tournament. We have confirmations from our affiliated schools and our many other Shorinjiryu friends. You will be able to experience the true meaning of karate-do and of family that Shorinjiryu exemplifies.

Tournament awards will be issued for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in all divisions. . Certificates of participation will also be presented.

As in the past, you can expect this event to be as successful as any before, but ultimately that depends upon your valued participation. **Pre-registration** is a major key to a smooth-running event and has certain distinct advantages including monetarily. The order in which a contestant performs in kata is basically based upon the order of registration. Those who register first usually will go last. In shiai, those who register first will be eligible for a bye where applicable. Remember, we will group according to *kyu* and *dan* rankings and not necessarily by belt color.

We are pleased to announce that we will be using the same venue as last year:

Christ the King Regional High School
68-02 Metropolitan Ave.
Middle Village, NY 11379.

This is truly a beautiful site.

Afterwards, we hope you will relax, dance, and partake at our renowned Awards/Dinner Dance which will be hosted in the:

Woodhaven Manor
96-01 Jamaica Avenue,
Woodhaven, NY 11421

We wish you the best of success at this your 39th International Invitational Shorinjiryu Shinzen Shiai.

Myron M. Lubitsch, Hanshi President

The Mission Statement

"The expressed purpose of the Shorinjiryu Shinzen Kyokai is to foster harmonious relations between and among the various schools of Shorinjiryu, to establish a forum by which the various schools of Shorinjiryu can come together to share ideas, techniques, competition, philosophies and friendship; to recognize, to support, to validate and to issue grading; to establish a common ranking system of titles, kyu and dan grades, yet maintain the principle of noninterference within each individual school.

The Kyokai is open to practitioners of Shorinjiryu as formulated by Shinan Kori (Kudaka) Hisataka with proper documentation and application review. Membership shall not be denied due to race, national origin, gender, religion or age."



For more information, contact your Shorinjiryu dojo instructor and express interest.

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Philosophy Corner

Shorinjiryu Karatedo and Secular Spirituality The Secular Spirit of Budo: Non-Dual Awareness and the Shorinjiryu Kenkokan Path to Individuality

By Hanshi Scott A Brown (Australia)

As an expansion on the piece included in our newsletter last volume, I'm very pleased to now include the expanded thesis by Hanshi Brown that follows. Edited by Grant Brechney. Full edition available on WASK website.

In the modern age, many people have sought spiritual depth without dogma. Classical nihon budo can offer a practical path for cultivating presence, character and ethical action in addition to its physical benefits. Diligent practice of Shorinjiryu Kenkokan can illuminate a path of secular spirituality—embodied, experiential, and rooted in nature and human consciousness rather than metaphysical belief.



What we mean by “secular spirituality”

Spirituality here is personal and lived: attention, embodiment and meaning formed through practice. While our art carries Shinto and Buddhist symbols, its spiritual force does not depend on doctrine. Think of it as self-cultivation—a way to steady the mind, refine the body and focus intention. As education scholar Owen Arnst notes, spirituality can be understood as a fundamental human condition, not a religious label. In that sense, Kenkokan aligns with a modern search for depth without requirement to “believe” first.

Non-dual awareness—felt, not theorised

Non-duality is the direct recognition that self/other, body/mind, and intention/action are not ultimately separate. In training this appears when technique and intention merge; breath, posture and timing cohere; and action arises without inner commentary. Three reliable gateways are time in nature, peak physical states, and a heart opened to the “other”. These are not esoteric claims—they are phenomenological: things we can feel on the floor and in life.

Philosophy Corner

Shorinjiryu Karatedo and Secular Spirituality The Secular Spirit of Budo: Non-Dual Awareness and the Shorinjiryu Kenkokan Path to Individuality



Draeger's tripartite model of budo: discipline, morals, aesthetics

- **Discipline** – The technical and physical rigour required to master the art. Repetition of kihon (basics), kata, and renshu/randori builds focused attention (Samadhi) combining the historical movement templates which comprise the unique signature of the ryu ha (style).
- **Morals** – The ethical framework that guides behaviour and intention. Reiho (bowing ritual) frames practice as mutual respect. In randori and shiai we learn courage, restraint and responsibility—ethics arising from interconnection, not fear of punishment.
- **Aesthetics** – The pursuit of beauty, harmony, and expressive form. Stances, transitions, the northern shaolin long-fist forms and flavour of our kata reveal inner order. Beauty here isn't ornament; it's truthful movement that shows integration and authenticity.

The three are interdependent: discipline without ethics becomes brutality; morals without vitality become brittle; aesthetics without rigour is empty form.

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How training becomes a spiritual practice

- **Kion/Kihon.** Our foundational basics cultivate attention and precision—the ryu-ha's unique movement signature trained until it is second nature.
- **Renshu, randori and preparation for shiai.** Partner work teaches cooperation, distance, timing and angle; jiyu shiai in Anzen Bogu lets us meet fear under pressure and grow real courage and efficacy of technique.
- **Kata.** More than choreography, kata can dissolve subject-object boundaries: breath, centre and timing unify into a single field of awareness. Practiced outdoors, kata also reconnects body and landscape.
- **Keiko culture.** Turning up—especially when you don't feel like it—shapes character. The “motor” is internal: disciplined effort, shared hardship, and camaraderie that forges lifelong bonds.

Individuality through integration

The aim is not conformity but individuality—what Shu-Ha-Ri describes as moving from form, through adaptation, to personal expression while honouring the ryu-ha's telos found in Shorinjiryu Kenkokan dojo kun. The mature practitioner is physically capable, ethically grounded and spiritually aware; they no longer imitate, they express.



Our collective task in WASK—“snapshotting” and preserving Shorinjiryu Karatedo—supports that individuation by keeping the technical and cultural lineage clear for future generations.

Philosophy Corner

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A path forward

In a world frayed by distraction and polarisation, Shorinjiryu offers a spiritually grounded way of being: presence in action, ethics under pressure, and beauty through integration with environment. The dojo becomes a temple of practice—not worship—where we condition the body, steady the mind and clarify the heart such that we awaken. The result is not a warrior of violence, but a warrior of clarity, compassion and individuality—at peace with “the big everything”.

— Shihan Scott A. Brown
6th Dan Kenkokan Shorinjiryu

Selected references: Donn F. Draeger, *Classical Budo: The Martial Arts and Ways of Japan*; *Budo Japan*; WASK, online material on philosophy; Masayuki Hisataka, *Scientific Karatedo*; Owen B. Arnst, PhD thesis; Robert Miller, *Buddhist Existentialism*; Zen Fight Club, *Shorinjiryu Manual*; and P. J. Mills, *Nondual Awareness and Enlightenment: A Transdisciplinary Perspective*; T. Telles, *Framing Spirituality in Martial Arts: An Embodied Comprehension Through Phenomenology*.

