

Self Defense Committee Report - November 2019

On June 9th of this year, Shufu hosted a self-defense seminar led by Neil Simon, chairman of the USJF self-defense committee. Upon completion of the seminar, Roy Englert, President of Shufu, created a Shufu self-defense committee and named me as chairman aided by Elizabeth Nehrbass and Edmund Nsheuko. Within minutes George Antoniou and Rob Gouthro asked to be named to the committee as well. Knowing their backgrounds, my first official act as chairman was to say yes. My second official act was to have Eric Spears as a consultant.

I asked each committee member to submit to me a martial arts resume and a 6 - 8 week syllabus of a self-defense course. The course should be once a week with a time limit of about an hour and fifteen minutes. I personally submitted my resume and a 6 week syllabus to the committee members. My thinking was, we would all vet these various courses and come up with a template to be submitted to the Shufu Board of Directors. It is still a work in progress.

Being on the USJF Self-Defense Committee gives me a unique perspective as to what the national organization would consider acceptable. I meet with them via tele-conferencing once, sometimes twice a month. Usually I come away dazed and confused over their sometimes convoluted language. It seems insurance and litigious matters are the driving forces behind the USJF Self-Defense Committee.

After much confusion about some of the phrasing they use (course and class are synonymous in their view), I realized they wanted

each yudanshaki to write-up an introductory class to use as a template for an actual course. I had Neil Simon change the word course for class in their official documents. My hair is much grayer now.

My new directive to the Shufu Self-Defense Committee is to write up an approximate 2 hour introductory self-defense class and once vetted, will be submitted to the Board of Directors. If accepted this can be used as a template for a Shufu Self-Defense course. We will, of course, still submit a 6 - 8 week suggested syllabus as well.

Sincerely,
John C Floyd
Chairman of the Shufu Self-Defense Committee
11/10/2019