

# **Kata Report, April 2019**

## **by Robert Gouthro and Diane Jackson**

- **Results and accomplishments:**

- 2019 USJF Kata conference on new 2019 IJF kata evaluation criteria was held in St. Louis MO on March 8 - 9, 2019. Attended by Fran Vall, Diane Jackson, Robert Gouthro, Lisa Capriotti, Theodore Schwalm, and Brent Smith. The revised requirements have been published on the Shufu website.
- Maryland Open, in January 2019, had 2 awesome hours of kata competition, including five Itsutsu teams, four of which were father-daughter teams.
- Ken Tamai memorial was held on March 16. 14 teams performed 6 different katas (nage, katame, Ju, goshin, kime and itsutsu). In nage, both novice and advanced categories were competed. Also a few promotional katas were scored.
- Sensei Edwin Takemori held a successful Ju no Kata clinic in Cary, NC, on November 10<sup>th</sup>, with the assistance of Robert Gouthro, Lisa Capriotti, and Greg Goebel.

- **Exciting Upcoming International Kata news:**

- World Kata Championships now have two main age categories for each of the five competed katas: under 35 years old (tori's age only) and 35 years and older.
- Two local teams are going to Pan American Kata Championships in Lima, Peru, on April 25, 2019: Karl Tamai/ Diane Jackson in Ju no kata and Katame no kata, and Robert Gouthro and Lisa Capriotti in Goshin Jutsu and Kime no kata. Sensei Fran Vall will attend as a judge. Theodore Schwalm is coordinating logistics for the whole USA contingent as volunteer team manager.
- Pan American Kata Championship requirements have been revised in 2019. Previously brown belt competitors were eligible for participation. Starting in 2019 the minimum rank requirement will again be black belt.

- **Upcoming Local/Regional Kata tournaments:**

- Am-Can - May 25 weekend, 2019, Buffalo, NY

- **Upcoming National or International tournaments:**

- USA Judo Sr. Nationals (June 1-2, 2019 (Las Vegas));
- World Judo Kata Championships - information is still pending, but currently expected to be held in Chungju, South Korea in early September in conjunction with the World Martial Arts Masterships;
- Fukuda International Kata Tournament (October) – San Jose, CA