



Nanka Judo Yudanshakai
(Southern California Judo Black Belt Association)
Member of United States Judo Federation (USJF)
1279 Ritner Street
Torrance CA 90502

In the wake of the devastating earthquake and tsunami disaster in Japan on March 11, 2011, a small group of Southern California judo clubs got together to literally “*throw*” a benefit to raise money for the on-going relief efforts in Japan.



Under the auspices of the President of the Nanka Judo Yudanshakai, Ed Shiosaki (The Southern California Judo Black Belt Association), the benefit was named, “The Ippon4Nippon Throw-Thon.” An “Ippon” is the winning point in Judo. Commonly referred as Nihon, “Nippon” is a formal reference in Japanese for Japan. The five clubs that worked together were the following;

Harbor Judo Dojo-Harbor City, CA-Gary Takemoto, Head Instructor
Taishi Judo Club-Carson, CA-Robert Oishi, Head Instructor
Sawtelle Judo Dojo-West Los Angeles, CA-Kenji Osugi, Head Instructor
Venice Judo Dojo-Venice, CA-Trace Nishiyama, Head Instructor
South Bay Judo Club-Torrance, CA-Ed Shiosaki, Head Instructor
Norwalk Judo Dojo-Norwalk, CA-Masao Fukuma, Head Instructor



Over a month-long period, as many as two hundred judo players of all ages signed up to gather hundreds of pledges and donations which were based on the number of Ippon throws that they would complete in one or two minutes. In the spirit of one of Judo's principles, *Jita Kyoei*, the Judo players who participated in the event threw over 2,200 times and raised over \$9,600 in the process. *Jita Kyoei*, commonly translated as "*Mutual Benefit & Welfare*", can more accurately be translated as "*Going Forward, Shining together.*" You could also think of it as "*You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours. Then, we'll both be satisfied.*"

On July 29, 2011, Nanka Judo Yudanshakai wire transferred these donation funds to the Kodokan, the birthplace of Judo, in Tokyo, Japan. At the same time, representatives from Nanka Judo Yudanshakai presented donation letters to the President of the Kodokan, Haruki Uemura. The donations will be used to help rebuild the affected communities in Northeastern Japan, especially the judo dojos there.

Ed Shiosaki
President, Nanka Judo Yudanshakai

Kenji Osugi
Head Instructor, Sawtelle Judo Dojo

Ismael Nawfal
President, Ippon 4 Nippon/Sawtelle Judo Dojo

Jerry Hazemoto
Head Administrator, Ippon 4 Nippon/Sawtelle Judo Dojo

Throw-a-thon videos may be viewed on YouTube under the Ippon 4 Nippon Judo Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/Ippon4NipponJudo> or on Facebook under Ippon 4 Nippon Throw-A-Thon

For more information on, please visit our website at <http://ippon4nippon.org/>

Nanka Judo Yudanshakai is a non-profit organization under IRS section 501 (3) (c).

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