

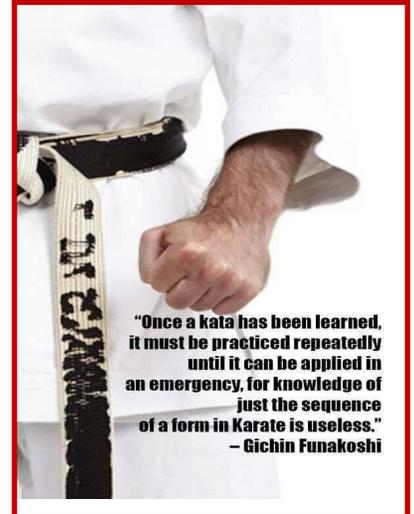


THE DOJO CONNECTION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF BLACK HILLS BUJIN KI RYU JUJITSU DOJO



QUOTE OF THE MONTH



"Once a kata has been learned, it must be practiced repeatedly until it can be applied in an emergency, for knowledge of just the sequence of a form in Karate is useless."
 – Gichin Funakoshi

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dojo Etiquette in the Dojo	1
Belt & Rank Promotions	3
The Belt Promotion & Recognition Process	4
Celebrating the Martial Arts Mom!	5
Phot Galary: Sioux Falls Open	7
Seven Components of Self Defense	8
Taiho Jutsu Police Seminar	9
Instructor Profile: Mike Hill	10
10 Habits to Earn Respect	10
Upcoming Events	11
Martial Arts Word Puzzle	12
Bits & Pieces	14



Dojo Etiquette: A core value when training in Jujitsu

By Mutch Usera, Hanshi



The Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu Dojo exist to serve youth, teens and adult members. The instructors (Sensei) teach valuable lessons and serve as role models with each word and especially with their conduct. Because Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu dojo cares that it has a healthy relationships with the students and the student family members, we have established Dojo etiquette rules for those attending and observing our class sessions. These rules are on the wall at the

dojo and also stated in the Jujitsu training manual. Here are some key dojo etiquette rules for everyone to remember when training at the dojo:

Young people look to adults for examples of appropriate behavior.

Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu instructors, students, parents of students and guests must use appropriate language and model honorable behavior, such as respect, integrity, honesty, and excellence. Profanity or sexualized language or jokes is inappropriate around students and in the dojo. You will be asked to leave the dojo if inappropriate behavior occurs during the class session.

Sportsmanship and respect for students and martial arts guests must take place during training and in outside competition.

Although martial arts may at times bring out high expectation for achieving rank requirements and a drive to compete in martial arts tournaments, we strive for the highest level of respect for our students and instructors in and outside the dojo. This include guest and parents attending the dojo and/or at competition events. Shouting at students and distracting students during class training is not permitted at the dojo and distract the student from training.

Children with parents or guests must be respectful to the dojo facilities.

It is important that our students maintain focus of the class training without any distractions from guests or family members. Student's family members with young children are asked to maintain control of their children during class training. This includes **NO PLAYING** in the dojo area before, during or after class training. Such behavior and distractions by family members, guests and children will be asked to leave the dojo.

(Continued on page 2)



Dojo Etiquette: A core value when training in Jujitsu

(Continued from page 1)

Students and parents are responsible for maintaining a clean and complete Jujitsu uniform (GI).

The Jujitsu or Karate uniform (GI) is an important tool of the martial arts' tradition and training. A clean GI presents a high level of respect to the style, instructor and dojo. This include proper folding and storing your GI before and after training. Since martial arts' training involves physical contact, it also prevents any hygienic concerns students may have when training with each other.

Attending Jujitsu classes on time

Coming to Jujitsu class on time may seem un-important to some sports. However, it is one of the highest form of respect in martial arts. Attending class on a timely manner demonstrates respect to the instructor and the students as coming late may distract students and instructors from training. This may be a challenge due to job, school or just parents taking students to class. We do understand and ask that when you come to class late, quickly change in your uniform and jump in class with instructor's permission.

Your Jujitsu classmate makes the training a success!

Training with a student during class is a major component to training in Jujitsu. This is due to the techniques may require a partner to make the technique effective. When you pair with a classmate, please remember that they are there to learn and have fun. Show the upmost respect to your classmate and partner as they are helping you to become a Black Belt some day.

Keeping the Dojo Clean

The Dojo is considered a place that brings mind, body and spirit together for training, meditation and friendship. Shoes should never be worn within the training area of the Dojo. In some case shoes are removed prior to stepping foot into the front door. When cleaning the Dojo it is an honor to participate in the cleaning and caring of the training area and the equipment used for training. This is usually done by the students as a way of appreciation for training as well as a way to thank your Sensei.

We want to hear from you, at any time.

We take all concerns, complaints of misconduct seriously. Credible allegations of misconduct will be promptly investigated by the instructors. During any such investigation, the student, instructor and/or volunteer will be placed on leave. If an investigation determines misconduct occurred, it will result in the immediate and permanent dismissal as a students, instructor and/or volunteer.



Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu Affiliated Dojos

When you travel for business or vacation, be sure to stop by these Dojos to get in on some training. These Dojos are part of our martial arts organization and the training is complimentary as a member of Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu:

Budokan Martial Arts Honbu Dojo, Palm Coast, FL

George Alexander, Hanshi, 10th Dan, and president of ISKKF, OHKA, and ISJF
Phone: 518-567-7382
alexeyama@mindspring.com

Minnetonka Martial Arts, Minnetonka, MN

Allen Horner, Shihan, 8th Dan
Phone: 952-938-6765
eclecticmatialarts@comcast.net

Dynamic Martial Arts of Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls, SD

Joe Herreman, Kyoshi, 6th Dan
Phone: 605-370-0085
jherreman@dmaofsiouxfalls.org

Northern Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu Dojo, Belle Fourche, SD

Eileen Miller, Renshi, 4th Dan
Phone: 605-210-2909
nhbkrjujitsu@outlook.com

STUDENT PROMOTION & RECOGNITION



Joe Herreman recognized by United States Jujitsu Federation for Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu

Joe Herreman, Kyoshi, was recently recognized by the United States Jujitsu Federation for his 6th Dan rank in Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu. Also, Nate Lundin, pictured far right, received his Black Belt -Shodan (1st Degree Black Belt) at Dynamic Martial Arts of Sioux Falls . Herreman is Nates instructor. Hanshi Usera was present for both belt recognitions held on May 12 in Sioux Falls.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Kodi Ladd, Adult Class

BELT PROMOTIONS

Yellow Belt:

Jayden James, Youth Class

Green Belt:

Khai-Lia Junk, Youth Class

Blue Belt:

Lucas Wheeler, Adult Class

Nick D'Allesandro, Adult Class

Joseph Hammer, Adult Class

Rob Usera, Adult Class

STRIPE PROMOTIONS

White Belt:

Joyce Thompson, 1st Stripe

Dancing Big Eagle, 1st Stripe

Eyohila Big Eagle, 1st Stripe

Orange Belt:

Keian Ladd, 2nd Stripe

Matt Sedlacek, 2nd Stripe

Green Belt:

Dreagan Smith, 3rd Stripe

Purple Belt:

Anika Wheeler, 2nd Stripe

The Belt Promotion and Recognition Ceremony

By Mutch Usera, Hanshi

Testing of a student may occur based on preparedness, knowledge and time spent training on requirements. Keep in mind that there is no required or standard time for rank promotions of any level. Your Sensei (Instructor) will notify students who are permitted to test. It is not proper to ask your Sensei to be tested as this is considered disrespectful. Your Sensei knows where you are with regard to your progress your in martial arts and when you are ready to be tested.

Students normally test for Stripe level and/or Kyu level (under Black Belt) and Black Belt rank based on belt requirements. Promotions also include dedicated training, attendance, self discipline, proper etiquette, dojo engagement, respect and physical ability. Students passing their required test will receive a stripe or belt and certificate from the head instructor. All certificates are signed by Hanshi Usera, 10th Dan, Grand Master, and the dojo head Sensei. During promotions the ceremony will be done in accordance to most traditional Japanese dojos.



The protocol that is followed for promotion ceremony is as follows:

- When your name is called by the Sensei administering the test, go quickly to the front of the dojo and bow to each of the instructors before approaching the head instructor holding your new belt and certificate. Never cross directly in front of anyone with a higher rank than you. Walk around or behind the students to get to the front of the dojo.
- At that time, the Sensei may choose to read your promotion certificate aloud. After announcing your promotion, your Sensei will hand you your new belt using both hands as a sign of respect. When the belt touch your hands, bow.
- After receiving your belt, turn around (in clockwise direction) and face the class. Remove your old belt and put on the new belt. Hand your old belt to your Sensei before placing new belt on. After putting on your belt, the command will be given for the class to applaud in honor of your promotion.
- Turn around again and face your head Sensei. He or she will hand you your certificate using both hands and then congratulate you with a bow. You will return the bow. If there are additional Black Belt instructors in line with the students, you will then face each Black Belt and bow to them. They will return the bow. Do this until you have acknowledge all of the Black Belts in the class.
- You will then return back to the line in class and remain until class begin training or class is dismissed.





**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

May:

- 5/9 Brayden Sedlacek
- 5/10 Lucas Wheeler
- 5/19 Mason Price
- 5/30 Dominick Martin
- 5/30 Neveah Martin

June:

- 6/5 Jackson Weiler
- 6/10 Koltyn Usera
- 6/11 Jace Watson
- 6/15 Jarrett Breuninger
- 6/23 Dominick Lunn
- 6/25 Amelia Cherry

July:

- 7/20 Mutch Usera
- 7/23 Ellie Wheeler
- 7/29 Kenny Sedlacek

Celebrate Mother's Day by becoming a Martial Arts Mom

By Joseph Galea, NAPMA



For Centuries, people across the world have been celebrating a day in honor of their mothers. Here in the United States, we celebrate Mother's Day on the second Day of May, but it took many years to get it to be what it is today!

The earliest Mother's Day celebration can be traced back to the spring celebration of Ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. Then in the 1600's, England celebrated a day called "Mothering Sunday". Celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent, "Mothering Sunday" honored the mothers of England. During this time, many of the country's poor worked as live-in servants for the wealthy. On this special day, the servants were allowed a day off and encouraged to return to their homes to spend the day with their own mothers.

Mother's Day was first suggested in the United States in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe (author of the lyrics to the Battle Hymn of the Republic). It was a day dedicated to peace. From then on Ms. Howe held organized Mother's Day meetings in Boston, Massachusetts every year. Many years later, in 1907, a woman from Philadelphia named Ana Jarvis began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Ms. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia, to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the second Sunday of May. By the next year, Mother's Day was celebrated in her home town of Philadelphia. Along with her supporters, Ms. Jarvis began to write to ministers, businessmen, and politicians in quest of establishing a national Mother's Day. All their work was successful! By 1911, Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday that was to be held each year on the second Sunday of May. While many countries of the world celebrate their own Mother's Day at different time throughout the year, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, and Belgium share in celebrating Mother's Day on the same day.

Mother's Day is also a special holiday for our staff. It reminds us of the dedication and support our mothers give to our school throughout the year. Because of these efforts, our staff can provide your children with a level of instruction that produces optimal results. We know these results are the greatest gift any martial arts mother can receive on Mother's Day.

Martial Arts moms are not limited to the sidelines or the family transportation department, some moms are student, too!! Many moms are putting on a martial arts uniform and joining martial arts. It is not rare to hear a child say, "My mom's a martial artists."

(Continue on page 5)

Celebrate Mother's Day by becoming a Martial Arts Mom

(Continued from page 4)

A survey revealed that 5 out of 6 moms started martial arts training because their children were already enrolled in a program. The survey also reported that moms showed interest in martial arts early on, yet were hesitant to get started, or even inquire, because they thought they couldn't do it.

Instructors say moms are great beginner students. They are fast learners from the "off floor" experience of watching their child in class and helping them to practice at home. They know the school etiquette and have often be heard instructing or reminding their children before or after classes. Many moms join with a big head start on the average beginner.

When parents join the martial arts with their children, the family unit becomes stronger. They are sharing a common interest. Parents know how difficult it is to keep up with their kids today and participating in martial arts helps to keep them on the same track.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share the benefits of martial arts training as a family. But for every mom that is a student, there are many more that are hesitant about taking that initial step into class. We want to change that by giving our non-student moms the same support you have given us.

First, it is natural to feel hesitant. At this point you are not sure you can do this. The good news is that many moms, now students, were hesitant about joining our class in the beginning too, but after getting over this feeling they began to discover benefits if training. The key is to approach the martial arts to benefit you in your own way. For some it's increased flexibility, for others it may be an inner feeling of relaxation. Weight loss and muscle tone are also some excellent benefits that can help improve self-confidence and self-esteem. All this, plus the knowledge to defend themselves is why moms are telling other moms to get involved.

If you are a mom and want to participate in martial arts, please see your child or family member instructor on how to get started. We hope the spirit of Mother's Day will encourage you to take that first step to discover martial arts and maybe a little more about yourself as a person.



Let's recognize you for your 2024-2025 awards and achievements!

As we move to the end of the 2025 school year, we would like to recognize you for your accomplishments through our Dojo monthly newsletter for June. If you are a student that is being recognized for sports, music, arts and academic achievement or graduating from high school or college, we want to hear from you! Please send us a photo of you along with a brief write up on what recognition you received. Send me your information by email at: jmu8dan@gmail.com or simply drop of your information at the Dojo. A photo of you receiving your award or your school year photo is much appreciated. Please send information to me by the end of May, 2025.



PHOTO GALLERY:

2025 Sioux Falls Open - Martial Arts Tournament



The Seven Components of Self-defense: *The Building Blocks of an Effective Personal Safety Strategy*

by Randy LaHaie, *Protective Strategies*

The study of self-defense cannot be easily defined with quick, easy, and over simplistic solutions. Acquiring a legitimate sense of control over your personal safety requires knowledge and skills in seven key components. Neglect any of them, and you do not have a complete and effective safety strategy.

Component #1 Survival Psychology

The need to feel safe and secure is ingrained in all of us. Many psychologists consider the fear of interpersonal violence to be a "universal human phobia." The thought of becoming the victim of a criminal or violent act is disturbing. Unmanaged fear or a sense of helplessness can erode our health and the quality of our lives. Being safety conscious does not mean being fearful, paranoid, or afraid to leave your house. Quite the contrary, self-defense knowledge and skills build a sense of control essential to a sense of security and well-being.

Survival psychology consists of three broad areas:

1. Understanding and managing FEAR
2. Motivating yourself to be "RESPONSE-ABLE" for your personal safety through study and training, and...
3. Understanding the impact SELF ESTEEM has on emotional resilience, crisis performance and victim selection.

Component #2 Survival Intelligence

Your most powerful weapon is your brain. Understanding the dynamics of confrontations will have a big impact on your ability to recognize, avoid or respond effectively to violence. Survival Intelligence is the cultivation of knowledge, intuition, awareness and assessment skills. Every violent situation is preceded by pre incident clues. Knowing how to recognize and respond to them is the essence of successful self-defense.

Component #3 Understanding Victim Selection

Psychologists showed a videotape to penitentiary inmates who were doing time for violent crimes. The tape depicted several people going about their day-to-day activities. The inmates were instructed to indicate which of the people on the tape they would select as victims.

The researchers were surprised at the consistency of the selections made. An analysis of the results identified common traits unique to those who were selected and those who were passed over.

Not everyone will become the victim of a violent crime. In fact, for everyone who is victimized, dozens more are evaluated and passed over. By understanding first of all that there is a selection process, as well as the criteria of a "desirable target", you can influence that process.

People who are trained in self-defense are seldom confronted. Their awareness and skills (movement, posture, etc.) project unconscious signals to a predator that they are not an easy target. The predator looks elsewhere.

Component #4 Recognizing Predatory Behavior

There are no unique physical characteristics that separate people who victimize others from those who don't. Usually, they look just like anyone else. However, behavior is another matter. Most communication is non-verbal. We transmit much of our intent in the way that we communicate and behave.

There are essentially two types of "bad guys" to be aware of. The predator, who deliberately sets out to locate, select and attack a suitable victim and the ticking time bomb. The latter is emotionally unstable and prone to violent outbursts.

(Continue on page 10)



Taiho Jujitsu Tactical Defense Seminar held at Yankton Sioux Police Dept.



On May 12 and 13, six Yankton Sioux Police Dept officers had an opportunity learn tactical law enforcement defense from Hanshi Usera, Koyshi Joe Herreman and Sensei Cory Price. The training covered a wide range of defense tactics that can be applied by police officers in Lake Andes, South Dakota. Techniques instructed come from United States Taiho Jutsu program, Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu and Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu. The two-day seminar included: Primary and secondary strike points on the body; control and arrest applications, Defense and control against one-man attack; weapon defense and control against – Knife, gun, and club; and conceal carry defensive application.



MARTIAL ARTS HISTORY:

The Quiet Architect: Jigoro Kano's Influence on Modern Karate

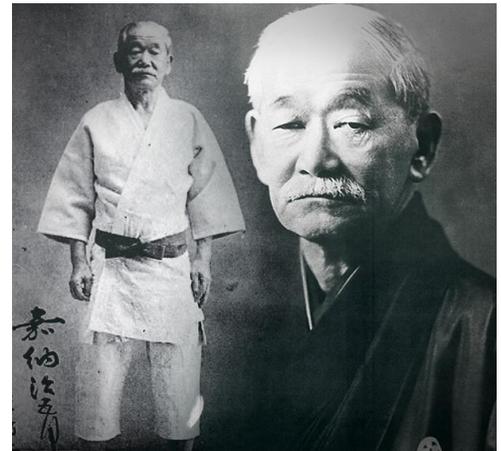
While not a karateka himself, Jigoro Kano, the founder of Judo, played a pivotal role in shaping what we recognize today as modern Japanese karate.

In the early 20th century, karate was still an Okinawan martial tradition practical, close-range, and largely unknown on the Japanese mainland. That changed in 1922, when Kano invited Gichin Funakoshi to demonstrate karate at the First National Athletic Exhibition in Tokyo. This single event marked a turning point.

Kano, a visionary educator and reformer, had already revolutionized Jujutsu by systematizing it into Judo, with ranks, uniforms and structured pedagogy. Inspired by this model, Japanese authorities and martial artists began applying the same framework to karate. As a result:

- Karate adopted the Gi (uniform) and belt ranking system, based on Judo's kyu/dan structure.
- It shifted from a secretive Okinawan art to a recognized budo ("martial way") practiced in schools and universities.
- The practice of karate became more formalized, with deeper stances, stylized kata, and standardized instruction partly to align with Japanese martial values and Kano's educational vision.

Kano's indirect yet profound influence helped karate gain national recognition, evolve into a system of both combat and character development and eventually spread worldwide. He may not have thrown a single karate punch but without Jigoro Kano, karate as we know it might never have left Okinawa.



INSTRUCTOR PROFILE: Michael Hill, Shodan

Michael Hill is a 1st Degree Black Belt and has studied Jujitsu for about 4 years at Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu dojo. "Martial arts has always been an interest of mine," said Michael. "I joined Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu after I learned it combines grappling with karate. This fit well with my wrestling experience as well as my karate training when I was younger."

Michael is also a military veteran and has lived in Rapid City since 2011. When not spending time at the dojo, he is a Field Service Manager for Vivint. Before residing in Rapid City, he lived in Newcastle, Wyoming where he spent most of his childhood. He and his wife, Sarah met around 15 years ago and will be celebrating their 13th anniversary in June. Their two oldest kids are 21 and 19 and have started their own lives living on their own. Their youngest daughter is 11 and enjoys aerial, and playing the Cello.



Prior to earning his Black Belt, Michael has competed in tournaments, which was a great learning experience. "Martial arts has been a great improvement in my overall health, especially in my flexibility which was decreasing as time past and I was getting less young, not old," said Michael. "Joining Jujitsu has also made a positive impact on my career as it further instills a goal oriented mindset. As I advance in Jujitsu and start coaching others, it helps my ability to coach my team at work."



Becoming a black belt was a huge achievement for Michael. It was something he had wanted to do when he was a kid. "Being able to finally achieve this when I have a family and a career to balance proved that it is never too late to hit a goal," said Michael. "If you dedicated and disciplined enough your goals are still able to be reality."

We are happy to have Michael as one of our Black Belt instructors as he supports our teen and adult Jujitsu program with much enthusiasm and expertise.

Ten habits that will earn you more respect

1. **Listen first, speak second:** *Focus fully on understanding before thinking about your response.*
2. **Say what you mean, clearly:** *Use simple words and give direct answers instead of maybes.*
3. **Go the extra mile, consistently:** *Do a little than what's expected in everything you tackle.*
4. **Ask for honest feedback:** *Request input on how to improve, than actually use the advice.*
5. **Show up early, not just on time:** *Being five minutes early says you value other people's time.*
6. **Take ownership when you mess up:** *Say "I made a mistake" instead of making excuses or blaming others.*
7. **Keep your word, every time:** *Do what you promise, even when it's hard or no one notices.*
8. **Stay curious, not judgmental:** *Ask questions to understand rather than jumping to quick conclusions.*
9. **Keep cool under pressure:** *Say calm when things get tough so you can think clearly.*
10. **Make room for others to shine:** *Give specific credit and praise for teammates' good work and ideas.*



The Seven Components of Self-defense

(Continued from page 8)

Unlike the predator, who is more methodical in his approach, the time bomb will lash out at anyone who happens to get in his way.

By understanding predatory selection and attack methods, you are able to recognize and avoid them. This involves learning to detect and recognize behavior cues that identify a potential assailant before the selection process is complete.

Component #5 Response Option Theory

It is dangerous and negligent to imply that there is a single solution to ALL threatening situations. There is, in fact, a range of responses available to you. The situation and circumstances will dictate which of them is most appropriate. When learning a response system, you must also consider the legal consequences of your actions. We all have the legal right to defend ourselves. However, at what point does an effort to defend yourself become excessive? How do we know how much force to use to defend ourselves? Any self-defense program should discuss your legal right to defend yourself, how to respond appropriately and how to justify your actions.

There are 5 categories of response options relevant to confrontational situations. They are:

- Compliance
- Escape
- De-escalation
- Assertiveness
- Fighting Back

Which one is the most appropriate depends on the circumstances and nature of the confrontation. You should possess skills in each response category as well as the knowledge about when each is applicable.



Component #6 Prevention Tips

Prevention tips are simple, precautionary steps you can take to reduce the likelihood that you will become the victim of a crime. However, these lists of "do's and don'ts" could number in the hundreds.

It is unlikely that you will remember them all. You don't need to. By understanding the operative principles behind prevention tips, you can improvise safety tactics "on the fly". Armed with this knowledge and your own common sense, you can incorporate those tips with which you feel comfortable and which are conducive to your lifestyle.

Component #7 Training Methods

Competence is the result of your physical conditioning, skill and attitude. Effective self-defense skills are the result of gradually and consistently incorporating safety habits into your life. For those who do take the time to enroll in a self-defense class, realize that without review and practice, 70% you learned will be forgotten.

There are many benefits to adopting the study and practice self-defense into your regimen. It can be used to improve fitness, to manage stress and to create safer habits that can reduce the potential of being accosted or attacked.

The most frequent questions I am asked by seminar candidates are: What can I do to follow-up the training I received? What can I do to feel more confident and build on my skills? Attending self defense workshops or participating in a martial arts or boxing club may be a solution in building confidence and preparing for a physical situation that may result in defending yourself. Simply using common sense in knowing your environment and who you are with at all times may prevent such assaults. Most important is knowing that doing something to prepare yourself for any unsafe situation is better than not knowing or doing anything,



ANGLE
ARM LOCK
ATTACK
ATTITUDE
CHOP
COMBAT
CONTROL
DEFEND
DELAY
DETECT
DETER
DISCIPLINE
GRAPPLE
INSTRUCT
KICK
KNEES
KNUCKLES
PUNCH
RESIST
STAND
TOSS
TURN
TWIST

SELF DEFENSE

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

N M E E D U T I T T A N E
S G T C E T E D K T O N S
S A S E E N K T T P I Y E
O R I L I N I A C L C E L
T M I G D D C N P H L P K
F L P N T K K I O P T G C
R O D A U C C P P Y D H U
E C E T L S U A N E N C N
S K T W I T R R L T A N K
I S E D A G I A T H T U L
S S R B C W Y J F S S P T
T B M C T S I W T I N U L
C O N T R O L A L J R I L
C W D N E F E D I N D F P

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.



UPCOMING EVENTS:



Spirit of the Dragon Martial Arts Tournament

Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025

Location: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 909 W 33rd St, Sioux Falls

Host: Dragon Spirit Martial Arts

- **Events Include:** Gi & No-Gi Grappling, Sport Jujitsu, Traditional & Weapon Forms, Point Fighting, Continuous Sparring, Padded Weapon Sparring, Team Forms, Demo Teams, Board Breaking, Self-Defense Applications

- **Pricing:** \$60 per competitor (includes all events)

Registration: [Smoothcomp](https://smoothcomp.com)

Special Offer: Save \$20 with coupon code SFOPEN at checkout!



Sioux Falls Tournament of Blades

Date: July 6–16, 2025 (Competition starts July 6)

Location: Dynamic Martial Arts of Sioux Falls, 1516 S Sycamore Ave

Host: Dynamic Martial Arts of Sioux Falls

- **Events Include:** Epee, HEMA Longsword, Open Blades Forms, Kendo, Padded Fencing

- **Format Highlights:**

- * Divisions capped at 32 competitors
- * Double elimination brackets
- * Live streaming available

- **Pricing:**

- * *Early Bird (until June 5):* \$15 competitor + \$15/event
- * *Standard (June 5–July 5):* \$20 competitor + \$20/event
- * *Late (July 6–16):* \$30 competitor + \$30/event

Registration & Info: www.tourneyofblades.com



2025 Master Series Martial Arts Camp

Date: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 10, 11 & 12

Location: Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu Honbu Dojo, Uptown Rapid Mall, Rapid City

Host: Hanshi Mutch Usera & Black Hills Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu Honbu Dojo

Registration & Info: Mutch Usera Hanshi, jmu8dan@gmail.com



2026 Sioux Falls Open Martial Arts Tournament

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Location: Sanford Premier Convention Center, Sioux Falls

Host: Dynamic Martial Arts of Sioux Falls

Registration & Info: Joe Herreman Kyoshi, jherreman@dmaofsiouxfalls.org



International Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu Federation

The *International Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu Federation* (ISJF) is recognized as a worldwide martial arts organization and is a member of the World Martial Arts Federation. The ISJF is a world leader in organizing and presenting the art of Jujitsu to the public.

Lead by Hanshi George Alexander, 10th Dan, Chair of the Board, the International Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu Federation (ISJF) is dedicated to teaching its members and educating the public about the art of Japanese Jujitsu.

All students are encouraged to become a member of the International Shorinji Ryu Jujitsu Federation. Hanshi Usera is a life-time member and Director for the ISJF. Annual membership fee is \$45. To enroll as a member of the ISJF, simply pickup a ISJF membership form at the dojo or contact Hanshi Usera.

BITS & PIECES...

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: *Members participating in other activities during the year*

If you or your child plan to participate in other sports and may need to take time off from Jujitsu Class, please be sure to notify us at least **one month** in advance so we are able to process postponing your membership payment from the month they depart until when they plan to return. Payment postponement through **Leave of Absence** are good for up to three months. You can pick up a **Leave of Absence** form at the Dojo and email to jmu8dan@gmail.com or deliver to Hanshi Usera or contact Char Usera at 605-381-8470.

Update your membership information

As we move into a new month, please be sure to check your membership information for updates that need to be sent to Char Usera. This includes payment information, home address, phone number and email address. You can contact Char at 605-381-8470 or email her at charleneusera@gmail.com.

It's Finally Here!
BudoTV.com

This video library hosts some of the best martial arts training videos, featuring top martial artists from around the world. Get started today with our ever expanding library of martial arts knowledge.

\$ 7.99 per Month

PROUD MEMBER OF:



HANSHI GEORGE ALEXANDER'S 2025 MARTIAL ARTS SEMINAR



WHEN
 Training - June 5, 6 & 7, 2025

PRICE
 Members:
 \$325 - Prepaid in full by May 1, 2025
 \$375 - After May 1, 2025
 \$225 - One Day Training
 Non-Members:
 \$380 - Prepaid in full by May 1, 2025
 \$400 - After May 1, 2025

Include 2 full days of training, belt rank testing, Thursday evening meet-n-greet with light foods and beverages, and after training evening socials.

WHERE
 Hammock Beach Community Center
 70 MalaCompra Road, Palm Coast, Florida

REGISTER AT: WWW.WORLDBUDOKAN.COM
CALL: 518-567-7382

TRAINING INCLUDE:

- OKINAWA SHORIN RYU KARATE
- SHORINJI RYU JUJITSU
- KAMAGATA RYU KENJUTSU
- HAKUTSURU KENPO
- KOBUDO
- IAIDO
- KENDO



Black Hills

Bujin Ki Ryu Jujitsu Honbu Dojo

Mutch Usera, Hanshi, 10th Dan & Co-Owner
 605-863-2378 / jmu8dan@gmail.com

Char Usera, Co-Owner & Business Manager
 605-381-8470 / charleneusera@gmail.com

Website: www.bujinkiryujujitsu.com