



No. 190 June 2011

AIKIDO YOSHINKAN BRISBANE DOJO

Dojo: <http://yoshinkan.info>

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/dojofb>

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May Report

New members 3 Total number of adults training 59 Total number of teens & children training 41

Results of Getsurei Shinsa on 27th & 28th May

Jun-Shodan	Jocelyn Fergusson	8th Kyu	Dominic Hogan	3Y5 step	Lawrence Monforte
5th Kyu	Steven Slaveski Matt Hede	9th Kyu	Dean Jones	2Y12 step	Dennies Delos Santos
7th Kyu	Duong Thai Lisa Milne	4Y4 step	Matthew Watson	2Y8 step	Joseph Stuart
		4Y3 step	Matt Carpenter		

Events in June

1. Sogo Shinsa

- Training starts, Friday 10th 7:15pm~
- Steps, Friday 24th 7:15pm~
- Shinsa, Saturday 25th 1:00pm~

2. This Month's Holiday of Adults' class

- Queen's Birthday – Monday 13th
- Dojo's Holiday – Monday 27th

Sharing the feeling of Black Belts

Godan (5th dan)

Asked to write an article again I am confused where to begin, so I sought advice from the front desk. I would like to compare how I feel my technique and overall confidence has changed since I did Yondan (4th Dan), 5 years ago.

It's almost hard to recall, it feels like 5 years was quite a long time ago, and 6 years ago I opened a dojo which has been the greatest challenge of my life. Apart from training, teaching has taught me so much more about my technique and about myself. I have been able to take a technique as Sensei does and break it down into manageable parts to allow my students easy understanding, this itself has taken some time to get right. Whilst training at the dojo with Sensei as we all do, we are directed and guided so well it can almost seem too easy at times, and it is this manner and flow of guidance which I try so hard to grasp and steel if you will. It is almost like when I leave the Brisbane dojo on a Tuesday and Friday night, that I try and take a little of the 'Brisbane Dojo' which I am so, so proud of and try and recreate it at the 'Aikido Yoshinkan Southside Dojo'. To me it can often feel like I am 'stealing a feeling' and it does give me some guilt.. But it seems to be working for me :)

For those interested in starting a dojo, as I did be warned, it's fantastic and a great opportunity to be better than you thought you could be, the old adage, 'those who can't do teach' is a load of wish wash. You will learn so much about yourself, and for a few years in the beginning it was really tough to keep going, like when only one student showed up or no students showed up. You go back home and really take a good hard look at yourself and ask yourself how can I fix this and how did this happen. Getting a balance between what keeps everyone happy whilst still maintaining great techniques to learn can be the 'scales of success or failure' which need to tip in your favour. At the end of the day a dojo is still a business and must be successful.

NEWSLETTER



For the last 6 years, so far every time I go the Dojo I feel privileged and honoured to be part of something so awesome. Now in our 6th Year as a dojo we are finally opening a new dojo at my home, I say my dream, others say a midlife crisis. Whatever the case I have the most caring and wonderful bunch of students who are all behind me 110%, and I struggle to keep my feet on the ground at times it seems so surreal. I am certainly blessed.

To the reason behind my article Godan (5th dan) wow, it just took a lot of commitment and dedication, yes I have found these qualities in myself and I tell you what, you all have them. Just use them and they will build so strong that no one can shake you. Godan I can't be too happy with though because I know 6th Dan is waiting for me and I must have one. I just hope that one day I can move the unmovable, throw the unthinkable amount of people and be as good as or better than my teacher, I believe this is the only way we can truly make Sensei satisfied that we gave it our all and this will really make my Aikido dream a reality.

To all those at the dojo catch me if you can, I am waiting for you all, the journey is long so have patience and if you don't have any, as I did it will come to you with time and effort. A big thanks to all of you at the dojo who have taught me so much I really appreciate you all.

Osu!

Richard Diehm