

NEWSLETTER

No.319 March 2022

AIKIDO YOSHINKAN BRISBANE DOJO

Dojo: <http://yoshinkan.info> Facebook: <http://bit.ly/dojofb>

February Report		
New members 3	Total number of adults training 45	Total number of children training 29
Results of Getsurei Shinsa on 25th February		
7 th Kyu	Michael Waddington	
Events in March		
1. Sogo Shinsa <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training starts, Friday 11th 7.15pm~• Steps, Friday 25th 7:15pm~• Shinsa, Saturday 26th 1:00pm~		2. This Month's Holiday <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dojo's Holiday 28th Monday

Sharing the feeling of Black Belts

Shodan

It's been almost four years since I first entered the Dojo. On the day, I was shown around the dojo by a senior black belt who explained to me the basics of Dojo etiquette. I still remember when I first stepped on the mats, looking at the other students and seeing numerous black belts, to say I was a little intimidated would be an understatement. In those four years nothing has changed, every single black belt I have met over the years has gone out of their way to help me improve my technique. This is our Dojo culture and I sincerely thank Sensei and Shuko-san for creating and sustaining such a great environment for us students to train in.

I have many times wondered what it would be like to become a black belt, to have achieved the level of "Shodan" under Sensei is truly a great honour and what makes this one of my greatest achievements in life. To learn this amazing martial art from a true master is a privilege.

Training in the Dojo has become a part of my life, it is a part of my weekly schedule and I must train every week! If life gets in the way on my scheduled training days, I find another day to train, this is my mindset and the habit I have developed when it comes to training.

Throughout my years of training I constantly seek to improve my technique and I have asked Sensei and the senior students many times for help and at the end of class I have found to get the same answer time and time again, "Martin, You just need to keep training". I would like to personally thank all the black belts for their help over the years, they know who they are. Thank you to Lawrence for his help leading up to my grading and for being my Uke on the day and thank you to Cameron who trained with me one on one the week of my grading, and prepared me for the day.

Finally, to all the new students who may be reading this article wanting to achieve the level of Shodan, my advice to you is "You just need to keep training".

Persist and never give up, and I'll see you on the mats.

OSU!

Martin Fernandez