

Welcome!

Hokubei Karate-do Shihankai (Japanese Karate Masters Association of North America) is a non-profit organization (501c3), registered in Longmont, Colorado dedicated to preserving the art of traditional Karate-do. It was founded in 1994 as an organization dedicated to promoting, cultivating, and maintaining an understanding of the principles of the Japanese martial arts, both technically and philosophically. There are 36 founding masters of the Hokubei Shihankai - a monumental get together by the pioneering Karate-do practitioners who came across the Pacific to introduce the traditional martial art of Japan.

The impartial philosophy of the Hokubei Shihankai shows no preference to any particular Ryuha (style) or Kyokai (association), either major or minor. The organization welcomes any serious black belts, primarily in America, but embraces global enthusiasts of the martial arts.

We believe in learning from any dedicated Karate-ka and from each style and association through practice, meeting to exchange thoughts. Our purpose is to polish our character through pursuit of the art, develop camaraderie among the black belts, and to win over self, not others in becoming a good human.

Membership

With representatives from multiple styles and associations, the Hokubei Shihankai's Membership Committee will evaluate your application, copies of rank certificates (highest) and letters of recommendation by immediate (current or former) instructors or Shihankai member masters.

Membership structure

Life Time Membership

\$1000

6dan to 8dan - Shihan American Master

4dan to 5dan - Sensei

2dan to 3dan - Shidoin

\$100 per year

Dan test (conducted annually for any style or association)

\$100

Dojo Certification (comes with a banner)

\$250

Hokubei Shihankai event attendance

50% discount

Visit from Founding Master for Dojo tests and training

\$500 plus travel and meals

Testimonials

Commendation from the Japanese Foreign Minister

...To Hokubei Karate-do Shihankai, your organization has been instrumental in the area of cultural exchange between the United States and Japan, as well as building friendship and goodwill between the two nations. I hereby commend your effort and success on this 150th Anniversary of US/Japanese relations for your remarkable contribution...

*His Excellency Ryozo Kato,
Ambassador*

I want to give my appreciation to the many, many individuals who have gathered here tonight, for their sacrifices and efforts to promote Japanese culture not just in Washington, but throughout the United States. In a way, you are all ambassadors.



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