

THE [TBA] FELLOWSHIP – Charter and Pledge (draft Apr 3 GSP)

CHARTER of the [TBA] FELLOWSHIP

1. Establishment and Name

The [TBA] Fellowship is hereby established, comprising practitioners of any style of Aikido that shares a common link to Shioda Gozo Kancho, regardless of their affiliation to various Honbu.

2. Mission Statement:

The Fellows of the [TBA] Fellowship are a group of like-minded practitioners who desire to:

- (a) assist one another, and other practitioners, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,
- (b) increase cooperation and respect amongst themselves and amongst all practitioners of all levels (instructor and student), regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,
- (c) promote acceptance, harmony, and cohesion among, and build meaningful and friendly relationships between, themselves and all practitioners, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship, and without creating any barriers between practitioners and their respective Honbu,
- (d) enhance the quality of instruction and training by and for all Fellows and all practitioners, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,
- (e) assist in increasing the number of dojos, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship.

3. Participation in Fellowship as a Fellow

- (1) Any person involved with the practice and dissemination of Aikido as originally taught by Shioda Gozo Kancho, regardless of affiliation to a particular Honbu dojo, who holds dan rank from any Honbu, may participate in the [TBA] Fellowship as a “Fellow”.
- (2) A person becomes a Fellow by adopting and abiding by the [TBA] Fellowship Pledge, by signing a copy and submitting the signed copy (with email address of record) to the Fellowship Registrar.
- (3) The founding Fellows are: Jon Marshall, Nic Mills, and Alan Shumak, whose email addresses of record are, respectively: (Marshall) _____, (Mills) _____, (Shumak) _____.
- (4) A Fellow may resign from the Fellowship at any time, by email request to the Registrar to resign. Resignation takes effect upon receipt of the email request by the Registrar.
- (5) A Fellow may be removed from the Fellowship upon a majority vote of the Fellows at a meeting called for that purpose by any Fellow. Removal takes effect immediately upon that majority vote.

4. Administrative Officers and Meetings

(1) For the orderly operation of the Fellowship, the Fellows may, from time to time, establish or discontinue administrative offices as may be desired, by majority vote of the Fellows present at a meeting called for the purpose by any Fellow.

(2) Any Fellow may be elected to any administrative office, and once elected holds such administrative office until death, resignation or removal from office, or ceasing to be a Fellow.

(3) A Fellow is elected to or removed from administrative office upon majority vote of the current Fellows at a meeting called for the purpose by any Fellow.

(4) There is hereby established the administrative office of Registrar. If the office of Registrar is vacant for more than 14 days, the most senior Fellow (by date of joining) becomes the Registrar *pro tem* until the office is filled by vote at an election meeting. The founding Registrar is _____ (Jon Marshall?).

(5) The Registrar must maintain a record of Fellows' names and email addresses of record. The Registrar must publish a current list of names and email addresses of record at least once annually by December 31 of each year, and must provide a current list of names and email addresses of record to any Fellow upon request, within 14 days of such request.

(6) A Fellow may resign from administrative office at any time, by email request to the Registrar to resign. Resignation takes effect upon receipt of the email request by the Registrar.

(7) A Fellow may be removed from administrative office upon a majority vote of the Fellows at a meeting called for that purpose by any Fellow.

(8) Any meeting authorized by this constitution is initiated by a Fellow by sending an email to the email addresses of record of all current Fellows as stated in the records maintained by the Registrar. The meeting request must state: (a) the purpose of the meeting, (b) the proposed meeting date, and (c) the meeting method (named online video conference platform with participation link). Such meeting must be held on a date within 21 days of the email motion.

4. Amendment of Charter and Pledge

(1) This Charter and the [TBA] Fellowship Pledge may be amended at any time, upon a 2/3 majority vote of the Fellows at a meeting called for that purpose.

(2) An amendment to this Charter or to the Pledge must be effected by the Registrar in writing within 14 days after the meeting that adopted the amendment and takes effect 14 days after the meeting that adopted the amendment. Amendments bind all Fellows, regardless of the date that such Fellows signed their pledge.

[END]

THE [TBA] FELLOWSHIP PLEDGE

As a Fellow of the [TBA] Fellowship, I pledge to abide by the Charter of the [TBA] Fellowship and this Pledge, and in particular:

1. I will

(a) assist other Fellows, and other practitioners, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,

(b) increase cooperation and respect amongst other Fellows and amongst all practitioners of all levels (instructor and student), regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,

(c) promote acceptance, harmony, and cohesion among, and build meaningful and friendly relationships between, other Fellows and all practitioners, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,

(d) enhance the quality of instruction and training by and for all Fellows and all practitioners, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship,

(e) assist in increasing the number of dojos, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship.

2. I will work together with other Fellows and other practitioners, to enhance the quality of instruction and training, to ensure that all Fellows, practitioners, instructors, and students, regardless of Honbu affiliation, and regardless of membership in this Fellowship, can be trained, learn, and be graded at the appropriate time.

3. I will adhere to the spirit and principles established by Gozo Shioda Kancho sensei. This includes the system of Kihon Dosa and Kihon Waza as performed by the shihan of the relevant Honbu.

4. I will support other Fellows, practitioners, instructors, and students who choose to cross train in various styles of Aikido and other martial arts, in order to assist them in maintaining the integrity of our art, while simultaneously being able to add different perspectives to our knowledge.

5. I will, according to my circumstances, abilities, and status within my style of Aikido, within my Honbu, and within this Fellowship, provide assistance and mentorship to other Fellows, and other practitioners, instructors, and students, regardless of Honbu affiliation and regardless of membership in this Fellowship, to assist in their advancement and promotion as appropriate, to assist candidates in preparation for tests, to enhance the quality of instruction and training, and to assist in increasing the number of dojos, and will collaborate with other Fellows for these purposes.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Email address of record: _____