

Shito-Ryu Itosu-Kai Canada – Fall Tournament 2012

The Canadian championships took place on Saturday, 17th November, 2012 in the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC) located in the Don Mills neighbourhood of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on the west side of the Don Valley Parkway just north of Eglinton Avenue. Chief Instructor of Itosu-kai in Ireland, Leo Mulvany, attended the tournament. He travelled to Toronto to visit Shihan Kei Tsumura, 8th Dan Karatedo, 7th Dan Kobudo, Chief Instructor of Canada. As usual, march in was at 10am. followed by introductions and the tournament got under way with team kata. Three match areas were in operation and it wasn't long before the first trophies and medals were awarded by Shihan Tsumura.



A strong black belt presence at the tournament. The line continued around the hall.



The tournament was well attended with three areas in operation at all times. The chief referee on the day was the much respected Sensei, Hiroshi Maeda, 7th Dan Karatedo and as usual the M.C. for the day was the inimitable Sensei, Robert (Bo) White, 6th Dan Karatedo. The main organiser and coordination magician for the event was again, Sensei Mark Uyeda, 6th Dan Karatedo.

Sensei's Maeda and White.

There were numerous demonstrations midway through the tournament ranging from karate kata, kobudo kata, kata bunkai, board and brick breaking. Leo Mulvany was invited to take part in a kobudo demonstration (bo and tonfa kata) with Sensei's Dr. Bob Cambria and Christina Schell. He was also delighted to judge kata and referee kumite. There was also a section for senior black belt kata which he was able to take the rare opportunity and compete. With a three way tie for 1st in the top eight, his subsequent Gojushiho earned him gold.



Some of the senior black belts following the awards ceremony. L -> R: Sensei's Terry Bradley, Roberto Chinellato (Chief Instructor, Italy), Sue Lyndsay, Mark Stephens, Joel Martínez (Chief Instructor, Guatemala), Hiroshi Maeda, Shihan Tsumura, Mark Uyeda, Robert (Bo) White and Leo Mulvany (Chief Instructor, Ireland).

Black Belt Ranking – Sunday, 18th November 2012



As is customary, a black belt ranking was held the day following the tournament. And as usual, those ranking endured, persevered and succeeded. Leo was honoured by Shihan Tsumura's invite to be part of the ranking committee for the day. It is always a privilege to be part of the ranking team and there's always something to learn.

Leo Sensei's trip lasted eight days. He trained and took class at the Hombu, the JCCC. and he wishes to thank everyone for their kindness and the hospitality shown to him. "It was also great to make new friends and of course meet old friends again"

Leo Mulvany