

THE AMERICAN BANDO ASSOCIATION / NATIONAL BANDO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



BANDO

May 17th, 2022

Greetings all ABA/NBAA Members,

The 2022 Bando Classic tournament held on May 7th is now in the history books. On behalf of the ABA/NBAA, Wheeling Bando and personally, Dr. Gyi, we thank you for making this event a huge success. Representation from all parts of the country, as well as a few outside of the country attended to help make this year's tournament, held especially in Dr. Gyi's honor, a very strong event. This was definitely a push in a positive direction for future Bando events. We would like to thank the many instructors and students for providing an urgency to get this on the track from post COVID times. Again, thank you very much. Over 60 Black Belts and also a contingent of full contact fighters from Sayaji Sam Jones and Mr. Chad Blevins of Ohio were on hand to aide in the success. The competition featured many great displays consisting of animal empty hand forms, staff/stick forms, line form, edge weapons, free sparring, and full contact sparring. Before these displays of hard work, we were honored to recognize a large contingent of First Responders, Law Enforcement, and Veterans.

We would like to thank these instructors for participating and/or contributing to the success of the weekend.

We'd like to specially recognize each black belt who signed in

Randy Webb	Sam Jones	Kenny Corl	Chet Buffington	David Keeney	David Croft	Cordell Blackshere
Dave Decker		Mark Sollinger	George Aresco	Carl Knoyer		Ron Auch
Levron Schuchalter		Paul Braddock	David Rucker	Lon Walls		Eugene Johnson
James Witcher		Mark Clayton	Jeff Stanton	Pat Long		Derek George
Dwight Lucas		Robin Griffith	Stephen Knoyer	Brian Wilson		Derrick Carter
Bonani Sekou		Emel Vujnovic	Pat Gryska	Stan Lipston		Mike Phan
Luke Buffington		Brek Dimmick	Nathaniel Clark	Chad Blevins		Shellie Calle
Dan Dimmick		Michelle Clayton	Amy Huenke	Seven Simovart		Curtis Jayjohn
Norman White		Mike Pippo	John Barry Bell	Mark Semingson		Greg Cochran
Anothny Milburn						

Apologies to any of those people who may have been missed; this is due to writing on the sign in sheet or any who may have bypassed the sign in sheet. Without each of your attendance, this tournament would not have been so successful. Thank you for your contribution. dedication, and hard work.





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We'd also like to recognize the great Bando schools in attendance coming from

- Baltimore, MD
- California
- Greater Hartford, CT
- Washington, DC
- Columbus, OH
- Glouster, OH
- Farfield, OH
- Hillard, OH
- Steubenville, OH
- Philadelphia, PA
- Weirton, WV
- Wheeling, WV

Congratulations to Our Tournament Winners

Youth 8& Under

Empty Hand

1. Kent Gorman
2. Lacy Smith
3. Olivia Morris

Female Youth

White Belt

Empty Hand

1. Rosie Gaston
2. Calla Groman





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Green Belt

Empty Hand

1. Olivia Smith

Sparring

1. Ceila Love (White Belt)
2. Olivia Smith

Male Youth

White Belt

Empty Hand

1. Damon Shaffer 1. Tye Barrish
2. Blaine Anderson

Novice Youth

Sparring

1. Damon Shaffer
2. Tye Barrish
3. Blaine Anderson

Young Mens

MD WT Sparring

1. Jonathan Jones
2. Brandon Barrish





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Brown Belt

Empty Hand

1. Taavo Simovart

Stick/Staff

1. Taavo Simovart

Advanced Youth

Sparring

1. Maggie Parko
2. Taavo Simovart

Adult Female

White Belt

Empty Hand

Michelle Eitel

Sparring

1. Shellie Calle (Black Belt)
2. Kayla Frost

Black Belt

Line Form

1. Shellie Calle

Staff/Stick

1. Shellie Calle





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Adult Male

Green Belt

Empty Hand

1. Phil Alig
2. Dillon Venus
3. Nick Sorkin

Staff/Stick

1. Philip Alig, Nick Sorkin, Greg Vasey
2. Dillon Venus

MD WT Sparring

1. Austin Chambers
2. Mike Wood
3. Nick Sorkin

HV WT Sparring

1. Greg Vasey (White Belt)
2. Tim Jones
3. Michael Eaton, Terry Midcap

Brown Belt

Empty Hand

1. Ryan Rennie
2. Gary Raia
3. Sean Hayes

Staff/Stick

1. Ryan Rennie

Sparring

1. Nobel Shrestha, Will Stange
2. Ryan Rennie





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Black Belt

Animal/Empty Hand

1. Derek George
2. Stephen Knoyer
3. Nathaniel Clark

Line Form

1. Derek George
2. Brek Dimmick
3. Brian Wilson

Staff/Stick Form

1. Derek George
2. Brek Dimmick
3. James Witcher

Edge Weapon

1. Derek George
2. Pat Long
3. Stephen Knoyer

Sparring

1. Derek George
2. Brek Dimmick





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A Special Recognition to Full Contact Fighters:

Chad Blevins
Levi Klingler
Michael Wood
Byron Estrella
Grant Murray
Justin Sayers
Zach Johnson
Austin Chambers

Special Awards

Most Outstanding Female Full Contact Fighter

Maggie Parko – Athens Bando

Most Outstanding Male Full Contact Fighter

Mike Wood – DC Bando

Overall Underbelt Female

Olivia Smith – Weirton Bando

Overall Underbelt Male Fighter

Ryan Rennie – Hillard Bando

Most Outstanding Female

Maggie Parko – Athens Bando

Most Outstanding Male

Derek George – Wheeling Bando

Most Outstanding School by Quality Points Earned

Wheeling Bando

Special Thank You to Bando Elder Randy Webb, our Bando model.





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Following the tournament was a membership meeting. One of the highlights was Naban Master, Buzz Evans, was approved by membership to the BOD to represent the Naban system.

Promotions were also approved by current criteria at the tournament were as follows:

Mr. Paul Braddock – 8th Level

Mr. Brian Wilson – 6th Level

Mr. Russ Wood – 4th Level

Mr. Stephen Knoyer – 4th Level

Promotions yet to be complete are as follows:

Ethan Minor – 8th Level

Paul Lacouture – 7th Level

Pat Gryska – 3rd Level

A big special thanks to the following people who helped make this tournament possible, Saya Dave Peluchette (Owner of Liberty Distributing and Total Athlete Center which the Tournament is held), Dan Dimmick, Dick Ferda, Pat Butler, Samantha Fordyce, and Emel Vujnovic for financial and physical contributions.

A cane clinic was held on Sunday May 8th with the help of Bando Cane Master Sayaji Semingson. This clinic was held with a great group of approximately 20 members eager and ready to train.

Next calendar event to be locked in is within the month of September Animal Clinic.

Once again, thank you all for your attendance, participation and hard work to make the 2022 Open Bando Tournament a success. We look forward to events in the future.

Respectfully,

Jerry A. George
ABA/NBAA President

