

April 9, 2020

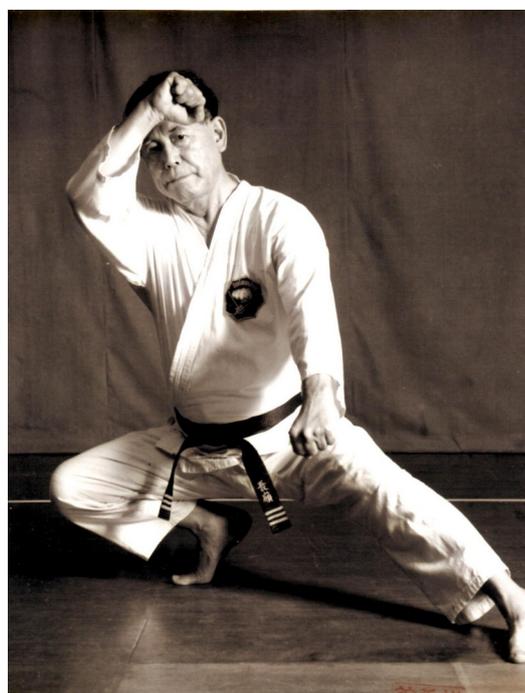
## The COVID-19 and The Memorial Events for founder Shoshin Nagamine in Okinawa

### Dear WMKA members around the world

The Covid-19 is hurting and killing many people around the world. We can see the up-to-date conditions around the world on TV every day and night. It makes us very sad to know so many people lose their precious lives every day and are in fear of the invisible colourless and odourless virus. Under this heartbreaking situation, I hope all of you and the people around you are not affected and will stay healthy. We have a proverb in Okinawa. “Nuchi-du Takara” that means “Life is a Treasure”. Please stay at home and protect yourselves and the people around you. Karate can be practised any time and any place. Please exercise at home to keep your health, but not too hard to affect your health because you may not be able to get enough food under current circumstances. We pray from the bottom of our heart that the Covid-19 will be wiped out around the world and peaceful everyday life will be back as soon as possible.

In Japan, Prime minister Shinzo Abe announced an official Declaration of a state of emergency to the seven urban areas, Tokyo, Osaka, Saitama, Kanagawa, Chiba, Hyogo and Fukuoka on April 7, 2020. The whole Japan is struggling to fight with Covid-19. A wide range of commercial businesses and facilities were closed or postponed their schedule. The schools always end in March and start in April in Japan. But all schools were closed two weeks ahead of the scheduled day in March and will open late in April or in May depending on the condition of each area and region. Many Events and activities in April and May were cancelled or postponed based on the current situation. We are all requested to stay at home as much as possible but not so severe as compared with overseas countries around the world.

We want to keep the original schedule of “The Memorial Monument Unveiling and Celebration for founder Shoshin Nagamine and Karate-do International Seminar & Exchange Martial Arts 2020”. We are expecting the Covid-19 will be settled down before October and the whole world will be back to normal again. We hope to open the Big Events successfully and safely without any problem based on the current schedule, October 30 to November 2, 2020. We will be aware of the Covid-19 status and will inform you if we have any change in future.



公相君の形 創立三十八周年並空手道著書出版記念  
松林流空手道宗家長嶺将真 (1975.10.26)





We pray for your good health and want to meet many of you in Okinawa.

Best Regards  
Yoshitaka Taira  
President of WMKA



The photos are:

1. O'Sensei Nagamine Shoshin performing the kata Kushanku, October 26th, 1975
2. All participants outside, at the last joint workout at the Nagamine Dojo (Honbu Dojo) on December 15th, 2013
3. President Yoshitaka Taira
4. Group photo from the memorial seminar in Naha, after the demonstration November 2nd, 2014.