

Giordano Family MKA Holds First Iron Man Kumite Knock-Down Tournament

IRON MAN KUMITE EVENT PITS BLACK BELTS IN 25 CONSECUTIVE FIGHTS TO DEMONSTRATE KYOKUSHIN MASTERY AND ULTIMATE ENDURANCE

The Giordano Family Methuen Karate Association held the first Iron Kumite "Knock-Down" tournament, the ultimate test in endurance for Kyokushin Karate black belts. In this tournament, two black belts were challenged to compete in 25 consecutive fights against other ranked black belts to gain the unique and honorable title of Iron Man Kumite. The two competitors from the Giordano Family school were Sensei Jarrod Brown and Sempai John Goddard. In this competition, they took on 13 different opponents in 25 intensive fights of traditional Kyokushin fighting.

"The Iron Man Kumite tournament was a rigorous test for both Sensei Jarrod and Sempai John, and all who participated in the event," stated Shihan Larry Giordano, founder of the Giordano Family Methuen Karate Association. "This is both a physical and mental competition, and both black belts stood up to the task and demonstrated their Kyokushin spirit. I am very proud of these students for taking the challenge, I



Left to right: Sempai John Goddard, Sensei Stephen Giordano, Shihan Larry Giordano, Sensei Jarrod Brown Shihan Larry Giordano and his son, Sensei Stephen Giordano congratulate Sempai John Goddard and Sensei Jarrod Brown for demonstrating the ultimate endurance test in the MKA Iron Man Kumite Tournament.

know it took courage to take on our prize-fighting black belts in the school. This is the most competitive event we have held to date, and I look forward to making this an annual event."

ABOUT IRON MAN KUMITE

Iron Man Kumite, originally called 100 Man Kumite, was created by Kyokushin Karate's founder, Mas Oyama. Mas Oyama's students were

trained to devastate their opponents with one technique, and Kyokushin students are known as "Full Contact, Knock-Down" fighters. The 100-Man Kumite is considered the greatest challenge in Kyokushin Karate. The original concept was to fight 100 fights in a row to demonstrate a fighter's true test of endurance.

The Giordano Family Iron Man Kumite adopted the principals of 100-Man Kumite, with some minor adjustments, to achieve its ultimate goal. In this tournament, selected participants fought 25 consecutive fights. Each round was 1.5 minutes long, with 2 short breaks to dress injuries and rehydrate. Points were not counted, each participant had to fight for the full 1.5 minutes, despite injury and fatigue. Sensei Jarrod Brown and Sempai John Goddard were the first students to attempt and complete this test. The two agreed to take this test of endurance after being challenged by Shihan Giordano.

About Giordano Family MKA

Giordano Family MKA, formerly known as MKA, was founded in 1968 by Shihan Larry F. Giordano. The "school of the rooster's" mission is to promote the traditional, spiritual, and educational goals of karate through the discipline of Kyokushin Karate. Shihan Giordano holds the rank of Haichidan 8th Dan. His efforts have been recognized internationally, including being inducted into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame and the Hawaiian International Martial Arts Hall of Fame, and named Master Instructor of the Year by the International Hall of Fame for World Head Sokeship Council. To date, the school has graduated more than 64 black belts. For more information, visit www.methuenkarate.com.