



The Kano Society Bulletin



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In This Edition

The main article in this *Bulletin* is a tribute to Dennis Penfold, 8th dan, who has recently died. It also features i) profiles of notable British *judo* figures by Stephanie Leigh, ii) prominent historical *judoka* by Llyr Jones and Pavel Antonsson, and iii) *judoka*, broadcaster, and scholar John Newman by Brian Watson. Additionally, Brian Jacks shares memories of competing in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.

Editor's Comments

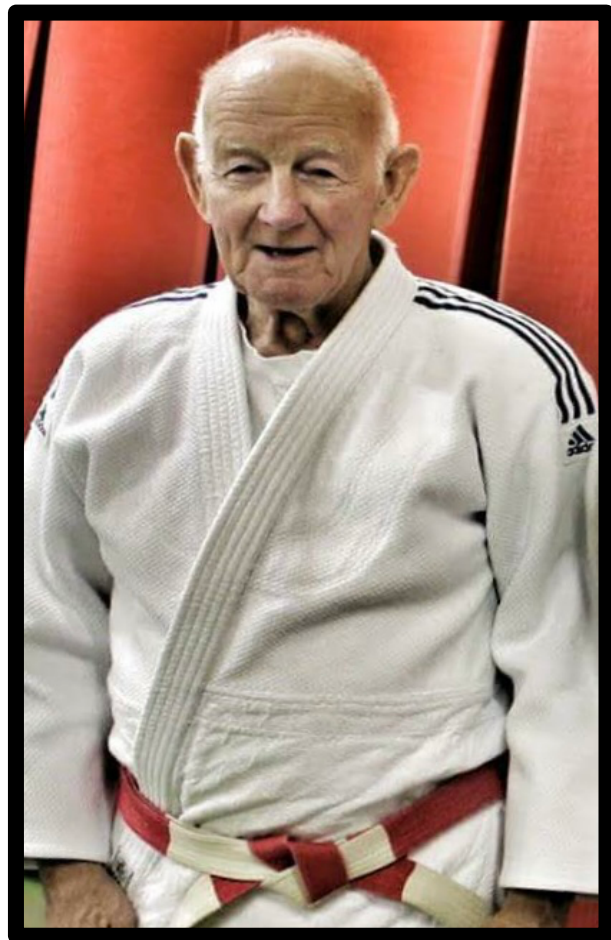
I'm pleased to present 2025's first edition of The *Bulletin*. Congratulations to former West German international Peter Herrmann, now of Australia, and to Maurice Allan MBE of Scotland, now resident in the US, on their recent promotions to 10th dan and 9th dan respectively. Special thanks to John Bowen for proofreading – as always, any errors are my own.

Contributions

The backbone of the Kano Society's activities is this on-line publication. We welcome contributions in the form of articles or photographs etc. to *The Bulletin*.

Dr Llyr Jones

A Journey in *Judo* – Dennis Penfold 8th dan (1931–2024) from British *Judo* Association Website



Born in Portsmouth in 1931, Dennis Penfold 8th dan was a highly respected and influential figure in the *judo* community. An internationally recognised *Kata* Judge with both the IJF (International *Judo* Federation) and EJU (European *Judo* Union), Dennis was a dedicated coach at Fort Purbrook *Judo* Club in Portsmouth, and a mentor to countless students. Over a 76-year commitment to *judo* he left an indelible mark on the art, and on the *judoka* that he taught over those seven decades.

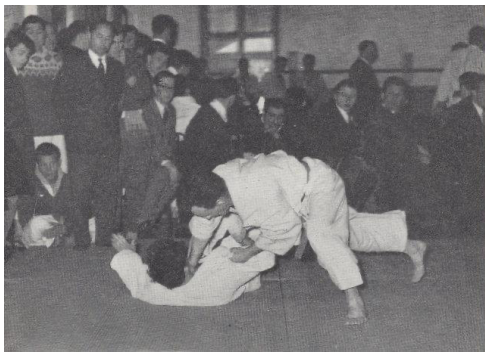
Dennis' *judo* journey began in 1948. He was inspired by an advertisement in the Portsmouth Evening News placed by Captain Mick (M.G.) Harvey MC, who was teaching *judo* at Boundary Oak School in Hampshire, and from the start, he faced challenges with characteristic resolve. In an era without ready access to proper *judogi*, he and his clubmates crafted their training wear from canvas mattress coverings. It was only after three years of diligent practice was Dennis finally able to obtain a proper *judogi* – a testament to his perseverance and passion.

When his teacher was recalled to the army during the Korean War, Dennis, by now a blue belt, stepped up to coach the club. He remained devoted to *judo*, dedicating his life to practicing, teaching, and officiating.

To fund his training, Dennis often sold personal belongings. Attending courses led by British *judo* pioneers, he achieved his 1st *dan* in March 1952 – a moment he cherished deeply.

Shortly after, Dennis was called for National Service and served in the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) where he introduced *judo* to fellow servicemen by founding a small club at Blandford Camp in Dorset. Following his service, he returned to the Portsmouth *Judo* Club in 1954, later relocating to London in 1955 to train with some of the UK's most esteemed *judo* practitioners.

Dennis's disciplined training routine included rigorous evening practice sessions at The *Budokwai* from 6 pm to 9 pm on weekdays after work, along with Sunday classes with Trevor (T.P.) Leggett and Geof Gleeson. His dedication during this period culminated in an impressive European silver medal in 1963, a testament to his skill and perseverance.



Dennis Penfold Competing

In the 1980s, Dennis and his wife, Tina, joined the British *Judo* Association (BJA) *Kata* Working Party and began judging at the British *Kata* Championships, marking the beginning of their distinguished careers as *kata* judges. This role eventually took them to the World Masters, the European *Kata* Championships, and World *Kata* Championships, where they earned respect for their expertise.



Distinguished BJA *Kata* Teachers

(Bob Thomas, Mick Leigh, Dennis Penfold, John Cornish)

As founding members of the National *Kata* Commission, Dennis and Tina worked diligently to elevate *kata* standards within British *judo*. In recognition of his significant contributions, Dennis received the prestigious BJA President's Award in 2017, an honour he shared with Tina.

Dennis's legacy lives on in the *judoka* he mentored, the lives he influenced, and the values he embodied. His memory will forever hold a cherished place in British *judo*'s history, inspiring future generations to uphold his passion, humility, and commitment to the spirit of *judo*.

Note

A version of this tribute featured on the BJA website: <https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/obituary-dennis-penfold/>

Celebrating British *Judo* Personalities – Part III Stephanie Leigh

Lisa Allan



Dr Lisa Allan

Dr Lisa Allan started *judo* aged six at Tora Scotia *Judo* Club in Scotland. As an academic, she studied organic chemistry, in which she holds a PhD, and worked as a researcher. As a *judoka*, Lisa was not that attracted to competition and when she did coach, it was the social dimension that fascinated her. She obtained coaching and refereeing qualifications and volunteered at competitions, taking up coaching and team management opportunities with Scotland and Great Britain. Lisa was Assistant General Team Manager for the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games in Australia, and General Team Manager for the Commonwealth Youth Games in India. She joined SportScotland's Achieving Excellence team in 2005.

It was also in 2005 during a life-defining *judo* discussion in Italy at the Youth Olympic Festival, that Lisa joked with French coaches about how much fun it would be to work for the London 2012 Olympics organising committee, and they told her she should apply. Subsequently, Lisa was selected

to be *Judo Manager* for London 2012, overseeing the largest event in the world. Lisa was supported by the International *Judo Federation* (IJF) through those seven years and in 2013 they employed her as Secretary of the Sports Department. Shortly after that she was named as IJF Events Director, responsible for managing and developing events on the World *Judo Tour*, a job she did to great acclaim.

In 2017 Dr Allan became the first woman to join the IJF Executive Committee – later becoming Head of the Gender Equity Commission. In 2023 she was elected as IJF Secretary General – being the first British person and the first woman to hold this incredibly important post. As Secretary General, she has vowed “to listen, to understand what the National Federations need and to support them from a place of transparency, democracy and integrity”.

There are many articles about Lisa’s achievements, and many interviews where she talks about her ethics and ambitions. She never stands still – there is always effort and always achievement. Recently, she went through the process of gaining her 3rd *dan* at the *Kodokan*. Performing *kata* for a *Kodokan* rank examination must be a nerve-wracking experience but Lisa did this through choice, immersing herself in studying, making sure she was fully prepared.

Dr Lisa Allan is an outstanding role model, and a rare example of a British *judoka* who, without excelling in competition, has forged herself a place at the top of the world *judo* stage.



Dr Lisa Allan
[Source: David Finch]

Mike Callan



Professor Mike Callan

Professor Mike Callan started *judo* in 1972 at 584 *Judo Club* in North London with coach Peter Moring. By the age of 13 he was BJC, AJA and BJA national champion and after that he moved to Fairholme *Judo Club* to work with Roy Inman. Mike held five British titles between 1975 and 1983 and represented Great Britain (GBR) at the World University Championships in 1981. He lived and trained at Tokai University in Japan in 1988 and has subsequently supported many top-level Japanese *judoka* to visit the UK.

Mike was the Director of the Team Bath *Judo Programme*, which he initiated in 1998, and *judoka* from this programme have won medals in Olympic, World, European and Commonwealth Championships. He was the Programme Leader for the EJU Levels 3, 4 and 5 Performance Coach Awards, and was instrumental in housing the “Bowen Collection” *judo* archive at the University of Bath. (The “Bowen Collection” is the most comprehensive collection of *judo* related books, articles and correspondence in the UK, which was nominated for the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme.)

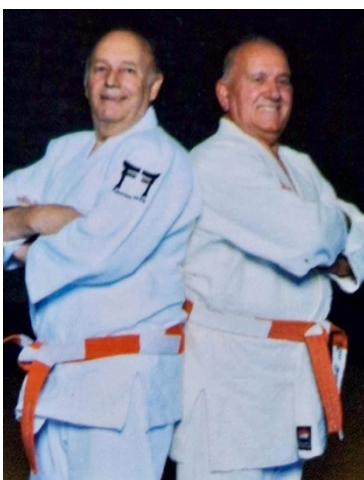
Mike is an internationally respected academic. He is Professor of *Judo Education* at the Institute of Sport at the University of Hertfordshire, leading postgraduate research study programmes in partnership with the IJF Academy. He is a Scientific Committee Member of the IJF, Scientific Commissioner for the European *Judo Union* (EJU) and former Education Director of the Commonwealth *Judo Association*. He is also the Managing Director of the education and sports-management consultancy, *Judospace*, and the leader of the i-dojo International *Judo Research Unit*. His current research focuses on several areas: i) analysing the Olympic qualification system in *judo*, ii) investigating head injuries in children practicing *judo*, iii) exploring the history of women's *judo*, and iv) using *judo* techniques to alleviate the fear and impact of falls among older adults. Regarding the last topic, he spearheaded the development of the Global Consensus Statement. Mike has written more than 50 books and articles; his book *The Science of Judo* discusses the science, coaching and history behind *judo* performance.

Mike was recipient of the IJF Special Achievement Award for “global contribution to *judo* education and research” and the Commonwealth *Judo Association* President’s Special Recognition Award for his “significant contribution to the development of *judo* in the Commonwealth”. He is a 7th *dan*.



Professor Mike Callan with 2x World Champion Nobuyuki Sato
[Source: David Finch]

Malcolm Collins and Ken Webber



Dr Malcolm Collins (Left) and Ken Webber (Right)

The *judo* narratives of Dr Malcolm Collins and Ken Webber are closely connected.

Malcolm was a founding member of Karu *Kyoshi Kan* (3Ks) *Judo Club* in Sandwell, West Midlands in 1964, and a strong supporter of the Midland Area. In the early seventies he introduced *judo* into the secondary schools' curriculum in the Sandwell area, and later became a qualified teacher.

Another prominent Midland Area supporter, Ken Webber started *judo* at the Birmingham Athletic Institute (BAI) in 1952, representing the club in Area and National events and was a member of the team which won the "Festival of *Judo* Shield" in 1959. He qualified as a coach under Geof Gleeson and conducted *judo* courses for more than three decades. His *judo* club, The *Renbukan*, was situated at a night school in Shard End, Birmingham.

Malcolm and Ken developed the British Schools *Judo* Association (BSJA) and together organised a programme of competitions that gave thousands of young people the chance to take up *judo*. They also introduced an accomplishment system which linked to the key stage curriculum in schools. Over time, they nurtured many young British *judoka* who went on to be senior international medallists and Olympians.

The BSJA was accepted as independent by the BJA, BJC and AJA (British *Judo* Association, British *Judo* Council, Amateur *Judo* Association), which meant that the children could enjoy *judo*, without being exposed to its "politics".

Both men believed Jigoro Kano's philosophy that *judo* was a way for self-improvement and social betterment, and together they produced a book *Creative Judo Teaching: The Essential Coaches Guide to Methods and Lesson Planning for the Teaching of Judo in Schools, Colleges and Clubs*.

As Malcolm and Ken grew older, they decided to transition the programme to the BJA. They served for many years as Chair and President, respectively, of the newly formed BJA Schools Commission. Both were popular *judo* men, kind and gentle and with time for everyone, whether a beginner or an elite *judoka*. The amount of influence they had over young people in the world of *judo* is immeasurable. Trophies in their memory are still awarded to *judoka* every year at the British Schools *Judo* Championships.

Malcolm, a 6th *dan*, died in 2018, while Ken, a 7th *dan*, pre-deceased him in 2013

(With thanks to Tony Underwood for his assistance in producing this profile.)

Ray Toppie



Ray Toppie
[Source: Rycroft *Judo* Club]

Ray Toppie had a relatively late start to *judo*, gaining his 1st *dan* aged 30. Despite this, he competed for many years, including in the winning Midland Area team in the 1969 National Team Championships. He famously had to go up a weight to cover the heavyweight spot as his team-mate would not fight David Starbrook. Ray recalls how his contest with Starbrook went four minutes, before they ended up on the ground, with Dave asking him whether he wanted to be held down or arm-locked. Ray just said, "Get on with it Starbrook", and subsequently lost. He was also part of the Midland Area team that won bronze in the 1971 event.

In the 1984 *Judo* magazine Ray wrote an amusing report of a club trip to France he took part in (with Boston *Judo* Club) as a 50-year-old 5th *dan* where they seemed to attend feasts for four days and then go on the mat to fight “...things did not go too well for our team, and we were sunk without trace, by five *ippons* and a draw. We shall now fall back to consolidate, and under our usual banner, blame the refereeing!” He went on to take a team out to France for many years, partly combined with a town-twinning initiative.

Ray has been a selfless volunteer for British *judo* over many decades, working as a coach and Senior Examiner. He was also a National Technical Official at the London Olympics. He is most well-known though, around the globe, as an IJF(A) Referee – often travelling with British teams to the world’s most prestigious events. Ray also inspired a new generation of referees - current British IJF(A) referee Stefan Newbury mentioned that Ray ran one of the first refereeing courses he attended in Nottingham, and his international ambitions were fostered while listening to Ray’s stories from events around the world. Ray is a true *judo* ambassador, and still a member and Trustee for Ryecroft *Judo* Club. In a local council newsletter, he was interviewed at the age of 86 saying he exercises every day and will carry on until he is 100! At the time of writing Ray is 91 years old, and an 8th *dan*.



Ray Topple Refereeing
[Source: David Finch]

Don Werner MBE



Don Werner MBE
[Source: Front cover of the book: *Moderately Satisfied Don Werner Our Sensei* by Karen Roberts and Nicola Fairbrother]

Don Werner started *judo* when he was 24. Tired with football, he joined a work colleague at a *judo* class in Bracknell and, to coin a phrase, the rest is history. Fascinated by *judo*, Don liked the fact that “What you win is yours and what you lose is just down to yourself”. He started helping out at Bracknell *Judo* Club and by 1958 he was coaching the juniors and ultimately took over the club, moving locations and finally securing his own dojo in Pinewood in 1978, changing the name of the club to meet parish regulations. Don gave up full time employment to teach *judo* and, apart from his commitment to the club, for almost 40 years he taught at all the local private schools.

Don’s successes as a coach are unbelievable and surely unrivalled. Every year since 1968, he produced at least one British Champion – over six decades he produced 822 national medallists, 296 of whom were British Champions. Nicola Fairbrother was Senior World Champion in 1993. Karen Roberts and Georgina Singleton were World Junior Champions. Lynn Tilley won five World Masters titles. All four World Champions started *judo* with Don as children. Don produced in total 28 World medallists, four Olympians, one Olympic silver medallist (GBR’s first Olympic ladies’ silver, Nicola Fairbrother), nine European Champions and two Commonwealth Champions. It is clear that Don created a *judo* family at Pinewood, in the truest sense of the word.

Don is fondly remembered as one of GBR’s finest coaches—a modest, determined figure who believed hard work could lift anyone to the pinnacle of success. Even his iconic brown leather jacket was legendary. In the words of Nicola Fairbrother, “Don Werner brought out the best in all of us, in all his pupils. He took our weaknesses and helped us conquer them. He took our strengths and made them stronger. He made us better than our best. And that I believe, to be his greatest legacy of all”. Don, a 7th *dan* and twice honoured by the National Coaching Foundation, died in 2014.



Don Werner MBE
[Source: David Finch]

Some Notable Past Pioneers of Judo and Budo Arts in Great Britain

Brian Watson

1. Jigoro Kano (1860-1938) 77 years old
2. E.W. Barton-Wright (1860-1951) 91
3. E.J. Harrison (1873-1961) 88
4. Yukio Tani (1881-1950) 69
5. Gunji Koizumi (1885-1965) 80
6. Masutaro Otani (1896-1977) 81
7. Trevor P. Leggett (1914-2000) 86
8. Kenshiro Abbe (1915-1985) 70
9. Geoffrey R. Gleeson (1927-1994) 66
10. Charles S. Palmer (1930-2001) 71
11. John E.B. Newman (1935-1993) 57
12. Syd R. Hoare (1939-2017) 78
13. Miss Margot Sathaye (1941-2000) 59

John Newman

Brian Watson



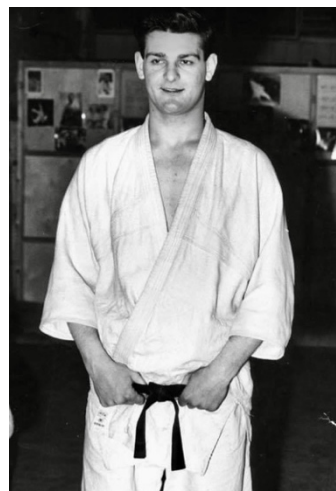
John Newman

John Newman left an indelible mark in both the world of *judo* and in broadcasting. A protégé of Trevor Pryce Leggett, Newman distinguished himself not only by his accomplishments in *judo*, but also in achieving an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) following his successes during his term as Head of the BBC's Japanese Service. He died in London in 1993 leaving a legacy of excellence in both *judo* and in the sphere of Japanese-British cultural exchange.

John Edward Brian Newman, a *judo* 5th *dan*, was Manager of the British Olympic team at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games, and an instructor alongside Kisaburo Watanabe (1936-

2019), George Kerr, and Raymond Ross at Leggett's *Renshuden Judo* Academy where I trained in the early 1960s before I left for Japan.

Newman, born in Kingsbury, Middlesex, on 13 December 1935, saw service in the Royal Marines from 1954 to 1956. He soon became known and respected for his exceptional prowess at *judo*. He was a member of the British national team that won the team title at the European *Judo* Championships held on 10 November 1957 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, he also won the 1st *dan* individual title. A year later, he won the 2nd *dan* individual European *Judo* Championship title on 11 November 1958 in Barcelona, Spain.



John Newman

Shortly thereafter Newman left for Japan to study the Japanese language and *judo* at Tenri University, where he also taught English from 1958 to 1962. After returning to London, Newman was later employed at the BBC's Bush House as a Language Supervisor and Programme Organiser in 1969. He became Head of the BBC's Japanese Service in 1970 upon the retirement of his mentor Trevor Leggett (1914-2000). Newman was awarded an MBE in 1988.

John, a tall genial man, widely esteemed as a teacher and broadcaster, had an immense energetic approach to his new appointment that in turn stimulated an increase in letters Japanese short-wave radio listeners were sending to the BBC. At one time, as many as 100,000 letters per year were heading from Japan to Bush House. This huge interest, more than any other BBC foreign language service, according to Leggett, helped contribute to a better understanding between the UK and Japan, especially so in the late 1970s when Japanese corporate investments in Britain were starting to surge.

In 1991, however, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office announced the closing of the BBC's overseas services to both Malaysia and Japan. Newman accepted with equanimity this unpleasant turn of events and retired from the BBC after 21 years' service. He then went to Tokyo to assume an English teaching post at the Nihon University School of Medicine. He was also appointed as a member of the editorial

committee supervising the publication of the *Nippon Budokan's* monthly magazine "Budo", a position that I was later requested to take over from Newman after he, unfortunately, became ill in February 1993 and subsequently returned to London to undergo medical treatment. Following two unsuccessful liver transplant operations, he sadly died at the age of 57 on 18 May 1993. This came as a shock to all who knew him. It was indeed a bitter blow and a great loss to the *judo* fraternity in particular since many had hoped that he would in future assume a leading administrative role in the affairs of the British *Judo* Association.

John Newman married Elizabeth Richards in 1964, they had two daughters; the marriage was dissolved in 1984. His book, *Bushido* was published by Magna Books in 1989.

Note, an earlier version of this article was published in issue 51 of the Kano Society Bulletin, January 2022.

Notable Historical *Judoka* Llyr Jones and Pavel Antonsson

These profiles were produced by the authors as part of the *Judo* Black Belt Association's (JBBA) "Renjuku Academy" educational programme.

Mitsuo Maeda (28 November 1878 – 28 November 1941)

Mitsuo Maeda, also known by the nickname of Count Koma, was a Japanese *judoka* and martial artist who was instrumental in the early spread of *judo* and its evolution into Brazilian *Jiu-Jitsu* (BJJ). He was born on 28 November 1878, in Funazawa, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, and died on 28 November 1941 in Belem, Brazil, on his 63rd birthday.

Maeda began his *judo* training at an early age under the guidance of Jigoro Kano, the founder of *judo*. He became one of the *shihan's* top students and played a significant role in introducing *judo* and its techniques to the wider world. Maeda excelled in *judo* and earned the rank of 7th *dan*. He was particularly known for his all-round *judo* skills including groundwork [*newaza*].

Maeda travelled to various countries to promote *judo* and engage in challenge matches and exhibitions against other martial artists to showcase the effectiveness of *judo* techniques. He embarked on a world tour to promote *judo*, traveling to various countries in Europe, the Americas, and beyond. In the United States, he had a significant impact on the development of martial arts and the integration of *judo* into various combat sports and self-defence systems.



Mitsuo Maeda

Maeda's travels eventually brought him to Brazil, where, in 1914, he met Gastao Gracie, a Brazilian businessman. Gastao's son, Carlos Gracie, became one of Maeda's students, and Maeda taught him *judo* and the principles of self-defence. Carlos Gracie, along with his family, would later establish BJJ – a fighting system heavily influenced by *judo*.

Mitsuo Maeda's influence on BJJ and the spread of *judo* beyond Japan is significant. His contributions have left a lasting impact – laying the foundations for the development of *judo*, and BJJ, as we know them today. He is remembered today as one of the key figures in the early history of both these systems and as a man who helped shape the landscape of modern martial arts.

Kyuzo Mifune (21 April 1883 – 27 January 1965)

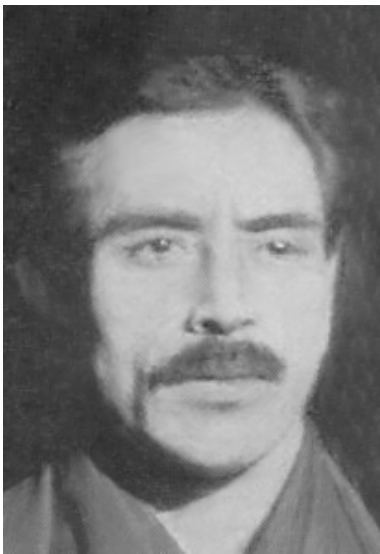
Kyuzo Mifune was a renowned Japanese *judoka* who is considered one of the greatest *judo* practitioners ever. He played a crucial role in popularising *judo*, both within Japan and internationally, and his technical mastery continues to inspire and guide *judoka* worldwide to this day.

Mifune was born on 21 April 1883, in Kuji, Iwate Prefecture, Japan. He began his *judo* training at a young age in 1903, and showed a natural aptitude for the art. Rising quickly through the ranks he achieved *shodan* (1st *dan*), aged 21, in 15 months, and *nidan* (2nd *dan*) four months later. He also became known for his exceptional technical prowess, speed, and agility, which set him apart from his contemporaries.

Mifune served as an instructor at the *Kodokan*, the headquarters of *judo* in Tokyo, Japan, where he was a dedicated teacher, helping to train and mentor numerous *judo* practitioners. Over his career, he personally developed several innovative *judo* techniques and continued to foster a deep understanding of the principles and philosophy of *judo*. In

terms of his promotion history, Mifune was ranked *godan* [5th *dan*] by 1910, promoted to *rokudan* [6th *dan*] in 1917, *shichidan* [7th *dan*] in 1923, *hachidan* [8th *dan*] in 1931 and *kudan* [9th *dan*] in 1937.

Mifune is often referred to as the “God of Judo” for his exceptional skill and contributions to the system. His 1956 seminal text, ‘*The Canon of Judo*’, or ‘*Judo Kyohan*’ in Japanese, where he provides detailed explanations and demonstrations of *judo* techniques and principles, is a classic in the world of *judo*, and is still used as a reference text by *judo* practitioners today. The book is very much a testament to his dedication, expertise, and influence.



Kyuzo Mifune

Kyuzo Mifune continued to teach and share his knowledge of *judo* until his later years. He died on 27 January 1965, leaving a lasting legacy. At the time of his death, he held the grade of *judan* (10th *dan*) having been promoted to this rare and exceptional rank by Jiro Nango (who had succeeded Jigoro Kano) on 25 May 1945.

Yoshitsugu Yamashita (16 February 1865 – 26 October 1935)

Yoshitsugu Yamashita, also known by “Yoshiaki”, was the first *judoka* to be graded to the highest degree, of 10th *dan*. At an early age, Yamashita became a chief assistant to the founder Jigoro Kano and was one of the *Kodokan Shitenno* [‘The Four Guardians of the *Kodokan*’]. Yoshiaki Yamashita became a famous name in *judo* and a notorious fighter.

Yamashita was born in the year 1865 in Kanazawa. The family came from a samurai clan, and it therefore also became natural that Yamashita at a young age was allowed to start training in *koryu bujutsu*. The styles that he practiced were *Yoshin-ryu* and *Tenjin Shin'yo-ryu jujutsu*. It is uncertain if he achieved any *Menkyo* level, but some sources claim that he reached a master level within *koryu jujutsu*.

In 1884, Yamashita becomes the nineteenth member of the *Kodokan*. He had already a solid background in *jujutsu*, and within the *Kodokan*, he advanced rapidly. In just three months, he is graded to *shodan* [1st *dan*], to *yondan* [4th *dan*] after two years and after 14 years to *rokudan* [6th *dan*]. He also quickly becomes the chief assistant to Jigoro Kano.



Yoshitsugu Yamashita

As an instructor, Yamashita begins to be responsible for the *judo* training at the Imperial Japanese Naval Academy and the Tokyo Imperial University. His reputation as a great fighter takes off after he participated in the *Kodokan* team that, in a competition, meets the Tokyo Metropolitan Police *jujutsu* team. This legendary match, which in addition to increasing Yamashita's reputation, also allowed Kano and the *Kodokan* to consolidate their position with *Kodokan Judo*.

Yamashita also had a violent side and became involved in many street fights. A few times with quite a bad outcome for the contracting parties and which ended with a police arrest. This led to him being suspended from the *Kodokan* for some time. However, he was acquitted, and Kano brought him back to the *Kodokan*. It was probably thanks in large part to Kano's insights and help, that he finally came to self-awareness and was able to curb his mood.

Yamashita was well educated and spoke a good English. In 1902, he was commissioned by Kano to spread *Kodokan Judo* in the United States. He becomes an instructor to President Theodore Roosevelt (US). In 1905, he was hired as an instructor for the US Naval Academy. Even in the US, Yamashita accepted challenges and participates in several fights.

In 1906, Yamashita returns home to Japan for new missions. He begins working on the standardisation of various *kata* and becomes an instructor for the Tokyo Municipal Police. He also produced several training guidelines on how to learn *judo* whilst avoiding the pitfalls.

Between 1924 and 1926, Yamashita heads the committee tasked with developing a new *kata* for the Japanese police – what became *Torite-no-kata* [Forms of Arrest].

In 1935, shortly after his death, Jigoro Kano promoted Yamashita to *judan*. Yamashita thus becomes the first person to be awarded the grade of 10th *dan*.

List of the Presidents of the IJF (International Judo Federation) compiled by Brian Watson

• Aldo Torti	Italy	1951
• Risei Kano	Japan:	1952–1965
• Charles Palmer	Great Britain	1965–1979
• Shigeyoshi Matsumae	Japan	1979–1987
• Sarkis Kaloghlian	Argentina	1987–1989
• Lawrie Hargrave	New Zealand	1989–1991
• Luis Baguena	Spain	1991–1995
• Yong Sung Park	South Korea	1995–2007
• Marius Vizer,	Romania / Austria	2007–present

60 years ago – 20 October 1964 Brian Jacks



Brian Jacks wearing his
Tokyo 1964 Olympic Jacket

Some 60 years ago, on 20 October 1964, I became the first person to compete in *judo* in the Olympic Games for Great Britain. I didn't have Olympic dreams as a child – I couldn't walk properly, and climbing stairs left me exhausted. How could I have Olympic dreams when I couldn't even join in with my friends at playtime? I just sat and watched with the

other sick children who were also unable to take part in any kind of physical activities.

I had a problem that went undiscovered from the day I was born, until I was eight years old. It was only then, after an operation, that everything changed—and I finally began to play. By the age of 18 I had made the British Judo Team for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics – the first time *judo* had been included in the Games. I came up against Japan's hot favourite for a gold medal in the lightweight category, Takehide Nakatani. This is how I remember that day.

The night before my category, I just wanted a quiet night at our house in the Olympic Village. I felt a bit tense, and the other guys, who still had a few days to wait, tried to help me to relax. Peth (Alan Petherbridge) mentioned that I would be the first person from Great Britain to participate in an Olympic judo contest. I should have known this, but I had not given it that much thought – now, with the countdown well and truly on, I did. Not only that, Nakatani would be the first person from Japan as well to ever to appear on an Olympic *judo* mat. We would make history for our countries, and millions of people would watch worldwide. With this thought, I found it difficult to sleep, and this could have been down to excitement and a touch of nerves. The following day, I took little notice of what was happening.

I opened some telegrams wishing me luck and tried to keep my focus. Peth and others made a few comments as they continued to help me relax. At about eleven-thirty, we left on the team bus for the journey to the *Budokan* arena. As we parked at the entrance, a few people were milling around behind a security barrier, and I looked for Dad. I found him, and we had a quick father-and-son moment. I felt so proud and pleased for him – he had put so much trust and faith in me for this moment. Of course, he had made sacrifices as well, we both knew that, but aged just eighteen, I had reached the top of my level, and Dad and I were about to participate in the Olympic Games, the ultimate competition that was including *judo* for the first time. I had given my all for this moment, and so had Dad. We had started together, remembering that drive to the LJS (London Judo Society), and now we were about to compete at the highest level. I say “we”, because I never went on a mat without Dad, not literally, of course, but I always felt his presence.

“Representing Great Britain, Brian Jacks”, said the announcer, and I made my way first to the mat. I received some polite applause and a few cheers from the crowd that must have totalled close to 15,000. I had already spotted Mum and Dad, and we waved. Nakatani soon joined me, and the crowd went wild – I had never heard anything like it before at a judo competition. With Japan being such a pro-judo country, this must have been a moment they were waiting for, and they loved it. I did as well. Of course, they all wanted Nakatani to win, but I didn't care about that, I had found a new stage, as I had at the Europeans, and I loved being on it. Some people might have ‘bottled it’, but not me. The more the crowd cheered, the more I wanted to get moving and shut them up. After our formal greeting, we started, and I felt so pumped up that I decided to go for it. I went straight for Nakatani, although I couldn't get a good grip. He

did manage to get hold of my lapel and knocked me down to the ground. He didn't score but pinned me down to take the contest. Again, the crowd went wild.

For my second contest, just under an hour later, I took on Thailand's Udom Rasmelungon. The same crowd who had cheered Nakatani with frenzy now seemed to switch their allegiance to me. Perhaps they saw something in me that they liked, although they were an intelligent crowd and might have known about my eighteen months spent training in Japan? A few might have even met me when I practiced with different characters during that stay. I felt sharp against the Thai player and threw him with a good technique.

Nakatani went on to take the gold medal when he beat Switzerland's Eric Hänni in the final.



Brian Jacks with Takehide Nakatani

Points to Ponder

"I recommend practicing kata to all judo students. Kata is the aesthetic of judo. In the kata lies the spirit of judo, without which it is impossible to see its end."

Jigoro Kano

"Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better."

Pat Riley

"Education is one of the most enjoyable jobs. If you have taught an outstanding student your teaching will continue forever, even after you are gone."

Jigoro Kano

"Violence never solves any problem peacefully."

Brian Watson

"Remember, if you learn kata you can incapacitate your opponent with just a small, carefully applied movement."

Sandra Hewson

"Judo can be considered a philosophy of balance, a means of cultivating a sense of harmony with oneself and personal stability."

Anon

"Only those who are being burned know what fire is like."

Ethel Waters

"There is a land of the living and a land of the dead, and the bridge is love, the only survival, the only meaning."

Thornton Wilder

"A warrior never looks for conflict, but always stands firm when it comes."

Anon

"A man consumed with alcohol is a danger to himself. A man consumed with political power is a danger to us all."

Brian Watson

"When people prioritise both their own prosperity and that of others, it can foster a more just and equitable society."

Jigoro Kano

Kano Society – New Contact e-mail

The new e-mail for contacting the Kano Society is:

Kanosociety@cyberbirch.com

Renjuku Academy

The Kano Society is pleased to endorse the *Judo* Black Belt Association's (JBBA) "Renjuku Academy" programme as an exceptional offering in *judo* education. The Academy provides a distinctive experience through its immersive home-study curriculum in *judo* and leadership education. The distinct modules on the 12-month study programme emphasise five vital areas of *judo*:



1. Biomechanics of *Judo*;
2. *Judo* as Physical Education;
3. *Kata*;
4. *Judo* History and Philosophy;
5. *Judo* Terminology.



The demanding programme concludes with the submission of a formal dissertation on any aspect of *judo*.

<http://www.judoblackbelt.com>

Judo Collections



The "Bowen Collection" at the University of Bath Library, contains the extensive *judo* archive amassed by *judoka* and scholar Richard Bowen during the course of individual research for his many books and publications.

Alongside the "Bowen Collection" is the personal book collection of Syd Hoare which includes many rare texts, some in the Japanese language, given to Syd by Trevor Leggett. As well as the books, there is a bound compendium of the educational articles and lectures written and delivered by Syd. Also residing at Bath is the "Woodard (*Judo*) Collection" – a compilation of archival material relating to the history of women's *judo* assembled by Marion and Graham Woodard.

All these collections represent a wonderful resource for present and future *judo* researchers. They are for reference use only (not available for loan) and can be viewed between 0900 and 1700 hrs.

