

United States Sumo Championships

Saturday, September 18, 2004: Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

For more information visit www.cranfordjkc.com or www.sumoshimpo.com;
or call (908) 276-3544 (on the East Coast) or (562) 428-3831 (on the West Coast)

This tournament is sanctioned by the UNITED STATES SUMO FEDERATION
(sanction number: 2-04-5)

To register, complete the appropriate entry form and sign the liability waiver. Then mail, fax or e-mail them to:

UNITED STATES SUMO FEDERATION

107 South Avenue West, Cranford, NJ 07016 USA

908-276-3544 (phone) 908-276-3554 (fax) cranfordjkc@comcast.net (e-mail)

Payment must be received before your entry is valid.

Tournament Director: Yoshisada Yonezuka/(908) 276-3544

Tournament Co-ordinator: Harry Dudrow/(562) 428-3831

Eligibility

Any United States citizen or legal resident who is a current member in good standing of the United States Sumo Federation is eligible to compete. The top US citizen finisher in each of the senior men's and women's divisions qualifies to represent the USA at the World Championships in Riesa, Germany on October 16 & 17. (A United States passport is required to represent the USA at the Worlds.)

The team competition is open only to teams representing United States Sumo Federation clubs of record. The team competition is **PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY!** The deadline is September 10. The club must already be a USSF-chartered club of record by the deadline. All team members must be already registered with the USSF as members of that club. People who are registered as "unattached" because they left the club line blank are NOT ELIGIBLE.

If you are not a current USSF member (or your current membership will expire soon) you are strongly urged to send in your membership dues with your entry. Your entry will not be valid unless and until your membership is current. The deadline to join/renew is 10:00PM on Friday, September 17. Annual dues are \$20.00 for seniors (a senior is any person over 18 years of age as of January 1, 2004). There are no dues for juniors. The USSF membership application form is available at www.sumoshimpo.com; or send a stamped, self addressed legal size envelope to: Harry Dudrow, 1715 E. Poinsettia Street, Long Beach, CA 90805-3135, USA.

Equipment

All competitors shall have their own mawashi. The mawashi may be any color, but the fabric must be durable enough to withstand the demands/stresses of the sport. Male competitors may either go 'traditional' (mawashi only) or wear tight shorts in black or navy blue (no swim trunks, gym shorts or basketball shorts will be allowed). Female competitors shall wear tight shorts and shirts or leotards (no loose-fitting tee-shirts).

Expenses

All competitors shall be responsible for their own transportation to and from the city of Las Vegas, ground transportation while in Las Vegas, meals, entertainment, and accommodations.

All competitors are strongly encouraged to stay at the Riviera Hotel. They are offering a reduced rate to those who call their reservation desk directly and mention "United States Sumo". If 160 "room-nights" are booked in this manner, the hotel will provide the tournament venue at no cost. To receive the special rate, rooms must be reserved by August 18, 2004.

The Riviera's toll-free reservation desk number is: (800) 634-6753.

(OVER)

Entry Fee

A single flat fee of \$50.00 gets you into all individual division contests you are qualified to compete in. Entries must be received by September 10 in order to get the aforementioned fee. The fee for late registrants will be \$75.00. There will be **NO REFUNDS, UNLESS WE HAVE NO COMPETITORS FOR YOU TO FIGHT.**

Registration Deadline

The deadline for registration is between 8:00PM and 10:00PM on Friday, September 17, 2004 at the Riviera Hotel. **NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY OF THE TOURNAMENT!**

Weigh-In

Weigh-ins shall take place on Saturday, September 18, 2004 from 8:00AM to 9:00AM. Heavyweights of either gender and any age may simply declare themselves as such without stepping on the scale.

Senior Divisions

Men		Women	
Lightweight	-85 kg/-187 lbs	Lightweight	-65 kg/-143 lbs
Middleweight	-115 kg/-253 lbs	Middleweight	-80 kg/-176 lbs
Heavyweight	+115 kg/+253 lbs	Heavyweight	+80 kg/+176 lbs
Open	any weight	Open	any weight

Junior Divisions

Men*		Women	
Lightweight	-80 kg/-176 lbs	Will be placed in Senior Women's events	
Middleweight	-100 kg/-220 lbs		
Heavyweight	+100 kg/+220 lbs		
Open	any weight		

* Junior men with previous sumo experience may compete in senior men's competitions based on seniors' weight divisions.

Masters Divisions (proof of age required)

Masters (40+ years)		Grand Masters (50+ years)	
Lightweight	-85 kg/-187 lbs	Lightweight	-85 kg/-187 lbs
Middleweight	-115 kg/-253 lbs	Middleweight	-115 kg/-253 lbs
Heavyweight	+115 kg/+253 lbs	Heavyweight	+115 kg/+253 lbs
Open	any weight	Open	any weight

Competition Formats

No. of Entries	Format
2	Best 2-of-3
3 to 7	Round robin (each competitor fights everyone else in the division)
8 and up	Organizers' choice: 1) multiple 3-7 person round robin pools (top finishers in each pool go to a finals bracket) 2) bracket (single-elimination with a repechage for the bronze medal) 3) bracket (double-elimination)
32 or more	Single-elimination super-bracket (competitors who fought either division finalist qualify for bronze medal repechage)

NOTES:

- 1) Tournament organizers shall have the final decision on which competition format will be used. The chosen format WILL NOT justify any request for refund.
- 2) Seedings in brackets and multiple round robin pools will be based on first-through-fourth placement at the 2003 North Americans in Vancouver, BC. All other competitors shall be positioned by randomized methods.
- 3) A meeting of the USSF membership will take place after the tournament at 7:00PM at the Riviera.

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INDIVIDUAL/TEAM ENTRY FORM

USSF Member Number:* _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State, Zip: _____ Country: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Club: _____

Birth Date: _____ Gender: Male () Female ()

Weight Divisions: () Lightweight () Middleweight () Heavyweight () Openweight _____

Age Divisions: () Juniors (13-18) () Seniors (18+) () Masters (40+) () Grand Masters (50+)

Team make-up

A team consists of three members, plus a substitute (two-member teams will be allowed, but they will forfeit one match). A club may field more than one team: however, no competitor may be on more than one team.

NOTE: THE TEAM COMPETITION DOES NOT DETERMINE WHO WILL BE ON THE UNITED STATES TEAM AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. THE WORLDS TEAM WILL BE PICKED FROM AMONG THE TOP INDIVIDUAL FINISHERS.

Club: _____ Coach: _____

Team Order	Name	Weight	USSF Member No.*
Senpo <i>First</i>			
Chukken <i>Second</i>			
Taisho <i>Last</i>			
Substitute			

Entry Fee (individual): \$50.00 (pre-registered); \$75.00 (late)

Entry Fee (team): \$25.00 (pre-register only) (this is in addition to the entry fees of the individual team members)

() Check () Money Order () Cash (in person only)

Make checks/money orders payable to the UNITED STATES SUMO FEDERATION.

*USSF Member numbers may be 'plugged in' on Friday, September 17, 2004

United States Sumo Championships

WAIVER and RELEASE OF LIABILITY and AGREEMENT to PARTICIPATE

IN CONSIDERATION OF BEING PERMITTED IN ANY WAY, INCLUDING TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE UNITED STATES SUMO CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ITS RELATED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, I, FOR MYSELF, MY HEIRS AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, DO HEREBY:

1. Acknowledge that I am familiar with the sport of sumo, and understand the rules governing the sport of sumo, and the importance of following these rules.
2. Agree that prior to participating, I will inspect the dohyo/mats, equipment, facilities, competition pools or divisions, and the elimination or scoring system to be used. If I believe anything is unsafe or beyond my capability, I will immediately inform my coach or supervisor of such condition(s) and refuse to participate.
3. Acknowledge and fully understand that I will be engaging in a contact sport that might result in serious injury, including permanent disability or death, and severe social and economic losses due to not only my own actions, inactions or negligence, but also to the action, inaction or negligence of others, the rules of the sport of sumo, or conditions of the premises or any equipment used. Further, I acknowledge that there may be other risks not known to me or reasonably foreseeable at this time.
4. Knowing the risk involved in the sport of sumo, I assume that risk and accept personal responsibility for the damages following such injury, permanent disability or death.
5. Certify that I am in good physical condition and have no disease or injury that would impair my performance or physical condition in practice, training or competing.
6. Grant permission, in case of injury, to have a doctor, nurse, paramedic, athletic trainer or other medical emergency personnel to provide me with medical assistance or treatment for such injury.
7. Release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue the Riviera Hotel & Casino, the United States Sumo Championships event promoter, producer, its officers, employees and agents, the United States Sumo Federation, any and all sponsors of the United States Sumo Championships and all affiliated organizations, including their respective administrators, directors, agents, coaches, employees and volunteers, as well as event officials, referees, other participants, their parents, guardians, supervisors, coaches, medical personnel, members of the media, advertisers, and all other individuals and organizations working with the United States Sumo Championships, resulting in accidents, illnesses, personal injury (including death), and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in the United States Sumo Championships being held at the Riviera Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada on September 18, 2004, and in participation at affiliated sumo events or functions to promote said event.
8. Expressly grant to the United States Sumo Championships, its promoter, producer, officers, agents and assignees, the right to photograph me and use my picture, silhouette and other reproductions of my physical likeness (as the same may appear in any still camera photograph and/or video or film format), in, and in connection with, the exhibition, theatrically, on television or otherwise, of any motion pictures. I further give the United States Sumo Championships, or its assignees, the right to reproduce in any manner whatsoever any recordation made by said producer, or associate, of my voice and all instrumental, musical, or other sound effects produced by me.
9. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of minor (under age 18) participant(s) additionally agree that they will instruct said minor participant(s) as to the above warnings and conditions and their ramifications, and that they consent to the participation of the minor(s)

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WARNING, WAIVER AND RELEASE, UNDERSTANDING THAT I GIVE UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND KNOWING THIS, SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY. I AGREE TO PARTICIPATE KNOWING THE RISKS AND CONDITIONS INVOLVED, AND DO SO ENTIRELY OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if participant under 18)

Date