

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Judo, the beautiful Japanese martial art created in 1882 by Dr. Jigoro Kano, was first taught and practiced in the Eisho-ji Buddhist temple in Tokyo by nine students on twelve tatami mats. From this humble beginning, Judo has grown into a martial art practiced and competed in globally, including the Olympic Games, with, according to the International Judo Federation (IJF), over 40 million practitioners in more than 200 countries.

The practice of Judo in Pittsburgh began in 1947 shortly after the end of the Second World War when a Judo course was offered at Pittsburgh's Downtown YMCA. The program was taught by returning veteran Sgt. Jack Channing, a native of the Mt. Oliver section of Pittsburgh, who learned Judo from two Japanese associates who lived with him in the Downtown YMCA. The program proved to be quite popular, reportedly attracting thirty or more students to its twice weekly training sessions. Sgt. Channing also taught Judo while in the army and was a decorated competitor who won a Judo championship in 1943 while a Pfc. at a tournament at the Atlantic City Basic Training Center. In addition to practicing Judo, Sgt. Channing was an amateur bodybuilder, was a runner-up in the 1939 Mr. America contest and later went on to teach bodybuilding at the Mt. Oliver Athletic Club. The Judo program at the Y later evolved into The Pittsburgh Judo Club, still later, in 1956, into The Golden Triangle Judo Club.



Figure 1 : Sensei Nick Zaffuto

Sensei Nick Zaffuto, also a Pittsburgh native and World War II veteran, was first exposed to Judo while stationed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, while serving in the Marine Corps. At a friend's suggestion, he joined a Judo class- "American soldiers welcome"- and studied under the tutelage of a Japanese-Hawaiian instructor. After he was discharged from the service he returned to Pittsburgh and in 1947 joined the Golden Triangle Judo Club as a white belt. When Sgt. Channing left the program in 1955, Sensei Zaffuto, who had risen to the rank of brown belt, assumed the position of Head Instructor and Club Director. Sensei Zaffuto would later be ranked as Rokudan, 6th degree black belt, and go on to found several dojos in the Pittsburgh area, including the South Hills Judo Club in the Carrick section of Pittsburgh; as of this writing it is still in operation as the South Hills Judo Academy. During Sensei Zaffuto's tenure at the golden Triangle Judo Club, it was affiliated with the Shufu Yudanshikai, the regional association of Dan ranked Judoka in the Eastern United States. ¹

In 1959, an article published in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette announced a four-week Judo course at the Downtown YMCA taught by Sensei Shale Paul, a Dan-ranked Judo practitioner

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

from the state of Washington. Sensei Paul, Shodan, was a Marine Corps veteran who learned Judo at Judo's World Headquarters, the Kodokan, while stationed in Japan. The article generated considerable interest and attracted in a number of new students to the practice of Judo. At the course's conclusion, Sensei Paul returned to his home state of Washington, leaving the participants without a Dan-ranked instructor. Real and enduring interest in Judo had been ignited among the course participants, many of whom continued to train at the Downtown YMCA as the Golden Triangle Judo Club, often turning to Jigoro Kano's seminal text, Kodokan Judo, for instruction.



Figure 2: The Judo School of Pittsburgh

School of Pittsburgh, JSofP, and undertook construction of their own dedicated *dojo*, originally located on the third floor of a bank building adjacent to the Observatory on Pittsburgh's North Side. The original members included: Ronald Pardini, Charles Katz, David Katz, Steven Mitro, Garland McCune, Albert Sterling, Daniel Colclayzer, Joseph Vukson, Thomas Vukson, Sr., John Vukson, Robert Voeg, James Poshall later joined by Nick Zaffuto, Frank Brezinski and Joseph Bova. Many of these gentlemen would become familiar names in the Pittsburgh Judo community. The JSofP was built by its members with their own hands, largely with salvaged building materials, including *tatami*. In an article describing Pittsburgh Judo's early years², Sensei Zaffuto recalled:

We hauled a truckload of sawdust from a sawmill in Uniontown back to the North Side, lugged it up to the third floor in burlap sack sand spread it out. We stretched canvas over it and that was our mat. Boy, when you got thrown on that, there would be a big cloud of dust! We had to sweep up after every practice.

In the 1960's, several Western Pennsylvania YMCAs offered Judo courses, often taught by returning World War II veterans. The courses of limited duration., generally limited to several weeks. In 1960, in order to continue their Judo training, the former YMCA Judo course participants chose a different path and founded the Judo



Figure 3: The Judo School of Pittsburgh

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

The JSofP proved to be notably successful, often with its sawdust-padded *tatami* filled with hard-training *Judoka*. Later in 1960, a number of the members of the JSofP decamped to Crafton, Pennsylvania and were joined by Warren Stump and Peter Saello. In 1963, the bank building housing the JSofP was slated for demolition when Pittsburgh's North Side urban renewal reached its doorstep, and the group lost its lease. The balance of the membership then reunited with the group at the Crafton location. Nick Zaffuto served as President and Joe Bova, Sr., as Treasurer. The JSofP was also a member of the Shufu Yudanshikai. The Crafton location of the JSofP had a large, fifty feet by one-hundred feet *tatami* (!), which was fortunate; at one stage it boasted a membership of one hundred and fifty students!



Figure 4: Members of the Crafton judo Club, winners at a local tournament and their instructors. Front Row: Denny Kirby, James Conroy, Tommy Vukson and Jeff Kirby; Back Row: Tom Vukson, Instructor and Club Secretary; Joe Vukson, John Vukson, Bill Watson and Robert Voegel, Instructor and President

The JSofP provided instruction to both senior and junior students. Saturday morning junior Judo classes were taught by Sensei Warren Stump and Peter Saello. Attendees included several members of the Bova and Vukson families, many of whom would become prominent figures in the Pittsburgh Judo community: Joseph, John and Thomas Vukson; Joseph Jr., Michael and Paul Bova—all of whom were Junior National Champions.



Figure 5: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, circa 1966

After moving to Crafton, The JSofP added self-defense classes to its curriculum, instructed by Akidoka Sensei Felix Amendola. Sensei Amendola taught Aikido in the Pittsburgh area for more than a decade during the 1960s and 1970s at The JSofP, Chatham College, the North Side Campus of Community College of Allegheny County and a number of area YMCAs. The JSofP closed in 1974.

In 1961, at the suggestion of an American Air Force Colonel, the great Korean Judo champion and teacher, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim³, visited the United States for the first time. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, at the time 5th Dan, was a two-time Korean national champion, a graduate of the inaugural class (1958) of the Korean Yudo College, now Yong-In University, where he taught from 1958-1961, and the first Judo instructor at the Korean Military Academy. While teaching at the Korean Military Academy, he earned the sobriquet, “The Tree,” from

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

his students when they found it was nearly impossible to throw him!

O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim was among the first wave of Korean martial arts masters, including such martial arts luminaries as Grandmasters Daeshik Kim, Chan Yon Kim and Jhoon Rhee, to leave South Korea to disseminate their arts around the world. Initially, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim taught for a year in Oklahoma City at the Dao Myung Judo Club, a dojo operated by former captain in the Army veterinary service, Dr. Robert Ryan and Robert Willingham's Oklahoma Academy of Judo. He was then recruited by Sensei Jerome Mackey⁴, and taught briefly at Sensei Mackey's dojo in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn in New York City.



Figure 6: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim - Brooklyn, NY

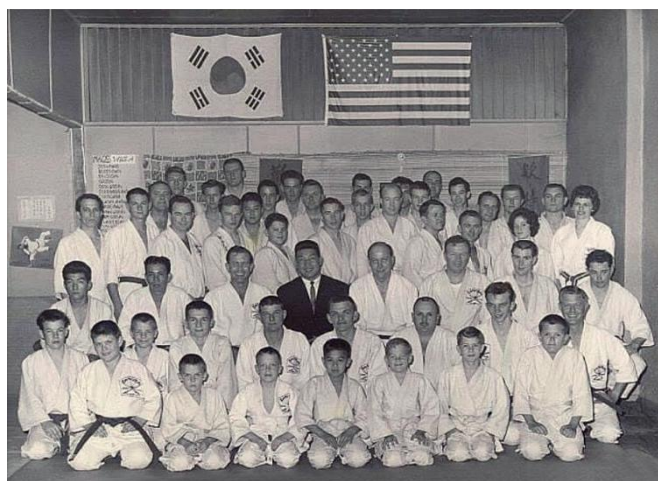


Figure 7: Oklahoma Dao Myung Judo Club

Upon learning of his presence in the US, members of The JSofP contacted him and extended an invitation for him to become the Head Instructor at their dojo. In 1964, several members-Nick Zaffuto, Joe Bova Sr., Bob Voge and Tom Vukson Sr.-even went as far as meeting O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim during a flight layover at Pittsburgh International Airport for the purpose of inviting him to teach at their dojo. He initially declined their offer, only to later accept the position and decline Sensei Mackey's offer to move to New York City. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim later explained that he not only liked the way he was treated in Pittsburgh but found New York city too expensive and found the snow and mountains surrounding Pittsburgh reminiscent of Korea.

This event irrevocably changed the course of Judo in Pittsburgh. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim began teaching at the JSofP in 1964 and continued to teach martial arts in the Pittsburgh area until his passing in May of 2021.

As has been so often the case, the practice of Judo in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, began in a YMCA. In 1962, a twelve-week Judo course was offered to Johnstown area boys and men. Instruction was provided by first degree black belt Mike Dignan. Sensei Dignan learned Judo while serving in the Marine Corps, trained in Okinawa and briefly at the Kodokan, in Tokyo, Japan and was a Marine Corps Judo Champion. The Dignan family played a prominent role in the practice and growth of Judo in the Johnstown area: Sensei Mike Dignan's brother, Sensei James Dignan, began Judo training at the age of fourteen; his son, Sensei Jason Dignan began at the age of four!

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

The Johnstown YMCA is where Ronald Johns, Joseph Gross and James Dignan, Sr. began their Judo journey; they were later joined by Robert Koontz, the Y's program director, who had first been exposed to Judo while serving in the Air Force, Dave Evans, Richard Redden, James Walsh, and later still, in 1972, Sam Germana. Richard Redden and James Walsh were successful tournament competitors, both of whom won their divisions in Judo's Senior National Tournament. Eventually, the Johnstown YMCA Judo Club became The Johnstown Judo Academy with Sensei Ronald Johns as Head Instructor. From May through September in 1974, The Johnstown Judo Academy hosted guest instructor Sensei Noriaki, "Nori," Bunasawa⁵ (4th Dan in 1974, currently 9th Dan). The Johnstown Judo Academy closed in 2017.



Figure 8: Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb

In 1963, The Hun Judo Dojo was founded by Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb⁶, Professor of Fine Arts at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Paposi-Jobb stands as a remarkable figure in the history of Judo in Pittsburgh. Born in Hungary in late 1934, he found himself at the age of twenty-one reluctantly but proudly participating in an armed revolution against Soviet oppression as one of the famed Hungarian Freedom Fighters (Note: Dr. Paposi-Jobb and his fellow student revolutionaries were named, as a group, Time magazine's person of the year in 1956.) In 1956, when the student revolution failed, Dr. Paposi-Jobb and several of his fellow Freedom Fighters eluded border guards, walked across the Hungary-Austrian border into Austria in the dark of night and into a new life. After a circuitous route through Europe, Dr. Paposi-Jobb arrived in the US in December of 1956 and, learned English, continued his education and Judo (already a Shodan and medalist in the Hungarian Judo Championships) at Kent State University, where he established three Hun Judo Dojos in the neighboring area, the first of which in 1957. Dr. Paposi-Jobb became a US citizen in 1962 and a became a member of the Clarion University of Pennsylvania faculty the same year. The Hun Judo Dojo was active in the Pittsburgh Judo community and the Eastern Collegiate Judo Association, with Dr. Paposi-Jobb serving as the organization's Treasurer. In 1974, with Sensei Jae Kim as manager and Dr. Paposi-Jobb as assistant manager, a team of US university Judoka traveled to Brussels, Belgium to compete in the FISU World University Judo Championships, where the US team took third place! The Hun Judo Dojo also hosted numerous tournaments for their fellow collegiate Judoka at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. During a four-year period, the Hun Judo Dojo was a varsity sport at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, very much an exception for a collegiate Judo program; it operated until 2020, when it was forced to close during the depths of the COVID 19 pandemic. The Hun Judo Dojo was one of the oldest dojos in the US and the second oldest under continuous operation by its founding Sensei.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Budo, broadly defined in Japanese culture as, “The Martial Way,” has a long association with the visual arts, particularly painting and calligraphy. In keeping with this tradition and to reflect his deep reverence for Judo, Dr. Paposi-Jobb created a series of portraits entitled, “Judo Greats,” to honor leaders in the global Judo community. Each portrait features an image of Judo’s founder, Dr. Jigoro Kano, and was presented to each subject. Dr. Paposi-Jobb created thirty-three such portraits which have been compiled into the book, “Judo Greats, A Portrait Series,” “now in its fourth printing.

Dr. Paposi-Jobb was an active participant in local tournaments and achieved an early rank of Nidan as a result of his competitive success before rising to the rank of Hachidan, 8th degree black belt over the course of his Judo career. He was a perennial State, National, European and International champion in Senior and Master divisions; medaling sixteen times in Master’s competition. Dr. Paposi-Jobb was one of the founders and secretary of the World Master Athlete Judo Association, which, after operating for eleven years, became the foundation for the IJF Veteran Judo Organization. On August 4, 2023, Dr. Paposi-Jobb was inducted into the IJF Hall of Fame.

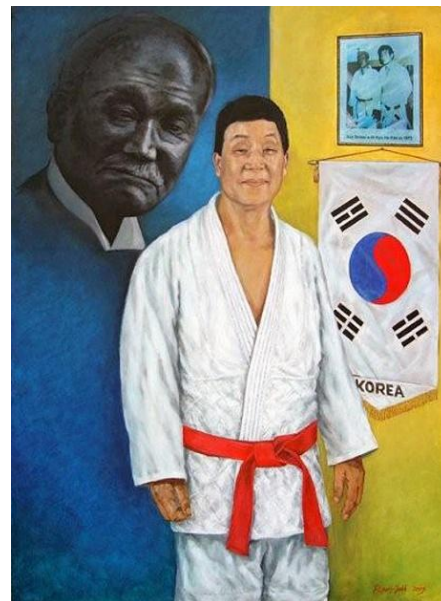


Figure 9: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, portrait by Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb, late 1970s



Figure 10: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim congratulates a young Sensei Gary Goltz, 1968

In 1965, in addition to teaching at the Judo School of Pittsburgh, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim began teaching Judo classes at Pittsburgh’s YM&WHA. Late in 1965, Sensei Gary Goltz⁷ enrolled in the Saturday afternoon class to begin what has proven to be a lifelong study of Judo. Sensei Goltz became a dedicated Judo student under O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, initially at the YM&WHA, later at Kim’s School of Judo (see below). In order to attend class at Kim’s School of Judo, young Sensei Goltz would take a Port Authority bus to Downtown YMCA, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim would pick him up at the Y, take him to Judo class, then return him to the Y after class to catch a bus home. Quite a military operation!

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh in 1976, Sensei Goltz embarked upon a successful career in the health-care field which took him first to Chicago in 1979, then California in 1985 where he founded Goltz Judo late in 1987. Goltz Judo, located in the Chaffey Community Center in Claremont, California, grew to become the largest Judo school in California with nearly 200 members and is often among the largest clubs in the USJA.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Although residing in California, Sensei Goltz kept in touch with the Pittsburgh Judo community and remained especially close to his original teacher, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, visiting him annually until his passing in 2021. In November of 2024, Sensei Goltz was promoted to Kudan, 9th degree black belt, to become O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim's highest ranked student.

In 1966, Sensei Nick Zaffuto and Sensei Joe Bova, Sr. left The JSofP and founded The Pittsburgh Judo Academy, PJA, in a renovated bowling alley on Lorenz Avenue in Pittsburgh's West End. They were soon joined by Senseis Thomas Eshenbaugh⁸ and Allan Yonick. In 1978, Charles and James Igims also joined and began their long involvement in Judo (see below). The renovated bowling alley provided considerable mat space, which The PJA shared with The American Jui-Jitsu Karate Institute, a group of Jui-Jitsu and Karate-do practitioners led by Joseph Hedderman and Walter Mazak.⁹ Judo classes were held on Mondays and Wednesdays, Jui-Jitsu and Karate-do classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Figure 11: 9th Dan presentation to Sensei Gary Goltz. Left to Right: Sensei David Brogan, Sensei Gary Goltz, Sensei John Paccione

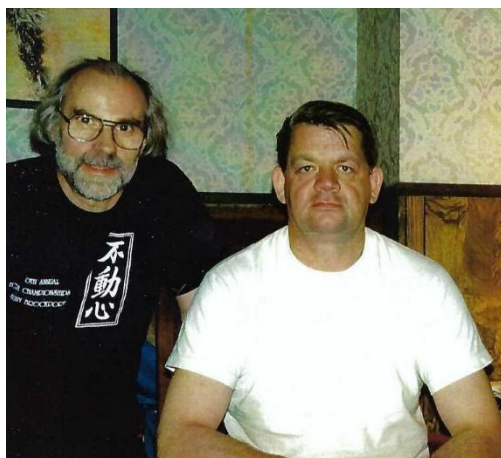


Figure 12: Dr. Andor Sensei Thomas Eshenbaugh

Joseph Hedderman's son, Tony Hedderman, recalls that although neither his father nor Walter Mazak formally trained in Judo, they did participate in training sessions with their fellow dojo tenants. This is not surprising; Walter Mazak was noted for his groundwork (Author's Note: I can personally attest to the effectiveness of Sensei Mazak's ground technique! I was his student at The American Jui-Jitsu Karate Institute from 1965 to 1969!). Later in 1966, Sensei Zaffuto left the PJA and founded Nidonjo Judo Kai, the name formed from the names of the three principals: Nick Zaffuto, and his students, Donna Waxter and Jordie Hamilton.

Beginning in 1966, Donna Waxter and Jordie Hamilton (*nee* Jordis Ludwig), both Judo Shodan under Sensei Nick Zaffuto, regularly performed Judo demonstrations before professional wrestling events in Pittsburgh's Civic Arena and professional wrestling events throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania. Both Judoka were accomplished *kata* practitioners who, while still quite young, were hand-picked to perform *Nage no Kata* by officials from the Shufu Yudanshakai to represent the PJA at the 1966 Judo Nationals.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania



Figure 13: Kim's School of Judo's Saw Mill Run Location

The Academy of Oriental Defenses on Penn Avenue opened its doors in 1967 only to close them later in the year. Initially, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim taught Judo and karate instruction was provided by Sensei Glenn Premru, 3rd Dan Shorin-ryu Karate and Sensei Joseph Pennywell, 2nd Dan Isshin-ryu Karate, and Sensei Jarod Matthews, 1st Dan karate. Later in 1967, Judo instruction was provided by Sensei Nick Zaffuto assisted by Donna Waxter and Jordie Hamilton.

Also in 1967, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim began teaching Judo at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association (PAA).

1967 was indeed a landmark year in the history of Pittsburgh Judo. In addition to the events described above, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim left The JSofP and opened Kim's Judo School on Saw Mill Run

Boulevard in Pittsburgh's South Hills, attracting a number of Pittsburgh's best Judoka. Kim's Judo School underwent a number of name changes-Kim's Judo and Karate School, Kim's Judo and Karate Self-Defense Schools-before settling on Kim's Martial Arts & Fitness, KMAF. Also, during 1967, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim briefly joined forces with a number of Pittsburgh area the



Figure 14: Members of Kim's Martial Arts and Fitness (KMAF)

karate Senseis (the individuals mentioned above and Sensei Daniel Kestner 4th Dan) to provide self-defense instruction at various locations in and around Pittsburgh. KMAF moved

to its current location in Brentwood in 1980, where it became a Pittsburgh institution. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim's son, Sensei Eugene Kim (2nd generation), an experienced and, until sidelined by a serious knee injury, decorated competitor, currently Shichidan 7th degree black belt Judo and Childan, 7th degree black belt Taekwondo, established a second KMAF location in Cranberry Township in 1987.



Figure 15: Sensei Tanner Ki, Sensei Eugene Kim, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, Sensei Tyler Kim

Both KMAF locations remain in operation today, with O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim's grandson (3rd generation), Sensei Tanner Kim, Sandan,

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania



Figure 17: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and a future champion!

currently overseeing the day-to-day operations at the Brentwood school. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim taught at the Brentwood location until his passing in May of 2021. Over the course of the forty-one years O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim taught at his school's Brentwood location, hundreds of martial arts students passed through its doors.

Sensei Kiel Soon Park¹⁰, also a graduate of the Korean Yudo College, began his notably successful professional US martial arts career as an instructor at Kim's Judo School from 1968 to 1970, after which he went on to



Figure 16: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and Sensei Kiel Soon Park at Kim's Judo School

found Park's Judo & Karate in Copley, Ohio. Sensei Park was a highly decorated competitor: bronze medalist and silver medalist in the 1965 and 1967 World Championships respectively. Sensei Park also coached the 1984 Korean Olympic team and the 1985 and 1987 US World Championship Teams.

No discussion of KMAF would be complete without mentioning the Nicholas family. All the Nicholas family members-husband and wife George and Dorothy (Dee), children George Jr., Richard, Joseph, Brian, Cynthia and Kimberly-were accomplished Judoka. Two of the Nicholas family members, Richard and Cynthia, were alternates on the US Judo Olympic Team in 1980 and 1996, respectively. Sensei Dorothy Nicholas, a.k.a., "Miss Dee," was a beloved and respected member of KMAF for thirty-



Figure 19: Sensei Dorothy Nicholas, "Miss D"

four years; when she passed in 2006, she was ranked as Godan 5th degree black belt Judo and Ohdan 5th degree black belt Taekwondo. Sensei Nicholas did literally everything at KMAF; she was described by Sensei Eugene Kim as, "my father's assistant instructor, secretary and manager."

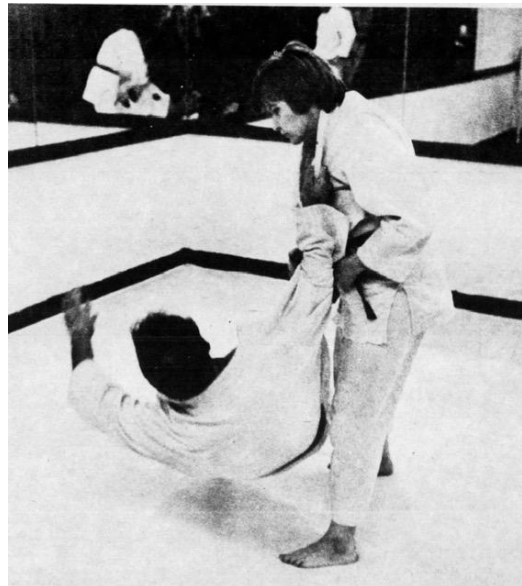


Figure 18: Sensei Dorothy Nicholas, "Miss D", throws her husband, Sensei George Nicholas.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Also in 1967, Pete Saello left the JSofP and opened Garden City Judo in Monroeville, which later moved to East McKeesport then to an, "old VFW," in Turtle Creek, then to a room in the North Versailles bowling alley. Members of the Vukson family helped Sensei Saello operate his dojo until they founded their own *dojo* (see below) and helped him host the USA Senior Nations at Robert Morris University on two occasions.

The South Hills Judo Club, SHJC, was opened in 1968 by Sensei Nick Zaffuto in the Dormont section of Pittsburgh and, after a split with the USJF, affiliated with the USJA. The SHJC moved to its current location in the late 1980's when Senseis Zaffuto and Sensei Colleen Murphy (see below) purchased a building on Brownsville Road in the Carrick section of Pittsburgh. The building was in terrible condition (according to Sensei Murphy it was about to be condemned!) and required considerable restoration. Once repairs were completed, it became the new home of SHJC with Senseis Zaffuto and Murphy as partners. The SHJC was later reorganized into the South Hills Judo Academy, SHJA, and is still in operation.

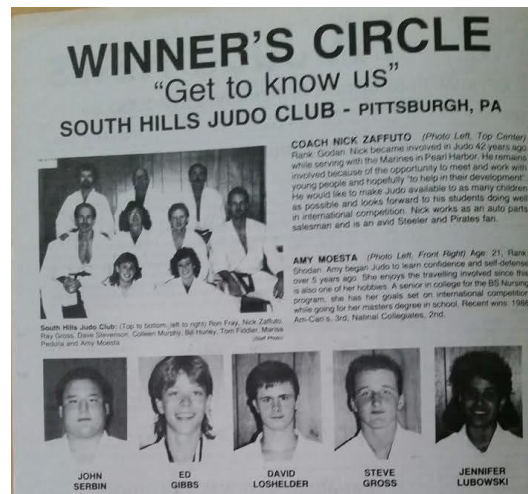


Figure 20: South Hills Judo Club

Until his passing in 2012, Head Instructor Sensei Nick Zaffuto was a well-respected elder in the Pittsburgh Judo community, who not only taught at the SHJA but promoted Judo in the Pittsburgh area by providing instruction at a number of YMCA and YWCAs throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania. SHJA members were active participants in local, state, national and international tournaments and produced numerous champions over the course of the fifty-seven years it has been in operation.



Figure 21: Sensei Nick Zaffuto, Sensei Colleen Murphy and students – circa 1985

In 1991 alone, coached by Senseis Zaffuto and Murphy, SHJA won team trophies at the Pennsylvania State Judo Tournament, in Johnstown, the Children's Hospital Tournament in Pittsburgh, the Nakamura Open Tournament in Lorain, Ohio and the American-Canadian Tournament in Ontario, Canada! In 1992, under the supervision of Pennsylvania Judo, Inc., the SHJA hosted the Senior National Judo Championships at Robert Morris College's Sewell Center. SHJA also sent several students - David

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Loshelder, Edward Gibbs in 1985 and Rick (Ricky) Brown in 1998- to the elite Judo training facility at the Olympic Training Center, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Rick Brown trained at the Olympic Training Center from 1998 to 2005, went on to travel the world to compete in Judo



Figure 22: Sensei Colleen Murphy, Sensei David Loshelder and Edward Gibbs, circa 1990

and was chosen as an alternate on the year 2000 US Olympic Judo Team. In 2005, his competitive career was brought to an end by a serious knee injury. Rick Brown later returned to the SHJA as Sensei to teach Judo and provide Judo instruction to Allegheny Youth Development's Judo Program¹¹.

In 2000, the building housing SHJA and the club were purchased by Sensei Marissa Pedulla, her husband Sensei Dean Markovics and the family of one of the club's outstanding students (see below). In 2020, SHJA was reformed into its current incarnation by Sensei Benoit (Ben) Kihumbu, who had trained at SHJA for several years. Instruction is currently provided by Sensei Rick Brown, Sensei Ben Kihumbu and Sensei Romeo Kihumbu.

Sensei Murphy began Judo training in 1972 at the age of fourteen under Sensei Nick Zaffuto at SHJC's original location in Dormont. Sensei Murphy achieved the rank of Yodan 4th degree black belt as Sensei Zaffuto's student, senpai and from the late 1980's onward, partner.

In partnership with Sensei Zaffuto, Sensei Murphy successfully managed SHJC for thirty-two years. In addition to her role as SHJC partner and manager, Sensei Murphy was a valued instructor and, especially, coach. Sensei Murphy coached SHJC members to individual and team successes throughout her tenure at SHJC, coached Sensei Marissa Pedulla to a berth on the US Olympic Judo Team (see below), and for several years coached the US Women's Judo Team at tournament venues around the world.



Figure 23: 1995 World University Games, Sensei Colleen Murphy (coach) - bottom row, second from right, and Sensei Marissa Pedulla (competitor) - top row, second from left

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

In 1972, Sensei Gary Goltz, then a freshman at the University of Pittsburgh, approached Dean Peterson of the University's Athletic Department and suggested that the University implement a Judo program. Dean Peterson agreed and Sensei Goltz's instructor, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, began teaching at the University. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim taught Judo (and later Taekwondo) at the University until 2019, a tenure of forty-seven years.



Figure 24: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim with students - University of Pittsburgh

A number of Pittsburgh area dojos broke from the Shufu Yudanshikai in 1974 and joined the USJA, which was affiliated with the Allegheny Mountain Region of the AAU. Originally led by O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim as president, leadership later passed to Sensei Goltz when he was elected President in 1977 after Dr. Paposi-Jobb cast the deciding vote.

In 1977, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim was named coach of the US Team competing in the World Judo Tournament in Barcelona, Spain, which, unfortunately was canceled. The following year, 1978, he was appointed Coach of the US Team when it competed in the 1978 Pan American Judo Union Championships in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September-October and The Kano Cup in Tokyo, Japan, in November.

The Kodokan School of Judo of Pittsburgh, KSofJofP, of Pittsburgh was founded in 1985 by second generation Judokas Joseph, Thomas and John Vukson, all of whom were at one time junior Judo students at the JSofP. The KSofJofP first opened in a dance studio in West View. After several years, it moved to a larger venue in a gym in Avalon, later still to an even larger ("huge") facility in a gym near Pittsburgh's North Park. The KSofJofP grew from modest beginning of twenty students to a membership of fifty including thirteen dan-ranked Judoka: two Rokudan 6th degree black belts, four Yodan 4th degree belts, three Sandan 3rd degree black belts, one Nidan 2nd degree black belt and three Shodan 1st degree black belts.



Figure 25: Joseph, Thomas and John Vukson

Senseis Joseph and Thomas Vukson were noted *kata* practitioners who traveled extensively to seek *kata* instruction from some of the most knowledgeable

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania



Figure 26: Vukson brothers perform Nage no Kata

authorities in the country. The Vukson brothers were originally taught *kata* by Senseis Pete Saello and Joe Bova, Sr. while students at the JSofP. Later, as adults, they were encouraged by Sensei Saello to seek expert instruction to correct what he regarded as, “old school Judo techniques.” Instruction was initially provided by, former USA Kata Champion, Sensei Faye Allen, which enabled them to take 4th then 3rd place in the USA Judo Nationals.

After taking 1st place in the USA Nationals in 1988, they were approached by Senseis Edwin and James Takemori and invited to train at their dojo, which began a long relationship with the Takemori brothers and numerous trips to their dojos in Washington DC and Maryland. The Takemori brothers also introduced the Vukson brothers to Sensei Nakamori Hachidan 8th degree black belt, an accomplished Sensei in Ohio, who provided additional instruction. After

the Vukson brothers were observed winning the USA Nationals for the second time by Head US Kata Judge Sensei Keiko Fukuda¹², she offered to, “polish,” their *kata*, which led to an invitation to the PanAmerican Games.

Within the Pittsburgh Judo community, the Vukson brothers and were regarded as the Pittsburgh Judo community’s leading *kata* practitioners, so much so that Dr. Paposi-Jobb regularly brought students from his Hun Judo Dojo in Clarion to The KSofJofP for *kata* instruction.



Figure 27: Vukson Brothers perform Nage no Kata. Ura Nage!

With Joseph as *tori* and Thomas as *uke* the Vukson brothers were active *kata* competitors, participating in Pennsylvania State Championships, USA Judo Nationals, AMCAN International Judo Championships and World competitions in which they achieved considerable success: twelve-time Pennsylvania State Champions, four-time National Champions and second place four times and third place twice in national competition.

Members of the Vukson family also provided support to the practice of Judo in Pennsylvania as officers in the Pennsylvania Judo, Inc. with Sensei Joseph Vukson serving as President for several years. The KSofJofP was very much a family affair: Sensei Joseph and

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Thomas Vukson are both ranked as Rokudan 6th degree black belts, their brother, Sensei John Vukson as Yodan 4th degree black belt and Sensei Joseph Vukson's daughter, Sensei Wendy Vukson, as Nidan 2nd degree black belt. The KSoJofP operated successfully until 2020, when, unfortunately, it was forced to close due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Also in 1985, Senseis James, Charles and Rebecca Igims opened the Pittsburgh Academy of Judo, PAJ, in the basements of the Sheraden United Methodist Church and St. Anne's Catholic Church in Millvale, later moving to YMCAs in Bellvue and the North Side, then on to Wright's Gym in Crafton where it remained until it closed. The name, a variation of the JAofP, was chosen as an homage to their instructors at the JAofP, the dojo where the Igims family began their Judo training. PAJ students and Igims family were also active competitors in local, state and national tournaments. Much like the Vukson Brothers, members of the Igims family benefitted from high-level Judo instruction provided by the Takemori brothers at their dojo at Georgetown University in Washington, DC and Sensei Nakamori in Ohio. In fact, in the 1980's Sensei Igim's daughter, Danielle, spent several summer vacations living with the Takemori family in Alexandria, Virginia as an *Uchi-deshi*¹³, "inside student!"

Prior to its affiliation with SHJC, members of Allegheny Youth Development (see above) were provided with Judo instruction by PJA. The Igims family members were not only active competitors, but Sensei James Igims also supported Pennsylvania Judo by serving as President of Pennsylvania Judo, Inc. in 1985. Throughout his Judo career, Sensei Igims was an active Judo referee both domestically and internationally, culminating with his designation as an International Referee (IJF-B). Sensei James Igims, a corrections officer by profession, developed a Defensive Tactics course specifically for corrections officers which he taught to members of his profession throughout Pennsylvania and at the FBI Academy. The PAJ closed in 2000.

In 1996, Sensei Marissa Pedulla, a graduate student in biochemistry at the University of Pittsburgh, and her husband Sensei Dean Markovics, joined SHJA. Sensei Pedulla was an active competitor in state, national and international tournaments in which she was coached by

Sensei Colleen Murphy. Sensei Pedulla competed in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, where she took seventh place in her weight class. After retiring from competition in 1997, Sensei Pedulla gradually assumed adult teaching and coaching responsibilities at SHJA and was named one of four coaches of the Women's United States Judo Team for the 2004

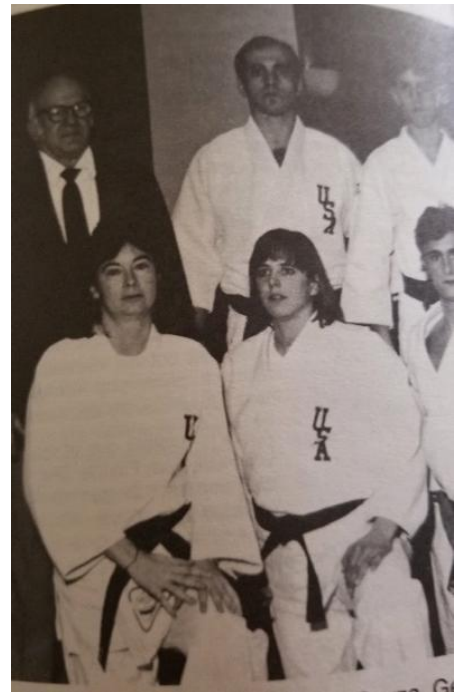


Figure 28: Sensei Nick Zaffuto, Pedro DeSousa, Sensei Colleen Murphy and Sensei Marissa Pedulla, 1992

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. Sensei Pedulla and her husband Sensei Dean Markovics oversaw SHJC's reorganization into a non-profit entity in 2000. In 2005, Sensei Pedulla left SHJA and is currently a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Montana Technological University.

In 2007, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim became gravely ill and was diagnosed with idiopathic cardiomyopathy, a degenerative heart condition. Eventually, his heart condition deteriorated to the point where his doctors elected to implant a pacemaker. This procedure, although initially successful, became complicated by a series of MRSA infections which required him to spend weeks in the hospital. As his heart muscle continued to deteriorate, it became clear that a heart transplant had to be considered. Initially, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim was reluctant to consider undergoing such a major surgery and it was only after his family and his long-time student Sensei Gary Goltz, a former health care executive fully aware that a MRSA infection following a pacemaker implant nearly always resulted in a fatal outcome, prevailed upon him to do so that he agreed. Sensei Goltz recalls visiting O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim in Pittsburgh during this difficult time and imploring him to undergo the procedure, even to the extent of calling him from the airport just before boarding his return flight home to California.

The initial evaluation of O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim as a potential heart transplant candidate was not encouraging, notwithstanding his extraordinary level of fitness for a seventy-three-year-old individual. His age at the time and the scarcity of donor hearts made a transplant unlikely. Although the prognosis was bleak, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and his family refused to surrender to fate and found their way to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and a team of doctors led by Dr. Christian Bermudez. After a battery of tests, it was determined that in spite of his age, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim's outstanding physical condition made him an excellent candidate for a heart transplant. On June 28, 2008, he underwent a successful heart transplant, a ten-hour procedure. At the time, he was the Pittsburgh Medical Center's oldest successful heart transplant patient. The evening after the surgery, he was alert and hungry! The following day, the medical staff had him standing upright. In just over a month following his surgery, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim returned to his life's calling and resumed teaching martial arts. Throughout this ordeal, he never lost his equanimity nor his sense of humor; in fact, he informed a senior student of his imminent surgery by declaring, "Old heart no good, new heart on its way!"

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania



Figure 29: Trafford Judo Club

In 2007, another second-generation Judoka and alumnus of the junior Judo class of the JSofP, Sensei Paul Bova, founded the Trafford Judo Club, TJC. Members of The TJC practice Kodokan Judo and Kosen Judo.¹⁴ Sensei Bova began practicing Judo in 1964 as a junior student at the JSofP and is currently ranked as Rokudan, 6th degree black belt. Sensei Bova also holds two coaching certifications from two national governing bodies: the United States Judo Association (USJA) and USA Judo, Inc. (USJI). Sensei Bova sits on the Board of Directors of The USJA as the organization's Treasurer. TJC is a thriving Judo *dojo* with more than thirty active students and features no fewer than five full sized *tatami* all of which are on sprung floors! In addition to Sensei Bova, the TJC's current black belt roster includes: Carl Levy Sandan 3rd degree black belt, Phil Horrell Nidan 2nd degree black belt, Julian Levy Nidan 2nd degree black belt, Vincent Sha Nidan 2nd degree black belt, Joel Unger Shodan 1st degree black belt and Christian Levy Shodan 1st



Figure 30: Sensei Paul Bova



Figure 31: Sensei Gary Goltz (coach) and Sensei Paul Bova after winning the Veteran's World Judo Championships in Cancun

degree
black

belt, an accomplished group who have competed at the local, state, national and international level.

In 2018, Sensei Bova, an active and successful competitor throughout his life, traveled to Cancun, Mexico to compete in the International Judo Federation's (IJF) World Veterans Tournament. He was coached by Sensei Gary Goltz, a long-time member of the Pittsburgh Judo community (see above). In a series of matches described by onlooker Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb as, "beautiful," Sensei Bova won 1st place, took the gold medal in the 145 lb. division and became a world champion.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania



Figure 32: Sensei Pamela Russell, Sensei Gary Goltz and O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim

Southwestern Pennsylvania Judo, SWPJ, was opened in 2008 by Senseis Pamela and Robert Russell, both of whom were students of O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim. SWPJ is located in Carmichaels, Greene County, Pennsylvania; its curriculum includes Kodokan Judo and traditional Japanese Jujutsu. Head Instructor Sensei Pamela Russell has competed at the local, state, national and international level and is currently ranked as, Godan, 5th degree black belt Judo, Nidan 2nd degree black belt Jujutsu and is an accomplished National Judo Referee (N4).

In July of 2013, KMAF, assisted by TJC, hosted a successful joint USJA/USJF Junior National Tournament in Pittsburgh. The joint Summer

Nationals were made possible by the American Judo Alliance Agreement (AJA)¹⁵, an effort to enter into cooperation between and ultimately unify Judo's three National governing bodies.

Spirit Forge Martial Arts, SFMA, was founded by Sensei Christopher Moore late in 2013. Sensei Moore was also a student of O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and is currently ranked as Rokudan 6th degree black belt in Judo, Childan 7th degree black belt in Taekwondo and is a lifelong strength athlete and coach. SFMA is privileged to have as a senior instructor, Sensei Ronald Pardini, Hachidan 8th degree black belt Judo, twelve-time National Masters Judo Champion, founding member of The JSofP, former *senpai*, senior student, of O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and retired Chief of Police of the Upper St. Clair Township Police Department. Sensei Pardini teaches a Judo Master Class weekly at SFMA.



Figure 33: Sensei Christopher Moore and Sensei Ronald Pardini

On May 14, 2021, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim passed away, thirteen years after undergoing heart transplant surgery. The Pittsburgh Judo community had lost a giant. At his passing, his long-term student, Sensei Gary Goltz, nominated Kyu Ha Kim to the USJA Promotion Board for promotion to Judan, 10th degree black belt, the highest rank attainable in Judo. O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim was posthumously promoted by the USJA to Judan on May 17, 2021.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania



Figure 34: Sensei Ronald Pardini, Sensei and coach Yoshihiro Uchida, Sensei Andor Paposi-Jobb

The history of Judo in Pittsburgh is a very much a Pittsburgh story. From its earliest days with instruction provided by wave of returning World War II veterans, it is a story written by passionate commitment, determination, hard work and perseverance. When no Dan-ranked instructor was available, the members of The JSofP kept training, initially relying upon Jigoro Kano's text, Kodokan Judo, for instruction, later seeking out and petitioning O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim to become their teacher.

Lacking a home dojo, they built one with their own hands. Although a number of dojos founded by the original members of the Pittsburgh Judo community have closed their doors, several continue to operate under second and third generation members of Pittsburgh's original Judo families, practicing and teaching Judo at a high level. There is more Pittsburgh Judo history yet to be written; in the past several years a number of new dojos have been established in the Pittsburgh area. Perhaps we are witnessing the beginning of a Pittsburgh Judo renaissance!¹⁶

Much like Judo itself, the Pittsburgh Judo community rose from its humble beginning in YMCAs and church basements to achieve notable success, host National tournaments, produce state, national and international champions, coach and referee at the national and international level, place members on the US Olympic Judo Team and produce a world champion.

By Christopher D. Moore
January 15, 2026

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Disclaimer: The majority of the information above was provided by the principals actually involved in the events described some of which took place over seventy-five years ago. To the extent possible, it has been presented in chronological order. Also, where possible, individual memories were supplemented by (sometimes contradictory) articles gleaned from newspaper archives. Although every effort has been made to be as accurate as possible, it should not be surprising when recollections differ, names are misspelled and there are factual disagreements. Please contact me with any corrections and additional information.

Thank you! - Thanks to Ronald Pardini, Gary Goltz, Paul Bova, Eugene Kim, Joseph Vukson, Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb, Jason Dignan, Sam Germana, Noriaki Bunasawa, James Igims, Colleen Murphy, Brian Foltz and Tony Hedderman and everyone who contributed their respective memories of Judo in Pittsburgh and Southwestern Pennsylvania. Also, thanks to Sensei Joeseph Vukson and Sensei Colleen Murphy and especially Sensei Gary Goltz (photo dump!) for the photographs they kindly provided. Finally, special thanks are due to Karen Monaghan, researcher, IT technician and editor extraordinaire.

Table of Footnotes

1 The Shufu Yudanshakai, a charter member of the USJF. United States Judo Federation. Founded in 1952 by Senseis James and Edwin Takemori, the Shufu Yudanshakai covers a large portion of the Mid-Atlantic States including the Washington DC metro area, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, the Carolinas and Georgia. The Shufu Yudanshakai provided an opportunity for the members of The Pittsburgh Judo Club and later The Judo School of Pittsburgh to participate in Judo tournaments with competitors drawn from several states and provided a formal system for rank promotion. Senseis James and Edwin Takemori taught Judo for decades at their dojos -the Washington Judo Club at Georgetown University and the US Naval Academy- in the metropolitan DC area and Maryland.

2 The Father of Pittsburgh Judo, Brian Foltz, 2011

3 Kyu Ha Kim came to be addressed by his students as Kwanjangnim, Grandmaster, the Korean honorific to which he was entitled as an Paldan, 8th degree black belt in Taekwondo, often as Mr. Kim by members of the Pittsburgh Judo community and in an effort to reflect his rank and stature in the Judo world, O Sensei, a Japanese honorific which means, "Great Teacher," or, "Grandmaster." throughout this article

4 Sensei Jerome Mackey, 4th Dan began learning Judo at age ten and was one of the Americans to franchise martial arts in the United States. His fourteen schools were highly successful especially in NY and NJ. Sensei Mackey's business plan included bringing high level martial arts instructors, especially Judo Masters, from Asia to staff his schools, including: Senseis Ryohei Kanokogi, Motohiko Eguchi Ito and karate Sensei Toyotaro Miyazaki

5 Sensei Noriaki, "Nori," Bunasawa currently Kudan, 9th degree black belt Kodokan, trained under Yoshimi Oswa, Kodokan 10th Dan, at Waseda University and trained with both Mashiko Kimura and Kenji Tomiki, founder of Tomiki Aikido. Sensei Bunasawa is a former USA Judo coach at the 1972 Olympics and the 1975 World Judo Championships in Vienna, Judo and Jujutsu researcher and Japanese martial arts historian, author of, The Toughest Man Who Ever Lived. While working as a medical technician at Johnstown Memorial Hospital, and while enrolled at Edinboro State University and later Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Sensei Bunasawa taught Judo at the Johnstown YMCA, the Indiana YMCA, the Windbar Community Center and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Judo Club. Sensei Bunasawa is also the founder of Jukkendo, bunasawakai.com.

6 Dr. Paposi-Jobb is an accomplished hypnotist; he learned hypnosis in Hungary before immigrating to the US in 1956 from a colleague of Dr. Ivan Pavlov (yes, that Dr. Pavlov of Pavlov's dog fame), noted physiologist and Nobel laureate. Dr. Paposi-Jobb has not only utilized his skill as a hypnotist for entertainment, but, more importantly, to aide law enforcement as a forensic hypnotist, including the Pennsylvania State Police! Interestingly, Dewey

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Deavers, the founder of Koseido-ryu Jui Jitsu and Hanshi Joseph Hedderman's and Sensei Walter Mazak's instructor, was also a noted hypnotist (see 9, below!)

7 Sensei Gary Goltz Kudan 9th degree black belt began his life-long journey in Judo in 1965 when he became a student of Kyu Ha Kim. Sensei Goltz was the COO of USJA, 2005-2010; past President of the USJA, 2010-2015; President of the Hal Sharp Judo Teachers Fund; past President of the Nanka Judo Yudanshikai in Southern California; and past Chair of the USJA promotion board, 2015-2020. Sensei Goltz was inducted into the USJA Hall of Fame in 2003.

8 Sensei Thomas Eshenbaugh 4th Dan Judo, was a combat defense instructor in the Army while serving in Korea. Sensei Eshenbaugh taught Judo from 1961 to 2000, initially at a YMCA on the North Side, later at the PJA

9 Hanshi Joseph Hedderman, May 4, 1935-March 31, 2018; at the time of his passing, ranked 10th Dan, Hanshi, in Koseido-ryu Jui-Jitsu, 9th Dan Chito-ryu Karate-do. Sensei Walter Mazak 1919 (?) - 1982 (?), 4th Dan Koseido-ryu Jui-Jitsu. The American Jui-Jitsu Karate Institute underwent several name changes, first to The Pittsburgh Yoseikan in 1973 then, in 1986, to The Allegheny County Budo-Kai, Koseido-dojō.org. Founded in 1927, it remains in operation to this day in a building on the South Park Fairgrounds under Hanshi Hedderman's son, Kyoshi Tony Hedderman, 7th Dan Koseido-ryu Jui Jitsu Menkyo Kaiden, 8th Dan Chito-ryu Karate-do, 2nd Dan Matayoshi-ryu Okinawan Kobudo.

10 Sensei Kiel Soon Park (1941-), graduated in 1964 at the top of his class from the Korean Yudo College (Yong-In University) with a degree in Physical Education. Upon graduation, he was promoted to 4th Dan; he was 6th Dan during his tenure at Kim's Judo School in Pittsburgh. Sensei Park is currently, 9th Dan Judo and 9th Dan Taekwondo; he was a 5 time Korean National Judo Champion, participant in the 1964 Olympic Games, 1965 Bronze medalist in the World Judo Championships in Rio de Janeiro, silver medalist in the World Championships in Salt Lake City, Head Coach for the 1986 & 1987 US world Championship Team, President of the Korean Yudo Association of the USA, member of the Kukkiwon College, and founder of the Da e -Myung martial Arts Academy (Judo, Taekwondo and Hapkido). Master Park was also instrumental in training the Korean Judo team for the 1988 Olympics, for which he received an honorary PhD

11 Allegheny Youth development, AYD, was established in 1994 to help Pittsburgh's North Side youth to break the cycle of poverty, crime and joblessness. AYD defines its mission as, "...to educate, equip and empower inner-city youth to reach their God-given intellectual, social, physical and spiritual potential." In 2007, AYD entered into a relationship with SHJC to provide Judo instruction to its members. AYD incorporates Judo instruction not only for its rigorous physical training, but to instill the time-honored values associated with Judo: righteousness, courage, benevolence, sincerity, honor, loyalty and self-control. Instruction is provided by Sensei Rick Brown, long-term SHJC student and decorated competitor assisted by black belts from SHJA and AYD.

12 Sensei Keiko Fukuda Sensei, April 12, 1913-February 9, 2013, 10th Dan, was the highest ranked female Judoka in history and the last surviving student of Dr. Jigoro Kano. Sensei Fukuda's grandfather, Fukudo Hachinosuke, was a samurai, master of Tenjin Shinyo-ryu Jui- Jitsu and Dr. Jigoro Kano's first instructor.

13 Uchi-deshi, "inside student," a Japanese term for a student who lives with, trains under and assists a sensei on a full-time basis.

14 Kosen Judo is a variation of Kodokan Judo which employs a different set of rules that facilitate more extensive ne waza, groundwork. Kosen Judo was developed and flourished at the koto senmon gakko, kosen, technical colleges in Japan in the first half of the twentieth century.

15 The American Judo Alliance Agreement (AJA) was a landmark pact in 2018 between the United States Judo association (USJA), the United States Judo Federation (USJF) and USA Judo to collaborate and grow Judo in the US. Largely spearheaded by Sensei Gary Goltz from the USJA and Sensei Neil Simon from the USJF, key initiatives included reciprocal event participation and development of a Unified American Judo Development Model. Unfortunately, in March of 2023, USA Judo announced its withdrawal from the agreement, leading to its expiration and a return to separate operations for the three organizations.

16 Sensei Yoshihiro Uchida, April 1, 1920 to June 7, 2024. Sensei Uchida was instrumental in developing one of the nation's outstanding Judo programs at San Jose State University, where he coached for 70 years.

The History of Judo in Pittsburgh & Southwestern Pennsylvania

Table of Figures

Figure 1 : Sensei Nick Zaffuto	1
Figure 2: The Judo School of Pittsburgh	2
Figure 3: The Judo School of Pittsburgh	2
Figure 4: Figure 4: Members of the Crafton judo Club, winners at a local tournament and their instructors. Front Row: Denny Kirby, James Conroy, Tommy Vukson and Jeff Kirby; Back Row: Tom Vukson, Instructor and Club Secretary; Joe Vukson, John Vukson, Bill Watson and Robert Voege, Instructor and President	3
Figure 5: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, circa 1966	3
Figure 6: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim - Brooklyn, NY	4
Figure 7: Oklahoma Dao Myung Judo Club	4
Figure 8: Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb	5
Figure 9: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, portrait by Dr. Andor Paposi-Jobb, late 1970s	6
Figure 10: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim congratulates a young Sensei Gary Goltz, 1968	6
Figure 11: 9 th Dan presentation to Sensei Gary Goltz. Left to Right: Sensei David Brogan, Sensei Gary Goltz, Sensei John Paccione	7
Figure 12: Dr. Andor Sensei Thomas Eshenbaugh	7
Figure 13: Kim's School of Judo's Saw Mill Run Location	8
Figure 14: Members of Kim's Martial Arts and Fitness (KMAF)	8
Figure 15: Sensei Tanner Ki, Sensei Eugene Kim, O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim, Sensei Tyler Kim	8
Figure 16: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and Sensei Kiel Soon Park at Kim's Judo School	9
Figure 17: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim and a future champion!	9
Figure 18: Sensei Dorothy Nicholas, "Miss D", throws her husband, Sensei George Nicholas.	9
Figure 19: Sensei Dorothy Nicholas, "Miss D"	9
Figure 20: South Hills Judo Club	10
Figure 21: Sensei Nick Zaffuto, Sensei Colleen Murphy and students – circa 1985	10
Figure 22: Sensei Colleen Murphy, Sensei David Loshelder and Edward Gibbs, circa 1990	11
Figure 23: 1995 World University Games, Sensei Colleen Murphy (coach) - bottom row, second from right, and Sensei Marissa Pedulla (competitor) - top row, second from left	11
Figure 24: O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim with students - University of Pittsburgh	12
Figure 25: Joseph, Thomas and John Vukson	12
Figure 26: Vukson brothers perform Nage no Kata	13
Figure 27: Vukson Brothers perform Nage no Kata. Ura Nage!	13
Figure 28: Sensei Nick Zaffuto, Pedro DeSousa, Sensei Colleen Murphy and Sensei Marissa Pedulla, 1992 ..	14
Figure 30: Sensei Paul Bova	16
Figure 29: Trafford Judo Club	16
Figure 31: Sensei Gary Goltz (coach) and Sensei Paul Bova after winning the Veteran's World Judo Championships in Cancun	16
Figure 32: Sensei Pamela Russell, Sensei Gary Goltz and O Sensei Kyu Ha Kim	17
Figure 33: Sensei Christopher Moore and Sensei Ronald Pardini	17
Figure 34: Sensei Ronald Pardini, Sensei and coach Yoshihiro Uchida, Sensei Andor Paposi-Jobb	18