

**DISTRIBUTE TO:** Zone and Territory Women’s Leaders  
**FROM:** SGI-USA Women’s Leader, Naoko Leslie  
**SUBJECT:** **Champions of Peace and Happiness Group 3rd Class (2020-2021)**

The Champions of Peace and Happiness Group 3rd Class will begin in March 2020 based on the timeline below. Starting in March, instead of January, will allow for recent YWD graduates who are eligible to be considered for the 3rd Class.

**TIMELINE**

**SELECTION & INTERVIEWS**

<b>BY FEBRUARY 10</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal of 5–8 candidates per region</li> <li>Name of region/zone leader who will be the coordinator for the 3rd Class  <b>Must be submitted to your Territory Women’s Leader</b></li> </ol>
<b>BY FEBRUARY 20</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Territory/National review list and respond. Interviews can begin after the list is approved</li> </ul>
<b>BY MARCH 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Region/Zone Coordinators Teleconference</li> </ul>
<b>BY MARCH 15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final name list must be submitted after all interviews have been completed</li> </ul>

**INDUCTION & GRADUATION**

<b>END OF MARCH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3rd Class Induction Meeting (will include national encouragement link)</li> </ul>
<b>DECEMBER 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3rd Class Graduation Ceremony</li> </ul>

**BACKGROUND**

On October 21, 2015, the SGI-USA Women’s Division received the name **“Champions of Peace and Happiness Group”** from Ikeda Sensei for the formation of a women’s training group designed for those under the age of 45.

**PURPOSE**

The goal of the group is to raise capable women leaders for the future growth and development of kosen-rufu in America toward the 100th anniversary of Soka Gakkai in 2030 and beyond.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

Based on the timeline above, please submit a name list of candidates February 10th who fulfill the following criteria:

- ✔ Must be a Women’s Division member 45 years old or under on December 31, 2020
- ✔ Has practiced for at least one year or more
- ✔ Holds a line leadership position at the district through territory level (exceptions at the group level must be approved by the Territory WD Leader)
- ✔ Has passed the Introductory Exam and at least one Essentials or Ikeda Wisdom Academy Exam
- ✔ Has an active subscription to the *World Tribune/Living Buddhism*
- ✔ Has participated in contribution within the past year

## HOME-VISIT/INTERVIEW

After the territory/national has approved the proposed name list by February 20th, each candidate must be visited by region/zone leaders. At the visit, please explain the mission of this training group, re-confirm the selection criteria above, and clarify participation will entail the following commitment:

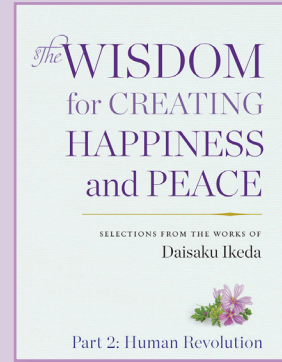
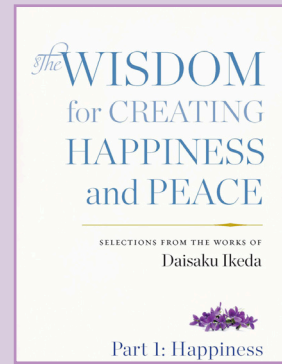
- Attend bi-monthly Champions of Peace and Happiness Meetings
- Purchase and bring the study material to the meetings
- Determine to challenge a personal shakubuku in 2020
- Commit to making childcare arrangements (if applicable)

## STUDY MATERIAL

*The Wisdom for Creating Happiness and Peace*, part 1 and 2.

## FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF MEETINGS

- Ideally, meetings will be held at the region level, however, depending on the locale, frontier areas may consider chapter level meetings
- Meetings will be held every other month based on the agenda below
- Preparatory meetings can be scheduled as needed but are not mandatory



## AGENDA

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| • Gongyo and Daimoku  | 15 minutes |
| • Opening Words   | 5 minutes  |
| • Study Presentation based on Study Material by 3rd Class member                                | 10 minutes |
| • Personal or Organizational Victory Experience by 3rd Class member                             | 10 minutes |
| • Discussion and Q&A on Study Material  | 30 minutes |
| • Q&A based on current organizational rhythm or encouragement by Region through National Leader | 30 minutes |
| • Write a memo to Sensei with a vow or determination from the meeting                           | 20 minutes |

## REGION/ZONE COORDINATORS ROLE

An **Orientation Teleconference** for region/zone coordinators of the 3rd Class will be held on **Monday, March 2nd**.

Coordinators are tasked to support as follows:

- Confirm annual calendar and meeting location
- Confirm agenda details and presenters
- Review/assist with study presentation
- Review/assist with experiences
- Confirm guest leaders
- Send meeting reminders
- Keep attendance report
- Visits/guidance to ensure each 3rd Class member successfully concludes in 2021
- Prepare graduation certificates



Thank you very much!