DATE: DECEMBER 07, 2021   MEMO: 2021-ORG-003

DISTRIBUTE TO: District through Territory Men’s Division Leaders
FROM: SGI-USA Men’s Leader Kevin Moncrief
SUBJECT: Men’s Division Guidelines 2021

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL SGI-USA MEN’S DIVISION

Men’s Division of SGI-USA! 2021 marks the first of our ten-year journey toward 2030—the decade Sensei has called upon his disciples to determine to “effect a powerful change in the destiny of all humankind” (World Tribune, September 18, 2020, p. 3). Therefore in the midst of the tremendous struggles facing society, Sensei can count on us to face head on and defeat all devilish functions, encourage our fellow members—especially the MD and YMD, and advance kosen-rufu with a great shakubuku spirit. Through these efforts we will each mark this year with a great victory and actual proof of human revolution.

MEN’S DIVISION FOCUS

► **Member Care:** Continue our “leave no man behind” member care efforts and building bonds of friendship toward our August general meetings.

► **Shakubuku:** Toward helping one friend begin to practice this year, MD will strive to develop a rhythm of planting seeds of Buddhism each day.

► **Raising Successors:** 1) Support our YMD brothers through shared efforts to visit and encourage the YMD and support their efforts to lead in shakubuku and 2) Expand and strengthen the power of the Courage Group age MD.

► **Faith, Practice & Study:** Create daily rhythm of abundant daimoku and study of the *The New Human Revolution*.

► **MD Support of the District:** MD will provide valuable support to the front line district activities.

MEN’S DIVISION ACTIVITIES

**Monthly Kings of Soka Meetings**

Men’s Division will continue to host via zoom our monthly Kings of Soka Meeting (2ND or 4TH week) at the organizational level decided upon by local Zone and Region leaders. Each month’s meeting is an opportunity to strengthen our bonds of friendship and shared determination to respond to Sensei. This March will mark the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Men’s division. Let’s make March KOS a special celebration which will include the graduation and new induction of Courage group.

**Men’s Division Support of the Weekly Soka Spirit Encouragement Meetings**

The MD of SGI-USA will strive to support and participate in the weekly Zoom Soka Spirit encouragement meetings. Support of these meetings will lead to an explosion of benefit, joy, and hope for all participating MD. Based on experience, those areas where the MD do this are decidedly more joyful and experience more shakubuku and support of the youth.
Courage Group

This year we will continue our Men’s Division training activity – the Courage Group. This class will be the forerunners of the Men’s Division toward 2030. Here are some key points toward this most important class:

▶ Graduation and inauguration will be held at the March Commemorative Kings of Soka meeting.
▶ Appoint Courage Group graduates as coordinators to support incoming class.
▶ Direct leadership of Courage Group meetings by Region/Zone leaders.
▶ Ensure every Region/Zone has a fully formed Courage Group and is making use of curriculum and Courage Group Manual.

August: Leave No Man Behind Commemorative Men’s Division Meeting

Last year the Men’s Division were able to win a historic battle in August. Centering on a member care focus of reaching out to every single Men’s Division member, we were able to smash our goal of 7000 attendance with over 9000 men and guests attending, including 300 YMD guests. This year we will continue our member care efforts starting on Jan 1st and create a tremendous momentum toward August where we will smash through 10,000 attendance. The general meetings will again be held at the region level.

MD Reception/Safety Group

Due to COVID-19, SGI-USA activities will continue virtually at the start of the year. However, the men of the RSG will wage all out Daimoku to crush this devilish function and be fully prepared and ready for action the moment our centers are ready to open.

2021 MD FNCC Conferences

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the usual three FNCC MD conferences cannot be scheduled. If the situation changes and the FNCC can be reopened for conferences, a schedule will be communicated.

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GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR MEN’S DIVISION LEADERS

“Men play a vital role in securing the unity of the entire organization. Ultimately, the full responsibility for the chapter rests with the men’s division. Men must have the magnanimity to tell the women and youth, ‘Please carry out your activities freely, to your hearts’ content!’

“The less ability and confidence a man has, the more likely he is to put on airs and behave in an authoritarian and arrogant manner. Others may outwardly appear to follow such a person, but in their hearts, they will despise him. It is also important that men never, under any circumstances, vent their anger on women or shout at them, for it is women who are working the most earnestly for kosen-rufu.” (Vol 1, “Pioneers” pp. 305-306)

Kosen-rufu begins and ends with the district. This year—like never, the focus will be on the battle for kosen-rufu at the front lines. Study will be focused on The New Human Revolution and preparations for the Intro to Buddhism, Courage Group (for MD 35-45) and the monthly Gosho study.

The purpose of study is: “Buddhism is a teaching for helping all living beings, and especially the people who are suffering the most. Therefore, study needs to be rooted in daily life and a guide for action. Study becomes a revitalizing force when it provides assurance and self-confidence in the power to overcome life’s difficulties and tribulations.” (The New Human Revolution, vol. 24, pp. 137-38)

On behalf of Rex Taylor, Jason Berg, Josh Joffee, and Mike Bynum, I thank you for the heartfelt efforts you are making on the front lines and for your support of the brilliant achievements of 2020. This year, we will overcome all obstacles, achieve personal breakthroughs and live lives of joy, fulfillment and contributions.

Very Respectfully,
Kevin Moncrief
SGI-USA Men’s Division Leader