DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2022  MEMO: 2022-ORG-004

DISTRIBUTE TO: District through Territory Men’s Division Leaders, Zone and Territory Offices
FROM: SGI-USA Men’s Leader Kevin Moncrief
SUBJECT: Men’s Division Guidelines 2022

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL SGI-USA MEN’S DIVISION

Men’s Division of SGI-USA! 2022 marks the second year of our ten-year journey toward 2030—a decade Sensei has encouraged us as being most decisive toward the Soka Gakkai’s centennial in 2030. Our society has been stricken by isolation and division wrought by the pandemic and other challenges. Therefore, the SGI theme for 2022—The Year of Youth and Dynamic Progress—is a call for each of us to use hardships and adversity as springboards for our individual human revolution. Let’s all make 2022 a year of dynamic progress with our youth at the vanguard!

MEN’S DIVISION FOCUS

► District is the Core: MD will unite with the other divisions and provide valuable support to front line district activities.

► Propagation Renaissance: MD will continue planting lots of seeds of Buddhism. Let’s each strive to have one friend begin their practice this year.

► Member Care: MD will foster genuine bonds of friendship, reaching out to both active and inactive members, based on sincere daimoku.

► Raising Successors: Support the Young Men’s Division through our shared efforts to visit and encourage YMD and support their efforts to take the lead in propagation.

MONTHLY KINGS OF SOKA MEETINGS

As our centers continue to reopen across the country, we look forward to having more in-person Kings of Soka meetings. At this time, all in-person Kings of Soka meetings are held on the last Saturday of each month (at re-opened centers only). For areas without a reopened center, we will continue to hold monthly Kings of Soka meetings by Zoom, either on the 2nd Saturday or the last Saturday/Sunday of the month.

ADDITIONAL MD STUDY MEETINGS (OPTIONAL)

While we would like to keep additional MD meetings to a minimum, in order to help to foster productive dialogue and camaraderie among the Men’s Division, additional monthly MD study meetings may be held if desired, ideally at the chapter level. The suggested study material for these additional MD study meetings is posted on the sgi-usa.org website each month, and comes from Ikeda Sensei’s encouragement found in “Men Shining with Youthful Brilliance”.

SUKHUM SGI-USA Men’s Division

SUKHUM 2022
Courage Group

The Men’s Division Courage Group continues to be a valuable leadership training group for our newer MD who have recently graduated from the YMD. A separate communication for Courage Group will be forthcoming, but here are some key points—

▶ Graduation and inauguration will be held at the March Kings of Soka meeting.
▶ Strive to appoint Courage Group graduates as coordinators for the incoming class.
▶ Courage Group meetings (by Region/Zone) should be attended and supported by the MD Region and Zone line leaders.
▶ Ensure every Region/Zone has a fully formed Courage Group and is making use of the curriculum and Courage Group Manual.

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

In 2021 we commemorated the 55th anniversary of the establishment of the Men’s Division by planting over 55,000 seeds of Buddhism nationwide, toward our August MD General Meetings. This year we will continue our member care efforts and planting seeds starting on Jan. 1st, generating great momentum toward August again where we will gather over 10,000 men at our August General Meetings.

2022 MD FNCC Conferences

Information about FNCC conferences will be forthcoming in a separate communication. Latest updates about FNCC conference information will also be posted on the FNCC page on the sgi-usa.org website.

SECURITY AND SAFETY GROUP

In 2022, the MD Security and Safety Group will relaunch with a fresh spirit and determination to support the YMD Gajokai in serving our members from behind the scenes at the centers. Thank you to all our members who volunteer to support and protect our centers throughout SGI-USA! As Ikeda Sensei states—“Working wholeheartedly behind the scenes to support kosen-rufu and protect the Soka Gakkai is a most noble form of Buddhist practice.” (NHR-24, 89-90).

On behalf of Alex Marcos, Paul Niihara, Josh Joffee, and Mike Bynum, I thank you for your dedicated, heartfelt efforts in 2021. Let’s make 2022 the best year ever as we courageously break through our self-imposed limitations to achieve the most dynamic progress in our lives and in our kosen-rufu movement.

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