AIKIDO CLUB 2016/2017

Aikido Club’s progress and events in Semester 2:

- Hosting of the Alan Ruddock Memorial course
- Self-defence Seminar, Rory Miller self-defence course
- Alumni weekend course
- Club Grading
- Club AGM
- Further Engagement with the Saint to reach out to the student body

Further Goals of the Club:

- Bolster Inter-Club relations
- Prepare for upcoming beginner’s course, as well as the influx of new Freshers in the coming semester and another new self-defence course in November, headed up by Randy King.

The Aikido club has made many great strides in the past year, with impressive attendance to the annual beginner’s course (hosted in the first semester). Our social scene has been expanding considerably, thanks to contributions by Christina Chalache, our new social secretary. With a healthy roster of interested students joining us at the start of the year, the club was set for success in the months to follow.

This last semester has been both productive and enjoyable for the club and its members - with our major activities beginning with the hosting of the Alan Ruddock memorial course; hosted in honour of a key figure in both the history of Aikido, and in the Aiki No michi federation’s origins. It was an honour for the club to be able to welcome so many fellow practitioners of the art from areas like Ireland and Belgium.

The self-defence seminar brought even more success this year than last - with both the Saturday session in Dundee as well as the Sunday session here in St Andrews filled near to capacity with both eager students and martial arts enthusiasts from St Andrews and beyond.

The Alumni weekend course was a fantastic follow up to both of these events - and while the club
found itself moving slower and tired from the courses held over the two weekends prior, there was still lively participation in the course by both current and previous members.

The Club AGM confirmed the suspicions that our committee of newly recruited first years were going to stick at their roles - after a semester of assisting in the club's management, subsequent to being elected to their posts in the EGM last semester. With a few non-executive positions left to fill, we eagerly look forward to the arrival of new members, next year.

Our club grading (conducted by our sensei, Ricky Craig) was a fantastic success, allowing the advancement of all members who attempted to grade - with one new 5th kyu, as well as two new 4th kyus, and a new 2nd kyu being added to the club's ranks.

We hope to continue our successes in the next academic year - with our next annual intensive course in October, as well as an entirely new self-defence seminar to be hosted in November.

Brendan Mackay, Captain

Website: http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/sport/sport/clubsport/aikido/
Email: aikido@saints-sport.com