

# *Japan Sport Wellness Fukiya Association*

10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## **Opening Address at the Opening Ceremony of The 1<sup>st</sup> International Open Remote Competition**

Dear All participants and members of Japan Sport Wellness Fukiya Association,

Pandemic of COVID-19 is still continuing by new virus variants in Japan and World.

However, it is my great pleasure to be able to take place “The 1<sup>st</sup> International Open Remote Competition” under the current difficult situation. I would like to say “Congratulations” and I am eternally grateful for everyone’s support.

I really thank all participants, branch general managers and instructors, institutions who serve us the places for competition, members of our Competition Department who plan and manage this Remote Competition, and also World Fukiya Lab who cooperates with this competition.

Official Competition sponsored by The Association is held first time in one year and a half. Pre-registered number of participant reaches 4,982. I am very glad to know that such a lot of members awaited the official competition.

For a month from today, all participants throughout Japan and World will show the results of daily practice. I would like to cheer for everyone.

In addition to the members in Japan, total 23 members from Hawaii and New Zealand will participate in this Remote Competition. I heard that New Zealand General Overseas Branch prepared newly-made uniforms for their participants to be used for this Remote Competition. It is wonderful to hear such a positive attitude under this very difficult situation.

This Remote Competition is planned because of the outbreak of COVID-19, but this may give us some great hint for the events to be held in the future.

On the other hand, as everyone knows well, there is an infection risk where people get together regardless of the number of persons. Please carry out this competition with due care of prevention of infection referring to the checklist of way of disinfection and in conformity with the instruction of local administrations.

Needless to say that Sport Wellness Fukiya is quite effective for the health of mind and body, but it shall be meaningful when we continue this sport. It is my great hope that this type of event may keep your motivation to continue Sport Wellness Fukiya.

Please trust your own strength and effort, then, please challenge. For your next stage, may I ask all of you to continue your challenge with fun?

Now, let us “Challenge pleasantly”.

Chairman of Executive Committee for  
The 1<sup>st</sup> International Open Remote Competition

The image shows a handwritten signature in Japanese calligraphy. The characters are '小田部 文俊' (Otabe Fumitoshi), written in a fluid, cursive style. The signature is centered on the page.

Fumitoshi OTABE, Chairman  
Japan Sport Wellness Fukiya Association