

Dear Naruwan Taiko:

It seems that the time has finally come to resolve the long-standing question of the identity of Southern California's most badass taiko group (the "Title"). As a dispute has arisen regarding Naruwan Taiko's potential claim to the Title, it is my duty as acting director of Prota to formally extend a Matsuri League challenge (the "Duel") to you, our dear respected colleagues in the San Diego taiko community.

This letter serves as official notice of Prota's challenge to Naruwan Taiko ("Naruwan"). Though it pains me greatly that we must meet as adversaries on the field of battle, I understand that Naruwan will likely be unwilling to relinquish its claim to the Title. It is therefore our solemn duty to resolve this difference of belief and ensure that all challenges to our don-minion will be matsuri-liminated. The Duel shall commence concordantly with the next Matsuri Crashers event, tentatively set for January 25, 2014.

As this is an official League Challenge introducing the revolutionary new "group battle" format, I believe some explanations are in order.

- The Duel shall be resolved through five (5) separate "Matsuri Crashers" matches.
- Both Naruwan and Prota shall each select up to seven (7) representatives to participate in these matches.
- The first, third, and fifth matches shall be individual one-on-one matches between a member of Naruwan and a member of Prota.
- The second and fourth matches shall be "team" matches between two (2) members of Naruwan on one side and two (2) members of Prota on the other.

For purposes of illustration, please see the attached Exhibit A, which depicts a sample format for the Duel.

Naturally, in keeping with the classical paradigms of dueling and in acknowledgement of your status as the challenged party, it can only be appropriate for you to have the ability to define certain rules of the Duel as you see fit. Accordingly, we are willing to allow you the option of choosing the structure for each of the five matches (the "Option"). Please notify us no later than Sunday, December 22, 2013, as to your decisions, or we shall interpret your silence as a waiver of the Option. In such a case, the Duel shall commence according to the format set forth in Exhibit A, *supra*.

Additionally, we are willing to extend our challenge to any and all former members of Naruwan willing to do battle on your behalf. Feel free to request the assistance of others in the greater Southern California area (and beyond) if you feel it is necessary to bolster your numbers.

We hope that you will step up to defend your honor in this Matsuri League challenge. Please forward us your response by no later than Sunday, December 22, 2013 to ensure a fair contest of wills. Tradition appears to dictate that the concluding paragraph of any challenge contain an abundance of bluster and posturing as to incite the challenged party to rise to accept the duel. Ergo, prepare to be matsu-reamed by the peerless percussive prowess of Prota's players' performance. We will chappa you down to size. We will beat-chu into the ground. The Title will be ours for the teke-ing, so shekere and ka-wer with fear.

We eagerly await your anticipated reply.

Very Truly Yours,

Michael N. Hirota

Exhibit A: Sample format for the Duel

Naruwan Team:

N1
N2
N3
N4
N5
N6
N7

Prota Team:

P1
P2
P3
P4
P5
P6
P7

	Naruwan	Prota
Match No. 1: 5* Singles	N1	P1
Match No. 2: 101 Doubles	N2 and N3	P2 and P3
Match No. 3: 110 Singles	N4	P4
Match No. 4: 405 Doubles	N5 and N6	P5 and P6
Match No. 5: No Limit 405 (play until tag out during second solo)	N7	P7

*For details regarding available Ji-uchi patterns, see:

http://onensemble.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/battle_structures_111130a.pdf