

Amasumo 2008 gets underway in Katsushika-ku, Tokyo

by Mark Buckton

One of sumo's biggest and best organized amateur sumo events for kids in the Tokyo area will be held Sunday, February 3rd at The Eight Hall in Katsushika Ward.

The action will get underway midmorning and will see teams representing clubs, towns, wards and cities from all over the Kanto area converge on the purpose built, Kokugikan-esque, octagonal hall and dohyo to do battle.

Bouts are fixed according to age groups and girls are permitted, and often do, compete.

A highlight of the annual sumo calendar in as far as the younger amateurs go, the event itself usually pulls in a full house and evens sees many current rikishi from heya in the eastern part of the Japanese capital attending - cheering on their family members or members of their own former clubs.

The location is a tad difficult to reach, off the beaten track, so for those interested in attending and in need of access info, contact Mark Buckton at Sumo Fan Magazine.