

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sumo Fan Mag,

I found your information on a website called <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/ss20090820mb.html>. I wanted to find a sumo training stable and I was wondering if you could send me some information. Also I understand that these practices start at 530 am and last until 11 am. Are you supposed to be there the whole entire time or are we allowed to go in and leave early?

Thank you,
Kie Ito

Dear Kie,

Thank you for contacting the

magazine. Pleasure to hear from you.

It is true that outside of the tournament season, sumo practice sessions can run for several hours.

There is of course no obligation to be there at the very start. However, it is considered polite not to leave during the course of the training session. Thus, if you don't want to stay for hours, my advice is to join the training session half-way through. Of course, during Tokyo tournament time, practice sessions are much shorter (rarely more than 2.5 hours), so this may be more ideal for you. The next Tokyo tournament is of course in January.

As for recommended stables,

Musashigawa and Michinoku spring to mind, as they are used to receiving first-time visitors regularly.

Michinoku is located just opposite the Kokugikan, behind the Chanko Kirishima restaurant.

Musashigawa is in the backstreets of Uguisudani and can be reached via the JR station of the same name. As far as I am aware, both stables have websites with telephone numbers included, should you wish to call ahead.

If you need details about other stables, please don't hesitate to contact.

Kind regards,

Chris Gould, Editor
[Sumo Fan Magazine](#)