

The World's Premier United Karate Federation

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Information Brochure

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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the UNITED WORLD KARATE FEDERATION and I hope the following information is helpful and interesting. We've posed a series of questions we would want answers to if we we're looking to join a new United World Karate Federation and trust that the answers are both helpful and interesting.

FAQs

Why another World Karate Federation

Well, first, we are not a particular competition federation but an organization for all competition formats and all Okinawan and Japanese based style, karate for all, which we accept are the 'breeding ground' for nearly all Karate-ka wanting to compete, rather we are a 'multi-format' organization from the traditional, general, and contact competition aspect, but also multi-format in respect of where karate-ka may have taken his, or her traditional, general, and contact routes. This could be with emphasis on the 'Budo' effectiveness, full contact, general, or even Okinawan Karate. So we will be a bridge to all of these '*variation in unity*' - either unity in karate, or purpose.

There are many multi format organizations in the World but we are truly united and free.

We have one of the largest and most respected multi format expertise and experience in all parts of the world, truly, an 'all-formats' world federation as directed by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1988 during the 101st IOC Session in Monte Carlo, whereas the UWKF will be a 'home' solely for All Karate countries, Coaches, Athletes, Instructors, Masters, Educators, Officials and supporters, and their karate-kas. Even those organizations that purport to be 'all things to all human beings,' are seldom that, often emphasizing some specialty, such as WKF competition, or purely traditional. Few organizations have the experience we do in the '*variations in unity.*' Look at our officials and founders line-up to see how you can have confidence in the truth of this statement.

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Why now?



It's recently become clear that within the UWKF membership we have tremendously strong Karate factions, and many of the 190 countries and thousands of club, regional and National s and 50 million karate-ka in all continents are still following a traditional path, but when the UWKA was formed in 1992 and changed its name in 2014, we intentionally created a new karate world order which, on the one hand has given us great independence, but

equally giving karate competitors the freedom to compete in any format and as many as they want without any repercussion, who may still follow a traditional competitive path, with access, ultimately, to their national squads without fear or favour, just karate. So, the decision has been taken to have separate Karate group unified into one world federation as one under one competition for all formats, still with close ties, but with its own identity and officially a member of the United World Karate Federation (UWKF) as the governing body for all formats of

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karate . It will be possible, at minimum cost, for current members to hold any membership with any organization and still be a members of UWKF. We don't believe in restricting participation and have no need to call anyone dissident as all karate are to be united under one federation, UWKF.

1. Will new groups coming in enjoy the opportunity for UWKF MEMBERSHIP?

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Absolutely, and this will be the great plus for all Karate people in that they will, if they so choose, be members of any organizations and can benefit from the great reputation that the UWKF has, and the great reputation the UWKF enjoys world-wide

2. *Can you explain the 'variations in unity?'*

Yes, of course. First we have the 'all-styles' and "all-formats", as we know, since the late 1950's onwards, there has been a profusion of traditional Okinawan and Japanese styles, some with tens of thousands of practitioners and others with just a few hundred. Some have international governing bodies, some just have their own affiliation and others have no links whatsoever. The big split in the World Karate scene occurred in the mid to late 70's when two things happened. There was the creation of two World Bodies after the 1972 Paris World Championship splitting of traditional and sports lines.

3. *Was this a good or bad thing?*

Both. On the one hand, the political and restrictive grip of the big associations was broken, but in the succeeding vacuum, standards slipped. Instructors, isolated from 'official' gradings, graded themselves, and despite the benefit of freedom, its downside was the lack of standards that have ensued since then.

4. *What about the positive developments*

This is the other element of the 'variations on a theme,' and that is the 'usage,' or more specifically, the emphasis we place on the teaching of Karate. When the 'lid came off,' restrictions ceased and we saw all the branches start to grow. First came the 'Full Contact Karate' competitions, closely followed by the 'General and contact' competitions and, in the 90's, the rise

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of the 'practical/self defence' Instructors and groups. Other areas of emphasis have been the strong interest in true Bunkai and the introduction of 'Pressure Point' knowledge and skills.

5. *Has the UWKF something to offer all these interests*

Without question, and the proof of that is evident with a run-down of the Association's senior Instructors, with whom (and also with many others) we cover this whole spectrum of

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both styles and 'emphasis.' We will have access to a wide range of competitions, from traditional to semi-contact international World Championships. If you have karate-kas with particular skills, either in the Kumite, or Kata arenas, our Squad training sessions will bring out the very best in them.

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6. *The Line-up*

1. **What about the 'politics?'**

We hear groups talking about 'No Politics' whereas its seldom practiced in reality and the restrictions they place on Instructors and karate-kas are often more draconian than they were in the bad old days. We know how to do it, however, as we've successfully demonstrated with the UWKF, which we often hear people say is one of very few the credible martial arts organisations in the UK. We place no restrictions on who you train with, grade with, or compete against, save that external restrictions currently seek to limit these expressions of growth.

2. **Can you explain your comments about 'service'**

Service is more than simply providing insurance cover and license books and we see ourselves is a support role for any instructor who needs help with growing, or changing. We have some of the most commercially astute Instructors in the UWKF whose knowledge is available and all of us have massive experience with growing the business side of karate. We have mentored people through the UWKF to grow to be not only household, but international names. We have helped people through the process of change, as they have taken their core, traditional art and introduced other concepts and emphasis, and all this skill and knowledge will be available to our people in the UWKF.

3. **What other services are there in the Federation**

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There is a bullet point list at the end of FAQs, but specifically I should mention one of the more unglamorous aspects and that is administration. Ask any UWKF Instructor about the level of efficiency in the UWKF and they will tell you it is the most effectively run organizations they have ever been with. Karate-ka licenses and insurances are back with Instructors almost by return. We measure our service levels in days, not weeks, or even months in some cases we have heard about. You will never need to make an excuse to your karate-kas as to where their membership and grading book is. Your queries are answered immediately and any help we can be in areas such as syllabus development, or marketing you only need to ask.

4. **Where does the UWKF stand on commercialism and Karate**

Let's be quite clear on the issue. The argument is that the more commercial an Instructor gets, the worse the standard gets, but it's a specious argument. There is no question, and we've all seen it, that there are organizations that are so commercially focused, with growth so driven, that standards are appalling. That, however, does not mean that all Instructors keen to succeed

Commercially, have poor standards - just the opposite - the two are not mutually exclusive. It's simply a matter of personal preference. One Instructor may be happy teaching two nights in a Church hall whilst another operates from 5,000 sq. ft. of purpose built premises, and good luck to both, but it's just a personal choice and neither should be open to criticism. It's the quality of the product that counts.

- Comprehensive Instructor and karate-ka liability insurance
- Grading/membership book and a range of certificates for Instructors, Dan
- Grading's and grading ratification for traditional, general and contact and full contact Instructors
- Top class competitions
- Squad training - traditional (Kumite & Kata), general and contact
- Regular seminars and self-protection qualifications

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- Membership of the Continental Karate Federation (CKF)
- Membership of the National Karate Governing Body
- Potential for joint membership of the any World Federation including the United World Karate Federation (UWKF)
- Full support for yours and your club, regional and National development
- Entry of the UWKF's website 'Club, regional and national Locator'
- Your own club, regional and National website on the UWKF site
- Exceptional Administration
- A network of the very best martial artists through all our membership world-wide in all formats of competition and styles
- Club, regional and National development assistance and marketing support

7. *Gradings*

1. **Dan Gradings (UWKF)**

Applicants for Rokudan (6th Dan) examination and above should have a minimum training after receiving their last grade and a minimum years training. Applications for dan grade are submitted through the recognized UWKF Club, regional and National Federation. Dan grading are based on the knowledge and time submitted and we recognize that each group will have different methods and practices, therefore, UWKF United World Karate Federation grading are conducted separately for each group and applicants are expected to bring a partner to assist.

Any grading conducted to a club, regional and National will require that the syllabus has received approval for the UWKF technical Committee. Assistance can be given in the

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construction of a suitable syllabus designed to meet the aims of the club, regional and National. The cost of any Dan grade examination is **\$100.00**.

2. Dan grading's (Group/Club, regional and National Federation)

Dan grading can be conducted by the Club, regional and National Federation by prior arrangement with the UWKF, but this is dependent on the grade level and experience of the National federation.

8. Coaching Courses

Coaching Karate, as an emerging profession, must demonstrate at all levels a high degree of honesty, integrity and competence. The need for karate coaches to understand and act on their responsibilities is of critical importance to karate, as is the need to protect the key concept of participation for fun enjoyment and achievement. We provide regular courses in coaching to meet the requirements of United World Karate Federation. For all competition format and all styles.

(Level 1, Level 2 and level 3).

9. What are the costs?

We have tried to make the costs of membership to the UWKF very competitive, (by contrast with other International federation), and are as follows;

 **Club, regional and National Registration**- 'One-Off Fee.' This fee also includes the membership of the UWKF.....**\$50 (First Two years of joining is free to assist National federation to grow)**

 **Senior Karate-ka**.....**\$20** (includes the License/Record Book for new karate-kas*)

 **Junior Karate-ka** (-15 yrs.)... **\$15** (includes the License/Record Book for new karate-kas*)

* Karate-ka membership fee includes personal accident insurance and £1 million 'member to member' liability cover as described later under the insurance heading.

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NOTES (Optional Costs)

United World Karate Federation(UWKF) membership;

 Instructors in the UWKF can affiliate to the UWKF and receive a UWKF Instructor's Certificate and Licence/Record book at a cost of.....**\$20**

 Karate-kas can also affiliate at a cost of.....**\$20** (includes UWKF Licence/Record book)

 A UWKF badge is available at a cost of.....**\$15**

The karate-ka membership application form, clearly indicates the core cost of membership and additional optional charges.

Visit the UWKF website to see the range of products available for Instructors and karate-kas.

10. Insurance

Karate-ka Insurance Cover

- General Liability and 'member to member' cover
 - Personal Accident, Capital benefits (Death, Permanent Disability)
 - Dental cover any one accident
 - Physio
 - Loss of Earnings weekly (if gainfully employed) (28 Day Excess)
 - Hospitalisation per day (Max 90 Days)
 - Ages 5 to 65
-
- Instructors are advised to keep recognised current qualifications in First Aid, Coaching, Health & Safety.

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11. How do I proceed with an application?

At this stage all we need to assess the application for Club, regional and National membership simply fill out the one page application form. Any supporting documentation that can be supplied with the application is welcome as, eventually, should you wish to proceed with the application we will need to have seen all supporting evidence of grades and any other disclosure before endorsing the application

If you are looking for an United World Karate Federation that will put yours and your karate-kas interests first, run by people with the highest respect throughout the World, internationally, then the UWKF is for you.

So, pick up the phone, write, email, or send for an application form to be a part of the most progressive and prestigious Karate under the United World Karate Federation..

United World Karate Federation

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