



# **ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**17<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**KSKA**

**Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy**

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## ARTICLE 0: FOUNDER MEMBERS

1. The founder members of the Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy non-profit organisation are the 6 members of the Shihankai (= Technical Committee) and the 2 executive members. They were selected by the late Taiji Kase:

Shihankai members:

1. Dirk Heene, Chairman  
Herkenrodebosstraat 40,  
B-3511 Kuringen Hasselt (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Teacher
2. James Martin; Vice Chairman  
21 Hayston Road  
Carrickstone  
Cumbernauld CZ680BS (Scotland)  
Nationality: Scottish  
Profession: Manager (retired)
3. Velibor Dimitryevic  
Obilicev Venac 18  
18000 NIS (Serbia)  
Nationality: Serb  
Profession: Mechanical Engineer
4. Michaylo Fedyk  
34 Belvedere Avenue  
Sutton Leach  
St.-Helens  
Merseyside WA94PZ (England)  
Nationality: English  
Profession: Sports Development Officer
5. Pascal Lecourt  
739 Chemin de la Bouleautière  
F-76116 Ry (France)  
Nationality: French  
Profession: Karate teacher
6. Pascal Petrella  
Muehlenstrasse 31  
D-79379 Müllheim (Germany)  
Nationality: German  
Profession: Manager



## Executive members:

1. Spiros Drossoulakis, Secretary  
Epikleous 18  
Patssia 1143  
Athens (Greece)  
Nationality: Greek  
Profession: Captain
  2. Alan Howard Armstrong, Treasurer  
19, Jubilee Drive  
Bredon  
Tewkesbury  
GLZ07Q5 (England)  
Nationality: English  
Profession: Management Consultant
2. At the foundation of the Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy the registered office is in Belgium, Herkenrodebosstraat 40, 3511 Hasselt, in the district of Hasselt and is a non-profit organisation. The Law of 27 June 1921 governing non-profit organisations is applicable, unless specified otherwise in the following Articles of Association.

## ARTICLE 1: NAME, AIM

1. The non-profit organisation's name is: Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy, or, in abbreviated form, KSKA.
2. The KSKA's aim is to uphold and develop, in both theory and practice, the essential principles of Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do, not only as a Budo martial art but also as a discipline for spiritual development based on the vision and spirit of the teachings of Sensei Taiji Kase.
3. The KSKA shall promote and proclaim its aim via various activities such as regular courses, conferences, demonstrations and publications.

The KSKA is entitled to carry out all the de facto and de jure activities required achieving its aim.

4. The KSKA is a voluntary organisation with membership open to all, irrespective of race, or political or religious convictions.
5. No individual Karate academy, school or sports organisation may use the name of, or so describe itself as, Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy (KSKA).



## **ARTICLE 2: REGISTERED OFFICE AND SYMBOL**

1. The KSKA's registered office is: Herkenrodebosstraat 40, 3511 Hasselt (Belgium), district of Hasselt. It can be changed inside of Belgium by the decision of the EC. It will be published in the standing order.
2. All routine correspondence is to be sent to the Secretariat, whose address will be the administrative address, and will duly be distributed from there.
3. The KSKA's working language is English. All official documents shall be drawn up in Dutch and English.
4. The KSKA's symbol is the Japanese Kanji GI in stylised, circular form. It is the symbol for moral obligation, ultimate expression of honour and dignity for a warrior, and also refers to the founders of the Shotokan Ryu style, Gichin Funakoshi and his son Yoshitaka Funakoshi.

## **ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP**

1. Karateka registered as Sandan or higher by the KSKA or another karate organisation approved by the KSKA Shihankai may be registered individually as members of the KSKA.
2. The various types of KSKA members are:
  - a) Founder members & Academy members, who have voting rights
  - b) Provisional and honorary members, who have no voting rights.
3. New members are accepted by the Shihankai after submitting an application for membership.
4. The application has to be sent to the KSKA Secretary.
5. Newly accepted members obtain the status of Academy members after being provisional members for 2 years.
6. Provisional members can not apply for Dan-Grading.
7. All members except honorary members pay an annual subscription.
8. Any member who fails to pay his/her subscription in good time becomes a dormant member, which means that all their membership rights are suspended.



9. Members may lose their status as members by:
- a) Resigning.
  - b) Failing to pay their subscription in good time 2 years running.
  - c) Being barred by the Shihankai and the EC.
10. Members or persons who provide special support for the KSKA may be awarded honorary membership. Such awards are suggested by the EC and the Shihankai.
11. The number of honorary members may not exceed 5% of the number of members with voting rights.

## **ARTICLE 4: FUNDS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

1. The KSKA shall acquire its own funds so as to be self-supporting.
2. The KSKA's funds come from: annual subscriptions, fees for Dan grading, fees for training courses, gifts and contributions. The KSKA may engage in any activities in order to obtain the funds it requires to operate.
3. The subscription is payable annually by the end of March at the latest.
4. The General Assembly approves the amount of the subscription on a proposal by the Executive Committee.
5. The accounting year coincides with the calendar year.
6. Presentation of the financial report is annually on the agenda of the General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 5: KSKA BODIES**

1. The bodies of the KSKA are as follows:
  - a) Honorary chair
  - b) Shihankai (Technical Committee)
  - c) Executive Committee
  - d) General Assembly



e) Auditors

## **ARTICLE 6: HONORARY CHAIR**

In 2005, shortly after the founder, Taiji Kase, died, the members of the Shihankai nominated Chieko Kase, his wife, as the Honorary Chair of the *Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy*.

She accepted this title and made the following statement:

*"The members of the Shihankai were selected by my late husband which is a guarantee of their commitment and determination to sustain and refine the authentic and pure practice of Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do, as he developed it".*

## **ARTICLE 7: SHIHANKAI (Technical Committee)**

1. The essential principle that the KSKA is a school for the ultimate form of training in Karate-Do makes the Shihankai (the Technical Committee) its most important body.
2. The Shihankai is ultimately responsible for the moral and technical development of a pure line of Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do.
3. Within the KSKA, the Shihankai is responsible for Dan grading in compliance with its requirements, as laid down in the KSKA Dan Grading Syllabus.
4. All members of the Shihankai have the same voting rights.
5. The Shihankai takes all its decisions by a simple majority.
6. Members of the Shihankai must be graded to at least Godan in the KSKA.
7. When a member of the Shihankai is replaced or new members admitted they must be approved by the Executive Committee, which must follow the Shihankai's proposal.



## ARTICLE 8: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The EC is made up of at least a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer.
2. The EC is elected for a period of 4 years.
3. The members of the EC may be re-elected.
4. Members of the EC stay in power until a new candidate is elected by the General Assembly.
5. The members of the EC are put forward by the *Shihankai* and elected by the General Assembly.
6. If one or more members of the EC resign within its term of office, the EC shall co-opt, which the approval of the Shihankai this position for the remainder of this term.
7. The EC has full authority to conduct the day-to-day business of the KSKA.
8. The EC decides the amount of fees payable to any person working for the KSKA.
9. The President powers are as follows:
  - a) He is the academy's fully authorised legal representative. He may delegate authority to third parties, even if they are not members, to represent the academy.
  - b) He chairs the general assemblies of the KSKA.
  - c) He directs the secretary to take the measures required to implement the assemblies' decisions.
  - d) He chairs all events organised by the KSKA.
  - e) He is responsible for presenting all decisions taken by the EC or the Shihankai to the General Assembly for ratification, when necessary.
10. The Vice-President powers are as follows:
  - a) He resumes the responsibilities of the President in his absence or at his request.
11. The Secretary's powers are as follows:
  - a) He is responsible for the receipt of and replying to all correspondence relating to KSKA activities.



- b) He liaises between members of the KSKA.
- c) He is responsible for sending out information on the agenda for meetings.
- d) He is responsible for drafting the minutes of the GA and circulating them and all other decisions to all KSKA members
- e) He is responsible for keeping the KSKA list of members up to date.
- f) He is responsible for keeping the KSKA Dan Grading Register up to date.
- g) On completion of his term of office, he shall return all KSKA-related files and documents to the academy.

12. The Treasurer's powers are as follows:

- a) Collecting the annual membership fee.
- b) He is responsible for keeping an appropriate, complete and correct account of, inter alia, all funds and donations received by or available to the KSKA.
- c) He is responsible for paying all the KSKA's outstanding accounts in good time and notifying the Chairman if these exceed available funds.
- d) He has to prepare a financial report for the GA.

## **ARTICLE 9: GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)**

1. The general assembly is the KSKA body with the highest authority.
2. The GA must be convened annually by the EC. Members must be notified at the latest 14 days before the meeting. It shall take place at the registered office or another venue designated by the EC.
3. The agenda must be circulated at the latest 14 days before the meeting.
4. Any proposal to be examined by the GA must be sent to the secretary at the latest two months before the date scheduled for the GA.
5. All members who have discharged their financial obligations have a vote.



6. Provisional members do not have a vote but may attend the meeting and make their views known. These views have no effect on the outcome of the vote.
7. Each member has one vote at the general assembly. Proxy voting is not permitted.
8. The general assembly is quorate irrespective of the attendance.
9. Decisions are adopted on a simple majority, except under special circumstances such as stipulated by the legislation on non-profit organisations.
10. If no majority is forthcoming, the Chairman may propose another discussion or vote.
11. If the Shihankai believes that the circumstances call for urgent action, it may convene a general assembly.

## **ARTICLE 10: AUDITORS**

1. The auditors are elected annually.
2. The auditors are not members of the EC. They are elected by the general assembly.
3. The auditors' task is to audit the annual accounts and to submit their written or oral report to the general assembly for approval.

## **ARTICLE 11: EXCLUSION AND SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS**

1. Members may be excluded or suspended by the Shihankai and EC in accordance with the legislation on non-profit organisations. No grounds need to be given for this decision. The exclusion must be approved by the GA.
2. Suspension may be for a fixed or indefinite period. Exclusion is permanent.
3. During the period of suspension, the member concerned may not take part in any official KSKA event or Dan grading.



## **ARTICLE 12: AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

1. Amendments to the Articles of Association are initially presented by the Executive committee or a member of the Shihankai. Amendments of the articles must be approved by the Shihankai prior to the proposal to the General Assembly.
2. The Articles of Association of the KSKA may be amended by the GA on a majority of 2/3 of the members present. If the KSKA's aims are to be changed, 2/3 of the members must be present. These changes must be announced and explained in the agenda for the general assembly. If the required number of members is not present at the first meeting, a second meeting may be held which may adopt decisions irrespective of the attendance.
3. Changes, resulting from legal requirements, may be implemented by the EC without the approval of the GA.

## **ARTICLE 13: DISBANDING**

1. The KSKA can be disbanded only on a proposal by the Shihankai which is approved by the general assembly on an absolute majority of the members present.
2. The GA decides what is to be done with the KSKA's funds and property.
3. The funds and property may not be distributed amongst the members.
4. After the outstanding accounts have been paid, the surplus funds must be used for non-profit aims of a social or humanitarian nature.

## **ARTICLE 14: LEGAL EFFECT OF THESE ARTICLES**

The articles take effect on the day on which they are accepted.

The articles were changed 17 October 2009.

