Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy

加瀬派松涛館流空手道

President Dirk Heene

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Secretary

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Minutes of KSKA General Assembly

Date:

12th of Mai 2012

Time:

Start at 6.30 pm, close at 7.50 pm

Venue

Bürgerhaus Müllheim, Hauptstr. 122, 79379 Müllheim, Germany

A1: Welcome

The KSKA President Dirk Heene opened the General Assembly by welcoming members to the meeting in Mullheim.

A2: Identification of presence and verification of entitled voters

The Secretary Gerhard Scheuriker and Treasurer ascertained that 42 members attend the meeting of which 33 had voting rights. At the time of the General Assembly 93 members had fulfilled their membership obligations and were eligible to vote i.e. had full membership rights.

All members present agreed that voting wold be by a show of hands.

A3: Report of the President Dirk Heene

Dirk Heene made the following statement.

Members of the Shihankai, Members and Karateka of the KSKA, since 1990 when we started to go a specific way in the history of Shotokan karate with Sensei Kase, we saw a lot of changes in a short time.

From 1995 there was a distance created by Sensei Shirai and Sensei Kase, concerning the political situation in the ITKF and the connection with competition and sport karate. Later on Kase Ha way was born with a clear Budo approach to Karate-Do.

The philosophy of Budo is the first thing to think about if we consider this lifetime aspect of our karate practice .The essential aim of Budo is finding harmony and peace and not

competition and opposition. So this also should be the fundamental target of our Shotokan Ryu,

The way to achieve this target is regular practice in the Dojo and the improvement in the quality of our technical, physical and mental purpose.

In KSKA we try to bring it about through the Gasshukus, the yearly Kan Geiko for young instructors and international and regional courses.

It is not easy to keep this regularity and it needs discipline and different kinds of efforts to follow these pathways to progress. Physical aspects such as injury, sickness or other reasons can do serious damage to the lifestyle of both karateka and instructors. We saw many people leave the organisation in 2000 after Sensei Kase's heart problems and a second time in 2004 when he passed away. Last year about 11 courses were cancelled due to an infection in my leg, some other courses were taken over by colleagues but it caused a lot of turbulence. Having an accident or similar traumatically experiences can change a life completely and disturb the organisation. Also family members with problems can upset the regular training and organisation of a karate life.

Fundamental to our future is the need to develop potential international instructors, based on skill and pedagogical capacity along with good collaboration and understanding .We should look for these persons through the different courses, and provide them with the opportunity to teach.

Also the economical international situation is extremely dramatic for some countries. The numbers of practitioners is falling, the income of instructors who are partially or totally depending on these numbers becomes difficult .Travelling as well is more difficult and it is harder to take time off work.

Under these circumstances we need to lookout for the best conditions for training venues, concerning price and quality. With this in mind Juan Pablo Delgado has informed us, that we should cancel the Cadiz course from October 2012 and postpone it to May 2013. The original weekend planned in October is the celebration date of the Spanish constitution and it will take place in Cadiz. Prices, Hotel availability and travelling will cause a lot of problems (not talking about traffic in Cadiz) at that time.

In the same period a big group is travelling to Okinawa in August for a holiday-training – history experience; this also has its economic effects. In Oct 2013 we will have an extended residential karate course in England (also extra-costs). We suggest cancelling the October-Cadiz course as a kind of sabbatical and focus on the regional courses.

In this context it is good to consider as well, if we are going to sponsor or support initiatives with the funds of the KSKA, or just keep it the way we are working?

The level of the Dan grades is improving, but still a lot more can be done in preparing for grading's. That is why more candidates should grade through the Academy and not having "different" syllabuses in their local organisations. This is the only way to guarantee the technical level of our 3rd Dan members.

The motivation of our dormant members should be triggered by the leading members and instructors.

In summary there are a lot of items to work on, due to the actual international situation and the changing of mentality. But also this is part of BUDO and the way to progress.

A4: Report of the Secretary

Member situation (Database 10th of May 2012)

We had 149 Members in 2011: in 2012 we have 18 Provisional (P), 93 full members (M), 38 Dormant (D) (because they have not yet paid their membership fee 2012)

Very rarely are official cancellations of memberships made. Most of the members just stop paying their fees. After two unpaid years of membership their status changes at 31st of March into that of interest (I) but they are no longer classified as members and no further information is sent from the Academy. During my term as KSKA Secretary I can remember only two personal cancellations. One could no longer afford the member fee, which I regret very personally and the other saw no future for him in Kase Ha Karate.

Information about courses from members:

We publish on the official KSKA website all courses that are held by the Shihankai and KSKA members. To ensure members get accurate and timely information we need the information in good time, this means at least 2 months in advance.

Some information files I received had many megabytes but very little clear information about location, date, contact, etc. It would be beneficial for all involved if the files are still small but increasing the clarity and information content. This will greatly help to promote your event.

Information about the Grading results

The results of a Grading need to be entered in our database as soon as possible. If a Grading is held, the organiser should prepare a list which includes all the names of examiners and examinees and must be signed by the Shihankai member(s) present. These should be sent direct to the General Secretary who will arrange for the database to be updated. The lists can be downloaded from our website. Please support the Shihankai by this kind of preparation.

What makes my work difficult and how do I see my future in the Kase Ha world?

At the moment most of the leadership is done by personal conversations. Clarifications by email in a reasonable period of time are often difficult. Unfortunately it slows down the development of the administration for me.

This way of working is further complicated by the following points:

- There is often little time for scheduled meetings during Gasshuku weekends.
- Karate is more important to the participants than clarification of administrative points.

Due to lack of communication GA often looks uncoordinated e.g. Hasselt.

Due to various reasons I am resigning my position as a KSKA General Secretary as soon as somebody can be found to take over the duties. Since 2008 it was possible for me to support the Kase Ha Academy and I am glad that I had the experience of working for an international group as a secretary. I learned a lot about myself and it has been fun to make a difference, to implement projects like the database, the design of the statutes and the administrative simplification of membership are hopefully useful milestones for the Academy to grow further. In the future I will continue to support KSKA activities but, due to personal reasons, I will focus my energy more on Kase Ha Germany.

A5: Report of the Treasurer

Alan Armstrong handed out copies of the Income and Expenditure account as well as a balance sheet, with an overview about the financial situation of the KSKA.

Income

The KSKA has three income streams, Membership Fees, Guest Fees from Gasshuku's, Dan Grade Fees.

Overall income was significantly higher than the previous year. The reason for this was that in 2011 the accommodation costs for all members attending the Lilleshall Gasshuku were included in the accounts because the money was collected and paid through the KSKA bank account.

In the 2011 accounts it appears that despite an increase in membership numbers (+10) the membership income is down slightly. Cause is that some people pay their fees early and others late resulting in the payment being captured in either the previous year's account or even the following year.

Guest fees from the Gasshuku's were up on the previous year because of increased attendance by non-members. The policy of permitting guest to attend is working well as several of these guest subsequently applied for membership.

Expenditure

Again the expenditure figures were distorted by the Lilleshall accommodation fees issue in the same way as the income figures.

Balance Sheet

In 2011 there was small surplus of income over expenditure. This compares with a loss in the previous financial year. There were one off costs related to the Kase Memorial visit to Tokyo by representatives of the Executive and Shihankai in 2010 which were not repeated in 2011.

The surplus was reflected in the balance sheet which was higher.

A6: Report of Audit

A signed report from the external auditor confirmed the accuracy of the accounts.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Frank Schubert and seconded by Mona Pfaus. In the absence of any counter proposal the accounts were accepted.

A7: Resignation of the Committee

In accordance with the Statutes the Executive committee resigned and stood for re-election

Mike Cowburn took the chair on the resignation of the President and conducted the election process for the role of President.

Dirke Heene was proposed as President and was re-elected unopposed. He then resumed the chair and conducted the election of the Treasurer and Vice Chairman. Alan Armstrong and Jim Martin respectively were re-elected unopposed.

Gerhard Scheuriker, the General Secretary did not stand for re-election but agreed to stay in the role until a suitable replacement could be found. Applications for the position by interested parties were invited.

A8: Proposal of members

There were Issues raised by e-mail (6th of November 2011) from our member Mona Pfaus. She asked for detailed information about the Kangeiko and the GA.

Our President, Dirk Heene, stated that the Shihankai stood behind the idea of the Kangeiko and it will be beside the Gasshukus one of the regularly events of the KSKA. Its long term purpose was to develop future KSKA Instructors. This was envisaged as a 10 year project; at the end of this time the existing instructor team would be all over 60 and some would be over 70 years old. There was a need to ensure continuity if the KSKA was to survive and carry Kase Sensei's teachings forward.

The General Secretary explained the guidelines used for these events and which had been agreed by the Executive and Shihankai.

Kangeiko: Criteria's for invitation and sponsorship

A Kangeiko is a winter course for potential Academy Instructors. The purpose of the Kangeiko is to develop young instructors for senior teaching positions in the KSKA.

Date:

The last full weekend in February. (Note: We count only full weekends. If the 28th (or 29th) is a Saturday the course will take place one week before.

Place:

The venue will be chosen by the Shihankai.

Invitation

- A maximum of 20 people may be invited
- Participants are proposed by members of the Shihankai
- Members who are invited to take part at the Kangeiko must have paid their membership fee, or pay it latest at the Kangeiko.
- The Shihankai may also invite non-members (1st 2nd Dan) where there is a special regional interest in supporting Kase Ha Karate-do.

Finance

The KSKA will fully expense accommodation, meals and dojo hire.

Participants involved in collect and transporting attendees from airports may claim expenses for fuel, road tolls etc.

Participant will be responsible for their own travel costs, alcohol or incidental expenditure related to attendance

Important detail of our Statues which justifies expenditure on a Kangeiko

ARTICLE 1: NAME, AIM

- 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.

Additional information from the secretary

Every Kangeiko held was authorised by the Shihankai and Executive.

The costs for the 2012 Kankeiko will be listed on an additional paper.

The KSKA investment in the 2012 Kangeiko about €1.500. It includes accommodation, gym rent and the pick-up service from the airport. 12 members and 7 none members attended. Most of the non-members come from the closer environment. The participant paid for their own food and travel costs.

You also get additional opinions from participants. In summary, I can say right now that we receive more positive than negative statements about the Kangeiko.

8.2 General Assembly (GA) Guidelines:

Date:

The GA should be as close as possible to the closing date of the last financial year.

Where practicable it should be hold at the first Gasshuku of the year.

Place:

Normally at one of the KSKA Gasshuku.

Preparations:

The secretary informs via email named "member info" all members, 3 month before the agreed date.

The President or the Vice-president has to prepare the agenda of the GA and they have sent it to the KSKA Secretary

The secretary will arrange date, time and place with the Gasshuku organizer and invite all members by mail minimum 2 weeks (better longer) before the GA will take place. Within this invitation mail a link to the GA – agenda will be also be sent

Minutes

The minutes will be announced by email "member info" with a link to the KSKA homepage.

Point of view from the secretary about the GA Hasselt 2011:

- Notification of the place of the GA was received late.
- No time was allotted for an executive meeting before the GA so details were not discussed and agreed

- . The dining room with tables already laid was not a good choice of venue
- List of attendees has to be completed at the beginning of the meeting (agenda point
 2) the list is needed to establish voting rights
- The President has to chair the GA (Statues)

A9: Miscellaneous

During the meeting at the Hotel Stadthaus, Mulheim the Shihankai and the committee discussed different themes. Some of the decisions were:

- Because of the difficult economical situation in some parts of the world, the KSKA will support some local courses by financial support. The Shihankai will decide each year if and how much money will be allocated for which course. First course will be in Spain, Jerez in 2013.
- 2. The KSKA should provide Instructor Certificates to support for the local senior instructors. These certificates will have a validity of 3 years. To renew the certificate the instructor must attend a number of KSKA course including Gasshuku, Kangeiko and regional courses with Shihankai members. The cost of this certificate will be €25. Further details will follow.
- 3. Because of some difficulties the Gasshuku in Cadiz will be held in May 2013 instead in October 2012. For the Gasshuku in October 2012 we need a new organizer. An offer had been made from Portugal but because the Cadiz course is only postponed until the following May it was not thought to be practical to have two consecutive courses in the same region. At the time of the GA no final decision had been made. The information will be sent via a "member info" e-mail.
- 4. There is the opportunity of extending the Gasshuku in Lilleshall UK October 2013 to 3 or 4 days. No final decision has been made.

There being no further business the GA was closed by the President at 19.50

Date: 12th of Mai 2012

Signature of the Secretary:

Gerhard Scheuriker

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Idenfikation of presens for the General Assembly

Date:

12th of Mai 2012

Time:

6.30 pm

Venue:

Bürgerhaus Müllheim

First Name	Family Name	Signiture	Land	Voting right	
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