



MEMBER'S CONSTITUTION 1989

1. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE FEDERATION

- 1.1.** The Federation was established in order to unite Martial Arts schools of different Styles and Traditions throughout the world. Without unnecessarily affecting the independence of its members, it will ensure a minimum standard of achievement for its qualifications and provide a universal set of Rules enabling its members to compete on an equal basis for National, Continental and World Titles.
- 1.2** The Federation intends to help represent the Free Style Martial Arts Movement within each country to the Sports Councils of those countries, and to the International Amateur Athletics Associations and the International Olympic Committee. The Federation will co-operate with all other organisations at any time in order to achieve these Aims.
- 1.3.** It is the policy of the Federation to assist and reward its instructors in the form of profit sharing schemes and the availability of discounted price lists for trophies, training equipment and other relevant merchandise.
- 1.4.** The Federation expects its members : To respect their Instructors and fellow students; not to abuse the skills which they are taught, especially against those weaker than themselves; not to attack first in thought or deed; only to employ these skills in defence of life and limb and in support of Law and Order.
- 1.5.** The Members of the W.U.M.A. Federation have joined in order to become part of a body where standards of excellence, standards of safety and standards of satisfaction are maintained. These rules are imposed to achieve these standards. Without these rules, there are no standards. People who are not committed to achieving and maintaining such standards, people who are not prepared to abide by these rules, should go elsewhere.

2. GENERAL

- 2.1.** All members must be in possession of a full, current licence, issued by the World Headquarters. Life members not possessing a licence are affiliate members only, and do not qualify for the rights and privileges of full membership. (NB : W.U.M.A. Insurance only covers those with a full, current licence).
- 2.2.** All members must abide by the W.U.M.A Student Code and the Rules of their School and Association.

3. GRADINGS

- 3.1.** A Grading may not be attained without a full licence.
- 3.2.** All Gradings MUST be registered at the World Headquarters.
- 3.3.** A 1st Dan/Degree Instructor may grade students to all grades below 1st Degree/Dan Grading.
- 3.4.** All Dan/Degree Gradings must be officiated by an instructor 2 grades above the current level of the Candidate. (i.e. : a 2nd Dan may grade Brown to 1st Dan; a 3rd Dan may grade 1st Dan to 2nd Dan, and a 4th Dan may grade 2nd Dan to 3rd Dan). In effect, no one may grade another person up to equal rank.
- 3.5.** To attain a 1st Dan/Degree grading, a Student must have been training regularly for a Minimum of three years, regardless of Style or Tradition or skill.

WUMA WORLD GOVERNING BODY HEADQUARTERS

130 Barton Street, Gloucester, GL1 4EN, England, UK. Telephone 07505008442 Email: wuma278@gmail.com

International Offices: England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, France Italy, Spain, Holland, India, Pakistan, Malta, Syria, Switzerland, Hawaii, Romania, Nepal, USA, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Poland, Jersey, Russia, Denmark, Finland, Australia, Lebanon, Sicily, Rep of Georgia, Canada, Greece, Sweden, Norway, South Africa, Belgium, Solomon Islands, N / Ireland.



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- 3.6.** To qualify for 2nd Dan, a first Dan must train for 2 years from his/her 1st Dan Grading, then for a further 3 years before being eligible to attain 3rd Dan. Qualifying training periods for higher grades are the number of years equal to the level of grading sought (i.e. 4 years for 4th Dan, 5 years for 5th Dan etc.)
- 3.7.** These time limits are set in order to maintain the integrity of the grading qualifications. They may not be broken. The Federation will not recognise Grades given by other organisations that do not comply with these limits.
- 3.8.** Gradings for 4th Dan/Degree and above may only be issued directly from World Headquarters. Persons who have completed the qualifying period may apply in writing to the World Headquarters.
- 3.9.** All Dan Gradings are to take place at the HQ of the relevant country under the President of that country, unless a mutual agreement is made.
- 3.10** Associations encompassed within the Federation may make their rules more strict than the above, but may not make them more lenient.
- 3.11** Headquarters reserves the right to monitor and assess ALL Gradings, and to Upgrade or Downgrade any person within the Federation at any time.

4. INSTRUCTORS

- 4.1.** Instructors must have an official up-to-date teachers certificate and a current licence. An instructor must be Brown belt or above to obtain a Teachers Certificate.
- 4.2.** Instructors must licence new students within one month of joining the school.
- 4.3.** Instructors must ensure that EACH school has full indemnity insurance.
- 4.4.** Instructors must register ALL Gradings IMMEDIATELY on completion.
- 4.5.** Instructors must not use the W.U.M.A. name or logo on promotional material or in connection with events or competitions without written consent from Headquarters.
- 4.6.** Make visiting W.U.M.A. members welcome, with no further joining fees.
- 4.7.** Instructors of 1st Dan/Degree and above may set their own Syllabus requirements for grading their students.
- 4.8.** New Instructors will be subject to an initial six month probationary period, in which to demonstrate that they can comply with the requirements of these rules.
- 4.9.** W.U.M.A. will not sanction any tournaments or seminars within the probationary period.

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5. INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATIONS WITHIN THE W.U.M.A.

- 5.1.** Individual Associations within the W.U.M.A. retain their own Independence and autonomy, providing that they observe the minimum requirements regarding grading and discipline as set out within this constitution.
- 5.2.** Individual Associations may : Issue their own licence documents and grading certificates (both of which must still be registered at the W.U.M.A. World Headquarters), set and enforce their own rules and regulations and hold their own competitions and seminars, etc.

6. PRESIDENTS OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES

- 6.1.** Presidents of Individual Countries are appointed by the World Headquarters only.
- 6.2.** The President of each country is entitled to represent the W.U.M.A. within that country with regard to dealing with Authorities and Governmental Bodies.
- 6.3.** The President of each Country (only) is entitled to choose members of a Team to represent that Country.
- 6.4.** The President of each country (only) is entitled to organise National & International Competitions, and National Titles, within that country.
- 6.5.** Presidents of individual countries are NOT entitled to prevent individual members or clubs from joining the W.U.M.A., nor from sending their own teams to open competitions or events within that country or world-wide.
- 6.6.** Members of W.U.M.A. may, with due cause, petition the World Headquarters to have the president of their Country removed or changed. Such decisions remain entirely at the discretion of the World Headquarters.

7. DIRECTORS OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES

- 7.1** Directorships are awarded only by World Headquarters, and are usually restricted to heads of Individual Associations.
- 7.2.** Directors of Individual Countries within the W.U.M.A. retain their own Independence and autonomy, providing that they observe the minimum requirements regarding grading and discipline as set out within this constitution.
- 7.3.** Directors may : Hold their own competitions and tournaments, and enter their own teams (not National Teams) in W.U.M.A. events.
- 7.4.** All disciplinary matters, even at club level should be sent in writing, to be kept on file at the World HQ for future reference.

8. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

- 8.1.** Instructors of Individual Schools retain full discretion to ban any person from their own schools. Headquarters will not interfere in such decisions, but a member subject to such a ban may still join any other school within the Federation.
- 8.2.** Heads of Individual Associations within the W.U.M.A. retain full discretion to ban any person from any or all schools within that Association. Headquarters will not interfere in such decisions, but a member subject to such a ban may still join any other school within the Federation if allowed by the school Instructor.

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- 8.3.** Headquarters retains full discretion to ban any Person from ALL schools within the Federation, and to cancel their membership of the Federation. Persons subject to such a ban may not train in ANY school belonging to or affiliated to the W.U.M.A. Federation.
- 8.4.** Schools which accept persons banned from the Federation as students may, after warning, themselves be banned from the Federation.
- 8.5.** Individual Instructors or Heads of Individual Organisations or Presidents of Individual Countries may apply to Headquarters to have any Student, Instructor or School under their sphere of influence banned from the Federation. This decision will be made entirely at the discretion of Headquarters, and both sides will be given the opportunity to have their cases heard.
- 8.6.** Individuals or Schools belonging to Individual Associations within the W.U.M.A. that are expelled from, or choose to leave, the said Association may still register independently within the Federation unless the Head of the Association requests that they be banned from the Federation and such request is granted, as per Rule 7.5. above.

9. EVENTS (TOURNAMENTS, SEMINARS, COURSES, DEMONSTRATIONS, ETC)

- 9.1.** All W.U.M.A. sanctioned Tournaments must use the United Tournament Rulebook (UTR) supplied by the World Headquarters. The Safety Requirements of the U.T.R. **MUST** be adhered to.
- 9.2.** It is the responsibility of the organiser of any event to **ENSURE** that it is covered by adequate Insurance.
- 9.3.** All events **MUST** be sanctioned by World Headquarters in writing.
- 9.4.** All event paperwork must be obtained from Headquarters, in order to ensure that it complies with insurance requirements. This will be free of charge.
- 9.5.** Continental and World Titles may only be organised by arrangement with the World Headquarters.
- 9.6.** World Headquarters must be given full results of ALL W.U.M.A. competitions world-wide.
- 9.7.** All trophies, medals, title belts and certificates must be acquired through W.U.M.A. HQ unless prior arrangements are made with Headquarters in writing.

10. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 10.1.** Any student of any Style or Tradition of Martial Arts may join as an Individual Member.
- 10.2.** Any School with a recognised instructor may join all members.
- 10.3.** Any Instructor may apply for a Teachers Certificate, provided that they meet the minimum requirements.
- 10.4.** Any person joining the Federation must provide evidence of the Rank or Grade that they are claiming, in the form of a certificate from a recognised instructor of a recognised School, Association or Style (which does not necessarily have to be a member of, or associated with the W.U.M.A.) Headquarters retains full discretion on whether to accept such rankings.
- 10.5.** Any person claiming a rank or grade from a style, instructor or association that is not recognised by Headquarters may apply to be re-graded into that degree or rank. Headquarters retains full discretion to approve or deny such application, and to decide the composition of the grading panel.
- 10.6.** Membership may be terminated at any time by giving written notice to World Headquarters. Termination becomes effective immediately, and all privileges of membership, especially insurance, are cancelled.

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Degree	1st Dan	2nd Dan	3rd Dan	4th Dan	5th Dan	6th Dan	7th Dan	8th Dan	9th Dan	10th Dan
Pronunciation	Shodan ^[a]	Nidan	Sandan	Yondan	Godan	Rokudan	Shichidan ^[b]	Hachidan	Kudan	Jūdan
Japanese	初段	二段/二段 ^[c]	三段/三段 ^[d]	四段	五段	六段	七段	八段	九段	十段

THE HISTORY OF MARTIAL ARTS GRADINGS BY GRAND MASTER RICHARD “DD” HOPKINS 9th DAN

In 1971 the Federation of All Japan Karate-Do Organisations (F.A.J.K.O.) came up with an agreed formula for the Minimum length of training time for all grades with-in Karate. This was based on long standing traditions of training experience both within Karate and other martial arts. All styles accepted and followed this format and later in the early seventies Freestyle and Kickboxing schools took up this system to keep the agreed standards of ALL Black belts worldwide. F.A.J.K.O. stated that Kyu (coloured belt) grades should be a minimum of 3 months apart and that there must be an at least 12 month gap between the final 3rd kyu grading’s including 2nd kyu, 1st kyu meaning after 3 full years of training to take first Dan. That’s a bare minimum, not a recommended time scale, because it was also stated that a student had to have trained for a iminium of 3 years prior to a Dan grading and any time missed had to be added on no matter what the reason for not training.

RANKING SYSTEM 1971:- ON ENTERING THE DOJO YOU AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A 9th KYU WHITE BELT.
 You Start with a **9th kyu** White Belt, then 3 months to **8th kyu** Yellow Belt, 3 months to **7th kyu** Orange Belt, 3 months to **6th kyu** Green Belt, 3 months to **5th kyu** Blue Belt, 3 months to **4th kyu** Purple Belt, 3 months to **3rd kyu** 1st Brown Belt, 3 months to **2nd kyu** 2nd Brown Belt, 3 months to **1st kyu** 3rd Brown Belt.
MINIMUM OF 6 MONTHS GAP FROM FIRST KYU TO FIRST DAN GRADING
A CANDADATE FOR FIRST DAN MUST HAVE TRAINED FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS!
 Dan grades were governed by a simple rule, whatever the next Dan grade is, that is how many years wait it is for the next grading or award so for instance to get a 5th Dan one would have to be training 5 years after getting their 4th Dan..
AFTER 5th DAN A GRADE MAY BE AWARDED EARLY BUT ONLY IN VERY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

GRADE TABLE

MINIMUM NUMBER OF YEARS BETWEEN DAN GRADES

FIRST DAN (Shodan)	= 3 years	Called/Title Sensei wearing Black Belt with 1 tag
SECOND DAN (Nidan)	= 2 years	Called/Title Sensei wearing Black Belt with 2 tags
THIRD DAN (Sandan)	= 3 years	Called/Title Sensei wearing Black Belt with 3 tags
FORTH DAN (Yondan)	= 4 years	Called/Title Sensei wearing Black Belt with 4 tags
FIFTH DAN (Godan)	= 5years	Called/Title Master wearing Black Belt with 5 tags
SIXTH DAN (Rokudan)	= 6 years	Called/Title Master wearing Red & White Belt
SEVENTH DAN (Shichidan)	= 7 years	Called/Title Master wearing Red & White Belt
EIGHTH DAN (Hachidan)	= 8 years	Called/Title Master wearing Red & White Belt
NINTH DAN (Kudan)	= 9 years	Called/Title Grand Master wearing a Red Belt
TENTH DAN (Judan)	= 10 years	Called/Title Great Grand Master wearing a Red Belt

So a Minimum 57 Years to 10th Dan unless a special Dan grade was awarded

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