

The Constitution of



The International Wado Federation 国際和道連盟 - 本部

Valid until 1st January 2015

FEDERATION PRESIDENT
Gary E Swift (7th Dan) Honbucho

The Union for all Independent and Autonomous Wado Organisations

Foundations Established in 1982

EXPLANATIONS, REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION For Members

The *International Wado Federation* is a World Governing Body/Alliance for Autonomous Associations.

MISSION STATEMENT.

To preserve the traditional development and evolution of Wado Karate Jujutsu. We strive to accomplish this in an environment free of intimidation, politics, and other negative distractions and influences. We further seek to foster a spirit of fellowship and understanding by welcoming all like-minded individuals, regardless of race, gender, ethnic background, religion, national origin, or physical handicap.

1. THE IWF PRESIDENT

The President of the IWF is Gary E Swift (7th Dan) Honbucho and will be 'Director' of the IWF infrastructure, whilst in office as President.

In the event of an emergency the IWF Executive Committee Vice President shall assume complete control of all affairs of IWF, *whether temporary or permanent.*

2. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Patron: HRH Princess Linda Tomislav Karageorgevitch.
2. President: Gary E Swift (7th Dan) Kyoshi.
3. Vice President: Ian Hunter (7th Dan) Renshi.
4. General Secretary: Gordon Hoare (6th Dan) Renshi.
5. Child Protection Officer: Gordon Hoare (6th Dan) Renshi.
6. Honorary Ambassador: Kevin Hamilton-Stewart (7th Dan) Kyoshi.
7. Director of 1st Aid Coaching: Derry Jarvis 1st Dan.

3. THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

1. President: Gary E Swift (7th Dan) Kyoshi.
2. Vice President: Ian Hunter (7th Dan) Renshi.
3. Gordon Hoare (6th Dan) Renshi.
4. Kevin Hamilton-Stewart (7th Dan) Kyoshi (honorary member).
5. James Charnaud 5th Dan.
6. James Taylor 4th Dan.
7. Mark Walder 4th Dan (honorary member).

4. ASSOCIATE/ALLIED MEMBERS

Associate Members are self-governing 'autonomous' members and will be considered 'Allied Members' to the IWF. The IWF will have no control over Associate Members as they will have their own Constitution/Rules & Regulations for self-governance within their own Group/Association. All Associate/Allied Members must be practising Wado Karate prior to consideration for membership.

NB. As Associate Members run their own affairs: In the event of and in respect to violation of National Law/s, or Child Protection issues, the relevant Associate Member will no longer be considered part of the International Wado Federation; as *with immediate effect.*

5. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

All individual members will be the responsibility of each member association Chief Instructor/Head Coach.

6. AFFILIATED CLUBS

- (a) All Clubs are the responsibility of each member Association Chief Instructor, and must train in a traditional/recognisable form of Wado Karate (or intend to do so within a set time-limit agreed by the Association Chief Instructor).
- (b) International Clubs may also need to affiliate to their own National Governing Body in their host country (if there is one or a need to do so).
- (c) The running of the Club is the sole responsibility of the Registered Instructor.

7. REPRESENTATIVE HEADQUARTERS

Some IWF members within various countries may like to establish themselves as Representative Headquarters (maybe for the benefit of competitions or regional courses, etc.). Any IWF Member Group may set themselves up as 'representatives', there is no monopoly control. These RHQ's are primarily designed and designated as 'contact points' and 'representatives' for all IWF memberships within that host country/continent. However, these RHQ's are not designed to be 'Controlling Governing Bodies' and would/should not take away the rights of those who wish to affiliate direct to the IWF; they merely act as local 'Representatives' for the IWF. Pre-existing IWF members are not required to join Representative Headquarters unless they choose to do so.

- (a) Representative Head Quarters must have an elected infrastructure/committee to help run the affairs and advise members within their membership.
- (b) The Representative Head Quarters must have an elected Ambassador/Chairman as head of the Committee.
- (c) All RHQ's must operate with the best interests for the International Wado Federation and all its members.
- (d) All individual groups/associations may still affiliate direct to the IWF-Honbu (World Governing Body) based within the UK.
- (e) International Clubs may also need to affiliate to a National Governing Body in their host country (if there is one).
- (f) The running of the individual Group/Association is the sole responsibility of the Registered Chief Instructor of that Group/Association.
- (g) Representative Headquarters' Committees may be assembled for various additional duties, which may include promotion of individuals on or beyond the level of the highest graded Committee Member. In this case each applicant must be vetted for validity and to ensure that the correct timings and protocols of promotion are adhered to. The Chairman of the RHQ may call an EGM to discuss and to implement such promotions. Once this has been decided then the IWF HQ must be notified so as a Registration Certificate can be forwarded to the Committee Chairman, at the earliest convenience, from the IWF President. Any promotions MUST be first voted and agreed by all those who are present at the organised EGM.

8. AIMS

The aims of the IWF are to:

- (a) Foster, develop and encourage the art of the Wado Karate system founded and developed by Ohtsuka-Hironori (10th Dan) Meijin.
- (b) Allow access to the progression of all IWF Chief Instructors within IWF membership.
- (c) Supply members' optional services, such as registration and authentication.
- (d) Allow access to all associated tuition, courses, competitions and tournaments.

- (e) Act as an information exchange centre to & for all members.
- (f) Discourage malpractice and abuse of Wado Karate.
- (g) Do all such other things that are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the aims of the IWF.

CRB Criteria (UK only)

Following receipt of the Enhanced Disclosure, the following offences shall be regarded as unacceptable:

- Murder.
- Rape.
- Robbery.
- Offences involving children or vulnerable adults (in any form).
- Sexual Crime.
- Crimes involving violence.
- Crime involving drugs.

Outcome

In the event of an unacceptable report, the individual will not be granted any qualification, appointment, award, position or membership, IWF will inform the respective member that it may not be granted membership.

9. WADO RANKING SYSTEM

Kyu Grade Ranks.

- 9th Kyu.
- 8th Kyu.
- 7th Kyu.
- 6th Kyu.
- 5th Kyu.
- 4th Kyu.
- 3rd Kyu.
- 2nd Kyu.
- 1st Kyu.

Yūdan Grade Ranks.

Includes official intervals/minimum training requirements for Yūdan applicants:

- SHODAN; From 1st Kyu to 1st Dan. (1st Kyu to 1st Dan = 9 months). Minimum age 10.
- NIDAN; From 1st Dan to 2nd Dan. (1st Dan to 2nd Dan = 24 months). Minimum age 16.
- SANDAN; From 2nd Dan to 3rd Dan. (2nd Dan to 3rd Dan = 3 years). Minimum age 20.
- YODAN; From 3rd Dan to 4th Dan = 4 years. Minimum age 25.
- GODAN; From 4th Dan to 5th Dan = 5 years.
- ROKUDAN; From 5th Dan to 6th Dan = 6 years.
- SHICHIDAN; From 6th Dan to 7th Dan = 7 years.
- HACHIDAN; From 7th to 8th Dan = 8 years.

The **Chief Instructor** of the member group will be entitled to grade his/her membership up-to-and-including his own grade.

NB: All IWF members wishing to pursue Yūdansa Registration/Progression must attain the minimum aforementioned grade intervals. Applicants must have attended the recommended minimum time intervals.

Associate Chief Instructor Grade Progression

As long as the Registered Member/Chief Instructor has remained in IWF Membership, unbroken membership for at least 12-months, all requests for promotion (through award or

exam) will be considered from the relevant Association's Technical/Executive Committee/s. Once this application has been received, by any member of the IWF Technical Executive Committee, promotion will be considered/reviewed and awarded/granted where necessary to the aforementioned Chief Instructor. All applications must be implemented from the 'Member Association Committee', in writing, and also conform to the strict *official time intervals* prior to application.

The IWF Executive/Technical Committee has the authority to promote any grade (if eligible) up to and including 9th Dan. The IWF-HQ Executive/Technical Committee must have a quorum of at least four members for any promotion to be accepted and validated.

NB: All 'time-served' implications MUST be considered at all times prior to consideration.

These are IWF 'recommendations', which may not necessarily be implemented within member associations/groups' constitution/s or Rules & Regulations.

10. GRADE EXAMINER LEVELS

The official Grade Examiner Levels for 'active' Yūdansha (of 4th Dan & above) within the IWF. These qualifications allow any IWF Examiner to assess/grade any member of the IWF through invitation or honorarium.

All Yūdansha of Yodan & above are entitled as follows.

- Level 3 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to San (3rd) Dan
- Level 4 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to Yo/Yon (4th) Dan
- Level 5 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to Go (5th) Dan
- Level 6 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to Roku (6th) Dan
- Level 7 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to Nana/Shichi (7th) Dan
- Level 8 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to Hachi (8th) Dan
- Level 9 may grade IWF Yūdansha up to Ku (9th) Dan

These implementations do not effect Associate Level Constitutions or Rules & Regulations.

11. REGISTRATION

All Dan grades should be registered with the IWF Registration Officer. An official Registration Application Form is available for this and must be sent to the IWF Licence Officer when completed.

12. IWF CHARGES

1. There are no charges for Affiliation Membership within the **International Wado Federation**.
2. There are no charges for Yūdān Registration within the **International Wado Federation**.
3. £15.00 Certification & Registration (A3) signed by the IWF President. There is a charge if a certificate of registration/promotion is to be sent to IWF member groups. However, a Jpeg/PDF format sent by email is FREE.
4. £5.00 Blank IWF Certificates (A3) for association awards (minimum quantity 5 and inclusive of National/International P&P).
5. Generic Wado Kai Licence Books @ £4.25 each (minimum order 10), plus £4 postage & packing anywhere in the world.

CHARGES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE