



Monthly Newsletter World Karate Organization

April 2008 Issue (Vol. 96)

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Message from WKO President 2. Activities of Japanese Instructors (from April 08) 3. WKO Grading Examination (NEW!) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) WKO Grading Examination (2) Recommended Dan Promotion for WKO Branch Chiefs globally (3) Amendment of Article 6 of the WKO Grading Regulations (4) Comments by the Members of Grading Committee 4. Information for the 4th World Cup <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Number of MEN Fighters from Each Region 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (2) Selection Tournament for the 4th World Cup (3) Invitation to Hosting the 5th Karate World Cup 5. WKO Website 6. ISAMI Dogis 7. Notice from WKO Office <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WKO Office Contact Information 2. Annual Fees 3. Various Forms 8. Current Status on Payment of Annual Fees (Attachment A) 9. Grading Regulations(revised) (Attachment B)
--	--

Contents

1. Message from WKO President

Dear Branch Chiefs and Contacts

Finally, the spring is here, and in Japan the season of Cherry Blossom has started together with a warm and nice weather. I hope you are enjoying the spring in your country as well.

As you know, in the beginning of March, the WKO Dan Grading Examination was held here in Japan. There were altogether 20 persons who took part in this test, and they all showed good techniques and strong spirit. I was especially moved to see overseas Branch Chiefs, who have come to Japan from far away in order to take part in this severe examination. You can read more about the Examination on page 4. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Shihan Brian Fitkin and Shihan Kalman Furko, both members of the Grading Committee, for coming all the way to Japan in order to be on the grading panel for this Examination. In connection to the grading, there was also a Grading Committee Meeting, which both of them attended. In this meeting, there was a final discussion about the Grading Regulations as well as discussions about the Special Recommended Dan Grading Promotion. As you all know, our organization, the WKO, has very severe and strict rules for Dan Promotion. And at last year's General Assembly, a slight adjustment of the Dan Regulations was basically approved of, but the final discussions was made at this time, and although still keeping the strict rules, due to this adjustments they are now more efficient and up to date. I am very happy that this could be done, and I would like to thank those who have been involved in this work.



Monthly Newsletter World Karate Organization

Further, we have also carried out a Special Recommended Dan Grading Promotion, and I am glad for those who have been promoted this time, and I hope for your continuous cooperation for our organization

We have also received some information about selection tournaments for the 4th World Cup scheduled in the different Regions. □ The actual preparations for this big event has finally started. □ I expect the fighters who will participate in the selection tournaments to train hard, and please believe in yourself. □ Anyone has the chance to be selected and to become the Champion of the World. □ But it is only you yourself who can make anything out of this chance. The opportunity is given to you, but the rest is up to you, so do not give up!

As I always tell you, the WKO is OUR organization, and only by OUR efforts the organization will develop into an even greater organization. I personally will try even harder to make this organization grow.

Osu!

Kenji Midori,
WKO President



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

2. Activities of Japanese instructors (at the date of 28. March, omit titles from names)

(1). Takayuki Tsukagoshi

Date: March 27th – April 1st
Place: Belgium
Purpose: Camp

(2). Kensaku Yamamoto

Date: June 6th – 8th
Place: Russia
Purpose: Seminar

(3). Yoshitaka Sato

Date: June 19th – 24th
Place: Netherlands
Purpose: Camp

(4). Yasukazu Koi

Date: June 22th – 25th
Place: Canada
Purpose: Seminar

(5). Kazuo Miyoshi, Shinichi Sotodate

Date: June 26th – 30th
Place: Kazakhstan
Purpose: Tournament, Seminar,
Dan Test

(6). Keiji Sampei

Date: June 25th – 29th
Place: Denmark
Purpose: Camp

(7). Kenji Midori, Yasukazu Koi

Date: June 26th – 29th
Place: Norway
Purpose: Camp

(8). Kenji Midori, Yasukazu Koi

Date: June 30th – July 5th
Place: Greece
Purpose: Camp

(9). Keiji Sampei, Keiji Okumura, Norichika Tsukamoto

Date: June 30th – July 7th
Place: Bulgaria
Purpose: Camp

(10). Shinji Sakamoto

Date: July 30th – August 5th
Place: Spain
Purpose: Camp

(11). Norichika Tsukamoto

Date: July 31st – August 7th
Place: Mauritius
Purpose: Tournament, Seminar,
Dan Test

(12). Kenji Midori

Date: August 14th – 19th
Place: Switzerland
Purpose: Camp



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

(13). Keiji Sampei, Kunihiro Suzuki
 Date: August 20th – 25th
 Place: Russia
 Purpose: Camp

(14). Kenji Midori, Isao Kobayashi,
Norichika Tsukamoto, Taishi Watanabe
 Date: October 24th – 29th
 Place: St-Petersburg, Russia
 Purpose: Tournament, Seminar

(15). Kenji Midori, Takayuki Tsukagoshi,
Yasukazu Koi
 Date: November 1st – 4th
 Place: Sri Lanka
 Purpose: Tournament

(16). Kenji Midori, Yasukazu Koi
 Date: November 13th – 19th
 Place: France
 Purpose: Events

1. WKO Grading Examination (NEW!)

(1) WKO Grading Examination

20 examinees tried and 14 passed the examination successfully.

They are:

- Mr Leonid Ilyushkin (5th Dan, Russia)
- Mr Satoshi Yoshioka (4th Dan, Japan)
- Mr Hiroyoshi Takamori (4th Dan, Japan)
- Mr Tsutomu Murayama (3rd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Tomoyuki Mogi (3rd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Junichi Murakoshi (3rd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Yuki Takano (2nd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Tadashi Mukai (2nd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Ryutaro Hirayama (2nd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Tsuyoshi Okada (2nd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Hiroki Takeda (2nd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Nobuhiro Kashiwagi (2nd Dan, Japan)
- Mr Man Seng U (1st Dan, China)
- Mr Shigetsugu Inami (1st Dan, Japan)

(2) Recommended Dan Promotion for WKO Branch Chiefs globally

The Grading Committee decided to recommend the following 37 Branch Chiefs to be promoted.

The list was circulated among WKO Board Members and approved by them.

□	NEW DAN	REGION	COUNTRY	NAME	CURRENT DAN
---	---------	--------	---------	------	-------------



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

1	7	Japan	Japan	Masahiko Yamada	6
2	7	Europe	Hungary	Kalman Furko	6
3	6	Asia	India	Shivaji Ganguly	5
4	6	Africa	South Africa	Isaac Mashinini	5
5	6	Japan	Japan	Kazumi Kaneda	5
6	6	Japan	Japan	Shingo Kusu	5
7	6	Japan	Japan	Hiroshi Nanri	5
8	6	Europe	Great Britain	Alwyn Heath	5
9	6	Europe	Sweden	Michael Soderkvist	5
10	6	Europe	Spain	Jesus Talan	5
11	6	Europe	Spain	Juan Carlos Escalera	5
12	6	Europe	Denmark	Jan Bulow	5
13	6	Central America	Costa Rica	Antonio Gonzalez	5
14	6	South Pacific	Australia	Peter Volke	5
15	5	□□□□	Japan	Masashi Kimoto	4
16	5	Europe	Germany	Wolfgang Pech	4
17	5	South America	Uruguay	Eduardo Garcia	4
18	4	Asia	Sri Lanka	Piyaratne Muthukumarana	3
19	4	Asia	Pakistan	Khalid Mehmood	3
20	4	Africa	South Africa	Michael Goge	3
21	4	□□□□□	Japan	Satoshi Niiho	3
22	4	□□□□□	Japan	Yuichiro Osaka	3
23	4	□□□□□	Japan	Junichi Hasagawa	3
24	4	□□□□□	□□□□	Akira Furukawa	3
25	4	□□□□□	Japan	Kensaku Yamamoto	3
26	4	Europe	Netherlands	Roeland De Lange	3
27	4	Russia	Russia	Vladimir Lukovsky	3
28	4	Central America	Aruba	Roony Boye	3



Monthly Newsletter World Karate Organization

2 9	4	South America	Brazil	Denivaldo Carvalho	3
3 0	4	□□□□□□	Japan	Ryoeiki Fukaya	3
3 1	3	□□□□□□	Japan	Shigeyuki Ochi	2
3 2	3	□□□□□□	Japan	Tatsuyuki Morigaki	2
3 3	3	□□□□□□	Japan	Kunihiro Suzuki	2
3 4	3	Europe	Uzbekista n	Khasan Nazarov	2
3 5	3	Europe	Armenia	Murad Kspoyan	2
3 6	3	Europe	Moldova	Aurel Condrea	2
3 7	2	Asia	Afghanist an	Hayatullah Muhammad	1



(3) Amendment of Article 6 of the WKO Grading Regulations

Though the Committee had reported to the WKO Board in October 2007 that the Article 6 requires further discussions concerning “the right to conduct a promotion test for a recommended Dan holder”, they decided not to change the paragraph and WKO Board approved as it is.

When the Committee receive a recommendation, the Members will assess the candidate’s qualification thoroughly including his/her capability as an examiner of Dan grading.

In order to do that, the Committee agreed to talk directly when they have a meeting which is held annually before the WKO Grading Examination, not only to exchange E-mail.

- See Attachment-B Grading Regulations(revised)

(4) Comments by the Members of Grading Committee

Comment by Mr Kenji Midori, Chairman of WKO Grading Committee

Now the WKO Grading Examination 2008 has just finished. Let me express my deepest thanks not only to every examinee, but also to those who acted as opponents in the Kumite test, dojo students and staff members at Sohonbu who helped the event in many ways, as well as those who have come from the examinees’ dojos to cheer them up. Your cooperation has really contributed to the success of the Grading Examination. □□ Thank you very much again.

The WKO Grading Examination is very hard and strict. So I would like to ask the successful examinees to continue your daily training and to keep up your ability suitable for your newly obtained Dan grade. For those who could not unfortunately succeed this time, we would like to advise you about the points for improvements, so that you can overcome your weak points and challenge again. We sometimes miss those examinees who could not pass the Grading and did not make a challenge again in one or two years later. Even though you failed the Grading this time, I am sure you will really pass in future, only if you believe you will. Never give up, and continue your training. That is important. Just imagine how happy you will be when you get over it and succeed. So, I hope that unsuccessful examinees will never cease your daily efforts to overcome your chagrin and ensure your success in the next chance.

I know there are active fighters among the examinees, and some will participate in the coming All Japan Weight Division Tournament. Hopefully you will get a good result through your hard experience in this Examination. Every examinee is requested to show their students good sample as a high grade Dan holder. Since you will be a role model for your students, you are watched by them. Please try to improve yourself not only technically but also spiritually, and let’s make WKO the number one Karate Organization.

Thank you for your hard work today. Osu!

Comment by Mr Isao Kobayashi, WKO Grading Committee Member

I congratulate those who have passed this Grading Examination. However, do not feel too much satisfied with this success, but just continue your efforts in daily training to improve your karate skill further and to be still stronger.

To unsuccessful examinees, I would like to tell you never to give up and try again in the next chance.

Let me make some brief comments on today’s Examination as one of the examiners. In my view, you



Monthly Newsletter World Karate Organization

were almost fine about Kihon and Ido. However, during Kata examination, I felt your level has been somewhat lowered. As you see, Kihon is easier than Kata. In Kata, there are various elements such as movements from front to back and from side to side, strength and weakness in power, swiftness and slowness in actions, breathing, etc. So, regarding Kata, you will need more practice than you do Kihon, in order to improve your skill.

All examinees seemed good in hand actions such as Tsuki using their upper body. But on the other hand, actions of the lower part of body still need more improvement, even though some handicaps due to aging are considered in higher kicks. Further, posture of standing is also important basically, since it is the start for any actions. So, I hope you will be conscious of your posture of standing in your daily training.

Comment by Mr Keiji Sampei, WKO Grading Committee Member

To those who have passed the grading test, I would like to convey my congratulation. To those who could not succeed this time, let me tell you that I hope you will start your training again for the next opportunity.

Kihon and Kata should not be intended for the grading test. As an extreme example, some fighters might be strong enough in their bouts without training Kihon nor Kata. But if they understand the meaning of Kihon and Kata and continue their training as Budo with the full understanding, they will be able to do their own Kumite even in their 40s or 50s. That is the true BUDO KARATE which, I believe, will more widely spread all over the world.

As I see it, the most important thing is the student himself is happily enjoying the training. For example, in case of a painter, he will be better in the art in his 50s than in his 30s. In Karate, too, it is ideal that a student will be stronger in his 50s than in his 30s. To realize that, understanding the meaning of Kihon and Kata is very important, and I think that the purpose of training is to search for it.

I sincerely hope that all of you will be growing more by continuing your training. Thank you for your participation and efforts.

Comment by Mr Brian Fitkin, WKO Grading Committee Member

Osu!

Shihan Midori said most of the things I would like to say. The only thing I would like to add is it is really important that people here should train really hard - much harder than maybe we do in the West because you are the example we look to. You have to be very good. I am just very happy to see the standard of Kata is continuing to get better. I really hope that this trend continues for our good future.

However, although the Kata standard has been raised I feel more attention should now be paid to the detail of each individual technique and movement performed within the Katas. Too many of these techniques today were either too high or too low, and a general lack of detailed understanding of a technique or movement was obvious. If all of you can study these movements in more detail than your Katas, I am sure, will be taken to a new level.

Thank you very very much.

Comment by Mr Kalman Furko, WKO Grading Committee Member

Kihon, Kata and Kumite are the most important in our style of Kyokushin/Shinkyokushin Karate. The three factors should be improved by everyday training.



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

I would like to congratulate those who have passed this examination. Keep on training and try raising the level of your Karate.

Those who have not passed should try, too, and I look forward to seeing you at the next WKO Grading.

2. Information for the 4th World Cup

(1) Number of MEN Fighters from Each Region

WKO Board decided to increase the number of MEN fighters from each region, from 16 fighters to 32 fighters. And also there are some changes of the number of WOMEN fighters from each region. The exact number from each region will be as follows.

TOTAL MEN FIGHTERS: 32

Europe: 6, Russia: 4 (as the host), Asia: 4, Middle East: 2, Africa: 2, South Pacific: 2, North America: 2, Central America: 2, South America: 2, Japan: 6

TOTAL WOMEN FIGHTERS: 16

Europe: 3, Russia: 2 (as the host), Asia: 2, Middle East: 1, Africa: 1, South Pacific: 1, North America: 1, Central America: 1, South America: 1, Japan: 3

(2) Selection Tournament for the 4th World Cup

I. Japan Region

Date: 17th, 18th May, Place: Osaka, Japan

Date: 18th, 19th October, Place: Tokyo, Japan

II. South Pacific Region

Date: 23rd August

Place: Geelong, Australia

III. Central American Region

Date: 27th, 28th September

Place: Aruba

IV. South American Region

Date: 25th October

Place: Uruguay

V. Russian Region

Date: 26th October

Place: St-Petersburg, Russia

VI. Asian Region

Date: 2nd November, Place: Sri Lanka

Date: 28th June, Place: Astana, Kazakhstan

- Please notify the WKO Office if the details such as date and place of selection tournaments for the 4th World Cup is fixed in each countries/regions.

(3) Invitation to Hosting the 5th Karate World Cup

The application for hosting the 5th Karate World Cup is due 31st March. Please read through the Requirements and fill in the Hosting Plan in case any country is going to apply for the host.



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

(The information was sent to you last month.)

3. WKO Website

Visit our renewed website!

<http://www.wko.or.jp/>

We have been working on the improvement of the WKO Website since the end of last year. Therefore, we would like you to send the information of events which you would like to put on the website if you have any. Please provide us the basic information as mentioned below.

1. Events

- 1) Name of the event (Name of the tournament, camp, e.t.c.)
- 2) Date and the place where the event was held
- 3) Host branch
- 4) The number of participants to the event
- 5) List of prize winners (in case of tournament)
- 6) Details about the event (including the impressions by host)
- 7) Photos (Please give an explanation for each photo. About 5 to 10 photos will be put on the website.)

2. News

- 1) Details about the news such as date, place, what happened and by whom, e.t.c.
- 2) Photos

- Please be noticed that your report may not be introduced on the website if the report is recognized as inappropriate to put on the website by WKO Office.

4. ISAMI Dogi

Please contact Ms Hayasaki at ISAMI: Email yuko@isami.co.jp or Fax (81)480-24-0713

For your enquiry, please put “Shinkyokushinkai Dogi” as a subject.

3. Notice from WKO Office

1. WKO Office Contact Information:

- E-mail address:

wko.one@shinkyokushinkai.co.jp

.. For Ms. Fumie Matsuno, and for Russia/Asia/N. C. S. Americas/S. Pacific regions

wko.two@shinkyokushinkai.co.jp

.. For Ms. Kazuko Sato, and for Europe/Middle East/Africa regions

- **Postal Address:** 9-20-2F Shin-ogawamachi Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 162-0814, Japan



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

- Telephone Number: +81-3-3268-1494
- Fax Number: +81-3-3268-1495

2. Annual Fees

Payment of 2007 Annual Fees are now PAST DUE!!

All the Branch Chiefs/Contacts are requested to pay the **Annual Fees** (US\$1 per member) and the **New Member Registration Fees** (US\$5 additional per new member) for 2007 or earlier **immediately**.

Please check Attachment A once again! Those who have not paid the overdue annual fees (2005 – 2007) are highlighted in yellow (printed one is in grey).

If you need invoice from WKO, please kindly contact WKO office.

REQUEST from the WKO office: For those who are paying the annual fees together with other branch(s) in your country, we would appreciate if you could also provide us with the breakdown, the number of members of each branch.

***All Japanese Branches decided to pay US\$4 per member as annual fees from 2008. Please refer to the Attachment-A, as the newest information of increased annual fees from other branches and countries/regions is shown on the list.**

NOTE:

- * **No order for Black Belts and Dan Grading Certificates can be accepted** from those who have not paid the annual membership fees.
- * **You will NOT get the financial support from the World Championship organizer** unless you pay the applicable annual fees.

We accept your annual fees and other payments through one of the followings:

(Please do NOT use any other methods such as bank checks or cash. Cash payment with exact amount may be acceptable only when you are in Japan.)

- **Bank transfer**

Has to be “WKO” only. Do not put anything after the name, please.

**Account name: WKO Account number: 0848604 Name of the bank: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Kagurazaka Branch
Address of the bank: 3-7 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0825, Japan
Their SWIFT code: BOTKJPJT**

- Please add US\$15 when you remit money because Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi charges us 1,500 yen every time we acknowledge the remittance.



Monthly Newsletter

World Karate Organization

– Please avoid a bank that uses the third bank, which may deduct US\$20-25 from your remittance.

- **Western Union International Money Transfer Service (CHANGE)**

For further information, please visit at <http://www.westernunion.com/info/siteMap.asp>

Please note the change!

Pay to: Mr. Yasukazu Koi
(Please inform us of the “Money Transfer Control No.” and the sender’s name.)

- **International Postal Money Orders (issued by the post office)**

This is different from “International Money Order” issued by a bank, which we cannot accept.

Pay to: NPO World Katate Organization Shinkyokushinkai

③ □ Various Forms

The WKO Office would like the Branch Chiefs and Contacts to use the designated form when they contact us. We have:

- Order and Payment Form (for payment of grading fees, annual fees, membership fees)
- WKO Official Invitation Letter Form (for inviting Japanese instructors)
- Request Form for Invitation Letter (for whom needs Visa to enter Japan)
- Application Form for a Candidate of new Branch Chief & Contact

Though we understand that some Branches/Countries have their own way, the forms helped us to do administrative work efficiently. We appreciate your kind understanding in the matter.

5. Current Status on Payment of Annual Fees as of March 28, 2008

- See Attachment A-