

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE  
WORLD UNITED ISSHIN-RYU KARATE ASSOCIATION  
(W.U.I.K.A)

ARTICLE I  
(NAME AND LOCATION)

The organization shall be known as the World United Isshin-Ryu Karate Association and at times will be referred to as the W.U.I.K.A. The headquarters of the World United Isshin-Ryu Karate Association (hereinafter W.U.I.K.A) shall be located at:

15222 Hays Road  
Spring Hill, Florida 34610

(and can be contacted at)  
[www.wuikausa.org](http://www.wuikausa.org)

or any other suitable location the Board of Directors may choose to designate.

ARTICLE II  
(PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES)

The purpose and objectives of the W.U.I.K.A shall be as follows:

The unification of Isshin-Ryu Karate-Do.

To control and coordinate all promotions within the Association on a basis of capability, proficiency and time-in-grade.

To stimulate interest in Isshin-Ryu Karate among the general public.

To promote and support competition and tournaments among the members of the W.U.I.K.A. on a true level of amateurism, sportsmanship and friendship, and to provide uniform rules and regulations for such events.

To provide a basis for standardized teaching and judging methods for the member dojos of the W.U.I.K.A.

To assure that all member dojos in the W.U.I.K.A. will honor ranks earned from other W.U.I.K.A. dojos and to assure that the visiting or transferring student(s) will be welcomed on a warm and friendly basis at any member dojo.

### ARTICLE III (GOVERNMENT)

W.U.I.K.A. shall be an independent and non-profit association and shall be governed by its own Constitution and By-Laws.

### ARTICLE IV (OFFICERS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS – CHIEF INSTRUCTORS)

#### OFFICERS

The assignment of officers to the W.U.I.K.A. shall consist of the following positions:

- Director
- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Regional Representatives

The W.U.I.K.A. shall be directed by a Board of Directors composed of a director, a president, a vice-president, a secretary and regional representatives.

The Board of Directors shall:

- A. Control all W.U.I.K.A. operations
- B. Effect new policies and procedures, as well as amend or revoke previous policies and procedures as deemed necessary,
- C. Meet as needed to administer routine W.U.I.K.A. business,
- D. Be an active member of the W.U.I.K.A.

Removal from office may be enacted by resignation, or as deemed necessary by the Director.

#### DIRECTOR

The Director is responsible for W.U.I.K.A. funds, and shall retain discretionary authority in all aspects of W.U.I.K.A. conduct and operations, as well as sole discretionary authority to dismiss or remove an officer and/or a representative as may be deemed necessary by the Director.

#### PRESIDENT

The President shall:

- A. Preside as Chairman over all Board meetings and conduct routine business for the W.U.I.K.A.
- B. Remain in office for life unless otherwise removed by the Director.

### SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

- A. Assist in administrative duties arising from W.U.I.K.A. daily operations and special events.
- B. Prepare and maintain various documents/records, such as those associated with membership packets and mailings.
- C. Prepare and administer various W.U.I.K.A. information and promotional materials.

### REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The Regional Representative shall:

- A. Compile news from the Representative's region for various W.U.I.K.A. publications and website.
- B. Serve as a mediator in the event of conflict between W.U.I.K.A. member dojos in the Representative's region
- C. Oversee and assist other W.U.I.K.A. member dojos in the Representative's region.

### CHIEF INSTRUCTORS

The Chief Instructor at a member dojo shall:

- A. Be the main liaison between the member dojo and the Regional Representative.
- B. Represent the member dojo at all W.U.I.K.A. functions.
- C. Be responsible for the day-to-day instruction of proper Isshin-Ryu Karate to all members of the dojo.
- D. Be responsible for the behavior and conduct of member dojo students at clinics, tournaments and other W.U.I.K.A. gatherings.
- E. Keep records of all student members in member dojo.
- F. Confirm that all dan ranks achieved are certified by the W.U.I.K.A.
- G. At a minimum, confirm that all dojo members of Black Belt rank maintain current W.U.I.K.A. membership.

Chief Instructor benefits shall include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- A. No fee will be required to test for higher rank, and will include an appropriate dojo certificate at no charge upon attaining desired rank.
- B. No fee will be charged to attend W.U.I.K.A. symposiums.
- C. No fee will be charged for assistance from Regional Representatives.
- D. Black belt ranks are certified by the W.U.I.K.A.

## ARTICLE V (MEMBERSHIP)

Membership in the W.U.I.K.A. shall consist of dojo membership and individual membership.

### DOJO MEMBERSHIP

Dojo membership shall be open to any and all dojo that provide instruction in Isshin-Ryu Karate.

All applications for dojo membership shall be made to the W.U.I.K.A. headquarters and must be accompanied by dues as designated in Article VII of this Constitution.

All sensei at a member dojo must strive to bring kata in compliance with W.U.I.K.A. standards.

All students and sensei with the rank of Sho-dan and higher within the member dojo must have current W.U.I.K.A. membership.

All students and sensei testing for the rank of 5<sup>th</sup> dan and higher within the member dojo will be subject to Board Promotion.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual membership shall be open to any student of a member dojo; however, W.U.I.K.A. membership shall not be exclusive to students who attend member dojo.

All applications for membership for students from a member dojo must go through the Chief Instructor at that member dojo and must be accompanied by dues as designated in Article VII of this Constitution. Individuals who do not belong to a member dojo may join individually.

Individual members shall at all times display the highest levels of good character, and promote the teachings and skills of Isshin-Ryu Karate. Individual members shall be responsible for their conduct and behavior at all times.

### MEMBER BENEFITS

Membership benefits shall include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- A. Member dojo shall be supported by the W.U.I.K.A. in all sanctioned activities. This shall include providing instructors for clinics, tournament referees and competitors, and financial assistance if a need is justified.

- B. Members shall be provided with W.U.I.K.A. certificates of membership and rank, as well as an identification card. All future dan promotions of member shall be W.U.I.K.A. sanctioned and supported by a W.U.I.K.A. certificate of rank.
- C. Accessibility to instructional clinics taught by high ranking Isshin-Ryu Karate instructors of member dojo, if requested.

## ARTICLE VI (RANK AND PROMOTION)

The grading system for the W.U.I.K.A. shall be as follows:

Belt Color	Rank	Title
White Belt	10 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Ju Kyu)	
Color TBD by Individual Dojo	9 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Ku Kyu)	
	8 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Hachi Kyu)	
	7 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Shichi Kyu)	
	6 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Ro Kyu)	
	5 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Go Kyu)	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Kyu (Yon Kyu)	
Brown Belt	3 <sup>rd</sup> Kyu (San Kyu)	
Brown Belt	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kyu (Ni Kyu)	
Brown Belt	1 <sup>st</sup> Kyu (Ik Kyu)	
Black Belt	1 <sup>st</sup> Degree (Sho Dan)	
Black Belt	2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree (Ni Dan)	
Black Belt	3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree (San Dan)	
Black Belt	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Yon Dan)	Renshi-Go
Black Belt	5 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Go Dan)	Renshi-Go
Black Belt	6 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Roku Dan)	Renshi-Go

Black Belt*	7 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Shichi Dan)	Kyoshi-Go
Black Belt*	8 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Hachi Dan)	Kyoshi-Go
Red Belt	9 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Ku Dan)	Hanshi-Go
Red Belt	10 <sup>th</sup> Degree (Ju Dan)	Hanshi-Go

\*: A red & white belt may be worn by a Chief Instructor ranking 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Dan.

The W.U.I.K.A. criteria for time-in-grade will be specified in:  
*The Weaponless Warriors*, by **Richard Kim** (U.S.A.: Ohara Publications, Inc., 1974)

Your “Years-in-grade” are the same as your next rank plus minimum age requirement:

- Roku Dan – 35+
- Shichi Dan – 42+
- Hachi Dan – 50+
- Ku Dan – 60+
- Ju Dan – 70+

The rank of each applicant for individual membership in the W.U.I.K.A. shall be verified by the Chief Instructor of a member dojo.

Disputes arising over an applicant’s rank shall be ruled upon by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VII (FINANCIAL)

The W.U.I.K.A. shall be an independent and non-profit association as set forth in Article III of this Constitution.

W.U.I.K.A. expenditures shall include, but are not limited to, secretarial and bookkeeping assistance.

W.U.I.K.A. funds shall be the responsibility of the Director.

W.U.I.K.A financial resources shall be obtained from the following sources:

- Dojo membership dues
- Individual membership dues
- Dan Certification
- Tournament and seminar proceeds
- Gifts

Membership dues will be required in an amount to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Monetary and other gifts donated to the W.U.I.K.A. will be accepted only if the contributor does not receive any personal gain by such donation.

## ARTICLE VIII (MISCELLANEOUS)

### DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any member of the W.U.I.K.A. can be expelled or suspended, and/or disciplined for reasons which include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- A. Violation of the Constitution and By-laws of the W.U.I.K.A.
- B. Conduct unbecoming a student of Karate, in the dojo or in public, which may discredit the individual or the W.U.I.K.A.
- C. Malicious or disloyal statements or attacks against the W.U.I.K.A., its Constitution and By-laws, a member dojo, or any of its officers,
- D. Falsifying rank.

Disciplinary action against an individual member with a lower belt ranking shall be prescribed and enacted by Chief Instructor of a member dojo.

Disciplinary action against an individual member with a higher Black Belt ranking shall be prescribed and enacted by the Board of Directors.

### PATCHES

A dojo patch may be worn midway between the shoulder and elbow on the right sleeve of the gi. The W.U.I.K.A. patch may be worn midway between the shoulder and elbow on the left sleeve of the gi.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall consist of officers and regional representatives as follows:

<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>John Ingram</b>
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Dan Holloway
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Brian Ash
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Cindy Ingram
<b>REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:</b>	
<b>CANADA</b>	Rick McGogy
<b>FLORIDA</b>	Dean Lavas
<b>MICHIGAN</b>	Jeff Perkins
<b>MONTANA</b>	Brian Ash
<b>TEXAS</b>	Carol Womack