



# **ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**KSKA**

**Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy**

**October 2022**

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## **ARTICLE 0: FORMATION & REGISTERED OFFICE**

Formed in 2001 by the late Taiji Kase Sensei, the Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy operates from the registered office based in Belgium, Herkenrodebosstraat 40 3511 Hasselt, in the district of Hasselt and is a non-profit organization.

The Law of 27 June 1921 governing non-profit organizations is applicable, unless otherwise specified in the following Articles of Association.

## **ARTICLE 1: NAME & OBJECTIVES**

1. The non-profit organisation's name is: Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy, or, in abbreviated form, KSKA.
2. The KSKA's principle objective 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 Taiji Kase Sensei.
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 objectives.

4. The KSKA is a voluntary organisation with membership open to all, irrespective of race, or political or religious convictions.
5. No individual Karate academy, school or sports organisation may use the name of, or so describe itself as, Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy (KSKA).

## **ARTICLE 2: REGISTERED OFFICE & SYMBOL**

1. The KSKA's registered office is: Herkenrodebosstraat 40, 3511 Hasselt (Belgium), district of Hasselt. It can be changed inside of Belgium by the decision of the Executive Committee. It will be published in the standing order.
2. Routine correspondence is to be sent to the Secretary, whose address will be the administrative address, and will duly be distributed from there.



3. The KSKA's working language is English. Official documents shall be drawn up in Dutch and English.
4. The KSKA's symbol is the Japanese Kanji GI in stylised, circular form. It is the symbol for moral obligation, ultimate expression of honour and dignity for a warrior, and also refers to the founders of the Shotokan Ryu style, Gichin Funakoshi and his son Yoshitaka Funakoshi.

## **ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP**

1. Karateka registered as Sandan or higher by the KSKA or another karate organisation approved by the KSKA Shihankai may be registered individually as members of the KSKA.
2. The various types of KSKA members are:
  - a) Founder members & Academy members, who have voting rights
  - b) Provisional and honorary members, who have no voting rights.
3. New members are accepted by the Shihankai after submitting an application for membership.
4. The application has to be sent to the KSKA Secretary.
5. Newly accepted members obtain the status of Academy members by the decision of the Shihankai or after being provisional members for the period of one year.
6. Provisional members can not apply for a KSKA Dan-Grading.
7. All members except honorary members pay an annual subscription.
8. Any member who fails to pay his/her subscription in good time becomes a dormant member, which means that all their membership rights are suspended.
9. Members may lose their status as members by:
  - a) Resigning.
  - b) Failing to pay their subscription in good time 2 years running.
  - c) Being barred by the Shihankai and the Executive Committee.



10. Members or persons who provide special support for the KSKA may be awarded 'Honorary Membership. Such awards are suggested by the Executive Committee and the Shihankai.
11. The number of honorary members may not exceed 5% of the number of members with voting rights.

## **ARTICLE 4: FUNDS & CONTRIBUTIONS**

1. The KSKA shall acquire its own funds so as to be self-supporting.
2. The KSKA's funds come from: annual subscriptions, fees for Dan grading, fees for training courses, gifts and contributions. The KSKA may engage in any activities in order to obtain the funds it requires to operate.
3. The subscription is payable annually by the end of March at the latest.
4. The General Assembly approves the amount of the subscription on a proposal by the Executive Committee.
5. The accounting year coincides with the calendar year.
6. Presentation of the financial report is annually on the agenda of the General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 5: KSKA BODIES**

1. The bodies of the KSKA are as follows:
  - a) Honorary Chair
  - b) Shihankai (Technical Committee)
  - c) Executive Committee
  - d) General Assembly
  - e) Auditors

## **ARTICLE 6: HONORARY CHAIR**

In 2005, shortly after the founder, Taiji Kase, died, the members of the Shihankai nominated Chieko Kase, his wife, as the Honorary Chair of the *Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy*.

Mrs Kase accepted this title and made the following statement:



*"The members of the Shihankai were selected by my late husband which is a guarantee of their commitment and determination to sustain and refine the authentic and pure practice of Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do, as he developed it "*

## **ARTICLE 7: SHIHANKAI (Technical Committee)**

1. The essential principle that the KSKA is a school for the ultimate form of training in Karate-Do makes the Shihankai (the Technical Committee) its most important body.
2. The Shihankai is ultimately responsible for the moral and technical development of a pure line of Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do.
3. Within the KSKA, the Shihankai is responsible for Dan gradings in compliance with its requirements, as laid down in the KSKA Dan Grading Syllabus.
4. All members of the Shihankai have the same voting rights.
5. The Shihankai takes all its decisions by a simple majority.
6. Members of the Shihankai must be graded to at least Godan in the KSKA.
7. When a member of the Shihankai is replaced or new members admitted they must be approved by the Executive Committee, which must follow the Shihankai's proposal.
8. The Shihankai may appoint active members to the position of 'Assistant Shihankai' or 'Shihankai Member'
9. Minutes of meetings must be recorded in writing and confirmed as being accurate also as agreed by the Shihankai through recognition and approval by means of a signature. The signature should be made during or at the end of the meeting and if present, witnessed by the Secretary.

## **ARTICLE 8: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. The Executive Committee is made up of at least the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. The Executive Committee is elected for a period of 2 years
3. The members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected.



4. Members of the Executive Committee stay in power until a new candidate is elected by the General Assembly.
5. The members of the Executive Committee are put forward by the *Shihankai* and elected by the General Assembly.
6. If one or more members of the Executive Committee resign within their term of office, the Executive Committee shall co-opt, with the approval of the *Shihankai* this position for the remainder of this term.
7. Executive Committee elections will be held annually, but the following positions are rotated bi-annually in order to maintain the consistency of the Executive Committee. Each Executive Committee will then serve in post for a period of two years prior to re-election.
  - i. President and Secretary – year one
  - ii. Vice-President and Treasurer – year two
8. The Executive Committee has full authority to conduct the day-to-day business of the KSKA.
9. The Executive Committee decides the amount of fees payable to any person working for the KSKA.
10. The President powers are as follows:

The President:

- a) is the academy's fully authorised legal representative. They may delegate authority to third parties in order to represent the academy even if they are not members
  - b) will chair the general assemblies of the KSKA or nominate a substitute in their absence.
  - c) will direct the secretary to take the measures required to implement the assemblies' decisions.
  - d) will chair events organised by the KSKA or nominate a substitute in their absence.
  - e) is responsible for presenting decisions taken by the Executive Committee or the *Shihankai* to the General Assembly for ratification, when necessary.
11. The Vice-President powers are as follows:

The Vice-President:

- a) will assume the responsibilities of the President in their absence or at their request.



12. The Secretary's powers are as follows:

The Secretary:

- a) is responsible for the receipt of and replying to correspondence relating to KSKA activities.
- b) will liaise between members of the KSKA.
- c) is responsible for sending out information on the agenda for meetings.
- d) is responsible for drafting the minutes of the General Assembly and circulating them and any other decisions to KSKA members
- e) is responsible for keeping the KSKA list of members up to date.
- f) is responsible for keeping the KSKA Dan Grading Register up to date.
- g) on completion of their term of office, the former Secretary shall return all KSKA-related files and documents to the academy.

13. The Treasurer's powers are as follows:

The Treasurer:

- a) is responsible for collecting the annual membership fee.
- b) is responsible for keeping an appropriate, complete and correct account of, inter alia, funds and donations received by or available to the KSKA.
- c) is responsible for paying the KSKA's outstanding accounts in good time and notifying the President if these exceed available funds.
- d) is to prepare a financial report for the General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 9: GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. The General Assembly is the KSKA body with the highest authority.
2. The General Assembly must be convened annually by the Executive Committee. Members must be notified at the latest 14 days before





the meeting. It shall take place at the registered office or another venue designated by the Executive Committee.

3. The agenda must be circulated at the latest 14 days before the meeting.
4. Any proposal to be examined by the General Assembly must be sent to the Secretary at the latest two months before the date scheduled.
5. Members who have discharged their financial obligations have a vote.
6. Provisional members do not have a vote but may attend the meeting and make their views known. These views have no effect on the outcome of the vote.
7. Each member has one vote at the General Assembly. Proxy voting is not permitted.
8. The General Assembly is quorate irrespective of the attendance.
9. Decisions are adopted on a simple majority, except under special circumstances such as stipulated by the legislation on non-profit organisations.
10. If no majority is forthcoming, the President may propose another discussion or vote.
11. If the Shihankai believes that the circumstances call for urgent action, it may convene a General Assembly.
12. Decisions by the General Assembly must be validated by the Secretary or an assigned member and signed by the Secretary or the member who wrote the protocol. These records could then be made available for third party review as a true record of the decisions taken by the General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 10: AUDITORS**

1. The auditors are elected annually.
2. The auditors are not members of the Executive Committee. They are elected by the General Assembly.
3. The auditors' task is to audit the annual accounts and to submit their written or oral report to the General Assembly for approval.



## **ARTICLE 11: EXCLUSION & SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS**

1. Members may be excluded or suspended by the Shihankai and Executive Committee in accordance with the legislation on non-profit organisations. No grounds need to be given for this decision. The exclusion must be approved by the General Assembly.
2. Suspension may be for a fixed or indefinite period. Exclusion is permanent.
3. During the period of suspension, the member concerned may not take part in any official KSKA event or Dan grading.

## **ARTICLE 12: AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

1. Amendments to the Articles of Association are initially presented by the Executive Committee or a member of the Shihankai. Amendments of the articles must be approved by the Shihankai prior to the proposal to the General Assembly.
2. The Articles of Association of the KSKA may be amended by the General Assembly on a majority of 2/3 of the members present. If the KSKA's objectives are to be changed, 2/3 of the members must be present. These changes must be announced and explained in the agenda for the General Assembly. If the required number of members is not present at the first meeting, a second meeting may be held which may adopt decisions irrespective of the attendance.
3. Changes, resulting from legal requirements, may be implemented by the Executive Committee without the approval of the General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 13: DISBANDING**

1. The KSKA can be disbanded only on a proposal by the Shihankai which is approved by the General Assembly on an absolute majority of the members present.
2. The General Assembly decides what is to be done with the KSKA's funds and property.
3. The funds and property may not be distributed amongst the members.



4. After the outstanding accounts have been paid, the surplus funds must be used for non-profit aims of a social or humanitarian nature.

## **ARTICLE 14: LEGAL AFFECT OF THESE ARTICLES**

The articles take effect on the day on which they are accepted.

The articles were last changed in October 2017, in October 2022 only the new Secretary was included.

## **ARTICLE 15: LIST OF FOUNDING MEMBERS**

The founding members of the Kase Ha Shotokan Ryu Karate-Do Academy non-profit organisation are the 6 members of the Shihankai that make-up the Technical Committee and the 2 Executive Committee members that were selected by the late Taiji Kase Sensei:

Shihankai members:

Dirk Heene  
Herkenrodebosstraat 40,  
B-3511 Kuringen Hasselt (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Teacher (retired)

James Martin  
21 Hayston Road  
Carrickstone  
Cumbernauld G68 0BS (Scotland)  
Nationality: Scottish  
Profession: Manager (retired)

Velibor Dimitrijević  
Obilicev Venac 18  
18000 NIS (Serbia)  
Nationality: Serbian  
Profession: Mechanical Engineer

Michaylo Fedyk  
34 Belvedere Avenue  
Sutton Leach  
St.-Helens  
Merseyside WA94PZ (England)



Nationality: English  
Profession: Sports Development Officer (retired)

Pascal Lecourt  
739 Chemin de la Bouleautière  
F-76116 Ry (France)  
Nationality: French  
Profession: Karate teacher

Pascal Petrella  
Am Klosteracker 21  
D-79282 Ballrechten-Dottingen (Germany)  
Nationality: German  
Profession: Manager

Executive Committee members:

Dirk Heene  
Herkenrodebosstraat 40,  
B-3511 Kuringen Hasselt (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Teacher (retired)

James Martin  
21 Hayston Road  
Carrickstone  
Cumbernauld G68 0BS (Scotland)  
Nationality: Scottish  
Profession: Manager (retired)

Spiros Drousolakis, Secretary  
Epikleous 18  
Patssia 1143  
Athens (Greece)  
Nationality: Greek  
Profession: Captain (retired)

Alan Howard Armstrong, Treasurer  
19, Jubilee Drive  
Bredon  
Tewkesbury GL20 7QJ (England)  
Nationality: English  
Profession: Management Consultant (retired)



# **ADENDUM TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

## **LIST OF CURRENT SHIHANKAI & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Shihankai members:

Dirk Heene 2001 – to date  
Herkenrodebosstraat 40,  
B-3511 Kuringen Hasselt (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Teacher (retired)

James Martin 2001 – to date  
21 Hayston Road  
Carrickstone  
Cumbernauld G68 0BS (Scotland)  
Nationality: Scottish  
Profession: Manager (retired)

Michaylo Fedyk 2001 – to date  
34 Belvedere Avenue  
Sutton Leach  
St.-Helens  
Merseyside WA94PZ (England)  
Nationality: English  
Profession: Sports Development Officer (retired)

Pascal Petrella 2001 – to date  
Am Klosteracker 21  
D-79282 Ballrechten-Dottingen (Germany)  
Nationality: German  
Profession: Manager

Nico Ibscher 2017 – to date  
Beerwalder Strasse 6  
01744 Dippoldiswalde (Germany)  
Nationality: German  
Profession: Finance Manager

Juan Pablo Delgado Herrera 2017 – to date  
Mineras, 1. Esc-1. 11100 – San Fernando – Càdiz (Spain)  
Nationality: Spanish  
Profession: Teacher



Executive Committee members:

Dirk Heene 2001 – to date  
Herkenrodebosstraat 40,  
B-3511 Kuringen Hasselt (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Teacher (retired)

James Martin 2001 – to date  
21 Hayston Road  
Carrickstone  
Cumbernauld G68 0BS (Scotland)  
Nationality: Scottish  
Profession: Manager (retired)

Tom Van Achte 2022 – to date  
Eikenvelden 178  
B-2440 Geel (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Music Producer

Livia Castro 2016 – to date  
Weg naar As 198  
3600 Genk (Belgium)  
Nationality: Belgian  
Profession: Karate / Fitness Instructor

## **LIST OF RETIRED SHIHANKAI & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Shihankai members:

Velibor Dimitrijević 2001 - 2017  
Obilicev Venac 18  
18000 NIS (Serbia)  
Nationality: Serbian  
Profession: Mechanical Engineer

Pascal Lecourt  
739 Chemin de la Bouleautière 2001 - 2016  
F-76116 Ry (France)  
Nationality: French  
Profession: Karate teacher



Executive Committee members:

Spiros Drousolakis, Secretary 2001 - 2009  
Epikleous 18  
Patssia 1143  
Athens (Greece)  
Nationality: Greek  
Profession: Captain (retired)

Gerard Scheuriker, Secretary 2009 – 2013  
Friedrichstal, Leipziger Strate 3  
76297 Stutensee (Germany)  
Nationality: German  
Profession: Manager

Alan Howard Armstrong, Treasurer 2001 - 2016  
19, Jubilee Drive  
Bredon  
Tewkesbury GL20 7QJ (England)  
Nationality: English  
Profession: Management Consultant (retired)

Mike Cowburn, Secretary 2013 – 2022  
The Pines, Bank End Road  
Blaxton, Doncaster DN9 3AN (England)  
Nationality: English  
Profession: Director Risk Services

