

# KSKA NEWS



Academy

Kase-Ha Shotokan Karate Academy

Newsletter

August 2021

**Welcome ...** to the August 2021 edition of the KSKA Newsletter the latest publication during a period that has continued far beyond anyone's expectations. But by staying connected through the path of Kase-Ha Shotokan Karate-Do then we have remained as one and now with the world beginning to return to something like normal we are at last able to travel and train together and will emerge a much stronger and united Academy.

## Message from Shihan Dirk Heene 9th Dan

Dear members,

By accident, staying in my summer cottage in Finland, I found the KSKA Newsletter from August 2017. At that time, I was recovering from my heart surgery and returning slowly back, step by step to karate practice. Now, August 2021 and a long, strange period of Corona pandemic was knocking down our regular, usual karate practice again, and it seems that there is always something to reduce the training possibilities.

Every country has had its own problems and restrictions. Just training kihon and kata, missing the kumite experience, gives a different dimension. Missing the contacts of the dojo, the courses and the relation with other karateka's limits the progress and the essential needs of karate-evolution. Ko-waza and o-waza, control and body sensation, real blocking and countering, attack and defence are far away from reality. The screen from the laptop is the limit between the sensei and the student and is making us finally "zoom-sick".

Slowly the dojo practice is coming back and on 15 – 17<sup>th</sup> of October we organise again an Aki-Gasshuku in Ham, Belgium. The organising club are to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and was hosing for more than 30 years famous Shotokan sensei's in its October autumn courses. We are kindly inviting our members to join us in a great training event. Not every Shihankai instructor can participate to teach because of the corona and traveling restrictions. But try to join and work together again if you can, and we will do our very best to keep everything top level and safe. Again a "Dan grade examination" can take place and the certificates that have remained within the office for a period of two years will be finally handed over.

Concerning "Dan grade" examinations and the application process there is still a misunderstanding in some part. There is a minimum waiting period requested and a presentation to the Shihankai up to 5<sup>th</sup> Dan (see KSKA examination rules online). Above 5<sup>th</sup> Dan there is no way to present yourself or being presented by someone... The Shihankai will consider and invite you for these grading's and through our Secretary you will be informed of this in due course.

Also, the level above 5<sup>th</sup> Dan is not only in consideration of technical physical skills, but also in connection with experience and activity in the concept of evolution of karate in an organisation or country and more specifically in the KSKA.

We hope to start up again the dojo activities and upgrade the level of training in regards to international courses and Gasshuku with advanced planning to host two Gasshuku during 2022 the first in May in Mullheim, Germany and the second in October in Espinho, Portugal.

See you soon healthy and well.

Dirk Heene  
Member of Shihankai  
President of KSKA



Shihan Dirk Heene 9th Dan KSKA

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Thank you to the contributors of this Newsletter:-

Shihan Dirk Heene

Organisers of the Aki Gasshuku 2021

Sensei's Michaylo Fedyk

Bob Willis

Pascal Petrella

Livia Castro

## Message from the Treasurer

First of all I would like to thank all the members who have continued to support the KSKA during the Corona-times by following and organising with the online courses also for paying their membership.

During the Aki-Gasshuku in Ham this coming October, we can finally train together 'live' and where membership payments both outstanding and in advance for 2022 can be made in cash or via other appropriate means.

At the Aki-Gasshuku that was held in Luxembourg in October 2019 some of you ordered and paid for one or two KSKA karate videos where I will have these with me during the Aki-Gasshuku in Ham. Please see me to collect.

If there are any other members who would like to buy one or more videos at the Gasshuku then please send me an email.

Thank you and see you in Ham!

Livia Castro

KSKA Treasurer



## Message from the Secretary

It has been a long time coming, and by that I mean being able to return to the dojo as the KSKA and although certain restrictions may still apply we will once again be able to experience the invaluable kindred spirit that is felt amongst like-minded friends and colleagues in the enjoyment of our karate, but in a safe manner and with every care being taken to avoid the spread of the Coronavirus and its variants.

In this regard we ask that you please abide by the rules and conditions as required by the Belgium government the details of which have received due consideration from the course organisers with the intention of making the Aki Gasshuku in Ham this coming October a safe and memorable occasion as we welcome and value your attendance.

Kase Ha Shotokan  
Ryu Karate Do



Academy



# KSKA AKI-GASSHUKU

## Ham, Belgium

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**Under the instruction of the KSKA Shihankai**

**Organisation:** **KSK Ham** - contact Sensei Tom Van Achte

Email: [tom@tvamusic.be](mailto:tom@tvamusic.be) - Phone: +32 477 245894

**Dojo:** **Sporthal 't Vlietje**

**Address:** Sportlaan 10 A B-3945, Ham

<b>Training:</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
	19:30 – 21:00hr	10:30 – 12:00hr	10:30 – 12:30hr
		13:00 – 14:30hr	

The course dinner will be held at: **Sporthal 't Vlietje**

Those wishing to attend should notify Sensei Tom Van Achte before 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Members are asked to bring their KSKA passbook for presentation at the registration desk to maintain record of attendance.**

In accordance with current rulings for Coronavirus, please have available for presentation your proof of double vaccination and/or confirmation of a negative PCR test that is taken within 48-hours.

Should you experience any symptoms immediately prior to the course then please respect others and do not attend.

And finally changing facilities could be restricted so be prepared to come ready changed also after the training to shower and change at your accommodation.

**Please note those wishing to present a senior Dan grade of 3rd or 4th Dan at the Natsu-Gasshuku in Mullheim, Germany in May 2022, are requested to submit their application to the KSKA Secretary six months in advance that can include during the Aki-Gasshuku in October 2021.**

Further details for this course can be found on the KSKA website



# The English Shotokan Academy

## 30 Years On.....



The Lilleshall National Sports Centre in Newport, Shropshire is one of the UK's premier venues, a centre of excellence used by the countries' elite sporting groups. The venue has hosted the English Shotokan Academy's annual residential course since 2000, along with two international courses for the Shotokan Ryu Kase Ha. 2020 was a difficult year for everyone within the Karate world and the ESA residential was, like many other things, unable to run. However, 2021 sees the ESA celebrate 30 years and as such it was important to both run the course and to mark the milestone.

Sensei Steve Cattle founded the ESA in 1991, following the teachings and leadership of Sensei Kase. Sadly, both these hugely influential Karateka passed away over the following years, yet the ESA and the SRKHIA have remained dedicated to training and developing the Kase Ha way. Many of Sensei Cattle's students and friends who followed him into the ESA 30 years ago still teach and train within the organisation, ensuring that his legacy continues within British karate.

The 2021 ESA Residential Course took place over the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021, with instruction led by Sensei Michaylo Fedyk (7<sup>th</sup> Dan), Sensei Geoff Beasley (7<sup>th</sup> Dan), Sensei Alan Armstrong (6<sup>th</sup> Dan) and Sensei Roger Hooton (5<sup>th</sup> Dan). Members travelled from across the UK to attend and were joined by guest Karateka from other groups.



Historically people would also attend the ESA residential from across Europe, although travel restrictions meant that this was not possible this year.

A noticeable absence was Sensei Dirk Heene (9<sup>th</sup> Dan) from Belgium, the KSKA President, who would normally have been teaching. Whilst Sensei Heene was missed by all, everyone in attendance trained hard to ensure the weekend was a fitting tribute to the 30 years of commitment given by the ESA seniors to maintain both the association and the standard of karate within it.

Training across the weekend divided the attendees into four groups, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan and above, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan, Brown belts and Kyu grades. Whilst all the Sensei had their own session plans and their own unique delivery style there was a common theme through the training, linked together by the Kase Ha principles.

The focus of Sensei Fedyk's sessions was open and closed hand techniques, with the emphasis on breathing and stability, which then developed into combinations delivered with controlled movement and timing to maximise power in conjunction with stability. This commenced with the senior group on the Friday evening, with the combinations being underpinned with the use of Fudo Dachi and hente principles. This was followed by moving onto Chinte kata, delivered with both omote and ura practise, reinforcing the understanding and the Kase Ha approach.

Sensei Fedyk continued his delivery through the weekend working on the same principles, tailored to each individual grade group. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dan group were taken through Jion and Heian Sandan kata, keeping the same emphasis on controlled movement, breathing and ability, performing the kata omote and ura. The brown belt group similarly worked on Jion, although this was also supplemented with bunkai practise to develop their understanding of the kata, which could then be emphasised within the subsequent practise of it. The lower kyu grade group benefitted from an introduction to Uke technique on principles from Hachi Ho Kumite before moving on to work on Taikyoku Sandan.



Sensei Beasley worked through principles of 'O' Waza and 'Ko' Waza, encouraging individuals to consider the application and benefit of techniques from different ranges. His session with the seniors was based very much on Kase Ha, promoting the use of open hands, hente and directional movement from Hachi Ho Kumite. This progressed to partner work, using open Kamae positions and breakaway movement to deal with attacks and develop counters. The emphasis was on the use of Hente counters to reduce reaction time and maximise power taken from the attacker.

Each of the eight attacks were practised initially with single techniques before progressing to responding with any application. This was then progressed to counters being blocked and countered, before these too were then blocked and countered, increasing the intensity of the training and promoting instantaneous responses with minimal reaction time.

Again, these principles were adapted and delivered across the other grade groups at appropriate levels, along with Geri Waza practise and kata, Tekki for the brown belts and a cross over with Taikyoku Sandan for the Kyu grades.

Breathing and internal control was the message being delivered by Sensei Armstrong within his sessions for all groups, with the emphasis on using the Hara, being grounded, and using controlled movement. These were challenging sessions for everyone and really brought into focus the importance of connection and using the correct breathing to enhance movement and technique.

This enabled those training to consider how these elements could come together to maximise efficiency and power within technique. This was progressed into kata, with the emphasis on pelvic lock. What in principle seemed like something that was straightforward and simple proved to be extremely difficult and demanding in practise, illustrating to all how much work still needs to be done in this area.

Sensei Hooton took a dual approach to kata delivery for all the groups, with each session he delivered being based around Ten No Kata but then supported by another grade appropriate traditional kata.

The focus of the Ten No Kata was to improve timing, breathing and control, developing what is a difficult kata further by adding additional movement in different directions. Practise of this kata was punctuated with Jiin kata for the seniors, at times slow and controlled, other times fast, whilst interspersed with slow and fast performances of Ten No Kata. This was very demanding and required a lot of digging deep but the contrast of the two very different kata forms provided balance and an opportunity to reflect on technique, timing and fitness.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan group benefitted from the same structure of delivery from Sensei Hooton, with the Ten No Kata being interspersed with Jitte. This group also had the opportunity to practise the bunkai for the kata, enabling them to understand more deeply the mechanics and application.

The brown belt group again benefitted from being introduced to Ten No Kata, this time punctuated with Tekki Sandan, whilst the kyu grades were introduced to the principle of Tekki with the Shodan kata.



Overall, the four Instructors delivered sessions that were closely linked in principle, providing a consistent message about the emphasis of Kase Ha karate, and yet each session provided a different element for each grade group that was both thought provoking and challenging.

This follows on from the training delivered at Lilleshall over the previous twenty years, along with the karate delivered on other ESA courses and within the association's dojos, keeping alive the legacy of Sensei Kase and Sensei Cattle.

During a break from the formal training there was a range of other sessions delivered during the Saturday afternoon down time. Sensei Beasley delivered Wado Ryu Kata whilst Sensei Steve Thompson (7<sup>th</sup> Dan) delivered Okinawan kata and Bo practise. Sensei Ian Gillis (5<sup>th</sup> Dan) did a pad work session and Sensei Hooton provided a Yoga session, baseball and even skateboarding. These additional sessions were optional but provided a further opportunity for those attending the course to benefit from additional experience.



Apart from the karate the social side of the event was a bit different this year, normal arrangement is to hire a band in for the Saturday night entertainment.

A surprise for everyone was instructors Michaylo and Rog along with two very talented musicians from participating karateka performing a live acoustic session (only one hour of practice prior) which proved a great success with lead guitarist and vocalist Julie inviting everyone to join in singing with some well known songs that were played throughout the session, the feedback received was great almost to the point of “**making us believe we should give up our day jobs**”

It was great to see everyone having a good time, a very important aspect of the event is the social side with friendships old and new further developed.

As Sensei Kase always said “**You are my Family**” This was truly the case and I believe the harmony and feel good factor evident and being part of a like minded karate organisation the ESA is something to be proud of.

With regard to the excellent karate practised it was also excellent that practice without restrictions was possible, no one was asked to do anything they felt uncomfortable with and if partner work was part of the session all were asked to keep the same partner throughout the whole course, for those still not keen on contact work then practice similar to that on the Zoom sessions was not a problem.

All in all a great weekend at a prestigious venue and the start of being able to continue practice together on scheduled events.

Authored by Sensei's Michaylo Fedyk 7th Dan & Bob Willis 5th Dan

## **Interview with Sensei Michaylo Fedyk (7<sup>th</sup> Dan), ESA Chairman**

### **When did you begin with practicing karate and who where your instructors?**

I first started training in 1969 under Sensei Glen Haslem 3rd Dan who at the time was a senior member of the Karate Union of Great Britain and a member of the British All Styles National Team. Sensei Haslem was a well-respected and renowned karateka.

### **When and how did you meet Sensei Kase?**

I first experienced training under Sensei Kase during the early 1980's. Sensei Kase was often one of the guest senior instructors on the KUGB's summer and autumn International courses held at Crystal Palace.



## **Why did you select Sensei Kase as your teacher?**

My karate mentor and friend was the late and great Sensei Steve Cattle. I trained with him from 1978 as a member of Kirkdale Karate Club and the KUGB. Steve was always interested in enhancing our karate knowledge and skills. Steve was an ardent follower of the teachings of Sensei Kase and in 1991 made a monumental decision to leave the KUGB to follow Sensei Kase. Of course, my loyalties were to remain with Steve and embark on the remarkable journey that Sensei Kase was to offer.

## **Did you follow him regularly or have there been cuts in the relationship with him, and why?**

I followed Sensei Kase and his teachings from 1990 on an annual basis to many courses throughout Europe and as a member of the then WKSA and now the KSKA. Every course I attended was eagerly awaited and like a new experience, always building on the skills and knowledge of the Kase Ha system. The last training with Sensei was 2003 in Andorra, a truly memorable event.

## **When did you start teaching?**

My teaching experience dates back to 1973 when as a 4th kyu I started my own small club. Throughout the years I have enjoyed my own self-development as a coach and enjoy very much being able to pass on my experience to karateka willing to strive towards improvement in both mind and body.

## **Do you think that it is possible to save the teaching of Sensei Kase or will history and individual personality influence it in the future?**

I believe it is possible. Within the Shihankai we have a group of people dedicated to making this happen. It is down to all of us to ensure we deliver and further develop the teachings of Sensei Kase. We must consider it our responsibility to ensure our own students are able to do this once we are gone.

## **Now you are a representative of Sensei Kase's teaching, which qualities do we need to be a good "practiser"?**

In 1999 I went back to university as a mature student and my core study was in coaching principles. I learned so much about the scientific principles of coaching. Having said that I am a serious believer in the individual character and qualities we each have. Some people, despite good practical ability, will for various reasons not be able to pass on the Kase Ha system methodology to best effect. I believe good coaching is about patience and humbleness, we need to have empathy with all who stand in front of us. Sensei Kase treated us all as his family and at the right moment had time for everyone, this is the way.

## **The Kase Ha School is a way of research in the Shotokan style. Do you think the morphology indicates the style one is choosing?**

For example, the open hand allows energy to enter through the body, and to root it to the ground and stabilize around the centre of gravity. To understand the principles of Kase Ha Ryu overnight is an impossibility. It is only in recent years that I have begun to truly understand the system despite regular training from 1990. I think the Kase Ha system allows people to find their own strengths and weaknesses; at this point an individual may make decision on which areas to progress more. I personally like the open hand techniques delivered with breathing variation and the strong rooting sensation connected with correctly timed application.



**You belong to the circle of people chosen by Sensei Kase to create the International Academy in 2002. You must be proud of that because it is a big responsibility. How do you feel about that?**

I was surprised when approached by Sensei Heene. I asked the question why me? I was unsure of why I was chosen as although I was a regular attendee on courses throughout the years, I still felt I was on a vast learning curve and indeed still do. Sensei Heene assured me that it was as much about personal character as it was prowess on the dojo floor, you are chosen because Sensei Kase has seen you develop over the years and knows you to be a caring and family orientated individual. I certainly am very proud of the fact I was chosen and will always endeavour to do my best for the furtherance of Kase Ha Ryu and all members of the KSKA.

**You are the Chairman of the ESA. Can you please tell us more about the organisation and its influence?**

The organisation was created as the English Shotokan Academy by my late Sensei Steve Cattle. Since the loss of Steve, I have strived to maintain his vision. There have been many obstacles along the way which at times have been soul destroying. Perhaps one of the best characteristics an individual can develop via martial arts practice is the determination to carry on whatever barriers one faces. Having a core of like-minded friends is also a key factor. I now have a developing group of karateka that are regularly attending specialised Academy training sessions, which are progressively designed to build on the principles of Kase Ha Ryu. Course reports are available via KSKA newsletter or the English Shotokan Academy website: [www.englishshotokan.net](http://www.englishshotokan.net)

**According to you, what are the factors to develop Shotokan Ryu Kase Ha?**

There are many factors. The main factor is having a genuine interest in the Traditional methodology of practice set out by Sensei Kase. Other key factors include perseverance, regular training, training with like-minded people, gaining the correct input from senior karateka and the understanding that practice is not short term: It is a "Life-time Study".

**Which are the perspectives of evolution of the KSK Academy?**

Throughout my discussion I have mentioned many different aspects connected with the future evolution of the KSKA. We all need to work together and be diligent in the practice of the many associated criteria of KSKA system development. I have listed thirty-two different criteria to work on through my ESA scheduled progressive training courses, this is not an exhaustive list and as we all progress and understand the system more, the list will grow. We all need to continue working together as the family group and be prepared to accept slightly different teaching methodology from senior individuals. This is ok if we all strive to reach the same outcome.



**Sensei Kase was rigorous and astonished his western students because of his spontaneity. Would you please tell us an anecdote from which you still remind, among all those punctuating your own experience with him?**

One time whilst training in Friburg (Germany) and whilst practicing Tekki Sandan, Sensei noticed I was making a movement incorrectly and pulled me out to the front of class to demonstrate to all, the correct application of technique. Whilst making my way to the front of class Sensei observed that I looked very worried about my mistake and that I had an obvious fear of what was going to happen. As I arrived at the front of class Sensei came close to me and whispered into my ear the words "Don't worry Mike, I only show you the correct way". That was a relief and was what Sensei was always trying to do with all of us. My memories of Sensei Kase are also many. I was asked on many times by Sensei Kase to demonstrate at the front of class and in fact if I wasn't asked, I was always disappointed because I wanted to face new challenges.

### **What is Karate to you?**

Karate for me is a continuing life-long study, trying to progress even as we get older and not just on the physical side of study, there are many benefits of practice, but the main point is trying to become a better human being and development of respect for self and others.

### **Reflections on the ESA and Kase Ha journey?**

As a dedicated student of Sensei Cattle there was no hesitation in following the path he was leading us all on. The untimely death of good friend and Sensei made me and the current executive determined to carry on the good work and make the ESA a great organisation to be part of and very proud of.

### **Most significant memory or influence from Sensei Cattle?**

So many great memories but the one outstanding memory is how he looked after all of his students. I was out of work for ten years with very little income, that didn't stop Steve coming to my dojo once a month and not taking any instructor fees. In fact, after training we would go to the local pub to chat and Steve would insist on paying for drinks. There were also many memories of our trips abroad, which I share with my students in leisure time.

### **Views on the current situation of Karate?**

Two views, one is sport, the other is Budo. The main emphasis of many organizations is sport karate, but it is a short-term practice of karate and for me puts far too much emphasis on winning. Budo practice relates to lifelong study and development as a human being.

### **Views on the future of Karate?**

Too much Politics and self-importance by various leading Karate organisations is stopping the real progressive development of karate and the values it has to offer, only time will tell if karate as we know it will survive.



## **Anything else you would like to say or ask?**

Not really, other than to thank the hard core of dedicated karateka within the ESA who continue to do their best for all members of the ESA.

## **Thank you, Sensei**

Steve Cattle started martial arts at the age of 12 years, with judo in 1960 then Karate in 1962. He was awarded his Shodan by Sensei Enoeda five years later. He was a member of the British team from 1966, until he stopped competing in 1989. He was one of Kase Sensei's closest students, commenting "Sensei Kase is planning a system of Shotokan Karate which will take us not into the 1990's but into the next century" Sensei Kase awarded him his 6th dan in 1994. He died suddenly the year after.





# KASE-HA FUJU-KEIKO



## 50 years Karate Dojo Müllheim

### 5 - 7 November 2021

**Venue:** 79379 Müllheim

Sporthalle 1 (Heinz-Renkert-Halle)  
Moltkestrasse

City map: [www.karate-muellheim.de](http://www.karate-muellheim.de)

	9.-6. Kyu	5.-2. Kyu	1. Kyu - Dan
Friday	19-20.30	19-20.30	20.30-22
Saturday	9.30-11 / Juan-Pablo Bassai-Dai	9.30-11 / Arie Competition Kumite	
	12-13.30	12-13.30	13.30-15
	15.30-17	15.30-17	17-18.30
Sunday	9.30-11	9.30-11	11-12.30

### Sensei's Dirk Heene      Pascal Petrella      Arie Farkash

*9<sup>th</sup> Dan, Belgium*



*7<sup>th</sup> Dan, Germany*



*7<sup>th</sup> Dan, Israel*



### Juan-Pablo Delgado

*5<sup>th</sup> Dan, Spain*



### Nico Ibscher

*5<sup>th</sup> Dan, Germany*



Further details can be found on the KSKA website



# Senior Dan Grade Application & Grading Protocols

If you are thinking about taking a grade advancement of a senior level then here is a reminder of the application and grading protocols that are in place to make the process as fair and accessible as possible.

Please rest assured that throughout the Coronavirus pandemic the KSKA Secretary has continued to provide the Shihankai with a list of senior Dan grade potentials and at six monthly intervals for the Shihankai to then decide who should be advanced towards the presentation of their grades.

Of course the opportunity to host a KSKA Dan grading has not arisen due to the restrictions placed upon us, where as now, the first Dan grading for 2021 is scheduled to take place as part of the Aki Gasshuku to be held in Ham, Belgium this coming October and with the nominated candidates for 5th Dan having already been approved.

Please note that grades upto 5th Dan continue to include the application process whereas for grades of 6th Dan and above these are to be nominated by the Shihankai and based on the criteria as detailed below where first and foremost is the technical level of the karateka that is also supported by other factors as explained.

Details of the KSKA Dan grade application and grading protocols can be found on the Academy's website: [www.ksk-academy.org/en/academyinfo/grading](http://www.ksk-academy.org/en/academyinfo/grading)

## KSKA 5<sup>th</sup> Dan Application Protocol

- KSKA 5<sup>th</sup> Dan grading applications should be supported by a member of the Shihankai or a senior member of the Academy that is domicile within the country of the applicant or at least having regular contact with the applicant providing the opportunity to assess the technical level of development leading towards the grading.
- The grading application form ([PDF DOCX](#)) is to be submitted to the [KSKA Secretary](#) six months prior to the date of grading, who in-turn is to advise the Shihankai (via email) of the candidates' "intention to take their grade" with detail of the grade application, date and location etc being included on the candidate's application form.
- The grading applicant should continue to support the KSKA through their regular attendance on Gasshuku also other courses as presented by members of the Shihankai. Unless in exceptional circumstances, this is to include a minimum of three Gasshuku attendances within the two year period leading up to the agreed date of grading.
- Record of the applicants training history is to be included as part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Dan grading application submission. A register of attendance on Gasshuku and other courses presented by the Shihankai are to be recorded within the candidates KSKA passbook, whilst record of attendance on domestic courses is to be made within the applicants domestic licence/passbook.
- Eligibility to present a 5<sup>th</sup> Dan grading, the candidate must be a member of the KSKA and for a minimum period of 2-years prior.
- KSKA 5<sup>th</sup> Dan grading's are to be presented in the presence of a minimum of two members of the Shihankai and preferably during a Gasshuku unless in exceptional circumstance.
- The KSKA Dan grade examination fee is to remain at €120 until further notice. Candidates who fail the examination will be refunded by €60 of the fee. For subsequent attempts they are only required to pay €60 without refunds on failure.



# Senior Dan Grade Application & Grading Protocols

## KSKA 6<sup>th</sup> Dan & Above Grading Protocol

For KSKA 6<sup>th</sup> Dan and above the Shihankai will assess on merit and in accordance with the selection criteria as detailed below, those candidates that are considered eligible to present a senior Dan grade.

At six monthly intervals the KSKA Secretary is to provide the names of potential candidates to the Shihankai for assessment where those who are selected for advancement will be invited in writing that will also state the recommended date and location at which to present their grading.

The following criteria will be used as a guide for the Shihankai in assessing on merit the suitability and abilities of the potential candidate:

1. Technical merit
2. Length of time training in karate and in the style of Kase-Ha
3. Duration of un-broken membership of the KSKA
4. Date of last grading
5. Organisation of last grade (KSKA or other)
6. Candidates attendance at KSKA Gasshuku and other courses that are presented by members of the Shihankai
7. Running a club and/or student development including student support of the KSKA
8. Additional functional support given by the candidate to the KSKA including organisational and/or other such services
9. Other as maybe applicable and as considered necessary by the Shihankai

### Further to the above and in the lead-up to the grading:

The respective candidate will be expected to continue with their support of the KSKA including regular attendance on KSKA Gasshuku and other courses also to maintain regular contact with the Shihankai so as to confirm their progression.

Candidates must attend a minimum of three KSKA Gasshuku within the two year period leading up to presentation of their grading that is unless in exceptional circumstance when their application will be further considered by the Shihankai.

Attendance on Gasshuku and other courses as presented by the members of the KSKA Shihankai is to be recorded within the candidates KSKA passbook, whilst record of attendance on domestic courses is to be made within the candidates domestic licence/passbook.

Whilst there is no formal grading syllabus, the candidate will be required to demonstrate the level of karate that is within their capability that should be based on the core principles of Kase-Ha Karate-Do. Further guidance will be provided by the Shihankai.

The candidate might also be asked to demonstrate their instructional capabilities as a means of continuing the development of Kase-Ha Karate-Do.

In regards to European based candidates then 6<sup>th</sup> Dan and above grades are to be taken during a KSKA Gasshuku. Exceptions can be made in relation to countries including; Australia, Kuwait etc at the discretion of the Shihankai.

The KSKA Dan grade examination fee will remain at € 120 until further notice.

Candidates who fail the examination will be refunded € 60 from the total fee.

For subsequent attempts the candidate is only required to pay € 60 without refund on failure.

## KSKA Membership Renewals 2022 .....

Membership renewals for 2022 will become due on the 1st January and in order to maintain the continuity of the Academy, your continued support will be appreciated.

The KSKA annual membership fee remains at **€70**

The following account should be used for all payments made in Euro's

**IBAN BE80 0017 9066 6577**

**BIC code GEBABEBB**

**Account Name: KASE HA SHOTOKAN RYU KARATE-DO ACADEMY VZW**

**Address: Herckenrodebosstraat 40, 3511 Kuringen**

**Bank: BNP PARIBAS FORTIS**

Best regards

Livia Castro

KSKA Treasurer

### KSKA International Instructors Certificate

Don't forget the availability of the KSKA Instructors Certificate. The application form together with guidance on the qualifying criteria is available from the Academy's website.

In selective cases an Instructors Certificate can be attained from the level of Sandan where normally it is Yondan. If you regularly support a senior instructor or run your own club then enquire with the Secretary.

Completed applications should be emailed to the KSKA Secretary and are valid for a period of three years.

Many of the original applications will be approaching expiry. So should you need a replacement, the renewal process is the same as for the initial application and please use the same form and return email address.

[Click here](#) to download an application form.

### Please stay in touch

To continue to receive communication from the KSKA, if you change your email address or have a message that you wish to be presented to the Academy, please inform the Secretary otherwise you could be missing out on vital information. If you wish to un-subscribe then contact the Secretary.

[secretary@ksk-academy.org](mailto:secretary@ksk-academy.org)