

WINTER 2020

USAKF HISTORY

Beginnings to Present Day

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

First, I'd like to wish all of our members a happy and healthy holiday season and give my best wishes for the year 2020.

Thank you for your support of the USA Karate Federation. We plan for this year to be a year of unprecedented growth and development for both the federation and its membership.



*Grant Campbell,
Executive Director,
USAKF*

This winter edition of our USAKF newsletter features a recap of some of our activities over the past year. Also, for the benefit of some of our newer members, there are a few historical articles that have been included in order to give a better understanding of where Karate in the USA has been and our role in its development.

Understanding the significance of our history and connecting to the Budo spirit that the founders envisioned provides a strength unique to our group and its members.

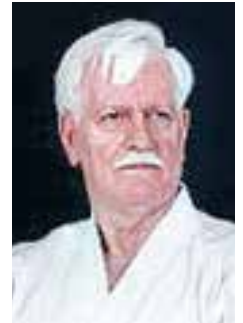
I'm excited at the opportunity for growth in various regions of the United States. We don't compete against

Message, continued page 14

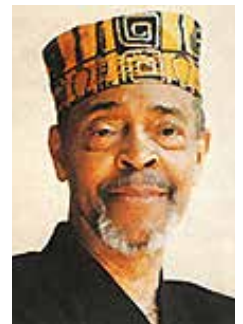
There have been a number of formations of the National Governing Body (NGB) for Karate through the United States Olympic Committee. Probably none are as formidable as the original "USA Karate." This is The USA Karate Federation (USAKF).

The original "AAU Karate" morphed from being a simple karate committee of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) into an incorporated sports committee of the AAU (National AAU Karate Committee, Inc. [NAAUKC]) until leaving the AAU to become USA Karate and the NGB member for Karate as part of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), a position USAKF held until 1995.

Jerry Thompson was the initial Karate Chairman of the NAAUKC. Later the late George Anderson, with Patrick Hickey and Thomas LaPuppet, completed the "triumvirate" credited with building a major Olympic karate effort. During this time frame, many important martial artists in the United States dedicated their time and effort to the "USA Karate" effort. This included many Japanese instructors, such as: Takiyuki Mikami, Hidy Ochia, Kiyoshi Yamazaki, Minobu Miki, Koji Sugimoto, Masaharu Sakimukai, Katsutaka Tanaka and others. On the American side, in addition to Anderson, Hickey, and LaPuppet, were Don Madden, Phil Koepfel, Jim Cottrell, John Nanay, John Townsley, Jim Mather, Robert Saal, Al Santucci, Alex Sternberg, Chuck Merriman, Ridgely Abele, Bill Viola, Carl Wilcox, Roger Jarrett, Bill Marcum and many others too numerous to name. Many prominent athletes participated as a mem-



*USA Karate
Federation Founder,
The late George
Anderson, Hanshi
(1931-2009)*



*Former USA
Karate Federation
National Treasurer,
the late Thomas
(Carroll) LaPuppet
(1938-1999)*



*Current USA
Karate Federation
President Patrick M.
Hickey, Hanshi*

History, continued page 2

History, continued from page 1

ber of the "USA Karate" team, including: Tokey Hill, Ken Ferguson, Billy Blanks, Alberto Pena, Domingo Llanos, Kathy Baxter, Gina Halderman, Adam Older, John Fonseca, John Linebarger, John DiPasquale, Joe Minney, Eddie Bwethea, Julio Martinez, Michael Graves, Jerry Kattawar, David Ames and Gary Tetsui.

A number of the then Junior "USA Karate" Team competitors from the old "USA Karate" now have important positions in the current NGB, such as Tokey Hill, Cedric Barksdale, Cleve Baxter, Bob Allen, Tommy Hood, Dustin Baldis, Matthew Ralph, John Fonseca, Christina Mucinini and the list goes on and on.

In the United States, in addition to creating the largest qualifying network of karate tournaments, "USA Karate" led the way in the professionalizing of competitions by requiring official certification, bye charts, documented registrations, and many other regulations now in use by other major karate sports groups in the USA. Many of these improvements are still being used today with little or no modification. During this time frame the late George Anderson became the first karate-ka to be a member of the United States Olympic Committee and "USA Karate" held the first All American Youth Championships and first Karate Junior Olympics.

None of this could have happened without the contribution and dedication of numerous martial artists in many different capacities.

At this time The USA Karate Federation is attempting to find and contact individuals

that were involved from 1978 to 2009 in the Olympic karate effort. If you were, or are aware of someone, please email their contact details to usakarate@usakarate.us.

The USA Karate Federation is a 501.c.3 tax exempt charitable foundation. "USA Karate" is a registered trademark of The USA Karate Federation and is licensed to the USANKF, the current Karate NGB.

In addition to the USA Karate Hall of Fame, the Police Self Defense Institute (PSDI), United States Jujitsu Federation, Traditional Kodokan Judo Organization, and the Kwanmukan will also participate with their Hall of Fame activities.



USAKF Founder, the late George Anderson, Hanshi, with the legendary martial arts icon, the late Bruce Lee (1940-1973) at his home in California.



Thomas LaPuppet, left

Remembering Thomas LaPuppet, Hanshi

By Floyd Burk

On March 23, 1999, shotokan stylist Thomas LaPuppet – often called the greatest karate fighter to come out of New York City – lost his four-year battle with cancer. His passing marked the end of a stellar career in the martial arts.

Born Thomas Carroll on February 7, 1938, he earned the nickname “La Puppet” (the puppet) because of his superb ability to mimic other stylists, his wife Marie Carroll-LaPuppet said. He was born in South Carolina but grew up in Brooklyn, New York. After graduating from high school, he joined the United States Marine Corps where he served four years on active duty and 16

years in the Reserve. He retired at the rank of first sergeant. In 1962, LaPuppet became one of “New York’s Bravest,” a firefighter who ran into burning buildings and risked his own life to save others, standing in the eye of the hurricane during almost every disaster that befell the city. After having served at Brooklyn’s famous Tin House Fire Station, he retired in 1982.

LaPuppet began his journey down the martial path as a jujitsu stylist in 1959. Soon afterward, he started training in shotokan under George Cofield at the Tong Dojo in Brooklyn. LaPuppet earned his black belt in karate in 1965. At a time when martial

arts greats such as Joe Lewis and Mike Stone were making a name for themselves, LaPuppet was busy winning tournaments, helping to create curiosity and raise interest in the New York martial arts community. One of his most impressive victories came in 1965, when he was named the undisputed winner of the All-American Championship at Madison Square Garden. The following year, in addition to defending his title and winning many local and regional tournaments, LaPuppet accumulated three major championship titles: the Canadian International Tour-

LaPuppet, continued page 4

continued from page 3

nament in Toronto, the Greater New York Metropolitan Championships and the Boston Invitational. He remained a tournament favorite for years and was inducted into the Black Belt Hall of Fame in 1969 as Karate Player of the Year.

LaPuppet was a formidable opponent for many contenders and up-and-coming champs. Two of them were Chuck Merriman and Bill "Superfoot" Wallace. "When I was competing back in the '60s, if you had any hopes of winning, you knew you had to go through Tom LaPuppet," Merriman said. "I will never forget fighting him – and losing, of course – because he always had this big smile on his face." Wallace has different recollections of the champion: "LaPuppet wasn't smiling at me when I fought him at the first Battle of Atlanta in 1969. When the center referee said, "*Hajime!*" (begin), here was this traditional shotokan guy moving around the ring like a non-traditional fighter. All of a sudden – wham – LaPuppet nailed me with a reverse punch. Here I was, behind in points, and everyone knows that kickers like me hate having to play catch up, especially in those days when a kick to the head was worth only one point. Then my luck seemed to change when LaPuppet started working his way in to finish me off with another reverse punch. I tagged him with a hook kick to the head. When time ran out, we were tied at one point apiece. Now we were in overtime, and LaPuppet must have changed his strategy a little bit because instead of him coming to me, I was now trying to edge myself into range. I really wanted to win that tournament. But it wasn't to be,



Left to right: Gregory Hines, Thomas LaPuppet and Ron Van Clief (Photo Courtesy of Marie Carroll-LaPuppet)

as LaPuppet cracked me right in the ribs with a rear-leg front kick. That was it – my day was over. I have to say, after giving me that sparring lesson, LaPuppet was always extremely nice to me. He was a great person."

Steve "Nasty" Anderson was one of LaPuppet's biggest fans. "I heard about LaPuppet before I heard about Bruce Lee," Anderson said. "I don't want my comments to seem racist, but LaPuppet came from an era when it was really, really hard to be black. Young black fighters like Billy Blanks, myself and other members of the Atlantic Team – we used to follow Thomas LaPuppet around and listen to what he had to say, hanging onto every word. I know I speak for the others when I say that LaPuppet set a path for us to follow. Indirectly, he was probably our greatest mentor and teacher. And LaPuppet was the nicest man I ever met. He was one of American karate's true pioneers, a guy who came out of New York City and who made me

proud to be an American martial artist." Martial arts instructor and actor Ron Van Clief first met LaPuppet at the All-American Championship in 1965. "Tom LaPuppet was an awesome martial artist," Van Clief said. "I really respected his self-defense skills – so much so, in fact, that when we bounced together at the Electric Circus and The Dom, New York's premier nightclubs, I felt secure when he was watching my back. LaPuppet also contributed to the success of many amateur karate and athletics organizations and was a driving force in getting the martial arts recognition in the Olympics. I learned a great deal from this amazing man, as did a lot of other people. There are countless martial artists, including students and champions of other instructors, who owe much of their success to [him]. It was LaPuppet who taught me the true essence of shotokan kata. He and I remained close for ... years. I will never forget my fellow Marine, my martial arts brother, my

continued from page 4

good friend – Tom LaPuppet.”

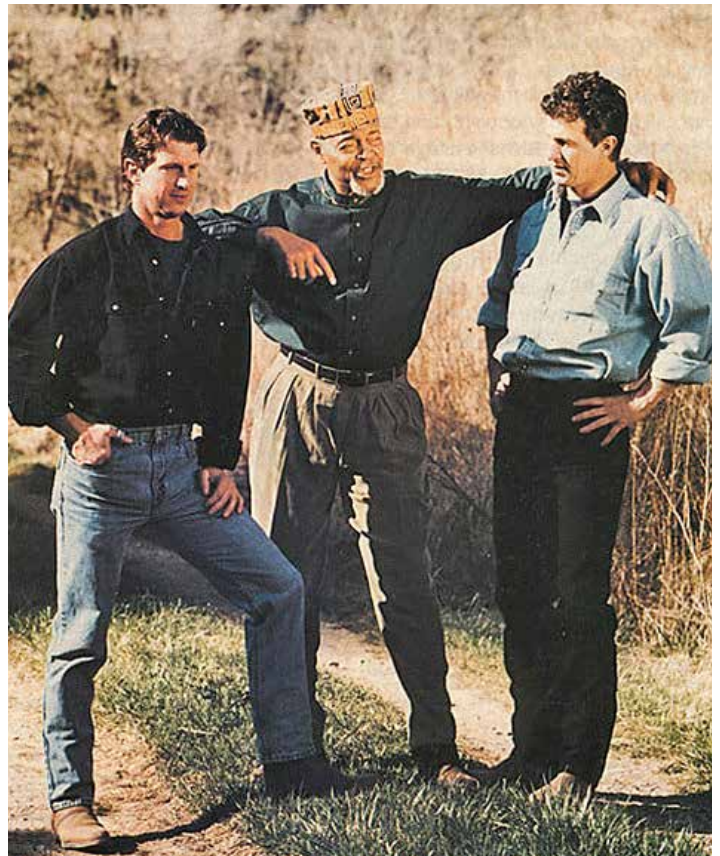
Regarded as a skillful and well-rounded competitor, Thomas LaPuppet surprised everybody when he announced his retirement from the circuit in 1970. In addition to being one of the all-time great fighters, he would often win in kata competition. From the full-contact karate team that he trained – the New York Puppets – to those splendid demonstrations he performed, such as his “blind-warrior” routine, there was nothing LaPuppet couldn’t do. He blazed a trail that included the expansion of his own dojo and the founding of his own organization. LaPuppet’s reputation was such that he was often asked to teach people of prominence, but he never abandoned his roots, which was demonstrated in his work with underprivileged kids at several community centers. He also taught classes at the Hunter College Elementary School and the Brooklyn Health and Racquetball Club. Meanwhile, many exceptional students and several instructors who opened their own schools came out of LaPuppet’s Ronin Shotokan Karate-Do Dojo.

According to Van Clief, one of LaPuppet’s best students was dancer and actor Gregory Hines. Other celebrities who trained with LaPuppet include Ralph Macchio (Daniel-san in the *Karate Kid* movies), Steve McQueen and Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel’s prime minister. LaPuppet also traveled with businessman Donald Trump, providing personal security for the man who would become the 2016 Republican presidential nominee. Although he normally kept a low profile, LaPuppet would occasionally do film work. He starred in various martial arts movies, such as *Force Four* and *The Super Weapon*. In his last film *Angel With a Kick*, LaPuppet even got to play the starring character, the angel. “Tom LaPuppet was instrumental in bringing national recognition to karate schools in New York,” the late Dan Ivan said. “But more important was his role in improving amateur martial arts competition.”

When it came to judging problems and other areas of disarray in karate tournaments, LaPuppet was less than complimentary. His initial involvement in a national organization was with the Amateur Athletic Union in the 1960s. He found himself in a situation for which there were no answers. The outspoken Ed Parker, who was also involved, was quoted as saying, “The AAU needs an enema.” (The AAU has since become one of the leading amateur martial

arts governing bodies in the United States.) LaPuppet wanted to see some changes, so he turned his efforts to forming along with the late George Anderson and Patrick Hickey, the more progressive USA Karate Federation. There he served in various capacities, including senior coach, national chief of tournament operations, arbitrator and National Treasurer. He was also a nationally and internationally certified referee and member of the original World Union of Karate-do Organizations (now known as the World Karate Federation) and Pan-American Union of Karate-do Organizations organizing committees. He was a board member of the Central Taekwondo Association and Kwanmukan International, as well as a member of the new World Karate Federation Organizing Committee for Olympic Development. For more than three decades, LaPuppet traveled the world on behalf of those organizations; he taught, arbitrated and promoted fair and honorable martial arts competition. He brought people together, forged coalitions and used his experience working with nonprofit organizations to analyze and implement complex dealings and changes, never ducking the tough deci-

continued page 6



Thomas LaPuppet in a scene from the 1998 film *Angel With a Kick*. (Movie Photos Courtesy of Marie Carroll-LaPuppet)

USAKF Central Valley (California) Meeting

Grant Campbell, Executive Director of the USA Karate Federation, made a rare appearance in Fresno for a meet up with Central Valley Instructors thanks to the efforts of Sensei Larry Cormier. The 2 hour discussion and Q-and-A were held at McCoy's Karate in Manchester Mall operated by Sensei Ken McCoy.

Several new members in this area have joined the USA Karate Federation and subsequent meetings have been held to discuss further growth and activities in the region for traditional Karateka.



BOOK REVIEW

...(This book) explains how to perform each type of block, kick, strike, and combination, adhering to international standards.

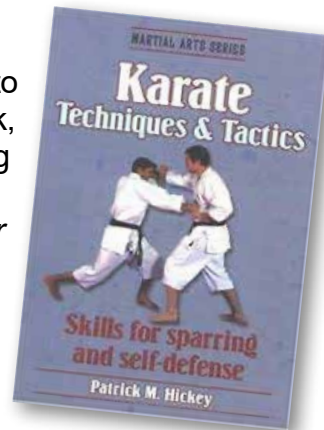
From the Publisher

"Patrick Hickey's book is a comprehensive survey of the art-sport of karate in the modern day. The book can be helpful for instructors to review some fundamentals. Students, from novice to advanced, can also benefit from this informative book to learn about many important basic techniques of karate. The book offers much information concerning the competitive aspect of the sport as well."

*Hidy Ochiai President/Chief Instructor
Washin-Ryu Karate-Do*

"Master Hickey is eminently qualified to speak to the standards and methods of modern karate training. This book is excellent work, direct and to the point, and will be of great benefit to both beginning and advanced students of the sport. This is the first book that truly incorporates the international standards of karate with the needs of the American athlete. The USA Karate Federation recommends it without reservation."

*George G. Anderson, Hanshi
Founder of USA Karate Federation*



continued from page 8

sions. "Tom LaPuppet didn't just sit around and gripe about some of the things that needed to be revamped," former Black Belt columnist Jim Mather said. "He got up and went at it. By example and good old-fashioned hard work, he made a positive impact on the entire amateur martial arts competition arena."

Nearly four decades before his death, Thomas LaPuppet began his journey in shotokan, becoming skilled in all its aspects. He was well-read in shotokan's history and terminology, as well as in other martial arts such as jujitsu

and kenpo. He was a peace-loving man who had no desire to prove his techniques worked on the street. His favorite statement was, "If someone confronts me on the street, I will run like hell and hope he doesn't catch me; if he does, he's in trouble." LaPuppet earned an eighth-degree black belt and truly became a master of the arts. He was a fearless champion, and although he was noted for his iron-jaw facial expression, he displayed good sportsmanship when he was out-scored in the ring. He always extended his hand in friendship and walked away with a smile – and he taught his students to do the same

thing. He instructed thousands of youngsters for a very low fee – or none at all. He took great pride in advising martial artists and acted as a confidante to those who knew him. His students – especially his black belts – loved, trusted and remained loyal to him until the very end.

About the author: Floyd Burk has more than 40 years of experience in the martial arts. He serves as senior adviser to Independent Karate Schools of America. He would like to thank Marie Carroll-LaPuppet for providing much of the background information, as well as several photos for this article.

2020 International Kwanmukan Symposium

March 13, 6:00pm to Mar 15, 1:00pm

International Kwanmukan in conjunction with United Martial Arts
and the USJJF / USA-TKJ / USMAF and the USA Karate Federation



Hickey Karate Center • 4540 Stow Road • Stow, Ohio 44224

Hickey Karate Center allows for 3 training areas and more detailed fitness-related programs using a 4th area of training. In addition, we can accommodate a special youth training program for either the morning or afternoon.

Tentative Schedule

Friday Night

6pm-9pm **Combative Program**

Saturday

8:30am-5pm **Karate Oriented Program**, with 45-minute free lunch time. Starts with Yoga at 8:45 and Fitness 8:30 am.

Sunday Morning

8:30am-12pm **Fitness 8:30am** followed by **Kobudo-, Judo- and Jujitsu-related programming and Fencing, other topics.**

Black Belt Extravaganza

Saturday • 6:00 pm

Hickey Karate Center.

All-Kwanmukan Workout and Demonstrations, Awarding of Black Belt Certificates and Other Awards

Annual Open Kwanmukan Meeting should start right after the awards ceremony.

Tuition

Entire Symposium includes awards ceremony	\$167	Saturday Daytime Only No Awards	\$129
Friday Evening Combative's Only	\$67	Saturday and Awards	\$149
Friday Evening Combative's with Saturday Awards	\$87	Sunday Only No Awards	\$67
Saturday Evening Awards Only	\$20	Sunday Only Awards	\$87

Recommended Hotels

Hampton Inn 4331 Lakepointe Corporate Dr, Stow, OH 44224..... 330-945-4160

Staybridge Suites 4351 Steels Pointe Drive, Stow, OH 44224..... 330-945-4180

Courtyard by Marriot 4047 Bridgewater Pkwy, Stow, OH 44224 330-945-9722

Training site is less than 3 miles away from hotels. Please note there is no banquet this year.



George E. Anderson Recognition Dinner and USA Karate Federation Hall of Fame Banquet

A message from Patrick M. Hickey, USA Karate Federation President, Director of the Kwanmukan, and USJJF Technical Director

The USA Karate Federation held its Hall of Fame induction Ceremony March 9, 2019. Hanshi George E. Anderson was also recognized and honored, along with those who helped facilitate his efforts to elevate karate, judo and jujitsu activities in the United States, and those that pioneered the effort to enable karate to reach the Olympics in 2020.

The goal of the Hall of Fame is to call together those individuals who were involved in organizations from the late 1970s to Hanshi Anderson's passing in 2009. These include the USA Karate Federation and its forerunner the National AAU Karate Committee, Inc., the United States Jujit-

su Federation and the Kwanmukan, along with athletes, coaches, administrators, RSO leaders, black belt students, police instructors and others who promoted Hanshi Anderson's efforts.

The induction ceremony took place at the SYB Hall, 4157 Hudson Dr., Stow.

A free photo gallery can be found at <https://davidhickey.smugmug.com/Events/Kwanmukan-USAKF-Hall-of-Fame/> and click on "Events."

The next Hall of Fame induction will take place in 2021. Details of the ceremony will be forthcoming in future newsletters

(Photos continued on the following pages)





On March 9, 2019, the below individuals were confirmed as receiving the George E. Anderson Hall of Fame Legacy Award

<i>David Ames</i>	<i>Corinne Housley</i>
<i>David Anderson</i>	<i>Jeff Hudson</i>
<i>Joan Anderson</i>	<i>Ron Layton</i>
<i>Lesley Anderson</i>	<i>Steve McKay</i>
<i>Michael Antonides</i>	<i>Alfred Meusel</i>
<i>Joany Aquila</i>	<i>John Nanay</i>
<i>Michael Ayers</i>	<i>Larry Overholt</i>
<i>Bruce Bethers</i>	<i>Peter Paik</i>
<i>Joe Bove</i>	<i>Brian Pendleton</i>
<i>Michael Bukala</i>	<i>Jeff Rhodes</i>
<i>Janine Dalton</i>	<i>Robert Saal</i>
<i>Jeffrey Ellis</i>	<i>Joseph Santocildes</i>
<i>Larry Feldman</i>	<i>Danny Stephens</i>
<i>Ken Ferguson</i>	<i>Philip Warren</i>
<i>Rick Fike</i>	<i>Lance Weimer</i>
<i>Joseph Gabriel</i>	<i>Larry Whelan</i>
<i>Pamela Hickey</i>	<i>Carl Wilcox</i>
<i>Patrick Hickey</i>	<i>Jim Winkleman</i>
<i>Carol Hofer</i>	

The Kwanmukan announces the recipients of the Kwanmukan Hall of Fame George E. Anderson Distinguished Service Award

<i>Lucinda Arnold</i>	<i>Paul Hennen</i>
<i>Richard Arter</i>	<i>Angela Isenbart</i>
<i>Chris Bader</i>	<i>David Lang</i>
<i>Lori Baukus</i>	<i>Ray Leone</i>
<i>Robert Burns</i>	<i>Tyrell McGuire</i>
<i>Scott S Craig</i>	<i>David Miller</i>
<i>Joseph D'Avilla</i>	<i>Timothy Norfolk</i>
<i>Keith Dougherty</i>	<i>Ralph Obert</i>
<i>Laura Dreibelbis</i>	<i>Jan Pritchard</i>
<i>Charles Flatt</i>	<i>Charles Rickard</i>
<i>John Forcone</i>	<i>Laura Rickard</i>
<i>Rachelle Freeman</i>	<i>Amanda Skoff</i>
<i>Todd Freeman</i>	<i>William Stefanacci</i>
<i>Gerry Funelli</i>	<i>Brian Walsh</i>
<i>David Gifford</i>	<i>James Winkleman</i>
<i>Anthony Harmon</i>	



Standards Versus Requirements

A discussion of standards versus requirements within the model to be identified as KwanMuKan International

*Submitted by
Shihan David Ames*

There has been some recent discussion regarding this subject amongst some of the "Organizational" sensei of the Kwanmukan International (hereafter, simply, "Kwanmukan"). I am struck by the use of the terms "standards" and "requirements" as interchangeable, even though these terms are not synonymous as used within the Kwanmukan. In the opinion of this author, this was not how the founder, George E Anderson, Hanshi, intended.



*David Ames,
Shihan*

With this preface we should begin by defining these terms, further analyzing them in a "legal directive" sense.

Requirement: anything demanded or obligatory. Some quality or performance demanded of a person in accordance with certain fixed regulations. (Webster's unabridged dictionary)

A directive is "requirement-like" when it binds a decision-maker to respond in a determinate way to the presence of delimited triggering facts. Requirements aim to confine the decision maker to facts, leaving irreducibly arbitrary and subjective value choices to be worked out elsewhere. A requirement captures the background principle or policy in a form that from then on operates independently. A requirement necessarily captures the back-

ground principle or policy incompletely and so produces errors of over or under inclusiveness. But the requirement's force as a requirement is that decision-makers follow it, even when direct application of the background principle or policy to the facts would produce a different result.

Standards: A rule principle that is used as a basis for judgment (Webster's Unabridged Dictionary).

A directive is "standard-like" when it tends to collapse decision-making back into the direct application of the background principle or policy to a fact situation. Standards allow for the decrease of errors of under and over inclusiveness by giving the decision maker more discretion than do rules. Standards allow the decision-maker to take into account all relevant factors or the totality of the circumstances. Thus, the application of a standard in one case ties the decision-maker's hands in the next case less than does a rule. The more facts one may take into account, the more likely that some of them will be different next time.

Prior to Okinawa-te being accepted as a "Japanese" budo discipline, Yasuhiro Konishi reputedly remarked that he did not consider this Okinawan martial art a complete method due to its lack of formalized standardization.

The method of teaching karate in Okinawa tended towards individualization as opposed to group instruction. The Sensei of Okinawa-te were not interested in teaching large classes or hav-

ing numerous students. There were no tournaments nor an inclination towards competition or even the idea of "rules" for fighting let alone the idea of kata competition.

The rules of sport karate have, more or less, a rigidity thereby precluding real self-defense or combat, where winning does not enter the equation so much as not losing or, put more succinctly, survival! This rigidity is affected by referees only to a small degree regarding their ability to not only apply the rules, but to move in the direction of their interpretation. However, it is clear by the definition of "rule" that the referee or decision-makers hands are tied, thus producing errors of over or under inclusiveness.

When testing students for rank the question of "rote" knowledge performance arises. Is it enough that the student can perform each of the four sub-categories of Kwanmukan karate as stand-alone subjects or is there a need to show a clear understanding of the interrelationship between the individual subjects?

The 4 parts of Kwanmukan karate are as follows.

- 1) basics/kihon
- 2) partner work/wasa
- 3) forms/kata
- 4) sparring/kumite

If the Kwanmukan is to adhere to the principles of having strong, consistent, internal standards, that are quantifiable, integrated, and related, then the senior instructors or Shihan, must pos-

Standards continued page 14

Scaling Force: Dynamic Decision-Making Under Threat Of Violence

From *Scaling Force, Dynamic Decision-Making Under Threat of Violence*, a book by Rory Miller & Lawrence A. Kane

I.M.O.P. Principle

How do you know when it is legal to get physical with an adversary? Learn the I.M.O.P. (Intent, Means, Opportunity, and Preclusion) principle. All of these criteria must be met before you have a good case for taking action. If one or more of these conditions are absent, you are on shaky legal ground.

These guidelines are not only useful, but they are also easy to remember in the heat of the moment on the street. That's because they are based on common sense. You must be in danger, or 'jeopardy' in order to protect yourself from harm. Obvious, right? Danger from another human being comes from their intent, means, and opportunity.

The hard part is that knowing this is not enough. The presence of intent, means, and opportunity may be sufficient for you to act in self defense. However, their mere presence may not be enough for you to prevail in court. You must also be able to explain how you personally knew that each element was present in a way that the jury will believe.

Intent

You must be able to show that the threat (the standard cop term for a bad guy) wanted to do you harm. You must be able to tell how you knew. Someone

screaming, "I'm going to kill you!" is fairly clear, at least if his body language backs up his words. If the threat balls up his fist and draws back, you can explain why you believed he was about to hit you. If the threat suddenly reaches under his jacket, you may believe that he is going for a weapon and can explain that to.

Intent is critical. People have chances to kill you all of the time. The waiter who brings you a steak knife in a restaurant has a deadly weapon and is well within range. But we do not kill the waiter, nor do waiters live in fear because we understand that without intent there is no threat. No justification for force. So we don't act.

This goes for the guy reaching under his jacket. This is an action that people do every day, getting out wallets, keys, and loose change. The hand reach is not enough. You will have to explain all the elements of that moment that indicated to you why that action showed intent. Did he continue toward you after being told to back off? Were you in an isolated area or alone at night at an ATM? Did you see, hear, or smell something that brought this everyday movement to a new level?

To be a legitimate threat, the person must have intent and you must be able to explain how you knew.

Means

All intent in the world does not matter if the threat couldn't hurt

you. Most people have some means at some level – fists, boots, and size. Others have weapons or indicate that they have weapons.

A two-year-old throwing a tantrum has some of the purest intent in the world, but he or she lacks the size, strength, and coordination to do anything severe.

The means that the actions you must articulate must also match the means that were present. People who were poorly trained in self defense mouth the words, "I was in fear for my life," like in a mantra or a get-out-of-jail-free card. It is a bullshit platitude. You will be expected and required to explain exactly what made you fear for your life – the intent, the means, and opportunity. If you are claiming the threat was deadly, the means have to be deadly. A shoving match does not count.

You must be able to articulate exactly what led to your fear in a way that demonstrates it is legitimate.

Opportunity

Intent and means do not matter if the threat cannot reach you. If someone is screaming he is going to kick your ass from across the room, he may be a threat but is not an immediate threat. You can't shoot him. If he has a gun, being across the room does not matter much. You have a pretty good argument that you were in danger. Similarly, someone waving a knife at you from inside a vehicle while you are walking on

Force continued page 14

The Referee and Judge in USA Karate

(Originally published in USA Karate Federation Kumite Referee Course Notebook)

The referees and judges in USA Karate occupy important roles, controlling the entire championship environment including the results. Referee and judges are a part of the match and are expected to deport themselves accordingly. In general, people will react to the calls with which they do not agree and not to the good ones. It is recognized and understood that the officials serve without compensation and are volunteering their time and efforts in the best interests of the Federation, as do all other USA Karate personnel. In USA Karate, appreciation and recognition are extended to the conscientious workers who give so generously of their time and effort to assure the proper operations of the sport of karate. Whatever work is done, charting, refereeing, time-keeping or in any other area, each chore is vitally important to the outcome of the match and important to the overall function of the event.

It is a misconception that paying the referees and judges might assure quality officiating and is therefore necessary. The duty of experienced karate referees and judges is to contribute their talent as a service in support of the karate development efforts of the United States. Professionalism should be kept out of the USA Karate program and, for that matter, any amateur sports program. Paying referees and judges creates a play for pay operation.

The USA Karate maintains the spirit of officiating as a volunteer effort in support of the amateur sports effort of United States. This is one way we can give back to karate what has been given to us (and I don't mean a headache! Editor's note).

The duties of officiating must be taken seriously and the official should aspire to do their best job and they should always be on time when assigned to a match. They should never relax in keeping control of each and every situation and in carrying out the aspects of the assignment with dignity and courage.

Attire and demeanor are critical and lend much to the overall appearance of Karatedo. The way officials present themselves reinforces their role as a decision makers and technical authorities. Dressed in grey slacks, white shirt and red tie (or the new 2020 modified officials attire) give the image of dedicated to the job and they know how to conduct themselves.

Through being exemplary models of good conduct, USA Karate officials are esteemed and admired by the USA Karate competitors. Should the occasion arise in which coaches or players question a call or decision, the experienced referee or judge expresses this esteem by remaining calm and are never being involved in questionable incidents and outbursts. Following bouts in which some unclear situation might have occurred, the officials can offer to explain the basis within the competition rules of the WUKO for making the decision but they must nev-

er justify their position in a judgment calls, especially at a moment when emotions are high and tempers are aroused.

The emotional response of USA Karate players, especially the young children and their parents and coaches, should be a clear concern of the entire officials section. Learn and appreciate their problems. Be interested in their concerns and offer assistance when deemed appropriate; grant a hearing or explanation when it appears there may be confusion. Whenever it can be avoided, a competitor should not be criticized in a crowd or in front of fellow competitors for something he might have said or done. Encourage friendly discussion, and remember to show understanding and kindness. In junior competition, try to make the young competitor feel that even though the official must abide by the rules and be impartial and fair, the official is his friend. Coaches are not permitted on the floor and it becomes the responsibility of the officials to look out for and to act as a "coach" for all young competitors. By being friendly and helpful to the junior competitor, you can make him relax and be more comfortable in the karate competition. For example, many times the junior competitor is not mature or responsible enough to stay by the ringside, to stay alert and listen to hear his name called, etc. It is the official duty to protect the interests of the junior competitor and to help our young people as though they were their own children.

Message continued from page 1

any other martial arts organization and will work with all styles and systems of the art with roots in the Okinawan or Japanese Ryuha or Kaiha. Gendai or newer recently formed styles or systems are also welcome to our events.

To define the USA Karate Federation, think of us as a resource for Karateka that are growth oriented and interested in developing themselves through the study and practice of the art of Karate.

More and more individuals and schools are joining the USAKF as an alternative to sport karate organizations. While the sport as-

pect of karate is both enjoyable and important in some ways, it is not THE most significant aspect of the art. Most of us didn't come into the martial arts to compete, but rather to achieve other worthy goals. The same is true of our students.

This upcoming year will be a truly important one as the sport of Karate is introduced into the Olympic Games in Tokyo. This was among the goals of several the early pioneers of Karate in the United States like USA Karate founder the late George Anderson, Hanshi.

Other goals included the development of the art and spreading

GOOD karate, irrespective of style or system. Our new website, will also have lots of great information for our members as well.

Future editions of the newsletter will feature regional events & promotions. We will also have submissions from our members and seniors in the art. Our calendar of upcoming events is open to all approved events that can offer value to our members. Offering seminars and training opportunities with some of the leading martial artists in the world is a part of the tradition within the USA Karate Federation that we plan to continue doing in 2020 and beyond.

Grant Campbell, Shihan

Standards continued from page 11

sess a clear understanding of and be able to "see" the indicators that standards are to provide the students.

If we were to apply the restricting, mind-numbing definition of requirements then each listed technique for a rank could very easily stand alone. However, if we are to utilize the broader possibilities of standards as the definition should allow and we apply this to the four subjects and all of the individu-

al techniques contained therein, then it should become clear that the indicators are what the inter-related subjects will allow the student to become. This often occurs with the student being entirely oblivious to this end result.

An example of this concept would be to state that it is not enough for student to be able to move to the side only while demonstrating the one steps that teach "opening the gate", or ashi-sabaki/foot shifting and tai-sabaki/body shifting, but that

they are able to move this way under the duress of a strong frontal attack in sparring. This should also hold true of the 32 one-steps and the concepts that are held within them.

One question arising from the insistence of demanding requirements is this: does mere memorization of the one-steps, or any individual requirement, translate into understanding or an ability to apply the underlying principles beyond the context of practicing those requirements?

Force continued from page 12

the sidewalk is not an immediate threat. If he slams the accelerator and the car lurches toward you, the situation has changed significantly.

Intent, means, and opportunity are the desire, the ability, and the access to hurt you. You must be able to show all three to justify using force for self defense.

Preclusion

Even if intent, means, and opportunity are clear, there is one

other requirement (for civilians and in most states) to satisfy. You must be able to show that you had no safe alternatives other than physical force before engaging an opponent in combat. If you can retreat without further endangering yourself this criterion has not been met. After all, it is impossible for the other guy to hurt you if you are not there.

These are the questions any jury will be asked and you must be able to explain. Could you have left? Did you in any way contribute to the situation getting

out of hand? Would a reasonable person have seen a way out or seen a way that used less force?

All of these are preclusions that would have stopped the situation from going to force. You must not only prove the threat was real and immediate, but that you had no other options.

Clearly you should never let fear of legal repercussions keep you from defending yourself when your life is on the line, but an understanding of the law can help you make good decisions on 'that day' should it arrive.

New affiliates welcome!

Join us in welcoming our new affiliate organization,

U.S. Kyokushin!

Mas Oyama's School of Karate is world reknown for its emphasis on knockdown fighting. We welcome their participation in USAKF.

MAS OYAMA'S
MUTEKI
KYOKUSHIN KARATE



USAKF Accessories Available

Official USAKF passbooks, lapel pins, and patches are now available. Please email usakarate2000@gmail.com for more information on how to order yours today!

USAKF Annual Membership

USAKF membership has its privileges! Join the USAKF and benefit from special competition fees, seminars

Individual memberships are \$25 annually; dojo membership is \$100.

Memberships renew dates are January 1 every year.

Follow this link to the enrollment page: <http://usakarate.us/>

USAKF Central Valley (California) Meeting

Grant Campbell, Executive Director of the USA Karate Federation, made a rare appearance in Fresno for a meet up with Central Valley Instructors thanks to the efforts of Sensei Larry Cormier. The 2 hour discussion and Q-and-A were held at McCoy's Karate in Manchester Mall operated by Sensei Ken McCoy.

Several new members in this area have joined the USA Karate Federation and subsequent meetings have been held to discuss further growth and activities in the region for traditional Karateka.

A TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS COMPETITION OPEN TO ALL STYLES

**Sunday
March 22**



**A USAKF
National Team
Selection
Event**



CHAMPIONSHIPS



**Nova High School
3600 College Avenue
Davie Florida 33314**

**For more information:
Grant Campbell, Shihan
954.966.8005**

**REGISTER ONLINE:
usakaratechampionships.us**

"This tournament will feature competition in both Jujitsu & Karate divisions. Please contact the Tournament Director for details".

Thanks is due to Akram Geelani and his dojo, Japan Karate Academy,
for hosting the 45th USAKF Nationals in Toledo, Ohio in June, 2019.

The 2020 USAKF Nationals will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in May. Watch the official USAKF
website for registration, tentative schedule, referee training session and lodging suggestions.

Next years Nationals (2021) will have a dedicated division for Kyokushin Kumite.

The 2020 WUKF World Karate Championships will be held in Szczecin, Poland July 1-5. This competition is open to all ages. Competition categories, lodging and schedules will be available soon on the official WUKF website at <http://world.wukf-karate.org>. Be a part of the USA Karate Federation National Team to the 2020 WUKF World Karate Championships in Poland. Contact us at 954.966.8005 for details.



Our National Team, ready for Poland!

9th World WUKF Championships

KARATE

Sportshall Netto Arena
**Szczecin
Poland**



**1st - 5th of
July 2020**



Calendar of Events

February 22, 2020

WOSKKA 2020 Training

Walnut Creek, California

For information:: hanshisid@aol.com

March 5-7, 2020

Okinawa Karate Kobudo Winter Camp

Hampton, Virginia

For Information:

kyoshigreen@gmail.com

March 13-15, 2020

Kwanmukan Symposium

USA Karate Federation Junior

Team Training for WUKF World

Championships in Poland July 2020

Stow, Ohio

For information: pmhickey1@gmail.com

March 22, 2020

Sunshine State Karate Tournament

46th USAKF National Championships

Qualifier for USAKF team

for WUKF World Championships
in Poland July 2020.

For Information:

usakarate2000@gmail.com

April 4, 2020

Elite Kata Competitor Camp

Youth & Adult, Individual and Team

Ft Lauderdale, Florida

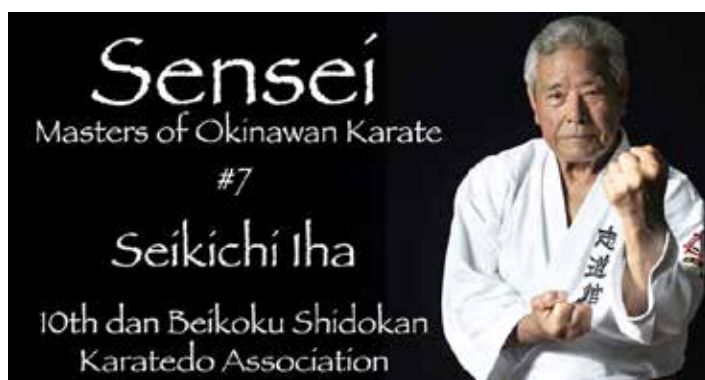
For Information:

usakarate2000@gmail.com

Listings in the Calendar of Events does not constitute an endorsement or sanction by the USA Karate Federation. These events are only listed for the general information of our members. Contact event directors directly for details."

Documentary available soon on YouTube

USA Karate Federation Executive Director Grant Campbell is involved in the international documentary project *SENSEI: Masters of Okinawan Karate*. This is a informative series in which Campbell and his wife are translators of some of the most interesting and accomplished teachers of Karate in Okinawa. The series will be available on YouTube soon. Stay tuned for more details!



The USA Karate Federation Senior Advisory Board has grown to include some of the pioneers of Karate in the USA. our strong international alliances will now enable our members to have opportunities that no other organization can offer with established American, Japanese and Okinawan teachers.

Get ready for great things in 2020!