



United World Karate

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June 1, 2016

TO: UWK General, Traditional and Contact Karate Commission Member
UWK National Federation Members

Re: Activity Update & WKF/IOC News Update

Dear UWK Member:

It has been some time since I have communicated to you as your President, United World Karate. However, this silence has not meant that your Executive Committee has been inactive. Indeed, the reality is quite the opposite. Your Executive Committee has been working quite diligently for ALL karate-ka World-wide, for ALL disciplines of karate world-wide and for the realization of unification that has prevented our collective martial art from being part of the Olympic Games.

Since the formation of United World Karate (UWK) in 2014, much has been accomplished. Indeed, with your participation and help we were able to demonstrate through the hosting of an extremely successful UWK World Championship, that unification can work and diversity is to be celebrated – not punished. Since that world championship, WKF has been faced with a serious challenge and the IOC has come to realize the depth of discrimination within WKF and the lengths to which it, at its President's hand, is prepared to go to protect and preserve the IOC benefits for a select few.

Last month, the IOC **directed** WKF to meet with UWK to discuss unification. Please understand how significant this is within the context of IOC. United World Karate has been able to move a critical issue forward within two years – an issue which was previously being ignored for nearly 20 years. I cannot tell you how delighted I am with this outcome. It is absolute proof that “*United We Are Stronger*”. However, today we learned that IOC once again supported WKF as a potential Sport in the 2020 Olympic Games. We cannot allow this to take place – or, our Karate will become a joke because millions of our athletes who will be excluded from participation without adopting WKF rules, will face eternal discrimination. ***As a result, we have been able to convince the Swiss Court to set a date to hear the UWK case of discrimination against both WKF and IOC and render its decision in the context of law – not political manipulation. That date is set for July 19, 2016.***

As we all know from our training and practice of Karate – timing is everything. Your Executive Committee remained silent until we had an effective foundation from which to act. We now have that foundation – Swiss Court date. It is now time to act!

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WKF does not define Karate. It only defines WKF Karate which took its basis from the original rules of karate competition – changed the competition to a new game and now claims the new game IS Karate. This is like saying Beach Volleyball is the definition of Volleyball – it isn't. It is one Discipline (competition category) within the Sport of volleyball.

All of us must do our part to achieve the overall success which will be a benefit to all karate athletes around the world. As the philosopher Aristotle stated, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." In other words, each of us working together will achieve something much greater than each of us working alone. This logic escapes WKF.

How can you help? We need each country, either collectively – or as individual disciplines of each of the Permanent Karate Commissions within each country to register immediately with the UWK Secretary Treasurer. This accomplishes two great things for UWK. First, it provides us with absolute proof that UWK is representing a significant number of countries across the three distinct disciplines of Karate Sport and their respective competitions; General Karate; Traditional Karate; and, Contact Karate. The fee for this is 400€ per year per Commission, per country (or 1200€ per country in total). Secondly, it will help support the funding necessary for UWK to take our fight against the discrimination of WKF to the civil justice system within Switzerland. This is imperative to stop any remote chance that WKF can continue to claim that it represents "all karate", as it is now claiming in its bid to be a participant in the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.

I ask you to forward this by June 15, 2016 at the latest. It is very urgent!

Thank you so much for all of your efforts in this regard. Your Executive Committee will continue to volunteer their time to achieve our goal. We will keep you informed of our progress. In the meantime, should you have any questions, or wish to provide any input or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Jorgensen".

Richard Jorgensen, President
United World Karate (UWK)