



WORLD KARATE CONFEDERATION

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WKC
NEWSLETTER
NO. 1/2013

TO: All Participants in the 5th International Martial Arts Games to be held in Melbourne, all Members of the Team in the Organizing Committee, all Volunteers for the Games, Sponsors supporting to the Games, Municipal Government of Melbourne

It is great honor and pleasure for me to congratulate all of you on the occasion of the 5th IMGC and 9th WKC World Championship.

I am convinced beforehand that these events which will be organized in their great solemnity under deep concern and attentions of all martial artists as well as peace-loving people around the world will be surely be concluded with a great success.

Since first days of establishment of IMGC never failed to wield power all over the world as a messenger of peace, justice and reconciliation in compliance with this noble ideal to promote healthier humankind through its own mind cultivation.

New horizon is opened to all of you and all of you are well promised to new perspectives.

May I assure you of my trust and confidence for the successful gathering of these events to be a milestone for the promotion of friendship and unity of all of us.

My special thanks should go to the volunteers, without them we can't imagine any Games.

And also, I am honored as my pleasant duty to extend my hearted gratitude to the sponsors

without which no martial Arts Games or Sportive events could be held in this planet today. It is imperative factor to get active support from the Municipal Government to organize a Game in a city and Melbourne municipal Government has been deserved to be appreciated very much for its brilliant supports to every Martial Art and Sportive event to be held in the city through the history.



In conclusion, all of us should applaud the Organizing Committee in praise of its hard and excellent workshop for the splendid preparation of the 5th IMG in this beautiful city of Melbourne.

The best of the good luck to every one of you in the Games!

CHANG Ung

Prof. CHANG Ung. Ph. D.
President, International Martial Arts Games Committee
President, International Taekwon-Do Federation
IOC Member
Board Member, International Truce Foundation
Member, International Relations Commission, IOC
Member, Sport for All Commission
Special Advisor to Olympic Council of Asia
Advisor to AIBA

Vienna, 25th March, 2013

Ri Jong Gun

Dear guests, dear martial artists,

Gather here, a beautiful city of Melbourne, Australia, the entire world martial arts' representatives, though different nationality, race, culture and tradition, linked each other with "Martial art" and united under the ideal of friendship, cooperation and development to adorn the 5th International Martial Art Games and the 9th World Karate Confederation World Championship and to leave another distinctive footprint in the development of the human society.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the World Karate Confederation, the host organization, for its valuable cooperation which provides us with such wonderful forum.

Being held for the 5th time in Melbourne through Pyongyang, Bangkok and Tallinn, this event will be

a significant occasion of great importance for developing and strengthening the international martial art movement which weighed its anchor in Buenos Aires in 1999.

With its noble ideal, purpose-orientation and strong sense of organization WKC enjoys acknowledgement and respect from the martial art world and becomes one of the important members in the martial art movement.

My special thanks go to Dr. Fritz Wendland, Founding President of WKC and Mr. Keith Geyer, President of WKC Oceania and President of KAA for their special contributions towards the successful proceeding of the 5th IMG and the 9th WKC World Championship. And also I warmly welcome all of you to Melbourne for this great event and wish you success and happiness.



Ri Jong Gun
Secretary General
International Martial Arts
Games Committee

From the President

Dear Friends,

Dear participants of the 9th WKC Championships in Melbourne, Australia, Once again, the World Karate Confederation has confirmed its original principles and aims by holding its major events worldwide and this time we are privileged and honoured that KAA (Karate Alliance of Australia) will be hosting this top event together with the 5th IMG Games!

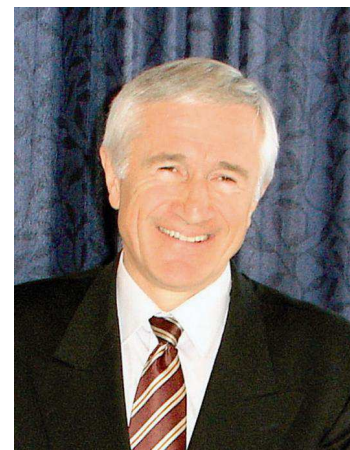
Distances are short when friendship is concerned and I believe all our athletes are delighted and excited at the prospect of visiting the "the land of down under"! A fantastic opportunity for all concerned within the WKC.

On the eve of the Championships, the Elective Congress will take place. May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your trust and cooperation. For me it was a great honor and privilege to be the WKC

President. I am deeply thankful to all colleagues with whom I worked in the past eight years. Concerning the candidatures for the positions in the Executive Committee (Vice Presidents), I must say that all these people have proved to be the most loyal and strong supporters with outstanding personalities. I extend to them all my best wishes and good luck at the forthcoming elections.

And finally I have to mention the "Spiritus movens" of the WKC – Dr Fritz Wendland, my personal friend for over 40 years, a man I admire for his extraordinary energy and enthusiasm who invested great amount of time and hard work to make the WKC become one of the strongest international bodies for over 17 years now.

I wish you all safe and nice journey to Australia! Looking forward to meeting you all soon.



Marko Nicović
President

Draft program for the 9th WKC World Championships:

Wednesday, 8th May 2013		
	Arrival of teams	
Thursday, 9th May 2013		
14 – 17 hours	registration of all participants (and weigh-in for weight categories)	Hotel Grand Chancellor, 131 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Hotel Grand Chancellor, State Netball Stadium
13 - 18 hours	Referee and Coach Seminar (mandatory for all official referees, judges and coaches), (final venue will be published in due time on the WKC webpage (www.wkc-org.net)	
18 – 20 hours	5 th WKC Congress in the	
Friday, 10th May 2013		
From 8.00 a.m.	all day competition	Hotel Grand Chancellor
Saturday, 11th May 2013		
From 8.00 a.m.	all day competition	
Evening	Farewell Party	

19th Baltic states Shotokan Championships 2013

On 23rd February the Baltic states Shotokan-karate clubs championships were held in the Panevėžys "Cido" arena. 300 competitors from 26 Lithuanian, Latvian, Polish and Belarussian karate clubs attended the tournament. The competition was held under WKC Rules and executed on 5 tatamis. There were 39 categories for 6 years to 18 years of age comprising of individual kata and kumite. The participants' had to fight very hard to be in with a chance of winning a medal.

The most successful clubs of the Championships were:

1. "Rytukovotojas" (Radviliskis, Lithuania)
2. "Kentauras" (Lithuania)
3. Martial Arts Association "Budo" (Garliava, Lithuania)

The championships was organized by the Lithuanian Shotokan Karate Federation LSKF and the Panevėžyskarate club "Alfa". The chief referee was Alfonsas Valuntonis and General Secretary Kazimieras Bartkevicius.

2nd Baltic Martial Arts Olympiad and Open WKC Kata and Kumite Championships 2013

The Latvian Karate Association LKA and the Lithuanian Shotokan Karate Federation LSKF organised an Open WKC Championships under the umbrella of the 2nd Baltic Martial Arts Olympiad on 16th and 17th March 2013 in Riga, the capital of Latvia. The President of the LKA, Mr. Vladislav Fetkulin, had organised the WKC tournament with the support of the LSKF President K. Bartkevicius. At the Championships Dr. Viatcheslav Timofeev (The WKC Executive Referee and President of the Karate Federation of Russia KFR) acted as chief referee supported by Jurij Khomenko a WKC qualified referee.

Over 200 Karateka from Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Poland, Belarus and Russia participated in the Championships. The most successful teams were:

1. KFR (Russia)
2. Shogun Nishniy Novgorod (Russia)
3. Karate-Do Vilnius (Lithuania)



Fighting scene



Referees and officials



K. Bartkevicius and A. Valuntonis with the champions

Candidates for the WKC Executive Committee

For President:



Marko Nicović

Marko Nicović was born in 1946 in Montenegro. He graduated from Law University of Belgrade, Serbia with a degree of Master of Arts in International Public Law. Further, he graduated Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA, USA) in 1985 and is a member of the International Association Chiefs of Police. In 1993 he opened his own law office and works since then as an attorney at law. He speaks fluently English, Spanish and French

Mr. Nicović started karate in 1966 in Paris and was a member of the Yugoslav national karate team from 1969 until 1973. He holds a 7th Dan WadoRyu of the Japan Karate Federation (Wado-kai). From 1993 until 1998 he was President of the Yugoslav Karate Federation and since 1998 until today he is President of the Serbian Karate Union. In 2004 he was elected President of the World Karate Confederation.

He received numerous awards of national and international police authorities and a special award from the Japanese Prime Minister Ryotaro Hashimoto for the contribution in karate development in the world.

The Serbian Karate Union has organized under his leadership four major international WKC events from 2002 to 2010. He brought several national federations to the WKC. He is in charge of the general politics and strategy of our confederation. His ideas for the future are focused on the further development, prosperity and affirmation of the WKC for the best interest of all our members.

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For Vice-Presidents:



Roland Dietrich

Roland Dietrich was born in 1959 in Germany. He became a civil engineer and is now working as a project controller with the Volkswagen car manufacturer.

In 1976, he started karate and competed at national and international level. He managed regional karate areas, was a national referee for 15 years and was a member of the board of directors of the national German JKA karate federation for ten years. He is now head of the German Karate Confederation GKC.

Mr. Dietrich joined the WKC in 1998 and has work since then in the management of the tournaments. He has designed and implemented a flexible Tournament Organising Program (SHIAI-Event) which has been used for all WKC competitions for the past five years. Since 2005, he has acted as one of the WKC Vice-Presidents and heads the WKC Office.

R. Dietrich wants to continue with his work in the WKC Office in order to achieve the aims of the WKC: a fair and traditional karate confederation based on mutual respect and ethics.

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Dott. Bruno Gilardi

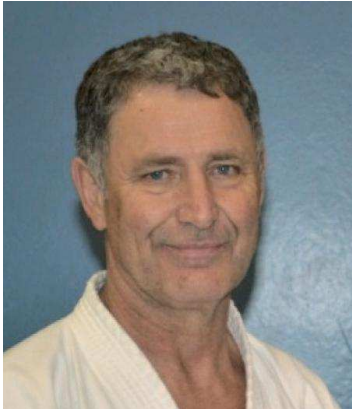
Dott. Bruno Gilardi was born 1955 in Italy. He graduated from La Sapienza University Rome in architecture and later in work environment and health profession science. He runs his own architecture studio. Dott. Gilardi published many scientific articles and several books. He held several positions in government commissions and was an advisor to the government. He is also a professor at the La Sapienza university.

B. Gilardi was a member of the Italian national squad and also team captain from 1975 to 1978. He was Italian champion from 1975 to 1977 and national coach 1982 to 1985. In 2007 he was elected president of the Federazione Italiana Arti Marziali FIAM and in 2009 Vice-President of the WKC.

In the WKC Dott. Gilardi assisted in the organisation and management of the WKC Championships and also by keeping good dialogue with other prominent international federations

His vision for the future of the WKC is the development of a computer system for the management of championships and the expansion of the WKC through agreements with other organisations.

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Keith Geyer

Keith Geyer was born in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1953. He learnt to be a motor mechanic before opening his own sport school for martial arts.

He started karate in 1969 under Stan Schmidt Sensei, the living legend of South African karate and world known instructor. Keith Geyer was awarded Shodan in November 1972 and a 7th Dan in 2000 by the Japan Karate Association in Tokyo. He was a member of the South African National (Springbok) Karate team from 1975 to 1988 and captained the Springbok Team from 1982 to 1988. He won the South African all styles Open Kumite Title 6 times competed in the 1975 WUKO World Championships in Long Beach California and coached the South African National Team from 1992 to 2000.

Mr. Geyer has lived in Australia for the past 10 years and is head of the Karate Alliance Australia and Chief Instructor of Shotokan Karate Coalition.

Mr. Geyer has been an active member of the WKC since 2001 and has taken Australian teams to most of the more recent WKC World Championships. Since 2004, he has acted at the Regional WKC President for Australia & Oceania. His desire is that the WKC prospers and becomes strong throughout the world and continues to give karate-ka every opportunity to compete in fair and well-run competitions.

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Terry Boyle

Terry Boyle is a bank manager with the Danske Bank in Northern Ireland.

He started karate in 1976 in Derry and was awarded Shodan in 1985. He competed nationally and internationally and won the Northern Ireland individual kumite title seven times. He has trained with famous British Instructors like Ticky Donovan, Vic Charles and was the Northern Ireland team captain for seven years.

His most prominent teacher has been Tatsuo Suzuki Hanshi, the outstanding WadoRyu karate pioneer in Europe who passed away recently. T. Boyle holds a 6th Dan in Karate. He was President of the Northern Ireland Karate Board and sat on the board of the Martial Arts Commission in London and the Board of the British Karate Federation. Now he oversees the Ulster Karate Council UKC.

In 1998, Mr. Boyle joined the WKC with the Ulster Karate Council and influenced several other associations to join. Since 2005, he has been a leading member of the WKC Referee Commission, has rewritten the Rules, established written examination papers, and headed several referee seminars. Since 1978 he has attended all WKC events.

His visions for the future of the WKC are to promote karate with traditional values in a modern attractive environment, to invest in electronic scoring systems, to provide financial support to local organisers and to activate the system for referee promotion and training and to set up a Coach Commission.

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Dr. Viatcheslav Timofeev

Viatcheslav Timofeev was born in 1950 in the Republic of Chouvashia, Russia. He graduated from Kazan State Medical Institute in 1973 and achieved his PhD in Production Management from the Economic Faculty of the Chouvashia State University in 1993. He worked as a surgeon from 1973 until 1987 and as deputy doctor of the Central Committee of Trade Union of workers of the electric power plants and electro-technical industry. From 1994 until 1998 he was a member of the State Council (Parliament) of the Chouvashian Republic and Chairman of the Sport Committee.

The President of Chouvashia awarded Dr. Timofeev the medal of "Honorary employee of general education of Russia" by the Ministry of Education and Science of Russia, The medal and honorary title "Honored employee of physical training" and sport of the Chouvashian Republic. He is a 5th Dan in Shotokan Karate.

He held several high positions in the Chouvashian Martial Arts Association, in the Chouvashian Karate Federation and in the National Karate Federation of Russia. Since 2010 he is the President of the Karate Federation of Russia KFR. From the 1st WKC World Championships in 1997 in Arezzo he became a Referee and is a member of the WKC Referee Commission.

V. Timofeev speaks Chouvashian, Russian, Turkish and English

His vision for the WKC is to strengthen and expand the WKC especially in Asia, the states of the former USSR and the Turkish speaking countries.

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Flame lit in Pyongyang for 5th International Martial Art Games (IMG)



The torch is lit

On 3rd April 2013 the torch lighting ceremony took place in Pyongyang, DPR Korea, home of the martial arts movement. The ceremony was attended by many citizens of the Korean capital. Mr. Ri Jong Gun, the secretary general of the International Martial Games Committee (IMGC), Mr. Kim KyongHo, chairman of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, and Dr. Fritz Wendland, Founding President of the WKC and Vice-President of the IMGC, addressed the citizens and the martial artists who assembled. The ceremony was also attended by Mr. Li Zong Lin (China), chairman of the International Martial Art Foundation (IMAF) and Executive Board member of the IMGC, Mr. O Nam Il and Mr. Kim Kwang Il from the IMGC Headquarters and several diplomats accredited in Pyongyang.

After the torch was lit three young Taekwon-Do athletes carried it through the streets of the Korean capital applauded by many spectators.

The torch will be brought to Australia and its flame will lighten the sky at the opening ceremony of the 5th IMG in Melbourne, Australia on 10th May 2013.



The WKC Newsletter is an official publication of the World Karate Confederation. Its purpose is to make karate better known to the public and the media. Therefore, reprinting or otherwise copying all its contents is not only permitted but will be welcome; quoting „WKC Newsletter“ as a source will be appreciated. The WKC Newsletter will be issued free of charge two to three times annually. Please direct any questions about the WKC Newsletter or contributions for future issues to the Editor. All questions regarding the WKC in general or next WKC events in particular should be addressed to the WKC Office.

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