



WORLD KARATE CONFEDERATION

WKC - Office
P.O. Box 10 11 21
38410 Wolfsburg
Germany
e-mail: wkc.office@gmx.net
www.wkc-org.net

WKC

NEWSLETTER NO. 2/2011

8th WKC World Championships 20th to 22nd May 2010, Liberec, Czech Republic

This is the first time the Czech member federation Shikon Budokai SKB organised a WKC World Championships. The host chose the regional capital Liberec that is situated in the north of the country in a mountainous area. In winter time Liberec hosts many international skiing and ice sport tournaments. That is why the city has a huge multi-purpose sport hall, which is used for indoor sports as well as concerts and exhibitions. More than 8.000 spectators can be seated and is one of the best facilities that the WKC has ever used for a tournament.

The male kumite (free fight) teams of the Azerbaijan Karate Confederation AKC have been a complete surprise and the highlight of the Championships. They took the gold medals in the Shobu Sanbon (three points system) and in the Ippon Shobu (one point system) team events. The AKC competitors were extremely fast with excellent techniques with the result that no team could surpass them. Surprisingly even the top Italian federation FIAM was defeated 3:0 in the final of the Sanbon team event. Only in the final Ippon team match the Ukrainians of the UKF were strong opponents but in the end they also had to submit to the Azeris. In the female kumite team match, the fighters of the Serbians from the Republic of Srpska (Bosnia) took gold against the surprisingly strong Czech team. The women of the Argentinean federation UAK defeated the fighters of the Serbian from Bosnia in the finals of the Ippon team kumite.

Two Japanese instructors were teaching at the referee and coach seminar: Master Seiji Nishimura, former head coach of the Japan Karate Federation, and Master Kioshi Nishime from Okinawa. Both masters are excellent technicians and were much liked by all par-

ticipants of the seminar. While master Nishimura taught his speciality kumite (free style fighting) Master Nishime instructed mainly in the kata bunkai (application of the kata). S. Nishimura is still unbelievable fast for his age and surprised the attending referees and coaches with many combinations. K. Nishime demonstrated for most people unknown explanations of the kata bunkai.

Special guests of honour of the Championships have been members of the IMGC Executive Board: IMGC President and IOC Member Prof. Dr. Chang Ung, IMGC Vice-President Prof. Dr. Leong Wai Meng, Mr. Ri Yong Son and Mr. Mikhail Kolvart (chief organiser of the 4th IMG in Tallinn).

Two candidates applied to host the next WKC World Championships: the Australian KAA and the Ukrainian USKA. One will take the Senior Championships and one will host the Juniors and Cadets.



Organisers Robert Musil, Martin Nožička

After the Championships the chief organisers Martin Nožička and Robert Musil received many mails and letters of appreciation for the excellent

organisation of the whole event. The WKC can only repeat this appreciation and thanks both of them and their whole team for a remarkable tournament in a wonderful stadium.

Results

Kata Ind. Female Goju

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 | SCALBI Sara | FIAM-Italy |
| 2 | SIDOROVA Karina | ASKFK-Russia |
| 3 | MALIKOVÁ Linda | SFKBU-Slovakia |

Kata Ind. Female Shito

- | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | GIANNI Alessia | FIAM-Italy |
| 2 | REGULES Marina | UAK-Argentina |

Kata Ind. Female Shorin

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | RAHAIM Mackenzie | AAU-U.S.A. |
| 2 | SMETAKOVA Lenka | SKB-Czech Republic |
| 3 | KAFKOVA Jiřina | SKB-Czech Republic |

Kata Ind. Female Shoto

- | | | |
|---|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | OCAMPO Alexis | AAU-U.S.A. |
| 2 | FEDI Maura | FIAM-Italy |
| 3 | MIRDINJA Maja | KSRS-Republic of Srpska |

Kata Ind. Female Wado

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | SANTARELLI Desirè | FIAM-Italy |
| 2 | CAULI Eleonora | FIAM-Italy |
| 3 | PICCIONI Agnese | FIAM-Italy |

Kata Ind. Male Goju

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | KOCSIC Ľudovít | SFKBU-Slovakia |
| 2 | RAZVODOV Vladimir | ASKFK-Russia |
| 3 | BYRTUS Marek | SFKBU-Slovakia |

Kata Ind. Male Shito

- | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | BENITEZ Victor | UAK-Argentina |
| 2 | VUKELIC Milos | SKU-Serbia |

Kata Ind. Male Shorin

- | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------|
| 1 | NOLTE David | AAU-U.S.A. |
| 2 | MORAN Kyle | AAU-U.S.A. |
| 3 | SVOBODA Jan | SKB-Czech Republic |

Kata Ind. Male Shoto

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 | TESAREK Jakub | SKB-Czech Republic |
| 2 | ZDOBINSKY Adam | SKB-Czech Republic |
| 3 | SEMINO Federico | FIAM-Italy |

Kata Ind. Male Wado

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | BREGOLI Yuri | FIAM-Italy |
| 2 | CANTO Flavien | FIAM-Italy |
| 3 | DEL PROPOSTO Diego | FIAM-Italy |



The strong team of the AKC Azerbaijan



Master Seiji Nishimura



Master Kioshi Nishime demonstrating Kata Bunkai



A fine Uramawashi-geri



Another Uramawashi-geri



The teachers at the referee and coach seminar

Kata Ind. Female Shorin +40

- 1 RÍPLOVÁ Jana CFWMA-Czech Republic

Kata Ind. Female Shoto +40

- 1 JOHNSON Marie AAU-U.S.A.
- 2 FERNAN Shirley GKC-Germany
- 3 WEXLER Amy AAU-U.S.A.

Kata Ind. Female Wado +40

- 1 MOREAU Nathalie FIAM-Italy
- 2 BURKE Jacinta IKAW-Ireland

Kata Ind. Male Goju +40

- 1 JIRASEK Jiri SKB-Czech Republic
- 2 GENDRIKSON Alexander ASKFK-Russia
- 3 LESHIN Alexander ASKFK-Russia

Kata Ind. Male Shito +40

- 1 ZELICH Claudio UAK-Argentina

Kata Ind. Male Shoto +40

- 1 SIZOV Sergey KFR (WKC)-Russia
- 2 KESL Karel SKB-Czech Republic
- 3 LADIN Jeff AAU-U.S.A.

Kata Ind. Male Wado +40

- 1 PICCIONI Luigi FIAM-Italy
- 2 COLANGELO Cesare FIAM-Italy
- 3 PALERMO Mark FIAM-Italy

Kata Team Female Goju

- 1 Team 1 ASKFK-Russia

Kata Team Female Shoto

- 1 Team 1 FIAM-Italy
- 2 Team 1 KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 3 Team 1 AAU-U.S.A.

Kata Team Female Wado

- 1 Team 1 FIAM-Italy

Kata Team Male Goju

- 1 Team 1 ASKFK-Russia
- 2 Team 1 SKB-Czech Republic

Kata Team Male Shito

- 1 Team 1 UAK-Argentina

Kata Team Male Shoto

- 1 Team 1 AKC-T-Austria
- 2 Team 1 FIAM-Italy
- 3 Team 1 SKB-Czech Republic

Kata Team Male Wado

- 1 Team 1 FIAM-Italy

Kumite Ind. Female -55 kg Sanbon

- 1 SERGEEVA Nadezda KFR (WKC)-Russia
- 2 MATEJKOVA Tereza SKB-Czech Republic
- 3 DRAPIC Dragica KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 3 OCAMPO Alexis AAU-U.S.A.

Kumite Ind. Female -60 kg Sanbon

- 1 RAHAIM Mackenzie AAU-U.S.A.
- 2 ĐURIŠOVÁ Zuzana SFKBU-Slovakia
- 3 JOVANOVIĆ Bojana KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 3 DIAMANTINI Valeria FIAM-Italy

Kumite Ind. Female +60 kg Sanbon

- 1 PECEKOVA Petra SKB-Czech Republic
- 2 ČERNÁ Maria SFKBU-Slovakia
- 3 SCALBI Sara FIAM-Italy
- 3 MILIČIĆ Svjetlana KSRS-Republic of Srpska

Kumite Ind. Female Ippon

- 1 IELANSKA Olesandra USKA-Ukraine
- 2 REGULES Marina UAK-Argentina
- 3 GEYER Jessica KAA-Australia
- 3 MORIGUCHI Rena KAA-Australia

Kumite Ind. Male -68 kg Sanbon

- 1 JOVANOVIĆ Dejan SKU-Serbia
- 2 REITANO Dario FIAM-Italy
- 3 BIANCHI Christian FIAM-Italy
- 3 MACRI Matteo FIAM-Italy

Kumite Ind. Male +18 y. -78 kg Sanbon

- 1 PAVLICEK Tomas SKB-Czech Republic
- 2 MATVEEV Dmitrij ASKFK-Russia
- 3 NOLTE David AAU-U.S.A.
- 3 BERIBAKA Milan KSRS-Republic of Srpska

Kumite Ind. Male +78 kg Sanbon

- 1 BARBINI SAMBUCIONI Augusto FIAM-Italy
- 2 ČULUM Mladen KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 3 KIEFER Dan AAU-U.S.A.
- 3 REICH Tomas SKB-Czech Republic

Kumite Ind. Male Ippon

- 1 PLOSKIĆ Mladen KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 2 IELANSKYI Kostiantyn USKA-Ukraine
- 3 GORDIYENKO Vladyslav USKA-Ukraine
- 3 ZELICH Claudio UAK-Argentina

Kumite Team Female Sanbon

- 1 Team 1 KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 2 Team 1 SKB-Czech Republic
- 3 Team 1 SFKBU-Slovakia
- 3 Team 1 FIAM-Italy

Kumite Team Female Ippon

- 1 Team 1 UAK-Argentina
- 2 Team 1 KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 3 Team 1 KAA-Australia

Kumite Team Male Sanbon

- 1 Team 1 AKC-AZ-Azerbaijan
- 2 Team 1 FIAM-Italy
- 3 Team 2 SKU-Serbia
- 3 Team 1 KSRS-Republic of Srpska

Kumite Team Male Ippon

- 1 Team 1 AKC-AZ-Azerbaijan
- 2 Team 1 UKF-Ukraine
- 3 Team 1 KSRS-Republic of Srpska
- 3 Team 1 SKU-Serbia

Medal Table

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
FIAM-Italy	10	7	9
AAU-U.S.A.	5	1	6
SKB-Czech Republic	4	6	4
UAK-Argentina	4	2	1
ASKFK-Russia	2	4	1
KSRS-Republic of Srpska	2	3	7
AKC-AZ-Azerbaijan	2	0	0
KFR (WKC)-Russia	2	0	0
SFKBU-Slovakia	1	2	3
SKU-Serbia	1	1	2
USKA-Ukraine	1	1	1
AKC-T-Austria	1	0	0
CFWMA-Czech Republic	1	0	0
GKC-Germany	0	1	0
IKAW-Ireland	0	1	0
UKF-Ukraine	0	1	0
KAA-Australia	0	0	3

8th Dan WKC for Rudolf Rammer

For his life achievements in karate the WKC awarded the 8th Dan to Rudolf Rammer, President of the Austrian Karate Confederation. Since the foundation of the WKC in 1996 he is with us and has attended all our meetings and tournaments. As a learnt bookkeeper he audited the WKC accounts and books from the beginning of the WKC.

The Austrian karate master Rudolf Rammer, for his friends short „Rudi“, was born 10th November 1940. He started his career in martial arts with Judo like many others of the “old” when other martial arts were not known in Europe. When karate was introduced in his country he changed to this “new” art in 1964. Thus he became one of the karate pioneers in Austria and was a founder member of the Karate federation of the state of Upper Austria. Like most of the early karate practitioners he was an instructor and competitors at the same time and won many titles on state, national and international level. In 1972 he founded the karate dojo “Seibukan Linz” of which WKC Senior Referee Gerold Reifenauer is the chief instructor.

As a karate leader he was coach of the Upper Austrian Karate federation for 18 years as well as a board member of the Austrian National Karate Federation for 20 years until 1996. In 1978 he passed the state examination as sport instructor. He also was an international referee in both world bodies IAKF and WKF (old WUKO). In the International Workers Sport Federation (CSIT) he holds the position of Technical Director since 2005.

For his lifelong devotion for karate he was awarded with the highest decoration of the Austrian Republic, the Golden Medal of Honour. This year finally the state of Upper Austria made him “Ambassador for Karate” (the title in Austria is “Konsulent”). In this position he is the official advisor to the Upper Austrian government for karate.

One can say that Rudi gave nearly 50 years of his life for the promotion of karate and all as an armature. He never gave up his profession as a bookkeeper and kept his independence from any karate politics. The WKC is very proud to have Rudolf as a member.

Peter Spanton – 15 years of work for the WKC

After the foundation of the WKC in 1996 Peter Spanton from England joined the WKC. Since the first WKC World Championships in Arrezzo 1997 he attended all Championships and did the computer work relating to the registration, the draws as well as the results during the tournament for hours and even days. For his reliable, impartial and stalwart attitude WKC President Marko Nicovic' present Peter Spanton a gift in the name of the whole WKC family at the WKC meeting in Liberec, Czech Republic.

Peter began his karate training in February 1965 in South London under Sensei Tatsuo Suzuki who recently passed away. After training as often as possible, he was awarded his Shodan in December 1966. He participated in several competitions during 1965/6 including the first All British Championships at Crystal Palace, and the first European Championships in Paris.

He was the first English international medal winner, getting a 3rd place in Paris.

After losing interest in competition, preferring Jiyu Kumite, he took up refereeing for a couple of years later concentrating on his own training. In 1976 he went back into international refereeing and was eventually promoted to European Kumite Referee and Kata Judge, at the same time was also Chief Referee for England.

In the early 80's, after constructing a computerised competition program, he began attending all WUKO and EKU events to run the events on computer. Later when the WKC was formed, he joined and began using the program successfully for all WKC events. After 15 years or so, the WKF and EKF fired him because of his association with the WKC.

He was a member of many English Governing Body Committees, but lost interest due to the po-

litics, which appears and still infects World karate. The lack of politics in the WKC was a refreshing change and is why it has always had his support. Peter formed his own group; Higashi Karate Kai HKK (loosely meaning Eastern Karate Association, as the first club was in East London) back in the late 60's and became an official federation shortly after. The membership rose to over 2,000, but after various splits it is now stable at around 1,000.

Peter's main hobby for many years has been computing, however in the past two years he has taken up wildlife photography, which he loves!

Previously he was in the Merchant Navy for three years and after worked for 11 years in a brewery, which was about the time he began karate.

Peter is still training, though not as much as he would like and occasionally runs training courses for HKK members. His passion is Kata, especially the various options for bunkai.



Peter Spanton fighting in 1966

After over 46 years in karate, he still wishes to continue going as long as he can.

OBE for Ronnie Watt, Director of Shotokan

The 5th of July was a very special day Her Majesty the Queen presented Ronnie Watt with the Officer of the British Empire for Services to Karate.

The ceremony was held at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, a historical and beautiful classical building in Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland. Also attending the presentation was Ronnie's wife Gail, daughter Roxanne, and very special guest Dr Fritz Wendland a long time friend and colleague.

Last year Ronnie was given another great honour only given to only a very few European people the Order of the Rising Sun with Gold and Silver Rays from the Emperor of Japan and Japanese Government. The order was presented by Mr Tarahara, the Consul General of Japan in Scotland.

The OBE Officer of the British Empire is very hard to achieve and only very, few are awar-

ded in Scotland yearly. The ceremony lasted approximately one and a half hours with several hundred guests and a full military orchestra. The Queen presented the awards to the well-deserved recipients. The Queen is so well briefed that she had a knowledgeable and kind word to all receiving their awards. Ronnie's good friend Lord Charles Bruce was a body guard for the Queen at the Garden Party in the afternoon and had heard from several people at the investiture, that apparently the Order of the Rising Sun made quite an impact! He doubted that the Queen is often in the position of conferring an order on one of her subjects whose work already has been recognised so prominently by the Emperor of Japan!

Ronnie was delighted and greatly honoured by receiving the award in the form of a beautiful gold medal, which was the highlight of 46 years of very hard work. He organised the third world championships in 2001 and has worked with the WKC from the beginning of this organisation. This was a very special occasion for Ronnie's Family and his Federation.

The Scotsman is now one of the highest awarded instructors in the world but this does not distract him from his every day work at his club in Aberdeen.



Peter Spanton with President M. Nicović



Rudolf Rammer receiving the 8 Dan diploma



Ronnie Watt at the Palace of Holyroodhouse



Lord Charles Bruce

Karate: Traditional Martial Art or Sport? *An interview with FIAM's instructors*

Never before in recent years has there been a discussion between traditional and sport karate which has now been discussed in depth. Many teachers over time have written books and essays on the subject, and there is still more room for debate. Where exactly does the subdivision derive from and which features of martial development have formed these two kinds of approaches? We do not want to enter into deep philosophical reflections or in search of ancient traditions. On the contrary, we have asked the advice of real experts, sincere and dedicated teachers from the Fiam Federation. That over time and through various personal and professional experiences have discovered more than one way to achieve their goals. We start with traditional karate with a very valuable contribution from three great teachers and in-depth knowledge of this subject: M° Ferdinando Balzarro, M° Michele Scutarò, M° Ilio Semino.

Traditional karate and sports: Sport karate a relatively modern concept with Traditional karate having its roots deep in the past and a history as a martial art. What is your opinion on this subdivision and how, from your point of view, has it evolved in FIAM?

Balzarro: in Italy it was M. Shirai, in the early sixties that created the first major traditional karate school. With the introduction of Sport Karate which followed over the years has in fact very little to do with the important technical and spiritual values that Karate-Do wants to pursue and achieve. For this reason we have created strong divisions between those two. One who intends to pursue only Sport Karate. The other is not to squander the enormous and valuable heritage left to us by the masters who have preceded us. Regarding FIAM, the fact that the federation has chosen to „use“ acclaimed Masters for the purest of traditional karate. This really does answer part of your question.

Scutarò: Karate is a traditional martial art with a long history, this discipline is performed with the same rigor as military training, enhancing the sense of discipline, courage and perseverance. Sports karate, in my opinion, is nothing but the transformation of a small part of traditional karate. Sport teaches you to beat your rivals to win honours and medals, on the other hand the practice of martial arts teaches you that you really win only when you manage to overcome yourself.



Nando Balzarro



Michele Scutarò



Ilio Semino

Semino: I personally believe that sport karate does not exist. Instead it is a form of „combat sports“ that appears by the name of karate-kumite and does not contain the character of a martial art or discipline. I do not think that those who dedicate themselves completely and almost exclusively to training combat sports can learn karate. It is a complex mix of feelings and emotions. FIAM pays close attention to the study of Karate-Do. Even the competitive aspect of both, kumite and kata, certainly is not neglected as demonstrated by the excellent results obtained in the international field in WKC.

The traditional and sport karate in his view are compatible with each other? In the future there could never be a supremacy of one over the other over?

Balzarro: I am aware that many people will not hold this opinion. I consider the two practices very different with little or nothing in common except the dress and the odd gesture. Regarding which of the two will survive over time is really difficult to judge what the future will hold.

Scutarò: All, though from different backgrounds, we love and want only the best for karate. Living together is possible but differences must be recognised as an opportunity, not as a clash between the two.

Semino: I would not talk of „supremacy“ because Karate-Do is a discipline of body and spirit, it remained unchanged over the decades, and today Karate-Do is practiced with the same philosophical goals that have characterized in the early days in Japan. On the contrary the sports side is fluid and devoid of that „spiritual“ content which emphasizes the difference between a martial art and sport.

What is your experience about this topic and how it is dealt with daily in his gym?

Balzarro: In my day, the difference between the traditional and the competing was minimal. Both in terms of technical training, both in the competition, how to move physically and spiritually was almost identical. More simply, now I keep different paths, separate classes for young people who wish to compete in the competitions, and all those who, by age or other, they aspire to practice for a long time karate. People who just consider competition only have emptied the halls. Karate begins when the races end. Karate is neither better nor worse than anything else you want to consider. Karate is just one more thing.

Scutarò: The message I try to convey to my students a mixture of technical and education aspects, martial spirit and commitment. I would like to think after years of practice my students would say said: „Karate has improved me as a human being“.

Semino: From FIAM I was given the task of looking after the national kata team, as a result I could compare the two realities, the martial art and competitions. We have students who are becoming good karateka and at the same time compete with gratifying results in both disciplines. Certainly athletes who only compete in „sport“, will prove more adept at fighting, just as certainly they will not become good karateka when their physical strength is in decline. Not being able to demonstrate their skills fighters, will realize that it takes a lifetime to develop in depth Karate-Do. In the next issue of Samurai, the debate continues with an interview with other illustrious Fiam teachers who supported the sports approach over Karate-do.

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.

Editor: Dr. Fritz Wendland; e-mail: wendland.wkc@t-online.de