

AUTHENTIC CENTRES FOR EXCELLENCE OF TAEKWON-DO

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Authentic Centres for Excellence of Taekwon-Do Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

- 1 **Title**
 - 1a The organisation shall be known as the Authentic Centres for Excellence of Taekwon-Do. Hereafter referred to as A.C.E.

- 2 **Affiliation**
 - 2a A.C.E. shall be affiliated to Pioneer Rhee Ki Ha IX, hereafter called FGMR, by virtue of association.
 - 2b A.C.E. is permitted by FGMR to wear the FGMR-ITF logo in recognition of this association.

- 3 **Aims and Objectives**
 - 3a To promote, without prejudice, traditional and authentic Taekwon-Do, its beliefs, customs, culture, method and ideology as formulated by the founder General Choi Hong Hi and subsequently by FGMR.
 - 3b To operate in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the Encyclopaedia of Taekwon-Do, written by the founder General Choi Hong Hi prior to his passing in 2002, and further by the teachings of the pioneer master FGMR.
 - 3c To arrange, for the benefit of members; training courses, seminars, competitions and other activities as so required for the promotion and development of Taekwon-Do.
 - 3d To afford all members the benefits and privileges of membership as may be possible to arrange.
 - 3e To uphold the dignity of A.C.E. and to operate in accordance with the laws of the domicile country.

- 4 **Membership**
 - 4a Membership of A.C.E. shall be in the form of a society of associates, these may be in the form of an Academy, Institute, School, Individual Member and Honorary Member.
 - 4b Academy. An Academy is a recognised training facility that is available throughout the day solely for Taekwon-Do training under the supervision of a Master Instructor who is in possession of a current A.C.E. Academy Registration Certificate as the Chief Instructor. The Academy Certificate will be valid for ___ year (s).
 - 4c Institute. An Institute is a recognised training facility available throughout the day solely for Taekwon-Do training under the supervision of an International Instructor who is in possession of a current A.C.E. Institute Registration Certificate as the Chief Instructor. The Institute Certificate will be valid for ___ year (s).
 - 4d School. A School is any training facility under the supervision of an Instructor who is in possession of a current A.C.E. School Registration Certificate. The School Certificate will be valid for ___ year (s).

A.C.E. Rules & Regulations

- 4e Individual Member. An Individual Member shall be any person who is in possession of an A.C.E. Member Licence and Grading Record booklet with a valid A.C.E. Licence retained inside. It is usual for an Individual Member to be associated with either 4a, 4b or 4c above. The Individual Member Licence will be valid for 1 year.
 - 4f Honorary Member. A person may be granted honorary membership on a majority verdict of the Executive Committee. An honorary member, who is not a practising student member, will not require a Member Licence.
 - 4g New Training Facility. When considering any new training facility, Instructors must co-operate with any existing A.C.E. schools and Instructors within close proximity. Any new facility must be approved by the A.C.E. Executive Committee in writing.
- 5 Management**
- 5a The authority and responsibility for the running of A.C.E. shall be entrusted to the Executive Committee
 - 5b The Executive Committee, in addition to the execution of these rules, may exercise all powers, and do all acts in furtherance of the objectives of A.C.E.
 - 5c The Executive Committee shall execute actions as voted for by a majority vote of the membership at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra Ordinary Meeting if required to do so.
- 6 Executive Committee**
- 6a The Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers, the President, Vice President, & appointed Master Instructor where needed.
 - 6b The President, Vice President, & all other Members shall hold a valid A.C.E. Member Licence.
 - 6c Three Committee members shall form a quorum.
 - 6d The Committee may appoint a Sub-Committee to act on its behalf in respect of any specific matter.
- 7 Election of Officers**
- 7a The President. Shall be the Founder of A.C.E. GM Paul Cutler. The president shall hold this title at his pleasure.
 - 7b The Vice President. Shall be selected and given the title by the President.
 - 7c Master Instructor Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
 - 7d The Committee shall have the power to co-opt other members as they deem necessary.
 - 7e Retiring officers and other members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election.
 - 7f The President and Vice President may hold an ex-officio office in the Executive Committee.
- 8 Instructors**
- 8a An instructor is an A.C.E. approved Black Belt student (minimum age 18) who has passed an approved Instructors Training Course, holds an A.C.E. Instructor's Certificate and has a valid membership licence.
 - 8b Must have a valid Professional Indemnity insurance certificate.
 - 8c Must have a valid DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate.
 - 8d Are required to be conversant with the current copy of these and any other Rules & Regulations pertinent to A.C.E.

9 Instructor Classifications

- 9a A Grand Master Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 49½yrs) who has Attained the rank of 9th Dan. The Grand Master Instructor wears the appropriate Grand Master shoulder epaulettes on the training suit.
- 9b A Senior Master Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 41½yrs) who has attained the rank of 8th Dan. The Senior Master Instructor wears the appropriate Senior Master shoulder epaulettes on the training suit.
- 9c A Master Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 34½yrs) who has attained The rank of 7th Dan. The Master Instructor wears the appropriate Master shoulder epaulettes on the training suit.
- 9d An International Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 19½yrs) with a minimum rank of 4th Dan who has passed an approved International Instructors Training Course. The International Instructor wears the appropriate International Instructor shoulder epaulettes on the training suit.
- 9e A National 'A' Class Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 18yrs) with a minimum rank of 3rd Dan who has passed an approved National 'A' Class Instructors Training Course.
The National 'A' Class Instructor wears the appropriate shoulder epaulettes on the training suit with a red strip 2.5cm wide on the trouser legs.
- 9f A National 'B' Class Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 18yrs) with a minimum rank of 2nd Dan who has passed an approved National 'B' Class Instructors Training Course.
The National 'B' Class Instructor wears the appropriate shoulder epaulettes on the training suit with a blue strip 2.5cm wide on the trouser legs.
- 9g A National 'C' Class Instructor is a black belt holder (minimum age 18) with a minimum rank of 1st Dan who has passed an approved National 'C' Class Instructors Training Course.
The National 'C' Class Instructor wears the appropriate shoulder epaulettes on the training suit with a green strip 2.5cm wide on the trouser legs.
- 9h The Executive Committee may, under special circumstances, approve an instructor qualification without regard to the age or rank criteria.
- 9i An Instructor may apply to A.C.E. for approval of a badge to represent their School. The badge is to be no larger than the FGMR-ITF badge. When written confirmation has been received the official school badge is to be worn on the left sleeve of the training suit positioned so that, with the arm downward, the badge is at the same level as the FGMR-ITF and A.C.E. badges.

10 Black Belt Member

- 10a A black belt member is any member, over the age of 13yrs, who has succeeded an appropriate assessment and whose examiner qualifications and assessment criteria have been approved by the Executive Committee.
- 10b A black belt member holder is to wear an approved single wrap black belt. The belt is to indicate the holder's degree in Roman numerals across the belt's width at one end.
- 10c A junior black belt member is any member under the age of 13yrs, who has succeeded an appropriate assessment and whose examiner qualifications and assessment criteria have been approved by the Executive Committee.
- 10d A junior black belt member is to wear an approved single wrap black belt with a 10mm white stripe running along the full length in the centre. There is no grade indicated on a junior black belt.

A.C.E. Rules & Regulations

- 10e 1st to 3rd Dan black belt holders are to wear 3cm black piping along the bottom edge of the jacket and vertically up the front of the jacket to a height equal to the height of the black piping at the side of the jacket. The officially approved FGMR-ITF badge is worn on the front left chest. The officially approved A.C.E. badge is worn on the right front chest.
- 10f Junior black belt members do not wear black trim on their training suit.
- 10g 4th Dan and above black belt holders are to wear 3cm black piping around the edges of the jacket, down the length of the sleeves and the length of the trouser legs. The officially approved FGMR-ITF badge is worn on the front left chest. The officially approved A.C.E. badge is worn on the right front chest.
- 10h An approved official school badge (if applicable) is to be worn on the left sleeve of the training suit, positioned such, with the arm downward, the badge is at the same level as the FGMR-ITF and A.C.E. badges.
- 10i The dress code for a black belt member shall be Navy Blue blazer suit with either an Official A.C.E. or Pioneer Rhee Ki Ha Neck Tie (Ties are presented with Blackbelt Certificates) and the Pioneer Rhee Ki Ha ITF pin badge to be worn on the Left collar lapel.
Official Main School Registered Instructors to wear the A.C.E. Lapel Pin badge on the Right collar lapel. (Gold for Masters and Silver for All Instructors) a school Lapel badge may be worn if required underneath the ACE Badge or on the Right Lapel. Charcoal grey trousers or same colour suit trousers to be worn, Lady Members may wear either the same suit trousers or ¾ length skirt.
Black formal shoes to be worn at all times, except when officiating at Championships and or Gradings when Taekwon-Do shoes must be worn - BIG Soled Trainers are not permitted.

11 Black Belt Assessments

- 11a Assessments (gradings) shall be held, as a minimum, twice a year.
- 11b The member taking the grading must have been taught by a qualified Instructor for a reasonable time before taking the grading.
- 11c From 1st Kup onwards a minimum of two training sessions per year under a Master Instructor must be recorded in the Member Licence and Grading Record Booklet.
- 11d The member must attend a black belt pre-grading course.
- 11e Grading Fees may be varied from time to time and shall be set by the Executive Committee.
- 11f Re-examination fees will be paid in full.
- 11g Upon a successful grading a new belt and certificate will be issued by A.C.E.
- 11h The member's training suit must be very smart and clean with all the necessary badges and insignia correctly attached.
- 11i The only protective equipment that may be worn is a groin guard for males and breast guard for females.
- 11j The minimum training periods between assessments are as follows:

1 st Dan to 2 nd Dan	18 months
2 nd Dan to 3 rd Dan	24 months
3 rd Dan to 4 th Dan	36 months
4 th Dan to 5 th Dan	48 months
5 th Dan to 6 th Dan	60 months
6 th Dan to 7 th Dan	72 months
7 th Dan to 8 th Dan	85 months

8th Dan to 9th Dan 96 months

12 Colour Belt Member

- 12a A colour belt member is any member who has succeeded an appropriate assessment and whose examiner qualifications and assessment criteria have been approved by the Executive Committee.
- 12b A colour belt member is required to wear an approved training suit which has the officially approved FGMR-ITF badge worn on the front left chest and the officially approved A.C.E. badge is worn on the right front chest.
- 12c An approved official school badge (if applicable) is to be worn on the left sleeve of the training suit, positioned such, with the arm downward, the badge is at the same level as the FGMR-ITF and A.C.E. badges.
- 12d A colour belt member will wear a coloured belt to represent their grade as follows:
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10 th kup | White Belt |
| 9 th kup | White Belt with Yellow tips |
| 8 th kup | Yellow Belt |
| 7 th kup | Yellow Belt with Green tips |
| 6 th kup | Green Belt |
| 5 th kup | Green Belt with Blue tips |
| 4 th kup | Blue Belt |
| 3 rd kup | Blue belt with Red tips |
| 2 nd Kup | Red Belt |
| 1 st kup | Red Belt with Black tips |
- 12 e Coloured tips are to be no wider than 10mm and positioned 50mm from each end of the belt.

13 Colour Belt Assessments

- 13a Colour belt assessments (gradings) shall be held, as a minimum, 4 times a year.
- 13b The member's training suit must be very smart and clean with all the necessary badges and insignia correctly attached.
- 13c The only protective equipment that may be worn is a groin guard for male and breast guard for females.
- 13d Grading Fees may be varied from time to time and shall be set by the Executive Committee.
- 13e Re-examination fees will be paid in full.
- 13f Upon a successful grading an A.C.E. Colour Belt certificate will be issued.
- 13g The minimum training periods between assessments are as follows:
- | | |
|---|----------|
| 10 th Kup to 9 th Kup | 1 month |
| 9 th Kup to 8 th Kup | 2 months |
| 8 th Kup to 7 th Kup | 2 months |
| 7 th Kup to 6 th Kup | 3 months |
| 6 th Kup to 5 th Kup | 3 months |
| 5 th Kup to 4 th Kup | 4 months |
| 4 th Kup to 3 rd Kup | 4 months |
| 3 rd Kup to 2 nd Kup | 5 months |
| 2 nd Kup to 1 st Kup | 5 months |
| 1 st Kup to 1 st Dan | 6 months |

14 Examiners

A.C.E. Rules & Regulations

- 14a The Honorary Chief Examiner shall be First Grand Master Rhee Ki Ha.
 - 14b The Principal Examiner shall be Grand Master Paul Cutler or Grand Master Ray O'Neill. In the event of then being unavailable, we shall appoint Deputy Examiner (s) as required.
 - 14c International Instructors are entitled to assess their own students. These assessments must be notified to the Principal Examiner and conducted in accordance with A.C.E. grading requirements.
 - 14d It is expected that appropriate hospitality be afforded to any visiting examiner.
- 15 Newsletters**
- 15a Newsletters will be published periodically and are for the benefit and information of all Instructors, Black Belts and Coloured Belts.
 - 15b One Newsletter per registered school will be sent/emailed, it's the duty and responsibility of the recipient to ensure that all members of the school are given the opportunity to see the newsletter.
 - 15c On application, any black belt member can receive a personal copy of newsletters.
- 16 Press & Public Relations.**
- 16a All articles for publicity or statements about A.C.E. must be approved by the President or Vice President.
- 17 Competitions**
- 17a Competitions may only be organised with the permission of the A.C.E. Executive Committee.
 - 17b Any A.C.E. Member may apply to host a competition.
 - 17c Competitions will be run in accordance with A.C.E. Competition Rules.
- 18 Recognition of Grade and Qualification to A.C.E.**
- 18a A.C.E. will recognise the grade and qualification of any new member providing the grade and qualification can be verified by an approved A.C.E. Examiner.
 - 18b Where deemed necessary, a new member must also be prepared to submit themselves for assessment by an approved an ACE Examiner.
- 19 Improvements**
- 19a Any suggestions that are presented to the Executive Committee for the improvement of A.C.E., which have been approved and sanctioned by a majority vote at the Annual General Meeting or as otherwise directed by the Executive Committee, shall be supported by the total membership.
- 20 Disputes**
- 20a In any dispute involving members of A.C.E. they should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve the dispute between them in a constructive manner.
 - 20b Should any dispute between members not be resolved in accordance with 20a then the Executive Committee will consider and rule in accordance with the aims and objectives of A.C.E. whose ruling in the matter will be final.

A.C.E. Rules & Regulations

21 Contravention of these Rules & Regulations.

21a These Rules and Regulations are in place to provide an understanding of how the Executive Committee require A.C.E. to be run, in a structured, fair, reasonable and legal manner.

21b Any member disregarding the Rules and Regulations of A.C.E. and /or conducts themselves in a way that brings or causes to bring A.C.E. or any of its members into disrepute may have their membership terminated.