

The International Association of the Combat Group

# World Combat Association



## Information Pack

The Most Respected Mixed and Practical Martial Arts Organisation in the World

# World Combat Association (WCA)

The international Association within the Combat Group  
alongside the UK's BCA & BCKA



## History

2023 sees the 30th anniversary of the founding of the **British Combat Association (BCA)**. As you may have read on the Group websites, the **WCA** along with the **BCA** and **BCKA** are members of the umbrella organisation, the **Combat Group**. All have adopted the great attributes of the original organisation (BCA) that **Peter Consterdine 10th Dan Karate** and **Geoff Thompson 8th Dan Karate** founded in 1993, which now has over 800 Instructors and some 7,500 student members.

The **WCA** was brought into being by demand, specifically demand from outside the UK, by groups and individuals to join the BCA which was never appropriate internationally being a domestic organisation. As this demand increased, it became clear that an international version of the BCA was required and so we kept the title as close as possible, never losing sight of the purpose of all the associated

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organisations, which is the promotion of good martial arts and all the dissemination of knowledge and skills in the areas where 'Personal Combat' has a part to play in an individual's life.

## The Combat Group

Under the umbrella of the **Combat Group** we now have the two domestic Associations - the **British Combat Association**, **British Combat Karate Association** with the **World Combat Association** providing all the benefits and support network that our domestic Instructors and clubs enjoy - [www.thecombatgroup.com](http://www.thecombatgroup.com)



A BCA Residential Seminar in the U.K.

As with the BCA and BCKA, we want the **WCA** to be a network of like-minded combat instructors who can share experience and knowledge, network with other members and utilise the websites for the promotion of their own activities - this has been the foundation of the BCA, then the BCKA and some of its earliest Instructor members are now household, international names in the arena of progressive martial arts personal combat.

Below, the WCA's Chief International Instructor Iain Abernethy talks about the benefits and experience of being in the WCA.



## Iain Abernethy WCA International Chief Instructor outlines the benefits of membership.....

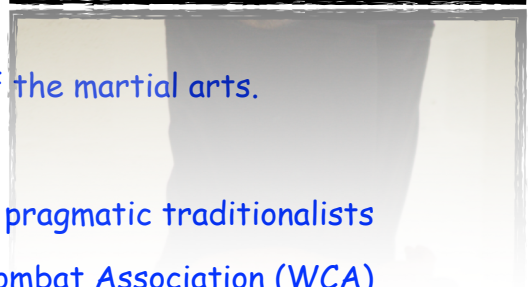
"The exponential growth in those returning to practicing the martial arts in a practical way means that there is now a pressing need for a global dedicated association so practitioners of applied martial arts can band together for the benefit of both the arts and themselves.

The bodies set up to promote sporting offshoots or a particular style or methodology - as useful as they can be for their members - do little to promote and enhance what we see as an extremely important aspect of the martial arts.

An open and inclusive worldwide association is needed for pragmatic traditionalists and practitioners of functional martial arts. The World Combat Association (WCA) fulfils this need!

Many martial arts bodies have a recurring bad habit of trying to limit the freedom of their members and hence the WCA aims promote and enhance the wide variety of pragmatic approaches without imposing unnecessary limits upon people.

The WCA will be wholly dedicated to the promotion and furtherance of applied martial arts. Your standard association will typically deal with things like insurance, providing representatives for competitions etc. That is not the role of the WCA.



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The WCA has been set up to be an independent association of likeminded individuals who believe that applied martial arts needs a body to address the specific issues associated with our pragmatic approaches.

The WCA will be totally dedicated to, and focused on, the promotion and study of the practical aspects of the martial arts. We therefore will not be engaged in activities

such as selling on insurance etc. Those who therefore have insurance through the other bodies to which they belong, or who have it independently, do not therefore need to pay for a service they do not need.

We will be totally happy with all WCA members being members of as many or as few other bodies as they wish. As I say, it is not our job to impose restrictions on members; just the opposite in fact!

The WCA will promote all practical approaches to all the martial arts and will have no dictatorial hierarchy. This is a group in which diversity in approach (providing it remains practical and of high quality) is encouraged

and deemed valuable."



## WCA Aims

The WCA aims to meet the following objectives and to provide the following services:

☒ To provide a dedicated body for practically minded martial artists that is open to all and does not restrict individual approaches.

☒ To promote the practise of applied martial arts.

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- ☒ To promote those individuals, groups and instructors who are contributing to the furtherance of applied martial arts and to help get them the recognition they deserve.
- ☒ To ensure instructors of applied martial arts from all over the globe can network, learn from each other, and help each other to advance.
- ☒ To promote the groups, materials and seminars of instructors of applied martial arts to as wide an audience as possible.
- ☒ To provide a private monthly newsletter which will include information on applied martial arts for all WCA instructors; and to which all WCA instructors are encouraged to contribute and use to promote their activities.
- ☒ To recognise gradings in the applied and practical aspects of traditional martial arts so people do not have to test against a sporting or "aesthetic" criteria in order to advance in rank.
- ☒ To help provide grading opportunities for senior people and to recognise existing grades (proof of existing grade will be required).
- ☒ To give instructors the freedom and support to develop their own syllabus, to independently test against those syllabus, and to have the grades awarded by member instructors recorded, registered and certificated by the WCA. These grades will be certificated as being awarded by the instructors in question and registered with WCA.
- ☒ To allow members instructors to use the WCA umbrella to promote themselves and their groups.

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Instructors will also have the option of having their syllabuses "WCA Approved". This is in no way mandatory and individual instructors are free to decide if it is for them or not. However, there are benefits to syllabus approval. Gratings conducted by member instructors against a WCA approved syllabus will also be certificated as "approved by the World Combat Association" (as opposed to simply "registered").

For a syllabus to be approved by the WCA it obviously needs to be screened by us. It is not our intention to dictate details and this will be a broad criteria - not specific detail - to ensure approved syllabuses include what I'm sure you'll agree are "must-haves" such as a holistic methodology (i.e. include striking and grappling), the use of impact equipment, include live non-compliant practise, awareness training, escape skills, bunkai / application of forms (for those groups who practice forms), etc. Help can be provided in designing such a syllabus. Groups who have WCA approved syllabuses may make use of that approval in the promotion of their group.

If the World Combat Association sounds like something that could be of interest to you, please contact us at [admin@worldcombatassociation.com](mailto:admin@worldcombatassociation.com) and we'll send you more information and answer any questions you may have.

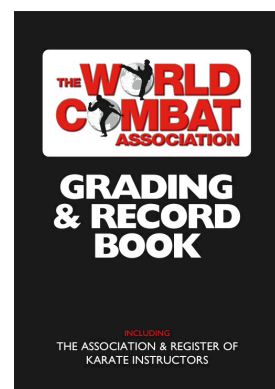
## Membership Costs

We have tried to simplify the various membership charges:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Club registration (includes 20 students) | £200.00 (yearly fee) |
| 2. Student members (of a registered club)   | £10.00 (yearly fee)  |
| 3. Associate Instructor (No Club)           | £75.00 (yearly fee)  |
| 4. Associate Member (not in a WCA Club)     | £35.00 (yearly fee)  |
| 4. Certificates - Instructor/Gratings       | £5.00                |

All costs in UK Sterling

**All individual memberships include the WCA Grading & Record Book.**



## Syllabus Approval & Development

We can work with you to develop and ultimately approve your syllabus, especially if you are endeavouring to introduce more practical aspects into the course and grading structures. Please drop us a line to..... [iaia@worldcombatassociation.com](mailto:iaia@worldcombatassociation.com) to find out more.

## 'Combat Coach' - Distance Learning Programmes

### Instructor Levels & Qualifications

Currently, the Association has three grades of Instructors - two of which are achieved only through qualification of the **Self Defence Instructor's (SDI) Certificate** and **Combat Coach (CC) Diploma\***

**WCA Instructor** (Recognition Only - see above)

**WCA Senior Instructor** (via Self Defence Instructor Certificate)

**WCA Combat Coach** (via Combat Coach Diploma)

**\*Programmes within the Combat Coach course...see below.**

**Instructor** - a person joining the Association who is running a martial arts club, or group of clubs should, with a provable, legitimate background be able to meet the standards we require to 'recognise' that person as an Instructor. This person may not, however, be running a formal martial arts group, but be a professional instructor in, say, the police, prison service, army, or health service where they are occupationally engaged in teaching personal defensive tactics, or control and restraint. For every instructor we require to see evidence of prior training, grading, qualifications and teaching experience, prior to acceptance.



## Senior Instructor & Coach Awards - Elevation to Senior

Instructor or Coach is via the World Combat

Association's (WCA's) 'Combat Coach

Diploma' programmes - probably the

most comprehensive course available

either in the UK or Internationally.

Comprising of some 55 distance learning

Units, submitted work and face-to-face time

with the Association's senior Coach, Peter

Consterdine. For a prospectus on the

programme, visit any of the associated websites,

or email for details.

[www.thecombatgroup.com](http://www.thecombatgroup.com)

[www.worldcombatassociation.com](http://www.worldcombatassociation.com)

[www.britishcombat.co.uk](http://www.britishcombat.co.uk)

[www.britishcombatkarate.co.uk](http://www.britishcombatkarate.co.uk)



For all details on WCA membership, or the Combat Coach

Programmes get in touch with us;

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