



**INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL KARATE FEDERATION**

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

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May 11, 2013

TO ALL ITKF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Re: Cancellation of Proposed ITKF World Cup, Lublin, Poland**

Dear Board Member:

The original intention of the ITKF World Cup was to highlight and feature the most skilled and experienced Traditional Karate athletes of ITKF, judged by the most experienced and skilled ITKF judges. Its sole purpose was to illustrate to the World the best example of the Traditional Karate of ITKF.

The format developed was to have eight male and eight female athletes fully supported financially to attend and participate. This ensured that individual financial circumstances would not interfere with the technical quality of the competition as the very best athletes would be selected and could attend because of the financial support given by the Host. In each year of the ITKF World Cup the selection process started with National Federation members being asked to submit names of their top competitors (one male and one female). The ITKF Chairman held the final decision of selection in consultation with the Host Federation. Never has the selection or announcement of participants been made by the Host Federation independently and separately from ITKF with complete disregard for ITKF and its authority over its own sanctioned events until the announcement recently received from Poland.

This year the Host (Poland) has seen fit to make unilateral decisions outside of the ITKF, its Technical Committee and its Chairman. Indeed, the host has disregarded the written comments of the Chairman entirely and treated the sanction process with disdain. Moreover, some of the countries that are being represented are not ITKF members. Indeed, some of the judge's selected have not the qualifications for this level of competition. And, some of the countries have not participated in ITKF events for a number of years. This calls into question the intention of the Host and its purpose in using the ITKF name without either ITKF sanction or involvement.

Of equal concern is the Host Federation of Poland, led by its President, Mr. Kwiecinski, independently declaring a conference to evaluate and discuss the future of ITKF outside of the authority of the ITKF and with complete disregard for the decisions of the World Congress and ITKF Board of Directors. Indeed, it appears that this Federation believes it can use the name of ITKF in any circumstance and for whatever purpose that serves its own objectives without any consequence or regard. This cannot continue.

The ITKF Vice President has also created internal chaos and confusion regarding the fact that the Chairman of ITKF is also currently the Chairman of the Technical Committee. It is important for him (and others) to note that this is not a self-appointment. Rather, the ITKF World Congress confirmed these two positions following the due process. The General Membership of ITKF placed its confidence with these two critical positions within one individual. That confidence, expressed by our highest organizational authority, the World Congress, should not be taken lightly by any Executive Member or the Board of Directors itself. Nor can it be changed because an individual does not like the decision! The fact that we are now facing these matters with our Vice President and the Federation of Poland speaks highly to the wisdom of the Congress in making this choice.

The rogue and self-serving behaviour presented recently by our Vice-President and his National Federation he leads, must stop. The authority of the ITKF organization, its Board of Directors, its committees and its Congress must be respected. Those who do not respect the due process and authority of the organization are better served elsewhere. We can no longer allow the use of the ITKF name to promote self-interest, or for our



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Executive Board members to disregard the decisions taken by the organization in a manner that can best be described, in the most gentle of terms, as disrespectful and subversive.

Consequently, as ITKF Chairman, it is my recommendation that the proposed World Cup in Lublin, Poland be cancelled as it cannot be considered an ITKF sanctioned event with the proposed participants and no longer represents the original purpose of the competition. By allowing it to continue under the name of ITKF, the Board will be responsible for the denigration of the high technical standard expected of ITKF World level competition and breach the very fundamental principles of our organization. That is, participants in ITKF events must be registered with ITKF, have the qualifications necessary to participate at this level and be members of the organization. The Board cannot (and should not) allow this to happen. The ITKF itself, not its member Federations, has the sole authority to establish, designate and sanction events using the ITKF name.

In addition, the proposed Conference, which challenges the authority of the ITKF by its lack of consultation or recognition of responsibility over the use of the ITKF Brand, should also be completely disregarded by all. I request your mail-in vote regarding this recommendation to via return e-mail by Friday, May 15, 2013 at 5:00 pm EST. Non-participation in this vote will be taken as confirmation of this recommendation.

It is my intention to call a special meeting of the Board within the next few weeks to determine what further action is needed to ensure the ongoing authority of ITKF over its own affairs and activities.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Jorgensen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Jorgensen, Chairman  
International Traditional Karate Federation