



INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL KARATE FEDERATION

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Lodz, 20 June 2013

**To:** - ITKF Member Federations  
- Petition Signatories  
- Traditional Karate Practitioners and Partner Organizations

**Re:** ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting  
17 August 2013, Stara Wieś (Poland)

**Cc:** - ITKF Board of Directors  
- ITKF Technical Committee Members  
- ITKF Office

On 14 June 2013 in Lublin (Poland) the International Conference “Quo Vadis ITKF?” took place. The aim of the conference was the discussion on the current situation at the ITKF which is very serious and needs to take immediate steps. **During the conference we presented documents to prove mismanagement of the ITKF by both the ITKF Office and the ITKF Chairman. With each point people were more surprised not to say that shocked.** They were provided evidence to support the following allegations towards the ITKF Office and the ITKF Chairman:

1. Serious violation of the ITKF Constitution.
2. Non-existing communication between the ITKF Chairman and the ITKF Directors on current important issues.
3. Attempt of money extortion from an ITKF Member Federation.
4. Illegal money collection.
5. Fabrication of documents.
6. Ignoring the decisions of the ITKF Board of Directors.
7. Acting against the law.

The conference also gave an opportunity to hear the opinions of many great individuals who agreed to be the speakers. Among them there were people who devoted their lives to the Traditional Karate and to the ITKF and who – after Nishiyama Sensei’s passing – have experienced a number of unpleasant situations and improper behavior from either the ITKF Office or the ITKF Chairman. Their stories not only put a new light on the subject but they also opened our minds and eyes and

gave strong impact and motivation for further action. With this letter we would like to express our appreciation and deepest thanks to the conference speakers for their attendance in this important event which we hope to be the beginning of new era for the ITKF:

- **Sensei Katsuya Ishiyama (Venezuela)** – ITKF Board of Directors Member, ITKF Technical Committee Director
- **Sensei Mahmoud Tabassi (USA)** – American Amateur Karate Federation, AAKF Executive Board Member, Technical Committee Vice-Chairman, Senior Council, Member of Senior Advisory Committee
- **Sensei Avi Rokah (USA)** – student and assistant of the late Nishiyama Hidetaka Sensei
- **Sensei Nelson Carrion (Uruguay)** – President of the Uruguayan Traditional Karate-Do Federation
- **Sensei Steve Nakada (Japan)** – 6 Dan Judo Kodokan, Senior Advisor to Nishiyama Hidetaka Sensei, Japan Budo Society, Japan Solar Energy Council
- **Mr. Peter Grudniak (Poland)** – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the ERGO Pro (Ergo Insurance Group), sponsor of the Traditional Karate Federation of Poland, awarded with the Honorary Black Belt for his contribution to the development of the Traditional Karate in Poland

The conclusion of the conference was that **the ITKF Chairman Mr. Richard Jorgensen treats the ITKF as a private business company and makes most decisions unilaterally without approval of the ITKF Board of Directors thus breaking the ITKF Constitution and the voting procedure. He also made self-appointment for the ITKF President without confirmation by the ITKF General Meeting, which is the constitutional requirement.**

We did not have to wait long for another example of Mr. Jorgensen's unworthy conduct. On 6 June 2013 the ITKF Board of Directors Meeting took place in Los Angeles (California, USA). First of all, **the Los Angeles Board Meeting had no legal force because there was not the required majority of the ITKF Board Members entitled to vote.** Just to remind, the Chairman has no voting power (unless tie) and the General Secretary also cannot vote.

Surprisingly, right after the Los Angeles Board Meeting we received an e-mail from Mr. J. Michael Crowe about his resignation from the position of the ITKF General Secretary due to the retirement.

On 15 June 2013 the ITKF Office sent announcement about new location of the 2013 ITKF International Summer Camp – Nea Flogita, Halkidiki (Greece) instead of San Diego (USA) . It was to my big astonishment because **the 2013 ITKF Summer Camp has never been put in the ITKF schedule for the 2013 year. The organization of this event was not discussed with the ITKF Technical Committee Directors and was never approved by the ITKF Board of Directors. This is private initiative of Mr. Jorgensen.** In this announcement there is information that **the camp will be co-hosted by the European Traditional Karate Federation (ETKF).** As the ETKF Vice-President I have had no knowledge of this fact! Moreover, we can read that **the camp trainings will be conducted by top masters and the ITKF Technical Committee Members – but no names are given except for Mr. Richard Jorgensen. I would like to explicitly point that the Summer Camp organized by Mr. Jorgensen in Greece on 12-18 July 2013 is not the ITKF event.** It does not follow the ITKF standards and as such cannot offer any ITKF Technical Qualification examinations (for the ITKF Instructors, Judges, Examiners.) or ITKF Dan Ranking examinations. Last but not least – there has been no active ITKF Member Federation in Greece for several years.

In reference to the correspondence regarding the organization of the 2013 World Cup on 15 June 2013 in Lublin (Poland), this event was approved by the highest decision-making body of the ITKF – the ITKF General Meeting in Stara Wieś (Poland) in October 2012. The World Cup took place according to this decision and it was a very successful event. The World Cup gathered several thousands of the Traditional Karate fans. The tournament was also attended by the Minister of Sport and Tourism of the Republic of Poland Mrs. Joanna Mucha who was awarded with the Honorary Black Belt for her contribution and support towards Traditional Karate in Poland. Retransmission from the World Cup is available under this link: <http://www.itvl.pl/news/live-vii-puchar-swiata-w-karate-tradycyjnym>

**The result of the International Conference “Quo Vadis ITKF?” is a petition signed by 45 people from 14 countries to call the ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting** (see attached). The purpose of the General Meeting is to take legal actions and decisions towards the ITKF Office and the ITKF Chairman in light of the arguments presented during the conference. **The General Meeting will be held on 17 August 2013 (Saturday) in Stara Wieś (Poland)** at the Japanese Martial Arts and Sports Centre „Dojo-Stara Wieś” - the world's biggest Budo centre. The General Meeting will take place on the occasion of the annual International Traditional Karate Seminar Gasshuku 2013 to be held on 13-18 August.

**We the Traditional Karate people must finally stop the mismanagement of the ITKF. We must clean our house and start NEW ERA OF THE ITKF. This is the only way if we want to develop and improve our Traditional Karate. In this situation we will not move any step forward.**

**Please send the names of representatives from your Federation/Organization entitled to vote for the ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting on the attached form until 15 July 2013 (Monday) by e-mail to: [pzkt@karate.pl](mailto:pzkt@karate.pl). Each Federation/Organization can appoint up to two representatives for this meeting.**

Until 30 July 2013 you will receive by e-mail materials for the ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting, i.e. draft of the new democratic ITKF Constitution, By-Laws etc.

We are looking forward to meeting you during the ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting on 17 August 2013 in Stara Wieś (Poland).

*Sincerely Yours,*

*Włodzimierz Kwieciński  
ITKF Vice-President*

**Enclosures:**

1. Petition to call the ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting signed in Lublin (Poland) on 14 June 2013
2. Application Form for the ITKF Extraordinary General Meeting