



INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL KARATE FEDERATION

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

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TO ALL ITKF NATIONAL FEDERATION MEMBERS

RE: SUSPENSION TRADITIONAL KARATE FEDERATION OF POLAND

Dear National Federation Member

Attached please find the opinion of the Chairman of the ITKF Legal Services Committee, Mr. Romulo Machado. Mr. Machado is a lawyer from Portugal who was appointed to his position at the ITKF World Congress held in Curitiba, Brazil in 2010.

Based on his opinion, the ITKF Chairman has confirmed the decision and recommendation of the Board of Directors taken at its Special Meeting on June 6, 2013 held in Los Angeles, California to suspend the Traditional Karate Federation of Poland (PZKT) for a minimum period of two years. Further, on the basis of this suspension, Mr. W. Kwiecinski has been relieved of his position and duties on the ITKF Board of Directors and ITKF Technical Committee and no longer has any official capacity within the ITKF organization.

This decision was taken on the basis of a strong majority vote of the ITKF Board of Directors which has the Constitutional authority to make this decision. Furthermore, the ITKF Board of Directors, through its Chairman, is the only entity that can call an Extra-ordinary Meeting of the ITKF. Therefore, please be advised that there is **no Extra-ordinary General Meeting called, or scheduled, for the ITKF in Poland on August 17, 2013.** Moreover, there is only one office of the ITKF and the use of the ITKF letterhead with an office listed in Poland is a further offense to the organization.

It is important to remind all National Federation members that violations of the nature committed by PZKT are serious and cannot be tolerated. The Constitution and By-laws were created by the Founding President, Sensei Nishiyama and the Charter Members for a particular reason. That reason was to ensure the organization could survive and grow beyond any one person's lifetime. These governance rules were not established in order to be ignored. They were not established to be broken. Nor, were they established so individuals or National Federation members could manipulate the organization to a particular personal agenda. They were established so the philosophy of the organization would be preserved and continue to move forward for the benefit of all.

Furthermore, to the knowledge of the ITKF Board of Directors, some of whom were Charter Members with the ITKF, there has never been a "Senior Advisor" or "Special Assistant" appointed by, or to, Sensei Nishiyama in any official capacity. The authority of the organization, even under the watchful eye of the founding President, Sensei Nishiyama, has always been the ITKF Board of Directors, the members of which are democratically elected.

As Chairman of ITKF and on behalf of the ITKF Board of Directors, I call upon all member National Federations to understand and respect their responsibilities to the International Traditional Karate Federation. Together we will ensure the vision of ITKF and our founding President, Sensei Nishiyama, is not only preserved – but will continue to grow stronger.

Sincerely,

Richard Jorgensen, Chairman
International Traditional Karate Federation