

# Curriculum Vitae

Of

Brian Philcox

10<sup>th</sup> September 2005

## Background in Sport

**Pre School Leaving** – I was active in Rugby, Hockey, and Football in Speke Comprehensive, Liverpool. Out of school time I was involved in Archery, Shooting, and Boxing.

**April 1972 – July 1977** Spent 5 years learning the style of Shorinji Kempo Karate. Achieved 1<sup>st</sup> kyu.

**October 1977**, I decided to adopt the style of Shotokan Karate, which I felt was more sport / freestyle orientated and revolved around competitive values. This is the style I have maintained and continue to practise. I also have a general understanding of most other Karate Systems and Martial Arts styles.

During the last 24 years, I have dedicated so much of my time and inspiration to the training of both **adults and children** of varying ages and capabilities. Included in this, I have also responded to be inclusive in relation to people and children of mixed race, sex, and understanding the needs of the disabled.

My present grade in Shotokan Karate is that of 6<sup>th</sup> Dan. This grade could be seen to be the equivalent of some **20 years+ in coaching**, but I have in fact been instructing in an **International** capacity for at least 32yrs.

I would like to add the following details for information, and support the same with various articles and publications should they be requested.

- **August 1981** – Achieved my Shodan Grade from Colin Williams Sensei / Bukonkai International
- **September 1981** – Team Member of the Bukonkai / S.K.I. Challenge (Bukonkai Winners)
- **October 1981** – Team Captain for Runcorn in the Bukonkai National Championships (4<sup>th</sup> Place)
- **October 1981** – Individual Quarter Finalist in the Bukonkai Nationals (formerly Thames Karate)
- **November 1983** – Institute of **Environmental Health** Certificate (Health & Safety)
- **December 1983** – Runcorn & Frodsham Open Karate Championships – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Kumite
- **August 1984** – Runcorn & Frodsham Open Karate Championships – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Kumite
- **September 1985** – Runcorn & Frodsham Open Karate Championships – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Kumite
- **October 1986** – Runcorn & Frodsham Open Karate Championships – Runner up Kata & Kumite
- **September 1990** – Quarter Finalist in the FEKO National Championships, Along with “Colin Forde” who was one of my Senior Students at that time.

- **September 1993** – Last Attempt at trying to win FEKO Nationals, Supported by Eddie Cox.
- **November 1994** – Elected to **Chairman** of the Federation of English Karate Organisations. (Incumbent)
- **December 1994** - Voted **Top Sportsman** in **Halton Borough Council** Sports review.
- **February 1995** – Started the “Fighting For You – Cancer Appeal” with the help of the Town Mayor.(Still in progress)
- **December 1995** – Voted **Man of the Year** in Haltons Community Champions Awards, Cheshire.
- **July 1996** – Attended a **Governing Body coaching course** for safe exercise. (Certificated)
- **March 1997** – Visited the Children’s Hospital of Novosibirsk in Siberia. (One of many visits to aid relief to Cancer sufferers and their Parents. 6 journeys to date, and ongoing.)
- **May 1998** – Elected to an **Executive** position on the **English Karate Governing Body**
- **October 1998** – Elected as **Secretary** of the British Karate Federation. (2 yrs of office)
- **Summer 1999** –On behalf of British Karate, and the World Karate Federation, as BKF Hon Sec, we applied to both the British Olympic Committee, and the I.O.C. for Karate to be included in **the Olympic Games 2004**. Still in pursuit of this, but from another approach.
- **October 1999** – Elected into the **Combat Hall of Fame** for Outstanding Contribution to the **development** of the Martial Arts in both the United Kingdom, and around the world.
- **October 1999** – Jon van Weenan and myself received a standing ovation from over 400 people at Aston Villa, who were themselves representing the whole Martial Arts Spectrum. This was for a **Special Achievement Award for our Charity work**.
- **October 2000** – Re-Elected to an Executive Position on the English Karate Governing Body
- **May 2001** – Passed a **MENSA IQ** test of 143, attaining an IQ level in the **top 3%** of the UK populous
- **2001 to present day** – Actively involved in the structure of FEKO International as incumbent Chairman, along with the continuation of my work within the ETKB. I believe my contribution in liason with other Senior Karateka representative of their styles and or Association values can only be described as being eventful to the point of maintaining consistency in our search for the ideal solution to unite all English Karate-ka. Hopefully, we can set examples for others to follow.

## Project

I have been employed in the Food Industry, and Sporting areas virtually all of my life. During this time, I feel that the experience in both areas has added to give me improved knowledge of correct eating patterns associated with a healthy lifestyle through sporting activities and exercise. I have also been involved outside of the Karate Fraternity and made a significant contribution toward support work, where I have been able to identify that the word “disabled” covers a broad spectrum, and shouldn’t be used in the same context when referring to those individuals who have either Mental, or Physical disabilities, or indeed “both”. Through this, I have learned that a new level of understanding needs to be identified for the future, and the word “disabled” should be clarified as a point for future assessment.

Outside of my normal employment I feel that having a positive background in both Management and Sport Politics, I now have a value to be able to contribute fully to any future enterprise in the sporting fraternity, and to act in the name of English Karate to any International Negotiations.

Along with Mick Dewey, I was in the process of working with a delegation of Executive Members on behalf of Sport England and the EKGB to deliver an improved structure to eventually unify all of Karate in England, that was until the EKGB elections in May 2002. Further details can be supplied if requested.

## Summary

My early years in Karate were not as active as they are now, owing to the fact that I had to look after my late wife who had contracted Hodgkin’s disease in 1980, after having a series of operations to remove a cervical rib from her neck. It was only in the later years while in remission that I eventually had the opportunity to further enhance my Karate.

Just before the sad demise of Jan (my late wife), I set up the aforementioned “Fighting For You” Cancer Appeal. This in itself has allowed me to further enhance my own values in the knowledge that a simple smile, and a warm greeting can do so much more than money ever could, in raising the hopes of somebody who is less fortunate than myself, and suffering through Cancer, or any other degenerative illness for which there is only a light recovery margin.

The values I put on my own Karate I put down to the top instruction I received from my Sensei – Colin Williams of Bukonkai, Ronnie Colwell of Thames Karate, Sadashige Kato of the JKA, Brian Merrill of TKG, and not forgetting both Kawazoe Sensei, and Shinji Akita for enlightening me to further my learning whilst participating in their courses.

My inspiration in moving forward must surely come from Jon Van Weenan, Kanazawa Shihan, Enoeda Sensei, Terry O’Neill, Bob Poynton, Asano Shihan, not just in Karate, but in life itself where I feel that dedicated as I am, I could never equal their contribution. However there is always the future, where I intend to make every effort to try to involve every Karateka in the quest for unity and strength in our chosen discipline.

## Future

I feel that I have achieved many friends throughout the ETKB, EKGB, and NAKMAS, and of those friendships the realisation that the same people have true grit and determination to encompass Karate under a single umbrella. The same people I have worked with on behalf of the Governing Body sought to unite all other outside bodies for a common goal in delivering quality Instruction, and implementation of an acceptable child protection document for the benefit of our main membership.

I believe that the only way forward for unification of Karate, is via a fair and democratic process that should reflect a fair voting structure to provide an answer to our aims at both Commonwealth, and Olympic Status.

At a more recent Junior Championships, a proud parent spoke to me and told me that her daughters dream was to represent England at both the above events. I never had the heart to tell her of the political problems involved in the process.

Here we must forget about whether we hold positions on either the Executive of the ETKB, EKGB, NAKMAS or any other post for that matter. Providing we remain as representatives of our own individual groups, which make up the New Governing Body, KARATE ENGLAND, then surely we can work together bring about change, even if it means a complete overhaul and re-election of all parties concerned as is the agreement now which we have worked so very hard to achieve.

I look forward to continuing in any capacity that will benefit the future of Karate in England.

Brian Philcox, FEKO Chairman (*11<sup>th</sup> year in Office*)