

NGB Support Guidance for the Community Sports Coach Scheme

Sport	KARATE
NGB deployment focus for the Community Sports Coaches, linked to the NGB player pathway and relevant development initiatives.	<p>EKGB does not actually employ coaches to work in the local community or through local authority partnership schemes. The only coaches “employed” by EKGB are on a contracted basis and they work wholly with World Class Performance and Potential squads.</p> <p>EKGB have developed player pathways from grass roots to excellence which are attached below, but there isn’t currently a pathway identified for more generic participants. EKGB is a federal NGB, with groups of clubs or Karate Associations affiliating directly. They may represent a certain style of karate and have a particular technical focus which will be about students progressing through a technical syllabus to the grade of Black Belt which is most people’s ultimate aim in taking up karate. Of the 93 Associations in membership, representing 60,000+, 60% are aged under 16. EKGB is currently looking at how LTAD principles could be implemented across the recreational sector through to elite competitors. CSCS coaches should be focussed on entry into Karate and club retention deployment.</p>
Minimum level of NGB coaching qualification for coaches employed through the Community Sports Coach Scheme	<p>EKGB Club Instructors award. Loosely matched to NOS level II.</p> <p>Development of CPD programme would not be a problem.</p>
NGB Priority Partnership areas	ALL .
NGB contact details	<p>Suzanne Genery, B.A.[Hons], Director of Coach Education and Research, 53, Windmill Balk Lane, Woodlands, Doncaster, DN6 7SF. Tel/Fax – 01302 337645. Tel/Fax – 01302 729109. e-mail – coaching@ekgb.org.uk; suzanne.genery@ekgb.org.uk;</p>

Supporting or Supplementary information

Karate In Schools

- **AS level – Sport and PE**

The EKGB has recently completed work with the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance on a new award, **AS level – Sport and PE**, which will include karate as a sports option. The qualification will test the candidates' ability to demonstrate a range of skills and techniques in two activities - in a non-competitive situation and structured practice competition/performance situation.

Candidates are assessed against technical models in their efficient/effective personal performance demonstrations of a variety of compulsory skills and techniques.

Many students can already pursue Karate as a sports option on the current Sport and PE syllabus for GCSE and this development for 15-17 year olds allows formal study of karate to be extended.

- **Coaching education**

Since the formation of the EKGB in 1991, coaching and coach education has been a focus area for the EKGB. The development of a coach education system and the employment of a full-time director of coach education was a condition of the EKGB's first four year Exchequer funding. The current WC Performance Strategist was successful in her application and was appointed to that position in October 1993, an appointment still current.

There were many challenges. Due to the hierarchical nature of Karate, it is an instructional sport – the expression karate instructor is much more readily recognised than the term karate coach. It is probably fair to say that still now many clubs and associations would recognise the term karate coach as someone who specialises in competition and competitive training and karate instruction as something that is more traditional.

Unlike many other sports there is a personal technical proficiency required to become a karate instructor. It is widely accepted within the sport that 1st Dan black belt [the first level of black belt] is the minimum requirement of a club instructor. Technical proficiency is proven by the achievement of higher Dan grades, in theory up to 10th Dan. In one way this technical prerequisite has caused some problems within coach education. Many traditional Associations have always seen 'the black belt' as the measure of competence, not a coaching award and there have been these hurdles to overcome. On one of the ways this was achieved was to get all member Associations to meet and discuss Karate instruction and a qualification structure. This 'brain-storm' generated a series of Coaching/Teaching guidelines being produced. An assessment procedure and award structure developed from this initiative.

There are currently three qualifications available:

- *the Association Assessor award,*
- *Association Instructor award,*
- *and the Trainee/Assistant Association Instructor award, which is available from the grade of 3rd Kyu and above and applicable to trainees working under the supervision of a senior instructor.*

In addition to this, the WC Performance Strategist is a member of the Coaching Technical Expert Group set up by SPRITO to develop and review National Occupational Standards /NVQs and the NCC qualifications sub delivery group.

The EKGB is an approved assessment centre for the delivery of NVQs in Sport and Recreation, Coaching, Teaching and Instructing. The EKGB has now run 4 NVQ Assessor Training Programmes in partnership with sportscoachUK, formerly the National Coaching Foundation and has 47 nationally accredited assessors throughout the country.

➤ *What is the process by which a prospective coach would enter the system ?*

Coaches who were coaches at the time the programme was introduced were qualified at the level they were at.

Each Association has a coaching coordinator who the EKGB appoints and approves and they promote the awards within their Association and can only assess within their Association.

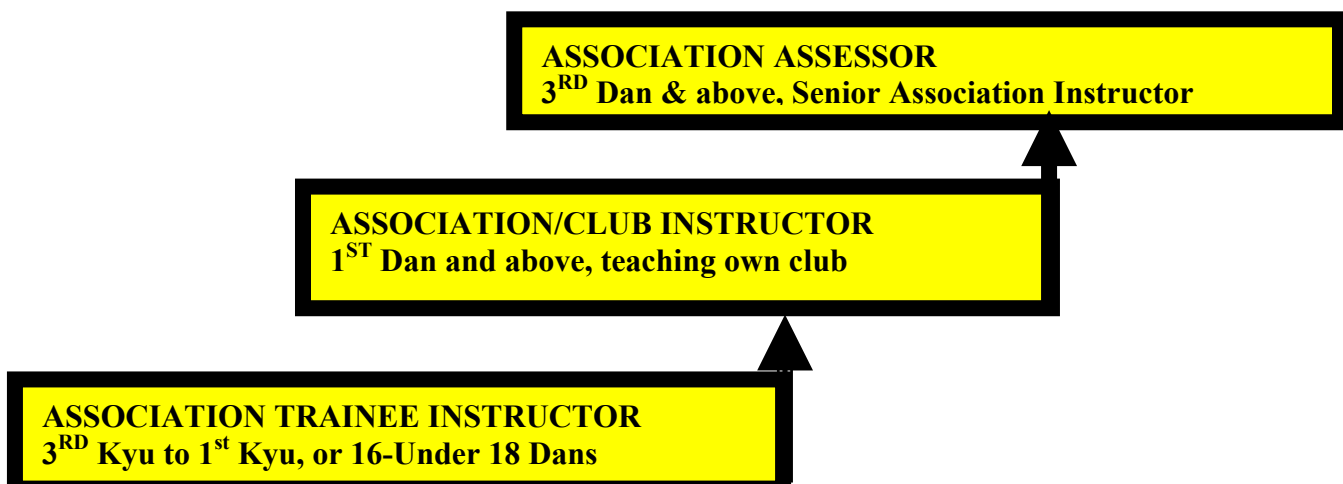
New instructors will come through the award scheme from the bottom up through the assistant instructor route and be mentored by their club instructor. Upon achievement of black belt they can then be up-graded to club instructor status if they are operating with their own club. It is not necessarily a natural progression for black belts to want to become instructors and so do not take that step.

Also, we offer a national coaching conference to all Associations every year and that is well supported and for some will kick start the programme in their Association.

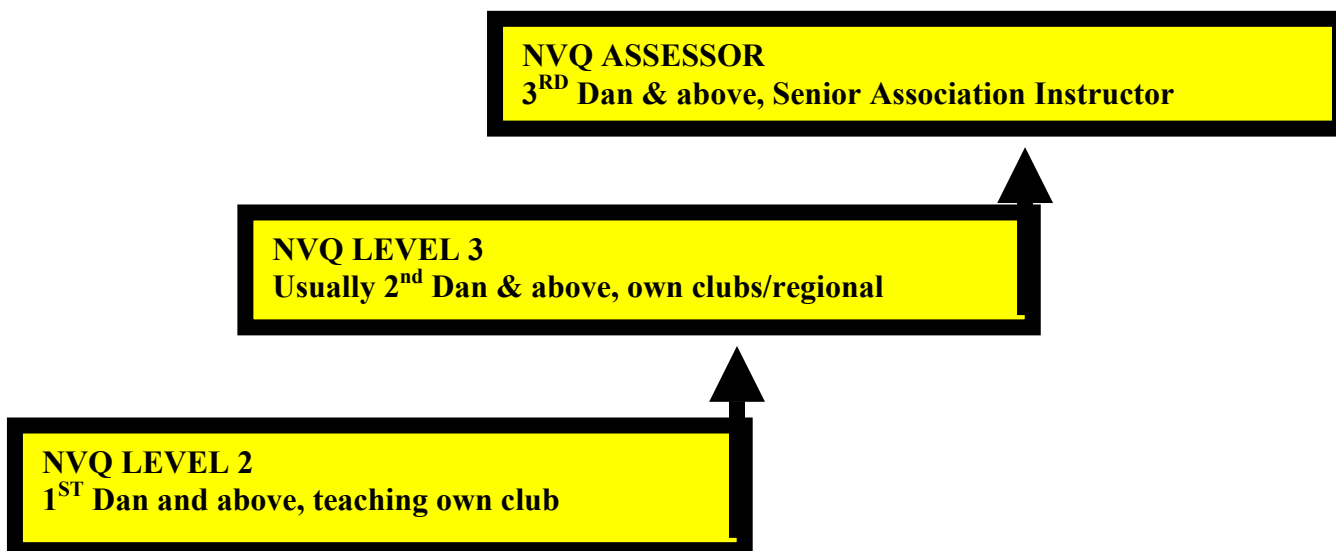
Instructors or prospective instructors who are looking for a qualification and or some training will also approach us via the web. We will then match them to an appropriate Association and Assessor.

The other system of qualification would be through the NVQ route and there are other approved centres that offer the awards as well as the EKGB. Within the EKGB, we have our own approved assessment centre and awards delivered through there are monitored and quality assured in line with City and Guilds requirements.

- **EKGB Coaching Structure**



- **National Vocational Qualification Awards**



- **Other EKGB development initiatives or programmes**

- **Social Inclusion and Equity**

We have been working with Simon Kirkland from Sports Structures to submit our portfolio to Sporting Equals for accreditation at the Preliminary Level. Our Chairman Billy Brennan has, on behalf of the EKGB, signed the Sporting Equals Charter and press releases are on our web pages as well as having being sent to listed minority press.

We have just heard that our portfolio, submitted to achieve the Preliminary Standards has been approved and we will have a special mention within our approval letter for our use of positive mages.

- **Child Protection Policy**

The EKGB is committed to on-going development and has been working with Sport England and the Child Protection in Sport Unit to achieve preliminary standards for Child Protection

This has involved 3 areas of work – the development of a Child Protection Policy [and its' implementation], work with the Criminal Records Bureau and the achievement of standards.

On the 9th of March, the EKGB Council accepted that there will be a policy attached to the Constitution for all Associations in membership, and that the document submitted as a draft was accepted as a working document for revision and amendment up to the next meeting [middle of May 03] whereby a final document would be proposed.

The EKGB has applied to the Criminal Records Bureau to be an umbrella organisation for disclosure and checking of karate Associations and instructors.

- **Progress within karate**

Karate is taught in clubs, which offer different classes to suit different ages and levels of expertise from beginner through to advanced. A student's level is determined by his grade and this is denoted by a coloured belt worn round their karate suit.

The grading examination system developed to allow students to work together safely and as a way of measuring their development. The grades are known as 'kyu' grades. There are between 7 and 10 kyu grades starting with white belt and ending with black belt. There are 10 grades of black belt and these are known as Dan grades. There is a fixed time-limit between Dan grades which means, for example, a black belt 5th Dan will have at least 20 years experience. The higher the number, the higher the Dan grade.

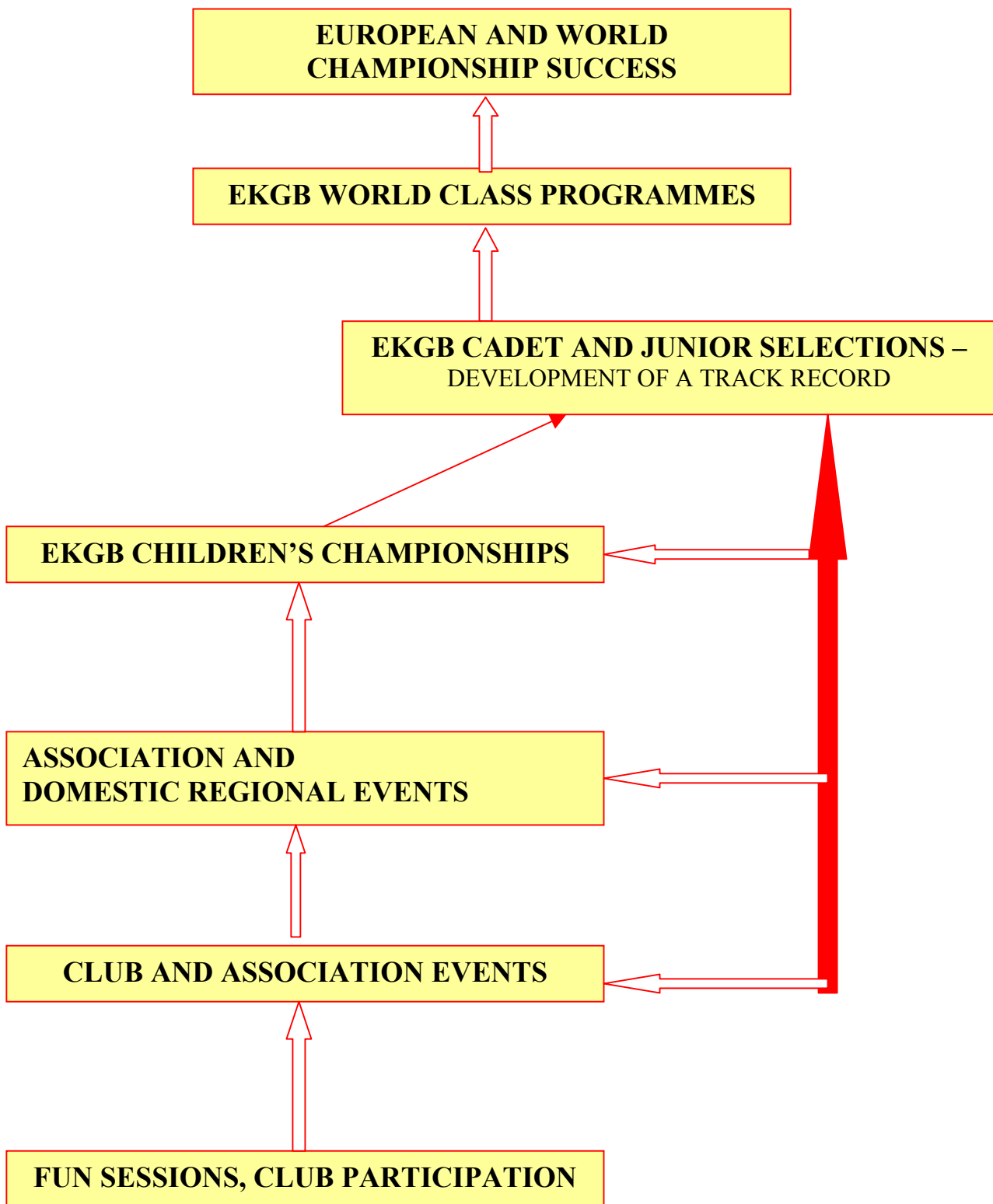
- **Performance pathways**

As discussed, there are many routes and pathways for up and coming athletes within Karate. Below is a summary diagram tracing common routes of entry to club, regional, national and international competition arenas.

This generally starts with children going along to taster or fun sessions, then taking the sport more seriously to perhaps attending classes twice or three times a week. Progression would see them competing for their club at local/regional events, gathering valuable insight and experience as well as the enjoyment of competition along the way. There are many local inter-club, open and association competitions for students to gain valuable experience before moving to wider representation, such as Association representation at EKGB events, competitions and squad selections. At the EKGB selections a track record for each competitor is held logging all their bouts and results, and at the national championships the national coach and his assistants scout for talented up and coming competitors.

There is a simple chart on pages 6 and 7 representing the likely pathways for Potential and Performance athletes.

POTENTIAL SQUAD



PERFORMANCE SQUAD

