



# 松濤館国際空手道南アフリカ

## WELCOME TO SKKSA

### ようこそ



**From the Chief Instructor**

A warm karate welcome to you! Thank you for choosing to study with our organization. I trust that you enjoyed a restful summer holiday and are all keeping safe and healthy during this very serious pandemic.

We at SKKSA take the safety and well-being of our instructors, students and their families seriously, and for this reason, we conducted the bulk of our classes online during 2020. As our 2021 karate calendar begins, we note that the pandemic in this country has shown little sign of slowing down. Thus the 2021 karate year will once again kick-off online classes, with in-dojo training only commencing once it is deemed safe to return.

A positive benefit of online classes is that we have been able to train with karate dojos worldwide, and we are extremely privileged to have had sessions with karate masters from India, Japan and several European countries. We will continue to bring you these international karate sessions right into your homes in 2021 – be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Another significant stride made by SKKSA has been the launch of our digital platform, MyDojo, offering you a paperless and seamless affiliation and membership with us – read all about this in this welcome pack.

This Welcome Pack includes all the information you need to get started on your karate journey with SKKSA. **Please read it carefully to find out about:**

- \* Points systems and awards
- \* SKKSA ID
- \* The Grading Examination Policy
- \* Correct karate attire
- \* Affiliation fee breakdown for 2021

### REGISTRATION

All new and returning karateka are required to affiliate with SKKSA. Due to regional and provincial requirements, karateka wishing to participate at regional/provincial/national events are required to affiliate with the respective bodies via SKKSA. The registration form can be found at the back of this Welcome Pack. It is vital that you ensure your form is filled-out and returned to your instructor along with the registration fee. Unregistered karateka may not be entered into exams, tournaments and training courses and will not be eligible for SKKSA ID.

SKKSA maintains a policy of 90% karate, 10% competition training. We follow the traditional Shotokan style, and practice the philosophy of the founder of modern karate, Gichin Funakoshi:

***The ultimate aim of karate lies not in victory nor defeat, but in the perfection of the character of its participants.***

To our returning karateka, I welcome you back to another exciting year. And to those joining us for the first time, thank you for choosing SKKSA. I trust that you will enjoy your karate experience with one of South Africa's most innovative karate groups.

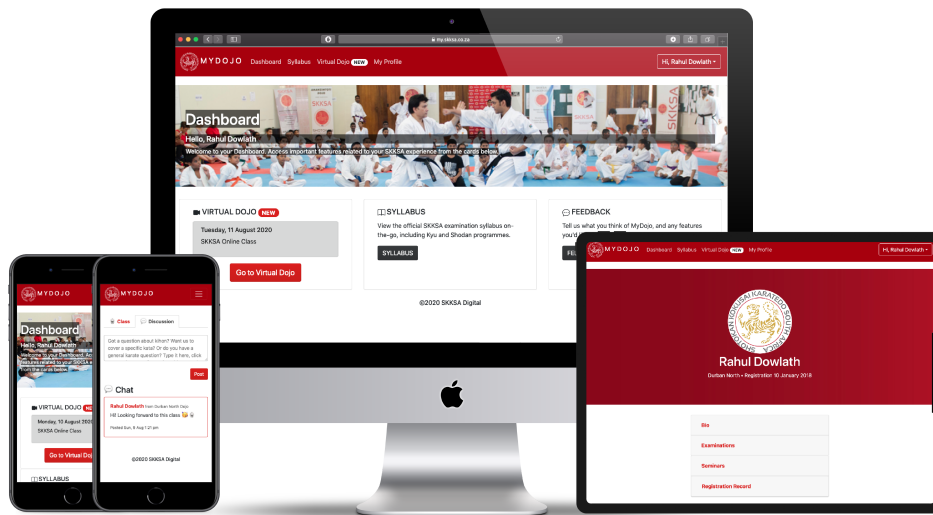
I thank you for your support, and invite you to make regular contact with me or the dojo instructors to discuss any aspect of you or your child's progress in karate.

Wishing you a sporting 2021!

Yours in karatedo

**ANEEL DOWLATH SENSEI**

Chief Instructor & Technical Head  
(Rokudan – 6th Dan black belt)



## SKKSA DIGITAL & MYDOJO

Last year we launched MyDojo, our own online platform for our karateka. It's a project that's been in development for years, finally culminating in the launch of the website and web app in August 2020.

It was launched during a critical time of a pandemic when we, as an organisation, had to rethink how we continued to provide our world-class karate to our students. MyDojo allows you to take the SKKSA experience with you wherever you are, and bring our lessons into your home.

We are incredibly excited about the possibilities this platform is opening for us. Our Virtual Dojo allows you to easily access our online classes and chat directly with our instructors about each class. You can see your entire SKKSA karate profile, and access your grading syllabus from your phone.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION

This year, for the first time, our returning students will be able to affiliate online. This eliminates the tedious task of filling our forms, paper waste, and minimises physical contact. Our online registration promises to be a more efficient way to get you set-up for your 2021 karate endeavours with us.

You can even affiliate as a family in a single application with our new Linked Family Profiles. Simply login to MyDojo with one of your family's accounts and follow the 2021 registration prompts. We hope to extend online registrations to new students in the future.

### INTERNATIONAL CLASSES

Whilst we miss being back in the dojo, one of the best parts of online lessons has been the international collaborations we've had. This year, we are excited to announce that we will continue to offer international classes with our karate friends from around the world. Look out for the announcements on your MyDojo Dashboard.

### SIGN UP FOR MYDOJO

If you haven't yet signed up, please visit **my.skksa.co.za** to link your SKKSA ID and get your own MyDojo account today. We encourage all our karateka to sign up for MyDojo (even if there are more than one member in each family practicing). MyDojo is a personal platform and the experience is tailored to each student.

### MYDOJO IN 2021

MyDojo is built in-house and so we are constantly able to adjust it as our organisation changes, ensuring that you have the best experience possible. We welcome your feedback. Please let us know what you'd like to see on MyDojo. Email **digital@skksa.co.za**. I look forward to hearing from you.

Wishing you a sporting 2021 and see you at the Virtual Dojo soon!

Yours in karatedo

**RAHUL DOWLATH**

SKKSA Digital

(Nidan – 2nd Dan black belt)

**AWARDS**

The organization uses a Points Rating system, whereby points allocated under this system are used to determine the following:

- ▶ Entrance into regional or provincial tournaments
- ▶ Entrance to national tournaments
- ▶ Training workshops
- ▶ Invitation tournaments
- ▶ Grading examinations
- ▶ Overseas tours and competitions
- ▶ Annual Awards

Please refer to the points allocation schedule alongside. It must be noted that under this system every student will be able to track and determine his/her progress throughout the year. Note also that special emphasis is placed on dojo training.

**IMPORTANT**

Whilst the points earned will be used to determine awardees at the end of the year, the Chief Instructor reserves the right to have the final decision in selecting the awardees.

The **"Extra Mile"** Awards are offered to those students who are purple belt upward, and the students attitude to his/her training (i.e. how seriously they take their karate), and well as participation in karate events (tournaments and training courses) will be considered.

The **"Perseverance and Dedication"** awards are offered to white to blue belts. Awardees are selected on the basis of improvement, dedication to training and the amount of effort put into their training, as well as their general standard of karate.

The **"Student of the Year"** award is for purple-black belt students, calculated from 13 January to 30 November. It comprises attendance at Saturday classes, weekday classes, and participation and achievements at tournaments, and participation at other karate seminars and events.

The **"Chief Instructor Choice Award"** is for purple-black belt students. It is solely at the discretion of the Chief Instructor and is based on his personal observation and assessment of the student's dedication to the art.

ACTIVITY	POINTS
Saturday Training (must be present for full 2hr session*)	12 per Sat
Special SKKSA weekend & invitational seminars	12 per session trained
Participation at SKKSA/invitation tournament	3
Participation at a provincial tournament	4
Participation at a national tournament	5
Participation at an international tournament	10
Drawing blood in kumite at a tournament	-15
Being disrespectful in public/losing control/showing no respect towards your instructor or fellow karateka, opponent or referee	-80
Found being disrespectful in public/bringing the organization's name into disrepute	-80

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR MEDAL WINNINGS ARE RECORDED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR ON THE DAY OF THE TOURNAMENT. IF YOU DO NOT ADVISE YOUR INSTRUCTOR OF YOUR WINNINGS, YOUR POINTS MAY BE FORFEITED.**

\* Points will not be allocated should the student leave without training for the full 2 hours on a Saturday

**AFFILIATION TYPES & FEES**

All affiliation fees are payable to SKKSA upon registration. A 10% late-payment levy will be applicable on any affiliations received >30 days from date of signature.

2020 Fee Breakdown	
SKKSA: Dojo-only	
Junior (under 18 years)	R300 p.a.
Senior (18 years & over)	R330 p.a.

**SKKSA ID**

Each student is issued with a grading book when they join **SKKSA**. These books serve as a record of your karate career. They are also barcoded with your unique student number, called **SKKSA ID**. This allows you to scan in to **SKKSA** seminars. Karateka are required to bring their books to seminars as a means of accessing each session; grading books are also required when karateka undertake examinations. Please keep your grading book safe – replacing the grading book incurs a fee (see table below).

**STUDENT CARDS**

Karateka in the Purple – Black belt categories are issued with a Student Card. This card is required to register at each Saturday training session, and may also be used in lieu of the grading book to sign-in to sessions at an **SKKSA** seminar.

REPLACEMENT FEES	
GRADING BOOK	R 50
STUDENT CARD	R 50

**REPLACING A LOST GRADING BOOK/CARD**

Please notify your dojo instructor. SKKSA Student Records will then liaise with your instructor to process the request for a replacement. You will receive a new student number – please be aware of this when accessing any online services via our website.

Payments for replaced grading books/cards may be done with your instructor; new grading books and student cards are only returned once payment is received. For more information, please visit [www.skksa.co.za/id](http://www.skksa.co.za/id)

**GO BEYOND THE DOJO.**

NEWS, PHOTOS, FILMS AND MORE

**GO BEYOND THE DOJO:  
JOIN THE CONVERSATION ONLINE**

Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter. Keep updated with live blogs of events, photos, the latest news, and more by following us **@SKKSA** ([twitter.com/SKKSA](https://twitter.com/SKKSA)) and on **facebook.com/SKKSA**.

**Visit the SKKSA website to download syllabus, learn more about us, and view our video presentations. Click onto:**

**[www.skksa.co.za](http://www.skksa.co.za)**

Read the Kata Series, learn more about the art of karate and get the latest news from our blog:

**[www.skksa.co.za/blog](http://www.skksa.co.za/blog)**

**EMAIL**

- For general enquiries, email: **[info@skksa.co.za](mailto:info@skksa.co.za)**
- For media-related info, email: **[digital@skksa.co.za](mailto:digital@skksa.co.za)**

**CALENDAR**

Our Events calendar is constantly updated with the latest info. It's available online, and you are encouraged to check the Events page regularly to familiarize yourself with what's happening in the karate world. Access the Events page from: **[www.skksa.co.za/events](http://www.skksa.co.za/events)**

**GRADING EXAMINATION POLICY**

Please read the following policies carefully regarding grading examinations:

- ▶No student will be allowed to grade in July if they registered after 15th February 2021.
- ▶No student will be allowed to grade in December if they registered after 1st July 2021.
- ▶Students who hand-in Registration Forms between the 16th February and 1st August 2021 may only grade in December.

**COLOUR BELT EXAMINATIONS**

There are two examinations a year: Mid-Year Exams occur in July at dojo level; Final Exams occur in December at the 2021 Summer Course.

A student may not attempt an exam if:  
They have not attended at least 80% weekday classes  
They are not wearing the correct karate attire

A student may only participate in an exam upon recommendation by their dojo instructor.

**BROWN BELT EXAMINATIONS**

There is only one examination a year, at the 2021 Summer Course in December.

A brown belt karateka, or a karateka currently purple belt and eligible to undertake a brown belt examination, may only do so by fulfilling the following requirements:

- ▶Completed a minimum of two Saturday sessions per month, consistently throughout the year. Intermittent progress reports of your attendance will be provided to your dojo instructor.
- ▶Completed at least 80% of their weekday classes
- ▶Students will not be allowed to make-up for lost classes in the 3rd and 4th quarter of the year.

- ▶Brown and black belt examinations are done once a year at the 2021 Summer Course, dates to be announced.
- ▶All brown belt karateka are required to complete all sessions at the 2021 Summer Course in order to qualify for examinations. This requirement is not negotiable. Refer to brown belt grading policy.
- ▶Black belt exams: refer to Black Belt Exam Policy

**\*The Senior Grading Policy must be signed at the beginning of the year by all brown/black belt candidates, and is available from your instructor. It can also be found at: [www.skkksa.co.za/karateka](http://www.skkksa.co.za/karateka)**

**CORRECT KARATE ATTIRE**

Karateka are required to wear the correct *gi* at all times while training.



Note: protective gear is required at competitions. Your dojo instructor will advise on the appropriate, WKF-approved items, and where they may be purchased from.

SKKSA badges may be purchased from your instructor. If you have any questions regarding the correct karate attire, please speak to your dojo instructor.

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