

Risk Assessment

The following is our current risk assessment for Union Karate Do at the venue; **West Buckland School, Barnstaple, Devon, EX32 0SX.** Should you identify any further hazards that you feel are not properly represented below, we would ask you to please contact **Aaron Blake / Safeguarding Officer**. This document was last updated on the **20**th **January 2024.**

The following is compulsory and should be considered in conjunction with the action points on this risk assessment.

- A proper warm up will be carried out at the start of every lesson.
- Student numbers will be always controlled and monitored by the instructor.
- All members are given a copy of the club rules and charter.
- Any person feeling unwell or with any other medical condition / injury must contact the instructor BEFORE starting the session, or immediately should the condition develop during the class.
- Any other club rules or association guidelines will be properly observed throughout all classes and training sessions.





HAZARD OR DANGER	WHO IS AT RISK?	CONTROL MEASURES IN PLACE	RISK FACTOR	REVIEW OF MEASURES & FURTHER OBSERVATIONS
Bruising to legs, arms or	Students	Coaching of proper techniques and	Medium/High	Further re-enforcement of students
torso caused by break falling		timing, and use of break fall technique in		performing at a comfortable level
		controlled environment on crash mats		
Bruising to forearms, hands	Students &	Coach at acceptable levels of contact, as	High	Further conditioning to be carried out
& other limbs caused by	Instructors	agreed in advance. Students to be briefed		when comfortable. Enforcement of
blocking, break falls or		on assumption of risk		student's right to stop at any point.
contact				
Slips & Trips	Students & All	Room is well lit and left in tidy state by	Low	Immediately - check floor in room &
	Visitors	other occupants, checked by centre,		within hallway for trip hazards, spills &
	When Using,	ensure all kit bags, shoes, drink bottles		clutter. Any found to be reported to
	Entering Or	etc. are kept in area away from practice.		centre staff immediately.
	Leaving			
	Premises			
Sprains & Strains	Students &	Thorough warm up of both cardiovascular	Medium	Immediately & Always – All instruction
	Visitors	system & stretches to ensure all		supervised and properly demonstrated,
		participants are ready for motion &		performed at reduced speed & power to
		exercise		begin



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Lifting Injury	Students &	Only participants confident to move mats	Low	As and when required, introduce up to 4
	Instructors	to do so, always to be lifted in pairs & slid		to lift mats and if no person is confident
	When Lifting,	from stacking – not lifted		instructor to do so independently
	Laying Out &			
	Returning Crash			
	Mats			
Contact Injury	Students -	Absolutely no contact until students are	Low	Immediately - No full contact, ever!
	caused by	insured & licensed. No contact without		Careful demonstrations and safe build up
	contact through	prior consent from all parties		to any more Vigorous, contact based
	drills,			training. PPE to be worn by all parties &
	techniques,			fully supervised on a 'one simulation at a
	simulations or			time' basis.
	practice			
Dehydration	Students &	Regular water breaks & moderation to	Low	As & When - Ensure room is well
	Instructors	lesson intensity		ventilated and appropriate clothing is
				worn. Reinforce students performing at
				own, comfortable tempo
Fire	Students,	Building compliant with fire checks,	Low	Always - Assess exit routes to ensure no
	Instructors &	extinguishers fitted & emergency lighting		blockages and ensure all visitors &
	Visitors	/ exits marked		students know procedure in case of fire







Asphyxiation	Students	No high intensity or full contact training permitted -without exception! All semi-	Low	Always - Ensure full supervision and ensure all students know 'tap out'
		contact fully supervised on 1 at a time basis.		procedure if uncomfortable. No chokes to be utilised during semi-contact
Concussion caused through excessive contact with partners or as a result of a fall during sparring or pair work.	Students & Instructors	Careful supervision of partner training/sparring in addition to careful coaching at acceptable levels of contact.	Low	Always – Protection equipment including gum shield to be worn whenever semi contact sparring is permitted
Injury caused through damaged protective equipment or training aids	Students & Instructors	All equipment to be inspected before every class by instructor and damaged kit to be removed from use	Low	Always - Any equipment available on site to be checked to be fit for purpose before use
Seizure through contraindications or over exertion	Students	Instructors are to advise novices of physical exertion levels that will be encountered and so provide reasonable recovery periods during training, particularly after demanding elements of training	Low	Always - Instructors to be vigilant of dehydration and to ensure plenty of opportunity for rest, re-enforcing students to stop when they feel pain or are exhausted
Dizziness, hyperventilation, and nausea - Caused by	Students	Students to be made aware of risks prior to warm up, instructors to remain vigilant	Low	Always - students reminded to rest and sit out if feeling unwell or under strain







students not conditioned, or		to student actions & state throughout		
failure to prepare (I.e: low		lesson		
blood sugar etc.)				
Complication Of Pre-Existing	Students	All students - including newcomers - to fill	Low	Always - instructor to communicate with
Medical Condition or Injury		out medical declaration and advise of		students and individuals with regards to
		medical conditions or injuries prior to		ability to perform tasks confidently in
		class start		light of injuries or conditions
Injury to head, neck or spine	Students &	All pair work involving throws and	Low	Always - instruct to supervise all contact
caused by falling, being	Instructors	groundwork will be carried out on crash		and only permit throws by experienced,
thrown, contact or other		mats. Full supervision at all times from		insured members. No full contact at
injury		instructor		any point. PPE to be used as necessary
Insufficient Supervision	Students	All classes must be conducted by fully	Low	Always - instructors must be registered
		qualified, insured, and capable staff		with British Martial Arts & Boxing
				Association and be present throughout
Muscle fatigue, cramp,	Students &	Full and thorough warm up of all joints &	Low	Always - instructors to check for injuries
sore/stiff joints, pulled and	Instructors	body areas as required for sessions prior		before commencing class and to remind
strained muscles, ligaments		to drills, training, or contact		students to act within comfort levels
and tendons, etc.				





Other injuries, to include	Students &	Fully supervised and structured class from	Low	Always - use PPE whenever possible,
breaks, teeth loss,	Instructors	pre-planned training schedule and lesson		allow students to progress at steady pace
unconsciousness,		plans		and always ensure clear and well received
dislocations, blisters &				demonstrations
others				
Objects surrounding the Hall	Students,	Be aware of the surrounding areas whilst	Low	Instructor to advise students to be aware
	Instructors &	training and that all objects are pushed		of their space requirements to carry out
	Visitors	up to the surrounding walls as possible.		any given exercises
Entering and leaving car park	Students,	Adhere to signed footpaths	Low	Further re-enforcement to students of
	Instructors &			dangers of moving vehicles
	Visitors			
Toilets	Students,	Ensure there is only one student using the	Low	Instructor to make students and visitors
	Instructors &	toilet at one time		aware that the toilet is to only be used by
	Visitors			students and under no circumstances are
				they ever to be more than one person
				permitted into the Toilet.
Stacked classroom chairs	Students,	Ensure that all chairs are stacked in the	Low	Observe correct chair stacking system is
	Instructors &	designated storage area away from the		adhered to. Do not over stack and must
	Visitors	training area		be kept within the designated area





Climbing Frame	Students,	Instruct parents, students, and visitors to	Low	Instructor to make students aware that
	Instructors &	be made aware of the Climbing Frame		the Climbing Frame is out of bounds and
	Visitors	when entering the dojo (hall).		under no circumstances are they ever to
				be permitted to use it during any session.
Benches	Students,	Ensure that all benches are stored in the	Low	Observe correct bench stacking system is
	Instructors &	designated storage area away from the		adhered to. Do not over stack and must
	Visitors	training area		be kept within the designated area
Folding tables	Students,	Ensure that all folding tables are stored in	Low	Observe correct table folding system is
	Instructors &	the designated storage area away from		adhered to. Do not over stack and must
	Visitors	the training area		be kept within the designated area
Basketball hoops	Students,	Instruct parents, students, and visitors to	Low	Instructor to advise students to be aware
	Instructors &	be made aware of the basketball hoops		of their space requirements to carry out
	Visitors	when entering the dojo (hall).		any given exercises and to be aware of
				the basketball hoops and not to hang on
				them.
Windows	Students,	Instruct parents, students, and visitors to	Low	Instructor to make students aware that
	Instructors &	be made aware of the windows and		no pad work or kicking drills should be
	Visitors	ensure no one sits on the window ledge.		carried by the windows during any
				session.





Board breaking	Students,	Only participants confident, proficient,	Medium	Juniors to attempt lowest grade boards
	Injury caused	and briefed on how to break the boards		only. Any students who appear to have
	by contact	may do so		sustained an injury to stop the practice
	through impact			immediately.
Weapons (Knife, Ninja Stars,	Students,	Instruct parents, students, and visitors	Low	Constant monitoring of student's
Tonfa, Bo Staff & Katana)	Instructors &	about safe distance whilst weapons are		movement with the weapons and plenty
	Visitors	being trained with. Students will be given		of visual checks of space management by
		clear instructions on how to operate and		the instructor. There will be lots of
		use the weapons controlled and in safely		observation on how techniques are being
		manner.		performed with the weapons and stern
				instructions on how to correct any
				mistakes immediately.
Outdoor training	Students,	Footwear should be worn unless	Low	Only remove footwear when safe to do so
	Instructors &	otherwise stated by an instructor.		or advised by an instructor.
	Visitors	Awareness of wildlife & insects.		If vulnerable suitable medication or
		Awareness on heat exhaustion, sun stroke		repellent should be available and
		& dehydration.		instructor made aware. If required sun
		Younger students leaving the grounds		cream to be applied, regular water breaks
		unauthorised.		and moderate level of training. Constant
				monitoring of student numbers,





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awareness of student positions and observation of the closure of any security gates.

I, **Aaron Blake** the named instructor, agree that this risk assessment is fitting to all requirements of our club and will be sufficient for our needs. I have carefully checked all particulars to ensure it is appropriate for use and will perform its function at club level.

SIGNED: Aaron Blake

DATE: 20th January 2024













