

Rayners Lane Taekwon-do Academy

News Letter

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Student of the Month: Adeoluwa Tokuta

As one of our younger students, Adeoluwa is doing remarkably well. Though I would like to see him training more often (and arriving on time more), considering at present he only trains once a week and is very young, his Taekwon-do is excellent. His sparring is of a very high calibre for someone of his age and level, he tries hard at his patterns and I'm sure, with continued training, he will mature into a formidable Taekwon-doist and represent a big challenge for anyone of his age and level... perhaps even those at higher levels! Well done to Adeoluwa



support it, even though its right on their doorstep!

For those that are attending, juniors need to be there from 9.30am and adults from 12. Don't forget your dobok, belts & pads!

Academy T-Shirts

After many requests we have decided to get a T-shirt for students to wear during the summer months when it is too warm for a full dobok. In order to keep everything 'uniformed' we are getting a special T-shirt made up based on our current uniforms. They will be white T-shirts (so can be worn under the dobok in cold weather)



This is an important news letter that details some changes happening within the Academy. Please ensure you read it.

Taekwon-do Explosion 2007

I have been disappointed at the response to this tournament. At the time of writing this news letter the number of entries we have received is only 14 out of the whole Academy, only 5 of which are from entries of over 14's! This competition has been in the organisational stage for months, many many hours of behind the scenes work goes into this and we do it for you, the Academy students. Its the only tournament we run and has almost no travelling time involved because its at YOUR home club! We ensure we get great trophies for YOU to win and this year we have even organised it so YOU don't have to stay all day if you have exams (older students do not have to be there until mid day) or if your a younger student you should be able to go by around mid day. There are divisions for all ages and all grades and as its only a half day event for most, I cannot see any real reason why every student of the Academy hasn't entered!

Furthermore, despite requesting assistance from parents for the past 2 months, only 4 have offered to help. Part of the ethos of Rayners Lane Taekwon-do Academy is getting involved or supporting its endeavours and its ashame to see such small support. This coupled with the low attendance from our own students could possibly mean this may be the last event we run at the Academy, as a lack of support + a lack of interest = no more competitions at the Academy as what is the point of arranging, organising and paying for a tournament specifically for the benefit of Rayners Lane students when they don't attend and

and will have the Academy badge embroidered on them. We are taking pre-orders for them now and they cost £8 each. These will be the only approved T-shirts allowed in the Academy for regular training.

June Grading

The June grading will take place on a Wednesday evening on the 20th June. Students who wish to grade should hand in their licenses and grading fees no later than Wednesday, 6th of June, and ensure they know all their theory by this date. Younger students theory will be tested prior to, as well as at the grading as detailed in last months news letter. All students grading should be there at their usual class times, changed and ready to commence. **There is no actual class on this day** as the grading will be using the hall, though all students are able to watch. **Please ensure** if you are a yellow belt or above and under 16 you have the correct equipment for the breaking sections of the grading! Please ensure this is verified by Mr Anslow before you grade!

Licenses Due: Paaras Tank, Haajira Maxamad, Taz Sekanderzada – hand in ASAP please

Class Changes From June

From June the Monday class (7 til 9pm) & Wednesday class (7.30 til 9.30pm) will have the age limit lowered to 13 and above. All students aged 13 should start making the transition into these classes now, as from July we will no longer allow 13 year olds in the childrens class. This means Zuhayr Chaggar, Devika Shah, Josh McCormack, Anjali Bakshi & Katie McLeod should all start making the transition. Further more, students will start being assessed from the childrens class when

they are 12 and serious students will be invited to start the adult classes before they are 13, this will be by invitation from Mr Anslow.

Contrary to last months news letter, the Monday classes will continue at the Beacon centre from June.

Class Changes From July

From July the Saturday class will move to Pinner. The Saturdays class will run at the same times (11am until 1pm) and will continue to be a mixed class. The new hall address is: **St. Luke's Parish Hall, Love Lane, Pinner, HA5 3EX.** *This hall has a small car park, plus parking is available further up the road or in the M&S car park opposite. For quick reference if you find the 'Threshers' shop or 'HBSC Bank', that is the road we are on, about 150 yards up on the left, behind St Lukes church.* The **H12 bus** also runs directly from Rayners Lane to Pinner High Street, stopping very close by. For the older students it has the added bonus of a class located right in the town centre as there are many bars and cafes for you to pop into after a hard training session. Parents as well can relax at a cafe or do the shopping whilst their kids are training, if they want to!

Changes Explained

There are a number of reasons for the changes, with the main one being that when we moved into the Beacon Centre in December 2006 hall hire went up 30% but we kept training fees the same. However, this April, hall hire costs went up a further 80% (yes, that's 80% not a misprint) effectively out-pricing us from running all our classes in the centre unless we raised training fees inline with the 80% increases (approx. £24-£32). To offset this a reshuffle was required, hence the changes! The lowering of the age limit of the adult classes will allow all teenage students to benefit from the type of training we do in there, which is obviously geared much towards older students. They are hard classes, but fun as well and I feel those that attend will gain tremendously from attending them. It should be noted that the 13 age limit is on a trial basis and if attendance doesn't increase from our older students it may well be revised again - the onus is on you: If you want to keep the classes the way you like them, get training! Use them or lose them!

The Saturday class has almost out-grown the 'half-hall' we hire and the Academy cannot afford to hire the whole hall on a regular basis without a dramatic rise in training fees (and the hall management do not want that either as they prefer regular lets to only use half the hall), plus there are other issues with the Saturday classes as the Beacon Centre gets more popular for functions etc. which will only increase. The new hall in Pinner is bigger and is the whole hall (ie. no risk of having something running the opposite side of the curtain) and allows us to keep the classes as you know them.

Nobody likes change much and with any move it means that some students will be closer and others further away, but I sincerely hope that those that were previously able to travel to classes by foot will not feel put out and simply feel that you had a good run and now its someone else's turn to benefit and that you value what the classes give and continue training on the same days as you previously have enjoyed or more for 13+ year olds. The new Pinner class is located on the H12 bus route (as

well as many others) and is easy to get to, which was a priority we had when looking for a new venue. With this accessibility it means no one should have to stop training on that day. That said, anyone who wishes to change their training days, should see Mr Anslow ASAP.

Training Fees

As many of you will know, we have always run classes twice as long and much cheaper (half the price in some cases) than other local martial art schools. For example, most other clubs in the area charge between £65 to £90 per month, for classes between 45mins and an hour long, so you can see what a great deal students of the Academy get.

I did promote the idea throughout the run up to moving into the Beacon Centre of getting a friend into training and in return capping your fee's (which for those that don't know effectively freezes your training fees for years to come) as an increase in students may have helped offset things a bit, but very few did this I'm afraid and so, with the cost increases we have to make the changes above in order to survive and keep the classes running that we presently do.

Though we haven't changed the cost of training fees, we will be reviewing them over the next few months to see what impact the changes have had and whether we need to bring them more inline with other clubs. If, in the following months, the Academy isn't covering itself due to the low fee's we charge we will have no alternative but to either increase them, or perhaps consolidate them into a single fee that covers all classes! So now is the time to act!

Whilst we review all this, I urge all students to bring someone new into the Academy which may in turn off-set any increases, as well as protect you against fee increases in the future by capping your fee's or alternatively simply train more often if you're a 'once a weeker'!

Fee Capping

What is Fee Capping?

Fee Capping means your training fee levels do not rise and this is guaranteed for a minimum of 2 years from the last price adjustment, possibly (and probably) longer. What this means is the price you start at, could be the price you are still paying in 5 or 10 years time, even if fees go up. You can cap your fees at any time, but for fairness they are all capped from the last fee change (in this case July 2006). Many students are still capped from August 2004, which was the previous price review and we see no reason why that will change, so some of these students have been saving between £120 and £180 per year, every year!

How do I cap my fees?

Simply encourage a friend or two to start Taekwon-do classes and in return you fee's become "capped" and you retain your current fee level. As long as they (and you) continue training, your status remains capped. If not, then we try again or discuss the alternative. It's an easy way to save you money as long as you keep to the criteria and do not miss any payments of your own training fees. We encourage members to encourage more than one friend, so if one stops, you still have others that retain your capped status. If you do not cap your fees (by bringing along someone new) your fee's will change as & when the current fee schedule changes.

Theres 3 of us! Does that mean we need to bring in 3 people to get our fee's capped?

No, for family members (brothers/sisters/parents/child only), 1 new student caps you all (this must be a friend, not another family member).

So my training fees wont rise, is that correct?

Yes, it gets 'capped' and as long as you have brought in a friend, then ensure you don't miss any payments of your training fees, they remain at the level you pay now for a minimum of 2 years and if all goes as planned, 2 years will hopefully become forever.

Note: Guarantee dates run from the time of the last change of fees, this makes it fair for everyone no matter when you introduce a new student.

"Change is inevitable - except from a vending machine"
Robert C. Gallagher

"Don't fear change, embrace it."
Anthony J. D'Angelo