

# KARATE NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Annual General Meeting 2024



**June 21, 2024**

**6:30PM Via 20 Highland Drive, St. John's**

## **BOARD ATTENDEES:**

1. Derek Ryan (President)
2. Kurt Sullivan (Vice President)
3. Colby Besso (Secretary)
4. Brad Noftall (Treasurer)
5. Karen Besso (Director)
6. Jeremy Anderson (Director)

## **REGRETS:**

1. Chris Reglar (Director)

## **MEMBER ATTENDEES:**

1. Wing Au
2. Kelly Baker
3. Paul Burton
4. Dylan March

## **Minutes**

### **1. Attendance**

- 1.1. 2024 Annual General Meeting begins at 6:30 pm.
- 1.2. Member clubs in attendance: Avalon Karate Club, Killick Coast Karate Club, NL Tsuruoka Karate-Do, Uechi Ryu Karate Club.

### **2. Minutes of last AGM 2023**

- 2.1. Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting are accepted & approved.

### **3. President's Report *\*President Derek Ryan***

- 3.1. DJR reads the President's report, commending former President Nathaniel Besso for his exceptional work and leadership that greatly benefited Karate NL as a whole.
- 3.2. Karate NL had numerous highlights of the past year, which include:
  - 3.2.1. Attending the 2023 Canada Games
  - 3.2.2. Attending the 2023 National Championship
  - 3.2.3. Hosting various Officials Trainings
  - 3.2.4. A new club joined Karate NL, increasing the number of clubs to eight.

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- 3.2.5. High performance training opportunities, such as National Team Coaches leading competition clinics.
- 3.2.6. Technological improvements for tournaments, such as the incorporation of a "Database" to run the events, and an electronic scoring system for Elite Kata.
- 3.2.7. Increase in numbers of the KNL volunteer pool but needs to continually grow.
- 3.2.8. Fundraising volunteers raised significant funds to support KNL programs and athletes.

K. Sullivan moves to accept 2024 President's Report, Seconded by J. Anderson. Motion PASSED.

## **4. Treasurer Report** \*Treasurer Brad Noftall

- 4.1. A full financial package will become available shortly after the conclusion of the 2023-2024 Financial year (August 31).
- 4.2. Karate NL to date has received over \$70,000 from membership dues, donations, fundraising, tournament revenue and other sources.
- 4.3. Karate NL's total expenses have reached a total amount of \$58,500. These expenses included membership fees, insurance, coaching costs, training costs, and other expenses.
- 4.4. The Karate NL Fundraising committee has collected over \$11,000 in donations and raised over \$15,000.
- 4.5. Karate NL received over \$13,000 in tournament revenue in the past year.
- 4.6. Karate NL's financial position, once all funds and other monies due are collected, will approximately be \$28,000. These funds will be allocated to support athletes, coaches, and officials for the upcoming National Championships, as well as to cover any outstanding invoices.
- 4.7. Financial challenges are anticipated in the next year due to the rising cost of all expenses.

K. Besso moves to accept 2024 Treasurer's Report, Seconded by K. Baker. Motion PASSED.

## **5. Coaching Committee Report** \*Secretary Colby Besso

- 5.1. The committee has been exceptionally active and diligent throughout the 2023-2024 training year.
- 5.2. At the 2023 National Championships, Karate NL took home 1 Gold and 2 Bronze medals, with many athletes placing Top 5 in their categories.
- 5.3. Five athletes received the Premier Athlete Award.
- 5.4. Karate NL achieved the following results from out-of-province competitions:

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- 5.4.1. 2023 Canada Open - 1 Silver, 3 Bronze, and a Top 5 finish.
  - 5.4.2. 2024 Montréal International Karate Open - 1 Silver, and 3 Bronze medals.
  - 5.4.3. 2024 Atlantic Karate Championship - 5 Gold, 7 Silver, and 16 Bronze medals.
  - 5.5. Canadian National Team Head Coaches Randy Rix and Pam Ross were invited to lead specialized competition clinics, which greatly benefited the Provincial Team and the participating recreational athletes.
  - 5.6. An NCCP Competition Introduction Seminar was delivered, resulting in nine candidates earning their "Competition Introduction Trained" status. Additionally, Colby Besso achieved his "Competition Introduction Certified" status following his evaluation.
  - 5.7. Athletes aged 12-13 years will be eligible to compete on Team NL in the 2027 Canada Games.
- K. Baker moves to accept 2024 Coach's Report, Seconded by P. Burton. Motion PASSED.
- 6. Officials Committee Report** \*President Derek Ryan
- 6.1. The Officials Committee has four members: *Chair* Derek Ryan, Kurt Sullivan, Brad Noftall, and Jeremy Anderson.
  - 6.2. The committee's goal during the 2023-2024 training year was to train and to qualify current officials and new recruits. There were 4 training sessions delivered throughout the year, focusing on the responsibilities of a Referee/Judge, and a Technical Official.
  - 6.3. Karate NL's current pool of volunteers dedicated their time and energy to gain knowledge and refine their performance, but for greater success in recruitment, member clubs need to encourage their members to step forward as volunteers.
  - 6.4. Karate NL currently has approximately 18 ring officials (referees & judges) and approximately, 10 tech officials (coordinators, marshals, scorekeepers, assistants)
  - 6.5. The committee hopes to meet the demands required to host the planned events for the 2024-2025 training year. Planned tournaments include the Atlantic Championships, 2 Provincial tournaments, and KNL 2025 Provincial Championships.
  - 6.6. KNL also supports the regional and national associations by subsidizing referees wishing to attend out-of-province events.
- J. Anderson moves to accept 2024 Official's Report, Seconded by Kelly Baker. Motion PASSED.

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## 6.7. Note of discussion following report:

6.7.1. K. Sullivan attended the 2024 Atlantic Championship, receiving "Judge B" status for Kata and Kumite after passing his officiating examination.

6.7.2. 2 Karate NL Officials plan to attend the Pan American Championships in Brazil.

## 7. **Tournaments Committee Report** \*Director Karen Besso

7.1. The Tournaments Committee has three members: *Chair* Karen Besso, Chris Reglar, and Amy Fleming.

7.2. Karate NL hosted 3 successful tournaments during the competition year, with a great turn out at all tournaments. The transportation of tatami and equipment was much easier with the use of the new KNL trailer. Volunteer officials were utilized by way of operating as many rings as possible with the flow of the tournament.

7.3. Registrar Colby Besso, with the assistance of technical volunteer Andre Besso, led a project of improving our scoring system to contain the actual draw, complete with a centralized database. Scores were able to be captured and the division to electronically progress as it played out, close to a national setting.

7.4. Karate NL was also able to implement a numerical scoring system for kata, allowing judges to use tablets for this purpose.

7.5. Lunch and water were provided for all volunteers on tournament day.

7.6. First aid for all tournaments was provided by off-duty paramedics.

Colby Besso moves to accept 2024 Tournament Report, Seconded by Dylan March. Motion PASSED.

## 8. **Fundraising Committee (KNL Team & PTO) Report** \*President Derek Ryan

8.1. DJR presents the Fundraising Committee Report on behalf of the committee co-chairs.

8.2. The Tournaments Committee has seven members: *Co-chair* Kristen Oldford, *Co-chair* Michelle Simms, Sandy Fraser, Emily Reglar, Lee-Anne Fancy, Christa Pack, and Bonnie Howell.

8.3. The committee was formed in March 2024, meeting for the first time on March 20, 2024. Goals were established to raise approximately \$15,000 to cover expenses such as coaching costs, and other related expenses KNL were set to incur, including to raise additional funds to offset Provincial Team athlete costs.

8.4. The committee was successful in accomplishing both goals through the collection of over \$12,000 in sponsorships, an additional \$15,000 through an online auction,

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a popcorn fundraiser, canteen sales, admission fee at Provincial Championships, and a Grand in Your Hand fundraiser.

8.5. The committee secured a total of \$27,000, with \$15,000 allocated to KNL, and \$12,000 to Provincial Team athletes. Estimate of \$6800 raised in Grand in Your Hand, after fees paid & distribution of the prize amount. 9 Sponsors have contributed to KNL's fundraising efforts, each ranging between \$750-\$1000.

8.6. Committee extends a thank you to Subway, Torbay Rd, St. John's for providing lunch to volunteers & officials at two KNL tournaments. As well as to Dr. Paul Snow for donating a flight, allowing for an additional coach to attend the 2024 National Championships.

K. Besso moves to accept Fundraising Committee Report, Seconded by K. Baker. Motion PASSED.

### **9. Motion 1: Amendments to the By-Laws / Constitution (Election & Voting Structure)**

9.1. Vice President Kurt Sullivan takes the chair while President Derek Ryan makes his proposal. D. Ryan moves to Amend Constitution/By-laws.

9.2. DJR reads and explains the following proposed amendments:

**Amendment 1:** Article 6.1 Election and Qualification of Directors and Officers; "Candidates must be on the list prepared and presented by the Board appointed Nominations Committee. There will be no nominations from the floor. The procedures and deadlines for submissions and finalizations of candidates shall be determined by the nominations committee guidelines approved by the Board. These guidelines shall include the voting method and procedure for all positions. Except as provided in Article 6.4 herein, any member of a club in good standing, regardless of kyu or black belt rank, is eligible for any elected position on the board."

**Amendment 2:** Article 7.9 Quorum; "A quorum is the minimum number of members required to be present to enable a meeting to conduct its business. A quorum must be present throughout the entire meeting, or the meeting cannot proceed or continue. The minimum number to constitute a quorum of the Board is three, two of whom must be officers. To constitute a quorum of the annual general meeting or general meeting, there must be no less than 50% of eligible votes represented and held by a member club delegate or delegates in attendance. The quorum of any committee is 70% of its entire membership. If at any meeting a quorum is not present or does not remain in attendance, the chairperson must adjourn the meeting and announce the time, place and date at which it will reconvene. If a quorum is not present at the scheduled time for election of officers and directors at an annual general meeting, the chairperson shall determine if sufficient

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members and candidates are present to proceed with the election of officers and directors, or any of them. If it is determined a sufficient number are in attendance, the election of officers and directors shall be conducted, but no further business shall be conducted and shall be left to the next general meeting at which a quorum is present.”

**Amendment 3:** Article 8.5 Dues; “Every club shall pay the annual club dues. **The clubs shall pay all fees as calculated by the annual fee schedule formula which shall take into account club membership numbers.** Dues may only be set at an annual general meeting or a general meeting.”

**Amendment 4:** Article 8.9 (iii) Suspension and Expulsion item (iii); “**(iii) failure to complete the required registration and to pay required Karate NL annual membership fees in a proper and timely manner.**”

**Amendment 5:** Article 9.2.1 Voting Annual General Meeting or General Meeting; “**There shall be no proxies. The delegate or delegates of the registered member clubs shall carry the number of votes as determined by the Karate NL voting structure formula.**”

**Amendment 6:** Article 9.4 Eligibility; “ A member is in good standing if, by the filing or update deadline, the ~~member and~~ club to which the member belongs **is** registered with all dues paid. A member is not in good standing if, by the filing or update deadline, the ~~member and~~ club to which the member belongs **is** not registered and all dues are not paid. **The delegate of any member club** in good standing **may cast the club’s designated vote or votes** at an annual general meeting or a general meeting. A **delegate of any member club** not in good standing or **which is** a probationary club cannot **cast the club’s designated vote or votes.** **Any candidate from a club not in good standing cannot be elected** nor appointed as a voting director of the Corporation.”

**Amendment 7:** Article 9.5 Proxies; **DELETE Article 9.5 Proxies**

**Amendment 8:** Article 9.6 Chairperson; “Article **9.5** Chairperson”.



## Appendix A

KNL 2024 AGM Proposal of Motions to Amend "voting structure"		
<b>Voting Structure</b>		
Club size	Votes	Maximum
25 or LESS	1	1
75	2	2
125	3	3
175	4	4
225	5	5
275	6	6
325	7	7
375	8	8
425	9	9
475	10	10

**Notes** *Increments of 50 allow additional votes to abs max of 10*

9.3. B. Noftall seconds D. Ryan’s proposed motion.

9.4. D. Ryan reads the proposed KNL Voting Structure Formula.

D. Ryan moves to include the proposed KNL voting structure formula in the initial motion, Seconded by B. Noftall.

9.5. During discussion for Constitution revision of voting structure, W. Au handed out a suggestion of an alternative voting structure. Since this was did not meet the required 30 day prior notice, it was not an eligible motion this meeting.

The Motion 1: Amendments to the By-Laws / Constitution (Election & Voting Structure) was put to a vote and failed to pass. Motion FAILED.

### **10. Motion 2: Revision & Increase Annual Fees charged to member clubs**

- 10.1. Vice President Kurt Sullivan takes the chair while President Derek Ryan makes his proposal. D. Ryan moves to revise fee structure for Karate NL.
- 10.2. The proposed fee structure suggests a “Club fee,” which is calculated by the number of locations a member club operates known as the “Club charge”, and the “Basic charge” which is the fee paid by registered members within the member club.
- 10.3. J. Anderson seconds D. Ryan’s proposed motion.
- 10.4. During discussion for revision of annual fees, D. Ryan revises his proposal to reduce the “Club charge” from \$300 per location to \$150 per club (no longer per location) and leave the “Basic charge” at \$40 per member. B. Noftall Seconds this revision.

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The Motion 2: Revision & Increase Annual Fees charged to member clubs as amended to \$150 per club charge and basic charge of \$40 per person/registrant of each club was put to a vote and was passed. Motion PASSED.

## **11. Adjournment**

First – K. Besso

Second – K. Baker

11.1. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Recorded & Submitted by

Colby Besso

Secretary

Karate NL