

Black Swan Taekwondo Inc 2008 Annual Report

Technical Directors report July 2008

From the incorporation of Black Swan Taekwondo Inc. in January 2007 we have been active in our goal of developing Taekwondo in Western Australia. From a technical directors point of view we have assisted in and run several seminars and competitions designed to assist our members and the general Taekwondo community to increase their knowledge and practical skills in their chosen sport of Taekwondo.

It has been a great start for a new association and we are looking forward to increased involvement from all members of the Taekwondo community. Below is a summary of the official technical events that we have been involved in since our inception.

1st Black Swan Taekwondo Poomsae Seminar - Warnbro, June 23rd 2007

Black Swan conducted its first official practical Taekwondo function in the form of a Poomsae Seminar held in Warnbro at the Warnbro "Y" Community Centre on Saturday the 23rd June 2007. Approximately forty students braved the elements and attended the Poomsae Seminar to further their knowledge of Taekwondo.

The students attending were from a cross section of the Taekwondo community. From white belts up to black belts and young children to older students some very experienced and others at the beginning of their Taekwondo journey. These students are exactly the ones Black Swan Taekwondo Inc are attempting to help by promoting and developing Taekwondo for all not just the elite athlete.

The students maintained their enthusiasm throughout and were asking questions right to the end. The seminar was a great success and Black Swan is looking forward to conducting many more throughout the state in our endeavours to promote and develop Taekwondo.

The World Taekwondo Federation has made an enormous effort to standardise the Poomsae around the world. This combined with the introduction of a World Technical Competition circuit similar to the sparring competition means that Poomsae is a big growth area in Taekwondo. This leaves the onus on instructors to find out what is now a world standard and pass it on to their students.

Technical Competition - Albany July 22nd 2007

The first Technical competition organised by Black Swan was conducted at the PCYC on Saturday 21st July in Albany. This event was the Rawlins Great Southern Taekwondo Challenge and was run in conjunction with Black Swan Taekwondo Mr Darling, Technical Director for Black Swan, was asked by the executive council to assist in conducting this competition in order to promote and develop Taekwondo in the country region of Albany. It was clear that a Poomsae seminar would be helpful in this region to standardise all techniques. The judging and running of the Poomsae competition was professional and followed the World Taekwondo Federation rules.

To all those involved in organising and running the competition we extend our gratitude including the competitors who, while having fun, were also involved in serious competition. Our special thanks to all Albany members and instructors for your invitation to attend and your hospitality on the day.

For Black Swan Taekwondo it was evident that our goals of promoting and developing Taekwondo are goals that are shared by instructors and students around the state. With the assistance of other participants with these same goals there is no doubt that we will be able to advance the standard of Taekwondo in the state of Western Australia thereby contributing to making Western Australia the strongest Taekwondo state in Australia.

Grandmaster Hae Man Park Seminar - September 8th 2007

Grandmaster Park Hae Man conducted a special training seminar on the 8th September 2007 in Perth Western Australia. Black Swan Taekwondo invited Grandmaster Park to come to Western Australia to share his knowledge and experience.



Members of Black Swan Taekwondo Executive Council with Grandmaster Park

Grandmaster Park is one of the original masters who developed and designed the Taegeuk Poomsae. He is advisor to the World Taekwondo Federation which was formed in 1963 as well as being a member of their high Dan examination committee.

Keeping in mind that Grandmaster Park was present and part of the formation process for these poomsae some forty years ago, I am sure all participants were aware of the great honour and privilege it was to be instructed on the technical application of the poomsae by one of the world's foremost authority figures in Taekwondo.

With ninety students taking part in the morning session Mr. Rawlins and Mr. Darling assisted Grandmaster Park in the translation of some of the more intricate details. This type of knowledge is often passed on to students by their instructors but is not understood by the student until they attend a seminar such as this to realise the full extent of the motions in the poomsae.

At the conclusion of the seminar Grandmaster Park was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation by Mr. Darling on behalf of Black Swan Taekwondo and all the participants.

From a personal point of view, Grandmaster Park Hae Man last came to Perth in May of 1988. I was lucky enough to be present at that seminar and still recall it in detail some nineteen years later. Some of the students present at this seminar will, I have no doubt, recollections decades later at having had the opportunity to talk to and train with a living legend of Taekwondo.

Thank you to all members of the Black Swan Taekwondo Executive Council who helped in providing this unrepeatable opportunity to members of the Taekwondo community.

Novice Tournament - March 15th 2008

This gave us the opportunity to test our new electronic scoring system purchased last year with the help of a government grant and sponsorship from MSL Software. With the combination of just over 100 entries, only one ring, novice competitors and novice parents we were guaranteed an interesting day of competition development and fun.

The spectators were also kept informed of some of the scoring methods and decisions in various situations as the competition progressed. This education hopefully made it clear to what was probably a novice audience about events taking place in the ring.

Many thanks go to all those who volunteered their assistance on the day including referees and corner judges who performed a difficult task in a very professional manner. It was fantastic to see clubs travel from many country areas such as Dunsborough, Albany and Rockingham. Overall the day was a great success and Black Swan Taekwondo Inc's goal of developing Taekwondo in WA was achieved.

Mr D H Darling
Technical Director
Black Swan Taekwondo Inc.