

JULY 2018

## A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT



Master Anthony Mckenna VII.

2018 has been an unusual year for ITF England. Following a difficult Annual General Meeting in January, and after mediation from Grandmaster Bos, the president and treasurer resigned from the board of directors, and I was elected president in June. I have set myself three immediate tasks:

- To guide ITF England into a new organisational structure. This is likely to take the form of a Community Interest Company
- To set a budget for the organisation and come up with proposals for a membership fee structure
- To improve the website and social media communication.

I am grateful for the messages of support I have received so far. The board of directors have completed the options appraisal for the new organisational structure and concluded that a Community Interest Company (CIC) is the best format. We will carry out ballot of voting members in the near future, and we will then probably require a further Extraordinary General Meeting to adopt the new format. I know this organisational stuff isn't exciting reading – but we do need to undertake this work to make sure we are fit for the future. Once we sort out the website and facebook page we will keep you all informed on progress.

The current board of directors is as follows

- President – Master Anthony Mckenna VII
- Vice president – Master Errol Bernard VII

- Secretary - Mrs Patricia Gray V
- Tournament director – Master Nick Symonds VII
- Technical director – Mr Johann de Silva VI
- Ethics and discipline director – Master Paul Cook VII

At the moment we don't have a treasurer. All of the board are sharing fiscal responsibility until we can recruit a treasurer – hopefully at the next EGM or AGM, so if you are interested, get in touch with the secretary Mrs Gray at [info@itfengland.com](mailto:info@itfengland.com).

## ITF – ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year's championships will be held on 27th and 28th October. Keep the date free – we hope this year's championship will be our biggest and best.

## HOW DO WE ADD VALUE TO ITF -E?

The board of directors realise that we need to ensure that members are getting value for money from their membership. Currently members get

- Access to ITF certification and plaques as well as other ITF merchandise (e.g. ties)
- Access to the ITF England National Team (World and European Championships)
- Access to IICs, IUCs and other ITF courses
- Access to ITF England squad training, courses and competitions

And we hope to add the following benefits in the near future

- Access to an improved ITF England website
- ITF England Technical day.
- National Instructors Course
- National equivalent to IIC
- National equivalent to IUC
- ITFE First Aid Course
- ITFE Safeguarding and Child Protection Course
- How to grow your martial arts academy
- Social Media

- Book keeping
- ITFE Coaching Course 1 & 2. These can be the equivalent FA Coaching badges.
- ITFE Umpires Course 1 & 2. This is a route for someone who wants to progress a

career as a recognised Tournament Referee.

We need your ideas on how we can add value. Any suggestions? Please forward to Mrs Gray.

## SPOTLIGHT ON MASTER PHILIP LEAR

In each newsletter we will feature one of ITF England's instructors to give you an insight into what makes them tick. We're starting off with Master Philip Lear of Vision taekwon do, with schools in the South East and South West of England.



### Master Philip Lear, 7th degree

**When did you start TKD?**

September 1990

**Why did you start TKD?**

I was bullied at school and met someone who was doing martial arts at the time and he helped me to get through a very tough period of my life where I learnt how to stand up for myself. A few years later a club opened up in my local area and I joined.

**When did you get your black belt?**

28<sup>th</sup> March 1993, the examiner was GM Peter Harkess.

**How did it feel?**

It was amazing, however in hindsight I wish my journey to black belt had taken a little longer, my colour belt years went past far too fast and I could have done with taking a little more time.

**What is your greatest achievement in life?**

Surviving in a house with 3 women and just one bathroom! Seriously though, having a wife who puts up with my TKD way of life and two wonderful kids.

**What is your greatest achievement in TKD?**

This is tough, because there are many things for various reasons. Being the translator for General Choi on the first day of the IIC in France in 1999 is definitely up there. Demonstrating pre-arranged sparring in the opening ceremony of the 2001 World Championships in Rimini with GM Nardizzi is another. There are many more rather than just one thing, it's been an amazing journey so far.

**Who or what is your inspiration – and why?**

My instructor Master Tan. I lived in Malaysia for two years and without him I certainly wouldn't have achieved everything I have in TKD today. He totally changed my TKD, the way I trained and the way I saw TKD not only as a sport, but the potential to become my living and more importantly he taught me about the art. Although I enjoy the sport side I can say the Martial Art side is far more rewarding because I see people's lives change on a daily basis just because of this great opportunity I have to teach. Without Master Tan I wouldn't be where I am and he continues to be my inspiration.

**What is your favourite food?**

Curry. Everything stops for a curry. When I lived in Malaysia I would eat curry for breakfast every morning and even, one Christmas in Kuala Lumpur we had curry for lunch!

**What music moves you?**

I love 70's/80's music and always listen to Smooth FM. I like relaxing music day to day, although it's great to blast out some AC/DC in my fitness classes from time to time.

**Bruce Lee or Muhammad Ali? And why?**

Muhammad Ali for me. He wasn't a massive heavy weight, but his speed, accuracy and power were devastating. Also, he said he was the greatest, so he must have been!