

Policy for Recognition of Degrees Earned with Other Organizations

FOR ORGANIZATIONS

An organization that applies to join the ITF will be observed during a seminar led by an ITF seminar leader to ascertain their interest in joining the ITF, the quality of their techniques, their capacity to adapt to ITF techniques, and the congruence of their values and behavior with those of the ITF.

The seminar leader will make his recommendations to the ITF Board of Directors. He will also make an individual recommendation for each holder of a Black Belt of 7th, 8th, or 9th degree, for each of whom a file must be submitted to the Masters Promotion Committee. The Masters Promotion Committee will study each file and send its recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will make the final decisions.

A plan will be agreed upon to facilitate the organization's integration into the ITF, adapted to the needs of that organization.

FOR STRATEGIC GROUPINGS

In some cases, a number of individuals who hold ITF Black Belt certificates have been able unable to seek promotion to higher levels because of special circumstances beyond their control. In cases where a significant number of them apply as a group to join the ITF, the Board of Directors may decide to apply to that group the policy for recognition described under the title ORGANIZATIONS, rather than the policy under INDIVIDUALS.

FOR INDIVIDUALS

Applications for recognition of degrees earned with other organizations must go through normal channels, i.e., through the National Association (NA) or an Affiliated National Association (AA) in the country of residence of the applicant.

If someone from a TKD organization other than the ITF applies for recognition of his Black Belt degree, he must supply copies of the certificates he has earned and of any other documents that support his application.

If the ITF agrees to recognize the Black Belt degree, an ITF Black Belt certificate for that degree will not be issued immediately. However, recognition of the level of Black Belt degree will allow the applicant to request a temporary ITF teaching license, valid for a period of one year. During that time, the license holder must be mentored and monitored by a holder of a higher degree ITF Black Belt. The choice of mentor-monitor must be approved by the ITF Masters Promotion Committee.

The applicant then will have two choices:

- He can take ITF courses and attend seminars, then pass the exam to obtain his ITF Black Belt certificate for the next degree. The waiting period and other requirements described in *Article 7.1.1 – Qualifications, Requirements, Black Belt Membership Degrees* of ITF By-Law No. 1 apply. However, there is a minimum waiting period after he has joined the ITF: six months for up to 4th degree or one year for 5th degree and higher, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since he was awarded his last degree.
- Once he has mastered ITF techniques, he can pass the exam to obtain his ITF Black Belt certificate for the same degree he has already obtained with the other organization. The waiting period and other requirements described in *Article 7.1.1 – Qualifications, Requirements, Black Belt Membership Degrees* of ITF By-Law No. 1 apply. In this case, there is no minimum waiting period other than as required under Article 7.1.1 of ITF By-Law No. 1.

Special Cases:

In some cases, ITF Black Belt holders have been unable to seek promotion to higher levels because of special circumstances beyond their control. The ITF Masters Promotion Committee will examine each case, considering whether:

- the applicant has put in the time for each level;
- his personality and actions show that he understands and applies the ITF TKD philosophy;
- he can demonstrate knowledge of ITF TKD appropriate to the degree he is seeking;
- he can produce valid references.

In addition, he must pass the qualifying test. The contents of this test will be defined by the ITF Masters Promotion Committee and the ITF Technical & Instruction Committee.

Note:

This is the official policy of the ITF concerning recognition of degrees earned with other organizations, as approved by the ITF Board of Directors on September 12th 2004. It is applicable from that date until such time as the policy is modified, replaced, or revoked by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

This policy was developed in the context of the ITF Constitution and of By-Law No. 1. In case of any perceived inconsistencies or discrepancies, the text of the ITF Constitution and that of By-Law No. 1 take precedence over the text of the policy.