



KIM'S ACADEMY OF TAEKWONDO BLACKBELT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 17– Number 2 Feb. 2010

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February 12 213rd Belt
Promotion Test 6:00 PM
13 213rd Belt Promotion
Test 12:00 Noon
13 Black Belt Pre-test for
27-Dragon Kim Oklahoma
City Tournament

March

27 Kim's Academy
Tournament
South YMCA – All
Students Participate

April 17 Topeka Kansas Tournament
23 214th Belt Promotion Test
6:00 PM
24 214th Belt Promotion Test
12:00 Noon
4:00 PM Cookout

June 18 215th Belt Promotion Test
6:00 PM
19 215th Belt Promotion Test
12:00 Noon

August 13 216th Belt Promotion Test
6:00 PM

14 216th Belt Promotion Test
12:00 Noon
14 Black Belt Pre-test for
October

September Taekwondo Camping
Girl Scout

October 16 KS City, KS Tournament
22 217th Belt Promotion Test
6:00 PM
23 217th Belt Promotion Test
12:00 Noon
23 4:00 PM Cookout

December 17 218th Belt Promotion
Test 6:00 PM
18 218th Belt Promotion
Test 12:00 Noon
18 Christmas Banquet
6:00 PM

Take a Kick at Hunger in Haiti

Kim's Academy instructors and students hosted an extremely successful fundraiser on January 24th, 2010. Over \$3200 was raised for earthquake relief in Haiti through a board break-a-thon at which approximately 450 boards were broken. The event was held in honor of Master Ken Louis, a native of Haiti whose parents still live outside Port-au-Prince.

One of Master Louis's sparring students approached him with the idea of collecting money at the next sparring class. After speaking with Sam Muyskens of the Epiphany Now Foundation, Master Louis wondered if something even better could be put together. Mr. Muyskens has personally travelled to Haiti 23 times and has seen the conditions there first-hand.

Master Louis contacted me about his desire to hold a public fundraising event to help Epiphany Now, and about contacting the media. Between Tuesday evening and Saturday, the KABBA board and many others began to prepare. Sam Muyskens visited Black Belt Class on Wednesday to briefly speak about the spirit of the Haitian people and inspire instructors and black belts to spread the word. Pledge sheets were made available so that all Kim's Academy students could collect donations in advance and three TV stations and the local newspaper were notified of the event.

Lowe's generously gave us a discounted rate on the boards, which then needed to be cut and transported to Grandmaster Kim's. Word was spread through flyers, Master Cowdery's distribution list, and social networking sites.

The turnout for Take a Kick at Hunger in Haiti was impressive! Thank you to all of the instructors and students who made room in their weekend for this event. A photojournalist from KAKE-10 was there and shot a lot of footage, some of which aired that evening. Those who attended were treated to a unique experience that served a greater good while giving us the opportunity to encourage each other and build confidence in our students. It was a treat to see Grandmaster Kim break some boards in addition to some of our master instructors. So many people pitched in to help, setting up tables and chairs, purchasing supplies, taking donations, writing receipts, carrying and handing out boards, holding boards,

and handling trash and clean-up duties. By evening, pictures of the event were already posted on the kimsacademy.com web site and many people had been notified that they were available! This was truly a cooperative effort by so many people.

Master Ken Louis is very grateful to all those who helped with this event. It was incredibly successful because of all the instructors, students, parents, participants, and people who donated money. As he stated in the KAKE-10 interview, he was glad to have the opportunity to thank the United States for its compassion for the unfortunate. He was most touched by one of his North Branch YMCA students, Nicklaus Wiswedel, who offered up the Lord's Prayer for those still suffering in Haiti.

Special thanks to Grandmaster Kim for supporting this event and being there to lead it in every possible way. Of the adults who participated, Dr. Rod Jones turned in the largest pledged amount. South Branch YMCA student Samantha Jimenez raised the most of all the kids who came. There were also many large donations from individuals. In the spirit of KABBA's mission of being a positive force in the community by promoting tae kwon do, it has been suggested that we hold a break-a-thon for a different charity each year.

Kamsahamnida,
Jessica Mallard





Report By Jr. Master Steve Hilburn

2010 Kim's Academy Invitational Tournament

The annual Kim's Academy Invitational tournament is scheduled for Saturday March 27th, 2010. This year the tournament will be held at the Farha Sports Center located adjacent to the South YMCA. The plan is to take supplies to the Farha Center on the evening of Friday March 26th at **5:00 PM**. We will need help to unload ring mats from the trailer and store in the gym, transfer trophies to the storage room, tables and chairs from the South YMCA storage closets and transfer equipment from the main dojang and the Derby dojang. Need volunteers to collect equipment and tournament resources from the main school and the Derby dojangs (approx 4:00 PM) and transport to the Farha Center.

Kim's Academy of Tae Kwon Do Invitational Tournament – Saturday Setup

The actual setup for the Invitational tournament will begin at **7:00 AM** (In the past we have started at 6:00 AM) on the morning of Saturday March 27th. Since we have become more efficient over the past several years, it is fitting that we spend the dividend and sleep an extra hour on Saturday.

On Saturday March 27th at **7:00 AM**, we will arrive at the South YMCA Farha Sports Center to begin the task of assembly and setup for our academy tournament. This is a difficult and complex task that is made easy and simple by the combined contributions and efforts of many Kim's Academy students. There are many seasoned Black Belts that will be on-site to oversee and perform the task of setup. Donuts will be provided.

Kim's Academy of Tae Kwon Do Invitational Tournament – Saturday Operation

If you are assigned to a ring, please do not leave without informing the head referee. Your absence will paralyze that ring. If you need to leave in order to compete, again let the head referee in your ring know so they can locate a replacement and keep the competition moving.

If your ring is lucky enough to finish early, check with the head table and see about offloading excess competitors from another ring into your ring. The more rings that are maintained at maximum capacity will ensure an early exit for all of us.

The process of recruiting referees and judges, timekeepers, runners etc. will begin at the February belt promotion test. The purpose of this exercise to determine exactly what resources can be counted on for Saturday March 27th. Even though you “do this every year and should not have to sign up” signup allows ring assignments to be made in advance and will save about an hour of frustration and wasted time the day of the tournament.

We are also seeking students to act as runners for each ring, two adults to man the main food area that will be set up for judges, and two adults to man the spectator ticket area. If you are able to help, please notify Jr. Master Steve Hilburn at stevenghilburn@sbcglobal.net. Runners, time keepers, and support staff do not have to be black belts. Instructors, please encourage your students to participate and assist at the tournament. Those students that volunteer to help and are also competing will have the opportunity to compete. Competition will take first priority.

Kim's Academy of Tae Kwon Do Invitational Tournament – Saturday Clean-up

At the conclusion of the tournament competition, all the tasks that were performed Friday evening and Saturday morning have to be repeated. In reverse. The tear-down and clean-up process is vitally important. We want to be invited back. Last year we had a committed team that stayed after and ensured that the Sports Center was as clean or cleaner than when we arrived.

Again, the more students that stay and pitch in, the quicker we will get done. Everything that we do and everything that we don't do, reflects directly on ourselves and our academy.

Kim's Academy of Tae Kwon Do Invitational Tournament – Sponsorship

I have mailed sponsorship letters to all company/corporate sponsors that have helped us financially in past tournaments. Last year, many individual Black Belt students pledged personal sponsorships that greatly helped to achieve our affordability cost targets. I did not contact individual donors (instructors, students, and family members) that made personal donations last year. We are encouraging everyone that elected to donate to the tournament on a personal level, to do so again. Please let Grandmaster Kim know in advance of your intention to contribute and what you would like to have included in the tournament brochure.

In addition, several students stepped outside their own comfort zones and solicited new sponsors. These are symbolic and indicative examples of school pride, personal confidence and leadership. I encourage any and all to seek out and solicit a new sponsor. Many times the prospective sponsor is someone you already do business with as a client and from their perspective, they are giving back a small token to ensure your continued patronage and at the same

time they receive advertising exposure and potentially new business. A win-win combination.

If you have a prospective sponsor in mind, either collect the contact information (name, address, phone) and/or contact Jr. Master Diana Hilburn or myself for information and materials that will explain the sponsorship levels and process.

Kamsa Hamni Da
Jr. Master Steve Hilburn

Get the Word Out by Nicole VanNatta

Keeping up on current events is easier than ever with today's technology, and Kim's Academy is no exception. There are several options to stay informed with the news and events happening with our school.

First, the Kim's Academy website (www.kimsacademy.com or www.kimsacademy.net) has information about all of the branch schools, with class times and instructors listed. The website also contains a list of upcoming events, pictures from past events, and contact information. Contact the webmaster, Robert Muller, at webmaster@kimsacademy.net if you have questions or updates to any part of the Kim's Academy website. The KABBA webpage lists information and meeting times for the Kim's Academy Black Belt Association. Current KABBA members can log in to the member's only section to see meeting minutes, a membership list, and the discussion forum. KABBA members can contact Robert to set up their KABBA online account, and gain access to the member section.

If you're reading this, you already know that the Black Belt newsletter is an excellent way to hear about your fellow Tae Kwon Do students. Master Cowdery's email

also keeps us informed between newsletters. He emails the list of black belts when special events are announced. If you are not getting emails from him, and would like to be added to the list just send him an email at abc@southwind.net.

The newest device for information is Facebook (www.facebook.com). For those of you who are not so computer savvy, Facebook is a social networking site which allows its users to keep in touch with friends and find out about events. We have a Kim's Academy group page on Facebook. You just need to do a Facebook search for "Kim's Academy Tae Kwon Do" to find it. Once you join the group, you will get event notifications like the newest event, the 2010 Friendship Tournament which will be held on February 21 at the Bel Aire Rec Center. Members can also post demo information on the group's wall, so check back often to see if there's anything new. Many members found out about the recent "Take a Kick at Hunger in Haiti" through the Facebook page.

If you don't own a computer, you can always get free internet service at the Wichita Public Library. You can also pick up a printed copy of the newsletter and KABBA meeting minutes when you come to black belt class. No matter your level of computer knowledge, there are several ways to stay informed.

News from the Dojangs

Derby Branch – Master Jim Hartness

News From Derby Branch:

On January 26th myself, Master De Cou, Gerald and Jean Richardson and Brendan Kimble took the day and spent it at the Derby Middle School. We taught six 40 minute gym classes consisting of 7th and 8th graders. The smallest class had 17 students and the largest had 35 students. We showed them up to 10 basic self defense moves and had them practice each for a few minutes then showed some basic kicks to them and let them all break boards. While each class started out with the kids fairly shy and quiet /*by the end of each they all had some really loud/strong kihaps! We offered any student 1 free week of Taekwondo if they came to the Dojang and mentioned their teacher's name, Hopefully Kim's Academy will grow!

Kamsahamnida
Master Jim Hartness

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