



# SOMERSET RYU KARATE



サマセット金龍空手道



# Club Welcome Pack

# Introduction

A warm welcome to **Somerset Ryū Karate!** For more than eleven years, the club has strived to deliver high quality, authentic, Japanese Shotokan Karate classes to people of all ages and abilities in West Somerset. Karate is an incredibly rewarding activity, with heavy emphasis on positive mental health and wellbeing, discipline, self defence and all-round fitness. There is huge potential for personal growth and achievement as our students work through their grades.

There are multiple training times offered throughout the week from our full-time and fully equipped dōjō in Tonedale; in addition, regular courses and gradings are held throughout the year with some of the finest instructors from England and Japan. This document will outline everything you need to know before joining the club, and highlight some of the features and opportunities available to members.

## Membership Options

There are three membership options available, paid on a monthly basis by Standing Order:

### Entry Tier: £29

- Allows up to four lessons per month

### Standard Tier: £39

- Eight lessons per month; recommended for progress
- Unlocks access to specialised weekly classes

### Premium Tier: £49

- *Unlimited* training throughout the month
- Trade discounts on uniforms and equipment
- 1/3 reduced rate when booking private lessons

Fees are payable in advance on the **1st of each month.**

Please set up a Standing Order using the details below:

Account Name: **Somerset Ryū Karate**

Account Number: **20929327**

Sort Code: **09-01-29**



*Bradley Ford performs oi-tsuki*

Frequent extra classes over the selected membership allocation will be billed at **£7.50** per class.

# Affiliations & Licensing

Our club is affiliated to JKS England, and the Worldwide Headquarters of the renowned Japan Karate Shoto Federation in Tokyo. This also provides membership with the English Karate Federation, the National Governing Body for UK Karate, and the World Karate Federation (WKF).

New students must apply for an association licence and grading record within their first full month of training by visiting [www.jksengland.com/members](http://www.jksengland.com/members) and following the instructional video. This is priced at **£26.00** for the first year, reducing to **£20.00** per annum thereafter; essential member to member insurance cover is included.

# Student Registration Form

Please visit the member's area of our website at [www.somerset-ryu.com/members](http://www.somerset-ryu.com/members) to complete an online New Student registration form. This provides the club with your address, emergency contact details, background to any relevant medical history, and to give or deny permission for a student to participate in class photography and video, used solely for promotional purposes.

Your personal information is stored securely in digital format while you remain a member; all records are completely erased should you decide to leave the club.

# Location

All of our classes are held at a uniquely atmospheric full-time dōjō, situated inside the historic Tonedale Mill in Wellington. Built in the late 18th Century, the building was once the largest textile mill in South West England, now Grade II\* listed to protect its heritage. We are situated on the first floor of the Bell Tower, next to Brazier Coffee Roasters, with ample car parking on site.

## Address:

First Floor, Bell Tower,  
Tonedale Mill,  
Wellington,  
Somerset TA21 0AW



*Historic... The old section of Tonedale Mill*

# Training Times

New students (7+) with no prior experience can begin training in any *All Grades* class.

## Tuesday

6pm: All Grades (age 7+)

7pm: Black & Brown Belts (age 10+)

## Wednesday

5:15pm: Little Dragons (age 4+)

6pm: All Grades (age 7+)

## Thursday

10am: All Grades (age 16+)

6pm: Kumite Development (age 7+) \*

7pm: Kata Development (age 10+) \*

## Friday

5:15pm: Little Dragons (age 4+)

6pm: All Grades (age 7+)

## Saturday

4pm: All Grades (age 7+)

5pm: Black & Brown Belts (age 10+)



*Takuya Makita Sensei visits from Japan*

\* *Specialised classes available to Standard and Premium Tier members only.*

# Grading Examinations

JKS England *kyu* gradings are held at our dōjō three times per year at regular intervals. On most occasions, a senior JKS instructor is invited to teach a special class and conduct the examination. Little Dragons (ages 4-6) have their own tailored syllabus, and grade with the club instructor on a separate date. Prices are as follows:

**JKS Grading (7yrs+):** £30.00

**Little Dragons Examination (4-6yrs):** £15.00

The above cost includes a new belt and grading certificate. Students will be entered for the examination once they have reached the required standard through regular training.

## Little Dragons

Our Little Dragons classes for 4-7 year olds provide our youngest members with a gentle introduction to the world of karate. The focus is on fun, all while covering some basic elements of regular training. There are incentives to promote good behaviour and listening skills, including the opportunity for the most improved student each week to take home the Little Dragons mascot, Sensei Bear 熊先生.

Little Dragons are encouraged to move up to our Junior classes at age 7, although factors such as confidence and discipline are taken into account for each individual.



*Luca is rewarded with Sensei Bear*

## Private Lessons

Private one-to-one tuition is available on request; this provides an opportunity for accelerated learning to advance any aspect of your karate, or help prepare for a grading examination. Prices start from **£30.00** per hour, with discounts available for Premium Tier members.

Contact the club instructor for more information or to make a booking.

## Tournament Karate

Specialised classes are available to *Standard* and *Premium Tier* members every Thursday evening, focusing on the development of *kumite* (sparring) and *kata* (forms). Somerset Ryū students have the opportunity to take part in regional and national level competition once they have reached the appropriate standard; there's even a pathway for our most talented competitors to represent JKS England at UK and International events by earning selection on to the association squad each year.

World Karate Federation approved protective competition equipment can be purchased from the club shop.



*Thea Priest engaged in a kumite match*

# Website, Social Media & Newsletter

Please visit our website at [www.somerset-ryu.com](http://www.somerset-ryu.com)

Our Facebook page can be found at [www.facebook.com/SomersetRyu](https://www.facebook.com/SomersetRyu). Click on the “like” and “subscribe” buttons to follow the latest club news.

We have an interactive WhatsApp notice board for relaying club messages; look for the relevant section when filling out the online Registration Form to add your number to the group.

Finally, a club newsletter is distributed to all members most weekends. Please ensure you provide up-to-date email address in order to subscribe to the mailing list.

## Uniforms & Merchandise

You can purchase club tracksuit tops and SRK branded clothing in a range of colours direct from our supplier here: <https://macronstoresw.com/clubs/somerset-ryu-karate>

For regular training, the dōjō shop stocks everything our members need at a reasonable cost:

- Good quality entry level student karate suits from Cimac
- Sparring gloves; foot & shin protectors
- High end Kata & Kumite suits from Tōkaido
- Contactless card payments are accepted

## Contact Information

**Chief Instructor:** Peter Milne, 4th Dan JKS  
Email Address: [somersetryu@gmail.com](mailto:somersetryu@gmail.com)  
WhatsApp: 07584 575914

**Welfare Officer:** Alison Thompson  
Email Address: [alisonthompson403@gmail.com](mailto:alisonthompson403@gmail.com)

**JKS Licencing:** Wendy Campbell  
Email Address: [admin@jksengland.com](mailto:admin@jksengland.com)



*Sean Cooper is presented with his Shodan diploma*