

# **Statutes of the World Shorinji Kempo Organization**

## **Preamble**

Doshin So, the founder of Shorinji Kempo, witnessed many instances of unashamed behavior of people under the extreme situation, namely war, when people lose their conscience as human beings. He strongly felt that the significant differences in the rule of law, military affairs and politics were made by the people participating in such affairs and greatly depended on their character and way of thinking. Giving his thoughts words, he said, “The person, the person, the person! Everything depends on the quality of the person.” Doshin So realized that if the course of human events depends entirely upon the actions of “the person” in society, then in order to establish the peace that we all long for, the only way is to nurture as many individuals as possible with a strong sense of mercy, courage and justice. Thus, he determined to nurture young people.

Doshin So founded Shorinji Kempo in 1947 in Japan as a method of asceticism to nurture people.

The basic principle of Shorinji Kempo is to build wholesome societies by nurturing as many people as possible who can act while wishing for other people’s happiness in equal proportion to their own.

As for the organizations of Shorinji Kempo, its federations and branches have been established in various countries around the world, including within Japan, since its first branch abroad was established in Indonesia in 1966.

It organized the International Shorinji Kempo Federation (ISKF) in 1972 for the purpose of unifying those Shorinji Kempo organizations established in various countries around the world. Subsequently, the ISKF was incorporated into a new organization, the World Shorinji Kempo Organization (WSKO: hereinafter referred to as “the Organization”) in 1974.

In May 1980, Yuuki So (Shorinji Kempo Shike, Doshin So II) assumed the office of President of the WSKO and has continued up to the present after the passing away of Doshin So, the founder of Shorinji Kempo.

The Organization’s major premise is to correctly inherit and develop the basic principles of the crusade toward “realizing an ideal world by nurturing people” that started from the resolution of the founder Doshin So, namely, the Prosperity Crusade. The purpose of the Organization shall be to spread worldwide and protect the teachings and arts of Shorinji Kempo and promote friendly relationships among those countries participating in the Organization without regard to race, religion or political preference, thereby contributing toward peace in the world.

The members of the Organization shall cooperate together to manage the Organization without disobeying its basic principles as well as paying maximum respect to the philosophy of Shike who is the successor to the philosophical traditions of Shorinji Kempo.

## **Chapter I    General Rules**

### **[Name]**

**Article 1**    The Organization shall be called the World Shorinji Kempo Organization and shall be abbreviated as WSKO.

### **[Purpose]**

**Article 2** 1. The purpose of the Organization shall be to spread worldwide and protect the teachings and arts of Shorinji Kempo initially created by Doshin So and promote friendly relationships among those countries participating in the Organization without regard to race, religion or political preference, thereby contributing to peace in the world.

2. Without obtaining approval of the Organization, nobody shall be allowed to establish a branch, use the name of "Shorinji Kempo" or other names, symbol, and logo, stipulated by the Organization, that is similar thereto, in any form, or to set up a place for practicing or teaching Shorinji Kempo to other persons.

### **[Activities]**

#### **Article 3.**

1. The Organization shall engage in the following activities in order to achieve the purpose set forth in the preceding Article.
  - (1) Promote the establishment and approval of branches as well as a federation in each country which have as their goals the popularization of Shorinji Kempo and fostering of Shorinji Kempo Kenshi.
  - (2) Holding and giving support to Shorinji Kempo Taikai and Embu Demonstrations.
  - (3) Holding and giving support to training seminars, study sessions, lectures, training camps, and the like aimed at fostering Shorinji Kempo Kenshi.
  - (4) Developing qualified instructors to teach Shorinji Kempo.
  - (5) Activities to protect qualifications established by Shorinji Kempo Shike.
  - (6) Providing information including publishing videos, CDs, books and other promotional materials concerning Shorinji Kempo.
  - (7) Activities conducive to peace in the world.
  - (8) Other activities necessary to achieve the purpose set forth in the preceding Article.

### **[Secretariat]**

**Article 4.** 1 The secretariat of the Organization shall be located at the address of 3-1, Hondori, Tadotsu-cho, Nakatado-gun, Kagawa Prefecture, Japan.

2 The Organization shall have the right to establish a subordinate office under the control of the Secretariat through a resolution of the Board of Directors.

## **Chapter II The Shorinji Kempo Shike**

### **[Position and Role of the Shorinji Kempo Shike]**

- Article 5.** 1 The Shorinji Kempo Shike (hereinafter referred to as the “Shike”) provides the leading spiritual support for all the Kenshi who practice Shorinji Kempo and the Shike shall be the supreme advisor regarding the philosophy and arts of Shorinji Kempo as well as operations of the Organization, while the person in this position shall succeed to the philosophical tradition of the Kaiso (founder) of Shorinji Kempo.
- 2 The Shike shall authenticate, including, but not limited to, granting and divesting of any and all qualifications concerning Shorinji Kempo to/from any and all members of the Organization.

## **Chapter III Membership**

### **[Membership]**

**Article 6** The Organization shall consist of group members (which are subdivided into regular group members and associate group members) and individual members.

- (1) Group members shall mean the following.
- a) A regular group member shall mean a federation in each country, with its establishment approved by the chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Organization (hereinafter referred to as “the Board Chairperson”) based on the resolution of the Board of Directors.
  - b) An associate group member shall mean a branch in each country, with its establishment approved by the Board Chairperson.
- (2) Individual members shall mean the following.
- a) An ordinary member is an individual who shall belong to a branch as set forth in Article 6, Item (1), sub-item b) above and whose admission to the Organization for the purpose of practicing Shorinji Kempo is approved by the Board Chairperson.
  - b) A special member is an individual who shall support operations of the Organization and whose special membership is recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the Board Chairperson.
  - c) An honorary member is an individual who shall understand the objectives of the Organization and whose honorary membership is recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the Board Chairperson.

### **[Forfeiture of Membership]**

**Article 7** The members of the Organization shall forfeit their membership for the following reasons.

- (1) Regular Group Members and Associate Group Members  
When a federation or branch is dissolved.
- (2) Individual members
- a) When a member leaves the Organization
  - b) When a member has passed away.
  - c) When a member is removed from the roll of membership of the

## Organization

### **[Withdrawal from Membership]**

**Article 8** A member (both individual and group) desiring to withdraw from the Organization shall submit a notice of withdrawal stating the reason and obtain the approval of the Board Chairperson.

## **Chapter IV Rights and Obligations of Members**

### **[Rights of Members]**

**Article 9** Members of the Organization shall have the following rights.

- (1) Each group member shall select one representative who may attend General Meetings of the Organization thus: A country that is a regular group member shall select such a representative from among the members of its federation and a country that is an associate group member shall select such a representative from among the members of its branches.
- (2) A group member shall have the right to express his/her views at General Meetings and the right to participate in the election as stipulated in Item 4 of Article 25.
- (3) To follow necessary procedures to attend a variety of events hosted by Shorinji Kempo-related organizations and by the Organization.
- (4) To use various facilities under the control of various organizations of Shorinji Kempo through the completion of the designated procedures.
- (5) To request the Organization for lecturers, instructors, examiners for grading, and other necessary personnel.

### **[Obligations of Members]**

**Article 10** Members belonging to the Organization shall have the following obligations:

- (1) To abide by these Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations, and a variety of instructions issued by the Organization, and to pay membership fees and other necessary charges, as separately provided for.
- (2) A regular or associate group member shall submit an annual report to the Organization to report the makeup of its membership and other necessary matters in accordance with provisions as separately stipulated.
- (3) To support in the achievement of the purpose and the activities of the Organization, while maintaining the honor of the Organization and his/her dignity as a member of the Organization.

## **Chapter V Board of Directors**

### **[Makeup and Duties]**

**Article 11. 1** The Board of Directors shall be the supreme resolutionary organ of the Organization and shall consist of the President of the Organization and directors.

- 2 The Board of Directors shall be responsible for formulating and implementing business plans and budgets of the Organization.

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**[Chairperson]**

**Article 12** The person who shall chair the Board of Directors shall be the Board Chairperson.

**[Convocation of the Board of Directors]**

**Article 13** Any and all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be convened by the Board Chairperson, as necessary.

**[Quorum and Resolution]**

**Article 14. 1** The quorum for the Board of Directors shall be constituted by the majority of directors and the agenda items shall be resolved by a majority vote of directors present when such a quorum is present.

2 A director exercising his/her voting right by proxy approved by the Board of Directors shall be deemed to have attended the Board of Directors' Meeting.

3 In the case that voting on an item is equally divided, the Board Chairperson shall have the deciding vote after consulting with the President of the Organization.

**Article 15** In the event that the Board of Directors Meeting can not be held but a resolution by the directors is required, the Board Chairperson may resolve the matter through the postal votes cast by the directors.

**Chapter VI Council**

**[Makeup and Duties]**

**Article 16** The Council shall consist of the President of the Organization, the Board Chairperson, and councilors, deliberate over the matters requested by the President of the Organization and the Board Chairperson and give recommendations to the President of the Organization and the Board Chairperson.

**[Chairperson]**

**Article 17. 1** The Chairperson of the Council shall be elected by mutual votes of councilors and shall be appointed by the President of the Organization.

2 The Chairperson of the Council shall maintain his/her tenure until the term of his/her current office expires.

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**[Convocation of the Council]**

**Article 18** Any and all meetings of the Council shall be approved by the Board Chairperson and convened by the Chairperson of the Council.

**Chapter VII General Meeting**

**[Status]**

**Article 19** The General Meeting shall be the place of communication among the President of the Organization, the Board of Directors and each member and between members, and where each member can express his/her opinions, shall facilitate the operation of the Organization, and shall assist and support

the President of the Organization in the performance of his/her duties.

**[Structure and duties]**

- Article 20.** 1 The General Meeting shall consist of the President of the Organization, the Board Chairperson, directors, and one representative from each of group members selected according to Item 1 of Article 9 (associate group members in the case of countries not regular group members).
- 2 The above representative shall be elected by each country and appointed by the President of the Organization.
- 3 The term of office of a representative shall be four (4) years from the day of appointment to the day before expiration and a representative may be reelected. The term of office of a representative so appointed to fill a vacancy shall be the remaining term of office of his/her predecessor.
- 4 At General Meetings, a representative shall have the right to express his/her views on courses of action, operational plans and statements of accounts during those four (4) years.

**[Regular General Meeting]**

- Article 21.** 1 A regular General Meeting shall be convened once every four (4) years by the Board Chairperson.
- 2 Notification of the details on the date, place and agenda of convocation shall be made by the Board Chairperson.
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**[Extraordinary General Meeting]**

- Article 22** The Board Chairperson may convene an Extraordinary General Meeting in accordance with the request of representatives of each country and opinions of the Board of Directors.

**[Notice of Convocation]**

- Article 23.** 1 A notice of convocation involving the above Article shall be given to representatives not later than six (6) months before the date of convocation of the General Meeting.
- 2 Representatives may submit their proposals before the General Meeting by notifying the secretariat of opinions of members of their country not later than four (4) months before the date of convocation of the General Meeting.
- 3 In case the above proposals have been brought before the General Meeting, the Board Chairperson shall decide on the agenda items of the General Meeting through the resolution of the Board of Directors and the Secretariat shall notify representatives of the contents of agenda items not later than two (2) months before the date of convocation of the General Meeting.
- 4 Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding Items from 1 through 3, the Board Chairperson may convene the Extraordinary General Meeting by shortening the above period under the approval of the Board of Directors.
- 5 A representative who cannot attend the General Meeting may express

his/her opinion on the agenda items mentioned in Item 3 of this Article at the General Meeting by submitting a written opinion of the members from his/her country to the Board of Directors not later than ten (10) days before the date of convocation of the General Meeting.

**[Chairperson]**

**Article 24** The Board Chairperson shall act as Chairperson of the General Meeting. However, he/she may appoint the Chairperson of the General Meeting from among the members of the General Meeting when he/she deems it necessary.

**Chapter VIII Officers**

**[Officers]**

**Article 25** The Organization shall have the following officers.

- (1) President of the WSKO: The position of the President of the Organization shall be served by the Shorinji Kempo Shike.
- (2) Board Chairperson: Directors will jointly elect the Board Chairperson from among its members and the Board Chairperson shall be appointed by the President of the Organization.
- (3) Members of the Board of Directors: The number of directors shall not be more than seven (7) and the directors shall be appointed by the President of the Organization after considering the opinions of councilors.
- (4) Councilors: The number of councilors shall be not more than ten (10), from among whom the President of the Organization shall designate three (3), appoint another four (4) who are elected at the General Meeting and appoint the remaining three (3) or fewer through the resolution of the Board of Directors. Selection of the above four (4) councilors at the General Meeting shall be resolved by a majority vote of those in attendance.
- (5) Secretary-General of the WSKO Secretariat: One (1) Secretary-General of the WSKO Secretariat may be appointed from among the directors by the President of the Organization.
- (6) Treasurer: One (1) treasurer shall be appointed by the President of the Organization.
- (7) Auditors: Two auditors shall be appointed by the President of the Organization.
- (8) The President shall have the right to dismiss directors and other officers after considering the opinions of the Board of Directors and the Council.

**[Duties of Officers]**

**Article 26** The duties of officers of the Organization shall be as follows:

- (1) President of the WSKO: The President of the Organization shall bear responsibility for the appointment of officers of the Organization and other duties. In the event of any emergency, the President can take the necessary measures to resolve the situation after consulting with directors.
- (2) Board Chairperson: The Board Chairperson shall be responsible for managing all

operations of the Organization.

- (3) Directors: Directors as members of the Board of Directors shall be responsible for resolutions and implementation of business affairs of the Organization.
- (4) Secretary-General: The Secretary-General shall carry out the affairs of the Organization under the Board Chairperson.
- (5) Treasurer: The treasurer shall be responsible for the financial administration of the Organization and carry out the necessary accounting tasks. The Secretary-General may hold the office of Treasurer concurrently.
- (6) Councilors: Councilors as members of the Council shall respond to the requests of the President of the Organization and the Board Chairperson, deliberate over affairs of the Council and give recommendations to the President of the Organization and the Board Chairperson.
- (7) Auditors: Auditors shall be responsible for examining the Organization's accounts and its financial administration to ensure that they are operated in an appropriate manner.

#### **[Term of Office]**

- Article 27.** 1 The term of office of the Board Chairperson shall be four (4) years from the day of appointment to the day before expiration and reelection to the same position is allowed.
- 2 The term of office of the director shall be four (4) years from the day of appointment to the day before expiration and reelection to the same position is allowed.
- 3 The term of office of either the Secretary-General of the WSKO Secretariat, a treasurer, a councilor, or an auditor shall be four (4) years from the day of appointment to the day before expiration and reelection to the same position is allowed. The term of office of any such officer who is appointed as a vacancy occurs shall be the rest of the period of the term yet to be served by his/her predecessor.
- 4 An officer, even if his/her term of office has expired, shall continue to perform his/her duties until his/her successor takes over his/her post.

#### **[Special Committee]**

- Article 28.** 1 The Organization shall have the right to establish a Special Committee as well as its Committee Members.
- 2 The President of the Organization shall appoint Special Committee Members through the resolution of the Board of Directors.
- 3 The Special Committee Members shall draw up plans regarding special matters, research and discuss them and implement them.
- 4 The Board Chairperson shall define the necessary articles regarding the Special Committee Members and the Special Committee separately.

#### **[Makeup of the Secretariat]**

- Article 29.** 1 The Organization shall establish the Secretariat under the Board Chairperson to process the clerical work of the Organization.
- 2 The head of the Secretariat shall be the Secretary-General and other necessary personnel shall be appointed for the Secretariat.
- 3 The Board Chairperson shall be responsible for appointing and dismissing the personnel.
- 4 The personnel shall be remunerated for their services.
- 5 The Board Chairperson shall define the necessary articles regarding the organization and operation of the Secretariat separately after consulting with the Secretary-General.

## **Chapter IX Official Language**

### **[Official Language]**

- Article 30.** 1 The official languages of the Organization shall be Japanese and English
- 2 In case of difference in interpretation of Japanese and English, the Japanese version shall prevail.

## **Chapter X Applicable Law**

### **[Applicable Law]**

- Article 31.** 1 These Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations, and a variety of instructions issued by the Organization shall be governed by the laws of Japan.
2. Any doubt, dispute or other issue arising between the Organization and its members out of these Statutes, regulations, other rules, and a variety of teachings issued by the Organization shall, unless amicably resolved by the parties concerned, be settled by Tokyo District Court in Japan as the original jurisdiction.

## **Chapter XI Accounting and Finance**

### **[Fiscal Year]**

- Article 32** The fiscal year of the Organization shall be from April 1 of each year to March 31 of the following year.

### **[Income]**

- Article 33** Income of the Organization shall be as follows:
- (1) Admission fees
  - (2) Federation and Branch membership fees
  - (3) Grading examination fees
  - (4) Subsidies and donations
  - (5) Others

## **Chapter XII Revision of Statutes and Dissolution**

### **[Revision of Statutes]**

- Article 34** Any revision of these Statutes shall be subject to opinions invited at the General Meeting and the approval of not less than two-thirds of the incumbent directors at the meeting of the Board of Directors. Then, the approved resolution shall be submitted to the President of the Organization,

who shall recommend it to the Shike for approval.

**[Dissolution]**

**Article 35** The Organization shall be dissolved subject to opinions invited at the General Meeting and subsequent deliberation of the Council, followed by the unanimous approval of all the directors present at the Board of Directors' Meeting. Then, the approved resolution shall be submitted to the President of the Organization, who shall recommend it to the Shike for approval.

**[Disposition of Remaining Assets]**

**Article 36** The disposal of any assets which remain from the dissolution of the Organization shall be absorbed by other organizations associated with Shorinji Kempo subject to the decision made by the Board of Directors.

**Chapter XIII Disciplinary Measures**

**[Rules on Punitive Measures]**

**Article 37** Group members and ordinary members who fail to take necessary procedures as stipulated by the Organization, shall be disqualified from promotion in grades and participation in lectures, events such as Taikai, and the like.

In case the above-mentioned necessary procedures have not been taken despite repeated requests, Article 39 shall apply.

**[Punitive Measures]**

**Article 38. 1** If any of the following Items (1), (2) or (3) is applicable to any member of the Organization, the Board Chairperson shall notify the relevant member to cease his/her activities temporarily under the approval of the Board of Directors and shall provide him/her with an opportunity to defend him/herself by designating such not later than 90 days after that notification.

The Board Chairperson may take necessary actions toward the relevant member, such as disciplinary measures, suspension, dismissal from his/her position, removal of his/her name from the membership roll, and dissolution (of a group member) based on the resolution of the Board of Directors. The Board Chairperson may also submit his/her recommendation to the Shike about how to treat such a member, including the demotion or withdrawal of his/her status in the Shorinji Kempo qualification system after being examined by the Board of Directors.

- (1) When a member's behavior is deemed as violating these Statutes, Regulations, other rules, and/or a variety of instructions issued by the Organization;
- (2) When a member's words and deeds are deemed as violating the objective and creed of the Organization and/or as detrimental to the achievement of the objectives of the Organization; and/or
- (3) When a member is subject to criminal punishment due to a breach of laws and ordinances of the relevant country and is deemed as such that

his/her continued position or membership with the Organization may bring dishonor upon the Organization.

- 2 The remaining assets which may arise from the dissolution of any group member shall be merged into the Organization, providing that if there is any legal restriction on such a disposal of the assets of the group member that is determined to be disbanded, the Board of Directors shall be authorized to determine how to dispose of the assets, which shall also consider the prevailing laws or regulations in the country concerned.

#### **[Enforcement of Punitive Measures]**

- Article 39.** 1 The provisions for punitive treatments as described under the Article hereof above shall be implemented subject to the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Organization, providing that the dismissal of any member from his/her position and the removal of any member from the membership roll shall require two-thirds or more of votes for such a treatment cast by members of the Board of Directors.
- 2 Demotion, disqualification or any other severe treatment in the Shorinji Kempo qualification system due to any measure taken under the Article above shall be approved by the President and decided on by the Shike after being examined by the Board of Directors.

#### **Chapter XIV Bylaws and Regulations**

##### **[Bylaws and Regulations]**

- Article 40** The bylaws necessary for implementation of these statutes shall be decided by the Board Chairperson through the resolution of the Board of Directors. Regulations necessary for implementation of each Bylaw shall be provided for separately by the Board Chairperson.

#### **Additional Clause**

These revised Statutes shall take effect from July 1, 2003.

These revised Statutes were approved by the Board of Directors and consent was obtained from the President based on the opinions in the General Meeting held in Paris on April 27, 2001 and shall take effect from April 1, 2002.

These revised Statutes shall take effect from July 1, 1998.

These Statutes shall take effect from April 1, 1990.