



Grandmaster Al Smith

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NEWSLETTER

January 2014

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

For weather related and other school closings, as well as other important information will be posted on Facebook. Don't miss out! -- Like us on Facebook (see contact information above).

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year to ALL of my students, parents, grandparents, and guardians! 2013 was a great year, with the help of all of you. I want to personally thank all of you for your unwavering support, even when things were complicated. A special thanks to you Instructors and Instructor Trainers for your dedication and hard work.

2013 afforded us to move the BH location to a new facility with much added space to include a full weight room, swimming pool, aerobic room, and a full Wellness Center. We have partnered with Lakeland Health Center to do pre-screening health checks for children and adults, and offer health classes in many areas (see attached flyer). It is mandatory that all students be pre-screened and participate in all health classes as well. I am so excited that we will not only be able to identify pre-diabetes, obesity, and other health related problems, but will be in a position to prevent and/ or treat and control many of these problems through training and education.

There will also be an open swimming schedule for all students, as soon as arrangements can be worked out with the swimming Director. Stay tuned for more information to be announced.

2014 will be a great year with many new additions to our programming. Will be starting two weapons classes: stick fighting and Samurai sword. Other weapons will be added during the year.

Our Wellness Program will kick the New Year off with two Health Classes, one hour each. There will be a Stroke and Pre-Diabetes classes in our new Wellness Room at the Charles Gray Building. These classes will all be taught by Lakeland Health Staff. I am asking all adults and children to help support these classes with your attendance. The first class will be held January 16th at 6pm.

We will also be increasing the number of tournaments we attend this year to include mini tournaments. In addition we will take a team to the State Olympics Trials, and hopefully beyond that!

Grandmaster Al Smith

New “Weapons” Program

- I. Stick classes will be held as part of each class
 - *Cost of stick
 - *Cost of course, add on fee
 - *Cost of headgear & equipmentRegistration is going on NOW
Classes to start in January
- II. Sword classes will begin at the end of January
 - *Registration is now
 - *See Grandmaster Smith for cost of course and equipment

NOTE: These weapons will be included in tournament competition, as well as rank implement.

NEW TUITION PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS & BILLING

Effective Immediately: Grandmaster Smith will do all billing. All accounts must be a debit or credit card – NO EXCEPTIONS. Cash payments have not been made on a timely basis. Some students have not signed their contracts.

Someone will contact each student to update accounts. Continue to pay Professor Young or Christine Kelemen as we transition to this new system.

Grandmaster Smith will continue to work with scholarship students, as needed.

Swimming

The pool will be open to all students and their parents at specific times to be announced. There is no extra cost to your program.

Promotional Testing and Belt Ceremonies for 2014

1. Next Testing: March 15th at 2pm at the Coloma Academy
Next Belt Ceremony: March 22nd at 1pm at the Benton Harbor Academy
2. Testing: June 7th at 2pm at Benton Harbor Academy (both schools)
Belt Ceremony: June 14th at 1pm at Coloma Academy
3. Testing: September 13th at 2pm at Benton Harbor Academy (both schools)
Belt Ceremony: September 20th at 1pm at Coloma Academy
4. Testing: December 13th at 2pm at Benton Harbor Academy (both schools)
Belt Ceremony: December 20th at 1pm at Coloma Academy
Christmas Party following Ceremony at 3pm

NOTE: any student not showing up for Belt Ceremony must wait 30 days to receive their rank and to start working on new material.

PROMOTIONAL TESTING INFORMATION

The promotional testing cycle is every three or four months. This places us more in line with Victory Taekwondo Chung Do Kwan Association (VTCDKA), of which R.E.A.D.Y. is a member.

All students who qualify will be tested.

Please make sure your name is on the Pre-Test sheet.

See Sr. Master Young or Mrs. Christine Kelemen for sign-up.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTIONAL TESTING

The following are requirements for belt testing:

- Pay for test fees before testing day
- The VTCDKA membership form must be completed and membership fee paid (white belts and any new students with previous rank)
- Turn in "Request to Promote" forms, report cards and/or progress reports

Please note: Students must have all of these requirements completed 24 hours before the test date or student will not be allowed to test.

SPARRING GEAR REQUIREMENT

Sparring equipment will be on sale at the academy. Students can purchase a set of equipment or just purchase each individual item. See Program Director for cost and ordering.

Tournaments 2014

Master Ahn Championship—Ann Arbor, MI
February 15th (President's Day weekend)

READY Tournament—Benton Harbor, MI
March 8th

*specific location to be announced

Shin Tournament—Lansing, MI
April and June 2014

Michigan State Olympics Championships
May 2014

*specific location to be announced

READY Annual Championship—Benton Harbor, MI
June 2014

*specific time and location to be announced

NOTE: other tournaments will be added as they are announced.

DOJANG ETIQUETTE

Expected Behavior

Behavior in the Dojang has improved but still needs work.

- Please, NO climbing on equipment.
- Students and parents waiting should show respect to those in class by using lowered voices when talking
- Students waiting for class should not run around or rough house, and be disruptive of the training in session
- When class is over, please remain seated OR go home

Students Coming Late for Class

Late arrivals will not be allowed to participate in class. This policy was implemented, effective May 15, 2013. Please be sure your student arrives in enough time to get ready for class and begin on time. Some exceptions have been approved by Grandmaster Smith.

School/ Academy Closings 2014

January 17-20th —*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday weekend*

February 14-17th —*Presidents Day weekend*

March 28- April 6th —*SPRING BREAK*

April 18- 20th —*Easter Holiday weekend*

May 23- 26th —*Memorial Day Holiday weekend*

July 4- 6th —*Independence Day/ 4th of July Holiday weekend*

August 29- September 1st —*Labor Day Holiday weekend*

November 27- 30th —*Thanksgiving Holiday weekend*

December 20- January 5th —*Winter Holiday Break*

Hours Of Operation

Benton Harbor Academy:

Monday 4-7pm

Tuesday 4-7:30pm

Wednesday 4-7pm

Thursday 4-7pm

Saturday 3:30-5pm

Coloma Academy:

Monday 6-8:45pm

Tuesday CLOSED

Wednesday 6-8:30pm

Thursday 6-8:30pm

Sunday 3-6:15pm