

# Black Belt Club

## Introduction

The Black Belt Club is a special program of Shire Martial Arts that's been designed to give the ultimate Martial Arts training experience to our most SERIOUS students who have the aim of earning a Black belt as a major goal in their life.

**First off, when you join the Black Belt Club you must set a goal of WHEN YOU WILL REACH BLACK BELT.**

Therefore candidates must calculate at what age they aim to be a black belt. As a rough guide, after Big Dolphins and entry into BBC it takes about three and half years to work through the Gups (Taekwondo colour belt ranks). For more information refer to the 'SMA Belts' page.

The Black Belt Club is also an inner circle of the school. Members of this prestigious program receive:

- **Special BBC lessons each month.** We are able to focus on different aspects of martial arts training that we don't have time to practice in normal classes such as Poomsae (patterns), advanced self defence and martial arts weapons training - and a whole lot more!
- **Leadership coaching.** BBC students will firstly be trained as role models. After that, BBC students with the right leadership attitude may also be eligible to be a part of our SMA Leadership Program.
- **A special BBC patch for your uniform.** BBC students are identified by the official BBC badge.
- **Eligibility to do the more advanced Tip tests.** Older students in the 'Junior Black Belt Program' have a different belt system and curriculum. BBC students who a) have **a minimum of 6 black attendance stripes** b) can pass the monthly Big Dolphin Tip Tests may then attempt the more advanced Taekwondo tip tests. If they can pass all of the advanced tip tests for a belt they can move up to the more advanced program belt system towards black belt. For more information refer to the 'SMA Belts' page.

The only way students can qualify for the Black Belt Club is by an instructor's recommendation which is based on the nominated student's effort, attitude, character and their willingness to set goals and be the best Martial Artist and person they can be.

Candidates must also have demonstrated an ability to follow the tenants of the Shire Martial Arts Student Creed and the SMA rules. **They must also pass a practical test.**

To qualify for the Black Belt Club, each student must:

- A) **Pass the BBC practical test** (Master Michelle will speak about this at your BBC conference)
- B) **Pass the qualification criteria below:**
  - Be at least an Orange/black stripe belt.
  - Have a good attendance record.
  - Possess a passion and desire to develop EXCELENT martial arts technique and skill.
  - A positive attitude towards others at training, at home and in everyday life.
  - To have shown active support at the school by helping out, being involved in our activities or by introducing new students.
  - A willingness to set new and definitive goals in their study of the martial arts by nominating at what age they intend to reach their black belt.

# Black Belt Club

Students who wish to qualify must also have consistently achieved good academic grades at school. In addition to this, they must present **good reports on conduct and attitude from parents and their teachers at school.**

The Black Belt Club is for further cultivating several key personal qualities in all of its members such as goal setting, leadership, confidence, self esteem, self reliance, self expression and team work.

Overall, the objective of the Black Belt Club is to help its members attain their personal best. As martial artists, emphasis is placed on skill and technique.

However, the main aim of the BBC is to develop personal skills so that its members are able to grow and thrive as well rounded individuals who are more than adequately equipped with the ability to cope with life's challenges.

## Qualified?

If you meet these qualifications and believe that you could both benefit and contribute to the objectives and obligations of the Black Belt Club this is what you need to do:

### 1) Download and print:

- A) Complete and return the BBC Check list form
- B) Complete and return the BBC Application form
- C) Study, practice and check to see if you know how to do everything in the BBC Test.

### 2) Write a letter to Master Michelle Moss that includes:

- A) A request for a BBC conference
- B) A list of the reasons WHY you would like to be a BBC member
- C) HOW you will benefit the rest of the BBC group.

### 3) Calculate at what age that you think you will reach black belt and write it on the application form.

### 4) Put everything in an envelope and hand them in at the desk.

Then, we will arrange a time for your BBC conference and test.