

# Black Belt Club

## Introduction

The Black Belt Club (BBC) 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.

It's designed for students who are self-motivated and who are also willing and able to put in some extra time and effort into their Martial Arts journey.

Therefore, BBC is not for everybody and that's okay. Students who are quite happy with their progress or who are unable to commit to the challenge of joining the BBC will continue on as normal by attending classes and working on passing their tip tests. This will *still* get students to black belt and beyond, just as it always has.

The BBC is a system where students can earn their black belt faster! As well as that BBC students are able to learn some extra Martial Arts techniques. There is no cost factor or charges involved with BBC, it's just about *training*. This is how it works.

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

Therefore candidates must calculate their age when they aim to be a black belt. As a rough guide, 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 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 and a coloured star to indicate stage 1, 2 and three of the BBC.

### **Achieve their 1st Dan Black belt sooner**

Most SMA students need to pass 4 Tip Tests per belt. BBC students only need to pass 3 Tip Tests per belt. This is *how* BBC members reach their 1st Dan Black belt faster!

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 Attendance**

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.

# Black Belt Club

To qualify for stage 1 of 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 8th Gup Yellow belt.
- Have a good attendance record.
- Demonstrate outstanding Taekwondo etiquette and manner
- 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.
- Have a willingness to set new and definitive goals in their study of the martial arts by nominating a date they intend to reach their black belt.

The Black Belt Club is for further cultivating several key personal qualities in all of it's members such as:

- Goal setting
- Leadership
- Confidence
- Self esteem
- Self reliance
- Self expression
- Team work.

Overall, the objective of the Black Belt Club is to help it's members attain their personal best. As Martial Artists, the emphasis is placed on skill and technique.

However, the *main* aim of the BBC is to develop personal skills so that it's 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) Down load and print:

- A) Complete and return the BBC Check list form by the due date
- B) Complete and return the BBC Application form by the due date
- 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 by the due date 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 by the due date.

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