Constitution and Bylaws

of

The United Fighting Arts FederationTM (UFAF)



Copyright © 2010-2022 by The United Fighting Arts Federation

Constitution

PREAMBLE (including Mission Statement)	1
ARTICLE I. Objectives of the United Fighting Arts Federation for the Chuck Norris System Section 1. Martial Arts Instruction Section 2. Advancement in the Chuck Norris System Section 3. Professional Development	2
ARTICLE II. Creed of the United Fighting Arts Federation.	3
ARTICLE III. Code of Conduct of the United Fighting Arts Federation	4
ARTICLE IV. Personal Code of Ethics for Each Member	5
ARTICLE V. Protocol and Conduct	6
Bylaws	
ARTICLE I. UFAF Organizational Structure Section 1. UFAF Board of Directors Section 2. UFAF Board of Advisors (or UFAF Advisory Board)	7
ARTICLE II. Duties of UFAF Board of Directors Officers and Committees	9
ARTICLE III. Duties of UFAF Board of Advisors	11
ARTICLE IV. Duties of UFAF Regional Board Officers Section 1. Regional Chair Section 2. Regional Board	13
ARTICLE V. UFAF Communication Chain and Organizational Chart Section 1. UFAF Communication Chain Section 2. Organizational Chart	14
ARTICLE VI. Membership in UFAF (Individual) Section 1. Membership Eligibility Section 2. Membership Privileges and Benefits Section 3. Membership Fees Section 4. Black Belt Testing Eligibility Section 5. Readmittance After Membership Lapse Section 6. Conduct Section 7. Right of Refusal	15
ARTICLE VII. Membership in UFAF (School Charters) Section 1. School Charters Section 2. Charter Types Section 3. Term of Charter Section 4. Charter Type Criteria Section 5. Inter-school Recruiting Section 6. Freedom of School Choice Section 7. Conduct	17

 ${\it Constitution\ and\ Bylaws\ of\ the\ United\ Fighting\ Arts\ Federation\ -\ Copyright\ @\ 2010-2022,\ United\ Fighting\ Arts\ Federation\ Revision\ 05042022}$

Section 8. Requirements for Obtaining a School Charter	
Section 9. Requirements for Maintaining/Renewing a School Charter	
Section 10. Charter Compliance	
Section 11. Right of Refusal	
Section 12. Voiding of School Charters	
ADTICLE VIII Dependent Schools and Dependent/Apprentice Crossover Instructors	21
ARTICLE VIII. Dependent Schools and Dependent/Apprentice Crossover Instructors	21
Section 1. Dependent Schools	
Section 2. Privileges and Restrictions	
Section 3. UFAF Membership	
ARTICLE IX. Black Belt Rank and Protocol	22
Section 1. Black Belt Number Assignment	
Section 2. Rules of Rank Order	
Section 3. Rank Protocol	
Section 4. Official Chuck Norris System Rank Sequence	
ARTICLE X. Black Belt Testing	24
8	24
Section 1. Timing and Scope of Test Cycles	
Section 2. Standards	
Section 3. Administering and Conducting Tests	
Section 4. Testing Board	
Section 5. Pre-test	
Section 6. Membership Eligibility	
Section 7. Candidate Essays	
Section 8. Testing Fees	
Section 9. Testing Packet Delivery	
ARTICLE XI. Rank Promotion	27
Section 1. Minimum Time-in-Grade and Objective Requirements	
Section 2. Subjective Requirements	
ARTICLE XII. Non-UFAF Black Belts Requesting Membership in UFAF (Crossover Black Belts)	29
Section 1. Instructor Assignment	2)
Section 2. Crossover Process	
Section 3. Testing Order at Crossover Schools	
A DELIVEY DAY OF COMMENT OF COMME	2.1
ARTICLE XIII. Official Uniforms	31
Section 1. Black Belt Traditional Uniform	
Section 2. CNS Crossover Black Belt Traditional Uniform	
Section 3. Crossover Dependent School Owners	
Section 4. CNS Red Belt and Red Belt with Black Stripe Uniform	
Section 5. CNS Student Uniform	
Section 6. Member Dress Uniform	
ARTICLE XIV. Disciplinary Procedures	33
Section 1. Handling of Disciplinary Issues	
Section 2. Membership Termination	
Section 3. "Orphaned" Students	
ADTICLE VV Detification and Amendment	22
ARTICLE XV. Ratification and Amendment	33

Constitution for the Governance of

The United Fighting Arts FederationTM (UFAF)

In order to establish and provide a framework for personal and collective physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual development through martial arts training; the society of schools, instructors, and students of the Chuck Norris System, UFAF Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, UFAF Krav Maga Force, and other UFAF-affiliated systems and styles, does hereby establish this Constitution for the Governance of The United Fighting Arts FederationTM.

The United Fighting Arts Federation (UFAF) is a membership organization for schools and individuals who train in its sponsored styles – The Chuck Norris System, UFAF Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, UFAF Krav Maga Force – together with affiliated schools and members of other systems and styles.

UFAF's Mission:

UFAF is dedicated to providing and facilitating high quality martial arts learning experiences and the development of high moral values, conduct, and ethics in the lives of each member.

Through the disciplined growth of its membership and the development of world class teaching ability and leadership within the martial arts training systems and styles it sponsors and affiliates with, UFAF seeks always to be an industry leader in bringing the benefits of martial arts training to the world.

Building on these principles, UFAF is committed to the business success of its member schools and to the enabling of these schools to provide the highest quality martial arts training experiences and character development opportunities to every member.

UFAF is committed to enriching and serving the communities in which it is represented through the positive individual and collective influence of its members.

ARTICLE I.

Objectives of the United Fighting Arts Federation for the Chuck Norris System

Section 1. Martial Arts Instruction

The United Fighting Arts Federation (UFAF) is dedicated to providing and facilitating quality martial arts instruction, leading to the most prestigious black belt ranking certifications in the martial arts world.

- A. UFAF will continue to innovate the Chuck Norris System upon its stylistic foundation to provide a continually improving, traditional and modern martial arts experience to its practitioners.
- B. UFAF will continually improve its instructional and evaluation methods and make these available through training to instructors and master instructors.
- C. All instructors in all UFAF-member Chuck Norris System schools will teach the same core stylistic principles as outlined by UFAF.
- D. Chuck Norris System black belt tests throughout UFAF will be standardized and use a consistent format and system for evaluation.
- E. The most complete and modern knowledge and methods available will be utilized by instructors to promote student development.
- F. Black belt diplomas accredited by UFAF will continue to be among the most prestigious and respected rank certifications in the martial arts world.

Section 2. Advancement of the Chuck Norris System

Through the disciplined, internal growth of its membership and the development of world class teaching ability and leadership within its ranks, UFAF seeks to make the Chuck Norris System one of the most recognizable and respected martial arts styles in the world.

- A. UFAF will seek to expand the ranks of its membership by promoting quality training and membership retention and providing constant learning opportunities for the growth and development of every individual member.
- B. UFAF will seek to bring parties interested in earning accredited rank in the Chuck Norris System into the organization, along with their students and schools.
- C. UFAF will seek representation in areas where it is not currently represented. It will do so consistent with its ability and resources to provide leadership and to support growth in each potential growth area.
- D. UFAF will provide access to ongoing instructor training to facilitate organization-wide uniformity in teaching, learning, and evaluation standards.
- E. UFAF will promote the development of leadership skills in its membership through training and organizational participation.

Section 3. Professional Development

UFAF is committed to assisting its member schools in providing a quality martial arts training experience to every student of the Chuck Norris System, and to enriching and serving the communities in which it is represented by cultivating high character in the lives of its members.

- A. UFAF will provide a positive business framework and interface between the organization and its member schools. Training and networking for business success will be provided and cultivated in UFAF's member-school culture.
- B. Chuck Norris System schools are encouraged to provide a consistent training experience to students throughout UFAF, with each school owner and instructor adding a personal influence and touch.
- C. UFAF aims to become synonymous with good, and to have a positive influence on the communities where it is represented.

ARTICLE II.

Values of the United Fighting Arts Federation

We believe that developing discipline, integrity, loyalty, and respect in the lives of our individual members, and in our organization as a body, propels individuals toward success in life, and has a positive influence on society at large.

- B. <u>Discipline</u> UFAF members foster and demonstrate discipline through accepting teaching; abiding by UFAF's high standards of conduct and quality training; accommodating the requirements of our various arts with exactness; setting and accomplishing goals; applying determination and persistence to overcome obstacles; and controlling our individual, basic emotions. We recognize that martial arts techniques are designed to neutralize threats to personal safety or the safety of others; martial arts discipline is the application of proper judgment in their use, consistent with legal statutes and high moral values.
- C. <u>Integrity</u> We believe in being sincere and honest in relationships and dealings with others, and in maintaining high moral principles in daily living.
- D. <u>Loyalty</u> We believe in being true to oneself, one's family and friends, one's country, and to God, and in faithfully supporting the United Fighting Arts Federation.
- E. <u>Respect</u> We believe in demonstrating the highest respect for ourselves, for all other people, and for our art. We hold in high regard the history and legacy of our organization and consider it an honor to belong.

ARTICLE III.

Code of Conduct of the United Fighting Arts Federation

- A. <u>Service</u> Give unselfishly of one's time and abilities in the service of others and encourage others to do the same.
- B. Respect Respect the ranking systems of our various arts and respect senior ranking members. Respect self, other students, and all human beings. Respect our arts by giving one's best efforts, and one's school by maintaining a clean and orderly place to train.
- C. <u>Honesty</u> Conduct personal life, family life, and business honestly and uprightly--without lying, cheating, or stealing.
- D. <u>Self-Improvement</u> Develop habits of lifelong learning and self-improvement and practice these principles in personal and family life.
- E. <u>Health</u> -Safeguard our skills and our lives by avoiding harmful practices such as smoking, drug abuse, and excessive use of alcohol.
- F. <u>Loyalty</u> Support the United Fighting Arts Federation, our arts, one's school, and fellow students in word and in deed.
- G. <u>Character</u> Reflect honor and respect on the martial arts and on the United Fighting Arts Federation by living a clean and upstanding life.
- H. <u>Control</u> Use discipline in controlling one's basic emotions such as anger and fear.² Respect others by learning and exercising control of techniques while training. Understand the effect one's actions have on others physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Courage Develop courage by confronting fears and influences that can cause physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual failure or defeat.
- J. <u>Sincerity</u> Demonstrate sincerity by carrying the values of the United Fighting Arts Federation into personal life.

ARTICLE IV.

Personal Code of Ethics for Each Member

I will develop myself to the maximum of my potential in all ways.

I will forget the mistakes of the past and press on to greater achievements.

I will always be in a positive frame of mind and convey this feeling to every person I meet.

I will continually work at developing love, happiness, and loyalty in my family and acknowledge that "no other success can compensate for failure in the home."

I will look and work for the good in all people and make them feel worthwhile.

If I have nothing good to say about a person, I will say nothing.

I will give so much time to the improvement of myself that I will have no time to criticize others.

I will always be as enthusiastic about the success of others as I am about my own.

I will maintain an attitude of open-mindedness toward another person's viewpoint while still holding fast to what I know to be true and honest.

I will maintain respect for those in authority and demonstrate this respect at all times.

I will always remain loyal to God, my country, my family, and my friends.

I will remain highly goal-oriented throughout my life because this positive attitude helps my family, my country, and myself.

ARTICLE V.

Protocol and Conduct

It is strongly suggested that each school have standards of individual and class protocol and conduct in the training area. Each school's standards may vary – including by art. Chuck Norris System schools, for example, could consider establishing the following conduct and protocol standards. Other arts should adapt to their particular needs, keeping as priorities honesty, respect, civility, safety, and cleanliness:

- A. Chuck Norris System schools are profanity-free, illegal drug-free, smoke-free, and alcohol-free.
- B. Instructors and students show respect for the training area, the CNS style, its founder, and their schools and instructors by bowing in and out of the training area and preserving the order of classes in session.
- C. Instructors should be addressed with respectful titles, including but not limited to: "Mr.," "Mrs.," "Ms.," or "Miss." Higher ranking black belts should always be shown respect with a collective bow when entering a school with a class in session.
- D. Complete safety equipment is required for any sparring or other forms of training where it is necessary to the safety of participants.
- E. All members should show respect for the ranking system by being attentive and never challenging someone of higher rank to fight or spar.
- F. Safety and cleanliness is very important in CNS schools. Jewelry, gum, food or drink, poor hygiene, untrimmed fingernails and toenails, and the like, may be safety hazards for oneself or others. Soiled, unkempt, or foul-smelling uniforms are an annoyance to everyone, and are disrespectful to wear, either in the school or at public events where one represents UFAF or one's school. Members should take pride in their school by helping to keep it clean, neat, and orderly.
- G. All members should stay current on financial obligations to their school.
- H. These standards of protocol and conduct are extended to include larger UFAF gatherings, such as the annual International Training Conference, black belt tests, multi-school or regional seminars, etc.

Bylaws

For the Governance of The Chuck Norris SystemTM Martial Arts System

by

The United Fighting Arts FederationTM (UFAF)

It is understood and agreed by all members of the United Fighting Arts Federation that the following bylaws are an integral part of the Constitution for the Governance of the Chuck Norris SystemTM by the United Fighting Arts FederationTM.

ARTICLE I.

UFAF Organizational Structure

Section 1. UFAF Board of Directors

As the governing body of the organization, the UFAF Board is responsible for organizational strategy and direction. It sets the tone of the organization for the membership, determines the technical standards for the Chuck Norris System martial arts style and for advancement through its ranks, serves as guardian of UFAF's values, and oversees organizational leadership and the management of organizational functions. At any given time, the UFAF Board of Directors may be composed of any or all of the following officers, not to exceed fifteen in number:

- A. Chairman
- B. Chief Executive Officer
- C. President
- D. Executive Vice-president
- E. Director, Operations and Development
- F. Director, Training and Advancement
- G. Administrative Director
- H. Director, Professional Development
- I. Director, Special Events
- J. Director, Competition Development
- K. Director, Regional Chairs
- L. Other Directors as appointed by the Chairman

The UFAF Board of Directors meets as needed throughout any given year. All members of the UFAF Board of Directors take active roles in the formation and execution of organizational policy. (See Bylaws ARTICLE II - Duties of UFAF Board of Directors Officers and Committees.)

Section 2. UFAF Board of Advisors (or UFAF Advisory Board)

The UFAF Advisory Board is a body of members with special administrative and/or advisory functions and responsibilities. These individuals provide information to the UFAF Board of Directors and operate and/or assist with the operation of various functions of the organization.

At any given time, the UFAF Board of Advisors may be composed of any or all of the following or similar positions/functions:

- A. Marketing
- B. Technology
- C. Member Services Administration
- D. Technical Development
- E. Communications
- F. Historian
- G. Competition
- H. Merchandising
- I. Foreign Language Liaisons
- J. Special Projects and Assignments
- K. Other positions/functions, as needed

UFAF Advisory Board members meet as needed, individually and/or collectively, with the UFAF Board of Directors. They perform the duties outlined in Bylaws ARTICLE III - Duties of UFAF Board of Advisors.

ARTICLE II.

Duties of UFAF Board of Directors Officers and Committees

- A. <u>Chairman of the UFAF Board of Directors</u> Term of office: life. The Chairman provides organizational vision and direction and oversees all functions and aspects of the organization. The Chairman appoints members to the UFAF Board of Directors, and shall have authority to appoint persons to, determine length of service for, and remove persons from any position in the organization at any time. Black belt ranks in the Chuck Norris System are certified by the Chairman.
- B. <u>Chief Executive Officer</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for implementation of organizational mission and vision, utilizing the UFAF Board of Directors and other UFAF leaders to accomplish this. The CEO authorizes all certifications and programs offered by UFAF to its membership, except black belt rank which is authorized by the Chairman. The CEO performs the duties of the Chairman in the Chairman's absence or at the Chairman's direction.
- C. <u>UFAF President</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. By appointment from the Chairman, the President presides at board meetings or appoints someone to preside. The President serves as chief adviser to the Chairman, to the Chief Executive Officer, and to the UFAF Board of Directors in making and executing UFAF policy. The President is responsible for execution of organizational mission and vision, utilizing other officers and leaders to accomplish this. The President performs the duties of the Chief Executive Officer in the CEO's absence or at the direction of the Chairman or CEO.
- D. <u>Executive Vice-President</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Executive Vice-President serves as adviser to the President. The President delegates specific executive authority and responsibilities to the Executive Vice-President. The Executive Vice-President performs the duties of the President in the President's absence or at the President's direction.
- E. <u>Director, Operations and Development</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Director of Operations and Development has responsibility for day-to-day operations and development efforts of the organization, including business management; finances; legal; communications; branding; marketing; technology; member services; school services; development, marketing, and sales of curriculums, certifications, programs, products, merchandise, etc.
- F. <u>Director, Training and Advancement</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. Under the direction of the Chairman, and working with the Executive Committee and the full board, the Director of Training and Advancement is responsible for the continual development, improvement, and standardization of the technical aspects of the Chuck Norris System, and establishes, unifies, and maintains the standards of UFAF's teaching, training, and testing methods and protocols, as well as the requirements and standards for advancement through the black belt ranks of the Chuck Norris System. Duties include directing the development and delivery of training and teaching curriculums and working with all levels of UFAF leadership to implement best teaching and training practices throughout UFAF.
- G. Administrative Director Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Administrative Director assists the Chairman, the Executive Committee, and the entire UFAF Board of Directors in administering the affairs of UFAF. The Administrative Director keeps minutes of board meetings and reports and tracks action items from said meetings for all members of the board. The Administrative Director shares responsibilities in many other board-related areas, such as special event staging, member services, operations, and monetary functions. The Administrative Director facilitates effective communication between board members and committees.
- H. Director, Professional Development Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the

Chairman. The Director of Professional Development is responsible for the development and delivery of best business practices and business systems that promote the success of UFAF-member schools. The Director of Professional Development interfaces directly with UFAF-member school owners to promote their individual and collective business success.

- I. <u>Director, Special Events</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Director of Special Events has primary responsibility for staging general UFAF events, such as the annual UFAF International Training Conference and CNS World Championships and other similar events wherever UFAF is represented.
- J. <u>Director, Competition Development</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Director of Competition Development has responsibility for the continual improvement and development of UFAF's overall tournament competition structure and culture including, but not limited to the annual *Chuck Norris System World Championships*. The Director of Competition Development also directs the activities of *Team Chuck Norris System*, UFAF's sponsored traveling competition team.
- K. <u>Director, Regional Chairs</u> Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. The Director of Regional Chairs interfaces directly with UFAF's regional chairs to promote standard, consistent, and constitutional leadership and administration practices throughout UFAF and to provide board assistance in the resolution of regional issues that may arise from time to time.
- L. Other Directors as required and directed by the Chairman Appointed by the Chairman. Term of office: determined by the Chairman. All directors report to the Chairman and the Executive Committee and are directly concerned with assigned areas of responsibility such as training, public relations, marketing technologies, special events coordination, organizational administration, etc., as determined by their specific appointment.
- M. <u>Executive Committee</u> The Executive Committee is composed of the Chairman, the Chief Executive Officer, and the President. The Executive Committee meets as needed to consider and/or decide matters that require more specialized attention than would be considered in a meeting of the full board.
- N. <u>Finance Committee</u> The Finance Committee is composed of the Chairman, the Chief Executive Officer, the President, the Director of Operations and Development, and the Administrative Director. The Finance Committee meets as needed to consider and/or decide financial matters that require more specialized attention than would be considered in a meeting of the full board.

ARTICLE III.

Duties of UFAF Board of Advisors

- A. <u>Marketing</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Marketing Advisor provides information and expertise to the board regarding marketing and branding issues, including organizational image, logo, and product design. This advisor also fulfills special assignments in the area of marketing.
- B. <u>Technology</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Technology Advisor provides information and expertise in the area of technology support, including website design and hosting, database design and implementation, and e-commerce solutions. Serves as a technology resource for the board, other advisory board members, regions, schools, and members.
- C. Member Services Administration Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Member Services Administrator maintains membership records for all UFAF members; communicates with regional chairs, school owners, and members regarding membership issues; and provides CNS instructors and member students with CNS membership materials. Recommends and participates in the formulation of membership policy. Monitors black belt testings to ensure membership eligibility requirements are met by testing candidates. Processes black belt tests and produces certification documentation for successful candidates. Participates in tracking payment for membership, event registration, black belt testing, and other activities.
- D. <u>Technical Development</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Technical Development Advisor serves as a resource to the Director of Training and Advancement in the technical development of the CNS system.
- E. <u>Communications</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Communications Advisor serves as UFAF's publications editor-in-chief and is responsible for most other organizational communication through E-mail and other means. Shares responsibility for building standardized terminology and nomenclature for organizational and stylistic issues and features.
- F. <u>Historian</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Historian collects and interprets artifacts of UFAF's history, including publications, articles and books about the organization, its founder and leadership, the CNS system, UFAF BJJ, UFAF Krav Maga, etc. Keeps record of events and important communications so that these things can serve as resources for determining future directions.
- G. <u>Competition</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Competition Advisor serves as a resource to the Director of Competition Development in the development and implementation of UFAF's competitive structure and efforts, both inside the organization, and outside it where UFAF is represented at competitive events.
- H. Merchandising Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. The Merchandising Advisor works with UFAF's branding and marketing specialists to develop and bring to market retail products of interest and value to the membership.
- I. <u>Foreign Language Liaisons</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. Foreign Language Liaisons serve as resources to the board in communicating with members whose primary culture and language is other than USA/English. This applies to communications, publications, events, etc.
- J. <u>Special Projects and Assignments</u> Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. Advisory Board members may be asked to take special assignments from time to time to explore directions,

gather information, implement programs, etc.

K. Other positions/functions, as needed - Appointed as needed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board.

ARTICLE IV.

Duties of UFAF Regional Board Officers

The activities of each UFAF region shall be overseen by a *regional chair* and a *regional board*. These activities include black belt testings, seminars, school charter applications, etc.

Section 1. Regional Chair

Appointed by the Board. Term of office: determined by the Board. In each UFAF region, the Regional Chair:

- A. Reflects the tone set by the board to the schools, instructors, and members of the region.
- B. Coordinates the operations of UFAF on a regional level.
- C. Protects the integrity of the CNS system in each region by implementing UFAF's standardized and constitutional black belt testing process and by ensuring that quality of instruction and training in the respective regions is consistent with UFAF standards.
- D. Conducts black belt testings and other regional events, unless a higher-ranking black belt from the UFAF Board of Directors attends and directs otherwise.
- E. Selects and qualifies members of the regional board.
- F. Is directly responsible for black belt test administration. (See Bylaws ARTICLE X Black Belt Testing.)
- G. Coordinates regular regional training events, with the assistance of the regional board, for the purpose of keeping techniques and philosophies unified and for the promotion of fellowship amongst CNS black belts and students.
- H. Communicates UFAF news, updates, and policies to region members.
- I. Functions as liaison between the UFAF Board of Directors and UFAF-member schools, their instructors, and students.
- J. Provides input, experience, and expertise to the UFAF Board during the formulation of general UFAF policies and procedures.
- K. Participates in the approval of new and existing school charters as outlined in these bylaws.

Section 2. Regional Board

Appointed and certified by the Regional Chair in each UFAF region, in accordance with qualification and certification policy outlined in this Constitution and Bylaws. Term of office: determined by the Regional Chair. Members of a regional board help coordinate the operations of UFAF on a regional level and ensure that quality of instruction and training in their region is consistent with UFAF standards. Black belt testings in each UFAF region are conducted by the regional board under the direct supervision of the regional chair. Regional board members participate in the approval process for new school charters as outlined in these bylaws and are involved in all regional training efforts as directed by the regional chair.

ARTICLE V.

UFAF Communication Chain

UFAF Communication Chain

A communication chain exists in the organization to facilitate the swift communication of important information and the resolution of problems that may arise from time to time. It is as follows:

- A. Individual Member (includes every member regardless of rank or position)
- B. School Owner
- C. Regional Board
- D. Regional Chair
- E. UFAF Office (including Member Services)
- F. UFAF Board of Directors
- G. Executive Vice-President
- H. President
- I. Chief Executive Officer
- J. Chairman

As a courtesy to everyone, members shall utilize and follow the communication chain outlined here whenever possible. Appeals to a higher authority are acceptable when resolution cannot be reached by following the prescribed order.

ARTICLE VI.

Membership in UFAF (Individual)

Section 1. Membership Eligibility

Individual practitioners of the art of the Chuck Norris System who are:

- UFAF-certified black belts,
- under-black-belt students training in a UFAF Chuck Norris System charter school,
- crossover black belts training in a UFAF Chuck Norris System charter school

Or

 Affiliates training in a UFAF Chuck Norris System charter school or continuing in their own course of study, are eligible to become members of the United Fighting Arts Federation.

Section 2. Membership Privileges and Benefits

Only current members may receive membership benefits at official UFAF functions such as the annual international training conference, seminars, and UFAF-sponsored tournaments, etc. Current membership is also required at black belt testings (for both testing candidates and testing board members) or to hold any general or regional UFAF office. Membership is also required for all other benefits such as promotional membership items, rank certificates, member communications, discounts, web-based member community access, etc.

Section 3. Membership Fees

Individual membership fees are utilized to pay the operational costs of the organization (office staff, operations, and supplies; membership services; black belt test certification; corporate taxes and fees; mailings; etc.), services (publications, website, curriculum development, events, etc.), and for other purposes deemed appropriate by the UFAF Board of Directors. In all its financial activities, UFAF shall exercise proper and acceptable accounting practices.

Section 4. Black Belt Testing Eligibility

Under-black-belt students are required to log a minimum of 30 complete months of membership AND be current members to be eligible to test for 1st degree black belt.

Crossover black belts are required to log a minimum of one complete year of membership time AND be current members before becoming eligible to test for black belt rank in the Chuck Norris System.

Black belts are required to log membership time equivalent to, or greater than, the minimum required time in grade for each rank AND be current members before becoming eligible to test for, or be promoted to, their next black belt rank.

Section 5. Readmittance After Membership Lapse

A member who has become inactive by allowing their UFAF membership to lapse without renewal may require the approval of that student's school owner/instructor (if an under-black-belt or crossover black belt student) or of the chair of the UFAF region in which they reside (if a black belt) to reactivate their membership in UFAF or to participate in other UFAF or CNS activities for which membership is a prerequisite.

Section 6. Conduct

Members shall make every effort to conduct themselves in accordance with UFAF's Creed, Code of Conduct, and Code of Ethics. Derogatory, inflammatory, or otherwise destructively negative remarks or gossip directed toward one's school or instructor, fellow members, one's UFAF region, or UFAF itself - public or private - are not consistent with UFAF's standards and may result in membership being revoked. Constructive suggestions for improvement, on the other hand, are welcomed.

Section 7. Right of Refusal

Any member of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee collectively, or the collective UFAF Board of Directors may refuse any application for membership, or revoke any current membership, for any reason at any time.

ARTICLE VII.

Membership in UFAF (CNS School Charters)

Section 1. School Charters

UFAF grants Chuck Norris System school charters to successful UFAF-member applicants. A *charter* is an authorization from UFAF to establish a UFAF-sanctioned Chuck Norris System training center or service, where the curriculum, standards, requirements, ethics, and instructional and business practices are consistent with UFAF's ethics and values and technical standards for the Chuck Norris System. A charter gives authority to its member/bearer to train and recommend candidates for UFAF-sanctioned black belt rank in the art of the Chuck Norris System, according to UFAF's policies and practices.

Section 2. Charter Types

Independent School Charters are granted to schools or services operated by at least one individual who is a qualified and chartered 2nd degree or higher CNS black belt.

Dependent School Charters are granted to schools or services operated by an unqualified member (i.e., one who lacks one or more of the qualifications to operate an independent school), under the supervision of a qualified and chartered instructor.

School charters (whether independent or dependent) are type-specific. Types of school charters include:

- Commercial School (includes group and private instruction)
- Non-commercial School (home-based, etc. includes group and private instruction)
- Satellite School (YMCA, health club program, public or private school program, corporate wellness, etc. Includes private instruction.)
- Online School (on-demand online curriculum and advancement program)
- Private Instruction
- Others, as needed

Depending on the area and circumstances, charters of different types may be:

- Exclusively held by a single individual
- Held in combination by a single individual
- Overlapping and held by different individuals
- Conditional and/or of shorter duration than up to four years

Agreement is required between the regional board and the regional chair to allow a new, overlapping, or combination charter application to be made to UFAF. Input from the charter-seeking member and competing charter-bearing members will be considered in the decision to allow the application.

Section 3. Term of Charter

Charters have up to a four-year life and are renewable under the conditions that exist at the time

of the renewal, as outlined in UFAF's bylaws. Charters that are renewed immediately upon expiration have first claim on the territory or population which they previously covered, subject to adjustment according to the conditions outlined in UFAF's bylaws.

Section 4. Charter Type Criteria

The types and numbers of charters that may be granted in a certain area is determined by:

- Overall population
- Population density
- Geography
- Type of service offered
- Service capacity of the potential charter location or service

For example: exclusive, commercial charters might be granted as follows, also considering all the aforementioned factors (example only):

- Urban: ca. 1-5 miles apart
- Suburban: ca. 5-10 miles apart
- Independent small city or town: exclusive rights
- Rural: ca. 10-15 or more miles apart

Each charter application is considered and granted by the UFAF board on a case-by-case basis, applying the aforementioned or similar guidelines with all due fairness and flexibility.

Section 5. Inter-school Recruiting

No UFAF school will overtly or covertly recruit students away from another UFAF school. Of course, there will sometimes be comparing and word-of-mouth "recruiting" among students, but no formal or informal recruiting effort will be sponsored or engaged in by any school toward the members of any other school. Any school that does not conduct itself consistently with this policy risks having its charter revoked.

Section 6. Freedom of School Choice

Members may attend the school of their choice, regardless of proximity or school boundaries. If a UFAF member wishes, of their own accord, to transfer from one UFAF school to another, the owner of the new school need only make sure that the member notifies the owner of the previous school of their decision and that all contractual obligations to the former school are in order. No harassment or questions are to be pressed upon the transferring student or black belt by either school. Derogatory, inflammatory, or otherwise negative remarks are not to be allowed by either school, their owners and other representatives, or the transferring student. Any school that does not conduct itself consistently with this policy risks having its charter revoked.

Section 7. Conduct

Derogatory, inflammatory, or otherwise negative press or remarks - public or private - are not to be allowed by any UFAF school, its owner(s), or other representatives toward any other UFAF school, its owner(s), or other representatives. Any school that does not conduct itself

consistently with this policy risks having its charter revoked.

Section 8. Requirements for Obtaining a School Charter Charter applicant must:

- A. Be an active UFAF member in good standing
- B. Be 18+ years of age, or legal age of state/province/country of residence
- C. Hold 2nd degree CNS black belt rank or higher
- D. Have liability insurance with UFAF listed as an additional insured
- E. Have one year teaching experience, certified by the applicant's instructor
- F. Have a computer and reliable internet/E-mail access
- G. Commit to 100% UFAF membership representation for all students and black belts in their school
- H. Certify in at least one UFAF Master Development Series course, either prior to a charter being granted or within one year of charter application date
- I. Commit to attend, certify, and progress through the UFAF Master Development Series courses at least every other year on average (or audit, if all certifications are complete)
- J. Commit to conducting school business in accordance with UFAF Creed and UFAF Code of Ethics
- K. Commit to proper and approved use of UFAF, CNS, UFAF BJJ, UFAF Krav Maga, and Chuck Norris brands, trademarks, terminologies, etc.
- L. Agree in advance to terms of separation, should UFAF elect to terminate the charter
- M. Agree in advance to terms of school conduct (marketing, friendly competition, student transfers, financial responsibilities, use of standard ranking system, etc.)
- N. Submit pictures of location inside and out
- O. Submit samples of business cards, letterhead, advertising literature, etc.
- P. Agree to a background check (including all costs thereof), at UFAF's discretion

A charter application is prepared by the applicant and the regional chair. The application is submitted by the regional chair or the charter applicant to the UFAF office for operations approval and subsequent executive approval. Rare exceptions to any of these requirements for obtaining a school charter will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Committee or the UFAF board.

Section 9. Requirements for Maintaining/Renewing a School Charter Charter bearer/applicant must:

- A. Be an active UFAF member in good standing
- B. Have liability insurance with UFAF listed as an additional insured
- C. Have a computer and reliable internet/E-mail access
- D. Continue to commit to 100% UFAF membership representation for all students and black belts in their school
- E. Have attended, certified, and progressed through the UFAF Master Development Series at least every other year on average during previous charter period (or audited, if all certifications are complete)
- F. Recommit to conducting school business in accordance with UFAF Creed and UFAF Code of Ethics
- G. Recommit to proper and approved use of UFAF, CNS, UFAF BJJ, UFAF Krav Maga, and Chuck Norris brands, trademarks, terminologies, etc.
- H. Agree in advance to terms of separation, should UFAF elect to terminate the charter
- I. Have demonstrated acceptable school conduct (marketing, friendly competition, student transfers, financial responsibilities, use of standard ranking system, etc.)
- J. Agree to a background check (including all costs thereof), at UFAF's discretion

A charter renewal is prepared by the applicant and the regional chair. The application is submitted by the regional chair or the charter applicant to the UFAF office for operations approval and subsequent executive approval. Rare exceptions to any of these requirements for maintaining/renewing a school charter will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Committee or the UFAF board.

Section 10. Charter Compliance

Failure to comply with the requirements for maintaining a charter may result in notification of non-compliance and a request to rectify non-compliance. Continued non-compliance may result in the charter being revoked or allowed to lapse without opportunity for renewal.

Section 11. Right of Refusal

The UFAF Board of Directors may refuse any charter application, deny renewal, or revoke any current charter, for any reason at any time. Similarly, a member may voluntarily relinquish a charter for any reason at any time.

Section 12. Voiding of School Charters

A charter shall be considered null and void if:

- It has been revoked (effective immediately upon date of revocation)
- The UFAF board elects to allow it to lapse without opportunity for renewal (effective as of the date of the charter expiration)
- The charter bearer fails to renew it upon expiration of the previous charter

ARTICLE VIII.

Dependent Schools and Dependent/Apprentice Crossover Instructors

Section 1. Dependent Schools

Occasionally a crossover or affiliate black belt in training will have a school that they want to bring into UFAF simultaneously with their own training. This is acceptable provided that, in the judgment of the crossover or affiliate's assigned CNS instructor (the supervising instructor), the program being offered at the crossover school is complete and full-featured enough to be considered a valid CNS training program.

The standard process for obtaining a charter is followed, with the supervising instructor fulfilling the rank requirement. The supervising instructor is responsible for the training and rank testing that occurs at the *dependent school* until the crossover/affiliate instructor independently attains 2^{nd} degree rank in CNS.

Section 2. Privileges and Restrictions

Dependent schools may use all the same trademarks, logos, and brands that are available to independent schools. However, in referring to their school's status with UFAF, the term "dependent school" must be used. And when referring to their own credentials in the CNS style, crossover black belts in training may refer to themselves as "CNS instructors in training," "apprentice CNS instructors," or "dependent instructors."

When the crossover instructor attains the rank of 1st degree, the "dependent school" reference may be removed in public advertising materials. In addition, the instructor may refer to themselves as a CNS instructor. However, for charter maintenance and UFAF-internal administrative purposes, the supervising instructor remains responsible until the school owner is a 2nd degree black belt.

Section 3. UFAF Membership

The students at the crossover/affiliate school may join UFAF as CNS members. If they join at their first opportunity, the first wave of existing students at the school will be seamlessly absorbed into the 30-month minimum membership requirement for black belt testing, and when they are ready to test, they may test, regardless of accrued membership time. The same is true for black belts at the school, who may join UFAF as crossover black belts (See Bylaws ARTICLE XII - Non-UFAF Black Belts Requesting Membership in UFAF (Crossover Black Belts)) and test when they are ready, regardless of accrued membership time.

ARTICLE IX.

Black Belt Rank and Protocol

UFAF is an organization where leadership and seniority is valued, respected, and treasured.

Section 1. Black Belt Number Assignment

Individual black belt numbers are assigned upon a member's promotion to 1st degree black belt.

Numbers are assigned to new 1st degree black belts each test cycle per region, based on (in order):

- Test date
- Membership enrollment date of individuals

Ties are broken by (in order):

- Age (older is priority)
- Alphabetical by name (last, first, middle)

Section 2. Rules of Rank Order

Rank order for classes, lineups, and other situations where rank order is important is determined by:

Actual rank

Ties are broken by (in order):

- Date of promotion (time in grade at current rank)
- Seniority black belt number (for black belts) or membership number (for students)

This applies to all ranks, white through 10th black.

Section 3. Rank Protocol

Instructors of all ranks should be addressed or referred to respectfully with titles including but not limited to: "Mr.," "Mrs.," "Miss," or "Ms." When addressing or referring to a 5th degree black belt or higher the term "Master" may be used in special situations and circumstances where it is important to indicate this extra level of deference to an instructor's station.

When instructors line up facing a class, the ranking instructor stands in the center. The next highest rank stands at the ranking instructor's right, the next highest at their left, and so on, alternating sides until all instructors are in position.

When the members of a class line up in rows, each row has the same number of students, with rows and columns lined up neatly in line with the front row. The highest-ranking member stands in the front row right (left to the facing instructors), with rank descending toward the left along the front row, and continuing row by row from front to back and from right to left (left to right to the instructors).

Classes begin and end with a collective bow of instructor(s) and student(s) to each other.

When a class is in session, and a higher-ranking black belt enters the training area, all members show respect by bowing together. The instructor on the mat will call the class to attention for this purpose. In larger gatherings, the highest-ranking member who is aware of the entrance of the higher-ranking black belt will bring it to the attention of the instructor on the mat, or call the class to attention themselves, as conditions warrant.

Section 4. Official Chuck Norris System Rank Sequence The official Chuck Norris System rank sequence is as follows:

Under-black-belt Ranks

- White belt (no rank)
- Gold belt
- Purple belt
- Orange belt
- Blue belt
- Green belt
- Red belt
- Red belt with black stripe

A black-striped belt may be added between each under-black rank from Gold belt up, at each instructor's discretion. Red belt with black stripe, however, is a standard, required rank.

It is acceptable for individual instructors and schools to follow alternate ranking structures that fit their respective training programs. But it is strongly recommended that all members who are on the path to black belt in the art of the Chuck Norris System use and know the standard ranking sequence and structure. This sequence and structure is required at all official UFAF events.

Black Belt Ranks

1st degree black belt (black belt number assigned)
1st-4th degree black belt (black belt testing ranks)
5th degree black belt (first "master" level rank)
6th-9th degree black belt (high-ranking "master" level ranks)
10th degree black belt (Chuck Norris System's Grandmasters)

ARTICLE X.

Black Belt Testing

Section 1. Timing and Scope of Test Cycles

Black belt tests shall be held as needed twice each year in the months of April and October. Black belt tests are either regional or school events. School tests are limited to 1st degree candidates only. Convening a school test (including the pre-test) must be approved in advance by the regional chair. Regional tests may include candidates of any testing rank, including 1st degree. Additional black belt tests - special case, local, regional, or organization-wide - may be called by any member of the Executive Committee, the collective Executive Committee, or the collective UFAF Board of Directors.

Section 2. Standards

Black belt tests adhere to the technical requirements and standards set forth by the UFAF Board of Directors. Flexibility is granted in the case of special needs candidates who may not be able to perform all aspects of the testing requirements in the same way as other candidates.

Section 3. Administering and Conducting Tests

Regional chairs administer and conduct regional black belt tests and subsequently recommend testing candidates for promotion. Chartered school owners with 5th degree rank or higher may perform this same function for 1st degree candidates, working with the regional chair.

Section 4. Testing Board

Regional black belt tests are officiated by a board of examiners comprised of a minimum of three active UFAF-member CNS black belts: one 5th degree or higher, and two 4th degree or higher. One of the board of examiners members shall be the Regional Chair or their appointee. Other members of the testing board may be drawn from the Regional Board, black belt members of the UFAF Board of Directors, or visiting UFAF-member black belts who are invited to participate by the Regional Chair. Regional chairs normally conduct black belt tests in their respective regions, unless a higher-ranking black belt from the UFAF Board of Directors attends and directs otherwise. (Exceptions to board composition are to be approved by a member of the Executive Committee.)

School black belt tests (for 1st degree candidates only) are officiated by a board of examiners comprised of a minimum of three active UFAF-member CNS black belts: one 5th degree or higher, and two 2nd degree or higher. One of the board of examiners members shall be the chartered CNS school owner or their third-party 5th degree or higher chartered school owner appointee. Other members of the testing board may be drawn from black belts in the school, the Regional Board, black belt members of the UFAF Board of Directors, or visiting UFAF-member black belts who are invited to participate by the school owner. (Exceptions to board composition are to be approved by a member of the Regional Chair.)

Section 5. Pre-test

Prior to meeting a black belt board of examiners, each testing candidate must meet either a school or regional pre-test screening board (in accordance with where the candidate will test) at the recommendation of their instructor. The pre-test screening board will determine which candidates will be invited to test at the actual black belt test to be held approximately two to six weeks later.

Section 6. Membership Eligibility

Candidates for 1st degree black belt are required to have completed 30 months of UFAF membership before they are eligible to test. Candidates testing for higher black belt rank must have maintained active UFAF membership and trained for at least the minimum time requirement between black belt ranks (see Bylaws ARTICLE XI - Rank Promotion). Any requests for exception to membership eligibility requirements for black belt testing must be approved by the UFAF membership administrator, who may in turn consult the UFAF board, as needed.

Section 7. Candidate Essays

Essays on assigned topics are required of each testing candidate. Essays shall be submitted online prior to the test. Testing board members shall review each essay prior to the test. Assigned topics are as follows:

1st degree black belt candidates:

How My Chuck Norris System Training Has Benefitted Me (250 words)

2nd degree black belt candidates:

How My Chuck Norris System Training Has Benefitted Those Around Me (250 words)

3rd degree black belt candidates:

How I Have Developed Physically, Mentally, Emotionally, and Spiritually Along the Path to 3rd Degree Black Belt (500 words)

4th degree black belt candidates:

How I Have and Will Serve the United Fighting Arts Federation and the Chuck Norris System Style (500 words)

Section 8. Testing Fees

Each person testing for any CNS black belt rank shall pay a testing fee online prior to testing. This testing fee will be determined annually by the UFAF Board of Directors. The testing fee is not refundable and is not waived or reduced for students who are re-testing for black belt rank.

Section 9. Testing Packet Delivery

Following each testing, the Regional Chair (or school owner for school tests involving 1st degree candidates, when such tests are held) sends the following to the UFAF office within ten days of the testing (failure to do so may result in the test being voided at the discretion of the UFAF Board of Directors):

- A. Promotion recommendation forms signed by all members of the testing board
- B. Test score sheets from each board member for each candidate
- C. A video recording of the test posted online for invitation-only viewing.

Online copies for all of the above is preferred but the UFAF office will accept hard copies. The UFAF office will make these materials available to the Director of Training and Advancement for review, and to the Executive Committee upon request, and/or to other members of the UFAF Board as appropriate.

ARTICLE XI.

Rank Promotion

Section 1. Minimum Time-in-Grade and Objective Requirements

1st Black: • 30 months membership minimum since enrolling as a UFAF member (For policy regarding crossover black belts, see Bylaws ARTICLE XII - Non-UFAF Black Belts Requesting Membership in UFAF (Crossover Black Belts)).

2nd Black: • One-year active membership minimum (to the nearest test cycle)

3rd Black: • Two years active membership minimum (to the nearest test cycle)

4th Black: • Three years active membership minimum (to the nearest test cycle)

5th Black: • Four years active membership minimum (to the nearest test cycle)

• Two UFAF Master Development Series (MDS) certifications

• Board recommendation

• Master Rank Induction Ceremony participation

6th Black: • Five years active membership minimum (to the nearest promotion event)

• Two additional UFAF Master Development Series (MDS) certifications

• Board recommendation

7th Black: • Six years active membership minimum (to the nearest promotion event)

• MDS participation/certification highly recommended

Board recommendation

8th Black: • Seven years active membership minimum (to the nearest promotion event)

MDS participation/certification highly recommended

Board recommendation

9th Black: • Eight years active membership minimum (to the nearest promotion event)

• MDS participation/certification highly recommended

Board recommendation

Section 2. Subjective Requirements

1st through 4th degree black belt ranks are achieved by meeting the minimum time requirements (listed above) and by passing a regional or organization-wide black belt test in accordance with the policies and procedures specified herein (see Bylaws ARTICLE X - Black Belt Testing). The time requirements listed herein for promotion to 5th degree black belt and higher (CNS master ranks) are guidelines only, with final determinations to be made by the Chairman, the Executive Committee, and/or the UFAF Board of Directors. These minimum time requirements do not constitute promotion guarantees, promotion limits, or automatic promotions. Promotions to the master-level ranks are based on organizational needs for leadership and/or a black belt's outstanding performance in the Chuck Norris System including, but not limited to, one's students, school(s), service, competitive success and influence, teaching certifications and ability, martial arts educational accomplishments through UFAF and elsewhere, Chuck Norris

System knowledge and martial arts knowledge in general, etc., rather than strictly on physical ability or time in grade.

ARTICLE XII.

Non-UFAF Black Belts Requesting Membership in UFAF (Crossover Black Belts)

Section 1. Instructor Assignment

Crossover candidates who are school owners, and who wish to bring their schools into UFAF with them, must be assigned a supervising instructor by the Director of Training and Advancement and the UFAF office. Individual crossover candidates who reside in established UFAF regions may contact and train with any established, charter-bearing CNS school or instructor. Individual crossover candidates residing outside the USA and Mexico, or in remote areas within the USA and Mexico (areas where UFAF is sparsely represented or not represented, even if they technically belong to an existing UFAF region) will be assigned an instructor and a UFAF region by the UFAF office.

Section 2. Crossover Process

Any person who wishes to become a CNS black belt, and who has previously been awarded black belt rank by a person or body other than an official UFAF board of examiners (see Bylaws ARTICLE X - Black Belt Testing, Section 4), will:

- A. Be sponsored by, and train with, a UFAF-charter-bearing CNS black belt. (See Bylaws ARTICLE VII Membership in UFAF (School Charters)).
- B. Submit a martial arts resume, a copy of all black belt diplomas, and a letter of intent to the chair of the UFAF region in which they reside or have been assigned. The CNS instructor who trains the candidate must also submit a letter of recommendation to the Regional Chair requesting that the candidate be allowed to meet an official UFAF board of examiners at a future time. The Regional Chair in consultation with the sponsoring instructor and the UFAF Board will decide the applicability of an incoming candidate's previous experience and rank.
- C. Upon the Regional Chair's approval, become a member of UFAF as a crossover member. The crossover membership fee will be determined annually by the UFAF Board of Directors.
- D. Train for a minimum of one year from the date of initial membership enrollment.
- E. Be invited to pre-test prior to the expiration of the candidate's second year of membership. Extensions may be granted to crossover candidates training to test for CNS rank above 1st degree. (Beginning the testing process means that the candidate must, at a minimum, be invited to meet a regional pre-test screening board.) If the candidate fails to begin the testing process prior to the end of the second year of UFAF membership, the privilege of testing for black belt rank in CNS may be permanently forfeited. Exceptions other than for reasonable extensions for higher rank testing, as mentioned above, require the approval of the Regional Chair. (See Bylaws ARTICLE VIII, Section 3 for testing timeline exception regarding certain crossovers independent schools.)
- G. Be allowed to participate in the annual international training conference, and other official UFAF events, during the training period described in D and E above.
- H. Be allowed to test for 1st degree black belt in CNS or CNS rank not higher than two ranks lower than the candidate's highest black belt rank in another, similar style (includes legitimate stand-up, percussive styles of any origin the Regional Chair in consultation with the sponsoring CNS instructor

and, if necessary, the UFAF Board will decide the applicability of an incoming candidate's previous experience and rank) but not higher than 3^{rd} degree. In any case, 1^{st} through 3^{rd} degree, the crossover candidate is required to pass the very same test that any internally trained candidate is required to pass.

Section 3. Testing Order at Crossover Schools

The head instructor will test (and pass) at least one test cycle prior to any other black belt or student from a crossover school.

ARTICLE XIII.

Official Uniforms

Section 1. Black Belt Traditional Uniform

Worn for all official UFAF training or testing functions, and any other function where members are representing UFAF) - Black belts wear black pants and black-trimmed white top (lapel, hem, and cuffs) with the official, trademarked UFAF logo and member last name on the back of the uniform, CNS-style patch on the left lapel, rank patch on the right lapel, and the flag of one's country on the left sleeve. School patches, world champion patches, and other indicated patches from UFAF are optional and acceptable and may be worn on the right sleeve. Sleeves may be worn full length or rolled to just below the elbow. The base uniform (including embroidery) is provided by UFAF's own exclusive provider. No other uniform is acceptable at official functions.

Section 2. CNS Crossover Black Belt Traditional Uniform

Crossover black belts wear the Black Belt Traditional Uniform (see Section 1 above), except for the rank patch.

Section 3. Crossover Dependent School Owners

CNS crossover black belts in training who are also dependent CNS school owners may wear the Black Belt Traditional Uniform (see Section 1 above), except for the rank patch.

Section 4. CNS Red Belt and Red Belt with Black Stripe Uniform

White pants, red belt or red belt with black stripe (with no other colors or markings), and white top trimmed in red (lapel only) with the official, trademarked UFAF logo and member last name on the back of the uniform, CNS-style patch on the left lapel, and the flag of one's country on the left sleeve. School patches and other indicated patches from UFAF are optional and acceptable and may be worn on the right sleeve. The base uniform (including embroidery) is provided by UFAF's own exclusive provider. No other uniform is acceptable at official functions. The patches are purchased separately from UFAF's online store and applied by the member.

Section 5. CNS Student Uniform

An official, trademark UFAF logo uniform is available from UFAF's own exclusive provider for under-red-belt students. The uniform is required at all official UFAF events and functions.

Section 6. UFAF Affiliate Member Black Belt Uniform

Black pants, black trimmed white top (lapel, hem, and cuffs) with the official, trademarked UFAF logo (blue and black) and member last name on the back of the uniform, their organization/style patch (not CNS) on the left lapel, and the flag of one's country on the left sleeve. School patches and other indicated patches from UFAF are optional and acceptable and may be worn on the right sleeve. Sleeves may be worn full length or rolled to just below the elbow. The base uniform (including embroidery) is provided by UFAF's own exclusive provider. No other uniform is acceptable at official functions.

Section 7. UFAF Affiliate Member Student Uniform

An official, trademark UFAF logo uniform is available from UFAF's own exclusive provider for under-rank students. The uniform is required at all official UFAF events and functions.

Section 8. Member Dress Uniform

Worn by all members at formal UFAF events such as the international training conference awards dinner, by black belt testing boards (optional), and any other dress function where members of any rank are representing UFAF. Uniform detail:

A. Men (all ranks white through black):

Solid black slacks (no jeans) with solid black blazer (black buttons)

solid black suit, white dress shirt, and any color tie. CNS badge on left lapel.

B. Women (all ranks white through black):

Solid black skirt or slacks (no jeans) with solid black blazer, white shirt or blouse OR

solid black dress with solid black blazer. CNS badge on left lapel.

ARTICLE XIV.

Disciplinary Procedures

Section 1. Handling of Disciplinary Issues

Disciplinary issues and problems are to be handled at the regional level by the regional chair with the help of the regional board, and according to the principles, policies, and procedures laid out in this Constitution and Bylaws. Problems that cannot be handled at the regional level may be referred to the next higher authority by the chair of the region in question, using the standard communication chain (see Bylaws ARTICLE V). Similarly, individuals who do not concur with decisions made at the regional level may appeal to the next higher authority in the standard communication chain (see Bylaws ARTICLE V).

Section 2. Membership Termination

If at any time a UFAF member wishes to terminate their membership in the United Fighting Arts Federation, or if the organization wishes to terminate the membership of one of its members, this can be done unilaterally, with or without cause. The membership can be terminated by either side allowing the membership to lapse without renewal, or by written notice sent to the last known member mailing address or E-mail address.

Section 3. "Orphaned" Students

Students of an instructor whose membership has terminated as in Section 2 above shall require the approval of the chair of the region in which they reside to join or renew membership, attend the international training conference, or participate in any official UFAF function where UFAF membership is a prerequisite.

ARTICLE XV.

Ratification and Amendment

This Constitution for the Governance of the Chuck Norris System[™] Martial Arts System by the United Fighting Arts Federation[™] has been ratified by the UFAF Executive Committee and by the UFAF Board of Directors and is binding on all members of UFAF. It may be amended by the UFAF Board of Directors at any time.

References

- 1. Norris, Chuck. *The Secret Power Within Zen Solutions to Real Problems*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 1996 pg 88.
- 2. Ibid.