



Kicking News



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www.elite-tkd.com

JULY 2010

Instructor's Corner

Every day I step onto the mat, I do so out of a desire to pass onto others, some of the lessons that I myself have learned over the years. Even though I am a professional instructor, in that I make the major part of my living from martial arts practise, the monetary payments that students make do not in themselves motivate me to step onto the mat. I am passionate about teaching; and in truth, the fact that money changes hands has very little do with why I do what I do. I am certain this is the case for a number of martial arts teachers. So why then, do I pursue my teaching duties? What's in it for me, the teacher?

What I ask from my students is a simple but increasingly rare commodity in today's world – and that is loyalty. It's the same thing I expect from my family and from the closest of my friends. I am not talking about the kind of loyalty that has a shelf-life; I am talking about old-school loyalty, wherein the relationship survives and even thrives, through thick and thin, in good times and in bad, in summer as well as winter, when it is both convenient and inconvenient. As a good friend of mine said this weekend just past - 'Loyalty only as long as it is convenient to be so, is not loyalty at all.' This friend is one I respect highly - an old-school martial arts instructor of the highest order - himself, a man who lives with integrity and honour and who oozes loyalty in everything he does and everything he says.

I place value on what I have to offer, and in my mind, the relationship between myself and my students is anything but a business relationship; sure the students pay fees but these fees keep paying the rent, keep the lights going and put food on my table for myself and my family; the teaching, I do out of a love for doing it; out of a desire to take my students on a journey that has the potential to change their lives for the better; I teach because there are students who want to learn and the student-teacher partnership is one of high-value and mutual benefit.

The importance of loyalty goes way beyond the confines of the mat. How many relationships and marriages do we see fall apart because one or both parties are incapable of embracing the value we know as loyalty. And that is exactly what loyalty is – a value;

an integral part of a moral code; a trait that defines what kind of person we are, like integrity and honour. The defining moments though, come when traits like loyalty, integrity and honour are tested, not when things are warm and cosy but when the chips are down and the situation is inconvenient or even dangerous.

Sadly, I have met many people who talk the talk, but do not walk the walk; people who proudly proclaim how honorable they are, how loyal they are, while they cannot even remain loyal to their spouses - at days end, we cannot expect such people to share the kinds of values that, in my view, we should set for ourselves and as an example to others. I have even had such people in my school - they have since departed, for greener pastures no doubt and I am so much happier for their absence. Such people are the furthest thing from the example of excellence that a real martial artist tries to set; I have long ceased to knowingly allow such people to share the circle of my life.

This blog was inspired by several conversations I have had with martial arts teachers recently, who have lamented at the lack of old-school values in today's martial arts landscape. For all the martial artists out there, I would humbly ask that you consider things from your instructor's point of view. He or she has most likely invested a very large part of their life to develop the skill and understanding the have of their art; each class you spend with them, you are given access to all they have learned, through sweat, blood and tears; and you are given this access for a very small price. What your instructor is looking for in return may be something as simple as genuine appreciation, which can easily be demonstrated through loyal association, through actions and not just words. If your martial arts teacher is the real deal – the fees you pay have very little do with this relationship; we should always maintain, even nurture respect for those who teach us the deep lessons in life - our parents, our true friends, our spouses ... and yes, our martial arts instructors.

See you in Class
Master Bartley

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2010

July 1 – Gym Closed, Happy Canada Day!!

July 5th to 9th - Summer Camp - FULL

July 12th to 16th - Summer Camp –
Spaces still available

Journals of Master Wu Written by a local Author and Taekwondo Master

Book 1 of a series for ages 8-12

Elite Taekwondo is selling the Journals of Master Wu Book 1 of a series.....

Only \$10.00 per Book – It is an Excellent read for your young Martial Artist.

The novel provides an insight into the powerful truths behind Martial Arts. It is a fantasy chronicle of

The ongoing power struggle between those seeking balance and those spreading chaos.

1 MONTH SPECIAL

For all **NEW** members, Elite Taekwondo offers a 1 month special.

This gives you an opportunity to get a taste of the sport of Taekwondo and to experience the “family” atmosphere that so many of our current members are a part of.

For only **\$99**, you will have one month of unlimited training and an Elite Taekwondo uniform.

Call **780 413-4009** to start your Martial arts training today.

LATE FOR CLASS

****If you or your children are more than 5 minutes late for class you will not be allowed to join class.**

Warm-ups are important to get the body prepared to learn techniques safely. Please try to adjust your schedule to be on time.

Private Lessons

We offer private instruction in 30 or 60-minute lessons for those who want more personalized attention. Perhaps you want to work on something specific, or you've gone for a while and want to refresh your memory before rejoining a group class. Whatever the reason, we are here to help you! You can request a specific instructor or we can arrange one of our many qualified and experienced instructors to fit your time schedule.

Our private lessons can include Taekwondo, Brazilian Jiu-jitsu or Ground Combatives, Practicing for promotion or perfecting a specific skill. We also offer discounts if bought in sets of 10. Prices can vary by teacher. Call our office **(780) 413-4009** for scheduling and prices.

Summer Camps

No need to worry about what your kids is going to do or where they'll be during summer break, they can be with us at the gym learning and playing! You must be 6 years old and up to attend Camps.

We will have 2 Activity Camps in July! This year we are going to do something a little more exciting for our camps. Everyday will be a new adventure at camp.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

**MOVIES, SWIMMING, DODGE-BALL,
TAEKWONDO and MORE!!**

**Camp cost is only \$149 person per week.
A \$50 non-refundable deposit will ensure a
spot for the camp.**

Camp Dates are...

July 5th – 9th – FULL

and

July 12th – 16th

**Each camp will run from
8:30 am to 4:00 pm**

(Note: Each Camp must have minimum 15 campers to proceed)

Master Bartley and Instructors Mitch and Tonya and Janan will lead camps

Elite Taekwondo is doing some upgrades!!!

We will be changing our mats this summer. During the month of August, we are upgrading to a more versatile flooring system.

We will be selling our existing mats for \$15/mat. These are excellent for basement training areas, or just children play areas.

These are commercial grade mats and retail for \$35-40 per mat. Please contact the office if you are interested in obtaining some mats.

Call 413-4009

Red and Blue Mats are just \$15/mat.



RODRIGO RESENDE,
ELITE TAEKWONDO'S
BRAZILIAN JIUJITSU INSTRUCTOR



Rodrigo is a 2nd degree black belt in Brazilian Jiu-jitsu and a 3rd Dan black belt in Judo. He is also a former national champion in Brazil.

For more information about our BJJ classes please check out the web-site at www.elite-tkd.com or talk to Steve "sir" or Lisa in the office.



Summer is coming, so is the hot weather.

Hot weather means T-Shirt time !!

Starting June 21, 2010 you will be able to start wearing ELITE TAEKWONDO T-shirts to class
(uniforms at promotion tests)

Remember only Elite Taekwondo T-Shirts can be worn during the summer months

(June 21, July & August).

Buy our NEW Summer T-shirts now!!
\$20/shirt

Newsletter

Interested in receiving the Monthly Kicking News directly to your email??

Our newsletter contains a lot of important dates, information and communication that we try to get out to each and every one of our members.

In an effort to get this information to everyone, we have found it to be effective via email.

That way you don't have to "try" to remember to pick your copy up from the office.

Simply send an email to stevetkd@shaw.ca and request to be added to the Newsletter Distribution list.

Going away for the summer??



Please check with the office to ensure yours or your child's fees are up to date. We have quite a few members that will be renewing during the summer months and/or September.

Because September can be one of our busiest months and to alleviate **alot** of congestion during this busy time, it would be greatly appreciated if we can get a "jump" on the renewals.

Your renewal date will remain the same, however the paperwork/cheques can be done in advance.

If you are not sure when you are up for renewal, please check with the office.

Thank you
Lisa

Elite Taekwondo FUNDRAISER

Steve "Sir" and Bob will be travelling to Brazil to compete in the 2010 World Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Championships.

In an effort to offset their expenses they will be selling the T-Shirts below for \$25 per Shirt....

Let's support our members as they represent Canada at the Championships July 21 to 25.

FRONT



BACK

