



International Federation of Karate

President and Founder: Hanshi Steve Arneil (10th Dan)

14th January 2020

Dear Country Representatives and all of our members,

Happy New Year to you all,

Thank you for all of your hard work during 2020. The last year was possibly the toughest since our inception in 1992, but our representatives have done an incredible job to keep you all engaged and ready for the future.

The global pandemic has altered the face of Martial Arts at this time. I hope this year we can return to some normality and all enjoy time in our dojos again soon.

I am truly humbled by the unanimous support of the Country Representatives of the IFK as I succeed Hanshi Arneil. I am honoured to accept the position of President of the International Federation of Karate.

Of course, Hanshi's decision to step down from his position of President will leave us all with heavy hearts, but I am pleased that he will remain as our founder, so the Executive Board can draw on his experience when required.

On a personal level I must thank Hanshi for his vision in building such a great and openminded organisation. I hope that I can live up to his expectations and prove myself worthy of this role.

We hope that once travel is allowed again you will still take time to visit Hanshi at his dojo in the UK.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce that Shihan Liam Keaveney will assume the position of Vice President, selected by Hanshi and the Executive Board.

I wish him success in this new role.

I am excited by the challenge ahead, and together with the Executive Board we will strive to strengthen our federation, whilst maintaining steady growth.

Osu

A blue ink signature, appearing to read 'D.P.', is written over a circular official seal. The seal contains the text 'David Pickthall Vice President IFK Kyokushin' around the perimeter and 'INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF KARATE' and 'IFK' in the center, with a stylized karate figure in the background.