

What is U.M.A.R.A.?

U.M.A.R.A. stands for United Martial Arts Referees Association. It is a non-profit organization, which has been in existence since October 1977. U.M.A.R.A.'s primary charter is to provide quality officiating at U.M.A.R.A. and U.M.A.R.A. sanctioned tournaments within the tri-state area consisting of Pennsylvania, Northern and Southern New Jersey, and Delaware. U.M.A.R.A. is in the process of expanding its membership throughout the 50 states and foreign countries.

To accomplish this the Association sponsors clinics so that its members and prospective members can learn and maintain their skills as referees, and to instruct others in the fine points of officiating. Members and instructors from all the major Martial Arts styles and disciplines assist members on: what to look for while judging forms and sparring, in regard to correct execution of technique, what is a recognizable point, what is excessive contact, and other fine points necessary to assure uniform officiating and fairness.

The U.M.A.R.A. organization has been increasingly more visible due to the success of its Tournament Sanctioning Service and the unique fact that many of its members are among the top competitors and instructors in the Tri-State region. In addition, U.M.A.R.A. provides, upon request, tournament directors with tournament counseling so that they may be abreast of the latest developments in the fast-changing tournament scene.

U.M.A.R.A. directors have also been instrumental in fostering and implementing U.M.A.R.A. rules and procedures in South Africa, Holland, Germany and Australia.

What is the purpose of U.M.A.R.A.?

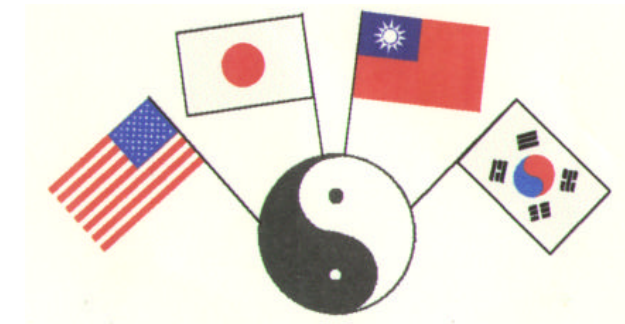
- ◆ To stimulate interest in the Martial Arts among Martial Artists and the general public as an art and sport.
- ◆ To foster and maintain competition and tournaments among its members on a high level of true amateurism, sportsmanship and friendly relations, and to provide rules and procedures governing such events.
- ◆ To unify and coordinate Martial Arts activities by combined efforts under one group.
- ◆ To incorporate and promulgate the true historical Chinese, Okinawan, Japanese, Korean and other Martial Arts forms and techniques.
- ◆ To establish and maintain relations with affiliated schools and other authentic organizations.
- ◆ To endeavor to improve the physical and mental competence of its adherents by supporting and sponsoring open competition among all practitioners of the art.
- ◆ To impress those who follow the Martial Arts to forget personal glory and animosity by cooperating and coordinating all styles for the betterment of the art.

Requirements for Membership

The requirements for membership are as follows:

1. The prospective member must hold the rank of Red/Brown or Black Belt or their equivalent.
2. The applicant must be of high ethical character.
3. The applicant must be willing to endeavor to assist in the expansion, development and enrichment of the U.M.A.R.A. and the Martial Arts.
4. Applicants agree to abide by the rules governing U.M.A.R.A. and will strive to reflect on the U.M.A.R.A. and its members in a professional manner.

UNITED MARTIAL ARTS REFEREES ASSOCIATION



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About U.M.A.R.A.

The United Martial Arts Referees Association, is a non-profit, multi-style referee's organization, with management vested in a board of directors. These directors are grouped in a Regional configuration consisting of Pennsylvania, Northern and Southern New Jersey, and Delaware. Each director has jurisdiction over his region with responsibility of keeping his region members informed on U.M.A.R.A. sanctioned tournaments, clinics, and other U.M.A.R.A. business. All directors must be at least 18 years old and hold the rank of at least 1st Degree Black Belt or its equivalent. U.M.A.R.A. was originally founded in 1977 and the original mission of the organization was to provide quality judging and officiating at both U.M.A.R.A. hosted and U.M.A.R.A. sanctioned tournaments, and to foster a higher level of true amateurism, sportsmanship and friendly relations among the entire martial arts community. For over twenty years, U.M.A.R.A. has successfully achieved that goal, and even today continues to set the standard for high quality martial tournaments in the tri-state region of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. Many of U.M.A.R.A.'s certified referees have been often requested to serve as top officials at many national and international level events. U.M.A.R.A. officials and events are synonymous with fairness, consistency and overall top quality judging.

U.M.A.R.A. Original Founders - 1977

New Jersey

S. L. Martin, Ric Pascetta, Tony Lingo, Dawn Tribbett

Pennsylvania

Rick Berry, Pat Byrnes, Dennis Tosten

Delaware

Joe Clapp, T. R. Van Clief

Alternates

Edward Andujar (NJ), R. Hicks (NJ), J. Sarmousakis (DE)

U.M.A.R.A. Founding Director and Chairman:

GRANDMASTER S. L. MARTIN

About the Chairman:

Grandmaster Martin has studied the Martial Arts for more than 45 years. His Chinese name is Hung Jin-Hu and he is known as the "Golden Tiger of *Taichung*". Having begun his martial arts studies in 1955, he was among the first U.S. servicemen to study in the Far East in the early 50's. Grandmaster Martin studied exclusively in the Far East under noted Asian grandmasters and masters. He holds Black Belt level rank in Judo, Okinawan Karate, Jiu-Jitsu, and has been the Disciple of White Crane Grandmaster W.S. Hung of the Republic of China for 33 years. Additionally, Grandmaster Martin holds the rank of 6th degree black belt in Shorinryu karate, 4th degree black belt in Hakkoryu jitsu, 3rd degree black belt in Shorinjiryu karate, 1st degree black belt in Kodokan judo, gold sash in White Crane kung fu, and 8th level grandmaster in Ching Lung Kuoshu. Grandmaster Martin is also an honorary grandmaster in Okinawan Seidokan karate by S. Toma of Okinawa. Grandmaster Martin has personally conducted martial instruction and programs for the F.B.I., military police, special forces, medical institutions, religious groups, academic institutions, and instructed countless numbers of military and civilian students.



He is a retired serviceman, with more than 23 years of active service. He is also a Vietnam Veteran who earned more than thirty awards and decorations over two tours of duty in a combat zone. He is also a certified NJ Educator, President of the Intl Federation of Chinese Martial Arts, Member of the Executive Board of the US Chinese Kuoshu Federation, and was named the "Coors" 1988 Man of the Year. Grandmaster Martin has been featured in "Who's Who in Karate", "Inside Kung-Fu" and "Official Karate" magazines, and prominently featured in "Masters, Founders & Leaders of American Martial Arts". Additionally, Master Martin is the recipient of the 1994 U.M.A.R.A. "Man of the Year" award, and enshrined as a 1994 "Living Legend of the Martial Arts" by the Nippon Kenpo Karate-do Association of Washington, D.C. He was also awarded the "Golden Life Achievement award" in 1997 by the AOKA, given by Grandmaster D. Nagle.