

ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Keith R. McKinley is the Chief Instructor and Founder of TAMCO Martial Arts school located in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania.

He began his martial arts training in Chung Do Kwan Tae kwon do at the age of 9 in 1973 under the instruction of James L. Mitchell who earned his black belt from Master Kim Bong Sik of the White Horse Division of the Republic of Korea military during the Vietnam war. Master Kim Bong Sik was dispatched to Vietnam in 1969 to head the Korean Armed Forces Tae kwon do Instruction Team and cited as being one of the original pioneers of Taekwondo.

In 1985, Mr. McKinley began training with Ian A. Cyrus of the International Korean Martial Arts Federation and earned his certification from the World Tae kwon do Federation (WTF) , also known as the Kukkiwon in Seoul, South Korea.

Mr. McKinley trained in boxing and kickboxing under the tutelage of James L Mitchell, professional kickboxer, Darryl ‘Nitro’ Croker and boxing trainer, Billy Carroll at the Harrowgate Boxing Club in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

A martial arts instructor since 1985, Mr. McKinley has taught hundreds of students and promoted over fifty black belts.

As a sport karate competitor, he consistently ranked high in the black belt fighting division. Returning from a 14-year hiatus from competition in 2009, he became one of the top-rated senior black belt point fighters in the country.

After winning two gold medals at the World Karate & Kickboxing Commission World Championships in 2017, he retired from competition at age 53. Today he continues to train martial art students and coach sport karate athletes. He also promotes the Philadelphia Pro/Am Sport Martial Arts Championships which is now in its 22nd year.

On December 9, 2022, in recognition of his lifelong commitment to teaching and training in the martial arts, Grandmasters James L. Mitchell, Bobby L. Graham and Osborne H. Wright Jr promoted Keith R. McKinley to the rank of 9th degree black belt under the auspices of the Martial Arts Unity Federation, and Grandmaster Ian A. Cyrus promoted him to the rank of 8th degree black belt under the auspices of the International Korean Martial Arts Federation.

In 2024, Grandmaster McKinley sought to establish a direct connection to his first instructor's Chung Do Kwon Tae kwon do lineage in the Republic of Korea. As a result of his inquiry, Grandmaster McKinley was granted the rank of 6th degree black belt by the reviewing board of the World Tae Kwon Do Chung Do Kwan Federation in Seoul, South Korea.

Grandmaster McKinley was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Temple University in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in political science. He went to Temple University School of Law and received a law degree in 1989. He is currently a practicing attorney, and he is the sole proprietor of The Law Offices of Keith R. McKinley LLC in Media, Pennsylvania.