



Review of the NCAS application

Peter Morton Academy of Self Defence Incorporated

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PETER MORTON ACADEMY OF SELF DEFENCE

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INTRODUCTION

The Australian Coaching Council (ACC) now allows more than one National Sporting Organisation (NSO) to administer coaching accreditation through the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS).

The Australian Jujitsu Federation (AJF), previously known as the Australian Society of Jujitsuans (ASJJ), is the only NSO for Jujitsu. Any Jujitsu instructor wanting to be nationally recognised as a qualified Coach, must accredit themselves through the AJF.

The Academy has been affiliated with them in the past and several instructors have completed the coaching accreditation programs. They were found to be unsuitable in providing adequate level of coach education for our instructors and the affiliation was dissolved. It was decided that an attempt for entry into the NCAS should be made.

If successful, the Peter Morton Academy of Self Defence could accredit its own instructors, through the NCAS. This would mean developing approved curriculum with the ACC, educating coaches and administering all the updates.

The ACC requires independent body in the relevant sport review all applications. The Martial Arts Industry Association (MAIA) is the peak governing body for all martial arts in Australia. After reviewing the application in detail, the MAIA has will not recommend our application to the ACC on the grounds it does not meet the criteria set by the Australian Sports Commission.

It must be pointed out that their role was only to compare the Application to the Entry Criteria, not to assess the capability of the Academy, or to verify our credentials. Overall, they were very supportive of the Academy and found us to be a very competent organisation.

The following report will attempt to explain why our application was unsuccessful, what can be done in order to be successful in a possible second attempt, and what other accreditation options are open to us.



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THE NCAS APPLICATION

The application process includes the completion of a detailed report outlining the Academy's capabilities and the meeting of requirements set out by ACC and the Australian Sports Commission. The application has been submitted to the ACC, who in-turn have forwarded it for review by an independent body; the Martial Arts Industry Association (MAIA).

The MAIA is the recognised as the peak governing body for the martial arts, with each government recognised association having a seat on the MAIA. They have been formally recognised by the Australian Sports Commission, and can be considered as the 'Martial Arts Arm' of the Australian Coaching Council.

The application has been reviewed by them, and we have been advised by the MAIA that they will not recommend our application for entry into the NCAS in our current form.

1. REASONS FOR REJECTION

1.1. *We are classed as an eclectic Martial Art*

Because we incorporate Jujitsu, Judo, Karate, and some boxing, it has been determined we are an Eclectic Martial Art. These styles are also shown on the Academy Logo, syllabus, Web site, and promotional literature. Because an NSO is a 'National Body' that represents ONE particular sport, we have to pick one style to represent (i.e. Jujitsu).

1.2. *Self Defence is not a sport*

The name 'Peter Morton Academy of Self Defence' is a problem because of the use of the term 'Self Defence' to define the club. This labels us as an Eclectic Martial Art (not strictly Jujitsu). The Australian Sports Commission does not consider 'Self Defence' a sport and therefore not eligible for entry.

"Organisations wishing to gain entry to the NCAS must provide evidence that they are a sport as defined by the Australian Sports Commission. That is; 'a human activity capable of achieving result requiring physical exertion and or physical skill which, by its nature and organisation, is competitive and is generally accepted as a sport'".

1.3. *Consultation with the Australian Jujitsu Federation (AJF) is required*

We have not provided evidence that we have been in discussion with the AJF. This should be in the form of minutes of several meetings over a period of 6-8 months. The we have explained in detail why we are not affiliated and using their coaching accreditation system. The MAIA agrees with us that the AJF is not suitable for us; again because we are an eclectic style - not solely Jujitsu.



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COACH ACCREDITATION OPTIONS

2. CONSIDERING OUR OPTIONS

(In order of complexity and cost.)

2.1. *Continue & Develop the existing PMASD accreditation program.*

If we continue with the existing accreditation program, it would be in our best interest to develop a structured curriculum, possibly following the guidelines of the ACC. At the moment there is no formal Coach Education, Update & Assessment Program in place.

We must remember that the purpose for accreditation is to continually educate, update & assess instructors for the '*benefit of the public*'. The public want reassurance that the accreditation is reliable. The recognition of an accreditation program by a governing body provides the public with the reassurance that the coach is competent. Our accreditation process is therefore worthless to the public.

2.2. *Accredit instructors with the Martial Arts Industry Association.*

Accreditation through the MAIA seems to be the simplest and most cost effective. The MAIA is recognised as the peak governing body for the martial arts, with each government recognised association having a seat on the MAIA (Executive members). They have been formally recognised by the Australian Sports Commission. Their current members include;

Executive Members

These members are recognised as the governing body of their particular martial art by the Australian Sports Commission and administer the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme for their particular martial art. Listed are the names of the Associations and a contact representative.

- National Aikido Federation
- Judo Federation of Australia
- Australian Jujitsu Federation
- Australian Karate Federation Inc
- Australian Kung Fu (Wu Shu) Federation Limited
- TAE KWON DO Australia

Non Executive Members

These are members who are signatories to the 'Code of Conduct' and who are part of the Martial Arts Instructors Accreditation Program

- Advanced World Martial Arts
- Australian Contact Karate Assoc.
- Australian Escrima & WingTsun Org.

- Australian Hapkido Federation
- Australian Jeet Kune Do Association Ltd
- Australian Shaolin Kempo Academy
- Australian Thai Boxing Association Inc.
- Budo Jitsu Close Quarter Combat
- Diamond Gym (Keumgang Dojang)
- Gary Martin Kung Fu Centre
- Hoshin Australia Pacific
- Hupkwondo Australia Pty Ltd
- International Sport Karate Association
- Inverell Defence & Martial Art Centre
- New England Martial Arts Centre
- Ninjitsu Instructors & Training Association
- Okinawa Butoryu Gohokan Karatedo Kyokai Inc
- RAPPT Pty Ltd
- SOUTHERN FIGHTING ARTS
- Traditional Shotokan Karate Aust Pty. Ltd.
- Washin Kan Karate Do Association

Academy membership is \$100 per year. They are government sponsored to ensure costs are kept at a minimum. Once a member, all coaches have to complete the 'JOINT' cooperative accreditation program of \$175 (all inclusive) every 4 years. The program is a mirrored-copy of the NCAS program and comprises of two parts;

1. General principles : Conducted by the MAIA through the ACC national coaching centres, and their own seminars / centres.
2. Sports Specific : Conducted by the 'Peter Morton Academy of Self Defence'. The curriculum again mirrors the ACC type. The curriculum structure is developed with the assistance of the MAIA to ensure it meets the required assessment criteria. This is a FREE service where ACC would charge \$500 per approved submission with limited support. The MAIA provides all the administration and support as they are government sponsored, providing ID cards, update reminders etc.

2.3. *Resubmit the Application*

To resubmit the application, we would need to make some major changes to the Academy;

- Change the name to remove the words 'Self Defence' (i.e. Academy of Jujitsu).
- Change the logo to remove reference to anything but Jujitsu.
- Remove references to anything but Jujitsu in the Syllabus (i.e. Kenpo, Judo, Boxing)
- Conduct detailed discussions with the AJF for the next 6-8 months. All the meetings will need to be documented in minutes. Then we will have to prove why we are unable (not why we don't want to) to join their coach education system.

2.4. *Create a new organisation separate from the Academy.*

Form a new organisation focusing on supporting Jujitsu clubs around Australia as an alternate to the Australian Jujitsu Federation. Perhaps in joint cooperation with the Australian Shihan Kai, or as a sub-branch of the Australian Shihan Kai; with the PMASD as an executive member providing the Administration and coaching support (i.e. Jujitsu Australia Incorporated).

This would require a massive effort and a lot of administration in the end. It would include;

- A total re-write of the application to the Australian Coaching Council.
- A new constitution.
- Incorporation.
- Continual generation of sufficient funds.
- Conduct detailed discussions with the AJF for the next 6-8 months. All the meetings will need to be documented in minutes. Then we will have to prove why we are unable (not why we don't want to) to join their coach education system.
- Create international affiliations
- Creating local affiliations.
- Support competitive Jujitsu.

This scenario is not recommend simply because it would be an administration nightmare. I think everyone agrees that we have enough internal problems as it is. With a lack of support and cooperation internally at times, it would be unwise to add to them.



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CONCLUSION

In the initial application, the '2 year coaching plan' listed the following goals and objectives that can be used to assess the different options available to us;

- Maintaining the same level of high coaching standard though out all branches by Accrediting all active instructors.
- Increase confidence and competence in coaching ability.
- Promote an ongoing progressive improvement of knowledge and expertise.
- Promote the use of safe and correct techniques (eliminate dangerous practices).
- Encourage sharing of innovative and different coaching techniques.
- Increase communication skills.

When making a decision, keep in mind how it not only effects the Academy, but also how it affects the Instructors. Whether to accredit should be the choice of the Instructor, and we should encourage their '*ongoing progressive improvement of knowledge and expertise.*' It would be a pity to remove access of accreditation programs to those who seek to improve themselves.

3. RECOMMENDED OPTION

Option '2.2 Accredit instructors with the MAIA' seems to be the most logical progression from where we stand.

The existing PMASD coaching accreditation has no formal training and assessment structure. Further development of such a structure would increase the competency of our instructors but offer no formal recognition.

The MAIA provides us with the recognition, and the coach education system described above. They will provide the administration, and conduct the 'Basic Principles' component of the course, allowing the Academy to conduct the in-house 'Sports Specific' education.

The 'Sports Specific' education program is designed with their assistance to ensure it meets the required criteria. This is at not cost, where the ACC would charge \$500 per approved submission.

Costs involved

\$100 / 1yr	Academy Membership
\$175 / 4yr	Coach Accreditation

NOTE : A detailed investigation of the MAIA should be made, and a face-to-face meeting made before committing to them.