

INTERNATIONAL CHINESE BOXING ASSOCIATION

CHARTER SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM



Charter Member School Program

Building a Network of Schools • Preserving Martial Virtue • Promoting All Martial Arts

The **International Chinese Boxing Association (ICBA)** is proud to introduce the **ICBA Charter Member School Program**, created to establish a recognized network of martial arts schools, instructors, and students connected through shared professional standards, martial arts fellowship, and a commitment to preserving the traditions and values of the martial arts.

The Charter Member School program is designed for established martial arts schools that wish to formally affiliate with the ICBA and become part of its growing international school network.

This program is open to eligible members who hold a current **Professional** or **Executive Membership**.

What Is an ICBA Charter Member School?

An **ICBA Charter Member School** is a martial arts school that has applied for membership, been accepted into the ICBA school membership program, and maintains its annual membership in good standing.

Charter membership provides a school with formal recognition as an **ICBA Member School** and establishes an official relationship between the school and the International Chinese Boxing Association.

Charter membership is intended to create an association of schools that can work together, promote their martial arts traditions, participate in ICBA programs and events, and provide their students with an opportunity to be recognized within an international martial arts organization.

Membership Is Not Accreditation

ICBA Charter Membership is a **membership designation, not an accreditation or technical certification of the school's martial arts system.** (Recognition of a Martial Arts System can be found in another ICBA Program.)

Membership does not represent that the ICBA has evaluated, tested, or certified the school's curriculum, lineage, teaching methodology, ranking system, or technical effectiveness.

The ICBA recognizes that legitimate martial arts schools may represent many different traditions, systems, lineages, and teaching methodologies.

The purpose of Charter Membership is to establish a professional organizational relationship while respecting the identity and independence of each member school.

Schools seeking a higher level of institutional recognition or formal evaluation may participate in separate ICBA certification or accreditation programs when those programs are available.

Charter Member School Benefits

An accepted Charter Member School receives the following benefits during its active membership term.

1. Official ICBA Charter Member School Status

The school is recognized as an:

ICBA Charter Member School

The school may identify itself as an ICBA Charter Member School while its membership remains active and in good standing.

The school may display its ICBA membership recognition in its school, website, promotional materials, and other appropriate professional settings, subject to ICBA branding guidelines.

2. Official Charter Member School Certificate

Each Charter Member School receives an official ICBA Charter Member School certificate and wall banner, recognizing its esteemed ICBA membership.

The certificate identifies the school as a member in good standing of the International Chinese Boxing Association for the applicable membership term.

3. Student Membership Recognition

A Charter Member School will also receive the Official ICBA Basic Member Certificate File. This may be used to register its students with the ICBA as student members associated with the Charter Member School.

Each registered student will receive an **ICBA Basic Member Certificate** recognizing the student's membership status from their School, under this Membership Program.

This certificate establishes **basic ICBA membership recognition only**.

To be Official, the School must send their roster of students (with other information) who will receive an ICBA Certificate, so that the ICBA may register the student and issue a membership number.

It does not certify the student's rank, instructor qualification, technical ability, martial arts system, lineage, or teaching credentials.

4. Charter Member School Swag Package

Each new Charter Member School receives an ICBA Charter Member School swag package.

The package is intended to provide the school with professional materials that visibly identify it as part of the ICBA school network.

The specific contents of the swag package will/may evolve as the ICBA program develops.

5. ICBA School Network

Charter Member Schools become part of the ICBA's growing international network of martial arts schools.

Membership provides opportunities to participate in ICBA activities, events, educational programs, recognition programs, seminars, gatherings, and other initiatives made available to member schools.

6. Organizational Fellowship

The ICBA Charter Member School program is designed to encourage communication and fellowship between martial arts schools and instructors.

Member schools become part of an organization dedicated to preserving martial virtue, respecting martial arts traditions, and promoting the continued development of the martial arts community.

Membership Investment

First-Year Charter Membership

\$299

The initial membership includes:

- ICBA Charter Member School status
- Official Charter Member School certificate
- Official Charter Member School Banner
- Charter Member School swag package
- Student membership registration privileges
- Basic ICBA Member Certificate File for registered students
- Access to ICBA member opportunities and programs

Annual Renewal

\$199 per year

Annual renewal maintains the school's active Charter Member School status and continued access to the benefits of the program.

The school must remain in good standing with the ICBA to continue using the Charter Member School designation.

NOTE: Memberships for a Business may be tax deductible. Check with your Tax Professional.

Student Certificate Recognition

The ICBA believes that recognition should extend beyond the instructor or school owner.

For this reason, Charter Member Schools may register their students with the ICBA and provide each registered student with an official **ICBA Basic Member Certificate**.

This recognition is intentionally simple.

The certificate establishes that the individual is a recognized member of the International Chinese Boxing Association through an ICBA Charter Member School.

It does **not** constitute:

- Rank certification
- Instructor certification
- Martial arts system certification

- Lineage verification
- Technical proficiency certification
- School accreditation
- Professional licensing
- Government recognition

Those distinctions are important to maintaining the integrity of the ICBA recognition system.

Maintaining Charter Membership

Charter Member School status is maintained through annual renewal and continued adherence to the basic requirements of ICBA membership.

The ICBA reserves the right to suspend or terminate membership when a school or its leadership engages in conduct that is materially inconsistent with ICBA standards, including conduct involving fraud, serious ethical violations, misuse of ICBA credentials or branding, or conduct that materially damages the reputation of the Association.

Membership fees are paid for organizational membership and program participation. Payment does not guarantee acceptance. All schools remain subject to ICBA review and approval.

Continued Charter Membership, annually, also grants the School levels of membership distinction over time.

For example:

Charter Member School – first 2 years

Heritage Charter School – 3-4 years

Legacy Charter School – 5+ Years

A Network Built on Martial Virtue

The Charter Member School Program is not intended to create another organization that attempts to tell every martial artist how to train.

The martial arts are diverse.

They come from different cultures, teachers, families, lineages, systems, and generations.

The purpose of the ICBA is to provide a professional organization where those differences can exist while maintaining a common commitment to **martial virtue, respect, professionalism, education, and the preservation of legitimate martial arts traditions.**

Charter membership is the beginning of that relationship.

It is an opportunity for schools to say:

We are part of the ICBA.

We support the preservation of the martial arts.

We believe in professional conduct.

We believe in recognizing our students and instructors.

And we are committed to being part of a larger martial arts community.