

This free resource has helped hundreds of people JUST LIKE YOU Discover issues with starting a Self Defense Program that they NEVER would have considered – issues to be Excited about, WARY about, and everything in between!

# 1: SAFETY

The number one MOST important thing that should be stressed in a Self Defense Program is safety. From the drills that are done in class, to the way the warm-up is presented, Safety has to be paramount through and through. A Good Self Defense school should understand that MOST people walking through the doors aren't Hardcore Fighters – They are NORMAL PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME who just want to



feel safer and get into the best shape of their lives.

At our martial arts school we know your boss/spouse/kids don't really want to see a black eye on mommy and daddy. We know our students are looking to be pushed physically and mentally to get into shape, not to get beat up! In fact, safety is #1 in ALL of our classes, not just our Adult Self Defense classes. It's VITAL that we have healthy students who are able to train properly, learn effectively and still go home and carry on about the rest of their lives. The Self Defense school you attend should absolutely follow these guidelines.

You would think that because it's "Martial Arts" it might be inherently dangerous, and you wouldn't be alone. But honestly, and it's because we make safety a priority, we RARELY have an injury in class. In fact, regularly we see our students coming INTO the school with injuries from jogging, softball, and just plain living normal lives – the karate school is often the safest place for you!

## 2: INTRODUCTORY PROCESS

The Self Defense program you choose MUST have a complete and appropriate introductory process for new students. It's imperative that new students be given a block of time with an instructor to verbalize their goals —maybe even create them if the student hasn't fully thought them though, be "shown the ropes" and see what's going to happen in class, and be stepped through any other questions or concerns they might have.

You'd be SHOCKED to see how many martial arts schools completely IGNORE this student need and just "throw you to the wolves" ie, stick you in class and HOPE you do OK. Of course, you won't hear it said like this. You'll typically hear something like "Sure, you can try a free class and see if you like it." While a free class is great, going straight into class without a little help first is NOT.

We disagree with this approach on a fundamental level. In fact, we disagree with it to the point that we have a specific Trial Program created just for you, to ensure you have a fair shot at determining whether our classes are right for you. It's our way of ensuring that no money changes hands until all parties are SURE that our martial arts school is the place for you.

## 3: FITNESS

The BIGGEST difference between a GREAT program and an inferior program is the INHERENT use of fitness in the classes. I'm not talking about jumping jacks and pushups necessarily. I'm talking about strengthening, toning, and tightening your body through



LEARNING the techniques, so that you

MAXIMIZE your time. Chances are you don't had a second control or the se

MAXIMIZE your time. Chances are you don't have a LOT of it!

This happens in our Self-Defense classes because you'll be working constantly throughout the class with the instructors and other students (see #5 – REAL application) in "LIVE" situations where you're constantly using new muscle groups that just aren't used in "normal" exercise that you'd find in a gym. This makes class enjoyable and ensures your workouts are never MUNDANE (have you jogged on a treadmill lately? Yeah, talk about mundane!)

## 4: EFFECTIVENESS

It's absolutely VITAL that you find a Self-Defense program that's effective. This means – does it REALLY work, if you REALLY need it? Now a slight warning – we're not alarmists. We don't think there's a bad guy lurking in every shadow, and we don't act like it in class. However, let's just say there IS a situation that arises – you need to know – not think, not hope, not pray, but KNOW that what you've been training in will WORK, for REAL.

Our classes are based on REAL fighting movements – you WILL learn how to fight. We teach you Martial Arts moves that WORK!

Now that does NOT mean that you have to be some crazy UFC fighter. 99% of our students don't compete in any way except for with themselves, reaching their personal goals.

## **5: REAL APPLICATION - NO THEORY**

That leads us to our next thing that you MUST look for in a self defense program – REAL APPLICATION. That doesn't mean we attack each other full force or anything, but we train in methods that make sense – we don't talk about something and never DO it – we talk about something to understand it, then we work on it, with varying degrees of intensity based on your experience and goals, so that you know whether or not it works for YOU.

## 6: RESPECT

Now, you have to understand something about Martial Arts. With the advent of the UFC and MMA, the Martial Arts in general have become a bit...tarnished in the eyes of the public because of a few bad apples. Let me assure you that MOST MARTIAL ARTS FACILITIES – yes even those who teach MMA and UFC style fighting, have respect for each other, their students, etc. There aren't very many bad apple schools – and if you find one, you should know it right away. It's vital that you find a place that is respectful not just because it looks good, but because it's an ingrained part of the school Culture.

Our martial arts school is a traditional martial arts school that teaches Self-Defense, not a Self-Defense school that just teaches techniques. So with us, there's no doubt that Respect foremost in our school's "Culture" – from the front desk to the mat, we give it to get it, not the other way around.

## 7: STRUCTURED CURRICULUM



Imagine what it would be like if school teachers just showed up to class and taught whatever they wanted – no syllabus, no [structured] curriculum – just by the seat of their pants, based on their own experience. It would certainly be fun for the teacher (ant the students) for a while, but eventually, the teacher would run out of "experience" and the student would run out of "preparation" – meaning, they wouldn't be ready for the next, harder set of challenges.

Be sure that the Self Defense program you choose doesn't just teach by the "Seat of their Pants". What amateur instructors (and some instructor have been teaching or decades but are still essentially amateurs) don't understand is that what's "fun" for the experienced instructor isn't necessarily appropriate for the learning student.

At our martial arts school, our curriculum isn't just structured, it's flexible as well. Flexible enough to be individualized (allowing people with different goals to approach the same technique or challenge with varying levels of intensity and purpose) to YOU as a student. In fact, it's part of our staff's responsibilities to review classes each day and note anything that WASN'T flexible for a student. Then we work together with our decades of Martial Arts and teaching knowledge to ensure that it's fixed – that week.

# 8: GREAT FACILITY

It's important that a good Self-Defense program be housed in a good facility, for Safety, comfort, and proper training. There should be proper safety mats on the floor, up to date equipment in good working order, etc. You do NOT want to take class somewhere that's dirty, unkempt, or just plain run-down.

Our facilities aren't just clean (our staff has a daily cleaning checklist that includes not just cleaning at the end of the day – but throughout the day's classes – you'll often see

them cleaning areas while you're actually working out), they're modern, bright and classy. Our goal is to make you FEEL comfortable and BE safe.

## 9: A GREAT ATMOSPHERE

If you find a Self-Defense program in a great facility, you're probably well on your way to finding the #8 thing to look for – a great atmosphere. Is the staff friendly? Do the other students welcome you into the group? Are the instructors personally invested in your success? Is everybody just plain happy, all the time? Ideally, you should encounter all of this and more. This is the atmosphere that keeps you coming back to class again and again, eventually reaching your goals.

If you're at our martial arts school you know that here – it just happens. We absolutely LOVE what we do. All of our staff members are professional martial artist that teach you for a living. They love what they do and it comes through everyday. We often hear things like this:

"...it's absolutely my favorite place to be – it's like a second home, I LOVE being here!"

And we LOVE that they love it!

## **10: KNOWLEDGEABLE INSTRUCTORS**

I just mentioned that our staff are all professional martial artist, and this is a vital distinction. Any program that is worth your time needs to be run by a PROFESSIONAL martial arts school. If you're going to reach YOUR goals, you need to be sure that the teacher you're with

has the capability to understand you – they need to eat breathe and live Martial Arts and Self-Defense. What good does it do you if you're learning VITAL techniques, essentially, putting your LIFE in the HANDS of someone who isn't committed to you? BE sure you find a school that employs full time employees, and trains and treats them as such.

Our employees undergo rigorous training on a daily, weekly and yearly basis. I don't say that because it's IMPRESSIVE, I say that because it's IMPORTANT! In fact, it's not actually required – there are NO STATE OR FEDERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING MARTIAL ARTS FACILITIES! So it's very, VERY important that you choose a facility that regulates, educates and trains its staff members!

## **11: BONUS - FUN!!!**

It HAS to be FUN! We've been teaching Martial Arts to kids here at our martial arts school for a long time, and we figured out a LONG time ago, that if our younger students were going to get good at Martial Arts, they have to REGULARLY come to class. If they came to class and it was boring and terrible, they weren't going to come at all! So we had to find a way to keep kids FOCUSED while having FUN, and over the years we've really perfected it.

The amazing part though, is that the SAMES THING GOES FOR ADULTS! In fact, we noticed that it worked even BETTER for adults, and there's a scientific reason behind it:

#### **ENDORPHINS**

Adults respond differently than children do to endorphins. Where kids are READY to receive them, and go BONKERS when they start getting excited, Adults are resistant to the brain's chemical at first. But once they start getting used to it, like MAGIC it starts to relieve their everyday stress. You can actually watch the progression of a class at 4PK and see the adults walk into the

class with the day's work, family, marital and all kinds of other stress attached squarely to their shoulders. But as class goes on, they start smiling – they do drills specifically designed to be effective and fun. They laugh, they smile, they sweat – and not only does the stress melt away, it has trouble coming back.

So we literally use FUN and FOCUS as a way to improve the Quality of Life of our students. They love it, and you'll love it too!

If you're ready to get started with your Free Trial Program, check your email and click one of the links. We'll answer your questions, and get everything setup for you.

We'll see you soon!