Environmental sustainability is the maintenance of the factors and practices that contribute to the quality of the environment on a long-term basis. Mitsuru Karate cares about the impact the club/business has on the environment. This policy aims to provide an effective framework for realising Mitsuru Karate’s commitment to protecting and where possible, enhancing the environment either through legislation or by best practice techniques.

This policy describes Mitsuru Karate’s environmental responsibilities under the Environment Act 2021 and Environmental Protection Act 1990.

**Sustainability Statement**

Sustainability focuses on how a business affects the environment and its effects on society. Mitsuru Karate aims to build green and sustainable practices within the business to ensure that our customers have peace of mind that they are taking small steps to protect the environment when dealing with MK.

We will do this by:

* Reducing the amount of paper that is used in the clubs where practicable and if possible, go paper free.
* All correspondence to be done via social media messaging apps (WhatsApp etc) and email.
* Necessary paperwork/printing ordered on demand rather bulk ordering to reduce amount of wastage.
* If in the future MK purchases its own property, solar panels will be fitted as well as LED lighting will be used that will be controlled by an occupancy sensor.
* Order equipment that has come from a supply chain that promotes reduced packaging.
* Car sharing is promoted within the club.

**Environment Statement**

Mitsuru Karate (MK) is committed to ensuring that the environment is at the forefront of all business processes and that all processes will comply with the relevant legislation. The main objectives with regards to waste management are to:

* Ensure that all waste is collected, segregated, and disposed of safely and in accordance with statutory regulations.
* Ensure that all waste containers are correctly locked and labelled in accordance with statutory requirements.
* Ensure contractor compliance with statutory regulations.
* Ensure that records of waste consignments are kept in accordance with statutory duties.
* Monitor the arrangements for the collection, storage and disposal of clinical waste or ensure that rented venues have appropriate arrangements and licenses.
* Provide volunteers with suitable information, instruction and training to ensure that MK’s policy and procedures are understood and followed.
* Ensure that equipment used for disposing, storage and removal of waste complies with the statutory and policy requirements or that the venues used by MK have the appropriate arrangements.
* Conduct risk assessments for health and safety and the environment and ensure that the venues used by MK have conducted appropriate risk assessments.

Mitsuru Karate will:

* Identify and minimise the risks associated with the various categories of waste by developing safe systems for containment and defining standards for disposal.
* Arrange for recycling or disposal of all waste products regularly, safely, in accordance with relevant statutory requirements, and in a manner that will cause minimal harm to the environment or ensure that venues used have made the appropriate arrangements.

**Compliance**

* Environmental Protection Act 1990
* Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) regulations 1991
* The Environment Act 1995
* Waste Regulations (England) 2011
* Waste Minimisation Act 1998
* Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013
* Wate Duty of Care Code of Practice 2018

**Duties**

Chief Instructor/Head Instructors will:

* Set the waste management policy and procedures.
* Ensure Compliance by waste contractors and affiliated premises used by MK.
* Will ensure that all staff are trained and fully understand the site policy and procedures if required.
* Ensure ‘take back’ and disposal options are considered prior to purchasing replacement items where practicable.

All Instructors will:

* Identify any material that they are using or have used which is destined for the waste stream, and ensure it is segregated into its appropriate category as defined in the procedure/guidelines and is recycled and disposed of as recommended.

**General Principles**

* All waste generated by the business will be presented for collection in a manner that will ensure that employees and all other persons are protected from the Risk of exposure to potential sources of infection, injury or offence.
* All waste must be segregated at the point of origin and clearly identified with clearly marked containers.
* External containers will be sourced from approved contractors with relevant and current waste carrier licences.
* Mixing of all waste streams will be prohibited.

Personal Protection

* Staff involved in the collection of waste will wear protective clothing and personal protective equipment as is appropriate for the type of waste.
* Where personal protective equipment is provided, employees are obliged to use it, and must report any defects or malfunction to the manager.

**Minimisation and The Waste Hierarchy**

* **Prevention –** Prevention should be at the forefront of purchasing decisions. It is the most important aspect of waste management. Avoid single use items where possible and only replace when obsolete.
* **Re-use –** if waste cannot be prevented then re-use or re-purpose wherever possible, when purchasing items check if it can be re-used or recycled and avoid if they cannot.
* **Recycle –** All items will be recycled
* **Recover Other Value –** Thermal process to recover energy from the waste.
* **Dispose –** Landfill is a last resort.

**This Policy will be reviewed and updated annually**