

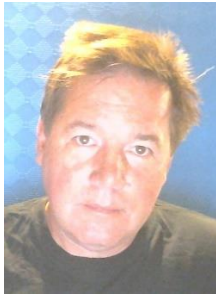
## Blake Paterson Biography

- | Year         | Event  |
|--------------|--|
| 1983         | Started Karate and Tae Kwon Do   |
| 1986         | 1st Black Belt   |
| 1988         | 1st International Championship<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt  |
| 1991         | 3 <sup>d</sup> Degree BB   |
| 1992         | Economics Degree, McMaster University  |
| 1994         | Opened Paterson's Karate Works dojo as a full time career.<br>Never looked back and still operating today 2022 |
| 1996         | Partnered with City of Burlington for 2 <sup>nd</sup> dojo location<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Degree BB               |
| 1997-present | <a href="http://www.thekarateguy.com">www.thekarateguy.com</a>   |

Current Vice President Karate Ontario

PSO representative Ontario ParaSport Games

Covid Safety Director Karate Ontario



My reason/platform for getting more involved with Karate Canada.

Karate is emerging from covid into interesting times. Karate is more necessary in every community now more than ever. At a grass roots, recreational level we can help our communities teach the future leaders of our country. We must reduce barriers to membership and embrace all that practice karate, regardless of style or affiliation. This ground up approach will benefit many dojo and attract more members. More recreational members may want to try our Elite Tournaments and practice in accordance with WKF rules and styles. This will grow our talent pool for nationals and beyond.

As a member of Karate Ontario and board member, I was able to partner with Special Olympics and create a new dojo regardless of ability. As a national board member, I can share how this was done in Ontario and help other provinces grow their Para karate programs.