

BITTERROOT WARRIOR ARTS

CORVALLIS & STEVENSVILLE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DISCIPLINES DOES BWA TEACH?

Karate-Kickboxing

Our Karate-Kickboxing classes are centered around upper and lower body striking techniques. This traditional style is very technical. Bushido Karate is a conglomeration of traditional Karate and Muai Thai Kickboxing. Students learn the basics of Karate, combined with the combative nature of combat Karate. This will consist of strikes, kicks and some basic throws that will become more advanced as you train. For beginners to advanced.

Traditional Japanese Judo Jujitsu

This martial art consists of throwing, submission holds, joint manipulation, and choking techniques. This style is centered around precision.

We teach traditional Japanese combative Jujitsu in its raw, original form. Specializing in the Bushido virtues and codes, you will learn Japanese language, culture and history. This class is for all who are interested in throws and grappling. It is also for beginners up to advanced. This is a great class for those that are brand new, wanting to “skill up” or are in the off-season of wrestling.

Ronin Goshin Jutsu Self-Defense

Ronin Goshin Jutsu is a combative and aggressive fighting style. Students learn hand-to-hand combat, weapons manipulation, knife fighting and aggressive & non-aggressive interrogation methods. As your training increases, you will learn crisis negotiation and will continue to adhere to the Bushido code.

This technique is a unique blend of Bushido Karate’s striking and Judo Jujitsu’s body/joint manipulation used for self-defense purposes. It teaches the student to quickly assess the danger and respond in a manner that neutralizes the threat and removes their ability to fight. The style is very aggressive and encourages improvisation.

HOW DO I SIGN UP AND REGISTER FOR CLASSES?

To sign up a child (ages 6-12) for our Little Ronins Program, please contact us at 406-552-8250. Our “Sessions” run every season (Fall, Winter, Spring & Summer) and are a total of 10 weeks (20 classes total for Fall through Spring & 10 classes total for Summer). Students can join a session at any time. If you would like to try a one-time drop-in, the cost is \$15 per child and must be scheduled ahead of time by calling 406-552-8250.

For our Adults (12 & up), Teens (ages 12-17), Women’s Only, simply show up! These classes are free for the first time. After that, students may purchase a drop-in class, punch card or pass to pay for classes. Our punch cards do not expire. For a list of pricing, please visit our website.

HOW DOES THE BELT SYSTEM WORK?

All belts must be **earned**, even white belts!

White belt training consists of traditional Japanese dojo etiquette as well skills from all three disciplines: Karate Do, Judo Jujitsu and Ronin Goshin Jutsu. The purpose of this belt is to teach the fundamentals so students can effectively operate within the dojo environment and to experience the various types of martial arts. Once the white belt is obtained, the student can choose a specific discipline in which to train.

*Students are allowed up to two white belt practice tests, which are scheduled through BWA. The practice white belt test and the white belt test itself usually take place before or after class. This white belt test is not a private class and will take no longer than 10 minutes.

There is no cost for a practice test or a white belt test.

While all three disciplines progress through the same-colored belts (blue, purple, brown, and black), they are each individual systems that have their own separate curriculum and tests. Each belt is broken up into multiple sections or "tips". Every three months, students may test for a colored tip until a full belt is earned. The cost for testing for anything above a white belt is \$10 per tip for Little Ronins and \$15 per tip for adults (classes 12 & up).

Students must sign up for testing a week prior to testing and pay the testing fee. There are NO sign-ups the week of class and if you are unable to attend (sickness/vacation), there will not be any make-ups and test fee will not be returned or carried over/transferred.

*Every test after the white belt test is taken in-class. Students wishing to take a quarterly test are responsible for payment and scheduling up to one week prior to the test.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR ME OR MY CHILD TO EARN A BLACK BELT?

All of the adult classes are set on a curriculum that, if followed with persistence and regularity, will allow a black belt in approximately 8 years.

Children under the age of 18 cannot earn a black belt due to the time it takes to achieve the training and experience. The highest rank a child under the age of 12 can reach is a green belt.

CAN I TRAIN IN MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES?

Of course! If the student is training in multiple disciplines, it is possible for the student to have different colors for each. For example, earning a blue belt in Judo Jujitsu does not make the student a blue belt in Bushido Karate; the student will still hold a white belt in Karate until testing through that specific curriculum as well.

WHAT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT?

Our juko's (school) curriculum is dojo-taught and home-supported. Parents and guardians help and support inside and outside of the dojo is essential to a student's education and progression. We strongly encourage parents and guardians to be present, when possible, for their student's classes and testing. Please be aware of and practice with your student outside of the classroom. (We even have a Parent "Kyoshi system" to encourage involvement and participation!)

We use the "Remind" app to send out notifications and reminders. We also make announcements within class to students and display them on the white board. It is BOTH the responsibility of the student as well as the parent to be aware of payments due, sign-up deadlines, testing, and knowing where their gi and equipment is. It is NOT up to Bitterroot Warrior Arts to send out individual reminders to each family. Please be mindful of whether or not you are

receiving those Remind notifications. If you are not, please let us know. Also, as a parent, please be sure to “be present” so that you do not miss these announcements being made.

WHAT DO I WEAR TO CLASS?

Students are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing they can move in (t-shirt & shorts/sweats/running pants/leggings/etc.). Prior to earning a white belt, a gi (uniform) can be purchased to be worn at anytime, but will be required after it is earned.

We never wear footwear on the mats, so socks, shoes and other belongings can be placed in a cubby/lockers. If attending in Stevensville, we do require that students wear their footwear to the restroom, so please choose shoes that are easy to slip on and off.

HOW DO I TAKE CARE OF MY GI (UNIFORM)?

Gis can be washed in cold water, inside-out and line-dry. We do not wash belts!... as per tradition.

Please be mindful of the cleanliness of your gi. Keep gis clean and free from stains and rips.

I AM INTERESTED IN WATCHING THE CLASS, IS THAT OKAY?

Absolutely! We LOVE support from parents, siblings, extended family and friends. We do have viewing and observation areas where you are welcome. Please just be mindful of the noise and voice level so as not be distracting to the students while in class. We ask that those observing do not “coach” from the sidelines.