

Sensei Bob Smith



Bob starts his martial arts career in 1966 by taking Judo under Sensei Takahashi at CFB Uplands in Ottawa where he was stationed in the air force for eight years. In the fall of 1966 the Judo club closed and he met Sensei Andre Langelier and decided he wanted to take karate and joined his club.

As Bob practiced and went up in his kyu belts he competed but was not successful until he got his brown belt. Then things began to click he had entered four competitions in Ontario and Quebec; he came home with four trophies.

In 1969, Bob received his Shodan from Sensei Langelier and things took off for him 2nd in Hamilton, 1st in the Northern Ontario Karate Championship, taking second place at the Canadian Karate Championship in overtime losing to Ted Martin.

In 1972, Bob moved to Vancouver BC where his friend Jim McArthur had a Karate club and together they opened three more clubs over the next three years where Bob taught karate.

During this time Bob was very competitive winning the BC Heavy weight division and Grand Champion each year. He also competed in western Canada and north western states mostly Oregon and Washington where he fought five times against Dan Anderson for Grand Championship, Bob won two Grand Championships against Dan plus six other Grand Championships in the western states and western Canada. He also competed in ED Parkers competition in Long Beach California where with the North Western States Team 5 members took second place in team fighting with Dan Anderson.

Bob finally had to retire from Karate as his career as a commercial pilot took him to Northern Ontario for four years, Libya eight years then back to Vancouver for twenty years with Jazz Air, a division of Air Canada.

In 2005 Bob retired from Air Canada and now lives Newfoundland where his love for sailing and flying keeps him busy.