***KARATE SPORT IN UKRAINE***

The language of sport does not need translation. Just like a language, sport reflects cultural values. It ever leads you to both physical and spiritual self-perfection – at school, at home, elsewhere. And great it is if your parents are keen on sports.

Do you believe that the power of will, fortitude and commitment are passed on from generation to generation? The President of the Ukrainian Union of Kyokushin Karate, the father of a boy and two girls (all three studied at our Kherson Classic School N 6), Sergey Vsevolodov is firm about that. What he has always taught his children is *“If you can run, then run; if you cannot run, then walk; if you cannot walk, then creep; but don’t give up – and you won’t face frustration”.*

Sergey Vsevolodov was born in Kherson on September 4, 1955. He was raised by his mother. His father, a locally well-known and highly respected captain of the ship, died when Sergey was just a few months old.

A pupil of the secondary school, Sergey was engaged in freestyle wrestling sports. At the age of 15 he entered the Marine College dedicating his study to his father’s sacred memory; on graduation – worked as a mechanic on PMP Odessa and became an officer at Kherson’s sea port, getting higher education at Kherson State Pedagogical Institute (1980 – 1984).

He started Kyokushin in 1975, collecting methodological literature on karate at all the sea ports of the world. In 1979 he got acquainted with Anatoliy Matiushin who defined Kyokushin style as dynamic and tough which brings high culture of personal development. The ethical principles of the founder of Kyokushin Karate Masutasi Oyama were *respecting people, controlling emotions, having honour and dignity.*

The Head Kyokushin Karate Coach in Ukraine (since 2007), Mr. Vsevolodov wants his students to become world’s karate champions and to glorify this kind of sport in the whole world. Publishing his own book and shooting a documentary film about karate in Ukraine are his plans for the nearest future. And we can’t wait to know more about his lifetime pursuit.