

## **Information on the current state and position of ParkourONE towards FIG and DTB**

**Over the last few months ParkourONE held talks with high ranking representatives of FIG, as well as DTB, in which we were offered a cooperation for the development and execution of Parkour coaching qualifications. In both cases we declined such a cooperation in favor of our objectives and convictions.**

**We want to appeal to all Parkour communities to champion their ideas, ideals and values and to continue to practice and spread Parkour with passion.**

## **Our understanding of Parkour: Parkour by TRuST**

The objective of ParkourONE is to raise the people's quality of life through Parkour by TRuST. At this Parkour serves as a foundation for the individual personal development of body and mind. We live Parkour in many diverse ways and have set ourselves to share and hand on these experiences.

As a strong Parkour community present in many cities within the German-speaking region, we help each other in the execution of this objective, by the eponymous motto of our community: "ONE for all - all for ONE". Through Parkour by TRuST we support our students in their personality development, impart values to them and promote their health. TRuST stands for "Training und Standards" and is the cognitive system, which ParkourONE developed as early as 2006 and by which the ParkourONE Academy learns, teaches and researches Parkour.

We therefore comprehend Parkour as a tool and not as self purpose. The learning process of our students is of greater importance to us than the result of physical accomplishment.

Therefore the type of offerings and cooperation with partners is consistently decided by the question, whether or not offerings and cooperations support our educational objectives personality development, values and health promotion.

More about the ParkourONE Academy: <https://academy.parkourone.com/en/>

In the medium term there will be a course "Parkour Coaching" according to TRuST at the ParkourONE Academy, which we will offer for traceurs outside of ParkourONE.

## **Proposition for a cooperation with the FIG**

In the past years there have been repeated efforts by different organizations to found a Parkour world federation. Now the Gymnastics World Federation (Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique, short: FIG), has incorporated Parkour as a type of sport and is working on establishing Parkour as a olympic discipline. For this purpose the FIG has published a rulebook for competitions (speed and style) complete with clothing regulations and regularly hosts competitions as part of the FISE events.

ParkourONE was invited by Charles Perrière (cofounder of the Yamakasi), who within the FIG is responsible for the coach qualifications amongst other things, to a meeting with Molinari Watanabe, the president of the FIG. The FIG wanted to find out whether ParkourONE would support them as a cooperation partner in the development of a worldwide training system with TRuST contents.

The FIG and competitive sports in general have set themselves to spawn outstanding athletes, who will face each other publicly. Thereby the physical ability of the athletes is the focus of attention and capitalized on through commercials and media broadcasting rights.

All this is not compatible with our educational goals by TRuST. Most apparent is also the contradiction to our values, in which "no competition" plays a pivotal role. We therefore declined a cooperation in developing a training system. For the future however we do not want to explicitly exclude cooperations, in which we can impart Parkour by TRuST within the frame of social projects around Olympia.

## **Proposition for a cooperation at the Parkour coach training for the DTB**

The German Gymnastics Association (short: DTB) is the national association of gymnasts in Germany and therefore internationally assigned to the FIG. Parkour in Germany has - through tracers as well - long ago found its way into the gymnasiums and gymnastics club and therefore some national associations of the DTB have begun offering seminars for Parkour coaches.

The DTB now faces the task of offering a nationwide consistent C-license training for Parkour coaches. To defuse the discussions about competitions, the DTB has separated Parkour within their structures into "Competitive Parkour" and "Mass sports Parkour".

In a report of the news broadcast "ZDF heute +" a representative of the DTB and a representative of ParkourONE were interviewed independently about the "takeover" of Parkour by the DTB. ParkourONE took this report as an opportunity to contact the DTB and initiate a meeting, to exchange about backgrounds and the current development status. This meeting proceeded very honestly and respectfully.

As a result of this meeting the DTB asked ParkourONE for assistance in the development of the C-license training. After an internal investigation of the basic conditions and opportunities to influence, we also decided here not to agree to a cooperation. Just as with the FIG we reserve ourselves the possibility to agree to future cooperations, so long as these coincide with our goals.

## **National Parkour Association**

ParkourONE in Germany as well as in Switzerland invited the representatives of various Parkour communities to a round-table discussion, to respectively discuss the founding of a national Parkour association and possibly prepare this. Such an own national organization was to counter the "takeover" of Parkour by the gymnastics association.

We currently have to note that the "takeover" of Parkour by FIG and DTB has taken place long ago. Therefore the reason to found a national Parkour association has in the meantime been omitted.

## **Diversity of Parkour**

Parkour has no standardized definition: depending on who you ask, Parkour is something totally different.

Everyone, no matter whether founder, beginner can define Parkour for themselves and hand it on. For this reason there are so many varying trends, attitudes and deportments within the community of Parkour trainees. The personal interpretation and individual approach to the practice of Parkour was and still is the foundation for a developing and diverse movement discipline, which lets our members, students and friends strengthen each other, inspire and allows them to grow.

We recognize that any form of Parkour has its legitimization within the people, who practice it with passion and we advocate for preserving diversity in Parkour.

We therefore call upon all Parkour communities to be visible locally in their city or region, to live their Parkour and hand it on.