Shīfu Glen Keith 師父 格兰 凯思 Martial Arts Bio

Profile: Shīfu Glen Keith is a New Zealand martial arts leader, teacher, organiser and international representative with 55 years of continuous involvement in traditional Chinese martial arts, modern sport Wushu and Taichi, from 1971 to the present. Across five decades, he has worked in a voluntary capacity to help shape the development of Gung-Fu, Wushu and Taichi in New Zealand, Oceania and internationally through strong leadership, governance, teaching, athlete pathways, recognition campaigns and lifelong service.

Leadership and Governance: Internationally, Glen represented New Zealand as the sole delegate to the Inaugural International Wushu Federation (IWUF) Congress in Beijing in 1990. He served as IWUF Vice President for Oceania and IWUF Executive Board Member from 1999 to 2015, providing 16 years of continental and global leadership; chaired the IWUF Anti-Doping Disciplinary Committee from 2011 to 2014; joined a five-person IWUF delegation to St Petersburg, Russia, in 2013 to advocate to the IOC for Wushu's inclusion in the 2020 Olympic Games; and campaigned as an IWUF Presidential Candidate in 2015.

In New Zealand and Oceania, Glen co-founded/founded and led organisations that formalised the sport, and preserved traditional practice: President, Wellington Region Chinese Martial Arts Association, 1990–1995; Co-Founder and President, New Zealand Chinese Martial Arts–International Wushu Council, 1995–2005; Co-Founder and President, Oceania Kung Fu Wushu Federation, 1998–2015; OKWF Senior Vice President, 2015–present; and Founder and President, New Zealand Kung-Fu Wushu Federation Inc., 2005–present. Under his leadership, NZKWF achieved National Sport Organisation (NSO) recognition from Sport & Recreation NZ in 2007, Associate Member status with the New Zealand Olympic Committee in 2008, and NSO re-recognition from Sport NZ in 2025.

Practice, Lineage and Teaching: Glen began martial arts in 1971 at age 15 in Kempo Bushido Ryu under Grand Master Robert Gemmell, achieving First Degree Blackbelt in 1976 and Second Degree Blackbelt in 1979. Also in 1979, he commenced Shaolin Fut-Gar Kune Gung-Fu under Grand Master Wing Koi "Peter" Young, becoming an inside student-disciple and Chief Instructor in 1985; this lineage now spans 47 years. In 1997, he began Traditional Yang Style Tai Chi Chuan under Grand Master Wai Ching "Phillip" Kwong, becoming an inside student-disciple and Chief Instructor in 2005; this lineage now spans 29 years. He is entrusted with carrying forward his Gung-Fu and Taichi Master's teachings and legacies.

Awards, Honours and Recognition: Glen's honours include induction into the New Zealand Martial Arts Hall of Fame in 2000, the Australasian Outstanding Dedication and Achievement Award from Insights Martial Arts Magazine in 2002, and induction into both the Australasian Martial Arts Hall of Fame and the World Karate Union Hall of Fame in 2006.