

Jodo Grading and Refereeing Manual
for CKF Judges

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Initial draft by Kim Taylor: 121230

Second draft by Kim Taylor: 171110

Jodo Grading and Refereeing Manual for CKF Judges Including Reiho Points

The purpose of the CKF is to promote the arts under its authority throughout Canada. These include the ZNKR jō and this manual will form the basis of education for judges in this art concerning the points which are considered important for that practice. Canada is a large country and it is important to maintain standards in all areas, the ZNKR has given us a solid basis of minimum standards in their various publications and these have been gathered here to assist us in our duties as judges and referees. It is my hope that we can maintain our current high standards across the country as Jodo expands and develops in Canada.

The ZNKR jodo manual states that:

The main purpose or aim of Jodo lies in defeating the opponent without attacking. Its spirit is not to injure the opponent, but to utilize the techniques thereby demonstrating the true versatility of the weapon. The meaning of this spirit lies outside the normal understanding of the image of combat.

Learning and studying Jodo is in effect training your mind and body. What one learns is not only dexterity of movement, but also development of the spirit.

The benefits derived from training are obvious, but the main ones thought to be of the greatest value are:

1. Develop Courtesy, Truthfulness, Sincerity and Patience.
2. Through regular practice, the body becomes stronger and more active.
3. Through practicing the techniques, posture becomes improved.
4. You gain confidence and have a better sense of judgment in everyday life.
5. Overall, you will have better relationships with others.

In order to achieve this goal the ZNKR jodo section has given us three sets of practice, 12 Tandoku Dosa Kihon (solo basics), 12 Sotai Dosa Kihon (partnered basics) and 12 kata (partnered techniques). It is my hope that all jodo students in Canada will give each of these sets equal thought and attention and that all our judges and referees will understand them thoroughly. Please strive to incorporate the ideals above into your own practice and into your life so that our students will do the same.

Kim Taylor
Jodo Chief Examiner,
December, 2012

Role of the Chief (and Regional) Examiner

As translated by Ohmi Sensei to Kim Taylor in Vancouver, July 2011. All mistranslations are the fault of Kim Taylor. Instruction in budo flows downward from the highest official to the most junior students. All judges should take note of the responsibilities of the head judge so that they might one day fulfill the role with competence. The role of the Examiner is:

1. Training the judges (through judging seminars).
2. Ensure the examiners understand the correct standards and their responsibilities. ¹
3. Explain the rules to the grading challengers. ²
4. Ensure that the results of the examination are collected and that the challengers are informed of the results.
5. Stop the proceedings at an accident or a wrong procedure and fix it. ³
6. Report the results of the examination to the head office.
7. If there is an accident, take the appropriate steps to handle it.
8. To ensure the room is correctly laid out and the exam is going smoothly.

Choosing Examiners

1. Choose from the examiner's book (*a list of qualified examiners*).
2. After choosing the examiners, send a letter naming them to the panel and report the makeup of this board to the appropriate authority (*CKF President*).
3. Each regional leader/president accepts the judging nominations and sends a letter to the judges.⁴

1 The Chief Examiner has a duty to supervise judges and a judge who is found not to be acting correctly should not be placed on future panels. Previous grading results will not be changed. This sanction must be used with extreme care, a chief examiner must not use this sanction for selfish reasons or to bias a panel.

2 Through electronic or other means or by noting any differences from published criteria at the grading. These criteria must not be changed arbitrarily as it is very unfair to the challengers to depart from published standards. For instance, the judging panel must not apply time limits to challengers who were not expecting such.

3 Should procedures be modified for any reason during the grading the head judge or chief examiner must ensure the changes do not disadvantage the challengers.

4 Regarding points 3 and 4, past practice in the CKF indicates that the president does not need to issue the letters, this can be done by the Chief or Regional examiners who are organizing the grading.

The following are the rules of the ZNKR/AJKF. Canadian rules are outlined in the bylaws which are found at the website <http://kendo-canada.com/> and are in accord with the FIK guidelines. They are not the same as these but it is important that Examiners understand the Japanese rules. Please take note of the term "subject to availability" and understand what that means. (See the FIK guidelines and CKF regulations in the appendices for the CKF rules as of this moment)⁵

4. Subject to availability, 6d to 8d panels should contain three hanshi
5. 1 to 5dan tests are done regionally, 6 to 8dan tests are done at a national panel.
6. Subject to availability, Renshi exams are judged by 6 examiners, of kyoshi or hanshi level and under 71 years old.
7. Subject to availability, Kyoshi exams are judged by 4 hanshi, less than 71 years old, and 2 professors or educated persons.
8. Subject to availability, Hanshi exams are judged by 7 hanshi, and 3 professors
9. Subject to availability, 1dan to 3dan grades are judged by 5 renshi or higher, over 6dan.
10. Subject to availability, 4dan and 5dan grades are judged by 6 kyoshi or higher, over 7dan
11. Subject to availability, 6 and 7dan grades are judged on the technical and kata parts of the exam by 6 kyoshi or hanshi of 8dan, who are less than 71 years old.

5 The FIK is an office and a few people within the offices of the AJKF, please remember this, but the FIK regulations are not the same as the Japanese regulations. The difference between FIK and AJKF rules, and the ability of each country to modify or add to the rules has caused much confusion in the past. It is the Chief Examiner's duty to understand how the grading system works.

Requesting Judges from FIK affiliated countries:

The Chief Examiner shall request that the CKF President send a letter to the President of the relevant country requesting permission as per the following FIK directive.

At a Dan examination of an affiliated country, the examiners are usually high Dan holders of that country in question. But when there is not sufficient number of high Dan holders for examiners in that country, there could be a case where high Dan holders from other affiliated countries become examiners.

In such case, it should be requested that the Presidents of both countries, the country which holds the Dan examination and the country to which the foreign examiner belongs, agree, make a written agreement in advance to determine the examiners and the held Dan exam. ⁶

Especially in case you ask a Japanese high Dan holder, who is not an official delegate from AJKF (which means an AJKF registered member who privately visits your country) to become a Dan examiner in your country, you are kindly requested to contact AJKF in advance and get the agreement of AJKF in writing. ⁷

6 To translate, look to your own country first for examiners. If you wish to use examiners from another country ask president to president. To have panelists from any country but Japan, you can ask for specific visitors, or you can ask if a pre-invited visitor may sit the panel.

7 In contrast, note this final point carefully. It is very important and is now something that is insisted upon. To have examiners from Japan on your panel you must ask the FIK who will ask the AJKF to send delegates of their choice. You cannot ask for specific examiners, you must accept whoever they send. You must also ask before November of the previous year, as the AJKF sets their agenda for the next year in November.

Public and Private Events

It is here that we come to the definition of a private and official invitation. From the AJKF/FIK point of view, you may ask anyone you wish to come visit and teach. This is a "private" invitation and the FIK does not need or want to know about it.⁸ On the other hand, these visitors cannot sit a panel. An "official" event is one for which a request for panelists or official instructors have been made through the FIK.

As far as the CKF is concerned, there is no mention of private or official events in the bylaws. However, in discussions with the president and the board it is clear that any event that happens with the knowledge and approval of the CKF and/or the participation of a Chief Examiner (in his/her role as such), and certainly any event that includes a CKF grading can be assumed to be an official event. This is regardless of who is financing the event. In the past such terms as sanctioned (approved (of) by the CKF) and sponsored (paid for by the CKF) have been mentioned. It is only recently that "private" has become used and it is unclear what that means. One might reasonably assume a private event would be one without a CKF grading and one that is run without reference to the CKF, such as a dojo seminar, tournament or classes. Invitations to instructors that do not go through the CKF president might be termed private, but invitations that go through CKF president (in his/her role as president) would, by common sense, not be called private.

8 This has caused much trouble in the past. Do not inform the FIK of invitations or seminars that they have nothing to do with, they do not wish to know as it causes confusion about the status of the instructors you have invited. If you invited them, they are not panelists or judges for a tournament. If they are, you did not invite them. Again, this only applies to Japan.

General Expectations of Judges and Officials

This is a summary of many sources, including a 2012 judging seminar presented by Kishimoto sensei, past-chair of the ZNKR iaido section. notes taken by Kim Taylor.

Judges must be:

- Of high enough rank and experience to sit on the panel for the grade challenged.
- Familiar with the contents of this manual and the current ZNKR jodo manual.
- Impartial (put the best interests of students before personal interest, have no contact/coaching etc. with challengers during the grading period).
- Independent (there should be no consultation on decisions during a grading).
- Discreet (there should be no discussion of decisions after a grading).
- Decourous and dignified (no water bottles or elbows on the table etc.).
- Consistent (the judging standards must be as declared before the grading itself, expectations cannot be changed during the grading).

The Chief Judge:

It is the role of the chief judge on a panel to act in a similar manner to the duties outlined for the Chief Examiner above. Specifically:

- Ensure the examiners understand the correct standards and their responsibilities.
- Explain the rules to the grading challengers.
- Ensure that the results of the examination are collected and that the challengers are informed of the results.
- Stop the proceedings at an accident or a wrong procedure and fix it.
- Report the results of the examination to the head office.
- If there is an accident, take the appropriate steps to handle it.
- To ensure the room is correctly laid out and the exam is going smoothly.

The Grading Secretary:

- Keeps accurate records of the grading.
- Copies those records to the CKF.
- Acts with confidentiality, (show the voting results only to the Chief Examiner or Regional Examiner).⁹

⁹ This is something else that is poorly understood and should be made very clear. The only person who has the right to know how the judges voted is the Chief Examiner or the Regional Examiner should the Chief Examiner not be present and has given permission. The viewing of the judge's votes is to check those judges and not to satisfy the curiosity of the public.

The Difference Between Grading and Tournament

A grading is not the same as a tournament. For a grading there is an objective standard that is either met or not. Everyone can fail or pass a grading. A tournament means a winner and a loser in each match, their relative levels with regard to standards are not relevant, only which did the best at that time. As such, seme and spirit and other things become important in tournaments while they may not be as important in a grading.

The objective grading standards should be the same all over the world, that is their intent. In recent years there has been talk of pass percentages and quotas. While one country may have a certain pass percentage one year, this does not indicate their status relative to another country. Some countries have many kyu ranks below ikkyu, the first rank mentioned in the FIK standard guidelines. This will mean that their ikkyu and shodans should be much better than those from countries who do not use those kyu grades. This is not a concern, the guidelines for each rank are standardized. If a student shows that level they deserve the rank, the fact that other people are more skilled through longer practice time is a natural outcome. By third or fourth dan these initial differences tend to even out.

If a country or region accepts the idea that their pass percentages should be similar to another country the objective standards are no longer objective. The grading becomes the same as a tournament, with the top percent passing and the rest failing regardless of the standard guidelines. Other, non-objective considerations also come into being, such as how many times someone has attempted a grade.

The CKF jodo section should resist such urges to appear "tough" in our judging of ranks by passing a certain percentage of those testing. CKF jodo judges should strive to understand and recognize the minimum standards by interacting closely with the various international judges we invite to give seminars. If you are not attending these seminars you should not expect to recognize the standards as described in this manual and elsewhere.

Kendo Shiai Shinpan Administration Essentials Guide

The following is taken from the introductory pages of the guide and the comments for tournament referees should also be considered when talking about grading panels.

The shinpan-in's hantei (judgment) affords them absolute authority. Therefore the shinpan-in's decision must be determined without self-righteousness or subjectivity, so that it is valid and objective, no matter what.¹⁰

For that reason, in the same way that one cumulatively gains skill with (their own kendo) practice, one must practice in order to improve their shinpan skill.

The shinpan-in (referees/judges) Knowledge

1. General Requirements

1. To be impartial
2. To be able to correctly apply procedural rules for shiai and shinpan
3. To be well versed in the principles of the sword
4. To master shinpan skills.
5. To be healthy (sound body) and energetic.

2. Points to Note

1. Digified attire.
2. To be exact in posture, manner and conduct.
3. To use clear language (speak clearly).
4. To acquire as much shinpan experience as possible by diligently studying and reflecting.
5. To learn by watching good shinpan.

¹⁰ Similarly, the judge's decision is final and irrevokable, and so the judge must make sure his decision is correct and without bias.

General Grading Notes for Judges

Points for Grading Panellists (Shinsa-in)

adapted from Canadian Iaido Shiai and Shinpan Regulations and Guidelines (JCCC publication 2005) which are in turn based on Japanese publications and earlier CKF documents

- Grading panellists should be aware of each grade level and what is required to pass candidates at that level.
- The following important points must be considered:
 - Is the candidate dressed correctly? That is to say, are their hakama and jodo-gi clean? Is it tidy and worn in a manner that shows that the person knows how to wear it correctly?
 - Is their reiho to shomen and their partners correct? What is their general attitude _e.g. serious, lighthearted, or confident etc.
 - Is the execution of their technique correct overall? That is to say, is the application of the kata and its movements being performed in a manner which shows that the candidate understands the technique through their use of the sword and jo?
 - Does the candidate have an understanding of timing and distance in relation to the execution of their techniques? How much control are they exercising and is metsuke being applied in a correct manner? How much spirit is being displayed by the candidate and are the sword and jo being used in an effective manner as a weapon?
- Ultimately what you must decide is the depth of study of the person being examined. This can be done through concentrating on the above points and through your general observation of the detailed points of each form.
- **Special point:** The most important thing to keep in mind is to be impartial. Do not look for people who are similar to yourself in style or build, or who employ techniques which you yourself enjoy watching. It should also be noted that in the terms of level and a candidate's individual ages, the judges must not hold an individual back because they are too young and likewise they must not pass an individual because they are too old. In this sense, the judges must always be impartial and judge on the candidate's ability only.
- The points discussed so far are general observations which a good Grading Panelist should always bear in mind. Remember that as a judge you yourself will be judged by others around you. It is also useful to be clear in your mind about reasons for failure for candidates, so that you can be confident in explaining your actions if need be.
- Judges have a responsibility to observe candidates at all times, and must not waiver in their application of this.

2011 Iaido Judging Seminar Notes

Kishimoto sensei iaido judging seminar, taken by Kim Taylor. Most of the points here are applicable to jodo grading as well.

- The first three dan ranks are "beginner" levels. They involve etiquette, the uniform, the shape of the kata and the movement of the hakama. In other words we are looking for a general feeling that the students are learning it correctly. 4-5 dan levels require a bit more, while 6-8 dan levels involve other things than technical mastery. The notes for grading judges should be examined carefully.
- If someone fails and re-challenges and shows improvement, take note of the effort being made. If challengers look like they are improving that is a good thing.
- Take note of the check points for each kata, assign pass fail or deductions accordingly through the test. For some levels a difficulty may be OK while for senior levels it will be a fail point. As you go up in the ranks the number of deductions that mean a fail is less and less.
- Judges should try hard to improve the students if they are teaching a seminar ahead of the grading but once the grading starts they should not give suggestions or even a pat on the back. To pat a student on the back is to say to the other judges "I think this person should pass" and that is unfair to other challengers. Similarly judges should not discuss the results or give advice after a grading is over. Judges should be fair and not consider who a challenger's teacher is.
- Medical conditions that require the kata to be modified should be noted on the application so that the judges are aware of the problem. In Japan a doctor's certificate is required if a challenger cannot sit seiza. You can do as you usually do in Canada.
- In iaido, the tape is noted during a grading only when the challengers are standing behind it at the beginning "hajime" and when they finish their final bow and are ready to leave. The rest of the time the position of the tape is not noted. The important point is that the feet are behind the tape. If the knees drop in front of the tape when they sit in seiza that is OK.¹¹

11 In jodo gradings the initial starting lines should be observed at the beginning of each kata demonstrated.

Tables of General Grading Points

1-3dan

<p>Criteria for Awarding Dan Grades (Fuyo Kijun)</p> <p>Guidelines for Assessing Pass-Fail in Promotion Examinations</p> <p>(Kendo)</p>	<p>Level of 'kihon' (basic techniques) demonstrated by the examinee. The examiner assesses whether the candidate has learnt and correctly acquired the basic Kendo skills.</p>	<p>Chakuso and Reiho. The candidate's appearance and whether they are correctly wearing the Kendo-gi and Hakama, and are holding the Shinai correctly (Chakuso); Appropriate manners and deportment (Reiho)</p> <p>Correct posture</p> <p>Datotsu (strikes and thrusts) in accordance to the correct basic Kendo techniques</p> <p>Strong spirit (Kisei)</p>
<p>Kishimoto sensei: "Iaido Shinsain no Me"</p>	<p>Up to 3-Dan the person is evaluated based on standard criteria; key points such as appropriate clothes and correct etiquette, accurate nukitsuke and kiritsuke are what is being evaluated. We look for the exact things that are referenced in the ZNKR iai. By this point you must master the correct form.</p>	
<p>Kim Taylor (CKF Jodo) points apply to uchitachi and shijo</p>	<p>Correct etiquette, behaviour and uniform.</p> <p>Correct cuts, thrusts and locks.</p> <p>Attacks reach the target</p> <p>Attacks are avoided correctly</p> <p>Attacks are received correctly</p> <p>Precise kamae to begin and during kata.</p>	<p>Solid basics</p> <p>Correct posture and movement</p> <p>ShowDai, Kyo, Soku, Kei (Big, Strong, Fast, Smooth)</p> <p>Strong spirit and power in the movements.</p>

4-5dan

<p>Criteria for Awarding Dan Grades (Fuyo Kijun)</p> <p>Guidelines for Assessing Pass-Fail in Promotion Examinations</p>	<p>Level of basic Kendo techniques and advanced Kendo skills.</p>	<p>All the above plus</p> <p>Level of proficiency acquired in advanced Kendo techniques</p> <p>Level of mental and physical discipline demonstrated</p> <p>Strategic skills to control and win a match</p>
<p>Kishimoto sensei: "Iaido Shinsain no Me"</p>	<p>At 4th dan and higher, we still look for correct form, however we also wish to see what the opponent is doing (his spirit) and your spirit suppressing (seme) the attack. At this level we look to see if the attack (seme ai) is well performed.</p>	
<p>Kim Taylor (CKF Jodo) points apply to uchitachi and shijo</p>	<p>All the above plus</p> <p>Composure/Calmness of mind and spirit</p> <p>Kihaku (spirit, dynamism, energy)</p> <p>Ki-Ken-Tai Ichi</p> <p>Correct awase, maai and ma (distance and timing, beginning and during kata)</p> <p>Seme, metsuke and precise transitional movement</p> <p>Flexible arms, precise hasuji</p>	<p>Control the partner with technique</p> <p>Solid understanding of the scenario of each Kata</p> <p>Show Kan, Kyu, Kyo, Jaku (slow, fast, strong, weak/soft)</p> <p>Solid understanding of Key points in the Jodo Manual</p> <p>Depth of practice</p>

6-7dan

<p>Criteria for Awarding Dan Grades (Fuyo Kijun)</p> <p>Guidelines for Assessing Pass-Fail in Promotion Examinations</p>	<p>Ability to demonstrate 'Jiri' (technique and theory). Besides the basic and advanced Kendo techniques, the examiner assesses whether a candidate has acquired sufficient knowledge and understanding of Jiri, the techniques of Kendo accompanied with theory or principles.</p>	<p>All the above plus</p> <p>Understanding of 'Riai' (The candidate must be able to execute Waza and move in a way that is rational and purposeful)</p> <p>'Fukaku' and 'Hinkaku' (Demonstrating one's own style which is dignified and elegant.)</p>
<p>Kim Taylor (CKF Jodo) points apply to uchitachi and shijo</p>	<p>All the above plus.</p> <p>Riai (principle, theory).</p> <p>Fukaku (character, originality) Hinkaku (grace, dignity).</p>	<p>Show how to control the partner with body and spirit.</p> <p>Solid understanding of the concept/theory, and demonstrate the knowledge of own Jo.</p> <p>Shin, Ki, Ryoku (Mind, Spirit, Skill) Correct spirit, mindset, and skills making correct jo.</p> <p>Kigurai (Pride/ Spirit/ depth of practice).</p> <p>Isshin Itto (One mind, one sword, correct mindset for every movement).</p>

8dan plus

<p>Criteria for Awarding Dan Grades (Fuyo Kijun)</p> <p>Guidelines for Assessing Pass-Fail in Promotion Examinations</p>	<p>Whether or not the candidate has reached the highest stage of Jiri referred to as 'Jiri-Itchi' (total integration of Ji and Ri). The candidate will be assessed on their ability to demonstrate a profound understanding of Jiri-Itchi in addition to the aforementioned points for 7-Dan and below.</p>
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In the absence of a similar manual for jodo, the following is generally applicable to jodo as well. For Subsidiary Rules Article 7.3 (Technique) apply the basic requirements of 1-3 dan above, specifically:

- 1. Correct cuts, thrusts and locks that reach the target properly.*
- 2. Attacks are received and avoided correctly*
- 3. Precise kamae to begin and during kata.*

For the rest, read jodo for iaido and jo for iai.

General Tournament Notes for Iaido Judges

The Regulations of Iaido Shiai and Shinpan

Regulations Article 11.1: Victory (in a tournament match) shall be decided based on difference in mental attitude and "KI-KEN-TAI-ITCHI" (Spirit, Sword and Body in harmony), which is based upon correct Sword handling and techniques, correct posture and high spirit, with correct etiquette and manners.

Subsidiary Rules Article 7: The following points should be considered when deciding victory:

1. Depth of practice
2. Etiquette (correct attitude, manners).
3. Technique:
 1. Correct NUKITSUKE, KIRITSUKE
 2. Correct SAYABANARE, HASUJI
 3. Correct CHIBURI, angle
 4. Correct NOTO
4. Mental attitude:
 1. Calmness
 2. METSUKE (looking)
 3. Spirit, ZANSHIN (alertness), timing, distance
5. KI-KEN-TAI-ITCHI
6. IAIDO should be rational as a BUDO
7. Reference is made to "Points to look for in Refereeing and Examinations of ZNKR IAI"

For the following expansion, the Buko Dosokai comments are on the left, the modifications for jodo are on the right.

The Buko Dosokai Expansion on the above points	Jodo Expansion Points based upon the Buko Dosokai points
<p>General Theory The ZNKR Rukes and Regulations for iaido matches "Article 12" (now article 7 supplementary rules) states that the following points are to be considered when making a judgment.</p> <p>(The same list as above)</p> <p>Of these points, numbers 1, 4 and 5 are most likely to prove contentious, so we will discuss them further.</p>	
<p>How to Interpret "Depth of Practice"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kurai Dori: The original ZNKR iai was intended to educate kendoka, and in the same way that shidachi in kendo no kata should subdue the opponent by displaying a self confident attitude, then it is equally important to show this "kurai dori" against an imaginary opponent. 2. Hin-i / Kigurai: The iaidoka should show clearly that he is "pushing" the opponent with his spirit, thus overwhelming him. 3. Jo / Ha / Kyu: This is so called "ma" refers to the timing, or more accurately to the balance between fast and slow movements. This is a very important element, especially in a match between two high graded players. 4. Kaso-teki: This refers to the imaginary opponent. Does the player's metsuke show the correct number and position of the opponents? Is the player cutting or thrusting to the correct targets? 5. Cutting: One has to judge whether the cutting action is preceded with "seme", attacking attitude, and whether the monouchi of the sword is effectively used. 6. Sword sound: The sound that the sword makes should be short but sharp. The cutting movements can be divided into two parts; lowering the sword from above the head and the actual cutting. When the sword is just starting to move, no sound is preferable, but 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. read jo for iai. 2. read jodoka for iaidoka 3. Jo Ha Kyu ought to be shown between the partners of a jodo kata. The tachi and the jo should both show they understand this balance clearly. 4. In the case of a jodo kata, the players should look correctly at their partner and should be cutting and thrusting to the correct targets. 5. This point is the same for both tachi and jo. 6. While the sword and the jo do not make the "tachi kaze" that an iai-to makes, the cutting motions of both weapons should be focused in the same way. 7. The points here regarding te-no-uchi refer to both tachi and jo.

<p>when the actual cut has started then there should be a sound until the sword stops.</p> <p>7. Te-no-uchi: Of course there are both heavy and light swords. However it seems that recently strong swinging is seen as preferable to dynamic movement. A dynamic movement is always accompanied by a good te-no-uchi (the force concentrated to the monouchi by the hands) and simply swinging the sword forcefully should not be encouraged.</p>	
<p>How to judge "Kokoro - gamae" (mental attitude / posture)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calmness: A calm heart can be clearly seen in the eyes and attitudes of the player. 2. Metsuke: Metsuke shouldn't only be taken to "enzan no metsuke" but a distinction should also be made between "kan" looking with the heart and "ken" looking with the eyes. 3. Spirit: The spirit of the iaidoka should be so strong that the opponent is unable to draw his sword. If one has to draw, however reluctantly in order to preserve ones own life, then the cut must be fierce, determined and final. 4. Zanshin: Correct zanshin should not be directed solely at one's opponent, but should be directed at all opponents in the vicinity. 5. Distance and timing: To meet an opponent's attack there will always be the consideration of timing and distance. Choosing whether striking before the opponent moves or reacting after one has invited the opponent to attack, will result in different timing and distance. It is therefore extremely important that the player shows that he is fully conscious of an opponent. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attention: In the case of the ZNKR iai, only in ukenagashi and kesagiri is the opponent invited to attack first (<i>and now sogiri and nuki uchi</i>). In all other forms one must strike the "degasira" of the opponent, that is, the very instant that he wants to start his movement. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. same 2. Kan and Ken are different. The jodoka should not only see his partner, but "read his intent". 3. For draw, simply read "perform a movement with the jo" 4. Jodoka should maintain an awareness of those around them rather than focus only on their partner. 5. It is critical that the movements of tachi and jo show an awareness of who has attacked and who has invited an attack.

What is "Ki / Ken / Tai -no -itchi"

The basic thinking of the ZNKR iai is that the opponent can be restrained if one first takes the initiative. Therefore one has to move in a way that is dictated by the attack of the opponent. Consequently, one should not cut after the feet have stopped moving but should rather let the body and sword move together in harmony.

This is the same for ZNKR jo.

Equipment and Uniform Regulations

The Weapons Check

Jo:

- Length: 128cm
- Diameter: 2.4cm
- Material: Red/White Oak
- Shape: Rounded

Tachi:

- Total Length: 101.5cm
- Length of hilt: 24.2 cm
- Material: White Oak
- Shape: As per Kendo no Kata or Shindo Muso Ryu bokuto

Further Checks

1. Are the weapons the correct size, shape?
2. Is the wood strong with good grain so that is not likely to break?
3. Is the weapon splintered, chipped, cracked, or warped?
4. Is the tsuba secure with no play?
5. Is the tsuka clean and not slippery?

The Uniform Check

1. A kendo gi and hakama shall be worn. They must be clean and without tears. For grading, name tags, dojo badges or insignia must be removed or covered. No jewellery is allowed.
2. The hakama must reach the top of the feet, level with the ankle bone. At the feet, the front should hang lower than the back. It is preferable that the hakama be blue (indigo). No undergarments such as track pants that will show at the bottom may be worn under the hakama.
3. The gi should be blue to match the colour of the hakama. The gi should not bulge, nor should the back of the neckline stick out. The neckline at the front should meet close to the base of the throat and should not loosen or come apart. T-shirts may not be worn but an under-gi (such as a juban) is permissible provided it cannot be seen. The gi must be long enough to cover the leg at the side of the hakama. Tabi are only allowed under unusual circumstances and with permission of the grading panel. No other footwear is permissible, subject to medical exemption.
4. The obi must be of proper length and width. It usually matches the colour of the hakama. The obi should be long enough to wrap around the waist three times. The width should be at least 2 inches. The knot of the obi should be worn at the center of the back. The obi should be tied tight enough not to slip up or down, yet not impede the movement of the bokuto. The knot should not distort the back of the hakama.

Detailed Reiho and Kamae Points

Judges should read and be thoroughly familiar with the ZNKR jodo manual, not just the "points for refereeing and judging". However, judges should review these points prior to each panel they sit.

These points are provide here for convenience.

Grading panel members and referees should give the following points their consideration during grading and competition situations.

Reiho- whether they follow the stipulated ones.

Ippon me - Tsuki Zue

Uchi:

- (1) Is the Hasso no Kamae performed correctly? Do they start from the correct Maai? Is the cut in line with Shi's centre and does it finish at the horizontal level?
- (2) Does Uchi hold the sword in the correct position in Hidari Jodan no Kamae?

Shi:

- (1) Does Shi make the correct posture when avoiding the sword cut?
- (2) Does Shi strike the left wrist in the correct manner?
- (3) Do both Honte Uchi strikes reach their target adequately?

Nihon me - Suigetsu

Uchi:

- (1) Does Uchi's cut reach the target correctly?
- (2) When making the Chudan no Kamae, is the distance and timing correct?

Shi:

- (1) Does the thrust point at Uchi's solar plexus correctly?
- (2) Does Shi take correct Hiki Otoshi no Kamae?
- (3) Is the Hiki Otoshi strike on the sword adequate?

Sanbon me - Hissage

Uchi:

- (1) During the Awase, does the sword match evenly with the Jo?
- (2) When cutting from Hidari Jodan no Kamae, does the cut reach Shi's head?
- (3) Does Uchi receive the Kuri Tsuke correctly?

Shi:

- (1) Does Shi apply the correct distance when making the Awase with Uchi's sword?
- (2) Does the Kuri Tsuke work sufficiently to pin the sword and is the following thrust to the solar plexus made correctly and adequately?

Yonhon me - Shamen

Uchi:

- (1) Is the cut to the head executed correctly and does it finish at the horizontal level?
- (2) Is the correct distance taken with the Hidari Jodan no Kamae?

Shi:

- (1) Is the body moved to the right diagonal front and is the Jo held correctly when making the strike to Uchi's left temple?
- (2) Is the Kaeshi Zuki no Kamae correctly executed and when making the strike does the point of the Jo reach the solar plexus?

Gohon me - Sakan

Uchi:

- (1) Is the thrust made correctly to the solar plexus?
- (2) When Shi hits the sword, does Uchi take three steps back beginning with the right foot and take the correct distance?
- (3) Are the Chudan and Hasso no Kamaes correctly applied?

Shi:

- (1) Against the thrust of the sword, does Shi step back with both feet to the correct distance and Ma Hanmi posture?
- (2) When striking the sword, does the right foot move forwards?
- (3) Before making Hiki Otoshi no Kamae, does the left foot come up in line with the right?
- (4) Does the right hand move to the end of the Jo to make Migi Hiki Otoshi?

Roppon me - Monomi

Uchi:

- (1) Does the sword cut correctly to Shi's body centreline and does it finish horizontal?
- (2) When Uchi makes Hidari Jodan no Kamae, is the sword in the correct position above the head?

Shi:

- (1) Is the correct footwork made through the initial Kamae and when Shi strikes, is the right angle achieved in reaching the target?
- (2) Is the strike smooth and uninterrupted with Jo making a large circular movement?
- (3) Is the Kaeshi Zuki correct and does the Jo reach the solar plexus?

Nanahon me - Kasumi

Uchi:

- (1) Is the correct footwork from the Maai of two steps for one strike to the left and right foot and subsequent cut all made in the correct manner?
- (2) Does Uchi properly receive the Tai Atari and Kuri Tsuke techniques?

Shi:

- (1) Is the correct posture, strike and Seme on the sword made during Gyakute Uchi?
- (2) Does Shi correctly execute both Tai Atari and Hiki Otoshi no Kamae?

Happon me - Tachi Otoshi

Uchi:

- (1) When receiving the initial strike on the sword, does the body move to the left?
- (2) Are the feet in the correct position?
- (3) When Uchi makes the cut to Shi's neck, is the sword moved through the Jodan no Kamae in a large circular action?
- (4) After the Kuri Tsuke, does Uchi make the correct footwork to step back?

Shi:

- (1) Upon striking the sword with Gyakute Uchi, is the body in the correct Hanmi posture and are the hands and strike both adequate and correct?
When Shi makes Kuri Tsuke no Kamae, does the Jo correctly catch Uchi's wrist and effectively stop the attack?

Kyuhon me - Rai Uchi

Uchi:

- (1) Does Uchi make the first cut to Shi's left upper arm correctly?
- (2) Is the second cut made by moving the sword through Iodan no Kamae as Uchi takes a large step with the left foot to the rear and is this aimed at the back of Shi's neck?

Shi:

- (1) Does the thrust to Uchi's solar plexus reach the target and effectively stop their attack?

Is the correct angle and timing achieved when making the second thrust to Uchi's right flank?

Juppon me - Seigan

Uchi:

- (1) From the start of the Kata, does Uchi proceed with the correct posture to hold the Tsuka with their right hand?
- (2) Is the one handed cut correctly aimed at Shi's left hand and does it cut?

Shi:

- (1) Does Shi use sufficient Seme to attack Uchi's eyes, before striking the solar plexus?
- (2) Is the Gyakute Tsuki technique correctly applied to Uchi's left flank?
- (3) Is the Jo pulled back sufficiently to avoid Uchi's attack, is Hasso no Kamae correct and does the strike to the solar plexus start from correct Hasso no Kamae and reach the target?

Ju ippon me - Midare Dome

Uchi:

- (1) Does Uchi's sword correctly cut Shi's left torso (Do)?
- (2) When Uchi receives the strike to the sword, is the correct footwork observed and is the following cut made to Shi's head?
- (3) Does Uchi apply the correct footwork when moving backwards?

Shi:

- (1) When making Gyakute Uchi, is the left hand in the correct position?
- (2) When the Jo is brought above the head to prevent Uchi's cut, is the end of the Jo correctly placed at Uchi's face?

Ju nihon me - Ran Ai

Uchi:

- (1) Is the correct posture assumed when drawing the sword to the right diagonal upward position?
- (2) Does Uchi make the correct diagonal cut to Shi's torso (Do)?
- (3) On receiving the Honte Uchi to the head, does Uchi catch the jo with the left foot in the rear position?
- (4) Is the horizontal cut across Shi's body level with their chest?
- (5) When receiving Kuri Hanashi, how is Uchi's Metsuke and posture? Is it still looking at Shi?
- (6) Does Uchi move back correctly and in a smooth manner making the necessary Kamae?
- (7) Is the one handed cut to Shi's right hand effective? Does Uchi take the correct Kamae?
- (8) When making the thrust, is Uchi's aim correct with sufficient reach to the target?
- (9) When Shi uses Do Barai, does Uchi's sword make the correct torso cut?

Other important points for Uchi:

- (10) Are the arms and wrists kept flexible?
- (11) Is the sword edge in line with the cut?

Shi:

- (1) When striking Uchi, is the correct target hit after Seme-charging with the left, then right foot?
- (2) Is the thrust to the flank made correctly?
- (3) Is the Hiki Otoshi strike to the head made effectively and without pause?
- (4) When retreating, does Shi move back sufficiently to avoid the sword cut?
- (5) How well does Shi make the Kuri Hanashi? Do they keep the point at Uchi's eyes?
- (6) From the Hiki Otoshi no Kamae, does Shi step forward using Seme to attack Uchi's face and place the left and right feet correctly?
- (7) Does he receive Do Barai with correct posture?

Appendices to the manual

The following documents are provided here for convenience. Judges should be familiar with them.

CKF Regulations for Dan/Kyu Examination as per Dec 2012

CKF Grading - Rules and Regulations

Grading Committees:

There are two Regional Examination Committees for each art; The Western Grading Committee and the Eastern Grading Committee. Each Committee (where applicable) is to be composed of a minimum of five examiners and each committee member will usually hold a rank of 6th Dan or higher.

CKF members located in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan wishing to challenge Iaido 1st Kyu, 1st Dan to 5th Dan and Iaido 1st Kyu, 1st Dan to 4th Dan will be examined by the Western Grading Committee. Iaido 5th Dan and all Jodo challengers will grade under the Eastern Grading Committee.

CKF members located in Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes wishing to challenge Kendo, Iaido and Jodo 1st Kyu, 1st Dan to 5th Dan will be examined by the Eastern Grading Committee.

Any CKF member wishing to challenge 6th Dan and above will be examined by the Central Grading Committee.

Any CKF member wishing to challenge Kendo 6th Dan and above and Renshi Shogo (1 full year after receiving 6th Dan) will be examined by the Central Grading Committee in Ontario. Contact CKF for more info.

Upon successful completion of the examination, each Regional Grading Committee, after examining the candidate will recommend them to the Central Grading Committee for their final approval and recommendation for the granting of their degrees. The CKF President issues all grading certificates.

Examination Components:

The Kendo grading examination consists of two components:

- (i) observation of their Kendo
- (ii) Kendo Kata.

Each component is judged on a pass or fail basis. Each candidate must successfully complete both components. A successful completion is determined by receiving 'pass' from at least 4 of the 5 or 4 of the 6 examiners.

The Iaido and Jodo grading examination consists of the observation of a candidate's kata. Successful completion is based on receiving a 'pass' from at least 4 of 5 or 4 of 6 examiners.

Candidates for shodan through sandan in any of the arts must also complete a written examination. Candidates will not pass or fail on the basis of this test alone. However, candidates who make an inadequate submission will be requested to revise and re-submit their exam.

A candidate must also exhibit proper etiquette. Failure to do so can result in a failed examination.

Qualifications:

Applicants must be members in good standing of the Canadian Kendo Federation. This means that all yearly membership fees must be paid in full in advance of grading.

Applicants (Kendo, Iaido and Jodo) must have the following periods of practice:

Dan/Kyu	Practice Periods	Minimum Ages
1 Kyu		
1 (Sho) Dan	Over 3 months after granting of 1 Kyu	13 Years and over
2 (Ni) Dan	Over 1 years after granting of 1st Dan	
3 (San) Dan	Over 2 years after granting of 2nd Dan	
4 (Yon) Dan	Over 3 years after granting of 3rd Dan	
5 (Go) Dan	Over 4 years after granting of 4th Dan	
6 (Roku) Dan	Over 5 years after granting of 5th Dan	
7 (Nana) Dan	Over 6 years after granting of 6th Dan	
8 (Hachi) Dan	Over 10 years after granting of 7th Dan	48 Years and over

Kendo Kata shall be examined as follows:

Kyu/Dan Applied for	Examination Subjects
1 Kyu	Tachi 1 – 3 Bon
1 Dan	Tachi 1 – 5 Hon
2 Dan	Tachi 1 – 7 Hon
3rd Dan & Up	Tachi 7 Hon & Kodachi 3 Bon

Iaido Kata shall be examined as follows:

Kyu/Dan Applied for	Examination Subjects
1 Kyu & 1 Dan	5 ZenKenRen* of candidate's choice
2 Dan & Up	1 Koryu of candidate's choice 4 ZenKenRen* as selected by the examiners.
6 Dan & Up	2 Koryu of candidate's choice 3 ZenKenRen* as selected by the examiners.

Jodo Kata shall be examined as follows:

Kyu/Dan Applied for	Examination Subjects
1 Kyu	3 Kihon, Seitei Kata* #1, 2 and 4 Jo and Tachi side
1 Dan	Kihon+Seitei Kata 2 - 6 both sides
2 Dan	Kihon+Seitei Kata 3 - 7 both sides
3 Dan	Kihon+Seitei Kata 4 - 8 both sides
4 Dan	Kihon commands+Seitei Kata 7 - 11 both sides
5 Dan	Kihon commands+Seitei Kata 8 - 12 both sides

* Zen Nihon Kendo Renmei Jodo – All Japan Kendo Federation Jodo set Kihon (Tandouku) will be selected by the examiners.

CKF Examination and Certificate Fee Schedule

Kyu/Dan applied for	Examination Fees	Registration (Certificate) Fees	Japanese Certificate*
1st Kyu Junior	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	N/A
1st Kyu	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	N/A
1st Dan Junior	\$ 30.00	\$ 50.00	+ \$ 80.00

1st Dan	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00	+ \$ 80.00
2nd Dan	\$ 60.00	\$ 90.00	+ \$ 80.00
3rd Dan	\$ 70.00	\$ 150.00	+ \$ 80.00
4th Dan	\$ 75.00	\$ 325.00	
5th Dan	\$ 75.00	\$ 425.00	
6th Dan	\$ 75.00	\$ 550.00	
7th Dan	\$ 75.00	\$ 700.00	
Renshi	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00	
Kyoshi		\$ 600.00	

*All certificates for 4th Dan and up will be written in Japanese. All names on Japanese Certificates will be written in Roman alphabet unless otherwise specified on the application form.

CKF Regulations for Shogo Examination as per Dec 2012

Renshi	1 year after receiving 6dan	short essay	\$500.00
Kyoshi	5 years after passing 7dan and has renshi shogo, required.	letter of recommendation from another 7dan, preferably in the same region	\$600.00
Hanshi	Granted by CKF president	NA	NA

FIK Standard Guideline for Dan/Kyu Examination.

The document is provided here in its entirety. Dan rank between FIK organizations is considered equivalent so these guidelines are given as the minimum required. It has been noted in the minutes of the FIK board of directors that Shogo rank has been adapted to the requirements of individual member nations of the FIK and so those ranks are not considered as equivalent across the FIK.

STANDARD GUIDELINE FOR DAN/KYU EXAMINATION

INTERNATIONAL KENDO FEDERATION

Rev. May 24, 2012

(Purpose)

Article 1: The purpose of this ‘Standard Guideline for Dan/Kyu Examination’ is to define the basic standards of the examination, which shall be common to every affiliated organization (herein after called Organization) of International Kendo Federation (hereinafter referred to as FIK). When an Organization conducts a Dan/Kyu examination, this standard guideline applies.

(General Provision)

Article 2: The Dan/Kyu stipulated in this Standard Guideline shall be from 1 Kyu (Ikkyu) to 10 Dan (Jyu Dan), shall be granted by the President of Organization according to the overall Kendo ability of an applicant, and shall be mutually recognized as being equivalent among Organizations.

(Applicant’s Qualifications)

Article 3:

(1) An applicant shall be a registered member of Organization and shall have the following periods of practice.

Dan/Kyu	Practice Periods	Lowest Ages
1 Kyu (Ikkyu)	-	-
1 Dan (Sho Dan)	1 Kyu holder	13 years old and over
2 Dan (Ni Dan)	One year or more	after 1 Dan
3 Dan (San Dan)	Two years or more	after 2 Dan
4 Dan (Yon Dan)	Three years or more	after 3 Dan
5 Dan (Go Dan)	Four years or more	after 4 Dan
6 Dan (Roku Dan)	Five years or more	after 5 Dan

7 Dan (Shichi Dan)	Six years or more	after 6 Dan
8 Dan (Hachi Dan)	Ten years or more	after 7 Dan 46 years and over
9 Dan (Kyu Dan)	After granting of 8 Dan	65 years and over
10 Dan (Jyu Dan)	After granting of 9 Dan	

(2) Those who desire to apply for a 6, 7 or 8 Dan examination, 60 years old or older and have practiced for a certain years as below shall be allowed to apply.

Dan/Kyu	Practice Periods
6 Dan	Two years or more after 5 Dan
7 Dan	Three years or more after 6 Dan
8 Dan	Five years or more after 7 Dan

(Examination Methods)

Article 4: An examination shall be conducted by Organization; however in case where Organization lacks qualified examiners to meet the required number given below, other Organization(s) may provide qualified examiners with the approval of the President(s) of that Organization(s).

(Examination Subjects)

Article 5:

(1) Examination subjects are as follows:

Dan/Kyu Applied for	Examination Subjects
1 Kyu	Matches (Jitsugi)
1 Dan ~ 5 Dan	Matches (Jitsugi), Nippon-Kendo-Kata and Written Test
6 Dan, 7 Dan	Matches (Jitsugi), Nippon-Kendo-Kata

(2) Nippon-Kendo-Kata shall be examined as follows:

Dan/Kyu Applied for	Examination Subjects
1 Kyu	-
1 Dan	Tachi-no-Kata 3 or more forms
2 Dan	Tachi-no-Kata 5 or more forms
3 Dan	Tachi-no-Kata 7 forms
4 Dan – 7 Dan	Tachi-no-Kata 7 forms and Kodachi-no-Kata 3 forms

(3) When the success of Jitsugi, Nippon-Kendo-Kata and written test are separately announced after each occasion, if an applicant fails in Nippon-Kendo-Kata or in written test after the success in Jitsugi, he/she may be allowed to take that subject only again at an examination held afterwards. This special treatment shall apply only once for one occasion per applicant.

(Examiner’s Qualification, Required Number of Examiners and Eligibility Criteria)

Article 6:

(1) Examiner’s qualifications, required number of the examiners and eligibility criteria are as follows:

Dan Examined	Examiner	Number	Criteria
1 Dan	4 Dan & over	5	Consent of min. 3 Examiners
2 Dan	5 Dan & over	5	Consent of min. 3 Examiners
3 Dan	5 Dan & over	5	Consent of min. 3 Examiners
4 Dan	6 Dan & over	6	Consent of min. 4 Examiners
5 Dan	7 Dan & over	6	Consent of min. 4 Examiners
6 Dan	7 Dan & over	6	Consent of min. 4 Examiners
7 Dan	7 Dan & over	6	Consent of min. 4 Examiners

(2) Special Treatment: Concerning the 4-Dan or higher Dan examinations, if the required number of qualified and suitable examiners cannot be appointed by the method stipulated in the Article 8, the number of the examiners may be reduced to 5. In this case, the consent of minimum 4 examiners shall suffice for the decision of passing.

(Examinations for Kyu and 8 Dan & Over)

Article 7: The examinations for Kyu and for 8 Dan and over shall be determined by each Organization. Regarding the 8 Dan and higher Dan examinations, each Organization shall determine a rigorous way of examination including Jitsugi evaluation.

(Method to Appoint Examiners)

Article 8: Examiners shall be appointed by the President of Organization after a discussion with the officials and fully-competent Dan holders. ‘Fully-competent Dan holders’ here means persons with equal or higher grades stipulated in the Article 6, Examiners’ Qualifications.

(Fees for Examination and Registration)

Article 9: Fees for examination and registration shall be stipulated by Organization.

(Return or Deprivation of Dan/Kyu)

Article 10: The President of Organization may, in consultation with the council or the investigation committee of the Organization, order a Dan/Kyu grantee of Organization to return his/her Dan/Kyu or deprive him/her of the same, in case where the grantee disgraced the Dan/Kyu.

(Issuing Certificate and Recording)

Article 11: Organization shall issue a certificate with the signature of the President of Organization to each successful applicant. Organization shall keep the Dan/Kyu records properly.

(Criteria for Awarding Dan Grades; ‘Fuyo Kijun’)

Article 12: The acceptability criterion of each Dan ‘Fuyo Kijun’ shall be stated separately as ‘Guidelines for Assessing Pass-Fail in Promotion Examinations’.

(Iaido and Jodo)

Article 13: The Dan/Kyu examination for Iaido and Jodo shall be conducted conforming to this standard guideline.

(Dan/Kyu Examinations in a non-affiliated country)

Article 14: In case of a Dan/Kyu examination held in a non-affiliated country, the ‘Memorandum of Dan/Kyu Examinations in an FIK Non-affiliated Country’ as of May 23, 2005 shall apply.

Appendix:

Article 1: This Standard shall be established and put in force as of April 11, 1975.

Article 2: This Standard shall be revised and put in force as of May 11, 1987.

Article 3: This Standard shall be revised and put in force as of March 26, 1997.

Article 4: This Standard shall be revised and put in force as of July 3, 2003.

Article 5: This Standard shall be revised and put in force as of December 7, 2006.

CKF/AUSKF Agreement on Cross-Border Students

- Students residing in a country (Canada or the USA) shall be members of their local kendo organization and will take their gradings under those organizations. Thus US residents will be members of the AUSKF and will grade under the AUSKF from now on, and vice versa. All current ranks will of course be respected as per FIK rules.
- In the matter of cross-border instruction, it is agreed as permitted. Specifically, US residents may continue to study with CKF sensei and vice versa.
- It is further agreed that due to insurance concerns, cross border students will be allowed to pay dues in both countries, but that paying the dues of their non-resident country does not imply the right to grade in that country. In other words, a US student who practices in Canada can pay CKF dues in order to be included in the insurance but this does not imply they can take gradings under the CKF and vice versa. It should be noted that the FIK may have rules on dual membership in national bodies but this agreement on dues is for legal reasons of insurance and is not intended to contravene any FIK rules.
- As per FIK rules, students can still apply through the usual channels to grade in the other country.

This agreement was reached between the AUSKF and the CKF and was sent to the CKF board of directors for approval, after which it was to go to the AUSKF for approval. I do not know the official status of this agreement but it should be assumed to be in force.

Kendo Shiai Shimpan Administration Essentials Guide:

An English translation has been done by Robert Stroud and can be found at: http://kendo-canada.com/docs/stroud_kendo_shimpan_tebiki.pdf

Criteria for Awarding Dan Grades (Fuyo Kijun)

Guidelines for Assessing Pass-Fail in Promotion Examinations

The essential guidelines for assessing Dan grades are contained in this document which is reproduced here in full.

At a Kendo Dan examination, examiners evaluate candidates for promotion for each Dan grade based on evidence of an appropriate level of training, and the degree of technical proficiency and stability acquired through the course of their study.

1. The central concern for evaluation in examinations for the grades of Shodan, 2-Dan and 3-Dan is the level of 'kihon' (basic techniques) demonstrated by the examinee. The examiner assesses whether the candidate has learnt and correctly acquired the basic Kendo skills.
2. The central concern for evaluation in examinations for the grades of 4-Dan and 5-Dan is the level of basic Kendo techniques and advanced Kendo skills.
3. The central concern for evaluation in examination for the grades fo 6-Dan and 7-Dan is the ability to demonstrate 'Jiri' (technique and theory). Besides the basic and advanced Kendo techniques, the examiner assesses whether a candidate has acquired sufficient knowledge and understanding of Jiri, the techniques of Kendo accompanied with theory or principles.
4. The central concern for evaluation in examinations for the grades of 8-Dan and above is whether or not the candidate has reached the highest stage of Jiri referred to as 'Jiri-Itchi' (total integration of Ji and Ri). The candidate will be assessed on their ability to demonstrate a profound understanding of Jiri-Itchi in addition to the aforementioned points for 7-Dan and below.

Points for Observation (chakugan-ten)

Each Dan examiner is required to make a decision after paying careful attention to the following points in accordance with the above criteria:

Shodan, 2-Dan, 3-Dan

1. Chakuso and Reiho. The candidates appearance and whether they are correctly wearing the Kendo-gi and Hakama, and are holding the Shinai correctly (chakuso); Appropriate manners and deportment (Reiho)
2. Correct posture
3. Datotsu (strikes and thrusts) in accordance to the correct basic Kendo techniques
4. Strong spirit (Kisei)

4-Dan, 5-Dan

1. Chakuso and Reiho. The candidates appearance and whether they are correctly wearing the Kendo-gi and Hakama, and are holding the Shinai correctly (chakuso); Appropriate manners and deportment (Reiho)
2. Correct posture
3. Datotsu (strikes and thrusts) in accordance to the correct basic Kendo techniques

4. Strong spirit (Kisei)
5. Level of proficiency acquired in advanced Kendo techniques
6. Level of mental and physical discipline demonstrated
7. Strategic skills to control and win a match

6-Dan, 7-Dan, 8-Dan and higher Dan

1. Chakuso and Reiho. The candidates appearance and whether they are correctly wearing the Kendo-gi and Hakama, and are holding the Shinai correctly (chakuso); Appropriate manners and deportment (Reiho)
2. Correct posture
3. Datotsu (strikes and thrusts) in accordance to the correct basic Kendo techniques
4. Strong spirit (Kisei)
5. Level of proficiency acquired in advanced Kendo techniques
6. Level of mental and physical discipline demonstrated
7. Strategic skills to control and win a match
8. Understanding of 'Riai' (The candidate must be able to execute Waza and move in a way that is rational and purposeful)
9. 'Fukaku' and 'Hinkaku' (Demonstrating one's own style which is dignified and elegant.)

The examiners are expected to make their evaluations and final decisions based on the abovementioned criteria within the prescribed examination time.

FIK/AJKF Kyoshi Examination Rules

(this is for those wishing to challenge kyoshi in Japan. The CKF has their own kyoshi rules which consist of a recommendation letter to the president.

2011 年秋審査用/For 2011 Autumn Exam

全剣連「教士」審査会要項 / Details of AJKF 'Kyoshi' Examination

(国際剣連加盟国用 / For FIK Affiliates)

教士称号審査について、以下の通りご案内します。貴連盟登録会員に候補者がある場合は、以下をよく読み、指定の書類すべてを準備して締切日までに全剣連へ提出し、審査料を事前に支払われるようお願いいたします。本人が試験のために来日し、東京筆記試験会場で所定の教士筆記試験を受験する必要があるため、各自に審査会および試験要領を確認させてご周知いただけますようお願いいたします。

This is to inform you of the details of the AJKF Kyoshi Shogo Examination. Please read the following instructions carefully, prepare and submit all designated documents to AJKF by the deadline date and pay the application fee in advance without fail, if there are any candidates in your organization. Because the applicants have to visit Japan and take the prescribed written exam for Kyoshi in Tokyo, each country organization which recommends the applicants to AJKF is kindly requested to forward the information on the Kyoshi Exam Details and the contents of the Instructions for Written Test so that every applicant understand the procedure and the exam method well.

1 . 申込対象者 / Eligible Applicants:

以下のいずれかに該当し、かつ所属する FIK 加盟団体長の文書による推薦を受けることができる者のみ。

(推薦については、下記 2 および別紙「推薦要領」参照のこと。)

剣道錬士七段受有者で、七段受有後 2 年以上経過した者 (平成 21 年 11 月 30 日以前に七段取得の者)

* 錬士称号は、全日本剣道連盟の授与したものでなければならない。

(外国剣連発行の錬士には、申込み資格が無い。)

An eligible applicant falls under the following condition and must acquire a written recommendation from the President of the FIK affiliate to which he/she belongs. (Regarding the written recommendation by the President of the organization, see Article 2 below and the attached 'Instructions for Recommendation'.)

Those with Kendo Renshi 7-Dan who were granted Kendo 7-Dan more than 2 years ago (granted 7-Dan before November 30, 2009)

* Renshi Shogo must be the one granted by All Japan Kendo Federation (AJKF) (Renshi Shogo

granted by other organization/country is not accepted and not qualified.)

2 . 推薦の要件 / Conditions for Recommendation

加盟団体長は、申込者ひとりひとりについて、以下の推薦要件をすべて満たしているかどうか確認する。

要件を満たして推薦に値すると認めた場合は、別紙「推薦要領」に従って推薦書を作成し、全剣連会長

あてに教士候補者として推薦する。

推薦要件

1) 剣道の実技、理論に熟達し、社会常識を備えている者。

2) 全剣連「剣道称号・段位審査実施要領、教士受審者の備えるべき要件」を満たす者。つまり ;

① 剣道実技の修練を続けている者。

2

② 貴国における剣道の指導的立場にある者として、社会的識見に富み、健全な市民生活を営む者。

③ 国際剣連 (FIK)、所属剣連 (EKF、LAKC 含む) などが主催する公式講習会の受講歴があり、

教士として必要とされる日本剣道形・審判法・指導法等の知識および実技について、その能力

を所属剣連会長が保証できる者。かつ、剣道の指導および審判の経験を有する者。

④ 最低でも1年以上貴国に在住して貴剣道連盟の登録会員として活動しており、今後も1年以上

は在住して貴剣連会員である予定の者

The President of the FIK affiliate should review that each applicant satisfies all conditions for recommendation stated below. When the President confirms that the applicant satisfies all conditions and the applicant deserves to be recommended, the President recommends the applicant to AJKF as AJKF Kyoshi candidate by writing a recommendation letter based on the instructions in the 'Instructions for Recommendation' attached.

Conditions for Recommendation

1) Those who are accomplished Kendo player who have obtained a mastery of Kendo Jitsugi and its theory, and those with common sense in a social life

2) Those who satisfy 'the Requirements stated in The Essential Points of the Operation of Shogo/Dan Examinations of AJKF'. That means;

① Those who presently practice Kendo regularly

② Those who play a leading role in the Kendo society in your country, and possess great discernment and live sound life

③ Those who have attended the official seminars organized by FIK and/or FIK affiliated organizations (including EKF/LAKC). Those who have been recognized as having sufficient knowledge of Nippon Kendo Kata, Refereeing and Coaching methods and the competence for Jitsugi that are necessary for Kyoshi. Those whom the President of the organization can guarantee as having such sufficient knowledge and competence. And also it is required that those have enough experiences in coaching and refereeing.

④ Those who have lived in your country and have been a registered member of your organization at least 1 year so far and who will live in your country and will be a registered member of your organization at least 1 year from now.

3 . 申込手順および推薦 / Procedures of application and recommendation

申込者および申込者所属剣連会長は、以下の手順で申込みおよび推薦を行う。この手順に従わない申し込みは受け付けない。

1) 申込者は「全剣連教士受審申込書」と現称号と顔写真（裏面に国名と氏名記入）、段位証書コピーを所属剣道連盟会長に提出する。

2) 所属剣連会長は、申込者が上記2の要件に該当すると認める場合は、推薦する旨を申込者に伝える。

3) 申込者は、別紙「筆記試験実施要領」を読み、筆記試験についてよく理解しておく。

4) 所属剣連会長は、別紙「推薦要領」に基づいて推薦書を作成し、受審申込書、顔写真、現称号・段位証書コピーとともに締切日までに全剣連へ提出する。

* 申込者全員分の書類を、所属剣連がまとめて一括で全剣連へ提出すること。

5) 申込者は、後述6 . 審査料の支払いに基づいて、指定日までに受審料を全剣連へ支払う。

6) 申込者は、来日して「筆記試験要領」に基づいて東京での筆記試験を受験する。

An applicant and the President of the organization to which the applicant belongs should follow the procedures below. An application which does not follow the instruction below is not accepted.

1) An applicant shall fill in the 'Application Form for AJKF Kyoshi Shogo Exam', a photo of an applicant's photo (with his/her country and name on the back) and submit it with the copies of the current Shogo and Dan certificates to the President of the organization.

2) When the President recognizes that the applicant satisfies all conditions stated in above article 2, the President informs the applicant of his intention to recommend.

3) The applicant reads the Instructions for Written Test and understands the contents well.

4) The President of the organization then writes a recommendation letter for that applicant based on the

'Instructions for Recommendation' attached. The President submits the recommendation letter together with the Application Form, a photo of the applicant and the copies of the current Shogo and Dan certificates to AJKF by the deadline date.

* The complete application documents of all applicants must be submitted from the country organization as a unit at one time to AJKF.

5) Following the instruction in the article 6 below, the applicant shall pay the application fee to AJKF by the designated payment day.

6) An applicant comes to Japan and take the Kyoshi written exam in Tokyo in accordance with the description in the 'Instructions for Written Test'.

4 . 申込み(推薦)締切日 / Deadline for Application (Recommendation) :
2011年9月9日(金) 必着 / due not later than September 9, 2011

加盟団体からの申込み書類は、上記締切日必着で全剣連に郵送で提出されなければならない。

締切日を過ぎて到着した申込みは、一切受け付けない。また、以下の所定の提出書類全てが揃っていない

い場合は、申込みは受け付けない。

- 1) 全剣連教士受審申込書
- 2) 錬士および七段位証書コピー
- 3) 所属剣連会長の推薦文書
- 4) 写真(裏に国名と氏名記入) 横3センチ x 縦4センチ

* 提出書類に使用する言語は、すべて日本語または英語のみとする。

The President of the organization must submit all following application documents to AJKF by post and it must reach AJKF by the designated deadline. When the application reaches AJKF later than the deadline date, that application shall never be accepted. In case all necessary documents below are not submitted by the deadline, that application shall not be accepted.

1) Application Form for AJKF KYOSHI Shogo Examination

2) Copies of Renshi and 7-Dan certificates

3) Recommendation letter by the President of the organization

4) Photo (Country and Name on the reverse side) 3cm X 4cm

* The language used for all documents submitted must be either Japanese or English.

5 . 審査 / Examination

教士審査は、全剣連にて以下の手順で行われる。

- 1) 申込み書類の確認

所定の提出書類に不備がないか、受審資格があるかどうかを確認する。

2) 筆記試験の受審

申込者は、「筆記試験実施要領」を参照。所定の筆記試験を11月12日に東京で受審する。

3) 総合的審査

筆記試験の採点后、申込書類全てを称号審査会に付議して、合否を決定する。審査会期日は、11月24日。

The Kyoshi exam shall be conducted by the following procedures.

1) Checking on the documents submitted AJKF checks whether the documents submitted are complete and confirms whether the applicant satisfies the qualifications.

2) Written Test An applicant shall take a prescribed written exam on Nov. 12 in Tokyo following the 'Instructions for Written Test'.

3) Examination at the Exam Panel After the written test are graded, the Shogo Exam Panel examines all documents submitted and determines 'pass or fail'. The date of the Examination by the Examination Panel is November 24.

6. 審査料の支払い / Application fee payment

審査料（10,500円、円以外の通貨支払い不可。）を下記支払い締切日までに必ず全剣連へお支払いくだ

さい。支払い締切日までに入金を確認できない場合は、申込みは取消されます。支払いは、以下の方法

のいずれかです。（いずれの方法でも、送金は受審申込者の個人名がわかるようにお願いします。）また

一旦入金された審査料は、理由の如何にかかわらず返金されません。

支払い締切日：平成23年10月21日（金）

1) 銀行口座送金 以下の銀行口座へ海外送金

三菱東京UFJ銀行、市ヶ谷支店

普通預金口座 0005-014-1153424

SWIFT(BIC)コード：BOTKJPJT

(財)全日本剣道連盟

（銀行住所：東京都千代田区九段南4-8-20）

* 全ての銀行手数料(日本の銀行の手数料含む)を送金人が地元銀行で支払う手続き

(Pay-in-full)で送金されるようお願いいたします。（Pay-in-fullでないご送金は経理課で受け取りませんのでご注意ください。）

2) 現金書留

海外から直接「日本円現金」を全剣連国際部門あてに書留郵便にて送付する。

全日本剣道連盟住所

102-0074 東京都千代田区九段南 2 - 3 - 1 4 靖国九段南ビル 2 階
Tel: 03-3234-6271 Fax: 03-3234-6007

おつりはできませんので、ちょうどの金額でお願いします。

3) 知人等による国内支払い

日本国内に親戚や知人がいる場合、日本国内で、前述口座への銀行口座振込や、郵便局での振替（東京 0 0 1 2 0 - 6 - 5 7 0 6 9 全日本剣道連盟あて）や、現金書留にて直接全剣連国際部門あてに送付することもできる。直接全剣連事務所で支払うこともできる。受審者の氏名と受審料であることがわかるように送金のこと。

外国からの送金は、送金方法によっては、全剣連経理課で確認できるまでに送金日から 1 週間程かかる場合もありますので、ご注意ください。外国からの銀行送金は、手数料が非常に高くなり、また経由銀行を使用すると当方ではわからない手数料が差し引かれる場合があります。最も安全確実に安価な方法は、上記 3) 国内支払いです。

The application fee (¥10,500, Only Japanese Yen is accepted.) must be paid to AJKF by the following payment deadline. If AJKF cannot confirm the payment by the deadline date, the application is cancelled. You should use either of the following ways. (In either way, please make sure that the personal name of the applicant can be identified by AJKF.) Once the application fee is received by AJKF, it would not be returned in any case.

Payment deadline : October 21, 2011

1) Bank Remittance Remit money to the following Bank account

The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ

Ichigaya Branch

Account# 0005-014-1153424

SWIFT (BIC) Code: BOTKJPJT

All Japan Kendo Federation

(Bank address: 4-8-20, Kudan Minami, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)

* You are kindly requested to make arrangements for Pay-in-full (all commissions including the Japanese bank's commissions are paid by the applicant) at your local bank so that AJKF receives proper net amount. (Please note that a remittance without Pay-in-full arrangement is not accepted by the accounting department.)

2) Registered Post

You may send Yen cash directly to the AJKF International Office by registered post.

All Japan Kendo Federation:

2nd floor, Yasukuni Kudan Minami Bldg., 2-3-14, Kudan Minami,

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan 102-0074

Tel: +81-3-3234-6271 Fax: +81-3-3234-6007

In case you send Yen cash from a foreign country, we cannot send you back the change in cash by post from Japan. So we appreciate your sending the precise amount for the fee.

3) Domestic payment in Japan

If you have a relative or friend in Japan, you can ask him/her to send the money to AJKF by domestic remittance through bank transfer to the account above, or make a remittance through a post office in Japan (to Tokyo 00120-6-57069, All Japan Kendo Federation), or you can have him/her send Yen cash to AJKF directly by registered post mail for you in Japan. Or he/she can pay it at the AJKF office in Tokyo. In a domestic payment case, please be sure to make the applicant's name identified.

Please note that it sometimes takes one week or more after the remittance date for the AJKF accounting department to confirm a remittance from a foreign country depending on the way of remittance. And a bank transfer from a foreign country is often very expensive due to bank commissions and sometimes commissions by a 'transfer bank' are deducted without informing the applicant and us. Therefore the most safe and inexpensive method is above 3) Domestic payment by your relative or friend in Japan.

7 . 合格発表および登録料支払い / Announcement of the successful applicants and Registration fee
payment by the successful applicant

審査会の結果は、全剣連より FIK 加盟団体長に文書にて連絡される。
合格者は、登録料（47,250 円、円以外の通貨支払い不可）を全剣連にお支払いいただきます。
前述審
査料支払い方法と同様の方法で下記指定日までにお支払いください。

The result of the examination shall be informed in writing from AJKF to the President of the organization. The successful applicants are requested to pay the registration fee (¥47,250, Only Japanese Yen is accepted) to AJKF. The registration fee should be paid by either of the afore-mentioned ways by the following deadline.

登録料支払い締切日/Payment deadline for Registration fee :
2011 年 12 月 22 日 / , December 22, 2011

8 . 証書の発行 / Certificate Issuance

証書は、その団体からの合格者全員の登録料入金を確認後に全日本剣道連盟から発行され、
各国剣道
連盟会長あてに送付先を確認後、郵送される。

The Dan certificates (Menjo) will be issued by AJKF after the registration fee payments of all successful applicants of that organization are confirmed. The certificates of all successful applicants will be sent to the designated address which will be confirmed by President of the country federation.

不明な点がありましたら、全剣連国際部門あてにお問い合わせください。よろしく願い致します。

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact International Office, AJKF.

全剣連国際部門連絡先/AJKF International Office :

Tel: 81-3-3234-6271 Fax: 81-3-3234-6007

Emails: kurose@kendo.or.jp and yazawa@kendo.or.jp

(メール送付の場合は、上記両方のメールへご送付ください。 When you send an e-mail, please send

it to both addresses above.)

2011 剣道教士試験・Kendo Kyoshi Exam.

参考資料/Ref. Materials

英語による受験者/Examinee by English

- The Official Guide for Kendo Instruction
- Training Method for Fundamental Kendo Techniques with a Bokuto
- The Regulations of Kendo Shiai and Shinpan, The subsidiary Rules of
- Kendo Shiai and Shinpan (Revised December 7, 2006)
- Nippon Kendo Kata Instruction Manual

日本語による受験者/Examinee by Japanese

「剣道指導要領」

「剣道講習会資料」(平成23年4月1日発行)

「剣道試合・審判規則、同細則」(平成21年4月1日)

「剣道試合・審判・運営要領の手引き」(平成19年3月14日)

「日本剣道形解説書」(昭和56年12月7日制定)

「称号・段位審査規則、同細則、同実施要領」(平成23年4月1日)

「剣道医学Q&A(第2版)(平成17年10月1日)

「剣道社会体育教本・改訂版」(平成21年4月1日)

注/Note: 参考資料は(財)全日本剣道連盟、国際剣道連盟発行のものです。

Reference materials are the publications of All Japan Kendo Federation and International Kendo Federation.

上記参考資料は全日本剣道連盟・オンラインショップから購入
できます。

The above reference materials are available through AJKF
On-Line Shop.

2011 年秋審査用/For 2011 Autumn Exam

加盟団体長 各位

TO: President of FIK Affiliated Organization

推薦要領（教士） / Instructions for Recommendation (Kyoshi)

加盟団体長は、申込者ひとりひとりについて、推薦要件をすべて満たし推薦に値すると認められた場合は、下記要領に従って推薦書を作成する。

1 . 推薦書は、連盟の正式文書として連盟のレターヘッド用紙を使用し、タイプアップして作成する。

2 . 推薦書は、申込者1名につき1通を作成する。（複数の申込者を1通の推薦書で済ませてはならない。）

3 . 形式は自由であるが、以下の項目について必ず記述する。

1) 教士審査への推薦であること

2) 申込者の氏名

3) 貴連盟(または地域)における申込者の地位とこれまでの主な剣道活動

4) 貴連盟(または地域)における指導者・審判としての申込者の実績

5) FIK、EKF、LAKC や貴連盟などでの公式講習会（特に全剣連派遣講師による講習会）への出席歴

6) 推薦する理由

4 . 推薦書に使用する言語は、日本語または英語のみとする。

5 . 推薦書には、必ず加盟団体長が自筆署名する。

6 . 推薦書を、受審申込書、顔写真、現段位および錬士証書コピーと一緒に全剣連に提出する。

When the President of the organization confirms that the applicant satisfies all conditions for recommendation and the applicant deserves to be recommended, the President writes a recommendation letter based on the following instructions.

1. You should use the letterhead paper of your organization for the recommendation letter as an official document and type up the recommendation letter.

2. You should prepare one recommendation letter per applicant. (You should not include several applicants' recommendations in one letter.)

3. You may use any format, however, you are requested to include the following items without fail.

1) The recommendation is for AJKF Kyoshi exam

2) Name of the applicant

3) Position of the applicant in your organization (or in the region) and his/her major Kendo activities to date

4) Accomplishments as a leader and/or a referee achieved by the applicant in your organization (or in the region)

5) Records of attendance for the official seminars held by FIK, EKF, LAKC and/or your organization (especially the seminars which the AJKF delegation attended as instructors)

6) Reasons for recommendation

4. The language used for the recommendation letter must be either Japanese or English only.
 5. You (President of the organization) must sign the recommendation letter in your own handwriting.
 6. You should submit the recommendation letter together with the Application Form, a Photo of the applicant and the Copies of the current Dan and Renshi Shogo certificates.
-

Dan Examiners from Japan

October 22, 2008

TO: Presidents of FIK Affiliates

Re: Dan Examiners in FIK Affiliates

Recently, the number of the cases where an FIK affiliate asks other countries' high Dan holders to become Dan examiners is increasing.

At a Dan examination of an affiliated country, the examiners are usually high Dan holders of that country in question. But when there is not sufficient number of high Dan holders for examiners in that country, there could be a case where high Dan holders from other affiliated countries become examiners.

In such case, it should be requested that the Presidents of both countries, the country which holds the Dan examination and the country to which the foreign examiner belongs, agree, make a written agreement in advance to determine the examiners and the held Dan exam. Especially in case you ask a Japanese high Dan holder, who is not an official delegate from AJKF (which means an AJKF registered member who privately visits your country) to become a Dan examiner in your country, you are kindly requested to contact AJKF in advance and get the agreement of AJKF in writing.

Your cooperation is highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours

Yukio Sato, FIK Secretary General

Special Grade Time Requirements for over 60

October 22, 2008

TO: Presidents of FIK Affiliates

Re: Abolishment of the special treatment on the duration of practice years for 60 years old and older applicants in AJKF Dan examinations

Dear Madam/Sir,

All Japan Kendo Federation has changed its Shogo & Dan Examination Regulations and abolished the Article 16-2-3 of the AJKF Regulations, which is 'the special treatment on the duration of practice years for elderly applicants'. This revision shall be effective from the fiscal year Heisei 21 (2009) Dan exams of AJKF. Those who are 60 years old and older with less practice years than the prescribed years shall not be qualified for the AJKF 6-Dan or higher Dan exams after April 2009. (This was already informed the FIK officials at the Board of Directors Meeting in August.)

As for the Article 3-(2) of the 'Standard Guideline for Dan/Kyu Examination of FIK', it is still valid. As was approved at the FIK General Assembly in 2006, the FIK's Standard is a minimum guideline. AJKF has revised its regulations to reflect the current situation of Japan and this revision applies to the AJKF Dan exams only. We appreciate your understanding.

Sincerely yours

Yoshimitsu Takeyasu, AJKF President
