



# **Grading Policy**

## Kendo

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### **1. Summary**

The grading policy of Kendo na h'Eireann is designed to give Kendokas how are planning to grade a fully compliant and consistent with the directives and guidelines from European Kendo Federation (EKF) and the International Kendo Federation (FIC).

These rules are based on revisions of the FIC's and EKF's:

- IKF Standard Rules for Dan / Kyu Examination, March 26, 1997
- Revised IKF Standard Rules for Dan / Kyu Examination, July 3, 2003
- Standard Guideline for Dan / Kyu Examination, FIC, Dec 7, 2006
- EKF159AZ Dan grading exams, December 25, 2007

### **2. Official Grades**

With in Kendo na h'Eireann the first official grade is 6th Kyu and the grading topics describes below are the minimums that each applicant must perform during a grading.

It is optional for any member club to offer grade below this grade, they are then regulated and certified by the individual club. They may not be lower then 9th Kyu. Any grade below 6th Kyu will not be officially recognized by Kendo na h'Eireann.

### **3. Proof of grade and membership**

Before any grading applicants need to validate their previous grade and that sufficient time have passed since previous grading. This can be done by showing a copy of previous certificate or letter from secretary of Kendo na h'Eireann.

To grade to 4th Kyu or above applicants need to show proof of membership in Kendo na h'Eireann. Exceptions to this is for non- Kendo na h'Eireann members, see below.

### **4. Forms and Registrations**

Before any grading each applicant must fill out the "*Application form for Grading in Kendo*", for grading Dan grade also use "*EKF Dan registration file*". After completed grading examination the organizing club needs to send in a signed copy of the "*Grading Examination Summary for Kendo*" to the Secretary of Kendo na h'Eireann.

Kendo na h'Eireann maintains of all graduation records. The register includes both kyu and Dan grades. Basis for the register is supporting graduation and graduation records. It is therefore a requirement that every grading is registered and send over to the Secretary of Kendo na h'Eireann for statistics, access control for graduation and certification before graduation abroad.

### **5. Examiners**

All grading examiners need to registered members of Kendo na h'Eireann or have permission from the President of Kendo na h'Eireann and their FIC accredited organization president before assisting in a grading.

### **6. Grading Abroad**

For Kendo na h'Eireann member how wish to graduation abroad, they need to obtain a signed written permission from President of Kendo na h'Eireann. This authorization is sought with the simplest by contacting the secretary of Kendo na h'Eireann to obtain permission.

### **7. Non- Kendo na h'Eireann Members**

Foreign applicants who intend to attend the graduation in Republic of Ireland must have a written authorization signed by the President in their home home organization ( that must be FIC accredited) , showing that he / she may participate in graduation. If such certificate is missing, the applicant shall be expelled from graduation.

## 8. Grading Topics – Kyu Grades

Grade	Topics
<b>6 Kyu</b>	No uniform required Rei, Sonkyu and Kamae Ashi-sabaki: Okuri ashi Suburi: Men, Kote-Men, Joge-Suburi, Haya-Suburi
<b>5 Kyu</b>	Correct wearing of Hakama & Kendo-gi *Uchikomi: Men, Kote, Kote-Men Kirikashi
<b>4 Kyu **</b>	Bogu, Uchikomi: Men, Kote, Do, Kote-Men Kirikaeshi Jitsugi (Jikeiko)
<b>3 Kyu **</b>	Bogu, Uchikomi: Men, Kote, Do, Kote-Men, Kote-Men-Do Kirikaeshi Jitsugi (Jikeiko)
<b>2 Kyu **</b>	Bogu, Kirikaeshi, Jitsugi (Jikeiko), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-3), written test
<b>1 Kyu **</b>	Bogu, Kirikaeshi, Jitsugi (Jikeiko), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-5), written test

\* Only as Kakarite

\*\* Membership Kendo na h'Eireann required

## 9. Grading Topics – Dan Grades

Grade	Topics
<b>1 Dan</b>	Kirikaeshi, Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-5), written test
<b>2 Dan</b>	Kirikaeshi, Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-7), written test
<b>3 Dan</b>	Kirikaeshi, Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-7, kodachi 1-3), written test
<b>4 Dan</b>	Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-7, kodachi 1-3), written test
<b>5 Dan</b>	Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-7, kodachi 1-3), written test
<b>6 Dan</b>	Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-7, kodachi 1-3), Ability to judge Shiai
<b>7 Dan</b>	Keiko (jitsugi), Nippon Kendo Kata (tachi 1-7, kodachi 1-3), Ability to judge shiai

## 10. Grading Questions

Grade	Topics
<b>Kyu*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What are the targets in Kendo and what is the method of hitting them?</li> <li>▪ Describe a Shinai and its parts.</li> <li>▪ Describe a Kendo Bogu and its main parts.</li> <li>▪ What is Kirikaeshi and how is it performed?</li> <li>▪ What is Reigi in Kendo and why is it important?</li> <li>▪ Briefly explain what Maai is.</li> <li>▪ Briefly explain what Ki-Ken-Tai is.</li> <li>▪ Briefly explain what Zanshin is.</li> <li>▪ What is Daitotsubui?</li> <li>▪ Describe Chudan-no-kamae</li> <li>▪ What are the basic kamae in Kendo and their use?</li> <li>▪ What is Suburi and why is it fundamental in Kendo?</li> <li>▪ Describe two of the basic foot movements (Ashi-Sabaki) in Kendo.</li> <li>▪ What are the differences between Kakarigeiko, Uchikomigeiko and Gikeiko?</li> <li>▪ What is Budo and why is it important in Kendo?</li> </ul>
<b>1 Dan**</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What is Oji-waza? Shortly explain two techniques.</li> <li>▪ Why is Kirikaeshi is central to Kendo practice?</li> </ul>
<b>2 Dan**</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What is Shikake-waza? Shortly explain two techniques.</li> <li>▪ What is the importance of Ki-ken-tai-no-ichi in Kendo?</li> </ul>
<b>3 Dan**</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What is the role of either Uchidachi or Shidachi in Nippon Kendo Kata?</li> <li>▪ Explain what Zanshin is?</li> </ul>
<b>4 Dan**</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What are the main points in Referring a Kendo Match?</li> <li>▪ What is the importance of Motodachi in Kendo?</li> </ul>

\* Kyusha have a choice of 2 questions for each Shinsa

\*\*Answers should never be more than 250 words and be sent at least one week before the grading.

## 11. Grading Panel

Grading for	Judge grade	Minimum number of judges	Number of votes to pass
6 Kyu	1 Dan or higher	1	1
5 Kyu	1 Dan or higher	2	1
4 Kyu	1 Dan or higher	3	2
3 Kyu	1 Dan or higher	3	2
2 Kyu	2 Dan or higher	3	2
1 Kyu	2 Dan or higher	3	2
1 Dan	4 Dan or higher	5	3
2 Dan	5 Dan or higher	5	3
3 Dan	5 Dan or higher	5	3
4 Dan	6 Dan or higher	6	4
5 Dan	7 Dan or higher	6	4
6 Dan	7 Dan or higher	6	4
7 Dan	7 Dan or higher	6	4

## 12. Minimum times

Level to be examined	Minimum time	Minimum Age
6 - 1 Kyu	2 calendar months since last grading	Minimum of 12 year for 1 Kyu
1 Dan	3 calendar months after 1 Kyu	Minimum of 14 years
2 Dan	1 year after 1 Dan	
3 Dan	2 year after 2 Dan	
4 Dan	3 year after 3 Dan	
5 Dan	4 year after 4 Dan	
6 Dan	5 year after 5 Dan	
7 Dan	6 year after 6 Dan	

## 13. Fees

Level to be examined	Application fee	Registration fee
6 - 1 Kyu	-	20 Euro
1 Dan	10 Euro	15 Euro
2 Dan	15 Euro	25 Euro
3 Dan	25 Euro	40 Euro
4 Dan	40 Euro	60 Euro
5 Dan	60 Euro	90 Euro
6 Dan	90 Euro	120 Euro
7 Dan	120 Euro	160 Euro