

Guidelines for Dan Gradings

These guidelines are to be used to help in giving direction to your students and to provide a consistent base in which they can develop. The requirements for each Dan level are easily attainable if you are involved with your club and the IKA. For those people who may find it difficult to satisfy these guidelines, there is an alternative certificate for them. This alternative is an Honorary Degree; the guideline for this is simpler but still requires commitment and dedication to the Federation. The certificates will be color coded to distinguish between them.

Physical parts of test must include Kihon, Kata, and Kumite which are selected and agreed upon by the senior instructors in the province. A copy of the physical criteria must be forwarded to Sensei Ron Fagan for their approval.

These guidelines are for Dan gradings for people who are Shodan or higher.

A physical test as in the past is required for a Shodan, but a minimum of sixteen years of age and five years of uninterrupted training is required in order to be tested for a Shodan.

Shodan to Nidan

1. Minimum of two years uninterrupted training from time Shodan received.
2. 19+ years of age and seven years of uninterrupted training.
3. Certified in the Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) level 1 and 2.
4. Attended clinics and training camps within province or state.
5. Officiate, compete or coach within province or state.
6. Added growth to the dojo with continuing development of the junior program within the dojo. i.e. helping teach the junior program.

Nidan to Sandan

1. Minimum of three years uninterrupted training from time Nidan was received.
2. 22+ years of age and ten years of uninterrupted training.
3. Certified in the Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) level 1 and 2.
4. Performs teaching duties regularly at their own dojo.
5. Attended clinics and training camps regionally.
6. Know and be well versed in at least one kata from another style.
7. Officiate, compete or coach regionally.
8. Continuing development in the junior and senior program in the dojo.
9. All the requirements from Shodan to Nidan are cumulative to Sandan.

Sandan to Yodan

1. Minimum of five years uninterrupted training from time Sandan was received.
2. 27+ years of age and 15 years of uninterrupted training.
3. Certified in the Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) Level 1 and 2.
4. Have own dojo or full time teaching responsibilities in the dojo.
5. Attend clinics and training camps nationally.
6. Know and be well versed in two kata from another style.
7. Officiate, compete or coach nationally.
8. Develop training methods to be taught and implemented at provincial or state level.
9. All the requirements from Shodan to Sandan are cumulative to Yodan.

Yodan to Godan

1. Minimum of six years uninterrupted training from time Yodan was received.
2. 33+ years of age and 21 years of uninterrupted training.
3. Officiate, compete or coach internationally.
4. Certified in the Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) Level 1 and 2.
5. Attend clinics and training camps internationally.
6. Develop teaching and training methods that are implemented and taught regionally.
7. All the requirements from Shodan to Yodan are cumulative to Godan.

Godan to Rokudan

1. Minimum of eight years of uninterrupted training from time Godan was received.
2. 40+ years of age and 28 years of uninterrupted training.
3. Certified in the Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) Level 1 and 2.
4. Develop technical methods to be taught and implemented nationally.
5. Officiate, compete or coach internationally
6. Further develop the IKA Concepts.
7. Have recognized contributions to the IKA.
8. All the requirements from Shodan to Godan are cumulative.
9. Organized and implemented national events.

Rokudan to Shichidan

1. Minimum of eight years of uninterrupted training from time Rokudan was received.
2. 45+ years of age and 30+ years of uninterrupted training.
3. Certified in the Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP) Level 1 and 2.
4. Organized and implemented international events.
5. Have recognized contributions to the IKA.
6. Represent the IKA at international events.
7. Further develop IKA concepts internationally.

Administrative and Organizational Honorary Degree

Length of time : uninterrupted training. If person stops training for a period of time, they will start clock again at last belt level achieved.

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| Shodan – Nidan | 4+ years |
| Nidan – Sandan | 6+ years |
| Sandan – Yodan | 10+ years |
| Yodan – Godan | 12+ years |
| Godan – Rokudan | 16+ years |

1. Recognized contributions to the IKA.
2. Minimum of two nights a week at a dojo.
3. Attends provincial and regional clinics.
4. Community involvement while representing the IKA.
5. Organized events that helped develop and promote the IKA.