

Pacific Northwest Kendō Federation - Iaidō Shinsa Requirements

Mudansha Ranks: Juniors (age 10 and below)

- Performed with Mogitō or bokutō (bokken), use of shinken not permitted.
- 6 Kyu:** 8 years of age; 6 months practice
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and kata #1 thru #2
- 5 Kyu:** 9 years of age; 12 months practice (or 6 months in previous rank)
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and kata #1 thru #3
- 4 Kyu:** 10 years of age; 12 months practice (or 6 months in previous rank)
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and kata #1 thru #4

Mudansha Ranks: Adults (age 18 & up), Juniors (age 11-17)

- Adult first test can be either 3 kyu or 2 kyu, however the highest rank adult first test is 2 kyu.
 - First rank tests above 2 kyu require approval by the PNKF President.
 - Mogitō required, use of shinken (sharp sword) not permitted.
- 3 Kyu:** 11 years of age; 12 months practice (or 6 months in previous rank)
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō & five (5) AJKF Seitei lai kata from kata #1 thru #8
- 2 Kyu:** 12 years of age; 1 year total practice (or 6 months in previous rank)
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō & five (5) AJKF Seitei lai kata from kata #1 thru #10
- 1 Kyu:** 13 years of age; 6 months in previous rank
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō & five (5) AJKF Seitei lai kata from kata #1 thru #12
Written test.

Yudansha Ranks: Adults (age 18 & up), Juniors (age 14-17)

- Mogitō required, use of shinken with permission of shinsa panel chair.
- 1 Dan:** 14 years of age; 6 months in previous rank.
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and five (5) Seitei lai kata within 6 minutes
Written test.
- 2 Dan:** 15 years of age; 1 year as 1 Dan
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and five (5) Seitei lai kata within 6 minutes
Written test.
- 3 Dan:** 17 years of age; 2 years as 2 Dan
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and five (5) Seitei lai kata within 6 minutes
Written test.
- 4 Dan:** 20 years of age; 3 years as 3 Dan
Perform AJKF Seitei lai reihō and one (1) Kōryū & four (4) Seitei lai kata within 6 minutes
Written test

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Iaidō Shinsa Examination Panel:

Dan Examination	Examiners	Number	Criteria
Kyu – 1 Dan	4 Dan & over	5	Consent of 3 examiners
2 - 3 Dan	5 Dan & over	5	Consent of 3 examiners
4 Dan	6 Dan & over	6	Consent of 4 examiners

Notes:

- Exam board determines which Seitei Iai Kata will be performed.
- Koryu is determined by examinee.
- For 4 Dan, the exam board can alternatively specify two (2) Kōryū & three (3) Seitei Iai kata.
- Age is the minimum age as of the date of the Promotional Examination. If the applicant's birthday is within one (1) month of the Promotional Examination, the applicant will be eligible.
- Number of months of practice or months in rank is the minimum number of months. The amount of time in the previous rank must be within 15 days of the required time.
- Highest rank for first test as indicated above, in principle no jumping ranks after first test.
- A lower kyu rank can be awarded if the candidate does not meet passing criteria for their first rank test, except in the case of Junior 6 kyu or Adult 3 kyu, which are minimum starting ranks.
- All swords shall meet safety criteria as defined by exam officials.