

Shinpan Requirements to Test for Kendo 4 Dan:

“Number of Events”	
2015, 2016	No change
2009	4
2008	3
2007	2

Full policy is in effect for 2022 August shinsa and onward

Definitions:

“Events”: A combination of the below, totaling the required number per table above, one of those events must be a shinpan seminar.

PNKF approved shinpan seminar: Seminar must have been conducted by governing body such as: PNKF (any regional federation), AUSKF or IKF. Seminar attendance must be confirmed by signature on PNKF completion form. Attendance is active participation in judging matches.

Taikai: Any taikai with confirmed participation by signature on PNKF completion form. Full participation is judging one full rotation, at least 6 matches and serving as shushin at least once. The matches do not have to be judged consecutively, but at least 6 must be completed on the same day for full credit. Signature to be obtained from shinpancho for taikai or court judge and divisions listed.

*One shinpan seminar attendance may be required before taikai credits can be earned. This will depend on the shinpancho and taikai chairperson.

Seminar/taikai attendance must occur in the 3 years prior to the testing year. For example, you cannot claim credit for attending a seminar 5 years ago. Credits can be earned all in one year, or spread out over the three.

PANDEMIC EXCEPTION for 2023:

Credits will be accepted for the 3 years prior to January 2020.

Questions:

Are other regional federations doing this?

No, not yet. PNKF has informed all the AUSKF member federations of our new policy and hope that they will follow suit.

Can I still test outside of PNKF?

Yes, you can. These requirements are only for PNKF members testing for 4dan at a PNKF shinkyu shinsa.

What if I get my 4dan outside of PNKF?

Being 4dan carries certain responsibilities. If you receive your 4dan from another federation, then it is up to you to do what is necessary to get yourself prepared to judge at taikai, because you WILL be called upon to judge.

Why are we doing this?

To improve and strengthen the overall level of judging in PNKF and the rest of the AUSKF.

Where do I get the reporting forms?

The forms will be available on the PNKF website, dojo heads will receive electronic copies and hard copies will be available at PNKF shinsas.

Do I have to complete a shinpan seminar before I can judge at taikais?

It sure helps. However, this is up to the organizers of the taikai. Almost ALL will require that you have attended at least one seminar before they will let you on the floor.

What if I lose my reporting form?

It's best not to. Part of being 4dan is responsibility. It is recommended that you make multiple copies in case of losing the signed document or the need to retake the kendo shinsa. Alternately you may be able to find a qualified sensei who can vouch for your attendance at a specific event.

Also recommended to create a scanned electronic copy for future reference once completed.

What if I live really far away?

PNKF recognizes that some individuals that live far away are not as able to access seminars and taikai and the credits for those applicants will be considered on a case by case basis and will take into account distance, sensei availability and reasonable expectations to meet shinpan training. In these cases, the number of required credits will either be reduced or a dojo conducted shinpan seminar will be counted as an event.



Shinpan Credits for 4dan Exam - Reporting Form

Name of Applicant/Dojo: _____

Total Credits Completed (# of each): _____ Shinpan Seminar _____ Taikai

Taikai or Seminar (circle one)			
Event Name:		Date of Event:	
Hosted Organization:		Division(s):	
Signature*:		Printed Name:	

Taikai or Seminar (circle one)			
Event Name:		Date of Event:	
Hosted Organization:		Division(s):	
Signature*:		Printed Name:	

Taikai or Seminar (circle one)			
Event Name:		Date of Event:	
Hosted Organization:		Division(s):	
Signature*:		Printed Name:	

Taikai or Seminar (circle one)			
Event Name:		Date of Event:	
Hosted Organization:		Division(s):	
Signature*:		Printed Name:	

* Signature of shinpancho or court judge if taikai. Signature of head instructor if seminar.

Applicants must complete judging at least ONE full round, consecutively or not (6 matches) for credit.