

# 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 Iai reihō and kata #1 and #2
  - 5 Kyu: 9 years of age; 12 months practice (or 6 months in previous rank)  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō and kata #1 thru #3
  - 4 Kyu: 10 years of age; 12 months practice (or 6 months in previous rank)  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō and kata #1 thru #4

## Mudansha Ranks: Adults (age 18 and 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 Iai reihō and five (5) AJKF Seitei Iai from kata #1 thru #10
  - 2 Kyu: 12 years of age; 1 year total practice (or 6 months in previous rank)  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō and five (5) AJKF Seitei Iai from kata #1 thru #10
  - 1 Kyu: 13 years of age; 6 months in previous rank  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō and five (5) AJKF Seitei Iai from kata #1 thru #12  
Written test.

## Yudansha Ranks: Adults (age 18 and 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 Iai reihō and five (5) AJKF Seitei Iai kata within 6 minutes.  
Written test.
  - 2 Dan: 15 years of age; 1 year as 1 Dan  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō and five (5) AJKF Seitei Iai kata within 6 minutes.  
Written test.
  - 3 Dan: 17 years of age; 2 years as 2 Dan  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō and five (5) AJKF Seitei Iai kata within 6 minutes.  
Written test.
  - 4 Dan: 20 years of age; 3 years as 3 Dan  
Perform AJKF Seitei Iai reihō, one (1) Kōryū kata, and four (4) AJKF Seitei Iai kata within 6 minutes.  
Written test.

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### Iaidō Shinsa Examination Panel:

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

### Notes:

- The Shinsain-cho, with assistance from the Iaidō Committee Chair as needed, will determine which Seitei Kata will be performed.
- Kōryū is determined by examinee.
- For 4 Dan, the exam board can alternatively specify two (2) Kōryū and 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 the 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 the exam officials.
- The written exam essay must be submitted in English.
- The written examination questions and instructions for 1st kyu through 4th Dan will match the most current Iaidō shinsa written test questions published by AUSKF.
- Candidates shall submit their written answers the day of the test at shinsa registration.
- The written examination will be graded as either pass or fail by an appointed representative of the Shinsain-cho.