

PNKF Kendo Shinsa Information



Checklist / Contents

1. Eligibility
 - a. Current and valid AUSKF membership
 - b. Current and valid PNKF membership or regional federation approval
 - c. Minimum age and time in rank requirements for PNKF

2. Registration
 - a. Registration information matches AUSKF
 - b. Written Exam Responses submitted electronically (1 Kyu and above)
 - c. Shinpan Credits Requirements (4 Dan candidates only)
 - d. Testing and Certificate Fees paid electronically by dojo (ZELLE)
 - e. Special Conditions / Exceptions
 - f. Cancellations

3. Shinsa Day
 - a. Checking-In and Prep
 - b. Shinsa Start and Line Up
 - c. Testing
 - d. Kata
 - e. Results

4. Forms
 - a. AUSKF Written Exam Questions
 - b. PNKF Written Exam Answer Sheet
 - c. PNKF 4 Dan Shinpan Credits Form
 - d. AUSKF Request for Kendo Exam by Affiliate Regional Federation
 - e. PNKF Expense Statement Form

5. Appendix
 - a. PNKF 4 Dan Shinpan Requirements Information and Q&A

Send any questions about the information within this file to vp@pnkf.org

1. Eligibility

- All persons participating in the kendo shinsa must have a current and valid AUSKF membership. Register and/or check with AUSKF here: <https://auskf.sport80.com>
- All persons participating in the kendo shinsa must have a current and valid PNKF membership. Persons outside of PNKF wishing to test at a PNKF shinsa must obtain home federation approval and submit this form along with a copy of current menjo: https://drive.google.com/file/d/12GYFnjFNlfYaaHXQ0QqgD_IC2n2WXzB6/view
- AUSKF Promotion requirements are defined here: <https://www.auskf.org/forms/promotion-exams>
- In addition to AUSKF Promotion requirements, PNKF imposes the following additional requirements as documented within PNKF Policies and Procedures:

Age and Time Requirements for Rank			
Requested Rank	Minimum Age	Months in Prior Rank	Total Months of Practice
8 Kyu	no age requirements, dojo awarded rank		
7 Kyu			
6 Kyu	8	n/a	6
5 Kyu	9	6	6
4 Kyu	10	6	6
3 Kyu	11	6	12
2 Kyu	12	6	
1 Kyu	12	6	
1 Dan	13	3	
2 Dan	14	12	
3 Dan	16	24	
4 Dan	19	36	

Note: PNKF allows up to 21 days (3 weeks) of flexibility for age requirement and time in rank.

Per PNKF Policies and Procedures:

Because the scheduled date for promotional examinations varies from year-to-year, it is PNKF's practice to allow applicants to test if the applicant would satisfy any age requirement within 21 days (3 weeks) after the examination date. For example, if an applicant is 12 years old, but will be 13 years old within 21 days after the examination date, the applicant would be allowed to test for shodan.

- First time applicants may test for a rank of 6 Kyu to 3 Kyu. First time and unranked applicants may not test for a rank above 3 Kyu. Requests for exceptions to this rule shall be submitted in writing to the PNKF Vice President who will obtain approval through consultation with AUSKF as

necessary. The head sensei for each club is expected to review and approve all testing applications submitted by the club.

- Skipping rank is not allowed. No applicant may skip rank. For example, a 4 Kyu applicant may not test for 2 Kyu without first obtaining a rank of 3 Kyu.
- Kendo ranks awarded by non-FIK or non-AUSKF kendo dojos will not be honored by PNKF nor AUSKF. Those applicants requesting to test within PNKF will follow initial rank examination rules as first-time applicants.
- For all testing candidates with a valid current rank and is requesting the next higher rank, the shinsa is PASS or FAIL. For all testing candidates without a current rank, the shinsa may award any rank between 6 Kyu and 3 Kyu, up to the requested rank in the registration. For example, a first time testing 4 Kyu applicant may be awarded anything between 6 Kyu and 4 Kyu. For 4 Kyu applicants currently 5 Kyu, the shinsa is PASS or FAIL. All exceptions above 3 Kyu are PASS or FAIL.

2. Registration

- Dojo contacts submitting registration information for the PNKF shinsa must ensure participant information matches AUSKF information exactly. (no nicknames, no abbreviations, submit exact dates of prior promotions and exams, date of birth, etc)
- Candidates for 1 Kyu thru 4 Dan must submit written examination answers at time of registration electronically (pdf format preferred). Exam is “open book” and responses will be accepted in English only. See Section 4 for forms and here: https://www.pnkf.org/wp-content/uploads/PNKF_Kendo_Written-Exam_Form.docx
- Candidates for 4 Dan must also submit evidence of meeting PNKF Shinpan Requirements. See Section 4 and Attachment for forms and additional information. Persons from other regional federations testing for 4 Dan in PNKF are exempt from this requirement.
- Dojo contacts submitting registration for shinsa must include testing and menjo fees before shinsa registration due date. Electronic payment via ZELLE is required. ZELLE account for PNKF is: **TREASURER@PNKF.ORG**

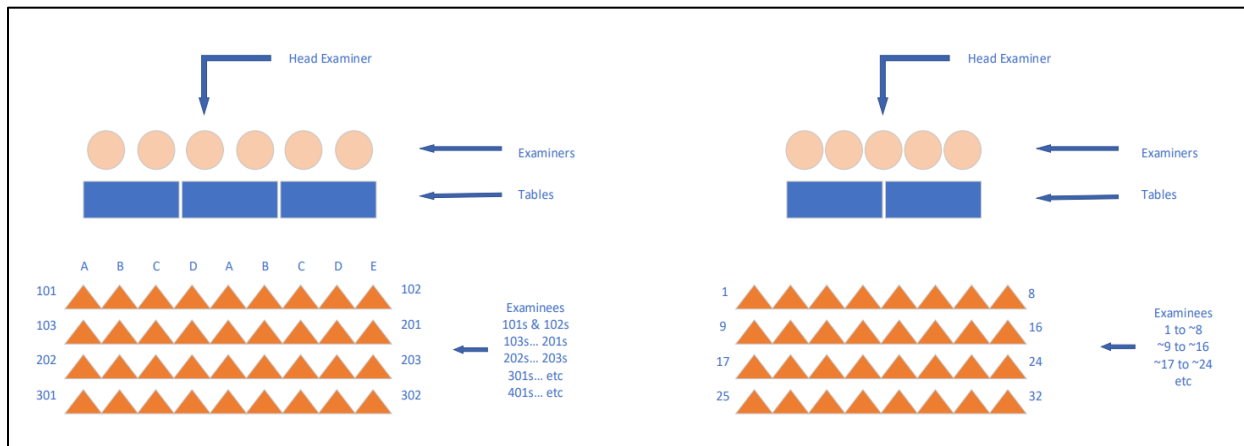
	PNKF Examination Fee	AUSKF Certificate Fee	Total
Mudansha			
17 & Under	\$15	\$20	\$35
18 & Above	\$20	\$30	\$50
Yudansha			
1 Dan	\$30	\$50	\$80
2 Dan	\$30	\$60	\$90
3 Dan	\$30	\$80	\$110
4 Dan	\$40	\$100	\$140

- For shinsa participants that may have special needs or conditions, please submit short description of condition with shinsa registration information so that the information may be passed on to the examination board. This includes any physical or medical conditions, including injuries. Please also mark “Y” for special condition in the registration spreadsheet. This submittal should also include any notification on the need to wear visible braces or feet support during the shinsa.
- Cancellation notification provided to vp@pnkf.org with receipt of acknowledgement at least 7 calendar days before the day of the shinsa will return a full refund (testing and certificate fees). Cancellations within 7 calendar days of the shinsa will only return certificate fees. If an applicant does not pass the exam, the certificate fee will be returned. If an applicant does not attend the shinsa, the testing fee is forfeited and only the certificate fee is returned. If special

circumstances arise, please notify the PNKF VP as soon as possible. Cancellations on the day of the shinsa due to sickness/illness will be assessed case by case for refund eligibility. Refunds from PNKF are thru ZELLE back to the dojo contact as one total amount after an Expense Statement Form is submitted electronically to treasurer@pnkf.org for processing. See Section 4 for forms.

3. Shinsa Day

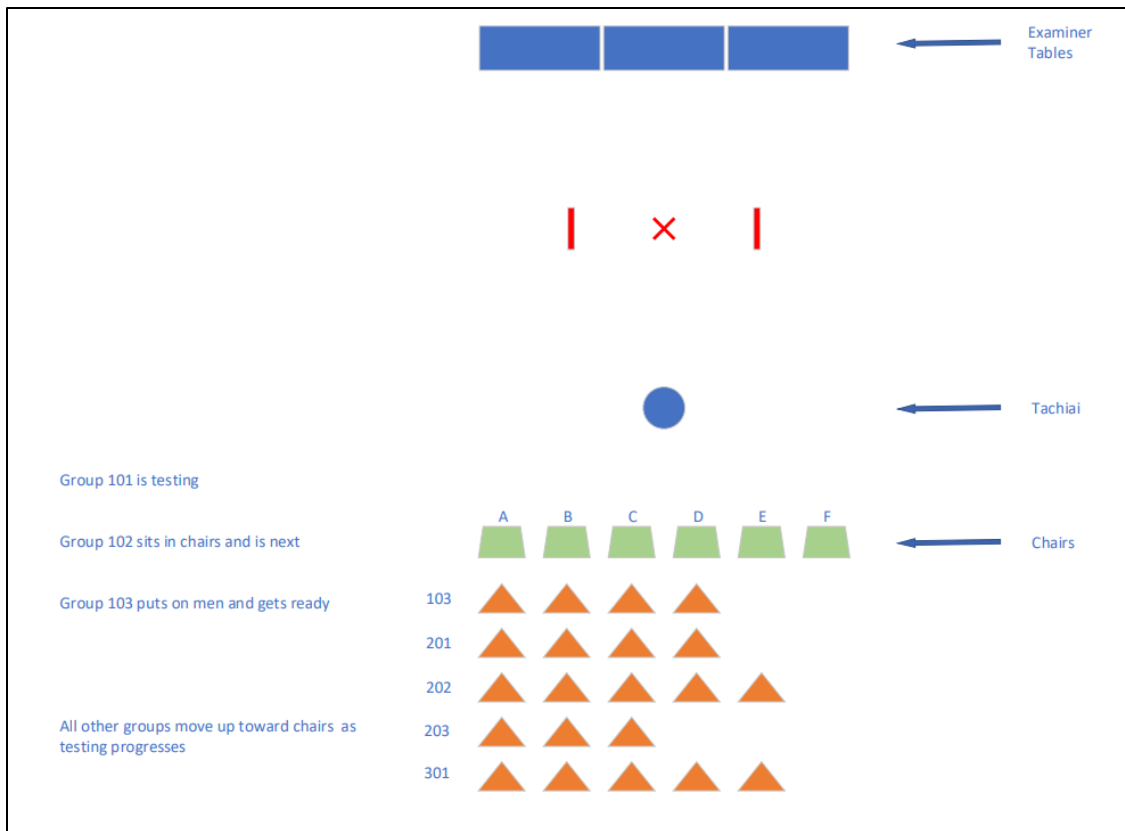
- Upon arrival at the kendo shinsa venue, please check-in at the front table:
 - Sign-in and confirm your information (requested rank, AUSKF ID, DOB) is accurate.
 - Cover with tape any names/characters on hakama and keikogi.
 - Pick up sticker # and place on front of tare (remove your zekken/nafuda).
 - Review the schedule for the day.
 - Warm-up by yourself or with your dojo. There will be no group warm-up.
- At the start of the shinsa, please locate your group. Kendo shinsa typically has three groups: DAN, Adult KYU and Youth KYU. Everyone will finish individual warm-up, take off men, and line up together just in front of the examiner tables (with no shinai). Line up in numerical order for shinsa opening comments. The first several rows will put on men first to start the shinsa.



- The examination panels have various requirements based on requested rank promotion.

Examination Levels	Examiner Levels	# of Examiners	Pass Criteria
Kyu to 1 Dan	4 Dan and over	5	Consent of 3 examiners
2 Dan to 3 Dan	5 Dan and over	5	Consent of 3 examiners
4 Dan	6 Dan and over	6	Consent of 4 examiners

- Kyu candidates will be in groups of 3-6 of similar age. Dan candidates will be in groups following AUSKF grouping method (example is 101A, 101B, 101C for the first group for shodan and has three people).



- After shinsa opening, candidates will join their groups, put on men and start the shinsa.
 - All applicants will bow in and out individually for their test, starting 9 steps away from motodachi or aite.
 - There is no “court” line to step into. Start 3 steps away from sonkyo line.
 - Take off men only after your entire group has finished testing and have been dismissed.
 - No ‘taiatari’ for kiri-kaeshi for all levels.

6 Kyu to 3 Kyu		
Part 1	Kihon	2 men, 2 kote, 2 dou and kirikeashi
Part 2	Keiko	1 min (one match)
2 Kyu to 4 Dan		
Part 1	Keiko	1 min and 15 seconds each (two matches)
Part 2	Kata	see below kata table

- Kata is required for all 2 Kyu to 4 Dan candidates per the below and will be performed in pairs up to 4 or 5 pairs per rank.
 - Each kata form will start together as a group. Each kata form will be announced by tachiai.
 - Each kata group will NOT bow to the kamiza/shomen. Only bowing to their partner will be required.

- Unless otherwise noted, uchidachi (motodachi) is on the left of tachiai and shidachi (kakarite) is on the right of tachiai.
- For kodachi kata, shidachi should place kodachi or tachi on the floor about 5 steps behind and 1 step away from examiner table. Shidachi kneels down with knee (closest to examiner table) up when placing tachi/kodachi on the floor.

Requested Rank	Kata Set	Requirement
2 Kyu	Bokuto ni-yoru Kendo Kihon-waza Keiko-ho	1-9
1 Kyu	Nihon Kendo Kata	Tachi 1-3
1 Dan	Nihon Kendo Kata	Tachi 1-5
2 Dan	Nihon Kendo Kata	Tachi 1-7
3 Dan	Nihon Kendo Kata	Tachi 1-7 & Kodachi 1-3
4 Dan	Nihon Kendo Kata	Tachi 1-7 & Kodachi 1-3

- During kata, applicants are allowed one “do over” per person. At the end of each form, the examinee who would like a “do over” will raise their right arm and hand. This pair will be allowed to redo the kata form while the rest of the groups wait. The entire group will commence on the next kata form upon completion of the “do over” and as announced by tachiai.
- Applicants must successfully pass both keiko and kata for rank promotion. If an applicant fails kata, they can retest kata only within one year of passing keiko portion of shinsa. Applicant is responsible for all subsequent testing fees.
- For Kyu rank candidates, 1 Kyu candidates will perform Nihon Kendo Kata first. Afterwards the 1 Kyu candidates will act as motodachi for 2 Kyu candidates doing kakarite for Bokuto ni-yoru Kendo Kihon-waza Keiko-ho. 1 Kyu candidates may need to act as motodachi more than once.
- Kata forms and names for Bokuto ni-yoru Kendo Kihon-waza Keiko-ho
 - Kihon ichi – Ippon-uchi-no-waza: Shomen. Kote. Do. Tsuki.
 - Kihon ni – Renzoku-waza: Kote-men
 - Kihon san – Harai-waza: Harai-men
 - Kihon shi – Hiki-waza: Hiki-do
 - Kihon go – Nuki-waza : Men-nuki-do
 - Kihon roku – Suriage-waza: Kote-suriage-men
 - Kihon shichi – Debana-waza: Debana-kote
 - Kihon hachi – Kaeshi-waza: Men-kaeshi-do
 - Kihon kyu – Uchiotoshi-waza: Do-uchiotoshi-men
- Kata forms and names for Nihon Kendo Kata
 - Ipponme (tachi)
 - Nihonme
 - Sanbonme
 - Yonhonme

- Gohonme
 - Ropponme
 - Nanahonme
 - Ipponme (kodachi)
 - Nihonme
 - Sanbonme
-
- Please be mindful and respectful for others still testing or waiting to test. Please keep noise level down whenever in the gym area. Each board/group will finish at different times. Once a board/group finishes all testing in their assignment, all candidates for that board will line up again (similar to at the start) to bow out. It is acceptable to request feedback from the examiners regarding your test but the request must be done without distraction to the other boards and people testing.

 - Shinsa results will be posted shortly after completing all testing on all boards/groups. Certificates (menjos) will be mailed to dojo point of contacts within 2-4 months (based on processing thru AUSKF).

 - Testing candidates may request their individual results by emailing vp@pnkf.org with name, AUSKF ID, shinsa date, and candidate #.

4. Forms

- AUSKF Written Exam Questions
- PNKF Written Exam Answer Sheet
- PNKF 4 Dan Shinpan Credits Form
- AUSKF Request for Kendo Exam by Affiliate Regional Federation
- PNKF Expense Statement Form



All United States Kendo Federation

Copied from AUSKF Website 1/12/2013

Kendo Promotion Examinations Written Test Example Questions (1 Kyu – 4 Dan)

Each Kendo Federation may have its own questions.

1-Kyu: Explain the benefits of “Kirikaeshi”

1-Dan: Choose (1) of the following to answer:

- A) Describe the “Ki-Ken-Tai-Ichi”
- B) Describe the 4 Types of Kendo Footwork. “Ashi-Sabaki”

2-Dan: Choose (1) of the following to answer:

- A) Describe the 4 Types of kendo “Sickness”
- B) Describe the 3 “Ma-ai”

3-Dan: Choose (1) of the following to answer:

- A) Describe the elements of “Yuko-datotsu”
- B) Describe the Metsuke. “Enzan-no Metsuke”

4-Dan: Choose (1) of the following to answer:

- A) Describe the benefits of the Kendo Kata and its relevance to Shinai Kendo
- B) Describe the “Zanshin”

INSTRUCTION:

- This is an essay question. Do not write a short answer.
- Essay must be written in English.
- Use your own words, be original.
- Include your name, requesting rank, and AUSKF ID Number.

Submit your written exam answer electronically as a pdf to the PNKF VP as part of the exam registration package of your dojo.

PNKF Kendo Shinkyu Shinsa (Promotional Examination) Written Exam

Name:

Requested Rank:

AUSKF ID #:

Question:

Answer:

Approved By:

Rev: 12/09/2023



Shinpan Credits for 4dan Exam - Reporting Form

Name of Applicant/Dojo: _____

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

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

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

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

Taikai or Seminar <small>(circle one)</small>			
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.



All United States Kendo Federation

Request for Kendo/Iaido Examination by an Affiliate Organization of the AUSKF

Kendo / Iaido / Jodo (circle one)

Requesting Rank: _____ Exam Date: ____/____/____ (MM / DD / YYYY)
(Kyu / Dan)

AUSKF ID No: _____ Member Federation: _____

Name of the affiliate that will conduct the test: _____
(SUSKIF, etc.)

Name: _____ / _____ / _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____
(Street)

_____/_____/_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (MM / DD / YYYY) Age: _____

Present Rank: _____ Date Received: _____

List any handicaps, injuries, etc.: _____

(Signature of Member Federation President)

(Date)

* To avoid mistakes and delays, please print clearly.

* Please send this form and a copy of your menjo (certificate) with your promotion exam application form to the affiliate which conducts the test.



Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation

EXPENSE STATEMENT

Dojo Affiliation: _____ Date: _____

Name (Print): _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Nature of Expense: _____

(Attach receipts to back of this statement.)

	DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____
		TOTAL	_____

 Single items in excess of \$49.99 or total amounts greater than \$149.99 is subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Approved By _____ Treasurer

Board Approval _____ President

NOTE: Expense statements should be submitted within 60 days of incurred expense date.

3/2009

Check # _____ Date Paid: _____

5. Appendix A

- PNKF 4 Dan Shinpan Requirements Information and Q&A

PNKF 4 Dan Shinpan Requirements Information and Q&A

“Number of Events”

2024	4
2009	4
2008	3
2007	2

Full policy is in effect for 2024 February 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 2024:

Credits will be accepted for the 2 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 4 Dan at a PNKF shinkyu shinsa.

What if I get my 4 Dan outside of PNKF?

Being 4 Dan carries certain responsibilities. If you receive your 4 Dan 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 and as part of the registration information for the PNKF shinsa.

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

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 be shinpan.

What if I lose my reporting form?

It is best not to. Part of being 4 Dan 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 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.

