

Beikoku Shido-kan Association

Bylaws



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Section 1 Purpose

The purpose of the bylaws described below is to establish requirements for the examination for titles and degrees for the pursuers of karate-do as well as set a standard for Shibu, Fuku Shibu and Jun Shibu dojo responsibilities and expectations.

Section 2 Dan Degree Qualifications for Candidacy

- 1 The dan degree starts from sho-dan and ends in jyu-dan.
- 2 The qualifications for candidacy for dan degrees and kyu degrees are specified below.

Dan Degree	Minimum Years of Training and Requirements
Sho-dan	More than 3 years of Shido-kan training
Ni-dan	More than 2 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (2 years) Beikoku membership after receiving Sho-dan
San-dan	More than 3 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (3 years) Beikoku membership after receiving Ni-dan
Yon-dan	More than 4 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (4 years) Beikoku membership after receiving San-dan
Go-dan	More than 5 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (5 years) Beikoku membership after receiving Yon-dan
Roku-dan	Go-dan holder above 35 years old with approval of the dojo head, more than 6 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (6 years) Beikoku membership after receiving Go-dan.
Nana-dan	Roku-dan holder above 40 years old with approval of the dojo head, more than 7 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (7 years) Beikoku membership after receiving Roku-dan.
Hachi-dan	Nana-dan holder above 50 years old with approval of the dojo head, more than 8 years of Shido-kan training and continuous (8 years) Beikoku membership after receiving Nana-dan.
Kyu-dan	Entrusted to the Okinawa Shorin Ryu Karate Do Board of Directors
Jyu-dan	Entrusted to the Okinawa Shorin Ryu Karate Do Board of Directors

- 3 The minimum age for adult ranking Sho-dan is fourteen years old.
- 4 The upper limit dan degree for high school students is Ni-dan. The upper limit kyu degree for elementary division is ik-kyu in accordance with The Okinawa Shorin Ryu Karate Do Association Regulations.
- 5 A dan holder from another style may obtain an appropriate dan degree, if he/she earns the approval of the head of dojo and passes an examination conducted by The Title and Dan Degree Examination Committee (hereafter referred to as The Committee). With respect to a kyu holder of another style, the matter is entrusted to the judgment of the head of dojo.

Section 3 Dan Degree Examination Requirements

- 1 The examination requirements for title and dan degree are a recommendation from the head of dojo and "jitsugi" (practical skill) examination.

2 The examination for title and dan degree is held three times a year; March, July and November. The time and date of the examination are set by the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association.

3 The examination for title and dan degree will only be conducted under the presence of the President of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association.

4 The testee for 1st kyu and above must be an active member in The Beikoku Shido-kan Association. Effective 2002, all persons holding a dan rank are required to maintain continuous active association membership status. It is the responsibility of the head of each dojo to ensure that all said students are complying with this stipulation. Prior to recommending a student to test, it is the responsibility of the student's Sensei to ensure they have minimum recommended training time and are active on membership status since 1st Kyu. Dojo membership status is updated quarterly and can be viewed at http://www.ihadojo.com/Association/dojo_directories.htm

5 The testee must be an enrolled student in a participating Branch or Sub-Branch dojo.

6 The examination for 4th dan or above will be conducted at the Hombu dojo only.

7 The testee is highly recommended to attend 10 pre-test sessions with Hanshi Iha within a 3 month period leading up to their test (Michigan students only). This pre-test may include normal class times at the Hombu. A pre-test attendance card will be provided at the Hombu dojo for visiting students. It is the student's responsibility to give Hanshi Iha their pre-test card before each class. This pre-test card will be marked by Hanshi Iha then the card will be kept in the Hombu attendance card box. Dojos outside of Michigan must arrange a similar system with the seniors in their area. Note; any seminars attended will count as 2 pre-test sessions.

8 The judge panel will consist of 10 senior Sensei, picked at each test by the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association. Passing will be based on a 60% or greater vote.

Section 4 Dan Degree Registration Fee

1 It is the responsibility of each branch dojo, and sub-branch if appropriate, to submit a list of recommended testees to The Beikoku Shido-kan Association Headquarters a minimum of 6 weeks in advance of the test for approval. Criteria for dojo recommendation to include:

- Appropriate skill level for dan degree
- Maintaining regular training and contributing to the dojos growth
- Continuous membership in the Beikoku Association

2 An applicant who wishes to take the examination for title and/or dan degree is required to submit an application form (a link to the form is available on the Web at http://www.ihadojo.com/Association/Title_degree.htm) and appropriate fees to The Beikoku Shido-kan Association Headquarters no later than 2 weeks in advance to the examination

date. This registration fee is refundable if the applicant does not pass the examination. The registration fee must be paid by check, credit card or money order to:

Original Okinawa Karate
P.M.B. #285
503 Mall Court
Lansing, MI 48912

Dan Degree		Registration Fee
Sho-dan	(1 st)	\$200
Ni-dan	(2 nd)	\$200
San-dan	(3 rd)	\$200
Yon-dan	(4 th)	\$225
Go-dan	(5 th)	\$250
Roku-dan	(6 th)	\$600 fee includes new obi and Title with Certificate of Rank
Nana-dan	(7 th)	\$650 fee includes new obi and Title with Certificate of Rank
Hachi-dan	(8 th)	\$700 fee includes new obi and Title with Certificate of Rank

3 A successful Kyu-dan, Jyu-dan, or Hanshi title applicant is eligible to obtain a certificate, if he/she gains a recommendation from the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association and passes an examination conducted by The Okinawan Shido-kan Headquarters (President Katsuya Miyahira). The examination fee and registration fee is in accordance with The Okinawan Shorin Ryu Karate Do Association Regulations.

Section 5 Dan Degree Certificate Authorization

Those who pass a dan degree examination conducted by The Beikoku Shido-kan Association shall receive an authorized certificate from The Okinawan Shido-kan Headquarters (President Katsuya Miyahira). Any certificate without the approval of The Okinawan Shido-kan Headquarters is considered invalid.

Section 6 Dan Degree Belt Colors

Dan degree belt colors under the control of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association are specified as follows.

Dan Degree	Belt Color
Sho-dan through Roku-dan	Black
Nana-dan through Hachi-dan	Red and White
Kyu-dan through Jyu-dan	Red

Section 7 Title Qualifications for Candidacy

Beginning in November, 2007, candidates testing for 6th dan and higher will receive the matching title as well. This is included in the dan testing fee.

The titles are not accumulative; to achieve a title rank one does not need to have been certified in the previous title.

The title names are specified as Shidoin, Renshi, Shihan, Kyoshi and Hanshi.

1 Title Definitions-

Shidoin:	An "apprentice or assistant instructor" who has not yet been formally recognized as a Sensei.
Renshi:	"A person who has mastered oneself". This person is considered fully capable to open a branch dojo. The holder of Renshi "has a name"; he is no longer one of the many.
Shihan:	"A Certified Instructor". This person is recognized as having the ability to oversee an area of dojos and is trusted to be able to maintain quality not only by example of his own school, but by those that his students may open up.
Kyoshi:	"Knowledgeable Person". He is a senior member who has gained the respect of members from all over as well as his teacher. The Kyoshi is recognized as being able to represent the Hanshi anywhere he goes.
Hanshi:	"Master". An honorary title given to only the highest ranked of an organization. This title is given to someone who has spent their life promoting selfless karate and their teacher's organization, and has performed the above duties extremely well. The Hanshi is a successor to the teachings of his teacher.

2 A karate-do pursuer with san-dan and below may obtain the "Shidoin" title, if he/she develops excellent ability, technique and character, and moreover earns the approval of the head of dojo and The Title and Dan Degree Examination Committee (hereafter The Committee).

3 A yon-dan or go-dan holder may obtain the title of "Renshi", if he/she earns the approval of the head of dojo and passes an examination conducted by The Committee.

4 A karate-do pursuer with roku-dan and over may obtain the title of "Shihan", if he/she earns the approval of the head of dojo and passes an examination conducted by The Committee.

5 A Shihan license holder with the rank of nana-dan and over may obtain the title of "Kyoshi", if he/she earns the approval of the head of dojo and passes an examination conducted by The Committee.

Section 8 Title Registration Fees

1 It is the responsibility of each branch dojo, and sub-branch if appropriate, to submit a list of recommended testees to The Beikoku Shido-kan Association Headquarters a minimum of 6 weeks in advance of the test for approval. Criteria for dojo recommendation to include:

- Appropriate skill level for dan degree
- Maintaining regular training and contributing to the dojos growth
- Continuous membership in the Beikoku Association

2 An applicant who wishes to take the examination for title is required to submit an application and appropriate fees to The Beikoku Shido-kan Association Headquarters no later than 2 weeks in advance of the examination date. This registration fee is refundable if the applicant does not pass the examination. The registration fee must be paid by check or money order to:

Original Okinawa Karate
P.M.B. #285
503 Mall Court
Lansing, MI 48912

Titles	Registration Fee
Shidoin	\$200
Renshi	\$200
Shihan	\$300 included in dan test fee beginning November 2007
Kyoshi	\$300 included in dan test fee beginning November 2007
Hanshi	\$500 included in dan test fee beginning November 2007

3 A successful Kyu-dan, Jyu-dan, or Hanshi title applicant is eligible to obtain a certificate, if he/she gains a recommendation from the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association and passes an examination conducted by The Okinawan Shido-kan Headquarters (President Katsuya Miyahira). The examination fee and registration fee is in accordance with The Okinawan Shorin Ryu Karate Do Association Regulations.

Section 9 Title Certificate Authorization

Those who pass a title degree examination conducted by The Beikoku Shido-kan Association shall receive an authorized certificate from The Okinawan Shido-kan Headquarters (President Katsuya Miyahira). Any certificate without the approval of The Okinawan Shido-kan Headquarters is considered invalid.

Section 10 Kyu Rank Qualifications and Examination Requirements

The qualifications and requirements for kyu rank, adult and youth, are entrusted to the judgment of each dojo; and the approval of kyu degrees is entrusted to the judgment of the head of each dojo.

The adult kyu belt system listed in Section 12.1 is an example of what is used at the Hombu dojo. Variations of this belt system are acceptable up to yon-kyu, entrusted to the judgment of the head of each dojo.

Section 11 Kyu Rank Certificate Fee & Authorization

Kyu certificates signed with the name of the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association and the testees Sensei are obtained through the Hombu dojo for a certificate fee of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Kyu testee names are to be submitted with the date of test, kyu rank tested for. The link below opens the form to be filled out and mailed in with appropriate fee amount. The form to be filled out and mailed in with the appropriate fee amount is available on the Web at:

<http://www.ihadojo.com/Association/Downloads/KYUcert-request.doc>

Section 12 Kyu Rank Belt Colors

1 The adult kyu belt system listed below is an example of what is used at the Hombu dojo. Variations of this belt system are acceptable up to yon-kyu, entrusted to the judgment of the head of each dojo.

Kyu Degree	Belt Color
Hachi-kyu	White
Nana-kyu	White- Yellow stripe
Rok-kyu	Yellow
Go-kyu	Yellow- green stripe
Yon-kyu	Green
San-kyu	Green- brown stripe
Ni-kyu	Brown
Ik-kyu	Brown- black stripe

2 The youth kyu belt system is entrusted to the judgment of the head of each dojo.

Section 13 Branch (Shibu) Dojo Responsibilities

1 Every branch dojo under the control of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association is required to be enrolled at the Hombu dojo and pay a monthly charge to the Hombu Dojo. The charge is appropriated to office expenses for external relations and The Okinawa Shido-kan Headquarters. The following are payment options:

1. Yearly- \$1200 pre-payment
2. Bi-Yearly- \$600 pre-payment
3. Monthly- \$100 monthly through ACH electronic payment (through Hombu dojo).

2 If the branch dojo has a sub-branch (Fuku Shibu) dojo under their control, half the monthly dojo charge collected is to be paid to the Hombu dojo. This is the responsibility of the branch dojo.

3 The branch dojo is expected to actively promote association membership to The Beikoku Shido-kan Association. Continuous membership is expected from all adult-ranked 1st kyu and above, and highly encouraged at remaining levels. Prior to recommending a student to test, it is the responsibility of the student's Sensei to ensure they have minimum recommended training time and are active on membership status since 1st Kyu. Dojo membership status is updated quarterly and can be viewed at http://www.ihadojo.com/Association/dojo_directories.htm

4 The branch dojo has the responsibility of actively promoting the importance of the National Training Seminar to his or her dojo and sub-branch dojo each year.

5 Each branch dojo is recommended to have 2 seminars a year to assist in developing their student's technique and to propagate Shido-kan in their area. Combining area dojo seminars is acceptable. The branch dojo is responsible for travel and housing. The seminar fee paid to Sensei Iha is \$1,000.

6 Association patches (Shido-kan and Beikoku Rope) will be purchased through the association headquarters. Pricing for Shibu Dojo directors (effective January 1, 2007) is as follows:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price Each</u>
100	\$3.00
50	\$3.50
25	\$4.00
Under 25	\$4.50

7 Kyu rank certification. Refer to Section 11.

8 A branch dojo that has a sub-branch (Fuku-Shibu) dojo reporting directly to them is responsible for the said sub-branch school adhering to the regulations and responsibilities laid out in this document.

9 To submit a list of recommended dan testees (when appropriate) to The Beikoku Shido-kan Association Headquarters. For dan testing information, refer to Section 4.1

Section 14 Sub-branch (Fuku-Shibu) Dojo Foundation

The Beikoku Shido-kan Association approves the foundation of a sub-branch dojo. The head of the branch dojo is required to keep close communications with a sub-branch dojo and make the decisions of the association known to the sub-branch dojo.

Section 15 Sub-branch (Fuku-Shibu) Dojo Promotion to Branch (Shibu) Dojo

Upon receiving the request for promotion to a Shibu dojo from an established sub-branch dojo, the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association shall first consult with the Shibu dojo head and after call The Committee and make a decision by vote.

Section 16 New or Converting (Jun-Shibu) Dojo Foundation

Upon receiving a request from a prospective school to be a part of the Shorin Ryu Shido-kan system, the information and contact name should be directed to the Hombu dojo. The following steps will apply to the prospective school:

- Step 1** Initiation period begins upon the prospective school's first visit to the Hombu dojo. This visit will consist of the school owner(s) and some senior students observing a typical beginner and advanced class. This allows for an exchange of ideas as to what the prospective school can expect from us and we from them. We (Sensei Iha & Hombu dojo sempai) explain at this step how rank is established and certified. At this stage, no obligation is made from either party.
- Step 2** 4 – 6 weeks after the initial visit, prospective dojo decides if they want to pursue joining our organization. If yes, they return and begin learning our basics. This would consist of watching and participating in both lower and advanced classes. This allows the prospective school to sample Shido-kan's technical aspects. At this point, we will begin a check on the prospective school's background and history. During every step, we will be continually evaluating character and effort from prospective school.
Total : 4 - 6 weeks
- Step 3** 2 – 4 months after Step 2, the prospective school will come back allowing us to review their progress. At this point, they will learn more, possibly advancing to the higher katas. The prospective school returns to teach basics to their school, preparing for step 4. Up to this point there is still no commitment expected. We explain the expectations of a Shibu Dojo.
Total : 3 - 6 months
- Step 4** 2 – 4 months after Step 3, the prospective school, at their expense, arranges for Iha Sensei and a senior student to visit their school to watch / teach both lower and advanced classes. This gives prospective school students a chance to see what long-term advantages there will be if their school joins. There should be a clear understanding on the prospective school's part as to whether or not this is what they are looking for. School owner(s) has had multiple training sessions with Iha Sensei, has been to the Hombu dojo, and has had an opportunity to have their entire school reach consensus based on information to this point.
Total : 5 - 10 months
- Step 5** 2 – 4 months after Step 4, the prospective school will come back allowing us to review their progress. At this point, they learn more, possibly advancing to the higher kata, kumite and bunkai. The prospective school returns to teach this to their school. We are evaluating not only the progress of school owner, but of their entire school. We have verified by this point the history and reputation of prospective school.
Total : 7 - 12 months

- Step 6** 2 – 4 months after Step 5, the prospective school returns with a full commitment on **their** part. At this point, we continue to review and train. We then set up details for Sensei Iha's second and final seminar at prospective school, within 2 – 4 months.
Total : 9 - 16 months
- Step 7** 2 – 4 months after Step 6, the prospective school, at their expense, arranges for Iha Sensei and a senior student to visit their school to watch / teach both lower and advanced classes. At this point, given on the progress and effort of the prospective school's owner(s), seniors, and mid-ranked students, **Iha Sensei will decide if the prospective school is ready, needs more time, or is just not suited for Beikoku Shido-kan.**
- *Next step is based on prospective school being ready from Step 7.
Total : 11 - 20 months
- Step 8** 1 – 2 months after Step 7, prospective school owner(s) will return to Hombu dojo with senior students for final instruction and welcome to the North American Beikoku Shido-kan Association.

Section 17 Beikoku Association Benefits

- ☐ Beikoku Membership Certificate
- ☐ Yearly updated Dojo directory of current members
- ☐ Membership newsletter mailed out twice a year
- ☐ Black belt testing certificate and rank recognition from Miyahira Sensei upon successfully passing the Dan exam
- ☐ 10 % discount on Iha Sensei sponsored seminars
- ☐ 10 % Discount on all Beikoku Shido-kan Activewear (not valid with other Activewear discounts)
- ☐ Rank recognition in Iha Karate Dojo

Section 18 Publication and sales of images featuring Seikichi Iha, Hanshi 10th Dan

1 Permission to publish video images of Seikichi Iha, Hanshi 10th Dan

Publishing (including posting on web sites, blogs, wiki's, video sharing sites such as YouTube and any other public media) video content containing Seikichi Iha, Hanshi 10th Dan, is not permitted without written permission. Individuals wishing to publish video

content featuring Seikichi Iha must first contact his representative, Joe Kalikow (E-mail *serses36@yahoo.com*) and provide complete content, show the context in which it will be presented and state the intended purpose. Adequate time to review and formally approve requests must be given.

2 Sale of photographs or video featuring Seikichi Iha, Hanshi 10th Dan.

The sales of video or photographic content featuring Seikichi Iha, Hanshi 10th Dan, is not permitted without written permission. Individuals wishing to sell video or photographic content featuring Seikichi Iha must first contact his representative, Joe Kalikow (E-mail *serses36@yahoo.com*) and provide complete content, show the context in which it will be presented and state the intended purpose. Adequate time to review and formally approve requests must be given. The publisher must agree to remit the agreed upon percentage of sales as a requisite of permission.

3 Permission of use statement.

Materials that have received permission for publication and/or sale should include a statement such as the following:

"Images of Seikichi Iha, Hanshi, 10th Dan, are published by (person or group who received permission) with permission limited to this use. Images copyright (date) Beikoku Shido-kan Karate-do Association, all rights reserved."

Section 19 Penalty Provisions for Defamation

A title holder and/or dan degree holder who defames The Beikoku Shido-kan Association, The Okinawa Karate Do, or The Okinawa Shorin Ryu Karate Do may be deprived of his/her title and/or dan degree by a decision of The Committee. The president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association may pass judgement, if a decision by vote of The Committee is not available.

Section 20 Title and Dan Degree Examination Committee

1 The Beikoku Shido-kan Association establishes The Title and Dan Degree Examination Committee (henceforth The Committee) for the purpose of screening candidates for titles and dan degrees.

2 The selection and appointment of the committee members is under the authority of the president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association.

3 The president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association holds an additional position as the committee chairman of The Committee and conducts official duties.

4 The president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association has the authority of calling the Committee, which forms a quorum by the majority. A decision shall be made by a majority

vote of the attending committee members. If a decision should be made on a matter regarding a member of a dojo which is under the control of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association, then the member and the head of the dojo he/she belongs to are exempt from casting a vote.

5 The president of The Beikoku Shido-kan Association has the authority to over-rule the committee's deciding vote.