



BRITISH FUDOSHIN ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1968 by Soke Bob Lawrence Judan

Kenjutsu Syllabus



Introduction

Kenjutsu (剣術), meaning "the method, or technique, of the sword." This is opposed to kendo, which means the way of the sword. *Kenjutsu*, which originated with the samurai class of feudal Japan is the umbrella term for all traditional (*koryū*) schools of Japanese swordsmanship. The exact activities and conventions undertaken when practicing *kenjutsu* vary from school to school, where the word school here refers to the practice, methods, ethics, and metaphysics of a given tradition, yet commonly include practice of battlefield techniques without opponent and techniques where two persons paired *kata* (featuring full contact strikes to the body in some styles and no body contact strikes permitted in others). Historically schools incorporated sparring under a variety of conditions, from using solid wooden *bokutō* to the use of the bamboo sword (*shinai*) and armour (*bogu*). In modern times sparring in Japanese swordsmanship is more strongly associated with *Kendo*.

The *Fudoshin Kenjutsu* system demands in depth knowledge to other weapons used on the battlefields of Japan in order to fully execute a full defence or counter attack.

lai jutsu is the rapid but smooth, controlled movements of drawing the sword from its scabbard, striking or cutting an opponent, removing blood from the blade and then replacing the sword back in to the scabbard.

Chiburui also called *chiburi*. This is the process by which one symbolically removes blood from a sword blade. The term *chiburui* can be translated as "shaking off the blood". In the Japanese martial art of *iaidō*, and *Kenjutsu*. This is done before placing the blade back into the scabbard.



剣術



Kenjutsu Technique of the Sword 7TH Mon/Kyu Mauve Belt



Before attempting this *Kenjutsu* grading, *kenjutsuka* must own a minimum of one *Bokken*.
The *Kenjutsuka* must adhere to the club policies for carrying weapons to and from the *dojo*.

1. **Ceremonial procedures**
Using a *Bokken* and *Katana*, arming, disarming and cleaning the blade /10

2. **Kata** ***Yotsu No Kaze Sho*** (Kneeling four winds) /10


3. **Iai Jutsu** (Fast draw)
Showing correct drawing and sheathing technique along with effective blade angles
 - Front** • Front kick – ShoMen
 - Case Side** • Spinning cross cut - ShoMen – cross leg Chiburii
 - Hand Side** • Rib cut – Water mill
 - Rear** • Back Kick - Reverse thrust – Spinning ShoMen /40

4. **Kiri Waza** (Cutting Techniques)
To be demonstrated from a guard position, all cuts must be demonstrated with effective blade cutting angles.
 - ***ShoMen Kiri*** Descending cut
 - ***Mawashi YokoMen Kiri*** Circular side head cut
 - ***Juji YokoMen Kiri*** Cross side head cut (horizontal neck cut) /30

5. **Uke Waza** (Blocking Techniques) *Bokken* against *Bokken*
From actual assault, demonstrate the following blocks returning to guard in good form:-
 - Rising block – Single arm
 - Reverse rising block – Single arm
 - Over arm block
 - Side Parry /40

6. **Defences** Using a *Bokken* only at this level, defend form the following attacks.
Demonstrate full Ceremonial procedures to open and close combat.
 - ***ShoMen Kiri*** Descending Cut
 - ***JujiiYoko Men*** Cross neck cut
 - ***Juji Do Kiri*** Cross rib cut
 - ***Morote Tsuki Jodan*** Double handed thrust to throat /40

7. **Japanese Translations**
Gi \ Obi \ Dojo \ Tatame \ Sensei \ Katana \ Bokken \ Saya \ Tsuba \ Kiri /10

8. **Renshiki**  Etiquette /10

Highest Possible Score 170 marks

Pass Mark 50%

85 marks

Result _____

Examiners Signature _____



Kenjutsu Technique of the Sword 6TH Mon/Kyu Yellow Belt



Before attempting this *Kenjutsu* grading, *Kenjutsuka* must own a minimum of one *Bokken* and *Katana*.

1. **Loosening routine** All major joints to be loosened /10

2. **Kata** ***Yotsu No Kaze Ni*** Standing four winds /10
 Bokken Kata Sho Blocking Kata /10

3. **Iai Jutsu** Showing correct drawing and sheathing technique.
 - Front** • Front kick – ShoMen
 - Single handed rib cut – Water mill
 - Case Side** • Spinning cross cut - ShoMen – cross leg - Chiburii
 - Middle 2 handed thrust to case side – spinning *ShoMen*
 - Hand Side** • Rib cut – Water mill
 - Spiral cut
 - Rear** • Back Kick - Reverse thrust – Spinning ShoMen
 - Spinning spiral cut /80

4. **Kiri Waza** (Cutting Techniques) To be demonstrated by drawing and sheathing the blade.
 - ***ShoMen Kiri*** Descending cut
 - ***Age Kiri*** Rising cut to groin
 - ***Mawashi YokoDo Kiri*** Circular side rib cut
 - ***Juji YokoDo Kiri*** Cross side rib cut
 - ***JujiiYoko Men*** Cross neck cut
 - ***Juji Do Kiri*** Cross rib cut
 - ***Over arm Tsuki*** Over arm thrust
 - ***Ippon Tsuki Jodan*** Single handed thrust to throat /80

5. **Uke Waza** (Blocking Techniques)
 - Double handed rising block
 - Lowering block
 - 2 methods of evasion /40

6. **Defences** Using *Bokken* only at this level.
 Demonstrate full Ceremonial procedures to open and close combat.
 Two defences form each of the following attacks; one of each must be an evasion.
 - ***ShoMen Kiri*** Descending Cut
 - ***JujiiYoko Men*** Cross neck cut
 - ***Juji Do Kiri*** Cross rib cut
 - ***Morote Tsuki Jodan*** Two handed thrust to throat /80

7. **Japanese Translations**
Kenjutsu \ Zories \ Ryu \ Ashi \ Ude \ Men \ Hajjime \ Yamatte \ Te \ Kote /10

8. **Renshiki** Etiquette /10

Highest Possible Score 330 marks

Pass Mark 55%

181 marks

Result _____

Examiners Signature _____



Kenjutsu

Technique of the Sword

5TH Mon/Kyu Orange Belt



- | | | | |
|-----|---|--|------|
| 1. | Research | Research and submit o theses on the history of <i>Kenjutsu</i> . | □ |
| 2. | Kamae | Guard Positions – must be shown on left & right sides in continual change. | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%; margin-right: 50%;">• Chudan- no – Kamae <li style="width: 50%;">• Hasso – no - Kamae <li style="width: 50%; margin-right: 50%;">• Godan – no - Kamae <li style="width: 50%;">• Waki – no – Gamae | | /40 |
| 3. | Kata | Gohan Jawan – Rice bowl Kata /10
Gyaku Nijin – Reverse grip Kata /10
Bokken Kata Ni – Evasion Kata /10 | |
| 3. | Iai Jutsu | Showing correct drawing and sheathing technique. | |
| | Front | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front kick – ShoMen • Single handed rib cut – Water mill • Spiral cut | |
| | Case Side | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinning cross cut - ShoMen – cross leg chiburii • Middle 2 handed thrust to case side – spinning <i>ShoMen</i> • Case side draw & thrust – change hands spinning horizontal neck cut | |
| | Hand Side | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rib cut – Water mill • Spiral cut • Cut to eyes – Horizontal neck cut | |
| | Rear | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back Kick - Reverse thrust – Spinning ShoMen • Spinning spiral cut • Spinning Cut to eyes – ShoMen | /120 |
| 4. | Kiri Waza | (Cutting Techniques) | |
| | | Demonstrate with a <i>Bokken</i> four methods of defending against two attackers | /40 |
| 5. | Uke Waza | (Blocking Techniques) | |
| | | Sparring around blocking only for 2 minutes | /10 |
| 6. | Defences | Using <i>Bokken</i> only at this level. | |
| | | Demonstrate full Ceremonial procedures to open and close combat. | |
| | | Three defences form each of the following attacks; one of each must be an evasion | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;">• ShoMen Kiri Descending Cut <li style="width: 50%;">• Juji Do Kiri Cross rib cut <li style="width: 50%;">• JujiiYoko Men Cross neck cut <li style="width: 50%;">• Morote Tsuki Jodan Two handed thrust to throat | /120 |
| 7. | Disengagements | (close striking/cutting) | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 25%;">• Front strangle <li style="width: 25%;">• Single lapel <li style="width: 25%;">• Double lapel <li style="width: 25%;">• Two handed strangle from rear | / 40 |
| 8. | Shiai | (Contest) 3 bouts | /30 |
| 9. | Japanese Translations | | |
| | | <i>Hakkama \ Ippon \ Wazari \ Hantai \ Jo \ Fudoshin \ Uke \ Shuto \ Waza \ Tanto</i> | /10 |
| 10. | Renshiki | (Etiquette) | /10 |

Highest Possible Score 450 marks

Pass Mark 60%

270 marks

Result _____

Examiners Signature _____



Kenjutsu Technique of the Sword 4TH Mon/Kyu Green Belt



1. **Research** Research and submit a paper on the Samurai. □

2. **Kata** *Hayashi No Kata* Forest walk /10

3. **Iai Jutsu** Showing correct drawing and sheathing technique along with accurate cutting angles.
 - Front**
 - Front kick – *ShoMen*
 - Single handed rib cut – Water mill
 - Spiral cut
 - Cut eyes – Horizontal neck cut
 - Reverse grip throat cut – *ShoMen*
 - Rising cut to groin – *ShoMen*
 - Case Side**
 - Spinning cross cut - *ShoMen* – cross leg *Chiburii*
 - Middle 2 handed thrust to case side – spinning *ShoMen*
 - Case side draw & thrust – spinning horizontal neck cut
 - Evasion side step & thrust
 - Hand Side**
 - Rib cut – Water mill
 - Spiral cut
 - Cut to eyes – Horizontal neck cut
 - Cut to eyes – *ShoMen*
 - Rear**
 - Back Kick - Reverse thrust – Spinning *ShoMen*
 - Spinning spiral cut
 - Spinning Cut to eyes – *ShoMen*
 - Spinning rib cut – water mill /180

4. **Tameshikiri** (Art of Cutting) with blade drawn

Test of precision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sho Men</i> Apple placed on doe • <i>Juji Kiri</i> Potato thrown /20 	Test of blade angles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tsuki Jodan</i> Potato on a stick • <i>Water Mill</i> Potato on a stick /20
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5. **Uke Waza** (Blocking Techniques) Sparring around blocking only for 2 minutes /10

6. **Defences** Using *Bokken* only at this level.
 Demonstrate full Ceremonial procedures to open and close combat.
 Defend form multiple attackers, attacking with the following at random for a minimum of 3 minutes.
 - *ShoMen Kiri* Descending Cut
 - *Juji Do Kiri* Cross rib cut
 - *JujiiYoko Men* Cross neck cut
 - *Morote Tsuki Chudan* Two handed thrust to stomach /10

7. **Disengagements** (close striking/cutting)

Cross wrist held hand side,	Wrist to wrist case side,	Double wrist from front,
Double wrist from front as you draw,	Double wrist from rear,	hilt held,

/60

8. **Shiai** (Contest) 3 bouts in Kendo Armour with Shinai
 1 bout defending only whilst on knees /40

9. **Renshiki** (Etiquette) /10

Highest Possible Score 360 marks

Pass Mark 65%

235 marks

Result _____

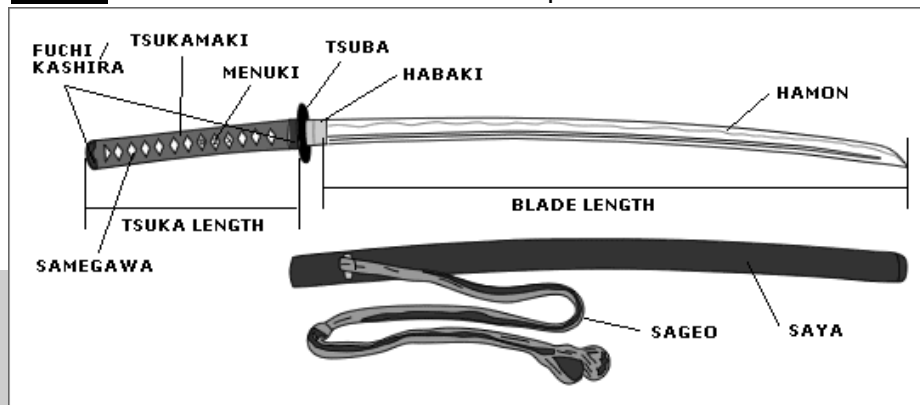
Examiners Signature _____



Kenjutsu Technique of the Sword 3RD Mon/Kyu Blue Belt



1. **Theory** Translation test of Katana parts □



2. **Kata**

• Yotsu No Kaze Ni Standing four winds	• Gyaku Nijin Reverse grip	
• Yotsu No Kaze Sho Kneeling four winds	• Hayashi No Kata Forest walk	
• Gohan Jawan Rice bowl	• Khiba No Kata Market place	/60

3. **Iai Jutsu** Demonstrate 30 *iai* /10

4. **Tameshikiri** (Art of Cutting) to be performed as *iai*

Test of precision:		Test of blade angles:	
Atoshi Kiri Apple placed on hand		Tsuki Jodan Apple on a stick	
Atoshi Kiri Apple placed on chest		Water Mill Reeds on a stick	
Juji Kiri Apple thrown	/30	JujiiYoko Men Reeds on a stick	
		Juji Do Kiri Reeds on a stick	/40

5. **Uke Waza** (Blocking Techniques)
Sparring around blocking and countering for 2 minutes X 2 bouts /20

6. **Defences** Using a *Bokken* defend against the following *Bo* attacks

• ShoMen	Descending quarter strike	
• Ryote Atoshi	Two handed downward	
• JujiiYoko Men	Cross strike to the head	
• Juji Do Uchi	Cross rib cut	
• Morote Tsuki Chudan	Two handed thrust to stomach	/50

7. **Shiai** (Contest)

• 1 bout <i>Bokken</i> against <i>Bo</i>		/10
• 1 bout <i>Bokken</i> against <i>Jo</i>		/10
• 3 bouts <i>Bokken</i> against <i>Bokken</i>		/30
• 3 Bouts in <i>Kendo</i> Armour with <i>Shinai</i>		/30

8. **Renshiki** (Etiquette) /10

Highest Possible Score 270 marks Pass Mark 70% 189 marks

Result _____

Examiners Signature _____



Kenjutsu

Technique of the Sword

2ND Mon/Kyu Brown Belt



1. **Refereeing**
The *Kenjutsuka* must have sound knowledge and experience in refereeing and judging □

 2. **Rolling**
 - Forward roll and draw whilst in *obi*
 - Backward roll and draw whilst in *obi*
 - Forward roll whilst carrying /30

 1. **Kata**
 - § *Fudoshin Wakizashi*
 - § *Nihon Ken - Daisho (twin sword)* /20

 3. **Iai Jutsu** Demonstrate 5 *Iai* in carrying form against an attacker /50

 4. **Tameshikiri** (Art of Cutting) to be performed as *Iai*
 - ***Kiri Waza*** 3 techniques of own choice in double cutting form /30

 5. **Uke Waza** (Blocking Techniques)
Sparring around blocking and countering with twin *Bokken* for 2 minutes, 2 bouts. /20

 6. **Defences** Using twin *Bokken* and *Wakizashi* defend against the following attacks
 - ***ShoMen*** Descending quarter strike
 - ***Ryote Atoshi*** Two handed downward
 - ***JujiiYoko Men*** Cross strike to the head
 - ***Juji Do Uchi*** Cross rib cut
 - ***Morote Tsuki Chudan*** Two handed thrust to stomach /50

 7. **Shiai** (Contest)
 - 2 bout twin *Bokken* against *Bo* /20
 - 2 bout twin *Bokken* against Twin *Bokken* /20
 - 2 bouts *Bokken* against *Bokken* /20
 - 2 Bouts in Kendo Armour with *Shinai* /20

 8. **Renshiki** (Etiquette) /10
- Highest Possible Score 290 marks Pass Mark 75% 217 marks

Result _____

Examiners Signature _____





Kenjutsu

Technique of the Sword

1ST Mon/Kyu Black Belt



Complete detailed assessment of all techniques in the previous syllabus and must be performed to a very high and accurate standard.

Before being awarded this rank the *Kenjutsuka* must have a minimum of 4th Mon/Kyu in *Tanto-Jutsu*

1. Kata

- **Nihon Ken** Two man live blade *Kata* of evasions
- **Koishigi** Unarmed Defence *Kata*
- **Rolling Kata** Rolling *Kata*

