



# AUSTRALIAN KENDO RENMEI

*Kendo - Iaido - Jodo*

The AKR Executive is pleased to advise that in 2021 we are implementing an **Instructor, Coach & Officiator (ICO) development framework** for use consistently across Kendo, Iaido and Jodo. This will replace the current Instructor Accreditation Scheme (IAS) effective immediately which has been in place since 2007.

The process to get to this stage has been in development since 2017 due to careful deliberations by the National Council during significant changes to national governance of sports coaching over the last few years including the “retirement” of the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) and lack of clarity from State Governments on the delivery of general coaching principle courses.

The ICO development framework has been designed to address the principles the AKR will apply in supporting the development of, and certifying, instructors, coaches and officiators for Kendo, Iaido and Jodo namely:

- separate certification for each of the roles of Instructor, Coach, and Officiator;
- consistency across all arts whilst retaining enough flexibility for specific differences;
- certification in multiple arts through recognition of common/generic requirements;
- certification achieved through demonstrated competency of clearly documented requirement;
- evidence of competency demonstrated through both formative and summative methods;
- competency in general industry knowledge (not AKR art specific) achieved through external bodies;
- the workload to receive certification against the criteria should be as minimal as possible.

You will have noticed that we refer to both Instructors and Coaches. The ICO makes a distinction in those functions – an **Instructor** is responsible for ensuring the integrity in transmission of the art, whereas the **Coach** is responsible for the development journey of the individual student. This distinction is more detailed in documentation which will be available soon.

Full implementation will take some time – enabling the administration procedures, preparing senior members to oversee the development of juniors, and most importantly allowing members time to complete the requirements. The National Council have agreed that there will be interim certification (till December 2022) for Instructor levels and Coach levels available whilst this happens. Checklists for these interim certifications are attached.

The National Council have appointed Damon Schearer as the *Coaching Development Coordinator* to oversee the implementation. Over the coming weeks/months Damon will be providing communication to members and the executives of Affiliated Renmei, on next steps for interim certification and future requirements. A dedicated email address has been established for this role - [coachingdev@kendoaustralia.asn.au](mailto:coachingdev@kendoaustralia.asn.au).

The National Council aim to appoint an *Officiator Development Coordinator* before the end of March, to develop a strategic plan for enabling Officiator Certification under the ICO.

The ICO is a significant step forward in enabling the Australian Kendo Renmei to transparently apply due diligence to developing instructors, coaches, and officiators, as required for ongoing official recognition as a National Sporting Organisation (NSO) by the Australian Sports Commission.