



AUSTRALIAN KENDO RENMEI

Kendo - Iaido - Jodo

21 January 2022

Re: AKR MEMBERSHIP FEE FREE YEAR

Dear Members,

At the meeting of AKR National Council on 16 January 2022, a decision was made to provide both re-joining and new members with a fee amnesty for the membership year which commences on 1 July 2022 and concludes on 30 June 2023.

Note that this arrangement applies to a members AKR membership fee only. States and dojo/clubs will still need their fees to be paid. The action by the AKR however, will reduce the overall cost to members of continuing membership.

The membership renewal process will still continue, as in the past, managed by clubs/dojo and the respective state associations.

All insurances for instructors, public liability and player accident, will still be paid by the AKR and therefore the relevant protections provided from them will continue with no change.

We also mention that in 2020/21, an amount of \$11,865 of AKR members funds was distributed as a subsidy to dojo/clubs, to support them during the first year of the Covid19 pandemic.

The reasons behind the recent AKR decision for the fee amnesty, were to acknowledge –

- The major difficulties faced by members in pursuing their training goals;
- That funds budgetted to support the attendance of the Australian Kendo Team at the cancelled 18th World Kendo Championships in Paris, were not spent;
- That activities usually supported by AKR members funds, such as the Australian Kendo Championships and the equivalent iaido and jodo events were cancelled or downscaled.
- That there was no expenditure to subsidise the attendance in Australia of sensei from Japan for seminars and taikai guidance.

We hope that as a result of this action, members will be encouraged to remain and that members who may have suspended their attendance at training will be encouraged to return to the dojo to resume; then will all continue their kendo, iaido or jodo journey.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Ward
Treasurer

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