



AUSTRALIAN KENDO RENMEI

ACN: 062504778

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Kendo - Iaido - Jodo

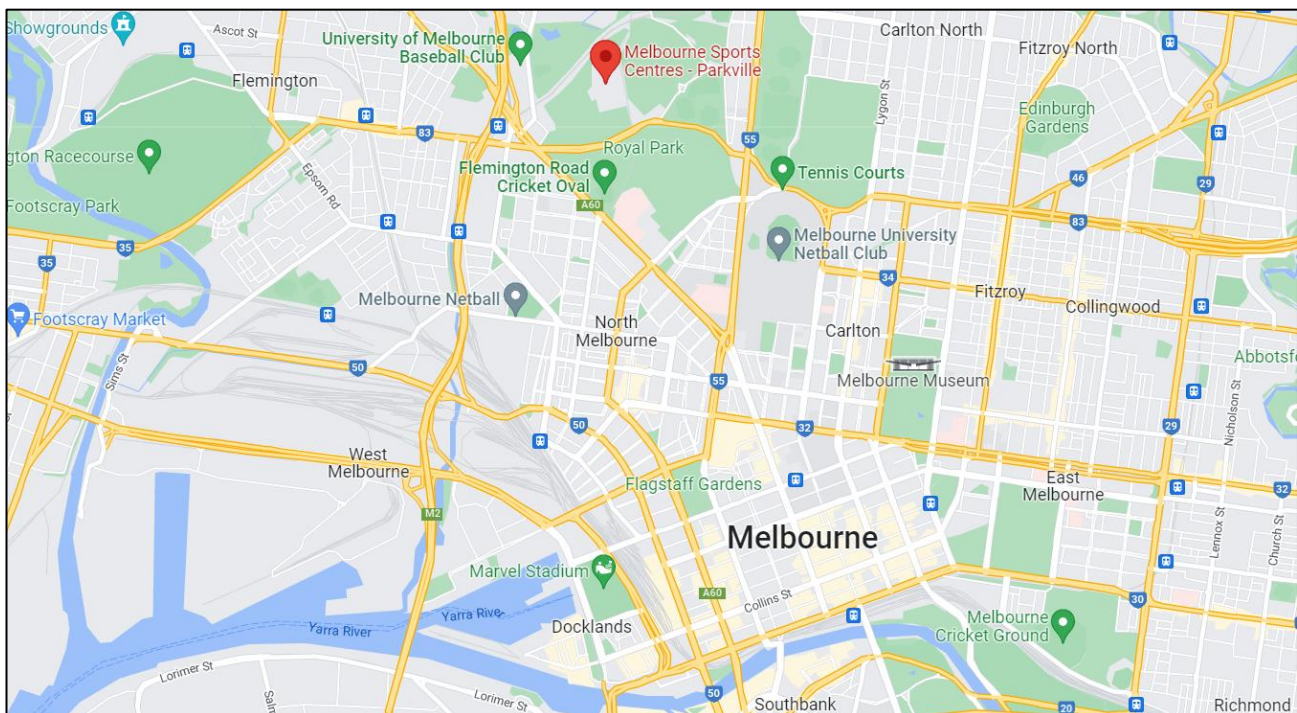
NATIONAL KENDO DAN (SHODAN TO 5 DAN) GRADING EXAMINATIONS, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

24 January 2023

Dear AKR Members

The Kendo Board of the Australian Kendo Renmei (AKR) will hold Kendo Dan (Shodan to 5 Dan) grading examinations (the National Grading Examinations) in Melbourne, Victoria, on Tuesday, 11 April 2023 in collaboration with the Victorian Kendo Renmei (VKR). The examination venue is the Melbourne Sports Centre¹ located at 10 Brens Drive, Parkville, Victoria 3052. The venue location is shown in **Figure 1**. The grading venue is Stadium B. Parking is available in the venue car park at the northern end near Entry A. There are two public transport² stops which drop you at the venue including:

- Yarra Trams – Route 58 (Stop 25); and
- Metro Trains – Upfield Line (Royal Park Station).



(Original map image: Google Maps (<https://www.google.com/maps>). Last viewed on 13 December 2022).

Figure 1: Venue Location

¹ For more information, please visit <http://melbournesportscenres.com.au/venues/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/03/Parkville-Map.pdf>. It is noted that information available on the website may change in the future.

² Please plan your public transport using the PT Victoria Journey Planner (<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/journey>).

Eligibility

Eligible candidates are:

- Current AKR financial members of FY2022 to 2023 (July 2022 to June 2023) or current financial members of countries affiliated with the International Kendo Federation (FIK).
- 4 Dan candidates who acquired a Kendo 3 Dan in April 2020 or earlier.
- 5 Dan candidates who acquired a Kendo 4 Dan in April 2019 or earlier.

Those who are planning to sit for grading examinations held by State or Territory Affiliates or any FIK countries during the period from January 2023 and July 2023 are not eligible to apply for the National Grading Examinations on 11 April 2023.

The application process is presented on the AKR website³. Please contact the AKR Secretary by email at akrsecretary@kendoaustralia.asn.au regarding the application process.

Timetable

The timetable of the examination day (e.g. registration and briefing) is yet to be finalised. Relevant information will be announced in due course.

Grading Procedure

The grading procedure will follow the *AKR Manual of Documents Sections 1 and 2*, and associated documents including the *Standard Rules for Dan and Kyu Examinations*.

Candidates are responsible for all personal equipment and belongings including bokuto sets, men shield and mask products. No equipment sharing is allowed.

For the jitsugi, candidates having difficulty in conducting a sonkyo are NOT required to report to the reception or kakari-ins. They can kneel down with either knee. If this is difficult, candidates can simply bend the knees to the extent practicable. Sports injury guards (e.g. ankle and knee supports) are permissible with the proviso that these products do not cause unfairness or disadvantage to others.

Candidates are requested to leave the venue as soon as the examination outcome is announced.

Certificates will be prepared by the National Executive and available for collection at the venue after the final result is announced.

Unsuccessful candidates who wish to receive an assessment result may contact the Kendo Board in accordance with Section 10 Information Disclosure of the *Kendo Board Standard Procedural Guidelines for Dan Grading Examination*. The results announced are final and not subject to reassessment.

COVID Risk Management

Please note that all participants are required to comply with COVIDSafe health directions issued by the State Government of Victoria and other associated legislative requirements.

The use of the following COVIDSafe personal protective equipment is optional but highly recommended for *jitsugi* sessions:

- The use of a half men face shield (also known as a mouth guard) and a mask covering nose and mouth.

At any other time, the use of a mask covering nose and mouth is optional but highly recommended.

³ Available at http://www.kendoaustralia.asn.au/content/?page_id=2830. Last viewed on 4 January 2023.

Written Examinations

Candidates are requested to submit written examination papers to the reception desk before registration is closed at 9:30 on the day.

Instructions: Preparation of Answers to Questions

- Each candidate must select **any two** of the below questions and answer each of the selected questions.
- The answer sheet must be typed in English using a simple font (e.g. Arial, Calibri and Times New Roman), and single-side printed on white A4 size paper. The answers must be readily legible and presentable.
- Each answer must be 150 word-long with an allowance of ± 50 words and 1.5 spaced in 12 pt font.
- Answers must grasp the intention of questions correctly.
- An answer sheet should not be more than one page. If answers require more than one sheet, these sheets must be firmly stapled together at the top left corner prior to submission.
- The following particulars must be clearly presented on each page of the answer sheets:
 - Candidate's AKR registration number or equivalent;
 - Location and date of examination;
 - Candidate's examination identification number (to be hand-written in black or dark blue by the candidate on the day of examination); and
 - Signature (to be hand-written in black or dark blue by the candidate on the day of examination).
- Failure to address the above requirements may result in disqualification.

Questions for Shodan Candidates

- Explain the importance of fundamentals.
- Explain how to strike a basic '*shomen-uchi*' and '*sayu-men-uchi*'.
- Describe three *tachino-kamaes*, (1) *Chudan no kamae*, (2) *Jyodan no kamae* and (3) *Gedan no kamae*, those used at the *Nippon Kendo Kata* from *Ipponme* to *Sanbonme*.

Questions for 2 Dan and 3 Dan Candidates

- Explain what attention you need to pay to in *keiko*.
- Explain what '*uchikiru*' means.
- Explain *yuko datotsu* and its relevant characteristics (e.g. *riai*, *yoken* and *yoso*).

Questions for 4 Dan and 5 Dan Candidates

- Explain the importance of warming up and cooling down.
- Explain the *debana-waza* and its typical examples, and state relevant points to be kept in mind when instructing others in practicing this *waza*.
- Explain the correct manipulation of a *bokuto* when using it at the *Bokutonyoru Kendo Kihonwaza Keikoho* and the *Nippon Kendo Kata*.

Further Communication

Please contact the AKR Kendo Board by email at kendoboard@kendoaustralia.asn.au should there be any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Takashi Itakura PhD
Kendo Board, Chair