

Southern California Kendo Federation (SCKF) Iaido Information Sheet

Mission Statement

The Southern California Kendo Federation (SCKF) Iaido group is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Iaido under the guidelines set forth by the Iaido sections of the Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei (ZNKR) and the All United States Kendo Federation (AUSKF). Members of the SCKF Iaido group are also members of the SCKF and AUSKF.

Instructors

Head Instructor:	Samuel Okuno Sensei, Iaido 6 dan
Instructor:	Jean Kodama Sensei, kendo 6 dan, Iaido 4 dan, SCKF President
Instructor:	Dennis Ralutin Sensei, Iaido 4 dan, kendo 3 dan, SCKF Iaido Chairman
Instructor:	Setsuo Tanaka Sensei, kendo 4 dan, Iaido 4 dan

Main Contact Information

Dennis Ralutin
E-mail: dmralutin@yahoo.com

Website Information

SCKF: <http://www.eanet.com/sckf>
AUSKF: <http://www.auskf.org>

Practice Locations and Schedules (as of January 1, 2017)

Norwalk Kendo Dojo (NOR)

Southeast Japanese Community Center and School
14615 S. Gridley Rd.
Norwalk, CA 90650
Mondays, 9:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
<http://www.eanet.com/norwalk/ref/iaido.htm>

Pasadena Japanese Cultural Institute Kendo Dojo (PJCI)

Pasadena Japanese Cultural Institute
595 N. Lincoln Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91103
Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
<http://www.eanet.com/sckf/dojo/pcii.htm>

Venice Iaido Dojo (VEN)

Venice Japanese Community Center
12448 Braddock Dr,
Los Angeles, CA 90066
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Enrollment is subject to head instructor's approval.
<http://www.eanet.com/sckf/dojo/vni.htm>

Practice sessions may be re-scheduled or cancelled due to holidays, kendo related activities, or other scheduling conflicts. Members will be notified via e-mail regarding any schedule changes.

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Membership Dues (updated November, 2016)

All members of SCKF Iaido are required to become members of an SCKF dojo and pay any monthly dojo fees and yearly SCKF and AUSKF fees as outlined below. Additional fees may be charged for special events, such as seminars, tournaments (taikai), and rank examinations (shinsa). Current SCKF members may practice Iaido with no additional dues or fees.

<http://www.eanet.com/sckf/doc/fees.htm#duesfee>

SCKF yearly membership dues

Age	SCKF Yearly Membership Dues
17 years and under	\$14
18 years and over	\$26

AUSKF yearly membership dues

Age	AUSKF Yearly Membership Dues
17 years and under	\$30
18 years and older and full-time student	\$30
18 years and older and not full-time student	\$60

A \$10 initiation fee applies to new members (includes former members who do not have an AUSKF ID number).

Combined membership dues

Age	SCKF Dues	AUSKF Dues	Total
17 years and under	\$14	\$30	\$44 \$54 (new member)
18 years and over and full-time student	\$26	\$30	\$56 \$66 (new member)
18 years and over and not full-time student	\$26	\$60	\$86 \$96 (new member)

Dojo monthly membership dues

Contact each dojo directly for their monthly fee information.

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Rankings and Examinations

The standards and regulations for attaining Iaido ranks are set forth by the International Kendo Federation (FIK) and AUSKF Iaido committees. The tables below outline the requirements for each rank and associated certificate (menjo) fees. The AUSKF sponsors a national promotional examination (shinsa) once every year for all ranks up to and including 6 dan. AUSKF regional federations may also host shinsa at certain times during the year for varying ranks. SCKF Iaido members wishing to participate in shinsa outside of the SCKF or AUSKF must obtain permission from the current SCKF Iaido Head Instructor, SCKF President, and AUSKF President (taking shinsa outside of AUSKF). Additional paperwork will also be required. Consult the AUSKF and regional federation websites for more information.

External shinsa requirements: http://www.eanet.com/sckf/doc/shinsa_ext_notes.htm

Rank to be Examined	Requirements
6 kyu to 2 kyu	Demonstration of five kata from ZenKenRen Iaido chosen by the grading panel
1 kyu, 1 dan, 2 dan, and 3 dan	Demonstration of five kata from ZenKenRen Iaido chosen by the grading panel; written test
4 dan and above	Demonstration of two kata from candidate's Iaido ryuha (style) plus three kata from ZenKenRen Iaido chosen by the grading panel; written test

AUSKF menjo (rank certification) requisition fees (updated November, 2016)

New Rank	Menjo Fee
Kyu, 17 years and under	\$20
Kyu, 18 years and over	30
1 Dan	50
2 Dan	60
3 Dan	80
4 Dan	100
5 Dan	150
6 Dan	200
7 Dan	300
Renshi	300
Kyoshi	500
Hanshi	700
Replacement menjo	50

Note: Each individual receiving a new rank must pay the menjo fee to AUSKF, even if a paper certificate is not desired.

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Required Equipment

Dougi - Ken-dougi or Iai-dougi (top jacket)

Iaido obi (belt to hold the sword in place)

Hakama (pleated pants)

Nafuda (name plate made of fabric that is attached to the Iai-dougi)

Iaito (an unsharpened Japanese sword (katana) specifically made for Iaido practice)

Shin-ken (a sharp, steel katana; **for advanced students with instructor's permission**)

Consult with an instructor for proper dougi sizes, hakama sizes, obi lengths, nafuda / uniform embroidery, and Iaito lengths and types. All students are responsible for purchasing and maintaining their own equipment.

Dougi and Hakama Color Combinations

<u>Dougi color (material)</u>	<u>Hakama color (material)</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Black (Tetron)*	Black (Tetron)	Ideal for beginning through advanced students and instructors, demonstrations (embu), Iaido tournaments (taikai) and promotional examinations (shinsa)
Indigo blue (cotton)	Indigo blue (cotton)	Ideal for students practicing both kendo and Iaido
White (cotton)	White (cotton)	May be worn by women and high ranking instructors only

* A cotton undergarment (juban) should be worn underneath a black Tetron dougi.

Dougi and hakama colors must match and may not be mixed. Iaido obi color must be complementary to the dougi and hakama color and is not an indication of rank.

Local Equipment Vendors

E-bogu: <http://www.e-bogu.com> located in Irvine, California

Mazkiya USA: <http://www.mazkiyausa.com> located in Torrance, California

Consult with an instructor for additional vendors located outside of California and the United States.

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Iaido Curriculum

1. Reiho (etiquette)

Dojo conduct
Entering and leaving the dojo
Handling the sword
Ritsurei (opening salutation)
Datsuto or datto (closing salutation)

2. Sword parts

To-shin (blade)
Tsuka (hilt made of wood)
Tsuka-gashira (ornament at the end of the tsuka)
Tsuka maki (wrapping around the tsuka, usually silk, leather or cotton)
Same (ray skin found between the tsuka maki and tsuka)
Menuki (ornament found on either side of the tsuka)
Mekugi (retaining pin used to secure the tsuka to the blade)
Mekugi ana (hole in the tsuka and tang for the mekugi)
Fuchi (metal sleeve on the tsuka just below the tsuba)
Tsuba (handguard)
Habaki (metal sleeve on the blade just above the tsuba that holds the blade within the saya)
Seppa (spacers, usually metal, found between the habaki, tsuba and fuchi)
Saya (scabbard)
Koiguchi (open end of the saya)
Kojiri (ornament found at the closed end of the saya)
Sageo (cord that is usually attached to the kurikata)
Kurigata (knob on saya that holds the sageo)
Nakago (tang)
Hasaki (sharp edge of the blade)
Mune (dull edge of the blade)
Hamon (temper line)
Shinogi-ji (ridgeline approximately 1/2" to 3/4" below the mune)
Shinogi (area of the blade between the mune and shinogi-ji)
Kissaki or Kensen (tip of the blade)
Monouchi (the area on the hasaki measuring about 6" located about 2" below the kissaki)
Sori (curvature of the blade)

3. Kihon (fundamentals)

Ashi sabaki (footwork)
Seiza (sitting)
Tenouchi (proper grip)
Kamae (stances)
 Chudan no kamae (middle stance)
 Jodan no kamae (high stance)
 Hasso no kamae (guard or 'eight-point' stance)
 Gedan no kamae (low stance)
 Waki-gamae (side stance)
Kiritsuke (cutting motion)
Nukitsuke, batto or sayabanare (drawing the blade from the scabbard)
Chiburi (symbolic removal of blood from the blade)
Noto (returning the blade to the scabbard)

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4. Warm-up exercises (may vary with each dojo / instructor)

Suburi (repetitive exercise emphasizing proper footwork and cutting technique), 10 repetitions
Kibadachi no kiri-oroshi (overhead cut from horse stance), 10 repetitions and hold each cut for two seconds

Kibadachi no kiri-oroshi (with ukenagashi (blocking) motion prior to kiri-oroshi), 10 repetitions and hold each cut for two seconds

Kiritsuke and sayabiki (horizontal cutting motion across the chest and pulling the saya back), 20 repetitions

Batto - noto, 10 repetitions

Batto - furikaburi (act of lifting the sword into position for an overhead cut) - kiri-oroshi (overhead cut) - chiburi - noto, 10 repetitions

5. Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei Seitei Iaido Kata (ZNKR Seitei Iai or ZenKenRen Iai; required for all students)

Seiza-no-bu (sitting techniques)

Ippon-me: Mae (forward)

Nihon-me: Ushiro (behind)

Sanbon-me: Ukenagashi (block and deflect)

Tate-hiza-no-bu (iai-hiza technique)

Yonhon-me: Tsuka-ate (strike with the hilt)

Tachi-iai-no-bu (standing techniques)

Gohon-me: Kesa-giri (diagonal cut)

Roppon-me: Morote-tsuki or Morote-zuki (two-handed thrust)

Nanahon-me: Sanpo-giri (three directional cut)

Hachihon-me: Ganmen-ate (strike to the face)

Kyuhon-me: Soete-tsuki or Soete-zuki (joined-hand thrust)

Juppon-me: Shiho-giri (four directional cut)

Ju-ippun-me: So-giri (multiple cuts)

Ju-nihon-me: Nuki-uchi (surprise attack)

6. Muso Shinden Ryu Iaido Kata (advanced students only)

Shoden – beginning set (Omori Ryu)

Ippon-me: Shohatto (beginning sword)

Nihon-me: Sa-to (left sword)

Sanbon-me: U-to (right sword)

Yonhon-me: Atari-to (striking sword)

Gohon-me: In-yo-shintai (yin-yang advance retreat)

Roppon-me: Ryu-to (flowing sword)

Nanahon-me: Jun-to (second sword)

Hachihon-me: Gyaku-to (reverse sword)

Kyuhon-me: Seichu-to (moon shadow)

Juppon-me: Koran-to (wild tiger sword)

Ju-ippun-me: Nuki-uchi (surprise attack)

Ju-nihon-me: In-yo-shintai kai-waza or In-yo-shintai sakate (yin-yang advance retreat variation)

Chuden – middle set (Hasegawa Eishin Ryu)

Ippon-me: Yokogumo (cloud bank)

Nihon-me: Tora-issoku (one foot of a tiger)

Sanbon-me: Inazuma (lightning)

Yonhon-me: Ukigumo (floating cloud)

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Gohon-me: Yamashita-oroshi (mountain storm)
Roppon-me: Iwanami (rock and wave)
Nanahon-me: Uroko-gaeshi (reverse fish scales)
Hachihon-me: Nami-gaeshi (reverse waves)
Kyuhon-me: Taki-otoshi (waterfall)
Juppon-me: Nuki-uchi (surprise attack)

Okuden – hidden set (Oku iai)

Suwari waza (sitting techniques)
Ippon-me: Kasumi (mist)
Nihon-me: Sunegakoi (covering the shin)
Sanbon-me: Shihogiri (cut four corners)
Yonhon-me: Tozume (across the screen door)
Gohon-me: Towaki (along the screen doors)
Roppon-me: Tanashita (under the shelf)
Nanahon-me: Ryozone (obstacles on both sides)
Hachihon-me: Torabashiri (running tiger)

Tachi waza (standing techniques)
Ippon-me: Yukizure (escort)
Nihon-me: Tsuredachi (escort variation)
Sanbon-me: Somakuri (cutting multiple opponents)
Yonhon-me: Sodome (one-handed cuts)
Gohon-me: Shinobu (stealth)
Roppon-me: Yukichigai (passing by)
Nanahon-me: Sodesuri-gaeshi (flipping the sleeves)
Hachihon-me: Mon-iri (entering the gate)
Kyuhon-me: Kabezoi (along the walls)
Juppon-me: Uke nagashi (block and deflect)
Ju-ippun-me: Itomagoi-ichi (request leave of absence, version one)
Ju-nihon-me: Itomagoi-ni (request leave of absence, version two)
Ju-sanbon-me: Itomagoi-san (request leave of absence, version three)

The official ryuha (style) of SCKF Iaido is Muso Shinden Ryu. Other ryuha may be taught depending on the dojo and head instructor.