

## Aiki-Kai (Australia) About Dan Grading Tests (updated May, 2012)

The following information is a reminder to Instructors and Students about the process of recommending students for a Dan Grading Test. The process and requirements are different for promotions by recommendation.

- The recommending Instructor and Student will discuss the possibility of a grading, well before the proposed test.
- The recommending Instructor must check that the Student will meet all the Grading Prerequisites (see below). Further information on Dan Gradings and application forms are available either through Area Representatives or from the TTC through the Dan Gradings Coordinator (John Watson).
- The Instructor should ensure that the Student is prepared and able to do the test and usually ensures that the Student has undergone a sustained intensive training period prior to the grading.
- If the Instructor is then satisfied that the Student has met all the formal requirements and is ready for grading, then a few weeks before the test the Instructor should work through the Dan Grading Application with the student before completing the Instructor section and signing it.
- The application should then be passed to the local Area Representative to complete their section of the form.
- Finally the completed applications must reach John Watson in time for consideration by the TTC. Where ever possible this should occur well before the upcoming National School, but may be lodged on the first day of the National School of the grading. Please note that applications received later than this may not be considered by the TTC. If there is any problem meeting this deadline please contact John Watson.

### Dan Grading Prerequisites for Tests\*

Grade Applied For	Prerequisites for doing a test*	Minimum Rank of Recommending Instructor
<b>Shodan</b>	<p><b>Since Ikkyu:</b> <i>At least 1 year plus at least 150 days training</i></p> <p>as well as, <b>since commencing training:</b> <i>At least 2 National Schools plus at least 6 TTC Days</i></p>	Sandan
<b>Nidan</b>	<p><b>Since Shodan:</b> <i>At least 2 years plus at least 300 days training plus at least 2 National Schools plus at least 6 TTC Days</i></p>	Yondan
<b>Sandan</b>	<p><b>Since Nidan:</b> <i>At least 3 years plus at least 450 days training plus at least 3 National Schools plus at least 8 TTC Days</i></p>	Godan
<b>Yondan</b>	<p><b>Since Sandan:</b> <i>At least 4 years plus at least 600 days training plus at least 4 National Schools plus at least 10 TTC Days</i></p>	Rokudan, who are Fellows of the Sugano Foundation.

#### \*Important:

- Promotions by recommendation rather than test generally have requirements well in excess of the Prerequisites for Tests. They are considered on a case by case basis.
- Accurate training records must be kept, as training records need to be used to determine if a student meets the grading prerequisites. Please note that the TTC may call for further details of the student's training record.
- The National School at which the promotion is being applied for, also counts towards the National School requirement.