

Australian Kendo Renmei – Iaido Board

2008 WRITTEN EXAMINATION – IAIDO SHINSA QUESTIONS

Applicant's Name (*print legibly*):

Regional Federation:

Dojo:

Birthday:

Age:

Each applicant testing for Shodan and above is required to answer two of the test questions given for the rank they are testing for. Please answer them by writing (clearly/legibly) in English. You may use the backside of this paper or a separate sheet. If using a separate sheet please insure the information above is on your answer sheet.

Shodan candidates:

- 1: Name, and briefly describe, the five basic on-guard postures (*kamae*) used in swordsmanship.
- 2: What is the purpose of *chiburi*?
- 3: List the names of all 12 All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido katas.
- 4: Explain what is meant by the term *saya-biki*. Describe its use in one All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.

Nidan candidates:

- 1: Draw a simple diagram of a katana, label as many parts as you can.
- 2: *Tsuki* (thrusts) occur in five of the All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata. Name these kata, and identify their target areas.
- 3: Discuss the concept of *zanshin*. Describe its use in at least one All Japan Kendo Federation kata.
- 4: Explain the proper way of gripping the katana when cutting.

Sandan candidates:

- 1: What is *kirioroshi*? Describe its use in one All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.
- 2: Describe how to clean a sword (*shinken* and/or *iaito*).
- 3: How should the left hand function while drawing the sword?
- 4: Describe the action of *furikaburi* in All Japan Kendo Federation kata *Ipponme (Mae)*.

Yondan candidates:

- 1: Write what you know about *kokyū* (breath control) in Iaido.
- 2: What is meant by *jo-ha-kyū*? Describe its application in one All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.
- 3: Is it important, or is it not important to participate in Iaido Competitions? Explain your rationale.
- 4: Discuss *reiho*: What does the word mean, why is it important in the dojo?

Godan candidates:

- 1: Discuss *reiho*: What does the word mean, why is it important in the dojo?
- 2: Discuss *metsuke*.
- 3: Name the 2 sitting postures used in Iaido. Describe how to sit in each, and how to get up.

Rokudan candidates:

- 1: What is *kigurai*?
- 2: What are *ma* and *maai*? Describe their application in one or two All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.
- 3: What is important when teaching Iaido to beginners?