



Dear Students / Parents / Guardians / Friends of Ryushinkan Karatedo

With spring grading approaching the senior committee team have been busy organising new developments in our school and methods to encourage self improvement in all students.

After my recent trip to Japan, the birth place of our school, Renshi Jason and I had the privilege in being involved in the 19th annual TaiKai (Kata and Kumite* competition) of all Japan. This is a very important event in Japan which brings the whole school together (2000 competitors). The senior committee have considered options to integrate a TaiKai** event into our regular events schedule here in the UK.

This spring grading (in May in 2017 due to when Easter falls, but it will normally be April) will continue to have Kumite* as part of the Grading, but this element will also become a Kumite* TaiKai** (i.e. a competition). Kumite* TaiKai** is a great way to test your spirit and courage, although as a traditional Karatedo school we do not regularly participate in sport karate competitions, we do feel this test will help students develop their spirit as well as speed and technique.

Students will be placed into a relevant age group / gender group and awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place ONLY.

Adult and Junior Students grading for 8th Kyu (yellow belt) and above will be required to take part in the Kumite* TaiKai** as part of the grading. However, please note that if you do not pass through to the later rounds of the TaiKai**, this does not mean that you have failed your Grading. It's simply there to test your spirit and commitment, and to give all our students the opportunity to take part in Kumite* competition in a friendly environment.

Please note that even if you are not Grading this time, you may still (and we would encourage you) to take part in the TaiKai** Kumite*. You will only need to pay for the cost of the TaiKai** in this scenario.

Likewise, students grading for 10th and 9th Kyu (Blue Belt) are not required to take part in the TaiKai** as part of their Grading, but are encouraged to take part.

As part of the TaiKai**, please ensure that you have full sparring kit available (we only have limited spare kit available on the day, so where possible, would encourage all students to buy their own). Please request an equipment form from your instructor if you need to purchase any kit.

If you have any concerns or questions around the Grading or the TaiKai**, please speak to your instructor.

The senior committee are really looking forward to this new path in the development of the school and really hope that all our students enjoy the event and the Grading.

Yours sincerely

Kyoshi Piero Barba and the senior committee
Reiwayu Ryushinkan Karatedo

*Kumite – Free sparring

**TaiKai - Competition



Where:	Triangle Olympus Leisure Centre, Triangle Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 0WA
When:	Sunday 7 th May 2017

Start & Finish Times

Diddy Deshi Grading	Registration:	12.45
	Grading Start:	13:00
	Grading Finish:	15:00
Adult & Junior Grading for 10th & 9th Kyu ONLY (TaiKai optional)	Registration:	12.45
	Grading Start:	13:00
	Grading Finish:	15:00

Adult & Junior Grading for 8th Kyu – 1st Kyu	Registration:	12:45
	Grading Start:	13:00
	TaiKai & Grading Finish	17:00
TaiKai participants ONLY	Registration:	14:45
	TaiKai Start:	15:00
	TaiKai Finish	17:00

If you wish to be put forward for the grading you are required to:

1. Fill out the Grading form and return it to your instructor before **Monday 1st May 2017**
2. Have joined the school by paying the life membership (see back page)
3. Have paid the grading fee (see back page)

Please ensure that all students:

1. Arrive at the correct time
2. Wear a clean Karate suit (Gi) with the school badge sewn on
3. Bring all your sparring kit with you

On arrival:

Students will be asked to register, and hand in any outstanding fees / licences. Please ensure you arrive 15 minutes before the start time. The warm up will take place in your allotted group.

Diddy Deshi Grading

The Diddy Deshi Grading will start at 13:00 and finish at 15:00 (please note the earlier time than in previous years)

From 15:00 to 17:00, the Junior and Adult students will be taking part in a Kumite TaiKai (sparring competition). Diddy students and parents are welcome to watch the TaiKai, or they are free to go home.

Junior and Adult White & Blue Belt Students (Students grading for 10th & 9th Kyu)

Students grading for 10th and 9th Kyu will not be required to be tested on their Kumite, however, they can take part in the TaiKai if they want to. If not taking part, they will be free to leave after receiving their results at 15:00. White and Blue Belt students who are taking part in the TaiKai will receive their results at the end of the day.

Junior and Adult Students Yellow Belt through to Brown Belt (Students grading for 8th Kyu – 1st Kyu)

As part of the grading day, you will be taking part in a Kumite TaiKai (sparring competition) as part of your grading. You only need to participate (i.e. you will not fail your grading if you do not win your round). However, you do need to demonstrate commitment and spirit as part of your Kumite and this will be assessed as part of your grading score. Please note the following:-

1. You will be put into an appropriate category for your age and points are awarded on a touch contact basis.
2. Heavy or unsafe contact is not permitted.
3. You must wear full Kumite kit; Body Armour, Kumite Gloves, Shin and Instep Guards and Head Guard. Please speak to your instructor if you are unsure of any of your equipment.

Students not Grading, but participating in the TaiKai

The TaiKai is open to all junior and adults grades, regardless of whether or not the student is grading. If participating in the TaiKai only, you can either arrive at 13:00 and join a grading group to train (but not be tested) or can you arrive at 14:45 to register. Please note that if you are participating in the TaiKai only, you are responsible for warming yourself up and need to be ready to start at 15:00.

Spectators:

Parents, relatives and friends are all welcome to attend. A seating area will be available.



Fees Payable before Grading

Life membership for new members

To join the school you must complete a membership form available from your instructor, and submit it with two passport photos, and a fee of £20. This fee is a one-off payment for life membership.

You then become a member and are eligible to grade.

Grading and TaiKai fee for all members

Once you have paid your life membership you may then pay the grading fee:

- Diddy Deshi Grading to a new colour belt: £25
- Diddy Deshi Grading for 1 star: £12.50
- 10th & 9th Kyu Grades excluding TaiKai: £25
- 10th & 9th Kyu Grades including TaiKai: £30
- TaiKai only: £5
- 8th Kyu – 1st Kyu Grades including TaiKai: £30

Paying the fee

The fee must have been paid on or before the day of the grading. We generally retain all licences for record keeping, however should you wish to keep your licence yourself, please ask your instructor and it will be returned to you after the Grading.

Reiwaryu Ryushinkan Grading System				
Diddy Deshi Grades			Junior and Adult Grades	
Grade	Belt	Star	Grade	Belt
Beginner	White Belt		Beginner	White Belt
10 th Kyu	Blue Belt		10 th Kyu	Blue Belt
9.5 Kyu	Blue Belt	1 Yellow	9 th Kyu	Blue Belt
9 th Kyu	Blue Belt	2 Yellow	8 th Kyu	Yellow Belt
8 th Kyu	Yellow Belt		7 th Kyu	Yellow Belt
7.5 Kyu	Yellow Belt	1 Green	6 th Kyu	Green Belt
7 th Kyu	Yellow Belt	2 Green	5 th Kyu	Green Belt
			4 th Kyu	Purple Belt
			3 rd Kyu	Purple Belt
			2 nd Kyu	Brown Belt
			1 st Kyu	Brown Belt

Etiquette and Attitude for the Grading & TaiKai

1. Be clean.
2. Have a clean karate suit (Gi) and sparring kit
3. Have your Kumite sparring kit ready and put it on ahead of your round(s). Ensure it is clean and meets the required standards
4. Wear no jewellery or watches
5. Long hair must be tied back.
6. Finger and toe nails must be cut short.
7. Any clothing should be soft (i.e. have no pins or pointed catches).
8. Have the correct attitude i.e. awareness, concentration, intention to give 100% effort.
9. Don't be late (if you are late, kneel at the back of the dojo until you are told to start).

During Training

1. Show attention and awareness at all times (no talking).
2. Be aware of those around you for both their protection and to protect yourself from others.
3. All actions must be controlled, and there must be minimum 'touch' contact only.
4. Practice every technique with attention to detail.
5. Don't slump. If sitting keep the legs crossed or kneel down.
6. Don't talk unless to ask a relevant question of an instructor.
7. Give instant response to the teacher. Respond to commands with 'Hai Sensei', run into position and back.
8. Bow in response to individual commands to Sensei or if you ask a question of him or her.
9. During the line up; if you join or leave the lines do so around the outside
10. For safety reasons, do not leave the Dojo without informing the instructor.



Full Name:	
Age (if below 18)	
Current Kyu Grade	
Grade You Are Going For (if just TaiKai put N/A)	
If you are Grading for 10th or 9th Kyu, are you taking part in the TaiKai as well (Y/N)	
Registered Instructor (e.g. Kyoshi Piero Barba)	
Current Dojo (e.g. Triangle)	
Please state any medical conditions which may affect you at the Grading or the TaiKai	
Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number	
Please use this box to share any further comments or questions you may have	
Fee Enclosed (state amount) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diddy Deshi Grading to a new colour belt: £25 Diddy Deshi Grading for 1 star: £12.50 10th & 9th Kyu Grades excluding TaiKai: £25 TaiKai only: £5 8th Kyu – 1st Kyu Grades including TaiKai: £30 	

I understand that photos / video footage maybe taken at the Grading and TaiKai event.
Photos and videos may be shared on the Ryushinkan Website and Facebook site.
By ticking this box I give my consent to this.

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Signed:
Date: