



Rules for British Kendo Association Championships

In general, all matters pertaining to the conduct of matches are contained within "*The Regulations of Kendo Matches and its Refereeing (Revised December 7th, 2006)*", published by the F.I.K. and these should be referred to when issues arise on the day of the event/s. Specific procedural issues for official BKA Taikai are outlined below.

RULES CONCERNING THE CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

For the open competitions (Open, Bowden) every competitor must be a member of an organization affiliated to the EKF or FIK and should be able to show proof of this on the day of the event.

For the Premier cups, every competitor must in addition be a British citizen (Passport holder) or permanent resident of the UK.

For the National club championship (Bowden) teams may only be registered by BKA clubs.

During all competitions, each player shall display their club name, and their family name on the centre piece "*O-dare*" of the hip-protector "*Tare*". A "*Zekken/Nafuda*" is preferred.

RULES CONCERNING REFEREES.

Appointment of "**Association Referees**" is at the discretion of the **BU Executive** in consultation with the **Shinpan Cho** for the event.

Appointed referees may not participate in other roles at the event as the functions of a referee are not compatible with that of Court officer, Coach, Manager or competitor.

All "**Association Referees**" will wear the same uniform: a **plain white shirt**, a **plain deep red necktie**, **plain light grey trousers**, **plain dark blue or black socks** and a **dark blue jacket** (**Association badges are allowed on the breast pocket**).

To allow for the smooth operation of the event and to help develop the standard of refereeing skills it may from time to time be necessary to call on senior kendoka (4th Dan and above) from the pool of players present to give assistance with refereeing as **Fukusho**. Such "**Assistant Referees**" should excuse themselves from matches involving their own club members or teams or when it may cause delays with their own matches.

RULES CONCERNING TEAM MANAGERS/LEADERS

The team manager/leader may be a competitor. **The manager/leader of each team is responsible for the attitude and behaviour of every member of their team/group**. They must assure everything from the correct/safe way of wearing the *bôgu*, the length of the "*men-himo*" safety of shinai etc. to clear guidance on all matters that may improve the harmonious flow of events during the TAIKAI. **The team manager/leader will maintain at all times an attitude amongst their charges that corresponds with the concept of KENDO and the principles of the sword.**

RULES CONCERNING THE DRAW

The draws for all categories will be conducted under the authority of the Bu Executive prior to the event commencing. **The draw will be done randomly but with the proviso that teams from the same dojo will not where possible be placed in the same pools.**

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RULES CONCERNING COMPLAINTS.

All complaints/protests (IGI) concerning the championships are to be handed in to the **Shinpan Cho** by the Manager/s or Team Leader/s that may be adversely affected by the incident. All other people will be refused. Any complaint needs to be filed immediately, or not later than the end of the possibly affected match. **The Shinpan Cho's decision will be final.**

RULES CONCERNING SHINAI (SPECIFICATIONS)

Shinai must conform with "*The Regulations of Kendo Matches and its Refereeing (Revised December 7th, 2006)*", published by F.I.K. (**Page 22**) included below:

	Sex	Junior	Senior
Length	Male/Female	≤ 117 cm	≤ 120 cm
Weight	Male	≥ 440 gr	≥ 510 gr
	Female	≥ 400 gr	≥ 440 gr
Diameter	Male	≥ 25 mm	≥ 26 mm
	Female	≥ 24 mm	≥ 25 mm

Specifications for competition use of two Shinai (Nito).			
Specification	Gender	Daito (long shinai)	Shoto (short shinai)
Maximum length	Male & female	≤ 114cm	≤ 62cm
Weight	Male	≥ 440gr	280–300g (min/max)
	Female	≥ 400gr	250–280g (min/max)
Minimum diameter of sakigawa	Male	≥ 25mm	≥ 24mm
	Female	≥ 24mm	≥ 24mm

In addition, all shinai to be used must be in a safe condition. All competitors should bring two shinai to the shiajo in case of equipment failure.

DOPING PREVENTION.

A competitor who is judged by decision of the referees to be under the influence of prohibited substances or alcohol shall be disqualified and be ordered to retire from the event. They shall lose the match and any points they have scored up to that point will be expunged, with the other competitor then awarded a 2-point victory (Art 15, 18 of the Regulations). Additionally, the *FIK Anti-Doping Rules* (approved August 27th, 2009, Sao Paulo and amended May 28th, 2016 in Tokyo), and the *EKF Anti-Doping Rules* (adopted April 8th, 2010, Debrecen and including the most recent **WADA Prohibition Lists**) shall be applied. Any tests relating to the event/s shall be conducted according to the above Anti-Doping Rules.



Rules for British Kendo Association Championships

Rules for Team Championships:

Senior Team Championships (e.g. Bowden Taikai)

Every club may enter a maximum of **2** teams (Except by prior arrangement with the organisers). Each club is represented by a team of five, or by a minimum of three Players (Male or female), with the fighting order chosen freely before every fight.

Every competitor shall be at least 18 on the day of the championship.

For the National club championship (**Bowden**) the **majority** of the members of each team must be registered to the club listed on the entry form.

Junior Team Championships

Every club is represented by a team of maximum three, or a minimum two Players (Male or female) with the fighting order chosen freely before every fight. All competitors must be at least 14 years old and no older than 17 years old on the day of the championship.

Team Configurations

For the Senior Team Championship: In case of a 4 Competitor team, the 2nd position remains free. In case of a 3 Competitor team, the 2nd and the 4th positions remain free.

For the Junior Team Championship: In case of a 2 Competitor team, the 2nd position remains free.

Preliminary contests (Preliminary pools and main pool system)

All teams that enter in due time will be divided by random draw into pools of three or in special circumstances four teams, with the proviso that players from the same club will where possible be kept out of the same pool. Teams will fight in the following order: **1><2, 1><3, 2><3 OR 1><3, 1><4, 2><3, 2><4.**

When necessary **preliminary pools** made up of randomly selected teams will compete for places in the main pool system.

The **first placed team out of every pool will progress** onto the knockout tournament grid **A v B, C v D** etc.

Pool system rules

The match format is "*sanbon-shobu*" and match duration will be **3 minutes**.

Drawn matches (*hikiwake*) will be declared in case no points are scored or if the score is one to one.

If two or more teams are tied for position at the end of their pool matches, fight off/s between representatives will decide victory. These matches will be according to the "*ippon-shobu*"-principle, **without time limit** except in the case of juniors where there will be a **5-minute** time limit followed by **HANTEI**



Rules for British Kendo Association Championships

Pool Classification.

Determination of the winning team in both pool and tournament matches will be made in the following order of precedence:

1. Highest number of wins; but, if it is a tie, then
 2. Highest number of points scored; but, if it is a tie, then
 3. Highest number of Draws; but, if it is a tie, then
 4. Lowest number of losses; but, if it is a tie, then
 5. Lowest number of points scored against
- Note - **A default/retirement OR disqualification** is regarded as a loss where the victor (By referee's decision after GOGI) is given 2 points.
 - **Should consideration of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 still equate to a tie** in the pool, a draw will be declared in the pool matches and a play-off match will be conducted between a representative from each of the tied teams. ("**ippon-shobu**"-principle).
 - Should the situation be a tie between all the teams in the pool, the ranking of teams shall be determined by a pool played by a representative from each team.
 - Should the representative pool still result in a tie, lots will be drawn to decide advancement onto the tournament grid.

Knockout Tournament.

When it is decided that a tournament uses the knockout system from the start or after the Pool matches are complete and the pool winners decided, the refereeing rules and the principles for discerning winners are the same as those defined for the pool classification above.

The duration of preliminary matches is 3 minutes for juniors and 3 minutes for seniors.

In the final/s, the duration of matches is 5 minutes for juniors and 5 minutes for seniors.

If two teams are tied for position at the end of their knockout match a fight off between representatives will decide victory. These matches will be according to the "**ippon-shobu**"-principle.

For seniors, there is no time limit on "Encho".

For juniors, "Encho" is a maximum of 5 minutes. Thereafter decisions will be taken by hantei, except for the final, where Encho without time limit OR Hantei may apply (this will be announced prior to the commencement of the match).

If necessary additional high performing team/s (Based on 1 to 5 above) may also be promoted to make up the finalists. Where results are unclear a knockout match or pool between representatives will decide progress. These will be according to the "**ippon-shobu**"-principle.



Rules for British Kendo Association Championships

Rules for Individual Championships.

Open Individual Championship

Every club may enter a maximum of **10** competitors (Except by prior arrangement with the organisers). The minimum age is **18 years** on the day of the championship. Mixed gender matches are permissible.

Senior Male Individual Championship

Every club may enter a maximum of **10** competitors (Except by prior arrangement with the organisers). The minimum age is **18 years** on the day of the championship. All competitors must be Male

Senior Female Individual Championship.

Every club may enter a maximum of **10** competitors (Except by prior arrangement with the organisers). The minimum age is **18 years** on the day of the championship. All competitors must be Female

Junior Individual Championship.

Every club may enter a maximum of **10** competitors (Except by prior arrangement with the organisers). All competitors must be at least 14 years old and no older than 17 years old on the day of the championship. Mixed matches are permissible.

Preliminary contests (Pool system).

All players that enter in due time will be divided by random draw into pools of three or in special circumstances four, with the proviso that players from the same club will where possible be kept out of the same pool. Players will fight in the following order: **1><2, 1><3, 2><3 OR 1><3, 1><4, 2><3, 2><4.**

Pool system rules.

The match format is "sanbon-shobu" and match duration will be 3 minutes.

Drawn matches - (hikiwake) will be declared in case no points are scored or if the score is one to one.

If two or more players are even at the end of the pool and it is not possible therefore to identify who to promote into the knockout rounds, fight off/s between them will decide victory. These matches will be according to the "*ippon-shobu*"-principle, without time limit except in the case of juniors where there will be a **5-minute** time limit followed by **HANTEI**



Rules for British Kendo Association Championships

Pool Classification.

Determination of the winner in both pool and tournament matches will be made in the following order of precedence:

1. Highest number of wins; but, if it is a tie, then
 2. Highest number of points scored; but, if it is a tie, then
 3. Highest number of Draws; but, if it is a tie, then
 4. Lowest number of losses; but, if it is a tie, then
 5. Lowest number of points scored against
- Note - **A default/retirement OR disqualification** is regarded as a loss where the victor (By referee's decision after GOGI) is given 2 points.
 - **Should consideration of 1,2, 3, 4 and 5 still equate to a tie**, a draw will be declared in the pool matches and a play-off will be conducted between the tied players ("**ippon-shobu**"-principle).
 - Should the situation in a pool be **a tie between more than two players** the ranking shall be determined by a pool of play-off matches. ("**ippon-shobu**"-principle).
 - **If after a play-off pool between representatives the order among the players is still not decided the result of the pool shall be determined by drawing lots.**

Knockout Tournament.

The first placed individual out of every pool will progress onto the tournament grid. The pools will be combined in the form **AvB, CvD** etc.

Match time for the preliminary knockout stages is 3 minutes for seniors and juniors, following the "**sanbon shobu**" principle.

If two individuals have drawn at the end of their knockout match ENCHO will decide victory. This part of the match will be according to the "**ippon-shobu**"-principle.

For seniors, there is no time limit on "Encho".

For juniors, "Encho" is a maximum of 5 minutes. Thereafter decisions will be taken by *hantei*, except for the final, where Encho without time limit OR Hantei may apply (this will be announced prior to the commencement of the match).

If necessary additional high performing individuals (Based on 1 to 5 above) **may also be promoted to make up the finalists.** Where results are unclear a knockout match or pool will decide progress. These matches will be according to the "**ippon-shobu**"-principle.