



NATIONAL KARATE JUJITSU FEDERATION BYLAWS



Version 1.0 | 01.01.2025

Reviewed by: NKJF Ethics Committee

Approved by: Richard Dixon, President/Director



Preface

The National Karate Jujitsu Federation, USA-International (NKJF), formerly known as National Karate Jujitsu Union (NKJU) and National Karate Jujitsu Union-International (NKJU-I) have been forging warriors since 1974. We are a traditional organization with deep roots that date back through the history of warriors of Imperial Japan and Okinawa.

We are an organization that accepts all traditional systems and styles of martial arts where every member can cross-train under one umbrella in the various arts, which are represented by some of the country's most qualified instructors.

If you are serious about your personal training, development, and advancement, or you simply wish to join an organization where you can enjoy camaraderie and share your art(s) and expertise, then the NKJF is the home for you. Should you wish to join us as a means of expanding your system/style, NKJF is here to support your efforts. We are dedicated to serving our communities and their citizens by nurturing the life-long empowerment of people, improving their state of health, mental well-being, physical fitness, self-confidence, and sense of self-worth. This is accomplished through a commitment to personal dignity and respect for one another and through the practice of traditional martial arts.

We are a non-political, no-nonsense, no egos, and no papermill certification organization! If you're not on the mat, please search elsewhere.

Mission

1. To promote and demonstrate the value of traditional martial arts, regardless of system or style.
2. To provide a platform that fosters the spirit of integrity, unity, peace, and camaraderie.
3. To provide an environment where all martial artists feel welcome to train, share, and educate member affiliates in their chosen fighting style or system.
4. To encourage the sanctity of humbleness while forging a warrior's mind.
5. To remember and pay respect to those who came before us.



Richard Dixon
President and Director (Nidai Kaicho)
National Karate Jujitsu Federation
USA-International



Michael E. Andrus
President of International Affairs / International Director (Kokusai-cho)
National Karate Jujitsu Federation
USA-International



Steven E. Johnson
Founder & Shodai Kaicho
National Karate Jujitsu Federation
USA-International

History of the National Karate Jiu Jitsu Union (NKJU)

Credit: James Herndon, Hanshi, Kuniba Historian

Master Richard P. Baillargeon, 8th Dan, National Karate and Jiu Jitsu Union

(1930-1989)

Richard Baillargeon founded the National Karate and Jiu Jitsu Union in 1974 after having resigned from the Seishin-Kai Karate Union (SKKU). He began his martial arts training in Irumagawa, Japan in 1956. His first instructor was Sensei Kyoshin Kayo, who was then, 4th Dan in Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu Karate-Do and affiliated with the Seishin-Kai Karate Union. Kyoshin Kayo was a student of the late Shogo (Kosho) Kuniba (1935-1992) who became Soke (Family Head) of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu. Master Baillargeon also studied with Kuniba Soke until 1964. By then, he had earned the grade of 3rd Dan.

Mr. Baillargeon returned to the United States in 1964 and became the U.S. representative for Seishin-Kai. He served in that capacity for ten years. By 1974 he had been promoted to 6th Dan by Kayo Sensei. In the summer of 1974, he resigned from his position in Seishin Kai. Shortly thereafter, he formed his association, the National Karate and Jiu Jitsu Union (NKJU). In July of 1986 Sensei Baillargeon was awarded 8th Dan in Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu Karate-Do by Kuniba Soke. At that time, Master Baillargeon was one of two men outside of Pakistan that held a master rank in Indo-Pakistani weapons. He also held a 6th Dan in Goshin Budo Jiu Jitsu.

No doubt, Richard Baillargeon is best remembered for his efforts to bring Seishin-Kai and Motobu-ha Shito-ryu Karate-Do to the U.S. As a returning Air Force Technical Sergeant, Baillargeon was stationed at Moody Air Force Base, Valdosta, GA. Before that, he had spent about 8 years (c.1954-1962) in Japan, mainly at Johnson Air Base, near Sayama, Saitama, Japan.

While at Johnson AB, Baillargeon trained mostly with Kyoshin Kayo, a member of Seishin-Kai. It was through Kayo that Baillargeon met Shogo Kuniba. At that time, Teruo Hayashi (1924-2004) was Kaicho (President) of Seishin- Kai.

When Baillargeon and his Japanese wife, Kani left Japan, he was appointed to serve as the U.S. Representative for Seishin-Kai Karate Union (SKKU) and established a USA Honbu (Headquarters) in Valdosta. Under Baillargeon's leadership the SKKU-USA branch functioned well for 10 years (1964-1974). He managed to grow a sizeable organization said to be between 4,000 to 5,000 members. He produced a Head Instructor's Guide, which he regularly updated, and he held annual tournaments; conducted camps, clinics, and seminars; and he published a periodic Bulletin. A little-known fact is that he wrote and published a book (circa 1965) titled Karate Katas Simplified, a book that is next to impossible to find today. Despite what is generally known about Baillargeon, or "Mr. B." as he was affectionately called, there still can be found erroneous information which the author hopes this article clarifies.

The issue of Baillargeon calling himself Soke generally goes uncontested. But it is something that needs clarification. When he left Seishin-Kai in 1974 and formed his NKJU organization he assumed the Soke title as a nickname, instead of the more appropriate title of Kaicho. The Soke title is restricted to the founder or headmaster of a Budo style/system (Ryu/Ha), and almost always, without exception, is not a title one confers upon oneself. The Soke title is often passed on to direct lineage family members, i.e., firstborn

children. In Mr. B's case, he should have been referred to as Kaicho as the head founder of his organization. Baillargeon was not, and will not be, the only American to misconstrue the Japanese Budo titles. In any case, to me and others of his time, Kaicho Baillargeon will always be endeared as "Soke."

Mr. B. built SKKU-USA into a solid organization during his 10-year tenure as USA Honbucho. Even so, there were flaws in his business model that did not sit well with Kuniba Soke. Most notable was the fact that SKKU-USA had become an eclectic organization, with members still training in and claiming allegiance to other styles (e.g., Goju-ryu, Shotokan, and most notably, about 70% Shorin-ryu, etc.). SKKU-USA had an open-door policy, which was a good recruitment strategy; but, when Kuniba-soke saw the situation for the first time in 1971, he did not recognize his Motobu-ha Shito-ryu. He was not pleased to say the least! He wanted SKKU-USA to be pure Motobu-ha Shito-ryu. That was the primary reason he and Mr. B. didn't see eye-to-eye. A second issue had to do with promotion fees that, according to Kuniba Soke, were substantially less over the years than the numbers of students and dojos suggested. Thirdly, as he (Kuniba) traveled from dojo to dojo (state to state), he was angered by the fact that each sensei had to pay a share of his airfare. He felt that the USA Honbu should solely fund his travels. In summary, there were these three reasons that were said to culminate the parting of the ways between Baillargeon and Kuniba in 1974. Despite these issues, there is no doubt that Mr. B. made an important and lasting contribution to the growth of the Kuniba arts in the U.S. He and Kuniba Soke put aside any differences and remained friends until Soke Baillargeon's passing in 1989. Soke Kuniba remained as Motobu-Ha Shito-ryu Karate-Do Advisor to those who wished to continue their journey in his family system/style. Kaicho (Soke) Baillargeon was cremated, and his ashes were spread at sea off the coast of New Jersey.

From NKJU to NKJF, USA-International

"In a nutshell..."

As President and Director of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF), USA-International®, formerly known as, National Karate Jujitsu Union (NKJU) and NKJU-International, I would like to personally thank you for choosing membership and affiliation with a historical martial arts organization that has been serving the martial arts community on a global scale for since 1974.

As recorded in our history, the late Shodai (1st) Kaicho (President/Director) Richard Peter Baillargeon was the Founder of the NKJU. Before his passing, he recognized and appointed Tola E. Lewis Jr., Hanshi (deceased) as his successor, which made him the Nidai (2nd) Kaicho of NKJU.

Through the decades, both Soke Baillargeon and Hanshi Lewis worked under the names of NKJU and NKJU-I, however, they never filed a trademark. They simply never saw a need to do so.

In 2016, Sensei (teacher) Lewis appointed Steven E. Johnson, Hanshi as his successor, making him the Sandai (3rd) Director of the NKJU and the Nidai Kaicho of NKJU-I. The NKJU-I was Lewis Sensei's creation for business purposes needed to support NKJU.

After Johnson Sensei's appointment, he decided to trademark the NKJU/NKJU-I names and logos, but during my trademark research, I discovered the names had been trademarked by an individual not affiliated with our organization. After due consideration, I determined that changing the name to NKJF, USA-International was the most practical course of action. The NKJU/NKJU-I history, successorship, and memories will always remain in published writings, and in our hearts and minds as we carry the traditions of the "Old" while developing a new path forward.

On March 1, 2021, Sensei Johnson rebranded and trademarked NKJU and founded the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF), USA-International®. Trademark name #90566158, logo Trademark #90567409.

The NKJF will continue to build upon the rich Budo history and lineage of those who came before us.

Appointment for New Leadership

On November 2nd, 2024, Johnson, Sensei appointed Richard Dixon, Hanshi, 8th Dan as the second President and Director (Nidai Kaicho) of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation, USA-International

His decision to step aside as President/Director of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF) and appoint Dixon Sensei as his successor was a hallmark of exemplary leadership. This decision will ensure the organization's longevity and success for many years to come.



“Forging Warriors Since 1974”

Bylaws

This document establishes the Articles of the Association and defines the objectives, obligations, and privileges of membership. It further delineates the duties of officers and representatives, outlines standards and credentials, and provides guidelines for meetings, amendments, and special powers. Additionally, it addresses matters concerning awards, promotions, and disciplinary actions.

THE ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

Section One: The name of this organization is the National Karate Jujitsu Federation, USA-International **also known as National Karate Jujitsu Federation International (NKJF-I)**. The address for sending business correspondence is:

National Karate Jujitsu Federation
1701 Torker Street
Middletown , DE 19702

NOTE: From this point forward, the word “Director” may be used interchangeably with the Japanese word “Kaicho,” which also means President, Director, or Chairman. The word “Dojo” is defined as a school where martial arts training is conducted.

Honbu Dojo (Main Headquarters): Due to the nature of the Director’s occupation, NKJF has no set physical main headquarters to visit; however, an Honbu may be established later.

The Director will coordinate with a dojo owner/operator to arrange training locations.

On November 2, 2024, Sensei Steven E. Johnson retired from the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF) and designated Richard J. Dixon of Middletown, Delaware, as his successor and the second President of the organization. To ensure clarity in leadership and authority, Dixon Sensei serves as the Director and President of the NKJF. The NKJF is a national association dedicated to the advancement and promotion of classical and traditional martial arts from Japan, Okinawa, China, and Korea, encompassing both unarmed techniques and physical weaponry associated with each art.

Under his leadership, the guiding principles of the NKJF include the promotion of technical instruction, administrative guidance, accredited certification, the cultivation of high morale, and, most importantly, fostering unity in training. The NKJF is an organization comprised of qualified instructors with verifiable certification, emphasizing apolitical structure, sound doctrine, and a solid organizational foundation.

The National Karate Jujitsu Federation values and respects individual and cultural differences, maintaining an inclusive environment that is welcoming and free from discrimination. The NKJF accepts instructors and students of all ages, races, colors, genders, gender expressions, religions, national and ethnic origins,

marital statuses, sexual orientations, and military statuses, granting them equal access to the rights, privileges, programs, and activities offered within the Federation.

Rooted in a strong Christian foundation, the NKJF respects the diversity of religious beliefs and expects the same respect in return. Prayers may be offered to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and prayers from other faith traditions are also welcomed. If this approach conflicts with your personal beliefs, we respect your decision to pursue your martial arts journey with an organization better aligned with your principles.

ARTICLE II

Objectives of the Association

Section One. The National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF) is dedicated to promoting and preserving traditional martial arts within schools, or "dojo," across the United States and internationally.

Section Two. The NKJF seeks to uphold the highest standards in martial arts by establishing comprehensive guidelines for the conduct of its members. All applicants will undergo a thorough evaluation process to ensure their suitability for membership of the organization.

Section Three. Provide superior quality instruction to enhance the technical proficiency of every NKJF member.

1. Deliver advanced training opportunities for martial arts instructors to support their academic growth and practical application of skills.
2. Conduct special seminars, camps, and clinics for NKJF-affiliated schools in their respective localities, thereby increasing public awareness of the organization and fostering recognition for dedicated martial arts instructors.
3. Promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences across various martial arts disciplines to cultivate a safe and supportive environment within the NKJF.
4. Establish and regulate promotional standards and guidelines for all NKJF members.
5. Recognize and honor NKJF officials and members through special titles and awards while providing arbitration services for conflicts involving instructors, students, or members, as needed.
6. Organize initiatives such as clinics, summer camps, tournaments, and other projects to advance the objectives of the NKJF and support individual schools in achieving their full potential.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section One: Membership in the National Karate Jujitsu Federation is open to all who are actively engaged in the study of traditional and modern martial arts, regardless of past affiliations.

Section Two. Membership is available to students through NKJF-affiliated schools.

Section Three: Individual memberships (Ronin) are extended to students and instructors under special circumstances. The National Karate Jujitsu Federation will allow individuals not associated with a dojo or instructor to register and advance after supplying proper credentials. These individuals will be allowed to advance after time-in-grade is accomplished. They will also be assigned a ranking instructor who will mentor the progression of students/ mudansha.

Section Four: A Sensei or "Head Instructor" of a dojo or training class SHOULD register ALL of their students. The standard exception are dojo members members who are part of an after-school program and do not attend regular martial arts training. They are exempt from the registration requirements. However, if at any time those members transition to regular martial arts training they should be encouraged to register with the NKJF.

Section Five: All members must pay the fees set by the National Karate Jujitsu Federation in order to secure NKJF credentials and certification. (See ARTICLE XI) All members are also required to stay current with their membership by renewing the same on an annual basis.

Note: The NKJF reserves the right to refuse membership at the discretion of the Director.

Section Six: Termination of NKJF Membership. Before any decision is made to terminate a member, he/she will be afforded the opportunity to present his/her plea before the Director or his designee(s). Whatever the outcome, the Director will notify the offending member, via formal letter from the NKJF, as to his/her retention or termination. The decision will carry the full endorsement of the NKJF President, President of International Affairs, Vice President, Executive Director and Chief Administrator of the NKJF. The President of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation reserves the right to overrule any decision made.

Proper cause for termination of membership shall be:

1. Failure to comply with NKJF regulations as specified by these by-laws or other policy statements issued by the President.
2. Failure to meet standards of conduct expected of NKJF members.
3. Providing false or omissions of significant information to the NKJF staff.

ARTICLE IV

Officers of the NKJF

Section One. The NKJF shall consist of the following officials:

1. President/Director (Kaicho)
2. Vice President/Assistant Director (Fukukaicho)
3. President of International Affairs / International Director (Kokusai-cho)
4. Chief Administrator
5. Shihan-Kai (High Dan Board)
6. Senior Executive Advisory Council
7. Technical Advisors – Senior Advisory Committee/ NKJF Tech board / Chief Technical Advisors/
Board of Ethics
8. National Directors- listed
9. Regional Directors- listed
10. State Representatives -listed

11. Chief Instructors- listed

Section Two: All offices in the NKJF must be filled from the membership-at-large. Such appointments shall be made exclusively by the President. Selected members may hold more than one office.

Section Three: All officials that make up the "Chain-of-Command" hold their positions by their acceptance and appointment by the President of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation. The President reserves the right to remove, suspend or expel any staff member or "office holder" at any time when it is deemed necessary. Barring such, the office holder will serve until he/she is incapacitated or resigns.

The President of International Affairs retains the rights and privileges of the previous paragraph on an international basis. With the President's approval and support.

The President alone reserves the right to either terminate his position and/or NKJF, at will, or appoint a successor. The National Karate Jujitsu Federation is a "stand alone" organization, therefore it does not have a "Soke" or "Family Head" position.

In the event that the President should become ill, incapacitated or suffers an untimely death, the president's designee will, by default, become the successor of the NKJF/NKJF-I.

Section Four: Reasons for Dismissal of Officers.

1. Failure to comply with NKJF regulations.
2. Failure to comply with policies set forth by the President.
3. Failure to perform to capacity the duties of assigned office.
4. Insubordination to the Director, Staff, or Advisory Council.

ARTICLE V

Duties of the Officers of the NKJF

Section One. Officers are responsible for upholding the highest standards of conduct and advancing the NKJF's mission. They are expected to lead by example, ensuring the organization maintains its integrity and reputation.

Section Two. The **President (Kaicho)** is the ultimate authority of the NKJF, responsible for all directives, administration, and policies. The President oversees all chapters, represents the organization nationally and internationally, and has absolute authority in decision-making.

Section Three. The **President of International Affairs** (International Director) assists in maintaining communication and enforcing policies among international members.

Section Four. The Vice President/Assistant Director (Fukukaicho) will be responsible for the management and coordination of NKJF State and Regional Representatives. As well as helping coordination of NKJF events and testing.

Section Five. The **Chief Administrator** handles administrative responsibilities, ensuring accurate record-keeping and document updates.

Section Six. **Technical Advisors** are senior black belts appointed to uphold high training standards across NKJF-affiliated schools.

Section Seven. Regional and State Directors facilitate communication and promote the NKJF within their jurisdictions.

ARTICLE VI

Obligations of Membership

Section One. All members of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF) are required to adhere to these Bylaws.

Section Two. Members are expected to uphold the highest standards of training and conduct as set forth by the National Karate Jujitsu Federation.

Section Three. As the NKJF is an organization committed to fostering knowledge and supporting its members, all members are encouraged, whenever reasonably possible, to actively participate in and support the functions and activities of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation.

ARTICLE VII

Privileges of Membership

Section One. All members in good standing shall have access to the instructional resources and services provided by the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF).

Section Two. The NKJF shall furnish its members with full and proper credentials, including but not limited to:

1. Welcome letter
2. Certificate of Membership
3. NKJF patch
4. NKJF Mission Statement (dojo operator or owners)
5. NKJF Dojo Charter (dojo operator or owners)
6. High-quality rank certificates (qualification required)
7. Shogo Title Recognition (Shidoin, Renshi, Kyoshi, & Hanshi)

Section Three. The NKJF shall maintain a clear organizational structure to facilitate instruction, advancement, testing, and promotions for its members.

Section Four. The NKJF shall offer access to qualified advisors and representatives to support and assist member schools.

Section Five. The NKJF shall provide members with opportunities for enrichment through clinics, workshops, seminars, summer camps, correspondence, and other services.

Note 1: Some systems may award the titles of Shihan, and Shihan-Dai. Traditionally, these are not recognized as a Shogo title; however, the NKJF President may approve issuance upon recommendation of the dojo chief instructor.

Note 2: After completing one year of probationary membership, members may petition for rank recognition or rank advancement, provided that all time-in-grade and other eligibility requirements are met.

ARTICLE VIII

Standards and Credentials

Section One. Member schools are permitted to maintain their unique identity, training methods, ranking systems, class schedules, and related practices, provided these adhere to the guidelines established by the National Karate Jujitsu Federation (NKJF) and do not conflict with its policies or bylaws.

Section Two. To promote the spirit of collaboration and resource sharing, all member dojos are encouraged to submit a list of kata or equivalent training syllabi up to the Shodan level. This initiative enables the NKJF to act as a comprehensive resource for instructors seeking instructional materials. Submissions should be directed to the NKJF Vice-President via email.

Section Three. NKJF instructors are authorized to issue dojo-specific certificates for promotions. However, for an individual to receive an official NKJF certificate of promotion, they must be a registered member of the organization. Unfortunately, promotions conducted without an NKJF certificate cannot be formally recognized by the NKJF, as they fall outside the organization's records and promotional processes. (Refer to Article III, Section 4.)

ARTICLE IX

Amendments and Special Powers

Section One. The President reserves the authority to amend any article or section of these bylaws without requiring the approval of the members or officers of the National Karate Jujitsu Federation. However, before enacting any amendments, the President is expected to consult with the President of International Affairs, the Vice-President, or other relevant staffers as deemed necessary. All amendments shall be made with the paramount objective of serving the best interests of the Federation.

ARTICLE X

Promotions

Direct Promotion. Promotions are conducted by an NKJF member instructor who holds a rank at least one level higher than the rank being tested for. Typically, this is the student's instructor. Black Belt promotions at 4th Dan and above should be conducted with a Black Belt board present and require the approval of the President.

Indirect Promotion. Promotions are facilitated through testing and with the recommendation by an instructor of the same martial art, outside of the NKJF, when direct promotion is not feasible. Examiners must hold a rank at least one level higher than the grade being tested for. All indirect promotions require the President's approval.

Peer Promotion. This path is utilized in cases where instructors of sufficient rank are unavailable. A promotion board must consist of at least three instructors whose combined ranks are equal to or exceed the candidate's rank. Peer promotions also require the President's approval.

Organizational Promotion. When indirect and peer promotion paths are not feasible, the NKJF President or an appointed representative will convene a promotional board of sufficient rank and standing to ensure a positive experience for the candidate. Such promotions require the President's approval.

Students (Mudansha). The NKJF recommends a minimum time-in-grade for the promotion of students. However, head instructors are not obligated to promote students solely based on meeting the minimum time-in-grade requirements. Time-in-grade begins upon a student's enrollment or promotion and remains valid as long as the student is active.

The NKJF may recognize certified ranks from other organizations following a thorough review and verification of documentation and skill set. For such students, time-in-grade begins upon acceptance into the NKJF. Head instructors may, at their discretion, advance students ahead of time in grade when justified.

Black Belts (Yudansha). All Black Belt head instructors accepted into the NKJF are eligible for promotion provided they meet the following criteria:

- Adherence to the NKJF-recommended time-in-grade for their rank.
- A minimum of one year of membership in good standing with prior time-in-grade. (The NKJF is not a diploma mill).
- Demonstrated support of the NKJF throughout their membership.

Testing for Black Belt. The President may promote candidates to their rank, with confirmation from two yudansha of equal or higher rank.

- Godan (5th Dan) instructors, or higher, may promote candidates up to one grade below their rank.
- Yondan (4th Dan) instructors may promote candidates up to 3rd Dan.
- Sandan (3rd Dan) instructors may promote candidates up to 2nd Dan.

- Nidan (2nd Dan) instructors may promote candidates to 1st Dan provided that an NKJF yudansha of Sandan rank or higher is present on the testing board.
- Shodan (1st Dan) instructors may promote candidates up to the grade of 1st kyu.

Note: For Yondan and Godan rank examinations, the NKJF prefers these tests to be conducted at summer camps, seminars, or organizational events, with the Director or a designee present.

The Japan Karate Association (JKA) has established specific age and time-in-grade requirements for Dan ranks from Shodan (1st Dan) through Judan (10th Dan). Additionally, traditional shogo titles such as Renshi, Kyoshi, and Hanshi are conferred based on rank, experience, and age. Below is a summary of these requirements:

| Rank | Kanji | Minimum Age | Minimum Time in Previous Rank | Normal Time in Previous Rank | Approximate Years of Training |
|---------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Shodan (1st Dan) | 初段 | 16 years | 9 months | 12–16 months | 1–2 years |
| Nidan (2nd Dan) | 二段 | 18 years | 1 year | 1–2 years | 2–4 years |
| Sandan (3rd Dan) | 三段 | 20 years | 2 years | 2–4 years | 4–6 years |
| Yondan (4th Dan) | 四段 | 25 years | 3 years | 3–5 years | 7–10 years |
| Godan (5th Dan) | 五段 | 30 years | 4 years | 4–6 years | 11–15 years |
| Rokudan (6th Dan) | 六段 | 35 years | 5 years | 6–8 years | 17–23 years |
| Nanadan (7th Dan) | 七段 | 40 years | 6 years | 8–10 years | 25–33 years |
| Hachidan (8th Dan) | 八段 | 50 years | 7 years | 9–11 years | 34–44 years |
| Kudan (9th Dan) | 九段 | 60 years | 8 years | 12–14 years | 46–58 years |
| Judan (10th Dan) | 十段 | 70 years | 9 years | 13–16 years | 59–74 years |

Note: These timeframes are general guidelines and may vary based on individual progress and organizational policies.

SHOGO TITLES

| Title | Minimum Rank | Minimum Time in Grade | Minimum Age |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Shidoin | 3 rd Dan | 1 year | 25 years |
| Renshi | 5 th Dan | 1 year | 40 years |
| Kyoshi | 6 th Dan | 2 years | 50 years |
| Hanshi | 8 th Dan | 2 years | 60 years |

Note: Shogo titles are honorary titles awarded based on a combination of rank, teaching experience, and contributions to the martial arts community. Specific requirements may vary between organizations.

These guidelines ensure that practitioners not only achieve technical proficiency but also gain the necessary experience and maturity associated with higher ranks and titles.

ARTICLE XI

Dojo Charter in the NKJF

Section One: Upon fulfilling the administrative requirements and submitting a comprehensive budo résumé along with certifications that verify prior training and rank within the traditional martial arts they represent, a sensei or school owner will be granted a dojo charter. This charter signifies official recognition of their dojo by the National Karate Jujitsu Federation, USA-International (NKJF), and establishes the instructor as a direct ambassador of the organization.

ARTICLE XII

Senior Executive Advisory Council

Section One. The Senior Executive Advisory Council comprises distinguished martial arts professionals holding ranks of 8th to 10th Dan. These individuals have demonstrated exceptional leadership within the martial arts community, serving as past or present leaders of other associations and maintaining active membership in the National Karate Jujitsu Federation. The Council serves solely as a professional advisory body, offering guidance and mentorship to the President of the NKJF. Its members, selected for their expertise and trusted counsel, volunteer their time to support the President in establishing a strong foundation for the Federation's future growth and success.

CERTIFICATE FEES

| KYU GRADES | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|----------|----|---------|---------------------------|
| RANK | | | | Price | Recommended Time-in-Grade |
| 10 th | Kyu | Jukyu | 十級 | \$35.00 | 3 months |
| 09 th | Kyu | Kukyu | 九級 | | 3 months |
| 08 th | Kyu | Hachikyu | 八級 | | 3 months |
| 07 th | Kyu | Nanakyu | 七級 | | 3 months |
| 06 th | Kyu | Rokkyu | 六級 | | 4 months |
| 05 th | Kyu | Gokyu | 五級 | | 4 months |
| 04 th | Kyu | Yonkyu | 四級 | | 4 months |
| 03 rd | Kyu | Sankyu | 三級 | | 6 months |
| 02 nd | Kyu | Nikyu | 二級 | | 8 months |
| 01 st | Kyu | Ikkyu | 一級 | | 12 months |

| DAN GRADES | | | | |
|------------------|-----|--|-----|------------|
| Shodan-Ho | Dan | Not less than 12 months after promotion to 1 st Kyu | 初段補 | \$50.00 |
| 1 st | Dan | Not less than 12 months after promotion to 1 st shodan-ho | 初段 | \$75.00 |
| 2 nd | Dan | Not less than 18 months after promotion to 1 st Dan | 二段 | \$100.00 |
| 3 rd | Dan | Not less than 2 years after promotion to 2 nd Dan | 三段 | \$125.00 |
| 4 th | Dan | Not less than 3 years after promotion to 3 rd Dan | 四段 | \$300.00 |
| 5 th | Dan | Not less than 2 years after promotion to 4 th Dan | 五段 | \$350.00 |
| 6 th | Dan | Not less than 4 years after promotion to 5 th Dan | 六段 | \$400.00 |
| 7 th | Dan | Not less than 4-6 years after promotion to 6 th Dan | 七段 | \$450.00 |
| 8 th | Dan | Not less than 4 years after promotion to 7 th Dan | 八段 | \$500.00 |
| 9 th | Dan | Not less than 4 years after promotion to 8 th Dan | 九段 | \$1,000.00 |
| 10 th | Dan | Not less than 2 years after promotion to 2 nd Dan | 十段 | \$1,500.00 |

NOTE to NKJF Instructors

Not all systems utilize a 10-kyu ranking system. While this is preferred, it is not required; however, a minimum of a 5-kyu ranking system is mandatory.

| MEMBERSHIP FEES | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| New Member | \$40.00 annual |
| Renewal Membership | |
| Instructors | |
| Military, Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS Personnel | \$20.00 – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE |

Reviewed and approved by:

Senior Executive Advisory Council

Date Approved: _____

Mike Andrus, Hanshi

President of International Affairs:

Date approved: _____

Brandon Fisher, Hanshi

Vice-President/Assistant Director

Date approved: _____

NKJF Ethics Committee

Date approved: _____

Final Approval by:

Richard Dixon, Hanshi, Nidai Kaicho
President/Director, NKJF

Date Approved: _____



Acknowledgment and Confirmation

I, the undersigned, confirm that I have read and understand the policies, procedures, and guidelines set forth in this document. As the Head Instructor representing the National Karate Jujitsu Federation, USA-International (NKJF), I agree to uphold and adhere to these standards to the best of my ability.

By signing this document, I acknowledge my responsibility to maintain the integrity and principles of the NKJF and to act in the best interests of its members and the organization.

Signature: _____

Name (Printed): _____

Title/Rank: _____

Date: _____

Organization: National Karate Jujitsu Federation, USA-International

