

RYUKYUKAI KENJUTSU CURRICULUM 2018

The 5 basics kamae (on-guard positions): Hassō, Jōdan, Gedan, Wakigamae, Chūdan.

The 8 basic cuts of Ryukyukai kenjutsu are as follows.

1. Jōdan: High vertical cut - right hand ends level with shoulder
2. Chudan: Middle vertical cut - kissaki ends level with throat
3. Gedon: Low vertical cut - kissaki ends level with knee
4. Hidari Kesa: Falling diagonal cut to the left
5. Migi Kesa: Falling diagonal cut to the right
6. Migi Kesa Gyaku Kesa: Falling diagonal cut to the right followed by reverse diagonal cut
7. Hidari Kesa Gyaku Kesa: Falling diagonal cut to the left followed by reverse diagonal cut
8. Suihei: Level horizontal cut going from left to right and then reversing and cutting from right to left.

The 12 standard iai forms (seitei) of the Zen Nihon Kendo Renmei:

1. *Mae* (前): front
2. *Ushiro* (後ろ): behind
3. *Ukenagashi* (受け流し): deflect and pass
4. *Tsuka-ate* (柄当て): handle strike
5. *Kesagiri* (袈裟切り): diagonal cut
6. *Morote-tsuki* (諸手突き): two-handed thrust
7. *Sanpōgiri* (三方切り): three way cutting
8. *Ganmen-ate* (顔面当て): face strike
9. *Soete-tsuki* (添え手突き): appendix thrust
10. *Shihōgiri* (四方切り): four way cutting
11. *Sōgiri* (総切り): all around cutting
12. *Nukiuchi* (抜き打ち): sudden draw

Kumitachi are therefore a real plus for serious Iaido practitioner since they allow them to visualise and bridge the gap between standalone kata practice and partner interactive forms. Kumitachi allow to deepen and enrich the knowledge of concepts hard to understand while only working with kasso teki (invisible opponent):

- Maai (間合い) Distance / Timing
- Seme / Ki seme
- Zanshin
- Metsuke

The Kumitachi utilized can be varied by individual dojo or training background but generally, the following six are utilized,

1. [Ippon Me](#) (一本目) Mamuka Giri (真向斬り)
Kill opponent straight ahead
2. [Nihon Me](#) (二本目) Morote Tsuki (諸手突き)
Kill with two handed thrust
3. [Sambon Me](#) (三本目) Hidari Kesagiri (左袈裟斬り)
Kill with diagonal cut to the left
4. [Yonhon Me](#) (四本目) Suihei Giri (水平斬り)
Kill with a horizontal cut
5. [Gohon Me](#) (五本目) Migi Kesagiri (右袈裟斬り)
Kill with diagonal cut to the right
6. [Roppon Me](#) (六本目) Hidari Kesagiri (左袈裟斬り)
Kill with diagonal cut to the left