

In NSW we require a prohibited weapons permit in order to possess weapons as used in Ryukonkai:

- Nunchaku
- Tonfa
- Tekko

Bo, Sai, Kama, Eku and Keibo are not subject to regulation.

It is important to note that while it is appropriate to use the prohibited weapons under supervision at the dojo, possession of these items without a permit is a serious offence and attracts significant penalties.

The weapons in question are referred to in the prohibited weapons and storage act by the following classification:

Level 1

- Clause 2 (16) Kung fu sticks or "nunchaku", or any other similar article consisting of 2 or more sticks or bars made of any material that are joined together by any means that allows the sticks or bars to swing independently of each other, but not including any such article that is produced and identified as a children's toy.
- Clause 2 (17) A side-handled baton or any other similar article consisting of a baton, staff or rod that is made of any hard substance and has fitted to one side a handle, whether or not that handle is permanently fixed, but not including any such article that is produced and identified as a children's toy.
- Clause 2 (19) Knuckle-dusters or any other similar article that is made of any hard substance and that can be fitted over two or more knuckles of the hand of the user to protect the knuckles and increase the effect of a punch or other blow or that is adapted for use as such.

These permits are managed through the NSW firearms registry so if you have a firearms license it will expedite the process. This is not however necessary and training in Ryukonkai is considered a valid reason for applying for the permit.

Our ultimate reason for applying for these permits is because we wish to train, compete or instruct in a specified sport or recreational activity as per http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/services/firearms/permits/prohibited_weapon_permits/sporting

The steps are not too onerous and the bulk of the time is spent waiting for the application to go through. You will most likely be contacted directly to discuss your application.

1. Fill in a P638 Application.
2. Proof of identity (if you have a firearms license this step is not required)
3. Ensure you have safe storage in place.
4. Fill in a genuine reason form.

We have put together a zip file with all of the forms and relevant information as well, however if you are uncertain please read on for detailed instructions on completing the forms.

The first form is the P638, included in the zip file. It is an interactive pdf so you can type directly onto it and where there are options it will open a menu to select from.

- The permit type is 'sporting'.
- Put your details in the relevant sections for B, C and D.
- Disregard section E.

- Section F. In this section you will need to indicate where the weapons will be kept. Usually this will be at your home, if so then select 'Yes'. Otherwise indicate the safe storage address.
- Answer section G as appropriate.
- Fill in the payment details in Section I and then print to sign the form in section H.
- It is recommended that even once printed a copy of the pdf is kept on file on the computer and another hard copy during the application process.

The second form is the prohibited weapon genuine reason form, included in the zip file. Again, this is an interactive pdf so you can fill most of it in on the computer.

- You will be classified as an 'individual applicant'.
- Check the box marked 'Individual Applicants ONLY'
- You will need a passport sized photo signed by a JP or police officer with the statement on the back 'This is a true photo of NAME'
- Check the next box 'Nominated person for Business AND individual applicants'.
- Section 1. As we are kyu grades we will only need to check the boxes marked item 2(16) and 2(17). These indicate that you are applying for nunchaku and tonfa permits.
- Section 2. Evidence of genuine reason. Unless you already have a black belt you will need the following:

1. Evidence of membership of Ryukonkai Australia
2. A statement from Kancho Mark confirming your status as a student of the dojo.
3. A copy of the dojo's MAIA membership.
4. Evidence of Kancho Mark's membership of Ryukonai.

If you travel to Okinawa to train and intend to take your weapons or purchase weapons you will need to be aware of the following:

1. To travel with nunchaku you need to complete the B709 form in the zip file.
2. If purchasing weapons overseas you will need the B709 to bring nunchaku home.
3. Tonfa do not require a B709 to bring into Australia BUT you do need your permit with you as possessing them once you enter NSW is subject to the prohibited weapons act.

SAFE STORAGE

Safe storage requirements for these items are the same as for firearms level 1.

Section 32B of the Act provides mandatory minimum requirements for level 1 safe keeping and storage of prohibited weapons as follows:

*** When any weapon is not actually being used or carried, it must be stored in a locked receptacle of a type approved by the Commissioner and that is constructed of hard wood or steel and not easily penetrable, and**

*** If the receptacle weighs less than 150 kilograms when empty, it must be fixed in order to prevent its easy removal.**

*** The locks of such a receptacle must be of solid metal and be of a type approved by the Commissioner.**

Failure to meet these requirements is an offence carrying a fine of 20 penalty units, or imprisonment for 6 months or both.

A permit holder does not have to meet the level 1 requirements if they have provided alternative safe storage arrangements that exceed the minimum requirements of section 32B of the Act.