Membership, Gasshukus and Other Information

# The GKI'S aims and standards

The GKI, under the leadership of Shihan James Rousseau 9th Dan, aims to provide the highest level of instruction in traditional Okinawan Goju-Ryu Karate-Do as originally taught by Chojun Miyagi. Links are maintained with similar groups in other countries, and with highly respected Sensei in Okinawa.

GKI achieves excellence in its instructors through programs covering traditional Goju-Ryu training in Kata, Hojo-Undo, Randori and Kata Bunkai as well as supportive activities.

Individual students will be supported by the principles that our friendly democratic association follow. These include respect for the individual; safe and appropriate teaching methods; rigorous adherence to correct Goju-Ryu form; recognition of effort; learning support based on requiring high moral and ethical standards in our instructors.

# GKI Membership

The GKI welcome associations and clubs into membership provided that they are willing to support the GKI Aims and Standards; support the GKI structure; follow the GKI syllabus and meet the other requirements as laid out in this document.

## Classes of Membership and Membership Fee

There will be Full GKI Members and Associate GKI Members.

All Full GKI Members and Associate GKI Members will be single clubs/dojos or associations who practise traditional Okinawan Goju-Ryu to the highest standards; who have exemplary standards in moral, ethical and financial conduct; agree to abide by these rules and are acceptable to the Technical Panel of the GKI.

All Members are expected to meet their national or governing body requirements for safety, child protection, insurance and similar requirements and should hold or participate in the training and qualifying of appropriate senior karate-ka to achieve qualifications and recognition as required by international or national governing bodies in competition refereeing, safety procedures and child protection.

To maintain membership, all members must have paid the current year’s affiliation fee. The annual membership fee is €200, payable by January 15th, to the GKI International bank account.

## Full Members

Full Members are entitled to: -

* Have Instructors and Students participate in GKI gasshukus, gradings, competitions etc.
* Have GKI Black Belt Certificates issued to their members who have been successful at a GKI black belt grading
* Have a representative attend GKI member meetings
* Use the name, logo and badge of the GKI (but not register those other than in the name of Shihan Rousseau)
* Use the name of Shihan Rousseau as International Chief Instructor
* Have their instructors and students refer to themselves as individual members of GKI
* Allow their individual clubs/dojos the right to describe themselves as a GKI dojo/club.
* Copy, translate and use the content of official GKI documents.
* Have one vote at the Annual Meeting and any other general meetings.

Black belt gradings of Full Member’s students will only be done at GKI Gasshukus and mini-Gasshukus. Full Members will adhere to the GKI syllabus and these rules for the purposes of all black belt gradings. Black Belts will be registered in the GKI records and successful black belt gradings will be recognised by the issue of a GKI Dan Grade certificate.

## Associate Members

Associate Members may carry out their own Black belt gradings.

Subject to the decision of the Technical Panel, Instructors and Students of an Associate Member may be invited to attend GKI events. Fees for Instructors and Students of Associate Members at GKI events may be different to those paid by Instructors and Students of Full Members.

The Technical Head of an Associate Member may be invited to be a member of the GKI Technical Panel and therefore may reach at GKI Gasshukus and sit on the GKI grading panel.

## Management Committee and Technical Panel

The GKI will be led, organised and controlled by the Technical Panel, assisted by the appointed officers, collectively comprising the Management Committee.

In addition to Management Committee meetings, an annual meeting will be held where one representative of each association or dojo will be entitled to attend, along with the association officers. Other GKI instructors and members are welcome to attend as observers.

The members of the Technical Panel are listed in the table herein. They will be responsible for the technical standards details, progression, grading rules and similar items.

The officers will be responsible for routine communications, keeping accurate records of meetings, maintaining adequate financial records, the black belt register. They may be members of the Technical Panel.

Each country with one or more Full Members are entitled to have one place on the Management Committee. This person will be responsible for communications to member and associate member associations in the country.

Voting in the Management Committee and Technical Panel will be by simple majority with the Chief Instructor or his nominee having a normal vote and a casting vote.

Officers will be from Full Members only.

## Instructors Certificate

The technical committee will agree which instructors of Full Members will be recognised as GKI instructors for Gasshuku purposes and will award the instructor’s certificate accordingly.

## New Members

GKI new members should apply on the application form. They may be required to be have a one year of probationary membership before they are ratified as a member.

The technical committee will consider the grade related circumstances of organisations and individuals who wish to join GKI. Regarding any black belts who are part of a new association or who join individually, they will normally re-grade for their current grade or a grade appropriate to their knowledge and skills, then have at least a year of membership before attempting a higher grade, assuming that the period between the first award and the GKI examination for the next higher grades meets the time laid down in the Rules.

# BLACK BELT GRADINGS

## Grading Rules

Black belt gradings will be carried out at a **GKI Gasshuku**, by a grading panel of at least 3 technical panel members. The grading panel will be chaired by a Technical Panel member from a Full Member group.

All black belt gradings above Sandan will be carried out at a **GKI Gasshuku**. Gradings for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Dan may also be done at **Mini-Gasshukus** where previously agreed by the technical panel. The decision whether or not to hold a grading at a **Mini-Gasshuku** will be based on the length of time before a **GKI Gasshuku** will be held locally, the ability of students to travel because of age, economic factors and other appropriate reasons.

The GKI will train and encourage senior instructors to carry out gradings by involving them in grading panels and by having two panels at gradings where the numbers are large.

GKI certificates will only be awarded at a ceremony at the end of the Gasshuku to candidates who have applied on the GKI website and completed the grading application forms, with photographs (preferably electronic pdf file format) at least four weeks before the grading. Certificates for successful students who applied late will be made available for collection at a later GKI Gasshuku.

Normally, candidates must have attended a minimum number of gasshukus during the qualifying years for each grade (1 in the year before the 1st Dan test, 2 in the 2 years before the 2nd Dan test, 3 in the three years before 3rd Dan and so on). Additionally, individual candidates may be required to attend a minimum number of Association / Dojo events in the year prior to the grading

Normally, no person will be tested without the permission of his/her instructor.

In the event of a dispute, the GKI Technical Panel will hold an investigatory meeting and make a decision based on all available facts. Any student, who can show he/she has trained regularly and has completed the time between gradings, is eligible. Character and instructor’s comments will be taken in to consideration in deciding pass or fail.

The Technical Panel must ratify any exception to these rules in advance.

## Black Belt Grading Fees

The black belt grading fee total is the sum of an examiners fee and a certification/registration fee. The registration fee (less a £2.50 or €3 Registrar Fee) is returned if the candidate is not successful.

The fees are: -

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade Attempted** | **Examination Fee** | **Registration Fee** | **Total Fee** | **Age Range** | **Time since last Grading** | **Examiners** |
| 1 Dan (junior) | £35 / €40 | £30/ €35 | £65/ €75 | 12 and 13 | 9 months | Always two minimum from Technical Panel except at Mini-Gasshukus  Chair by GKI 7th Dan |
| 1 Dan (cadet) | £40 / €45 | £30/ €35 | £70/ €80 | 14 and 15 | 1 year |
| 2 Dan (cadet) | £45 / €50 | £30/ €35 | £75/ €85 | 16 and 17 | 2 years Note 3 |
| 1 Dan | £45 / €50 | £30/ €35 | £75/ €85 | 16 + | 1 year |
| 2 Dan | £50 / €55 | £30/ €35 | £80/ €90 | 18 + | 2 years |
| 3 Dan | £60 / €65 | £30/ €35 | £90/ €100 | 21+ | 3 years |
| 4 Dan | £70 / €75 | £30/ €35 | £100/ €110 | 25 + | 4 years |
| 5 Dan | £80 / €85 | £30/ €35 | £110/ €100 | 30 + | 5 years |
| 6 Dan + | £90 / €95 | £30/ €35 | £120/ €130 | 36 + | 6 years | Chair by GKI 8th Dan |
| Higher grades | As 6th Dan | | | continues | continues | Chair by Ch. Instructor |

*Notes*

1. *An additional fee of £10 or €10 will be charged if the application is not made on-line at least one month before the test.*
2. *The examination fee may be changed at a mini-Gasshuku or where the examiners agree to a lower fee.*
3. *1 year from cadet 2nd Dan to adult 2nd Dan*

The distribution of the fees will be as follows: -

The examination fees will be paid to the examiners, in shared amounts as calculated by the GKI spread-sheet. The calculation recognises seniority, member status and the responsibility of the panel chairman.

The registration fees will be paid to the GKI international bank account and from this

* 1. £2.50 or €3 per candidate, whether successful or not, will be paid to the Black Belt Registrar who produces the certificates.
  2. £5 per successful candidate will be paid to each of the Chief Instructor and the Chairman as certification signatories.

# Gasshukus

## Gasshuku Organisation

Normally each year, there will be two or three **GKI Gasshukus** held. Additionally, there may be a small number of **Mini-Gasshukus**. The venue of each event will be agreed by the GKI’s Technical Panel, ideally 2 years in advance. A **Mini Gasshuku** is primarily for the students of the organising association or country, who will therefore be responsible for any shortfall.

The organising dojo or association at a **GKI Gasshuku** or a **Mini Gasshuku**must create a timetable for the Gasshuku. This must be agreed with the **Instructors** (see below) well in advance of the Gasshuku to allow time for preparation. Instructors will be paid according to the agreed GKI rules.

All events should be budgeted and planned to at least break even. As a rule of thumb, the budget should assume 95% of the revenue of a previous similar event. The organising dojo or organisation has the responsibility to produce the budget, which must show that the normal instructor’s fees can be met.

Should the **GKI Gasshuku** make a profit, then 50% of this profit will be paid into the GKI international account and the remainder will be for the benefit of the organising dojo(s) or association(s), as agreed between them. The organisers may charge reasonable fees for the costs and effort involved.

As a loss should only happen when the shortfall is due to circumstances that could not be reasonably anticipated. Should a **GKI Gasshuku** make a loss (after reducing instructors fees by an amount as below), this will be met by the organising dojo(s) or association(s) and the **GKI,** in equal contributions

The GKI organising dojo or association should meet any shortfall in revenue at a GKI **Mini-Gasshuku**. The GKI other member associations, groups and countries may contribute in appropriate circumstances.

A separate training day, or longer, only for 6th Dan and above plus heads of associations will be held at the summer Gasshuku each year. **On-Line Gasshukus** will be arranged to enhance the support to members where distance or major international issues prevent regular attendance at a **GKI Gasshuku** or a **Mini-Gasshuku.** The grade etc. requirement for attendance will be announced in good time before the **On-Line Gasshukus.**

## Gasshuku Training Fees

Fees will be collected on the GKI web site. Payments taken at the Gasshuku must be at least 10% higher that taken on the website and are recommended to be typically 25% higher.

Students of Full Members and Affiliate Members will pay the same. Students of non-member groups, if permitted to attend, will pay an additional 50% fee for any particular Gasshuku, whether in advance or not.

The suggested advance booking fee structure is as below.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Typical Training Times | | | |
| ***Members Fees*** | 1 class  (Min 2.5 hours) | 1 day (2 classes)  Min 4.5 hours | 3 day Gasshuku  (5 classes) >11 hours | 4 day Gasshuku  (6+ classes) >15 hours |
| Adults | €18 | €24 | €60 | €75 |
| Under 18s | €13.50 | €18 | €45 | €55 |
| Under 14s | €10 | €13 | €30 | €45 |

## Gasshuku Instruction Fees

A **Gasshuku Instructor** is one of the agreed Technical Panel instructors at a GKI Gasshuku or at a Mini Gasshuku. The senior instructors must create the timetable of the Gasshuku.

The hourly fees to be charged by **Gasshuku Instructors** for teaching **(not charged for time spent on gradings)** are: - 4th Dan... €20; 5th Dan... €30; 6th Dan... €40; 7th Dan…€50; 8th Dan…€60; 9th Dan... €70.

In the event of a shortfall in the Gasshuku revenue, the minimum fees that the **Gasshuku Instructors** will be paid, will be based on them teaching for 50% of the classes held while in attendance at the Gasshuku, unless otherwise agreed. This excludes any non-GKI classes held in association with a Gasshuku and time spent on grading panels. Reasonable travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses incurred by **Gasshuku Instructors** will be met.

**Gasshuku Assistant Instructors** are other instructors who have been appointed by the **Gasshuku Instructor(s)** to help teach at the Gasshuku. They will be paid at 50% of the above rates, except when they are solely in charge of a whole day, when full rates will apply. When funds permit, a contribution to travel and accommodation expenses for **Gasshuku Assistant Instructors** will be made.

All government taxes are the responsibility of the individual instructor.

The organisers and the instructors must agree any variance from these rules in advance.

# GKI RESPONSIBILITIES AND Organisation

GKI is responsible for all international costs including producing certificates, meeting reasonable expenses incurred by its officers for GKI support, paying any bursaries and some web site costs.

The organisation structure should be ratified or modified at international meetings and AGMs.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Position  Who | Technical  Committee | Executive  Committee | General  Meetings | Main Organisational Function |
| Chief Instructor | **✓** | **✓** | **✓** | Head of GKI |
| Senior Instructors (7th Dan up) | **✓\*** |  |  | Assist the Chief Instructor in technical areas.  \*As appointed by Shihan Rousseau. |
| Country Representative |  |  | **✓** | Represent their organisation in debate and decision making |
| Senior Instructors (7th Dan up) |  | **✓** |  | Participate in debate and decision making |
| Chairman |  | **✓** | **✓** | Run meetings, have casting vote, seek consensus |
| GKI International Treasurers |  | **✓** | **✓** | Keep financial records, pay bills |
| International Secretary |  | **✓** | **✓** | Liaise with member organisations, organise and minute GKI international meetings, represent GKI in international committees, ensure good communications |

# Technical panel MEMBERS and Officers Contact List

Please check the GKI web site for other instructors.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GKI TECHNICAL PANEL** | Chief Instructor | S. James Rousseau | 9th Dan |  |
| Members | S. L Sim | 8th Dan |  |
|  | S. K Nason | 7th Dan |  |
|  | S. A Moreira | 7th Dan |  |
|  | S. B Ekstrand | 6th Dan |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **GKI OFFICIALS** | Chairman | L Sim |  |  |
| International Treasurers | Carmelita Henriques  /John Foster |  |  |
| International Secretary | S. Mieke Verschueren |  | [omieke1@telenet.be](mailto:omieke1@telenet.be) |
| Black Belt Registrar | Paul Foot |  |  |

# GKI Grading Syllabus Outline

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GRADE** | **Min Age** | **KIHON WAZA or *Time*** | **KATA** | **KUMITE** | **OTHER** |
| **9 KYU** |  | 3x Tsuki, 3x Uke, Heiko Dachi, Zen Kutsu Dachi, Shiko Dachi, Sanchin dachi, Mae Geri, Basic stepping | Geki Sai Dai Ichi | Gohon |  |
| **8 KYU** |  | Uraken, Empi, Shuto, Yoko Geri, Stepping with tsuki/uke, Hike-uke | Geki Sai Dai Ichi Bunkai | Sanbon | Pads intro |
| **7 KYU** |  | Neko Dachi, Mawashi Geri, Tora Guchi | Geki Sai Dai Ni | Sandan Ge Basic, Randori | Chi-Ishi basic |
| **6 KYU** |  | Ko-kutsu dachi, Ushiro Geri, Tai sabaki basics | Geki Sai Dai Ni Bunkai | Ippon (Jo, Chu, Ge, Mae Geri) | Break falls intro |
| **5 KYU** |  | Tai sabaki combinations | Saifa | Ippon (add Mawashi, Yoko Geri) | Makiwara (Tsuki) |
| **4 KYU** |  | Ko-uke, gripping, same hand block attack | Saifa Bunkai | Ippon (Nage) | Bag (keri) |
| **3 KYU** |  | Complex stepping with tsuki, keri and uke | Seiunchin | Sandan Ge variations | Sanchin intro |
| **2 KYU** |  | Neko dachi combinations with other stances | Seiunchin Bunkai | Kakie - Basic |  |
| **1 KYU** |  | Ta­­­­­­­i sabaki, varying stance and uke combinations | Shisochin, Sanchin | Sandan Ge applications; Kakie - circular | Chi-Ishi Variation |
| **1D Junior** | 12/13 yrs | *6 months from 1 Kyu* | Shisochin |  |  |
| **1D Cadet** | 14/15 yrs | *9 months from 1 Dan Cadet* | Shisochin, Sanchin |  |  |
| **1 Dan** | 16 yrs+ | Improve above plus age and time restrictions | Shisochin + Bunkai, | Kakie – Basic combinations | Tensho intro |
| **2D Cadet** | 16/17 yrs | *2 years from 1 Dan Cadet* | Shisochin + Bunkai, |  |  |
| **2 Dan** | 18 yrs+ | *2 yrs from Shodan or 1 yr from 2nd Dan Cadet* | Sanserui plus Bunkai | Kakie – Variation, combinations | Coach Qualification |
| **3 Dan** | 21 yrs+ | *3 more yrs training from Nidan* | Seipai plus Bunkai, Tensho |  | GKI Referee |
| **4 Dan** | 25 yrs+ | *4 more yrs training from Sandan* | Kurunfa plus Bunkai |  |  |
| **5 Dan** | 30 yrs+ | *5 more yrs training from Yondan* | Seisan plus Bunkai |  |  |
| **6 Dan** | 36 yrs+ | *6 more yrs training from Godan* | Suparinpei plus Bunkai |  | Originality |

**Notes**

GKI age requirements tend to be 1 year more than WKF.

At each level the standard of every technique is higher than the lower level. The standard is measured in terms of accuracy and effectiveness, as well as the level of understanding, strength, timing and the concepts of Muchimi and Chiri no Chan Chan. Leeway will be given on strength and technical understanding for Junior / Cadet grade and elderly candidates