

Rules for Traditional Iaido Competition

- 1) Iaido competition will follow a similar structure as Traditional/Classical Karate Kata (forms) competition
- 2) A maximum of 4 traditional Iaido kata can be performed by each competitor
- 3) Traditional gi/uwagi and hakama must be worn
- 4) Sword can be either an Iaito (unsharpened sword) or a Shinken (sharpened sword), and must be of traditional design
- 5) Tabi are allowed, but are not required
- 6) The use of a sageo (fastening cord) is optional
- 7) It is not necessary to announce the names of the kata
- 8) Competitors will begin their competition with a standing bow (Ritsurei) for purposes of saving time
- 9) A formal seated bow (Zarei) may be used once a competitor has completed his kata set
- 10) In the case of a tie, after all normal tie-breaking procedures have been followed, a single kata may be performed by each tied competitor to determine the winner.

Proposed Divisions

Skill Levels

9 & under Beginner/Novice
9 & under Intermediate/Advanced

Beginner = less than 1 year of training

10 - 13 Beginner/Novice
10 - 13 Intermediate/Advanced

Novice = 1-2 years of training

14 - 17 Beginner/Novice
14 - 17 Intermediate/Advanced

Intermediate = 2-3 years of training

18 & up Beginner/Novice
18 & up Intermediate/Advanced

Advanced = 3+ years of training