



BRITISH WADOKAI KARATE

DANKYU SHINSA

The British Wadokai Dan 段 Grading.

All Dan grade examinations will be monitored by qualified **British Wadokai** Yudansha who possess Examiners/Instructors certificates/qualifications required for Panel Judges.

Level 4a may grade up to Shodan, 4b up to Nidan, 4c up to Sandan, etc.

Level 5; is reserved for the BWK President/Chief Instructor.

Before conducting a practical grading it is important that the written examination has been completed.

When the applicant has handed over his BWK Licence ensure to check to see if it up to date.

During assessment always take medical, age, mental & physical aspects into consideration at all times. For example if someone suffers from dyslexia he may find problems with coordination. He may find problems with, or incapable of, reciting the Dojo-kun.

Remember, a fully-able person 'should' know his stuff! If he does not, then mark him accordingly. You may need to refer to the applicant's regular instructor for verification of ability/disability.

Each applicant will be marked as 8.5 for each segment if the standards achieved reflect the grade. For example, in the event an applicant is attempting Shodan, the kihon-waza demonstrated should be that of Shodan standard. If it is better than that expected of Shodan then mark higher, if not, mark average or lower, etc.

A minimum 'pass' would be a total accumulated figure of 82%. However, if the applicant is a junior, and his score is below that of 82%, he may pass as a Shodan-ho if he has achieved 72% or above in both written and practical aspects of the grading.

Example (below) of the 10-Section Grade Sheet, which must equate to a minimum of 82% for full Yudan pass in both the Written and Practical Tests.

NB: As you may notice *Attendance and Loyalty* makes up 20% of the total marking, emphasising the importance of Dedication.

|  | | British Wadokai Karate-do Federation | | | | | | | | | |  | | | |
|---|------------|---|---------------|-------------|--------------|------|----------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|---|--|-------|--|
| Examiner: | | | | | | | Ex. Lev: | | | | | | | Date: | |
| Name & Grade attempting | Kihon Waza | Renraku Waza | Sanbon Gumite | Ohyo Gumite | Kihon Gumite | Kata | Gyo | Jiyu Gumite | Club Training Record | Loyalty & Dedication | Practical Result | Written Result | | | |
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A BWK Yudan Assessment Panel (YAP) is available to all members. All Yudan Shinsa:

- (a) Will be charged per student prior to grading. See Charges (Constitution/Application Form).
- (b) Will be charged for Registration (included in grade fee).
- (c) Yudan Gradings will be conducted privately. Only people involved, or have been previously invited by the BWK President, may attend. BWK Examiners of any level may attend for personal examination training purposes.
- (d) All applicants for Gradings must hold an up to date Licence.
- (e) All applicants for Gradings of Sandan must be registered (and insured) as an Instructor/Assistant Instructor of a regular Dojo prior to application.
- (f) All applicants for Gradings of Yodan, and above, must be registered (and insured) as a Main Instructor of a regular Dojo.
- (g) All Yudansha will be judged & marked for a pass as: 82% (and above) Practical. 82% (and above) Written.
- (h) All Junior Yudansha: If the applicant is classified as a junior (10 to 17) he may be awarded a senior level if the senior scores are reached (see subsection (g) above). However if a 'senior' score has not been achieved a 'Junior Yūdansha' (Jido-Dan/Shodan-ho) pass will be accepted if scored for a pass of: 72% (and above) Practical. 72% (and above) Written. **This only applies to 1st Dan level (Shodan-ho).** *

* NB: Junior Yūdansha will **not** be granted grading powers or advancement until reassessment to full Shodan has first been achieved.

NB: Yudansha Applicants: The student's MAIN INSTRUCTOR will issue, *to the eligible member*, a 'Yudan Shinsa Application Form'.

Official intervals/minimum training requirements for Yudan applicants:

- ❑ SHODAN; 52 BWK DOJO TRAINING SESSIONS = 78 Training Hours. From 1st Kyu to 1st Dan. (1st Kyu to 1st Dan = 9 months). 1 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 Standardisation Course. Minimum age 11 (unless in exceptional circumstances).
- ❑ NIDAN; 208 BWK DOJO TRAINING SESSIONS = 312 Training Hours. From 1st Dan to 2nd Dan. (1st Dan to 2nd Dan = 18 months). 2 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 Standardisation Course. Minimum age 16 (unless in exceptional circumstances). There are no junior facilities for 2nd Dan.
- ❑ SANDAN; 312 BWK DOJO TRAINING SESSIONS = 468 Training Hours. From 2nd Dan to 3rd Dan. (2nd Dan to 3rd Dan = 3 years). 3 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 Standardisation Course. Minimum age 20 (unless in exceptional circumstances).
- ❑ YODAN: *From 3rd Dan to 4th Dan = 4 years. 4 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 BWK Standardisation Course. Minimum age 25 (unless in the event of exceptional circumstances).*
- ❑ GODAN: *From 4th Dan to 5th Dan = 5 years. 5 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 BWK Standardisation Course.*
- ❑ ROKUDAN: *From 5th Dan to 6th Dan = 6 years. 6 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 BWK Standardisation Course.*
- ❑ SHICHIDAN: *From 6th Dan to 7th Dan = 7 years. 7 of each (consecutive) Part 1, 2, 3 and 4 BWK Standardisation Course.*

NB: All BWK members wishing to pursue Yudan Shinsa must have attended the minimum BWK Standardisation/Advancement Courses (please refer to Yudan Shinsa Application Form). In respect to 'Dojo Training Sessions' this DOES NOT include 'Dojo Teaching Hours'. However, if in exceptional circumstances such as impractical distance of location/venue, etc., discretion may be made.

BWK Dan Grade application:

- (a) It is the member's own responsibility to send the application at least TWO months prior to the grading date. See Date Section for details.
- (b) All aspects of the application form must be filled correctly and signed, including the correct remittance. Incomplete applications will be returned.
- (c) The applicant must grade on the applied grade date, or forfeit the grading fee.

NB: For applicants up to and including 3rd Dan the BWK will only accept individuals for grading who have been recommended by their MAIN INSTRUCTOR to grade. Applications for Yudan grades may be refused/rejected without reason. Grading applications from 3rd Dan & above must be from individuals who teach or run their own Club/s.

There are no gradings above 3rd Dan within BWK for 'full' BWK Members who have trained and graded through the full British Wadokai grade structure. All applications for promotion up-to and including 7th Dan must be presented through the normal channels (i.e. BWK President). For applicants who have not trained & graded through the BWK process must grade for all Yudan levels up to and including 7th Dan.

BWK Yudan Assessment Panel (YAP):

The BWK Black-Belt Grading/Assessment Panel will consist of:

- ❑ The BWK President/Chief Instructor.
- ❑ Invited BWK Examiners (5th Dan & above).
- ❑ Invited Guests.

Although both grades & titles can be applied for (through normal examination and/or written paper procedures), it must be noted that they can also be awarded by the BWK President through 'time honoured' dedicated research and contribution to the BWK. ONLY the BWK President, taking into consideration loyal and dedicated contribution to BWK etc, can 'award' Yudan grades.

All BWK Yudan Gradings in the UK are held twice a year, and are listed in the BWK Date Section. Recommendations for students who have failed various gradings.

Grade Failure.

It is a general rule that the following recommendations are observed.

Failure of Dan Gradings.

Upon any Dan grade being failed (irrespective of written, practical or both) the student must produce a minimum training record, *FROM FAILURE DATE*, of 52 training sessions AND 6 months before the retake can be honoured by the Yudan Assessment Panel. However, students will only be required to retake the element/s they have failed on. (If the student has only failed the practical he does not need to retake the written, and/or vice-versa). The part/element re-take facility will only be valid for 12 months from the original failure date, after this time both elements will have to be retaken.

To clarify: In the event of a 'retake', due to a failure, illness or non-attendance, the applicant may reapply for a second attempt after 6-months from the failure date (application must be submitted in the usual way at least one month prior to the actual grading date (see Date Section for details)).

In the event of a failure, all previous training history/accumulation, on and prior to the failure date, would have to be re-accumulated. In the event of 6-months this would still be a minimum of 52 BWK TRAINING SESSIONS = 78 Training Hours PROCEEDING the failure date/day.

All applicants MUST reapply using the official Yudan Shinsa Application Form, available from your instructor, British Wadokai Administration Department, or British Wadokai Website.

Irrelevant of how many Panel Judges there are in attendance; and of how many of them have passed an applicant: It must be remembered that if **ONE** Examiner on the panel has failed an applicant the applicant has failed the grade completely.



BRITISH WADOKAI KARATE

The British Wadokai Kyu 級 Grading.

BWK operates an 'Open Grading Policy', whereby BWK Members/Students may attend and grade at any BWK 'Open Grading' held within a club of British Wadokai. This policy was originally implemented so as BWK Members may be able to advance; even though their own instructor may not possess the adequate qualification to promote higher than his designated level (see Section 11 of the BWK Rules & Regulations). Any BWK Member may grade at any of these 'Open Gradings' for their relevant Kyu Grade advancement, as long as the Examiner present has the adequate qualifications to grade the level attempting to be attained, etc. The student's own main instructor may 'advise' a student, in regard to his readiness, but would not be permitted to disallow him attending a grading, unless for reasons of inadequate training or time-served requirement deficits, etc.

All grades are to be registered within BWK.

- (a) The relevant Grading Examiner must retain all Kyu Grade Sheets; a copy must be sent to the BWK Licence Officer when completed.
- (b) All BWK Yudan gradings will be conducted by the BWK President, Gary E Swift (8th Dan) Kyoshi.

Official intervals/minimum training requirements for Kyu Grades.

- ❑ Beginner to 9th Kyu = Minimum 6 Weeks training duration. Minimum age 8 years old.
- ❑ Kyu grade duration between each rank from 9th Kyu to 1st Kyu = Minimum 3 Months duration with a minimum of 12 Training Sessions at a Fully Registered BWK Club.

Kyu Grade Scoring

All Kyu grade examinations will be monitored by qualified **British Wadokai** Yudansha who possess Examiners/Instructors certificates/qualifications.

1. Level 1; allows the examiner to grade up to 6th Kyu
2. Level 2; up to 3rd Kyu
3. Level 3; up to 1st Kyu
4. Level 4; entitlements are split into segments: Level 4a up to Shodan, 4b up to Nidan, 4c up to Sandan. Level 5; is reserved for the BWK President/Chief Instructor.

Before conducting a kyu grading ensure that the correct grade fee has been paid to the Examiner, Secretary, Treasurer, etc. When the applicant has handed over his BWK Licence check to see if it up to date.

During assessment always take medical, age, mental & physical aspects into consideration at all times. For example if someone suffers from dyslexia he may find problems with coordination. He may find problems with, or incapable of, reciting the Dojo-kun. Remember, a fully able-bodied person 'should' know his stuff! If he does not, then mark him accordingly.

Grade Scoring

| Grade | 3rd Class Pass | 2nd Class Pass | 1st Class Pass |
|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 9th Kyu | 10+ | 20+ | 30+ |
| 8th Kyu | 12+ | 25+ | 30+ |
| 7th Kyu | 12+ | 25+ | 30+ |
| 6th Kyu | 25+ | 30+ | 45+ |
| 5th Kyu | 25+ | 40+ | 60+ |
| 4th Kyu | 25+ | 45+ | 65+ |
| 3rd Kyu | 40+ | 65+ | 85+ |
| 2nd Kyu | 40+ | 65+ | 85+ |
| 1st Kyu | 45+ | 70+ | 95+ |

| Score | Symbol |
|------------------|---|
| Faultless; 4 |  |
| Above Average; 3 |  |
| Average; 2 |  |
| Below Average; 1 |  |
| Wrong; 0 |  |

Kyu Grade Examiner's Sheet Pattern (next page).

Dojo Jiyu-gumite **MUST** adhere to the correct methods of 'contact-control', stated within the listed Contest Rules.

- (a) Prior to the start of the Jiyu-gumite, the Sensei/Sempai shall state any [further] restrictions within the sparring match - THESE MUST BE FOLLOWED.
- (b) Students must wear the correct BWK recommended Karate protection (Bogu), which must conform to the white elasticised/velcro style or official competition (red/blue/white) equipment. ***Hand-mitts (all) and Shin & Instep pads (under 18) MUST be worn at all times in sparring and competition.***
- (c) It is recommended that students wear protective groin guards, breast protectors (female), and gum-shields. ***Gum shields and groin guards MUST be worn at all times in sparring competition.***
- (d) Students must be in good health, with no pre-existing illness/es or injuries.
- (e) Contact is limited to NO MORE than; 'light/medium contact' to the body/trunk only. Techniques must be 'pulled-short' of head/face contact.
- (f) Considerations must always be made to the age and capabilities of each opponent. Take each opponent as an 'individual' who may have differing needs and conditions to others to gain the best benefit from each club sparring-match. Club sparring is **NOT** competition; it is a practise and learning experience.
- (g) There will no technique/s directed towards the throat, neck, groin, or knee.**
- (h) No excessive contact, DANGEROUS throws or takedowns will be permitted. Deliberate violation of this rule will result in instant exclusion from Jiyu-gumite, leading to the possible expulsion from the club for persistent offenders.
- (i) The Sensei has the right to implement additional rules and restrictions that he sees fit, to promote safe and beneficial sparring within his Dojo.

Exceptions from sparring:

Students who suffer from **any kind** of *MEDICAL CONDITION* where the practise could be detrimental to the health of the student.

Females, students under the age of 18 and over the age of 40 will not be 'forced' into free-fighting of any kind.

NB: Students who DO NOT have the expected minimum protection for sparring will NOT be permitted to spar.