

(unofficial English translation)



FINNISH KENDO ASSOCIATION

RULES

1§

The name of the association is the Finnish Kendo Association. The association is located in Helsinki, Finland. These rules will henceforth refer to the association as the “FKA.”

2§

The FKA’s objective is to advance skills in Japanese sword and related weapon arts, and to function as a central association in order to aid registered member associations.

The FKA will aid its members in their aspirations to further the practice of Japanese weapon arts in Finland while taking into account proper etiquette and the necessary legal requirements. In addition the FKA will dispatch national teams to major competitions, organize competitions, education and training, demonstrations and presentations, and deliver publications, as well as maintain international relations on behalf of the association’s disciplines.

The fundamental principles governing the FKA’s activities are fair play and the ethical framework of sports.

3§

Any registered association in Finland furthering the practice of Japanese sword and related weapon arts, whose rules are accepted by the FKA board, may join the FKA as a member association. Membership applications are considered in FKA board meetings.

FKA membership is applied for by written application to the FKA board. The application must include:

1. Up to date rules of the association, its constitution, or similar.
2. Association register or trade register excerpt.

4§

The FKA may appoint as an honorary member anyone who has shown exceptional merit in their work associated with disciplines represented by the FKA. Honorary members are nominated by the FKA board and appointed at a general assembly of the FKA.

The FKA can have supporting members that aim to support the FKA’s activities. A supporting member may be a person or a legal person.

Supporting and honorary members have a right to be heard, but not a right to vote in FKA assemblies.

5§

The FKA, its member associations, and practice licensees commit to the Finnish Antidoping Agency’s rules, and through it the International Olympic Committee’s, WTF’s, and ETU’s doping rules, as well as the European Council’s general anti-doping agreement, the Nordic anti-doping agreement, as well as other international anti-doping agreements signed by Finland. The FKA, its member associations, and practice licensees are also

committed to follow the agreed upon ethical framework and fair play rules for training, competitions, demonstrations, and other events arranged under the FKA.

6§

If a member association wishes to resign from the FKA, it must deliver a written resignation to the FKA or its chairperson, or by having the resignation noted in the minutes of a general assembly. Upon resignation the resigning member association must provide a written statement asserting that the resignation decision has been made in accordance with its own rules and regulations. A member association is free of its responsibilities towards the FKA from the beginning of the following calendar year as of giving its notice of resignation.

The FKA board has the right to expel a member association whose actions are against or harmful to the FKA's function. An expelled member is entitled to submit a written notice to the FKA board within thirty days of being informed of the expulsion in order to have the matter of the membership be resolved by a general assembly.

The FKA board has the right to revoke a practice license from an individual whose actions are against or harmful to the FKA's function. An appeal for reconsideration of a revocation may be submitted to the FKA's board within thirty days of being informed of the revocation.

7§

Membership, joining, and practice license fees are decided on an annual basis by the FKA Autumn General Assembly. Fees are due by the date set in the assembly, however always before the end of the FKA's accounting period. The FKA board may expel a member association for non-payment of fees by their due date. Non-payment of the practice license fee by its due date may result in exclusion of an individual from the FKA's and its member associations' events.

Honorary members are exempt from practice license fees.

8§

In FKA general assemblies every member association may cast one vote for every fifty valid practice licenses of its members, rounded up to the next multiple of fifty, up to a maximum of three votes.

The FKA may negotiate a license insurance policy for the benefit of its practice licensees, with the intention of ensuring insurance coverage for its licensees, or it has to otherwise ensure that all licensees are covered by an insurance policy exceeding a set minimum level.

9§

The FKA has two annual general assemblies: The Spring General Assembly, to be held in March-May, and the Autumn General Assembly, to be held in October-December.

The Spring General Assembly addresses the following agenda items:

1. Electing a meeting chairperson, secretary, two transcript inspectors and vote counters.
2. Establishing the legitimacy and quorum of the meeting.
3. Presenting the previous board's annual report of the preceding year's activities.
4. Presenting the accounts, the financial auditors' report, deciding the approval of the financial statement, and relieving the previous board of liability.
5. Addressing other subjects presented by the board.
6. Adjourning the meeting.

The Autumn General Assembly addresses the following agenda items:

1. Electing a meeting chairperson, secretary, two transcript inspectors and vote counters.
2. Establishing the legitimacy and quorum of the meeting.
3. Performing the annual election of the FKA chairperson for the following year.
4. Deciding on the compensation of board members.
5. Performing the annual election of board members for the following year.
6. Confirming the activity plan for the following year.
7. Deciding on the compensation of the auditor.
8. Choosing an auditor and their substitute.
9. Confirming the FKA member associations' and supporting members' joining and membership fees, and practice license fees.
10. Confirming the FKA budget for the following calendar year.
11. Addressing other subjects presented by the board.
12. Adjourning the meeting.

Issues that a member association wishes to be added to the agenda of a general assembly must be presented in writing to the board before the 15th of January for the Spring General Assembly, and before the 15th of August for the Autumn General Assembly.

Issues not on the agenda may be addressed, but not decided upon, if at least half of the member associations represented in the meeting so wish.

10§

Extraordinary general assemblies are held at the discretion of the FKA board, or when at least one tenth (1/10) of member associations with the right to vote make a written request for an assembly for the purpose of addressing a specific issue.

11§

General assemblies are convened at least two weeks prior to the meeting by a written notice to member associations and announcement on the FKA's website. Other announcements are sent to member associations and licensees by email and published on the FKA's website. Remote participation in a general assembly by means of technical aids is possible by a decision made at a general assembly or by the FKA board.

12§

In all matters except those defined by section 20 votes are decided by simple majority. In case of a tie the chairperson's vote decides, except in elections, where the winner is chosen by lot.

In extraordinary assemblies, only issues mentioned in the meeting invitation may be resolved.

13§

The FKA's interests are looked after by a board consisting of member association representatives, which includes, in addition to the chairperson, five to nine members. The board may set up committees and co-opt officers to act on behalf of the FKA.

The board chooses from amongst itself a vice-chairperson, an accountant and a secretary in its first meeting, which is held after the FKA's Autumn General Assembly. The board has a quorum, when at least half of its members, one of which is the chairperson or vice-chairperson, is present.

14§

The function of the board is:

1. to undertake necessary actions to fulfill the purpose of the FKA,
2. to represent the FKA, handle its current matters, and represent the FKA as a plaintiff and defendant,
3. to convene the FKA's meetings, prepare the issues that will be addressed, and execute the legitimate decisions made,
4. to take care of the FKA's funds,
5. to undertake the drafting of the FKA's annual report and financial statement,
6. to draft a suggestion for the FKA's budget and plan of activities,
7. to decide approval of member associations and supporting members as FKA members, expulsion of

- members from the FKA, as well as deciding practice license validity,
8. to grant proxies to the FKA's representatives to international congresses,
 9. to hold a member register and a practice license register,
 10. to approve persons entitled to act as examiners on grading panels,
 11. to confirm grading requirements,
 12. to maintain a list of all FKA approved kyū and dan graded persons,
 13. to present honorary member and honorary merit badge candidates at general assemblies,
 14. to co-opt necessary officers,
 15. to set up committees and divisions, if necessary for the function of the FKA,
 16. to inform member associations of its meetings and delivering them the meeting minutes,
 17. to handle other subjects pertaining to the FKA.

15§

The FKA signatories are the chairperson and the vice-chairperson together, or either of the aforementioned together with a person assigned by the board, or two board assigned members together.

16§

The FKA has the right to receive donations and bequeathed legacies, and to own and control fixed assets and chattel necessary for its function.

17§

The FKA may grant a person who has shown exceptional merit in their work for disciplines represented by the FKA a golden, silver, or bronze honorary badge of merit. Granted badges are listed and the badges are numbered.

18§

The FKA accounting period is a calendar year, and the financial statement must be delivered to the auditors at the latest 31 days before the Spring General Assembly. Auditors must deliver their audit report to the board at the latest 14 days before the Spring General Assembly.

19§

If the FKA is dissolved, its remaining funds will be renounced in the last FKA meeting to a legal association, which functions towards the accomplishment of the same or a similar purpose.

20§

A decision made at a general assembly which means the conclusion of FKA activity, or changing of its rules, requires at least $3/4^{\text{ths}}$ of cast votes, and the decision must be confirmed in a general assembly at the earliest one month afterwards, with the same majority of votes.