

Traditional Aikido Europe

Kyu and Dan grade examination protocol

1. All member dojos will follow the latest version of the Syllabus (see traditionalaikido.eu site) for kyu and dan grades.
2. Exams from 6th to 1st kyu are carried out at the discretion and judgment of the respective Dojo Chos for their own students.
3. Dan grade applicants must consult with their respective Dojo Chos as to their eligibility for taking an exam. Dojo Chos will then contact the respective exam committee if they deem the candidate eligible.
4. Exams from 1st dan and above are carried out by the TAE General or Special Examination committee which form grading panels for the specific purpose of holding the examination (see below).
5. All Dan grade exams are Aikikai recognised.
6. Dan grade candidates must be members of TAE and not members of any other association which would present a regulatory conflict with TAE and Aikikai grade recognition and examination requirements.
7. In addition to the recommendation of their respective Dojo Cho, applicants must be in regular training, including attending seminars, and satisfy the time period between ranks as required by Aikikai.
8. In the case of the examination of a Dojo Cho, the applicant can contact the Technical Director directly.

General Grading Committee (grades 1st - 4th dan)

1. Composed of members graded yondan and above including the three Aikikai recognised official examiners one of which holds the Technical Director (TD) position.
2. The grading panel must be composed of at least one official examiner in addition to at least two other committee members plus the respective candidate Dojo Cho for an exam to be considered valid. The number of voting examiners on the exam panel must be uneven.

3. One of the official examiners must always be present. The candidate's Dojo Cho, although present on the grading panel, has no vote on the final decision.
4. In the case where such a panel cannot be formed special permission can be granted from the General Grading Committee for one or more of the Aikikai recognised official examiners to carry out the exam.
5. Exam decisions are carried out democratically with the official examiner(s) present holding a veto vote.

Special grading committee (grades 5th dan and above)

Composed of the 3 official TAE examiners.