

2022 UniSport Nationals – Kendo Supplementary

1. Purpose

This circular is to be read in conjunction with the UniSport Guideline for Kendo, and has been prepared by the Kendo Board of the Australian Kendo Renmei (AKR) in order to clarify procedural matters related to the conduct of the event, as well as keeping the event in accordance with AKR regulations.

2. COVID Restrictions

Depending on the COVID restrictions (if any) in force at the time of the competition, competitors and attendees are advised that the following MAY apply:

- 2.1. All attendees, competitors, shinpan-in (judges), kakari-in (volunteers and officials) must take a RAT test and be able to provide proof of a negative RAT test result at the start of each day of competition.
- 2.2. All shinpan-in (judges), kakari-in (volunteers and officials) must wear a mask covering nose and mouth inside the competition venue.
- 2.2. Shiai-sha must wear a mask covering nose and mouth when not competing and a half men face shield while competing inside the competition venue.

3. COVID Modified Tsubazeriai Rules for Shiai-sha¹

These rules are introduced to minimise the risk of transmission of corona virus during shiai.

- 3.1. Shiai-sha must avoid tsubazeriai.
- 3.2. When tsubazeriai cannot be avoided and there is contact, shiai-sha must either:
 - Proactively execute hikiwaza, or waza after taiatari, as soon as they come in contact with each other, or,
 - if no waza can be executed, both shiai-sha should swiftly separate themselves from each other.
- 3.3. Shiai-sha must attempt to separate themselves without waiting for the shushin to call “wakare”. If this does not happen and tsubazeriai or other contact continues, shushin must call “wakare” immediately. Shinpan-in should observe the situation carefully and refrain from calling “wakare” if the shiai-sha have started to separate by themselves.
- 3.4. Shiai-sha must not kiai (shout) upon or immediately after contact. Kiai is allowed when a shiai-sha is executing hiki-waza after taiatari.
- 3.5. When mutually separating, whether of their own accord or as a result of “wakare” being called by the shushin, shiai-sha must move to a distance where their kensen do not touch. Shiai-sha must do so together, in equal spirit, and with the shinogi in contact. Shiai-sha must not open or lower their kensen. Shiai-sha should not make gestures such as bowing when separating.
- 3.6. When separating if one of the shiai-sha is close to the court boundary line, the shushin must adjust the shiai-sha positions to prevent this shiai-sha from stepping out of the court. The other shiai-sha may need to take additional steps backward if required. Both shiai-sha are expected to mutually adjust their positions. If one of the shiai-sha cannot avoid stepping out of the court, the shushin must call “yame” and bring the shiai-sha back to the kaishi-sen.
- 3.7. Shiai-sha must not start to separate, then stop, and then press forwards to force their opponent to retreat backwards.
- 3.8. Waza must not be attempted or executed whilst shiai-sha are separating. If a waza is executed, that waza must not be considered yuko-datotsu.

¹ Original information source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKlIM1kXkz8>. Last viewed on 25 July 2021.

- 3.9. Shiai-sha must not strike, maki (twist), or gyaku-kousa (press their opponent's shinai down using the right face of their shinai) their opponent's shinai whilst separating.
- 3.10. Shiai-sha must not push their opponent backwards before separating.
- 3.11. Shiai-sha must not chase their opponent in tsubazeriai when their opponent starts to separate.
- 3.12. Shiai-sha must not approach their opponent in a defensive posture (i.e. to avoid fighting).
- 3.13. In each situation above (3.7 – 3.12), shinpan must confer in gogi and make judgement as to whether to award hansoku based on each cause and circumstance.

4. Equipment management for competitors.

These rules are introduced to minimise the risk of transmission of corona virus.

- 4.1 Shiai-sha must not use equipment belonging to others. This includes but not limited to shinais, bogu, face-shields or any other personal belongings.
- 4.2 Shiai-sha must register their own shinai.

4. Safety Specific Rules for Kendo-Gu and Shinai.

Due to issues obtaining compliant equipment during the pandemic these rules will not be enforced however are expected to be in place for FUTURE Uni Nationals competition.

Kendo-Gu

- 5.2. The tsuki-dare and youjin-dare must be sufficiently large with appropriate integrity and firmly fitted to the men.
- 5.3. The do must not be excessively decorated (e.g. letter or character description, excessively glossy and the use of animal fur on the dodai).

Shinai

- 5.4. A tsuba must be circular-shaped and made of suitable leather and/or synthetic materials. The tsuba diameter is 9 cm or smaller. A tsuba must be fitted to a shinai firmly with no space at the tsuru end of the tsuka. No use of adhesive tapes or any other materials other than a suitable tsuba-dome is allowed for fitting.
- 5.5. The length of the sakigawa must be 5 cm or longer.
- 5.6. Shinai dimensions must satisfy requirements stated in Table 1 and Table 2. The diameters mentioned in Table 1 and Table 2 are measured using the prescribed shinai gauge, as indicated in Figure 2.

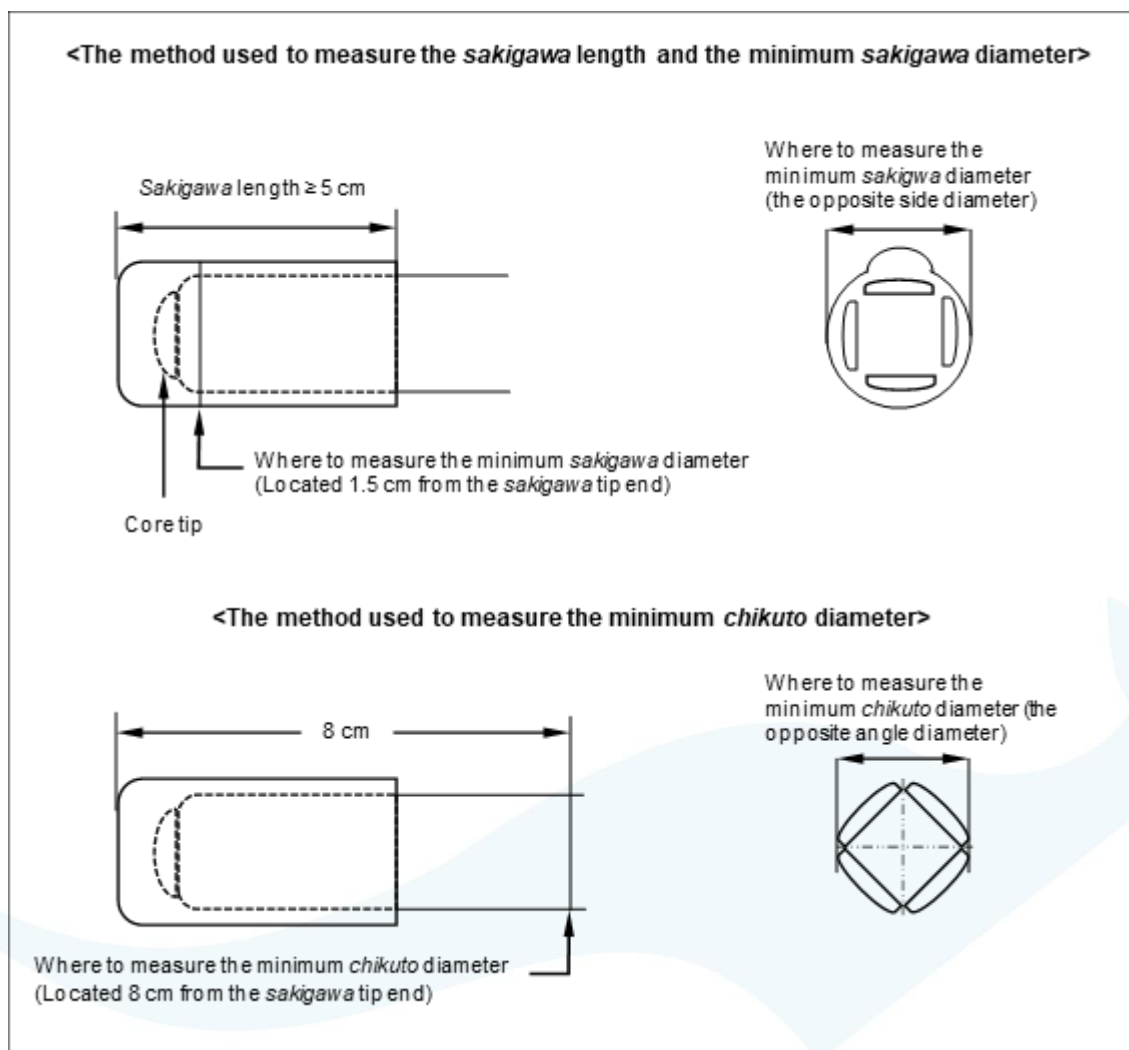
Table 1 – Shinai criteria for itto

		Gender \ Age	16 to 18 Years old	19 years old or above
Length	Unisex		114 cm or shorter	120 cm or shorter
Weight excluding attachments	Men		490 g or greater	510 g or greater
	Women		420g or greater	440 g or greater
Diameter	Men	Minimum <i>sakigawa</i> diameter	26 mm or wider	26 mm or wider
		Minimum <i>chikuto</i> * diameter	21 mm or wider	21 mm or wider
	Women	Minimum <i>sakigawa</i> diameter	25 mm or wider	25 mm or wider
		Minimum <i>chikuto</i> diameter	20 mm or wider	20 mm or wider

Table 2 – Shinai criteria for nito

		Gender \ Age	19 years old or above	
			Daito	Shoto
Length	Unisex		114 cm or shorter	62 cm or shorter
Weight excluding attachments	Men		440 g or greater	280 to 330 g
	Women		440 g or greater	250 to 280 g
Diameter	Men	Minimum <i>Sakigawa</i> diameter	25 mm or wider	24 mm or wider
		Minimum <i>chikuto</i> diameter	20 mm or wider	19 mm or wider
	Women	Minimum <i>sakigawa</i> diameter	24 mm or wider	24 mm or wider
		Minimum <i>chikuto</i> diameter	19 mm or wider	19 mm or wider

*The *Chikuto* is an 8 cm long section measured from the tip of a *shinai*. This section includes the *sakigawa*.



Original information source: https://www.kendo.or.jp/wp/wp-content/themes/kendo/assets/library/pdf/kendo-shiai_regulations.pdf. Last viewed on 20 January 2020.

Figure 2 – A schematic diagrams of methods used to measure the minimum *sakigawa* and *chikuto* diameters

6. Timing and Location of Events

6.1 The Kendo Board reserves the right to adjust the:

- commencement, shiai-jo and duration of matches of an event to manage general safety and the duration of the Championship.
- duration of matches of an event to manage the safety of shiai-sha should they have to compete using personal protective equipment such as masks and face shields that may cause breathing difficulties and heat stress.