

February 9, 2020

USJF Kata Development Committee

USJF Kata Development Committee Recommendations for building Kata in the Yudanshakai

1. **Introduce kata to beginning players.** Let them observe kata being performed and require that they go through the motions of set one of Nage no Kata. They do not have to throw because they are beginners. However, just walking through the motions may help acquaint them with kata. The instructor should determine when students are able to throw. Especially at the junior level, instructors must watch carefully.
2. **Require students to learn one new set of a kata for each promotion.** I suggest that at each promotion students are expected to know another set of kata. I suggest learning kata in this order Nage no Kata, Katame no Kata, and finally Ju no Kata.
3. **Offer Kata competition at each shiai.** Junior and Senior divisions could be established. In the junior division, require just sets 1-3 in Nage no Kata and require all 5 sets for seniors. Young juniors under age 13 could do one set, 13 year olds could do sets one and two. Seventeen and up should do all 3 sets.
4. **Certify and engage in continued study of the kata at regional and national events.** Take advantage of clinics given at regional and national events. Certify as USJF Kata Instructor and encourage your students and colleagues to do likewise.
5. **Host kata clinics.** Spread the knowledge of kata in your area by hosting kata clinics with qualified instructors.
6. **Recommendation:** Consider increasing the fees for registration and testing fees.

USJF KATA INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND FEE

Current Fees as of 2000 to present 2020

	CLASS A MASTER INSTRUCTOR	CLASS B	CLASS C	COMMENTS
RANK REQUIREMENT	4 dan & above	SHODAN	SHODAN	USJF RECOGNIZED RANK (MAN & WOMAN)
REGISTRATION FEE	\$20 per kata	\$15 per kata	\$10 per kata	Yudanshakai receives \$5
TESTING FEE	\$10 per kata	\$10 per kata	\$10 per kata	Fee goes to USJF

As you can see the fees have remained the same for 20 years. Please review the next chart to consider a moderate increase in fees to benefit USJF and Yudanshakais.

Suggested New Fees

	CLASS A MASTER INSTRUCTOR	CLASS B	CLASS C	COMMENTS
RANK REQUIREMENT	4 dan & above	SHODAN	SHODAN	USJF RECOGNIZED RANK (MAN & WOMAN)
REGISTRATION FEE	\$30 per kata	\$25 per kata	\$20 per kata	Yudanshakai receives \$10
TESTING FEE	\$20 per kata	\$20 per kata	\$20 per kata	Fee goes to USJF

If a person tests for one or more tests on the same day the testing fee is only \$20. However, the registration fees will be charged separately.

Example: Judoka tests for Class B and Class A on the same day. The Registration fees would be \$30 plus \$25 plus one testing fee of \$20. Total fees \$30 +\$25 +\$20 = \$75.00

7. Konan Yudanshakai has been giving the USJF Kata Instructors tests. Shufu Yudanshakai gave tests for a time. I would like to recommend these people as USJF Kata Development examiners: Tom Sheehan and Frances Glaze from Konan, Mike Puecell from Northwest Yudanshakai, Karen Whilden and Diane Jackson from Shufu and Eiko Shepherd and Doug Tono from CJBBA. The instructors and examiners must be ranked Godan and up.
8. An examiner must hold a Class A certification in the specific kata for which they are going to give the test. For example a person with a Class A certification in Ju no Kata may give the test for Ju no Kata. However, if they do not have a Class A certification in Nage no Kata they are not authorized to give the test for Nage no Kata.
9. There must be 2 examiners for each kata that is tested. Ideally both examiners should hold Class A certification. It is also acceptable to have one Class A examiner and two Class B examiners to give the test. Once again these examiners may only administer tests for their specific katas in which they are certified.
10. Whoever needs to be certified should attend the kata conference this year in Boise, Idaho on July 31 through August 2, 2020.

New Business

1. Currently I am planning to develop an on-line instructional kata video with a self test to check for understanding. This will be designed for beginners. My focus will be the first three sets of Nage no Kata. This will introduce kata to beginners who have internet access and reach judo students who do not have Kata instructors near them. This will give us a broad reach and build more interest in kata.