



# PETER MORTON ACADEMY OF JUDO JUJITSU KARATE

モートン流自修館柔術

## Dan Advancement

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|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Provision            | 5. Prerequisites                  | 9. Rank of 10 <sup>th</sup> Dan |
| 2. Advancement training | 6. Minimum time period            | 10. Chief Instructor            |
| 3. Eligibility          | 7. Grading / assessment authority | 11. Non-Dan Chief Instructor    |
| 4. Advanced eligibility | 8. Assessment panel               |                                 |

**Dan** *A term used in Japanese martial arts for anyone who has achieved the rank of at least 1<sup>st</sup> level black belt*

**Advancement** *Promotion; furtherance; to move forward*

Responsibility to Dan advancement by the Academy is the provision of a reasonable advancement system that ensures that a Dan advancement candidate is treated on a fair and equitable basis, including nomination consideration, training standards, extra curricular qualifications, fitness level, age, assessment standard and all eligibility requirements.

After the attainment of the rank of Shodan, a Dan Belt member who wishes to advance through the Dan ranks within the Academy may seek advancement through learning and assessment rather than through a full on physical style of Shodan course and grading.

The point of an assessment rather than a grading, because of possible age and possible health restraints, is not to pass or fail a person but to assess how an individual has:

- learnt from training
- been aided by participation in advancement training
- performed under pressure in an unknown situation
- earned the right to advance to a higher level.

An assessment provides the Academy with an insight into a Dan Belt member's:

- dedication to the Academy
- participation in the Academy
- teaching abilities in their role as an Academy instructor
- attitude towards the Academy.

Learning and assessment should provide a participant with a sense of achievement and the knowledge that that person has earned the rank that they hold.

Dan advancement is **not** automatic once a member has graded to an Academy rank of Shodan.

## 1. Provision

- 1.1 Dan advancement is granted solely by, and at the discretion of, the Principal of the Academy.
- 1.2 Responsibility to Dan advancement by the Academy will be the provision of a fair and equitable system that will include, but not limited to, the:
  - 1.2.1 updating of the Dan advancement system
  - 1.2.2 organisation of sufficient and proper Dan training sessions
  - 1.2.3 proper notice of Dan:
    - 1.2.3.1 training
    - 1.2.3.2 seminars
  - 1.2.4 proper record keeping of a Dan Belt's attendance at:
    - 1.2.4.1 compulsory training
    - 1.2.4.2 additional training
    - 1.2.4.3 branch: teaching / instruction / participation / training
    - 1.2.4.4 gradings
    - 1.2.4.5 Annual National Seminars
    - 1.2.4.6 Academy meetings of all levels
    - 1.2.4.7 Academy administration contributions.
- 1.3 The granting of Dan advancement is:
  - 1.3.1 to take into account:
    - 1.3.1.1 total minimum continual time period years:
      - 1.3.1.1.1 from Shodan
      - 1.3.1.1.2 between Dan levels
    - 1.3.1.2 minimum age
    - 1.3.1.3 all aspects required for advancement
    - 1.3.1.4 attributes of a candidate, such as:
      - 1.3.1.4.1 correct attitude
      - 1.3.1.4.2 years and dedication to:
        - 1.3.1.4.2.1 the Academy
        - 1.3.1.4.2.2 training
        - 1.3.1.4.2.3 administrative contributions
  - 1.3.2 **not** to be based solely on the:
    - 1.3.2.1 continual minimum time period
    - 1.3.2.2 number of years since that candidate's last advancement.
- 1.4 If there is a deficiency in any area of eligibility by a candidate for Dan advancement, then that advancement must be either:
  - 1.4.1 not granted
  - 1.4.2 delayed until that candidate has complied with all criteria for Dan advancement.

## **2. Advancement training**

- 2.1 Dan advancement training, at a minimum, can commence after a Dan rank has been achieved.
- 2.2 Dan advancement training, at a minimum, must:
  - 2.2.1 run over a continual minimum time period for eligibility for Dan advancement
  - 2.2.2 include:
    - 2.2.2.1 the relevant Dan training
    - 2.2.2.2 continual instructor experience
    - 2.2.2.3 reasonable attendance at Academy meetings of all levels
  - 2.2.3 come to completion at a nominated scheduled central Academy Dan assessment.

## **3. Eligibility**

- 3.1 Minimum eligibility for Dan advancement is:
  - 3.1.1 current:
    - 3.1.1.1 valid Academy membership
    - 3.1.1.2 continual:
      - 3.1.2.1 training
      - 3.1.2.2 instructing
  - 3.1.2 minimum:
    - 3.1.2.1 continual time period
    - 3.1.2.2 age
  - 3.1.3 relevant Academy coaching accreditation
  - 3.1.4 current attendance per year, 1<sup>st</sup> Dan up to and including 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan, at one of:
    - 3.1.4.1 one (1) two day seminar
    - 3.1.4.2 two (2) one day seminars
  - 3.1.5 current participation in
    - 3.1.5.1 a required course
    - 3.1.5.2 branch: teaching / instruction / participation / training
    - 3.1.5.3 administrative duties
    - 3.1.5.4 while holding the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Dan (Shodan), the next scheduled central Shodan grading after the attainment of the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Dan (Shodan).
  - 3.1.6 current preceding instructor experience of:
    - 3.1.6.1 three (3) current continual years, 1<sup>st</sup> Dan – 4<sup>th</sup> Dan
    - 3.1.6.2 four (4) current continual years, 5<sup>th</sup> Dan – 8<sup>th</sup> Dan
    - 3.1.6.3 unlimited time, 9<sup>th</sup> Dan.

- 3.2 When a Dan Belt takes extended leave or resigns membership from the Academy, temporarily or through inactivity within the Academy, then eligibility for Dan advancement will continue and recommence from that time period when that Dan Belt becomes both:
- 3.2.1 a current registered financial member
  - 3.2.2 active within the Academy.
- 3.3 The time period for Dan advancement for an underage Shodan starts upon the date of that underage Shodan's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday when all:
- 3.3.1 underage restrictions will be rescinded
  - 3.3.2 rights, obligations and responsibilities of a Shodan will be granted.

#### **4. Advanced eligibility**

- 4.1 At the discretion of the Principal, a Dan Belt may be granted Dan advancement when:
- 4.1.1 a time period is less than the continual minimum time period required for advancement
  - 4.1.2 that Dan Belt shows dedication to the Academy above the call of duty.

#### **5. Prerequisites**

- 5.1 A minimum prerequisite for Dan advancement is:
- 5.1.1 Academy 1<sup>st</sup> Dan (Shodan) rank
  - 5.1.2 a fitness level that is a reasonable expectation of fitness and health for the age of the applicant
  - 5.1.3 current:
    - 5.1.3.1 valid Academy membership
    - 5.1.3.2 first aid certificate
    - 5.1.3.3 working with children check.
  - 5.1.4 a current reasonable record of:
    - 5.1.4.1 attendance at Academy meetings of all levels
    - 5.1.4.2 Academy administration duties
  - 5.1.5 all requirements for Dan advancement eligibility as contained in this document.

## 6. Minimum time period

6.1 A continual minimum time period:

6.1.1 is calculated over a current twelve (12) month period on the basis of one (1) night per week participation in branch: teaching / instruction / participation / training

6.1.2 takes into account:

6.1.2.1 administrative duties

6.1.2.2 all other requirements for eligibility for advancement.

6.2 A continual minimum year time period and minimum age to hold a Dan level for eligibility for advancement to a higher Dan rank after attainment of Shodan is:

Rank	Continual minimum time period		Minimum age
	Years from Shodan	Years between Dan	
1 <sup>st</sup> Shodan	~	~	18
		3	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nidan	3		22
		3	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sandan	7		25
		3	
4 <sup>th</sup> Yondan	12		~
		4	
5 <sup>th</sup> Godan	17		~
		4	
6 <sup>th</sup> Rokudan	25		~
		4	
7 <sup>th</sup> Shichidan	27		~
		4	
8 <sup>th</sup> Hachidan	30		~
		~	
9 <sup>th</sup> Kudan	33		~
		~	
10 <sup>th</sup> Judan	35		~
		~	

## 7. Assessment / grading authority

- 7.1 The Principal retains the sole right of authority, at any level, pertaining to a:
- 7.1.1 assessment
  - 7.1.2 grading
  - 7.1.3 advancement.
- 7.2 By authority of the Principal an eligible Academy Dan belt has limited authority to assess or grade another Academy member.
- 7.3 An eligible Academy Dan belt that assess or grades another Academy member must hold a minimum eligible Academy Dan rank.
- 7.4 Depending on circumstance, an eligible Dan belt may exercise assessment or grading authority either as:
- 7.4.1 an individual
  - 7.4.2 a member of a panel.
- 7.5 A person is eligible to assess or grade another Academy member if that person holds both:
- 7.5.1 an Academy rank of Dan Belt
  - 7.5.2 a current Black Belt Member membership.
- 7.6 A grading panel decides Kyu advancement at all levels.
- 7.7 Dan advancement is decided by:
- 7.7.1 a grading panel for 1<sup>st</sup> Dan
  - 7.7.2 an assessment panel for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Dan
  - 7.7.3 the Principal and Deputy Principal for 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Dan.
- 7.8 Maximum assessment / grading authority and minimum rank table:

<b>Assessor / Grader</b>	
<b>Maximum authority</b>	<b>Minimum rank</b>
Kyu Bridging course Sparring Techniques Junior Black Belt AEiM Women's Self Defence	Shodan – 1 <sup>st</sup> Dan
Sensei - 1 <sup>st</sup> Dan – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	Yondan – 4 <sup>th</sup> Dan
Renshi - 4 <sup>th</sup> Dan – 5 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Rokudan – 6 <sup>th</sup> Dan
Shihan - 6 <sup>th</sup> Dan – 7 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Hachidan – 8 <sup>th</sup> Dan
Shihan - 8 <sup>th</sup> Dan – 9 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Principal Deputy Principal

## **8. Assessment panel**

- 8.1 A Dan Belt assessment panel for 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan - 7<sup>th</sup> Dan will consist of:
  - 8.1.1 a minimum of three (3) eligible members who will be:
    - 8.1.1.1 the Principal
    - 8.1.1.2 eligible Dan Belts
    - 8.1.1.3 delegated eligible Dan Belt representative as required.
- 8.2 A Dan belt assessment panel for 8<sup>th</sup> Dan - 9<sup>th</sup> Dan will consist of:
  - 8.2.1 a minimum of two (2) eligible members who will be the:
    - 8.2.1.1 Principal
    - 8.2.1.2 Deputy Principal

## **9. Rank of 10<sup>th</sup> Dan**

- 9.1 The position of Principal of the Academy:
  - 9.1.1 is the only means by which a member can obtain an Academy rank of 10<sup>th</sup> Dan
  - 9.1.2 automatically promotes that member who has legally accepted that position to a rank of 10<sup>th</sup> Dan within the Academy
  - 9.1.3 entitles the holder of the Academy rank of 10<sup>th</sup> Dan to retain that rank once that member either:
    - 9.1.3.1 retires from that position
    - 9.1.3.2 resigns from that position

## **10. Chief Instructor**

- 10.1 An Academy member is eligible to seek appointment as a Chief Instructor if that member holds both:
  - 10.1.1 an Academy rank of Dan Belt
  - 10.1.2 a current Black Belt Member membership.

## **11. Non-Dan Chief Instructor**

- 11.1 In an exceptional circumstance:
  - 11.1.1 a member that holds a Purple Belt or a senior 1<sup>st</sup> Kyu Brown Belt may seek appointment, to take primary charge and responsibility for a branch of the Academy, as a Chief Instructor
  - 11.1.2 the appointment of a non-Dan Chief Instructor will be by the Principal only.
- 11.2 To qualify an applicant must have:
  - 11.2.1 proof an exceptional circumstance for eligibility
  - 11.2.2 attained eighteen (18) years of age
  - 11.2.3 current membership
  - 11.2.4 a grade of either:
    - 11.2.4.1 Purple Belt
    - 11.2.4.2 senior 1<sup>st</sup> Kyu Brown Belt
  - 11.2.5 held a grade of either Purple Belt or senior 1<sup>st</sup> Kyu Brown Belt for a minimum of twelve (12) months

- 11.2.6 an *Academy Coach Level 1* accreditation
- 11.2.7 participated as an assistant instructor at a branch, teaching both junior and senior classes, for a current, concurrent, continual minimum time period of both:
  - 11.2.7.1 twelve (12) months
  - 11.2.7.2 one (1) night per week
- 11.2.8 regularly attended:
  - 11.2.8.1 branch training
  - 11.2.8.2 Annual National Seminars
  - 11.2.8.3 technique seminars
- 11.2.9 of the Syllabus, up to and including the senior 1<sup>st</sup> Kyu level, a:
  - 11.2.9.1 demonstrated proficient skill
  - 11.2.9.2 very high level of knowledge and teaching ability of Syllabus requirements.