

Kaisoku  
会則

**Regulations  
of the  
Okinawa Kōburyū Karatedō Kobudō Kōbukai**

沖縄孝武流空手道古武道孝武会

**Effective April 1, 1996**



*English Translation by Sue Crow*

## Chapter 1 Name

The association is named **Okinawa Kōburyū Karatedo Kobudo Kōbukai** (hereinafter referred to as the Kōbukai).

## Chapter 2 Location

The general headquarters of the association will be located at the president's residence.

## Chapter 3 Purpose

The purpose of this association is to train the mind and body, preserve kata and improve techniques through **Kōbukai** training, as well as to promote friendship among the members of the Kōbukai and to develop the Kōbukai .

## Chapter 4 Business

In order to achieve the purpose of the Kōbukai , the following matters shall be established and implemented.

- 1 Efforts will be made to research and preserve karate kata and unify them.
- 2 Holding regular study sessions
3. We will strive to build friendships and partnerships with karate-related people and organizations within and outside the prefecture.
- 4 Certification of titles and dan grade examinations.
- 5 Holding demonstrations and competitions.
- 6 Other matters necessary to achieve the objectives of the Kōbukai .

## Chapter 5 Kōbukai Membership

1. To be a member of the Kōbukai the trainee must belong to the headquarters dojo or a branch dojo.
2. The Kōbukai member must have made particularly significant contributions to the development of the Kōbukai and been approved by the president after deliberation by the board of directors.

3. Members must wear the Kōbukai logo and name on their uniform, as defined by the Kōbukai .

## Chapter 6 Officers

1. The Association shall have the following officers.

Note: Kaichō (会長) - president (head) of a club or organization  
Fuku Kaichō (副会長) - vice-president of a club or organization  
Riji chō (理事長) – chairman of the board  
Fuku riji chō (副理事長) – vice-chairman or assistant chairman of the board  
Jōnin riji chō (常任理事) – permanent or standing director  
Riji (理事) – director; board of directors  
Shoki (書記) – secretary; clerk  
Kaikei (会計) – accountant  
Kanji (監事) - auditor

- (1) President – 1 person
- (2) Vice-president - 2 people
- (3) Chairman of the board - 1 person
- (4) Vice-chairman of the board - 1 person
- (5) Permanent director - a few people

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- (6) Board of directors – a few people
- (7) Secretary - 1 person
- (8) Accountant - 1 person
- (9) Auditor - 2 people

2. Officers shall be elected from among the members at the general meeting.
3. The term of office of officers shall be two years, and their reappointment shall not be prohibited.
4. The president represents the association and oversees the affairs of the association.
5. The vice-president shall assist the president and act in his/her place in the absence of the president.
6. The chairman of the board shall represent the directors and work in cooperation with the president.
7. The vice-chairman shall assist the chairman of the board and act in his/her place in the absence of the chairman of the board.

8. The permanent directors shall be selected by the dojo owners.
9. The directors as a group shall deliberate on matters necessary for the operation of the association.
10. The auditor shall conduct accounting and auditing every year and report the results to the president and members at the general meeting.
11. All officers of the Kōbukai shall be holders of dan or above.
12. The Kōbukai may appoint advisors and consultants as necessary.
13. Advisors and counselors shall be able to make recommendations to the president and directors and of the Kōbukai regarding important business matters.
14. The Examination Board shall be presided over by the president. The members shall be appointed by the president from among the dan holders. The chairman of the Examination Board shall be the president.

## **Chapter 7 Meetings**

The meetings of the Kōbukai shall be as follows:

### **(1) General meetings**

General meetings include the regular general meeting and any special meetings called for the general membership. General meetings are convened by the president and chaired by the president.

The regular general meeting shall be held annually in April. The following are agenda items:

1. Approval of budget and settlement of accounts.
2. Approval of matters decided upon by the board of directors.
3. Approval of the business plan.
4. Other matters related to the development and friendship of the Kōbukai

Special purpose meeting of the general membership may be called by the president and a majority of the board of directors.

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### **(2) Standing Board of Directors**

### **(3) Board of Directors**

A meeting of the Board of Directors is convened by the president under the direction of the president, and is responsible for the following tasks:

- 1 Matters related to various events and business plans.
2. Regarding withdrawal and expulsion of members.
3. Matters regarding higher level organizations.
4. Regarding other important matters.

(4) The Examination Board (Shinsa iinkai 審査委員会)

1. The Examination Board shall be convened and held by the Examination Board chairperson at the direction of the president.
2. The Examination Board shall conduct recognition examinations for recognition of members and titles and ranks in accordance with separately stipulated regulations.
3. The Examination Board shall be established with the attendance of a majority of the members.
4. Decisions shall be made by a majority vote of those present. In the event of a tie, the decision shall be made by the Examination Board chairperson.
5. Participants may not take part in decisions regarding awards and titles in regards to themselves.
6. The task of the Examination Board is to conduct fair examinations.

## Chapter 8 Branches or Subdivisions (Shibu 支部)

1. The association may open branches as necessary.
2. The branch manager shall be a member of the association, recognized by the president from among qualified persons, and appointed by the president after approval by the Kōbukai board of directors.

## Chapter 9 Training (Kenshū 研修)

The training for each branch manager and director shall be determined as follows:

1. Branch managers and directors in areas near the general headquarters shall attend monthly training sessions to receive training.
- 2 Branch managers in remote areas shall receive training at the general headquarters twice a year in the spring and summer (4 days).

3. The president will give a certificate of completion to those who complete the training at the end of each term.

4. The purpose of the training is to further deepen mutual harmony and perfect the mind, skills, and body of the instructor.

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## **Chapter 10 Withdrawal (taikai 退会)**

Officers and members of this association will lose their qualifications as officers or members if they fall under any of the following matters:

1. When you submit a notice of withdrawal.
2. When you die.
3. When the board of directors resolves that the person is unsuitable as a member or officer.

## **Chapter 11 Rewards and Punishments**

1. The chairman may award those who are recognized to have made particularly meritorious contributions.
2. The Chairman may expel or excommunicate a person who is deemed to have seriously damaged the honor of the Kōbukai and who has no hope of reforming or improving.
3. A person who is expelled or excommunicated shall lose all rights of the Kōbukai , and shall not be refunded any membership fees or other payments.

## **Chapter 12 Finance (Kaikai 会計)**

1. The fiscal year of this association shall be from April 1st of each year to March 31st of the following year.
2. The Kōbukai shall be financed by dan association membership fees, dan registration fees, new dojo admission fees, donations, and other funds.
3. The fee for creating a new dojo is 60,000 yen, to be distributed as follows:

New Dojo Fee	Yen	1997 US dollars	2023 US dollars
	60,000	555.00	402.00
Honbu	20,000	185	134
Kōbukai	20,000	185	134
Parent Dojo	20,000	185	134

4. Entertainment expenses of the Kōbukai for the purpose of the development of Kōburyū and/or the Kōbukai will be reimbursed by the Kōbukai .

## **Chapter 13 Supplementary Provisions**

1 In addition to what is stipulated in these bylaws, necessary matters may be stipulated separately.

2. If it is necessary to revise these rules, a resolution of the board of directors must be passed and consent of the general meeting must be obtained.

3. This association shall come into effect from April 1, 1996.

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## **Awards and title grade examination regulations**

### **Article 1**

This provision stipulates that in order to spread and develop karate, awards, titles, and The purpose is to determine necessary matters such as dan grade examination.

### **Article 2**

Displays the status, title, and rank of a person who is a member of the Okinawa Kōburyū Karatedō Kobudō Kōbukai and practices karate.

### **Article 3**

Kōburyū grades range from 10th kyū to 10th dan.

### **Article 4**

Advanced dan titles shall be renshi, kyōshi, and hanshi. The person receiving the title must meet the following conditions.

#### **Renshi**

- A person who has achieved 6th Dan.
- Persons over 30 years of age.
- A person who has trained in karate for over 10 years, is recognized as having excellent mind and technique, and is committed to the development of the Kōbukai in the future.

## **Kyōshi**

- A person who has obtained the 7th Dan.
- Persons who are over 40 years old and have trained in karate for over 20 years.
- In particular, those who have made a significant contribution to the development and strengthening of the Association, who have perfected themselves as human beings, and who are committed to the development of the Kōbukai in the future.

## **Hanshi**

- A person who has achieved 9th Dan.
- A person who is over 50 years old and has trained in karate for over 30 years.
- In particular, individuals who have made a significant contribution to the development and strengthening of the Association, who have perfected themselves as human beings, and who are recognized to continue to serve the Kōbukai into the future.

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## **Article 5**

When deemed appropriate due to special circumstances, a title may be conferred notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding article.

## **Article 6**

The Kōburyū president may award a teacher's license to a person who has attained godan or above, but may choose to award a teacher's certificate when it is deemed necessary.

## **Article 7**

Titles and rank shall be conferred in the name of the Kōbukai president.

## **Article 8**

The criteria for promotion and advancement are as follows:

- a. The Kōbukai shall conduct examinations and award kyū and dan advancement to applicants based on the following items.
- b. Examinations for advancement shall be carried out by the Examination Board of the Kōbukai .
- c. Examinations for boys and girls (up to 15 years of age) will be held from 10<sup>th</sup> kyū to shodan.
- d. Examinations for those 16 years old and above will be conducted from 4th kyū to 8th dan.
- e. Judging for boys and girls for kyū advancement is held four time a year (March, June, September, December).



- f. Dan examinations are held twice a year (June/December) for the boys and girls divisions and for the general public.
- g. The qualifications and conditions for receiving a kyū examination shall be determined as follows:
  - (1) Those who have joined Kōbukai and have been training for more than three months, or those who have been training at other dojos, have joined the Society in a formal manner, have been training for more than three months, and have been trained by the dojo in question and are recognized by the instructor as being eligible to take the examination.
  - (2) Kyū shall be promoted sequentially from 10<sup>th</sup> kyū to first kyū.
- h. The qualifications and conditions for receiving a dan examination shall be determined as follows:
  - (1) A person who is qualified for the first dan of the Kōbukai and recognized by the dojo instructor as eligible for the initial examination, or a person who has been training in another discipline for more than two years and has been training with the Kōbukai for at least one month after officially joining the Kōbukai and the person has been deemed qualified by the dojo instructor.

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- (2) Dan rank shall be granted sequentially from shodan to hachidan according to the following conditions:

Shodan:

A person who has joined the Kōbukai and trained for two years.

Nidan

Those who have trained for 1 year after obtaining 1st dan.

Sandan

Those who have trained for 2 years after obtaining 2nd Dan.

Yondan

Those who have trained for 2 years after obtaining 3rd Dan.

Godan

Those who have trained for 3 years after obtaining 4th Dan.

Rokudan

Those who have trained for 4 years after obtaining 5th Dan.

Nanadan

Those who have trained for 5 years after obtaining 6th

Hachidan

Those who have trained for 7 years after obtaining 7th dan.

## Article 9

Those with outstanding performance may be promoted to a higher rank regardless of the provisions of the preceding article. However, junior high school students are limited to shodan and high school students and those under 18 years of age are limited to nidan.

## Article 10

If a person holds a title, either dan or kyū, and is found to have defamed the reputation of karate, the title may be revoked by resolution of the board of directors.

## Article 11

The examination requirements for promotion are as follows:

1. A letter of recommendation from the dojo owner
2. Perfection of kata
3. Degree of competence
4. Manners

## Article 12

The color of the obi that distinguishes the grades (kyū) shall be as follows:

Kyū	Obi Color
10	Orange
9	Purple
8 - 7	Yellow
6 - 5	Blue
4 - 3	Green
2 - 1	Brown

For dan obi, the color of the embroidery will be a brownish gold. Red embroidery signifies shihan. Obi distinctions for dan shall be as follows:

Dan	Title	Black Belt
Shodan to godan		
Rokudan	Renshi	One stripe
Nanadan and Hachidan	Kyōshi	Two stripes
Kyūdan and jūdan	Hanshi	Three stripes

## Article 13

Those who will be examined for titles, promotions must submit an application form along with the registration fee according to the following schedule:

*All fees are given in yen.*

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Test Fee</b>	<b>Honbu 20%</b>	<b>Affiliated Dojo 70%</b>	<b>Kōbukai 10%</b>
10 & 9 級	2000	400	1400	200
8 & 7 級	3000	600	2100	300
6 級	4000	800	2800	400
5 級	5000	1000	3500	500
4 級	6000	1200	4200	600
3 級	7000	1400	4900	700
2 級	8000	1600	5600	800
1 級	10000	2000	7000	1000
Shodan (初段)	15000	3000	10500	1500
2 段	20000	4000	14000	2000
3 段	30000	6000	21000	3000
4 段	40000	8000	28000	4000
5 段	50000	10000	35000	5000
6 段	60000	12000	42000	6000
7 段	70000	14000	49000	7000
8 段	80000	16000	56000	8000
9 段	90000	18000	63000	9000
19 段	100000	20000	70000	10000

Miscellaneous Fees (in yen).

Shihan (Master Instructor 師範)	100,000
Shidōin (Instructor or Adviser 指導員)	20,000
Branch Dojo Certification Fee	50,000

For comparison, the 1996 test fees in yen are given in American dollars (1996 exchange rate .00925) and (2023 exchange rate .0067).

Rank	Test Fee Japanese Yen	Test Fee 1996 American \$	Test Fee 2023 American \$
10 & 9 級	2000	18.50	13.40
8 & 7 級	3000	27.75	20.10
6 級	4000	37.00	24.00
5 級	5000	46.25	33.50
4 級	6000	55.50	40.20
3 級	7000	64.75	46.90
2 級	8000	74.00	53.60
1 級	10000	92.50	67.00
Shodan (初段)	15000	138.75	100.00
2 段	20000	185.00	134.00
3 段	30000	277.50	201.00
4 段	40000	370.00	268.00
5 段	50000	462.50	335.00
6 段	60000	555.00	402.00
7 段	70000	647.50	469.00
8 段	80000	740.00	536.00
9 段	90000	832.50	603.00
10 段	100000	925.00	670.00

#### Miscellaneous Fees

Shihan (Master Instructor 師範)	100,000	925.00	670.00
Shidōin (Instructor or Adviser 指導員)	20,000	185.00	134.00
Branch Dojo Certification Fee	50,000	462.50	335.00

## Article 14 Enrollment Fee and Monthly Fees

Fee	Student Age 15 and Under	General
Enrollment	5000 Yen	5000 Yen
Monthly	5000 Yen	7000 yen
Kobudo Only		5000 yen
Special Instruction		10,000 yen or more

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## Article 15 Uniform Regulations

### Kōbukai Dōgi Wear Regulations

#### Karate (White Uniform)

On the left chest, the words Kōburyū Karatedō.

On the left arm the designated logo

**Note:** This has modified over the years to the logo on the back and Kōbukai on the sleeve).

#### Kobudō (Black Uniform)

On the left chest, the words Kōburyū Kobudō.

On the left arm the designated Kōburyū logo.

**Note:** This has modified over the years to the stylized oar on the back with Kōbukai above the oar and the Kōburyū logo on the sleeve).

### Adult Uniform Length Guidelines

Cut 10 cm (3 3/4 inches) shorter than normal sleeve length (sleeve opening for the wrist).

Cut the length of the pants 15 cm (5 7/8 inches) above the standing sole of the foot.