

# KUGB Grading Rules

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## Eligibility

These rules apply to those holding a current KUGB licence and record book and training at least twice per week at a KUGB dojo, with an approved KUGB Instructor. The record book and licence must be available for the grading examiner's inspection and endorsement.

KUGB members will be eligible to grade providing they have fulfilled all technical requirements and have the permission of their club Instructor. If grading outside their own club, permission should be obtained in writing from their club Instructor or Secretary.

Students of Shotokan Karate from other British Associations who transfer to the KUGB may retain their current grade, but must re-grade within 12 months of the transfer, and be assessed for their KUGB standard. They will be awarded a grade appropriate to their standard, which could be the same grade, a lower grade or the next grade up.

Students of Shotokan Karate from other countries will be allowed to grade providing that the KUGB recognises and approves their Association and that they have written permission from their Association.

Students from other styles of Karate who wish to transfer to the KUGB may retain their grade for a maximum of 12 months, but must wait at least 6 months before taking a KUGB grading. They will be awarded a grade appropriate to their standard, which could be the same grade, a lower grade or the next grade up.

Candidates taking 3rd Dan or above will be asked to produce records of attendance at Black and Brown Belt courses, Dan Courses and KUGB approved residential courses.

## Grading Frequency

*For Kyu grades:-*

Novices may take a grading after two months of training

It is possible for exceptional students to 'jump' grades, but only up to 7th Kyu

Future gradings up to 1st Kyu may be taken at minimum 3 monthly intervals

The period between 1st Kyu and 1st Dan must be a minimum of 6 months

Full 1st Kyu must be obtained before attempting 1st Dan

*For Dan grades:-*

The minimum period between gradings are:-

1st Dan to 2nd Dan, 2 years

2nd Dan to 3rd Dan, 3 years

3rd Dan to 4th Dan, 4 years

4th Dan to 5th Dan, 5 years

5th Dan to 6th Dan, 6 years.

## 'Temporary' grades and re-takes

A student may receive a 'Temporary' grade, which means that they are not quite up to the required standard. They will however be able to wear the same belt and train on the same syllabus if they were a full grade. Students who fail Kyu grades can re-take their grading after a further 3 months. Students who fail Dan Gradings must wait a minimum of 3 months, unless a different period is specified by the examiner.

## Age requirements

There are no age restrictions for Kyu grades

The minimum age for attempting a 3rd Dan grade is 21

## Grading format and syllabus

Kyu gradings are usually taken at the students own dojo, but may be taken, with permission, at other dojos or special courses. Dan grades may only be taken at special approved courses, details of which are circulated to all KUGB Clubs.

The Examiner may ask to see some or all of the Kihon, Kata and Kumite listed in the KUGB Syllabus. Candidates may be required to demonstrate material from previous gradings to ensure overall development - a brown belt for example may be asked to perform an Heian Kata.

**It must be emphasised that the KUGB Syllabus is intended as a guideline to prepare students for their gradings, and that the most important factors will be the examinee's attitude and technical quality.**