

Kendo Club CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Kendo Club in order to provide an opportunity for University of Michigan students and associated community to learn and practice the Japanese martial art and modern sport of Kendo, do establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The organization will be known as the "Kendo Club". In situations such as tournaments, meetings and conferences where other Kendo clubs may be present, the organization may be referred to as "The Kendo Club at the University of Michigan". In cases where the organization's name is translated into the Japanese language, the name of the organization will be translated as "ミシガン大学剣道部".

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Kendo Club is to promote the study, practice and instruction of the Japanese martial art and modern sport of Kendo amongst the students and associated community at the University of Michigan. Through the practice of Kendo, a full contact martial art at the University of Michigan, we hope to foster self-development within ourselves. Through rigorous and correct training, participation in competitions, and promotional gradings, we seek to apply the discipline of the katana within ourselves in order to develop a vigorous spirit, and to cultivate our minds and bodies. Through our training in Kendo, we will strive to treat others with sincerity and hold in esteem human courtesy and honor, so that we may reach a better understanding of ourselves and others. The Kendo Club understands and is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities of abiding by the University of Michigan policies and procedures.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

There are no restrictions on who may join, practice, train, or compete on behalf of the Kendo Club, except for existing policies set by the Recreational Sports department which may exist at our training location at the Central Campus Recreational Building. Since club administration is primarily the responsibility of students, only students members (undergraduate, graduate and professional) will have voting privileges.

Section 2

Membership for all members will primarily be determined by attendance at practices. Beginning students are eligible for a free trial period before paying membership dues. Both the term of the free trial period and the membership dues will be determined by the President before the start of each semester. Returning students are not eligible for a free trial period, and are expected to pay their membership dues at the beginning practice of the semester. All members regardless of status are required to complete a Liability waiver form and provide current contact information in some form at the beginning of each semester. Members in competition will be identified by a Kendo Club "zekken" or name marker. In cases where other kendoists from different clubs wish to compete on behalf of the Kendo Club, prior approval must be made by either the President or Team captain. Current members will be listed on the club website. The Kendo Club openly admits members and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex (including gender identity and expression), color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam-era veteran status.

Section 3

Voluntary withdrawal will consist of non-attendance at practices. Membership dues in this case will not be refunded.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1

The Kendo Club will be administered by the following means:

1. The President is charged with the maintenance and continuance of the Kendo Club. The President is responsible for all matters relating to securing a training location each semester. The President is responsible for representing the Kendo Club to the community at large, including student government and University departments, the press, the Internet, and to regional, national and international Kendo federations, including the Midwest Kendo Federation and the All United States Kendo Federation.
2. The Vice president is charged with the management and direction of all internal projects. The vice president has the capacity to solicit volunteers from the club at large for individual projects.
3. The Treasurer is responsible for all financial operations within the club.
4. Instructional Staff/Coaches will be responsible for the instructional capacity of the Kendo Club. Instructional staff/coaches will not be responsible for club administration.
5. Club officers, unless of sufficient rank as determined by the Midwest Kendo Federation or the All United States Kendo Federation, will not be responsible for instructional matters.

ARTICLE V. OPERATIONS

Section 1

Student members of the Kendo Club who have maintained membership longer than one semester are eligible for office.

Section 2

An election notice will be made at the end of the Winter semester via the Internet, E-mail or as a general announcement at the end of practice. A eligible member of the Kendo Club may volunteer for a position if no other candidate comes forward. If there is more than one candidate for a office, an officer will be elected via majority vote of all eligible voting members, the type of ballot to be determined before the election. An election must occur no later than the end of the following Spring/Summer semester.

Section 3

Officers will assume their positions no later than August.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

Section 1

1. Direct funding through the Michigan Student Assembly.
2. Membership fees.
3. Donations.

Section 2

The Treasurer is responsible for the Kendo Club's finances.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Amendments will be proposed by posting the text of the proposed amendment on the Kendo Club website and via a email to the current Kendo Club mailing list. The President will be responsible for receiving proposed amendments and posting them.

Section 2

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any voting member of the Kendo Club.

Section 3

A minimum of two weeks weeks is required before voting on any proposed amendment. Qualifications for passage for an amendment and voting procedures will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Kendo Club officers.

ARTICLE IX. REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Officers may be removed for the following reasons:

1. Fraud or criminal activity relating to the Kendo Club
2. Inactivity or non-attendance to club practices for longer than one semester.
3. Violations to Kendo Club constitution.

Section 2

Officers may be removed either by a majority vote of current voting members or by a decision of the organization president.

Section 3

1. Violations of established University policies.
2. Criminal activity towards another Kendo Club member.

Section 4

Members may be removed by a consensus vote of the club officers.

ARTICLE XI. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Our organization has read and fully complies with the University's policies. We understand that the organization's registration is contingent on acceptance of these policies.

ARTICLE XII. EXTRAMURAL FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP

In order to better fulfill our obligations as a member of the Midwest Kendo Federation (MWKF) and the All US Kendo Federation (AUSKF), we, the students of the Kendo Club at the Michigan hereby adopt this amendment.

1.1 All active kendogu ("bogu" or "armor") wearing members (students, faculty/staff, alumni, and community) of the Kendo Club at the University of Michigan, are required to be members of both the MWKF and AUSKF at all times.

1.2 Beginners who either purchase their own bogu set or begin wearing a loaner set while their bogu is being ordered must join both the MWKF and AUSKF within one week of beginning to practice in bogu.

1.3 Prospective members who are eligible for the club free trial period who already practice in bogu must join the MWKF and AUSKF once they become dues paying members of the club.

2.0 "Members" will be defined as dues paying student members, faculty/staff, alumni, and community who either wear a Kendo Club at the University of Michigan name marker ("zekken"/"nafuda"), and/or compete regularly on behalf of the Kendo Club at the University of Michigan, and/or train regularly at the Kendo Club at the University of Michigan.

2.1 If a member becomes eligible for this amendment under Section 1 within two months of the end of the calendar year, they will be exempt from this requirement until the next calendar year.

2.2 Coaches and guest instructors are exempt from this amendment.

3.0 The club officers responsible for enacting this policy are the President and the Treasurer.

4.0 If federation membership polices change either within the Midwest Kendo Federation or the All US Kendo Federation, this amendment will become invalid.

Date Updated 01/08/07