

9. Dojo Rules and Etiquette¹

Dojo-Cho title / Dojo Names

After attaining the rank of *shodan*, an instructor may ask permission from Honbu to use the title *dojo-cho*.

The title of *dojo-cho* may not be used by anybody with an honorary *shodan*, nor can they use the name Genbukan dojo.

Using GWNBF/KJJR/JKWF or ATWF Techniques

GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF or ATWF system techniques are taught for self-protection of the mind, body, and soul. They are not to be used lightly, nor are members allowed to teach techniques they have learned to non-members. If you wish to show a technique to a non-member, such as your family, please consult with your teacher.

Contacting Honbu

[This subsection has been omitted.]

Absent Members

Members who are absent from practice and / or who have not paid their fees for three months, without prior notification or discussion may be stricken from the dojo roster.

If you plan to be absent from the dojo for a period of time, for example while attending university, then you must inform your teacher of your intentions. You will still be expected to pay the annual membership fee.

Absent Teacher

If a teacher leaves GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF, that does not mean that all of his / her students must leave GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF. But that teacher may not continue to teach any of the GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF system techniques or grade in those systems. Students who wish to continue learning and grading in GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF should write to their teacher (by email/ fax/letter), informing them that they wish to continue with GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF. This letter should be copied and sent to Honbu.

Leaving GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF

There are four ways that a student can leave GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF: *dakkai*, *tsukoku*, *jomei* and *hamon*. *Dakkai* is not so serious and causes no problems between GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF and the student. However, *tsukoku*, *jomei* and *hamon* increase in severity, as reflected by the actions of the student leading up to leaving GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF. These four cases are described below.

1. *Dakkai* (Drop out). This is where, with some correct reason, for example an injury or

¹ This section is taken directly from “GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF Rules & Systems, Version II-i.” Any subsections which do not apply to current U.S. Kobudo Club students have been omitted. The document, in its entirety, is available on the Genbukan web site.

because of work, study, money etc. a student can ask to leave GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF. In this case, the student should inform their teacher. Students who don't pay their annual membership fee, or are absent from practice and / or who have not paid their dojo / group fees for three months without telling their teacher will also be counted as *dakkai*. It is not normally a problem for a student to rejoin at a later date, but they will have lost their title / rank (see Returning GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF Members section appended to the end of this section).

2. *Tsukoku* (asked or resign). This is where an order is issued from Honbu or an authorized instructor to leave or resign from GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF. This order will be issued when a member displays bad manners, breaks the rules, does not follow GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF orders, does business behind Genbukan Honbu, etc., but does not do very seriously bad things for GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF. People who are told to leave may be given the opportunity to return to GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF if they make amends for any trouble caused, change their ways and sincerely apologize.
3. *Jomei* (expel). This is where an order is issued from Honbu or an authorized instructor to the student, expelling them from the organization. The student's records will be wiped from the organization, so that any good they have previously done or anything obtained through GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF is completely null and void. This order is issued when the student is shown to be a very bad person through their actions, the actions are the same as for *tsukoku*, but being much worse in severity and consequences for GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF. There is rarely a chance to return to the organization, unless the student can prove that they have completely cleaned up their past discretion.
4. *Hamon* (expulsion / excommunication). This is expulsion with no expectation to ever be allowed to return to GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF. This is applied to cases where the student has seriously damaged GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF's reputation, or shown severe disrespect for their teacher and/ or GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF's president, or by not following orders from the President / Grandmaster of GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF. As a traditional martial art rule, this would mean the person would not be allowed to study any martial art under any teacher. So that GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF has a responsibility to inform the world's martial artists that that person has been expelled. GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF and its instructors will not teach students from other organizations who have been *hamon*.

Under any circumstances of leaving or being expelled from GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF, you have to return all Certificates / Denshos / scrolls to Honbu, via your teacher, at your expense, without expectation of remuneration. You may ask permission to keep your certificates as a memorial from your teacher

If a student of yours wishes to resign from GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF, please report this to Honbu as soon as possible, as well as posting back their certificates / densho / scrolls at their expense. If a student asks to keep their certificates as a memorial, please consult with the GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF President/Grandmaster.

If a student of yours behaves in such a manner that you feel they should not belong in GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF, you must first consult with the President / Grandmaster before taking any action.

In the case that you leave or are expelled from GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF: you must stop teaching from the GWNBF / KJJR / JKBF / ATWF systems immediately; you must stop using the Grandmaster's name, any titles you had been given, any GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF/ ATWF names, logo's, patches, images, slogans, etc. immediately; you must remove any mention of the Grandmaster of GWNBF / KJJR / JKBF / ATWF, GWNBF / KJJR / JKBF / ATWF names, titles, logo's, patches, images, slogans, etc., from any publicly accessible site such as Internet sites or leaflets immediately.

Ex- GWNBF / KJJR / JKBF / ATWF Members

After leaving GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF you may not teach any technique from the GWNBF / KJJR / JKBF / ATWF systems, use any title or grade obtained from GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF and you may not use the GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF President / Grandmaster's name or any of GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF's logo's, patches, images, slogans, etc.

People who are expelled from GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF are rarely given permission to rejoin; perhaps only 1% of expelled people are given a chance to rejoin. In Japan, expulsion from a system is a very serious matter, and would normally mean that that person is cut from that system forever as well as all other martial art teachers warned not to touch that person.

Returning GWNBF / KJJR / JKWF / ATWF Members

A *kyu* level member who leaves the organization, then at a later date wishes to rejoin will have to re-test from 9th *Kyu* upwards, regardless of their previous grade.

A black belt member who leaves the organization, then at a later date wishes to rejoin, will have to review all grades from 9th *Kyu* upwards and will have to re-test from *shodan*, regardless of their previous grade.

All titles previously obtained will also have to be re-tested as they are lost when a member leaves or is expelled from the organization.

If there are extenuating circumstances as to why you left the organization and can now return, then please consult with your teacher.