

合気道養神会 NSW

**Aikido Yoshinkai NSW**

**Student Handbook  
&  
Code of Ethics**



January 27 2006

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# Introduction

This booklet is designed to help you ease your way into aikido training. Martial arts is not just a sport or exercise program, it is an activity that will give you the benefits of exercise, provide you with defensive skills and introduce you to a different culture filled with its own traditions and customs.

The style of aikido that we practice, Yoshinkan Aikido, is famous for its dynamic technique and strong adherence to budo. The name Yoshinkan means "house for cultivating the spirit". At Aikido Yoshinkai NSW (AYNSW) we aim to stay true to the methods taught in Japan and build a dojo with students who have both strong spirit and dynamic technique.

Throughout this booklet we will lay out some guidelines for training, glossary of aikido terms, and hints on how to get the most out of your training. The instructors and staff are here to assist you, feel free to approach them anytime should you have questions. Aikido is a learning experience, we learn about aikido, the traditions of Japanese budo, we learn about physiology, about our partners and about ourselves. Be open to new things and you will learn through the process. Most importantly enjoy your training and don't be afraid to ask questions.

- **AYNSW** Instructors.

Darren Friend

Peggy Woo

January 27 2006

# Dojo Etiquette

When you come to the dojo leave your problems at the door. Try to come with a free and clear mind. Aikido is a time to concentrate on something different to your regular life.

## **Arriving at the dojo:**

1. Please try to arrive at the dojo at least 15-20 minutes before class to allow time for warm-ups/stretching.
2. Upon entering the reception area, bow to the instructor and “*Osu!*” strongly. If no one is at reception you should still “*Osu!*” to let your presence be known.
3. Take off shoes and outerwear (jacket, hat, sunglasses, etc.) and put shoes away neatly in shoe box.
4. Upon entering the main dojo area bow once to the *shomen* (front) before going to change room.
5. When stepping onto the mat, sit in *seiza* (kneel) and bow to the *shomen*.

## **When on the mat:**

1. Please do not lie down/lounge around/sleep on the tatami. While stretching before/between classes is fine, lounging/lying around is not.
2. While we aim to do warm-ups before class, stretching on your own is encouraged.
3. About 5 minutes before class the instructor or senior student calls “*Seirestu!*” (Line up!) and everyone lines up to face *shomen*, heels together and toes on the line, with the most senior students on the right side of the line.

4. The most senior student or instructor (on far right of the line) calls "Seiza!" in a loud voice and all students sit down in seiza in unison.
5. The few minutes of seiza before class is a quiet time for students to clear their minds in preparation for the keiko (training). Please refrain from talking during seiza.
6. When the instructor comes onto the tatami and sits facing the shomen, the person on the far right calls "Shomen ni rei!" (Bow to the front!) in a loud clear voice. Then everyone bows.
7. When the sensei turns to face the students, the caller then says "Sensei ni rei!" (Bow to the teacher!) and everyone bows.
8. The sensei then says "Osu!" to greet the students and then students reply with "Osu!" in unison.
9. The instructor then calls "Kiritsu!" (Stand up) to start the class.

**During class:**

1. Always bow to your partner at the start of your training before going into kamae (basic stance) and at the end when coming out of kamae as a sign of respect and showing thanks to your partner for training.
2. Follow the instructor's directions and move **quickly** to positions when instructed.
3. Never walk between partners facing each other as this is bad etiquette.
4. Whenever the instructor is showing a technique or explaining something students should sit in seiza.
5. Students should "Osu!" whenever the sensei explains a point or corrects their mistakes.
6. You may ask questions but class is for training, not discussion time. Please keep talking to a minimum. When the sensei is teaching it is time to listen and absorb, not add one's own viewpoint to the technique. **Do not** interrupt the teacher when they are instructing.
7. The instructor should be addressed as Sensei or (name) Sensei.
8. When lining up at the end of class the person on the far right calls "Seiza!" in a loud clear voice and everyone sits down in unison.
9. That person then calls "Shomen ni rei!" (Bow to the front!) in a loud clear voice. Then everyone bows.
10. When the sensei turns to face the students, the caller then says "Sensei ni rei!" (Bow to the teacher!) and everyone bows.
11. The sensei then says "Osu!" and students reply with "Osu!" in unison.

January 27 2006

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**Other points:**

- Please try to be on time for class. If you are late, make sure to bow to the sensei immediately after coming onto the mats.
- If you have to leave class early please let the instructor know and make sure you bow to your training partner and the instructor before leaving the class.
- For your safety/comfort and the safety of others please remove watches, rings, bracelets, earrings, etc. before training.
- Try to drink plenty of water before the class to avoid dehydration. This is especially true during the summer months.
- Food/drink is not permitted on the training mats. Consumption of food/drink is permitted in change rooms or reception/front area. Please help us keep the dojo clean and dispose of trash accordingly.
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited.
- Anyone who comes to the dojo showing signs of intoxication will not be permitted to train and may be asked to leave the premises.
- No swearing or lewd behavior will be tolerated at the dojo.

# Hygiene

We aim to provide a safe and clean environment for training. To ensure that we ask that students make a note of the following:

- Please wash your dogi regularly. The more you train the more frequently it will need washing, especially in the summer months. Be considerate of your training partners and keep your dogi clean.
- To avoid scratching others as well as injuring yourself, finger/toe nails should be kept trim and clean.
- In consideration of others please maintain good personal hygiene when coming to train and ensure that any cuts, scrapes, open wounds are properly bandaged up.
- If at any time during class you feel unwell or start to bleed, inform the instructor, excuse yourself to bandage the cut and clean the blood off the mats . Gloves and bandages are available in the first aid kit near reception.

# Language & Useful Phrases

*The following is a list of Japanese words and phrases you may hear used in Yoshinkan Aikido. Don't be afraid to try them out; have fun learning a bit of the language. Over time you will become more familiar with the Japanese terminology through training. Special thanks to **Robert Mustard Sensei of Aikido Yoshinkai Burnaby** in Canada for letting us use his list of vocabulary and also for his article on "Osu!"*

**Ai:** Harmony/blend/match

**Ai hanmi:** Both partners assume the same stance, both right or both left

**Aiki nage:** Special throw involving timing and Breathing

**Aite:** Partner

**Anza:** Sitting cross-legged

**Arigatou Gozai Mashita:** Thank you very much.

**Ashi kubi:** Ankle

**Atemi:** Strike/punch

**Bokken:** Wooden sword

**Budo:** The martial way

**Buki waza:** Weapons techniques

**Chigau:** Wrong/incorrect

**Chikara o nuku:** Let go of strength/tension(relax)

**Chotto:** a little

**Chushin:** Centre

**Dame:** Wrong/bad/not permitted

**Do:** Way/Path

**Dogi:** Training uniform

**Dosa:** Movement

**Embu:** Demonstration

**En:** Circle

Encho suru: Extend

**Eri mochi:** Collar grasp

**Fukuso o naoshite:** Fix your uniform.

**Gambatte:** Give it your all!/Good luck.

**Gomenasai:** I'm sorry.

**Gamen tsuki:** Face thrust/punch

**Gawa:** Side

**Gorei:** Command

**Gyaku:** Reverse

**Gyaku hanmi:** Both partners assume opposite stances, one right, the other left

**Hairu:** Enter

**Hajime:** Begin

**Hajime kara:** From the beginning

**Hakama:** a traditional training skirt

**Hanmi:** Standing position with one foot forward

**Hanmi handachi:** Shite seated, uke standing

**Hantai:** Opposite

**Hayaku:** Quickly

**Hidari:** Left

**Hiji:** Elbow

**Hiji mochi:** Elbow grasp

**Hiji-shime:** Elbow lock

**Hiji osae:** Elbow control

**Hiriki no yosei:** Elbow power

**Hiza:** Knee

**Hojo dosa:** Supplementary movement

**Ichi ni tsuke:** Everyone to their place.

**Ikkajo osae:** First control

**Irimi:** Entering movement

**Irimi nage:** Entering throw

**Irimi tsuki:** Entering/Step-in thrust

**Itai!** Ouch! It hurts!

**Jiku:** Axis/pivot point

**Jiyu waza:** Free-style techniques

**Jo:** Wooden Staff

**Jodan:** Upper level

**Juji nage:** Arm cross throw

**Jushin:** Centre of weight

**Jushin no ido:** Weight change/shifting

**Kagami Gawa:** Window side

**Kaiten:** Pivot

**Kaiten nage:** Pivoting throw

**Kakari geiko:** Group training

**Kakato:** Heel

**Kamae:** Basic stance

Kangeiko: Period of intensive training on winter's coldest days to build spirit

**Kata:** Shoulder

**Katate aya mochi:** Cross wrist grasp

**Katate mochi:** One-handed grab

**Keiko:** Training

**Ken:** Sword

**Kenshu:** Intensive/Research training

**Kenshusei:** Students practicing intensive training

**Keru:** Kick

**Ki:** Unified energy of all of one's powers, mental, physical and spiritual

**Kiai:** Strong shout utilising ki

**Kihon:** Basic

**Kihon dosa:** Basic movements

**Kihon waza:** Basic techniques

**Kime waza:** Fixing/locking techniques

**Kiriorosu:** Cut down

**Kiritsu:** Stand up

**Koho kaiten ukemi:** Backward roll

**Koho ukemi:** Back breakfall

**Kokyu ho:** Breathing method

**Kokyu nage:** Breath throw

**Kokyu ryoku:** Breath power

**Koshi:** Hips

**Kotai:** Take turns

**Kotegaeshi:** Outward wrist turn

**Kubi:** Neck

**Kurikaesu:** Repeat

**Kuzusu:** Break the balance

**Kuzushi:** Balance breaking

January 27 2006

**Mai-ai:** Distance between partners  
**Mado gawa:** Window side  
**Me: Eye**  
**Me o akette:** Open your eyes  
**Me o tsubutte:** Close your eyes  
**Metsuke:** Visual focus point  
**Migi:** Right  
**Migi hanmi kamae:** Basic right stance  
**Mina:** Everyone  
**Mo ichi do:** Once again  
**Mo ikkai:** Once more  
**Mochi:** Grasp  
**Mokuso:** Meditate  
**Motto:** More  
**Motto mageru:** Bend more  
**Mukai atte:** Face each other  
**Mune:** Chest

**Nage:** Throw  
**Naname:** Diagonally  
**Nikajo osae:** Second control  
**Nobasu:** Stretch/straighten

**Onaji:** Same  
**Onajiku:** Same (on the other side)  
**Osae:** Control  
**Osoi:** Late  
**Otagai ni rei:** Bow to each other  
**Oyo waza:** Advanced techniques  
**Obi:** Belt  
**Owari:** Finished/the end

**Rei:** Bow  
**Rei-ho:** Etiquette  
**Renshu:** Practice  
**Renzoku:** Continuation/series  
**Riai:** Theoretical basis; logical structure  
**Ryo hiji mochi:** Both elbows grasp  
**Ryo hiza tsuki:** Both knees down  
**Ryote mochi:** Both wrists grasp

**Saisho kara:** From the beginning  
**Saigo ni:** Lastly  
**Sankajo osae:** Third control  
**Sankaku:** Triangle  
**Sayuu:** Right and left  
**Seiretsu:** Line up  
**Seiza:** Kneeling position  
**Seiza chumoku:** Kneel and pay attention  
**Sekkin:** Advance forward? Move in  
**Sempai:** Senior  
**Senaka o nobasu:** Straighten your back.  
**Sensei:** Instructor  
**Sensei ni rei:** Bow to the teacher.  
**Shiho nage:** Four directional throw  
**Shikkari:** Firmly  
**Shikko ho:** Way of knee walking  
**Shime waza:** Locking techniques  
**Shisei:** Posture  
**Shite:** Person performing technique  
**Shite uke kotai:** Change roles

**Shochugeiko:** Period of intensive training during height of summer heat to build spirit

**Shomen:** Front  
**Shomen ni rei:** Bow to the front  
**Shomen tsuki:** Front thrust  
**Shomen uchi:** Front strike

**Shuchu:** Concentration

**Shumatsu dosa:** Finishing movement. Traditionally this exercise was performed at the end of class, hence "finishing."

**Sokumen irimi nage:** Side step in throw

**Sotai dosa:** Movement with partner  
**Sumasaki:** Ball of foot

**Sumimasen:** Excuse me/ I'm sorry.

**Suri ashi:** Sliding step

**Suwari waza:** Kneeling techniques

**Tachi waza:** Standing techniques

**Tai no henko:** Turning, body change

**Tai sabaki:** Body movement

**Tandoku:** Solo

**Tandoku dosa:** Solo movement

**Tanto:** Dagger

**Tatami:** Rice straw mats, usually used as flooring in martial arts training halls

**Tatsu:** Stand up

**Tegatana:** Literally "sword-hand", hand blade

**Tekubi:** Wrist

**Tenchi nage:** Heaven and Earth throw

**Toshite hajime:** Start/Do(the technique) just as before

**Tsuki:** Thrust/punch from entering sliding motion

**Tsumasaki:** Ball of foot

**Tsuyoi(Tsuyoku):** Strong(Strongly)

**Uchi:** Strike

**Udegarami:** Arm lock

**Ude osae:** Arm control

**Uke:** Person receiving the technique or who is being thrown

**Ukemi:** Breakfalls

**Undo:** Exercises

**Ushiro:** Back/behind

**Ushiro nage:** Throw from behind

**Ushiro waza:** Techniques initiating from behind Shite

**Utsu:** Strike/Hit

January 27 2006

**Waza:** techniques

**Yame:** Stop

**Yarinaosu:** Do it again correctly

**Yoi:** Prepare

**Yoko:** Side

**Yokomen uchi:** Strike to side of head

**Yonkajo osae:** Fourth control

**Yubi:** Finger

**Yudou suru:** Lead out

**Zanshin:** Alert and ready manner maintained after completing each technique

**Zenpo kaiten ukemi:** Forward roll

**Zenpo hiyaku ukemi:** Jumping forward roll

## Numbers

**Ich:** 1

**Ni:** 2

**San:** 3

**Shi:** 4

**Go:** 5

**Roku:** 6

**Shichi:** 7

**Hachi:** 8

**Kyu:** 9

**Ju:** 10

**Hyaku:** 100

**Sen:** 1000

## What is "Osu!" ?

"Osu!" is a shortened form of "Ohayo gozaimasu" (Good morning) but it has a much deeper meaning than that when used with feeling and sincerity. It is used to convey gratitude, humility, comprehension. A more in-depth explanation of "Osu!" is given by **Robert Mustard Sensei** of **Aikido Yoshinkai Burnaby** in an article he wrote for AYI:

*All of us who practice Yoshinkan [style] Aikido are familiar with the word "Osu". We use it when we enter the dojo, when we start class, when the Sensei show us a technique, when we pour beer for each other at parties and especially when [the] Sensei yell at us and we don't know what they're talking about! I even use it when I receive my dry cleaning or get my change at the 7-11, which usually results in strange looks from the respective cashiers. But what does "Osu" really mean? Does it have a deeper meaning?*

*In Japan, the only people who use "Osu" are usually the sports teams of the high schools and universities, and most karate styles. In most companies you will hear "Osu", but it is usually a lazy man's way of saying "Ohayo Gozaimasu" (Good Morning). As far as I know, the only style of Aikido that uses this word is the Yoshinkan style of Gozo Shioda.*

*Kancho Sensei attended Takushoku University, which has a strong reputation for its hard training in Budo, and it also has a reputation as a stronghold for far right-wing sentiments. My former Kendo teacher was the captain of the Takushoku Kendo team, and he told me training stories that made my hair stand on end. In order to continue the Takudai and old style tradition of hard training (Shugyo), Yoshinkan Aikido continues the use of "Osu" while other styles do not.*

January 27 2006

## What is "Osu!" ?

cont

*If you look at the word "Osu" written in the original Chinese, it is comprised of two characters. The first character is "Osu", which the dictionary defines as "push". The second character is "Nin", which the dictionary defines as "Shinobu", which means endure, persevere, put up with. If you put them together you get - to push ourselves to endure any hardship, in training or in our daily lives.*

*Also, in the field of Budo it is used as a greeting or reply with the connotation as a sign of your willingness to follow a particular teacher or way of training.*

*The most important aspect of the word "Osu" is that we must not let the word, through repeated overuse with no feeling, lose its meaning of reminding ourselves to always train as hard as possible. It must come from our hearts and really have meaning. I have had the experience of showing some people techniques or correcting their techniques and their reply of "Osu" has left me feeling that they are not interested in what I have to say or teach and kind of telling me to go away. Needless to say, I refrained from showing or teaching these people further until they showed me by their actions that they wanted to learn.*

*Surely there can be no greater misrepresentation of Yoshinkan Aikido, than a person saying they practice Yoshinkan Aikido, but their "Osu" has no conviction or spirit. I don't want to give the impression that we should always be screaming OSU at each other at the tops of our lungs, but let's try to find ourselves the conviction to always do our best in our training and also in our daily lives. Kancho Sensei always said, "Aiki soku seikatsu" or "Aikido is life".*

*I wish you good luck with your training.*

*Robert Mustard  
Aikido Yoshinkai Burnaby*

January 27 2006

# **Fees and Schedule Information**

## **Renewals**

Before the end of the tuition period students will be sent a report outlining attendance record, feedback from the instructors and renewal details. Please ensure that tuition fees are paid before the expiry of your current membership.

## **Cancellations**

Cancellations made within one week of joining the dojo are eligible for a refund of fees minus the cost of dogi included in any package. Renewals are not eligible for refund.

## **Schedule**

Students are free to train unlimited classes within the published schedule. Schedule is subject to change.

The dojo is shut on all public holidays. A limited schedule is offered over the Christmas/New Year's period. Schedule is subject to change.

## **Suspensions**

AYNSW encourages students to train as often and as regularly as possible. While dojo membership and training is ongoing in nature, should you be unable to attend training temporarily, you can apply for a suspension. Advance notice must be given and membership suspensions are for a minimum of two weeks. A maximum of 2 suspensions are permitted within any 12 month period. Retrospective suspensions cannot be granted.

## **Private Lessons**

Private lessons come as a part of some the core course offerings for adults ( see tuition list for details). It is the responsibility of the student to book a time to have their private lesson. Private lessons as part of a quarterly, half yearly or yearly course package must be taken before the package term expires. Private lessons cannot be carried into the next tuition term.

# Aikido Yoshinkai NSW

## Instructor Code of Ethics

1. Respect the rights and dignity of everyone. Treat everyone equally regardless of sex, background, race or religion.
2. Ensure all members benefit and have a positive experience.
3. Treat each member as an individual, develop their talent and help them obtain their goals.
4. Be fair, considerate and honest with students.
5. Be professional and accept responsibility for your actions. In language and manner, preparation and presentation. Display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all. Encourage students to demonstrate the same qualities
6. Commit yourself to providing quality at all levels.
7. Operate within the spirit of budo.
8. Ensure physical contact is appropriate to the situation and necessary for student skill development.
9. Refrain from any personal abuse or harassment towards students. Be alert to any forms of abuse directed to your students whilst in your care.
10. Provide a safe training environment.
11. Show caution and concern towards sick or injured students.
12. Be a positive role model for society.

January 27 2006

**AYNSW Test Syllabus**  
**April 2005 – March 2006**

**8<sup>th</sup> kyu**

- .Migi hanmi no kamae
- .Hidari hanmi no kamae
- .Seizahou
- .Shikkohou
- .Tai no henko (1)
- .Tai no henko (2)
- .Hiriki no yousei (1)
- .Hiriki no yousei (2)
- .Shumatsu dosa (1)
- .Shumatsu dosa (2)

(All dosa is done without partner; kihon dosa is done on one side only)

**7<sup>th</sup> kyu**

- .Migi hanmi no kamae
- .Hidari hanmi no kamae
- .Seizahou
- .Shikkohou
- .Tai no henko (1) (2)
- .Hiriki no yousei (1) (2)
- .Shumatsu dosa (1) (2)
- .Katate mochi shihounage (1)
- .Katate mochi shihounage (2)

(Kihon dosa is done without partners; waza is done right and left sides)

**6<sup>th</sup> kyu**

- Migi hanmi no kamae
- Hidari hanmi no kamae
- Seizahou
- Shikkohou
- Tai no henko (1) (2)
- Hiriki no yousei (1) (2)
- Shumatsu dosa (1) (2)
- Katate mochi shihounage (1)
- Katate mochi shihounage (2)
- Shoumen uchi ikkajou osae (1)
- Shoumen uchi ikkajou osae (2)

(Kihon dosa is done without partners; waza is done right and left sides)

January 27 2006

**AYNSW Test Syllabus**  
**April 2005 – March 2006**

**5<sup>th</sup> kyu**

- .Migi hanmi no kamae
- .Hidari hanmi no kamae
- .Tai no henko (1) (2)
- .Hiriki no yousei (1) (2)
- Katate mochi nikajou osae (1)
- .Katate mochi nikajou osae (2)
- .Shomen uchi sankajou osae (1)
- .Shomen uchi sankajou osae (2)
- .Katate mochi sokumen iriminage (1)
- .Yokomen uchi shoumen iriminage (2)
- .Shumatsu dosa (1) (2)

(Kihon dosa is done with partner;, waza is done right and left sides)

**4<sup>th</sup> kyu**

- .Migi hanmi no kamae
- .Hidari hanmi no kamae
- .Tai no henkou (1)
- .Tai no henkou (2)
- .Hiriki no yousei (1)
- .Hiriki no yousei (2)
- .Shoumen uchi yonkajou osae (1)
- .Mune mochi hijishime (2)
- .Shoumen uchi kotegaeshi (2)
- .Ryoute mochi tenchinage (1)
- .Suwari waza ryoute mochi kokyuuhou (1)
- .Shite waza
- .Shumatsu dosa (1)
- .Shumatsu dosa (2)

(Kihon dosa is done with partner; waza is done right and left sides)

Shite Waza

- Katate mochi shihounage (1,2)
- Shoumen uchi ikkajou osae (1,2)
- Katate mochi nikajou osae (1,2)
- Shomen uchi sankajou osae (1,2)
- Katate mochi sokumen iriminage (1)
- Yokomen uchi shomen iriminage (2)