



DAN GRADE RECOGNITION RULES

A. The Dan Grade System

A.1. The Dan Grade system is based on recognition of personal development as practitioners, technicians, instructors and exponents of Shito ryu karate. For Grades higher than 7th Dan the rank is a recognition of the person's contribution to Shito ryu karate beyond personal development.

A.2. There are three categories of Dan Grades within the ESHRKF:

2.1. Grades from 1st up to and including 7th Dan given by a Member Federation. These may be recognized by the ESHRKF upon application from the Member Federation where upon the recognition certificate will be issued by the ESHRKF President for the "MF" Presidents' countersignature.

2.2. Grades 8th Dan and above awarded by a Member Federation for Shito ryu karate accomplishments at a "MF" level. These are not recognized by ESHRKF and are not registered within, the ESHRKF.

2.3. Grades 8th Dan and above awarded by the ESHRKF General Assembly upon proposal of the ESHRKF Council (Co.) for Shito ryu karate accomplishments at an international level. The applicable certificate is issued by the ESHRKF.

B. General Requirements

B.1. The following age and time interval requirements apply to Dan Grades within the ESHRKF:

1st Dan (shodan)	Minimum 15 years of age	Minimum 5 years of training
2nd Dan (nidan)	Minimum 18 years of age	Minimum 3 years since 1st Dan
3rd Dan (sandan)	Minimum 23 years of age	Minimum 5 years since 2nd Dan
4th Dan (yondan)	Minimum 28 years of age	Minimum 5 years since 3rd Dan
5th Dan (godan)	Minimum 33 years of age	Minimum 5 years since 4th Dan
6th Dan (rokudan)	Minimum 40 years of age	Minimum 7 years since 5th Dan
7th Dan (nanadan)	Minimum 47 years of age	Minimum 7 years since 6th Dan
8th Dan (hachidan)	Minimum 54 years of age	Minimum 7 years since 7th Dan
9th Dan (kyudan)	Awarded for exceptional lifetime achievement for ESHRKF	
10th Dan (judan)	Awarded for exceptional lifetime achievement for ESHRKF	



C. Application Process

C.1. Recognition of Grades given by Member Federations:

The ESHRKF recognized Dan Grades from 1st Dan (shodan) through 7th Dan (nanadan) upon receipt of the application signed by the applicants' "MF" President and the remittance of the applicable fee as stipulated by the ESHRKF. The Member Federation must submit its application in official letterhead to the secretariat of ESHRKF listing the candidates and stating the following information:

- # Prefix (Mr. or Ms.)
- # Name (as it should appear on the diploma)
- # Nationality
- # Date of birth
- # Grade awarded (given with number)
- # The correct address for the submission of the diploma(s)

By signing the application the Member Federation certifies that the applicant has fulfilled the requirements of the "MF" and the ESHRKF. The responsibility for maintaining appropriate standards for the approval or award of Dan Grades rests with the Member Federations. Should a "MF" fail to conform to the recognition requirements, that Federation may be subject to the denial of their members' Dan Grade recognition.

C.2. Grades 8th Dan and above awarded by a Member Federation:

The rules and application process of the "MF" applies. Grades higher than 7th Dan may be awarded by a "MF" for accomplishments in the development of Shito ryu karate within its Member Federation, but they are not recognized by the ESHRKF. Although Grades above a 7th Dan awarded by a "MF" are not subject to ESHRKF approval or recognition, the "MF" must follow the ESHRKF requirements in regards to age and time intervals between the Grades as given by the ESHRKF.

C.3. Grades 8th Dan and above awarded by the ESHRKF General Assembly :

ESHRKF will award higher Dan Grades, 8th Dan and above, to individuals for their accomplishments in ESHRKF karate. Such Grades are awarded based on a majority vote by the ESHRKF General Assembly based on the recommendation of the ESHRKF Co. to the General Assembly. The President of "MF", the ESHRKF President or any ESHRKF Co. Member may nominate a candidate for Grades 8th Dan or above. The nomination has to be formulated in writing to the ESHRKF Co. stating the information required for recognition (see C.1 above) plus the persons' Grading history and the candidates' specific accomplishments in Shito ryu karate. There is no application fee charged for this category. The ESHRKF Co. will evaluate all applications received and include the recommended candidates in the agenda for the General Assembly . If there is no objection from any General Assembly delegate the vote may be passed by acclamation. Should there be any objection by a General Assembly representative, a secret ballot will be conducted.



D. Diplomas

D.1. Candidates having their Dan Grade recognized by the ESHRKF will receive the ESHRKF applicable diploma signed by the ESHRKF President the ESHRKF General Secretary and their Member Federation President.

D.2. Diplomas for 8th Dan Grades and above awarded by a Member Federation are issued by the applicable Member Federation only.

D.3. Persons being awarded a Dan Grade by the ESHRKF General Assembly will receive a diploma signed by the ESHRKF President the ESHRKF General Secretary and Member Federation President.

D.4. Diplomas lost or destroyed may be replaced by the ESHRKF by the Member Federation raising a duplicate application, noting on the application that it is issued for the purpose of obtaining a duplicate diploma, and paying the applicable fee as determined by the ESHRKF.

19th June, 2015

This Rules came to force :

Peter Bađura
President of ESHRKF