## **VANCOUVER SHOMONKAI GRADING SYSTEM**

| Grade   | Prerequisite for Exam:                                   | CONTENTS  |          |        |        |                  |   |  |                 |                 |                 |                                       |                     |
|---------|--|---|----------|--------|--------|------------------|---|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
|         |  | Ikkyo   | Nikyo    | Sankyo | Yonkyo | Gokyo            | Shiho-<br>nage  | Irimi-nage                                   | Kote-<br>gaeshi | Kaiten-<br>nage | Tenchi-<br>nage | Jiyuwaza                              | Kokyuho             |
| 5th Kyu | 30 days of practice                                      | Shomen-<br>uchi   |          |        |        |                  | Katatedori  | Shomen-<br>uchi                              |                 |                 |                 |                                       | Sitting             |
| 4th Kyu | 40 days of practice after obtaining 5th Kyu              | Shomen-<br>uchi   | Katadori |        |        |                  | Yokomen-<br>uchi  | Shomen-<br>uchi                              |                 |                 |                 |                                       | Sitting             |
| 3rd Kyu | 50 days of practice after obtaining 4th Kyu              | Shomen-uchi(Sitting and Standing)   |          |        |        |                  | Ryotedori<br>Yokomen-<br>uchi                                   | Shomen-uchi<br>Tsuki                         |                 | Ryotedori       |                 | Sitting                               |                     |
| 2nd Kyu | 50 days of practice after obtaining 3rd Kyu              | Shomen-uchi (Sitting and Standing) Katadori (Sitting and Standing)  |          |        |        |                  | Katatedor<br>(Hanmi-<br>handachi)                               | Shomen-uchi<br>Tsuki (Standing)<br>Katatedor |                 | Ryotedori       | Katatedori      | Sitting                               |                     |
| 1st Kyu | 60 days of practice after obtaining 2nd Kyu              | Shomen-uchi (Sitting and Standing) Yokomen-uchi (Sitting and Standing) Katadori (Sitting and Standing) Ushiro Ryotedori   |          |        |        | Yokomen<br>-uchi | Katatedor<br>Ryotedori<br>(Hanmi-<br>handachi<br>&<br>Standing) | Shomen-uchi<br>Tsuki<br>Katatedori           |                 |                 | Ryotedori       | Katatedori<br>Ryotedori<br>Morotedori | Sitting<br>Standing |
| 1st Dan | 70 days of practice after obtaining 1st Kyu              | Unarmed techniques (sitting, sitting vs. standing, standing techniques for strikes, thrusts, all forms of grasping shoulders, elbows, collar, wrists and hands; all techniques from the rear) |          |        |        |                  |   |  |                 |                 |                 |                                       |                     |
| 2nd Dan | Minimum 1 year since 1st dan, with 200 days of practice  | Same as above plus Tantodori and Futarigake Submit an article on some Aikido-related subject.   |          |        |        |                  |   |  |                 |                 |                 |                                       |                     |
| 3rd Dan | Minimum 2 years since 2nd dan, with 300 days of practice | Same as above plus Tachidori , Jodori and Taninzugake<br>Same as above (Topics will be assigned)  |          |        |        |                  |   |  |                 |                 |                 |                                       |                     |
| 4th Dan | Minimum 3 years since 3rd dan, with 400 days of practice | Jiyuwaza for all of the above plus a short essay  |          |        |        |                  |   |  |                 |                 |                 |                                       |                     |

## **NOTES**

- Be sure you have the required number of practice days before applying for an examination. Application forms and fees should be filed 3 days before the examination.
- Essays and articles should be filed 3 days before the examination.
- Successful completion of summer and winter training will be taken into consideration.
- Minimum age for Shodan is 15 years, 4th Dan 22 years.
- An examination shall be taken at the dojo where you normally practice. If you wish to taken an examination at a dojo other than where you normally practice, approval of both dojos is required.
- Morotedori(two hands holding one)
- As a rule partners (uke) in an examination should be of the same rank.
- Continue doing the same technique, left and right, ura and omote, until the examiner says "Stop".