

居合道試合・審判規則
laidō Shiai, Shinpan Kisoku Regulations

居合道試合・審判細則
laidō Shiai, Shinpan Saisoku Detailed Rules

付 居合道試合・審判運営要領
Attachment: Iaido Shiai & Shinpan Guidelines

令和5年6月2日、June 2, 2023

全日本剣道連盟、Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei

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Regulations

Iaidō Shiai, Shinpan Kisoku

Hereinafter referred to as the "Regulations."

The Purpose of the Regulations

Article 1: These rules apply to All Japan Kendo Federation iaidō shiai, with the aim to referee and conduct shiai in a fair and impartial manner, in accordance with the principles of the sword, i.e., ken no rihō.

Part 1 – Shiai

Chapter 1 – General Rules

Match Court

Article 2: As a general rule, the floor shall consist of wooden boards and a standard court, i.e., shiai-jyō, shall be as follows.

1. The court shall be a rectangle 7 meters long by 3 meters wide, including the boundary line, as shown in Figure 1, Page 18.
2. The length and location of the starting line, i.e., kaishi-sen, on the court is specified in the Detailed Rules, i.e., Saisoku.

細則
Detailed Rules

Iaidō Shiai, Shinpan Saisoku

Hereinafter referred to as the "Detailed Rules."

Article 1: The following applies to Kisoku Regulations, Article 2 (Shiai-jyō Match Court):

1. The court lines and kaishi-sen shall be marked in 2 colors: red and white.
2. As a general rule, there shall be at least 1 meter of space between the red and white courts.
3. All court lines shall be 5 to 10 cm wide and either of 2 colors: red or white.
4. As a general rule, there should be at least 3 meters²⁰²³ of space surrounding the courts.

Nihon-tō, Japanese Sword

Article 3: The katana used shall be a shinken.

Fukusō, Attire

Article 4: Attire is kendo-gi or iaido-gi and hakama.

5. The length and position of the kaishisen is shown in Figure 1, Page 18.

Article 2: The Nihon-tō shall be forged and of sufficient quality. The names of the various parts are shown in Figure 2, Page 19.

Article 3: The iaido-gi shall be black or white with tubular sleeves. Shiai-sha, i.e., competitors, shall wear a nafuda, as shown in Figure 3, Page 20, over their left breast.

Article 4: The standards for the various referee flags, i.e., shinpan-ki, is shown in Figure 4, Page 20. However, the standard thickness for the flag handles is 1.5 cm in diameter.

Article 5: The use of supporters, etc. shall be permitted only when deemed medically necessary and to the extent that they are not unsightly.

Article 6: The entrance and exit of the competitors and the reihō shall be performed as specified at each tournament.

Chapter 2 – Shiai

Section 1 – Matters Relative to the Shiai

Shiai Jikan, Match Period

Article 5: The duration of the match, i.e., shiai-jikan, shall be 6 minutes for 5 waza. However, the match time begins when the Shushin gives the start command, and ends when the competitor has completed the bow to the shōmen and returned their sword to the keitō position.

Kojin Shiai, Individual Matches

Article 6: Individual match divisions may be separated either by grade, i.e., dan level, or open, with the winner being the one who received the highest number of flags as determined by the Shinpan-in.

Dantai Shiai Jikan, Team Matches

Article 7: In team matches, the winner shall be decided by the specific taikai rules, in addition to the following:

1. Individual matches will be held in a pre-determined order, and the team with the greatest number of wins will be declared the winner.

2. Either league or tournament method, i.e., round robin or single elimination format, will be used for each individual match, and the team with the highest number of wins shall be declared the winner. However, if the number of wins is the same, the team with the highest total number of flags will be the winner. If there is a tie in the total number of flags, the winner will be determined by a tie-breaking match, i.e., daihyosha-sen between a delegate from each team.

Beginning and Ending of the Shiai

Article 8: The start and end of the shiai shall be declared by the Shushin.

Stopping and Restarting the Shiai

Article 9: A shiai may be suspended by a pronouncement from any of the Shinpan-in, but it is restarted with a declaration from the Shushin.

Requesting a Stop During the Shiai

Article 10: A competitor may request that the shiai be stopped if they are unable to continue the match due to an accident or other reason.

Section 2 – Determination of Victory or Defeat

Shōhai no Kettei, Deciding Wins and Losses

Article 11: The winner or loser will be decided based on the following:

1. Determination of the winner is based upon ki-ken-tai-no-itchi, with superior waza-mae and kokoro-gamae, accurate technique and swordwork, with full spirit and reasonable posture in accordance with correct reihō and sahō.
2. All or some of the waza may be specified, i.e., shitei waza, for the shiai. If a competitor makes a mistake in the shitei waza, the Shinpan-in shall decide the winner following a gōgi at the end of the enbu, and the competitor who made the mistake shall be declared the loser. If both competitors make a mistake the Shinpan-in will determine a single winner according to point 1 above.
3. If the shiai time limit is exceeded, the competitor who went over the time limit shall be declared the loser following a gōgi at the end of the enbu by the shinpan²⁰²³. If both competitors exceed the time limit, the shinpan will determine a single winner according to point 1 above.

Article 7: The criteria for determining the winner according to Regulations Article 11.1 shall be the following points:

1. Depth of shūgyō, i.e., study/practice
2. Reigi, correct attitude and manners
3. Waza mae, i.e., technical proficiency
 - 3.1. Accurate nuki tsuke and kiri tsuke
 - 3.2. Accurate saya banare, and hasuji
 - 3.3. Accurate chiburi, and angle
 - 3.4. Accurate notō
4. Kokoro gamae, i.e., mental state
 - 4.1. Composure
 - 4.2. Metsuke
 - 4.3. Kihaku/zanshin/ma & ma'ai
5. Ki-ken-tai-no-itchi
6. Follows budō rationale
7. Refer to the Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei (Kaisetsu) Judging Checkpoints

Chapter 3 – Kinshi Kōi, Prohibited Acts
Section 1 – Matters Associated with Prohibited Acts

Use/Possession of Prohibited Substances

Article 12: Using or possessing prohibited substances or practicing prohibited methods.²⁰²³

Impolite Language and Conduct

Article 13: Speaking and behaving in a disrespectful manner towards the referee or the opponent.

Other Prohibited Acts

Article 14: Competitors are prohibited from committing the following acts.

1. Using a sword other than a Nihon-tō as specified in Chapter 1, Article 3.
2. To go out of bounds, i.e., jyōgai, during the shiai.
3. Requesting a match suspension without a valid reason.
4. Engaging in any other conduct that is contrary to these regulations.

Section 2 – Penalties

Article 15: A competitor who commits any of the prohibited acts described in Articles 12 and 13 shall be declared a loser. They will be ordered to exit the court and their opponent will be given three (3) victory flags. The ejected competitor's accrued points shall not be recognized.

Article 8: The Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods in Article 12 of the Rules refer to those listed in the latest Prohibited List of the World Anti-Doping Agency (W.A.D.A.).²⁰²³

Article 9: Going out of the court in Article 14.2 of the Regulations means that one foot is completely outside of the boundary line.

Article 16: If any of the prohibited acts listed in Article 14.1 are committed, the following measures shall be taken. However, if both competitors do so at the same time, both competitors shall lose.

1. Anyone who uses a sword other than the Nihon-tō specified in Article 3 shall be declared the loser, and three (3) victory flags shall be awarded to his opponent.
2. The action described in the previous point shall not be retroactively applied to shiai prior to the discovery of the abuse.
3. Anyone who uses a sword other than the Nihon-tō specified in Article 3 may not continue to compete in subsequent matches.

Article 17: Committing any act under Articles 14.2 or 14.3 shall result in a point deduction.

Part 2 – Shinpan

Chapter 1 – General Rules

Shinpan Structure

Article 18: The personnel responsible for officiating will consist of the following, Shinpan-chō, Shinpan-shunin (in the case of two or more courts), and the Shinpan-in.

Shinpan-chō, Referee Director

Article 19: The Shinpan-chō has the authority required to ensure the shiai is conducted fairly.

Article 10: The duties of the Shinpan-chō shall be as follows.

1. To ensure that the Regulations and Detailed Regulations are applied strictly and fairly.
2. To ensure the shiai are progressing properly.
3. To issue a ruling on formal complaints, i.e., adjudicate any Igi-no-Mōshitate, raised during the shiai.
4. In addition, issue decisions regarding various problems not covered by the Regulations and Detailed Regulation, or any unexpected accidents.

Article 11: Shinpan-chō shall signal the start of the shiai as follows:

1. In the case of a single shiai-jyō, once the initial competitors are standing at the kashi-sen in keitō shisei, the Shinpan-chō shall stand up and have the Shushin announce the start of the shiai.
2. In the case of two or more shiai-jyō, when all of the initial competitors are standing ready in keitō shisei at their kaishi-sen, the Shinpan-chō shall stand up, and after signaling with a whistle or something similar, will have the various Shushin pronounce the start of their respective shiai.

Shinpan-shunin, Presiding Referee

Article 20: The Shinpan-shunin shall assist the Shinpan-chō, each of whom shall have the necessary refereeing authority for the operation of their respective shiai-jyō.

Translator's Note: The presiding referee is the judge in charge of a particular court.

Shinpan-in, Referees

Article 21: In principle, the shinpan-in shall consist of one Chief Referee and two Assistant Referees, i.e., one Shushin and two Fukushin, who will have equal authority in making decisions, i.e., during hantei.

②[sic] The Shushin shall have authority over all aspects of the management of the shiai. They shall pronounce hantei and other decisions, while indicating with the shinpan-ki (hereinafter referred to as "the flag").

Article 12: The duties of the Shinpan-shunin shall be as follows.

1. To be responsible for their respective shiai-jyō.
2. To ensure the Regulations and Detailed Regulations are properly carried out.
3. To ensure if there is a violation of the Regulations and Detailed Regulations, or if there is an Igi-no-Mōshitate, that it shall be dealt with appropriately and promptly, and reported to the Shinpan-chō as necessary.
4. To control the shinpan-in within their respective shiai-jyō.

Article 13: The duties of the Shinpan-in shall be as follows.

1. To manage their respective shiai.
2. To issue pronouncements and indicate them clearly.
3. To maintain unified communication and actions between the shinpan-in.

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③[sic] The Fukushin shall assist the Shushin with operations, i.e., management of the shiai, and they shall hold a flag to indicate hantei decisions, etc. In case of an emergency, they may declare and indicate a stop to the shiai.

Kakari-in, Court Staff

Article 22: For the purpose of shiai management, there shall be a timekeeper, a notice board manager, a score recorder and an official in charge of the competitors, i.e., Tokei-gakari, Keiji-gakari, Kiroku-gakari and Senshu-gakari, in place. Their structure and duties are specified in the Detailed Regulations.

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4. To verify the flags displayed among the shinpan-in.
5. After the completion of the shiai, to seek the opinion of the Shinpan-shunin or the Shinpan-chō as necessary, and reflect upon the match together with the other shinpan-in.

Article 14: The structure and duties of the court staff referred to in Article 22 of the Regulations shall be as follows.

1. As a general rule, there shall be one chief Tokei-gakari and two or more assistants in charge of the shiai time who shall stand up with a flag and indicate the end of the shiai when the time is up.
2. As a general rule, there shall be one chief Keiji-gakari and at least two assistants in charge of posting the decision of the shinpan, and to check and confirm the shinpan flags.
3. As a general rule, there shall be one chief Kiroku-gakari and at least two assistants to record the decision of the shinpan and the time of the shiai.

Chapter 2 – Shinpan

Section 1 – Shinpan Matters

Deciding Victory or Defeat

Article 23: When deciding the winner and loser, the victory shall go to the side with the greater number of winning flags.

Shinpan Method

Article 24: Shinpan-in shall officiate in the following manner.

1. The Shushin shall start the shiai by calling "Hajime" once the contestants are standing at the kaishi-sen in keitō shisei.
2. When a competitor requests a stop of the shiai, following their call to stop, the Shushin shall question the reason for the stoppage.
3. When deciding the winner, Shinpan-in shall indicate the winner with their flags at the same time the Shushin calls "Hantei".

4. As a general rule, there shall be one chief and at least two assistant Senshu-gakari, who shall be in charge of calling the competitors, as well as inspecting their Nihon-tō and other equipment.

Article 15: Referees shall wear a monpuku[sic], hakama, and white tabi socks, unless otherwise stipulated at a particular taikai.

Translator's Note: The term montsuki (紋付) is commonly used to indicate kimono tops with kamon crests, instead of the more precise term monpuku(紋服).

Section 2 – Shinpan, Dealing with Medical Situations

Injuries and Accidents

Article 25: If a shiai cannot be continued due to injury or accident, the cause of the injury or accident shall be determined, and the following measures shall be taken.

1. The decision on whether or not to continue the shiai shall be made by the shinpan-in after obtaining a physician's opinion. As a general rule, the time required for such a decision shall not exceed five (5) minutes.
2. When a shiai cannot be continued due to injury, and if the cause of the injury is intentional or due to negligence on the part of one of the competitors, the competitor who has caused the injury shall be declared the loser. If the cause of the injury is not obvious, the competitor who is unable to compete shall be declared the loser.
3. Those who are treated for an injury or accident may participate in subsequent shiai at the discretion of the doctor and shinpan-in.
4. If it is determined that a competitor has caused the accident they shall be declared the loser and may not participate in any subsequent shiai.

Kiken, Withdrawal

Article 26: A competitor who withdraws is considered to have lost and may not participate in any subsequent shiai during that competition.

Awarding Points Following a Withdrawal or Incapacitation

Article 27: The winner according to Articles 25 and 26 will be awarded three (3) winning flags.

Offender's Previously Acquired Points

Article 28: The previously acquired points of a person who has been deemed to have lost as the perpetrator under Article 25.4 shall not be recognized.

Section 3 –Matters Related to Gōgi & Igi-no-Mōshitate

Gōgi, Conference

Article 29: If a gōgi is required, the Shinpan-in will confer at the Shushin's location.

Article 16: A withdrawal under Article 26 (Kiken) of the Regulations is defined as follows.

1. When a competitor stops their participation due to health or other reasons.

Igi-no-Mōshitate, Formal Objection

Article 30: No one may appeal the Hantei decision from the Shinpan-in.

Article 31: If the Kantoku, i.e., Manager, has any doubt concerning the implementation of the Regulations, they may appeal to the Shinpan-shunin or the Shinpan-chō before the end of that competitor's enbu.

Chapter 3 – Pronouncements & Signaling with the Flags

Senkoku, Pronouncements

Article 32: The Shinpan-in shall call the start, the end, suspensions, the winner-or-loser, gōgi, etc., as described in the attached table, see pages 16-17.

Hata no Hyōji, Signaling with the Flags

Article 33: The Shinpan-in shall use their flags to indicate suspensions, the winner or loser, gōgi, etc., as described in the attached table, see pages 16-17.

Article 17: The time for filing an objection under Article 31 (Igi-no-Mōshitate) of the Regulations shall be prior to the "Hantei" call by the Shushin²⁰²³ during the shiai in question, and the procedure shall be as follows.

1. The Kantoku shall signal the Igi-no-Mōshitate.
2. The Kantoku will take the details of their concern to the Shinpan-shunin or Shinpan-chō.

Chapter 4 – Hosoku, Supplementary Rules

Article 34: If a matter arises that is not covered by these Regulations, the Shinpan-in shall confer and refer it to the Shinpan-shunin or the Shinpan-chō to resolve the matter.

Fusoku, Supplementary Provisions

1. In the case of special situations due to matters, such as the size and structure of the taikai, exceptions are allowed as long as they are not contrary to the purposes of these Regulations and Detailed Regulations.
2. These Regulations shall become effective starting April 1, 2012.
3. These Regulations shall become effective starting June 2, 2023.

1. These Detailed Regulations shall become effective starting April 1, 2012.
2. These Detailed Regulations shall become effective starting June 2, 2023.

Table of Shinpan-in Pronouncements and Flag Signaling

	Situation	Call	Flag Signals	Ref.
Kihon Shisei			Both flags are unfurled on top of the desk	Fig 1
Start Stop Gōgi	Starting the Shiai	“HAJIME” Starting first and last Shiai	Both flags are unfurled on top of the desk Same as above	Fig 3 Fig 2
	Suspending the Shiai	“YAME”	Raise both flags straight above your body	Fig 6
	Shinpan-in Calling Gōgi	“GŌGI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand	Fig 7
Victory Decision	With 3 red (white) flags	“HANTEI, SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 4
	When Shushin raises red (white) and both Fukushin raise white (red) flags.	“HANTEI, SHOBU ARI”	Shushin lowers the red (white) flag, and then raises the white(red) flag diagonally above their body	Fig 4
	One side with wrong waza *Person who makes the mistake will finish their enbu	“GŌGI” “HANTEI, SHOBU ARI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 7 Fig 4
	Both sides with wrong waza *They will finish their enbu (Victory according to normal Hantei Criteria)	“GŌGI” “HANTEI, SHOBU ARI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 7 Fig 4
	One side exceeds shiai time	“GŌGI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand	Fig 7
		“HANTEI, SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 4

	Situation	Call	Flag Signals	Ref.
Victory Decision	Both sides exceed shiai time (Victory according to normal Hantei Criteria)	“GŌGI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand	Fig 7
		“HANTEI, SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 4
	Victory by Forfeit or Bye, i.e., Fusen-gachi	“SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 5
	Incapacitation	“SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 5
	<u>Using or possessing prohibited substances, or practicing prohibited methods</u> ²⁰²³	“YAME”	Raise both flags straight above your body	Fig 6
		“GŌGI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand	Fig 7
Use of Nihon-tō other than what is specified in Article 3.	“SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 5	
	“GŌGI”	Raise both flags straight above your body with your right hand	Fig 7	
		“SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 5
Injury Accident Abstention	When a player is unable to continue a match due to injury, accident, or abstention	“SHOBU ARI”	Raise the flag diagonally above your body	Fig 5

Fig. 1 Shiai-jyō (Reference)

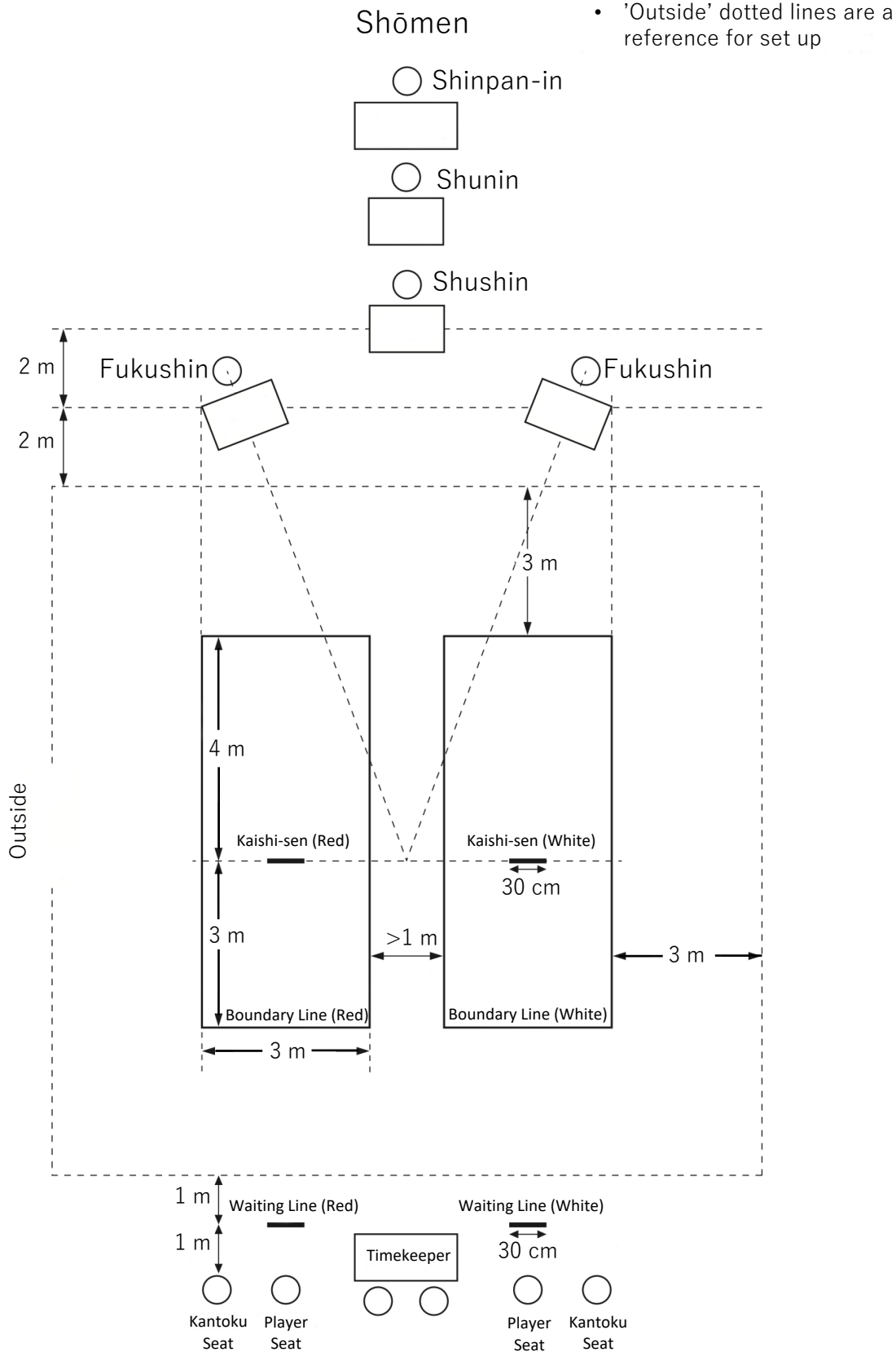


Fig. 3 Shiai-sha no Nafuda, Competitor's Nametag

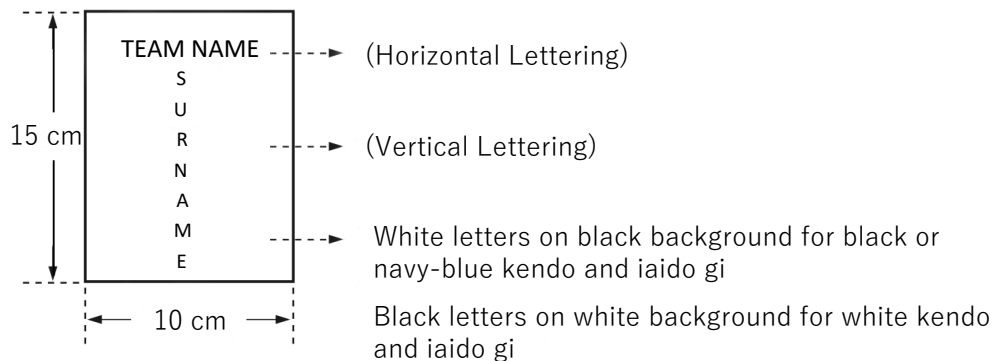
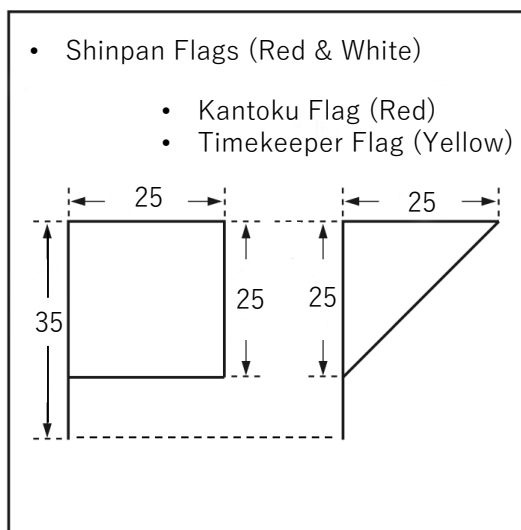


Fig. 4 Shinpan and Other Flag Standard



All dimensions in cm