IUKF

ROLES AND DEFINITIONS

TEACHING LEVELS-TITLES

Dojo Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Date: July 8, 2007

STUDENT: A person who actively studies Uechi-ryu and is a member of IUKF.
(Kyu rank information available here)

APPRENTICE INSTRUCTOR- SHIDOIN: A person who is at least a Brown Belt and is in a program where he/she is learning how to teach. An Apprentice Instructor may assist in class, but only while supervised by an Instructor. Must be an IUKF member for at least one year. Applicants name is sent to IUKF for Shidoin Certificate.
(
Click here to order Shidoin certificate
)

INSTRUCTOR: Student must be at least a Shodan. Must have been an Apprentice Instructor for at least one year. Successfully passed an Apprentice Instructor Final Exam, created by dojo. An interview with candidate conducted by a senior instructor (Shihan or higher) from IUKF. Dojo sends name of successful Candidate to IUKF. The Instructor Certificate is issued by IUKF. Must be an IUKF member for at least one year. (Click here to order Instructor

certificate.

(SENIOR INSTRUCTOR TITLE CHANGED TO SHIHAN)

SHIHAN: Master Instructor, a special title awarded by the individual dojo and IUKF to professional instructors who passed a dojo/IUKF instructors' course, (created by the dojo). Must possess an Instructor's Certificate *, be at least a Yondan, and has been an instructor for at least 3 years. A Shihan instructor need not be the senior instructor (by rank) in a dojo. A higher level black belt may be the person responsible for the overall quality and standards governing how the Shihan teaches. The Shihan instructor may simply be a teacher in the dojo. The Shihan title must be recommended by a Godan or above. Must be an IUKF member for at least one year. (Click here to order Shihan certificate)

** There will obviously be situations where the senior instructor in a dojo more than qualifies for the Shihan award, but for many reasons has not taken an "instructor's course". In such situations, the candidate may petition the IUKF to "grandfather" his award. The candidate's instructor (if active) may also recommend to IUKF that his student be awarded the Shihan title and certificate.*

Uechi-ryu Honorary Titles are a separate award, awarded separately from regular Dan Rank Promotions. These titles allow the recipient to wear the gold bars (stripes) on one's black belt.

UECHI-RYU TITLES: A Uechi-ryu title of Renshi, Kyoshi, Hanshi and Hanshi-sei are awarded to individuals who have achieved a high degree of overall excellence in Uechi-ryu karate and who possess abilities and skills which make these individuals outstanding examples to the Uechi-ryu community over and above their ability to teach the art of Uechi-ryu. Only the most talented individuals will achieve the title of Renshi, Kyoshi, Hanshi and Hanshi-sei.
(Title information Here
)

INTERNATIONAL UECHI-RYU KARATE FEDERATION RANK TITLES (Revised 6/12/07)