

2026 Cincinnati Jodo Seminar & Promotion Exam

Fellow Jo-Do Ka,

The **East Central United States Kendo Federation** and the **Kosho School of Karate** are pleased to be your host for the **2026 ECUSKF Cincinnati Jodo Seminar and Promotion Exam**. Seminar instructors include some of the top Jodo practitioners in the United States. Whether you are a long-time Jodo practitioner, or are interested in trying it for the first time, you will not want to miss this opportunity!

The seminar is the weekend of September 25th - 27th. An "Open Training" session will be held on Friday evening from 5:30pm-8:00pm at Aikido of Cincinnati located at 6620 Montgomery Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45213. The main Seminar will begin on Saturday from 9:30am-4:00pm followed by the Promotion Exam from 4:00-6:00. The seminar continues on Sunday from 9:30am-3:00pm, and will include an Iaido session in the morning. Location of Saturday & Sunday the Seminar will be the **Mt. Washington Rec Center** located at 1715 Beacon St, Cincinnati, OH 45230.

Please read all of the information in this packet to expedite your registration & promotion application process. Follow all instructions carefully! Early Bird Seminar Registration is due Friday, July 31st. Promotion Applications, AUSKF Cross Federation President Approval Form, and Written Exams must be received by Sunday September 13th, 2026. Please do not wait until the last minute!

We look forward to your visit for a weekend of spirited training, camaraderie, and friendship!



Thank you,

Nate England
Seminar Organizer

If you have questions, please contact:

ECUSKF Promotion Officer: Chris George at ecuskf.shinsa@gmail.com or (404) 401-0290

Seminar Organizer: Nate England at koshoschoolofkarate@gmail.com or (513) 510-3844



SCHEDULE & LOCATION

2025 CINCINNATI JODO SEMINAR & PROMOTION



EVENT SCHEDULE

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!!

Friday, September 25th, 2026

Location:

Training Schedule:

Dinner & Drinks:

Open Training

Aikido of Cincinnati

5:30pm-8:00pm

8:30pm-10:00pm

Open Training

LOCATION T.B.D.

Saturday, September 26th, 2026

Seminar & Test Location:

Training Schedule:

Test Schedule:

Dinner & Drinks:

Jodo Seminar & Test

Mt. Washington Rec Center

9:30am-10:00am

10:00am-12:00pm

12:00am-1:00pm

1:00pm -4:00pm

4:00pm-4:15pm Test

4:15pm-6:00pm

7:30pm-10:00pm

Registration

Morning Training Sessions

Lunch Break & Demonstrations

Afternoon Training Sessions

Registration & Setup

Examination

Hoffbrauhaus – Newport, KY

Sunday, September 27th, 2026

Location:

Training Schedule:

Jodo Seminar

Mt. Washington Rec Center

10:00am-12:00pm

12:00am-1:00pm

1:00pm -3:00pm

Morning Training Sessions (Jo & Iai)

Lunch Break

Afternoon Training Sessions

MAP

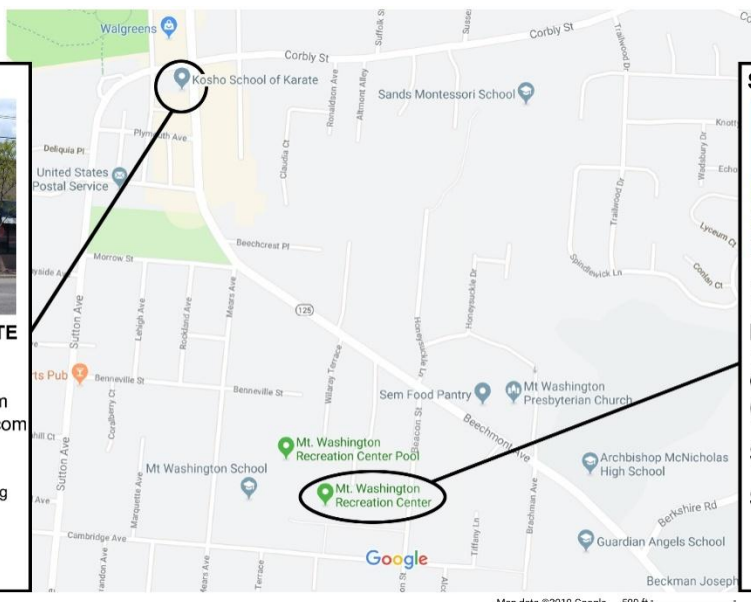
Friday Open Training:



KOSHO SCHOOL OF KARATE
2121 Beechmont Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45230
www.koshoschoolofkarate.com
koshoschoolofkarate@gmail.com
513-510-3844

**KOSHO**

NOTE:
Free Public Parking
is available at the
rear of the dojo,
off of Oxford Ave.



Sat /Sun Seminar & Test:



Mt. Washington Rec Center
1715 Beacon Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45230
(513) 232 - 4762

Sat: 10:00am - 4:00pm
Test: 4:30pm - 6:00pm
Sun: 10:00am - 3:00pm

**CINCINNATI**

SEMINAR INFORMATION

SEMINAR REGISTRATION

Fill out the Registration Form and submit to the Kosho School of Karate along with your payment. Also, complete the Kosho Liability Release and submit with your registration. (If you have previously completed the Kosho release, you do not need to complete it again!)

SEMINAR MATERIAL

The material covered will adhere to the standards of the **All Japan Kendo Federation / Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei** (ZNKR) for Seite Jodo. Practitioners of other types of Jodo and martial arts are welcome to attend, but they should be respectful of the focus of this seminar.

Additional Information on The ZNKR standards can be found in the ZNKR Jodo Manual, the ZNKR Jodo Instructional Video, or from your nearest certified instructor.

UNIFORM

A hakama, keikogi, and obi of one matching color (blue, white, or black) are preferred. For those new to Jodo, this is not required, but all seminar attendees must wear a clean traditional martial arts uniform.

EQUIPMENT

A Jo (short staff) and Bokken/Tachi (wooden sword) will both be required to participate in this seminar. **BOTH** your Jo and Bokken/Tachi should match ZNKR size & shape specifications. The **Jo** should be 50" (128cm) in Length and 1" (2.4cm) in diameter. The **Bokken/Tachi** should be 40" in length, with a leather tsuba (guard). **BOTH** should be made of white oak. At the discretion of the instructors, some deviation will be allowed.

****Note that Century& AWMA jo DO NOT meet specifications. Kwon & E-Bogu jo DO meet the specifications.****

If you would like to borrow or purchase a Jo and Tachi for this event, please mark the appropriate boxes on your registration form. To purchase, enclose a check for \$100.00 made to: **Kosho School of Karate**.

SEMINAR INSTRUCTORS & JUDGES:

• Thomas Groendal	7 th Dan	Hoshu Dojo	Portland, OR
• Peter Boylan	6 th Dan	Koryu Kenkyu Kai	Detroit, MI
• Harvey King	5 th Dan	Kobu Jodo Kai	Brooklyn, NY
• Nate England	5 th Dan	Kosho School of Karate	Cincinnati, OH
• Marcus Phung	5 th Dan	Hoshu Dojo	Seattle, WA
• David Gravens	4 th Dan	St. Louis Kobu Jodo Kai	St. Louis, MO

INSTRUCTORS, AUSKF REGISTRATION, & CONTINUED TRAINING:

If you are new to Jodo and would like to continue training after the seminar, or if you are a Jodo practitioner and you or your dojo are not yet registered with the AUSKF, please contact auskfjodo@gmail.com to locate the nearest instructor and find out how to become registered.

MAILING LIST

To find out about upcoming events, please join the AUSKF Jodo mailing list.

Go to <https://groups.google.com/u/2/g/auskf-jodo> to sign up.

TEST INFORMATION

TEST MATERIAL

The material covered on the promotion exam will strictly adhere to the standards of the **Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei** (ZNKR) for **Seitei Jodo** Kata and Kihon. **ALL** other forms of Jodo, including those found in Koryu Jodo, Aikido, Okinawan Kobudo, etc, will **NOT** receive a passing score.

1st Kyu Candidates:

- Kihon 1,2,3,4,7, & 10 with the Jo
- Kata 1 - 3 on both the Jo and Tachi side
- Submit written answers to **(3)** of the following questions:
 1. What is “*Kiai*”, and what are the two types of *Kiai* used in Seitei Jodo?
 2. Name the posture where the feet are together and the Jo is held level by the side of the body.
 3. Describe the jo, body, and eye positions in “*Ritsurei*” (Standing bow with a partner).
 4. What is your reason for practicing Jodo?

1st Dan Candidates:

- Must demonstrate Kata 2 - 6 on both the Jo and Tachi side
- Submit written answers to **(3)** the following questions:
 1. List the names of the 12 Kihon Tandoku Dosa (Solo exercises)
 2. What is the approximate overlap of sword and jo in the *Awase* position?
 3. Name the founder of Shinto Muso Ryu Jodo.
 4. What is the purpose of Jodo training?

2nd Dan Candidates:

- Must demonstrate Kata 3 - 7 on both the Jo and Tachi side
- Submit written answers to **(3)** the following questions:
 1. List the names of the 12 Seitei Jodo Kata.
 2. Explain what is meant by “*Ki-Jo-Tai-Ichi*”.
 3. Describe the meaning and types of *Rei*.
 4. Describe the correct attitude for *Uchi* to have when using the *tachi*.

3rd Dan Candidates:

- Must demonstrate Kata 5 - 9 on both the Jo and Tachi side
- Submit written answers to **(3)** the following questions:
 1. What is the importance of *Kata* practice?
 2. Describe the two main types of *Ma-Ai* in the second kata of the ZNKR Jodo set.
 3. What is *Uchi*’s cutting target in the tenth kata, *Seigan*?
 4. What is important to prioritize when teaching?

AUSKF REGISTRATION

To be eligible for testing, your AUSKF membership must be up to date and be in good standing **BEFORE** the exam date. If unsure about the status of your membership, please consult your dojo leader to verify status.

*****If anyone is found NOT to be in good standing with the AUSKF, their application & test results will be rescinded!*****

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

BOTH the hakama and the keikogi must be clean and the **SAME COLOR** (black, white, or blue **ONLY**) and an obi of a **SIMILAR COLOR** must be worn.

BOTH the Jo and Tachi must be made of **WHITE OAK** and meet the ZNKR size and shape specifications. The tsuba for the tachi must be made of **LEATHER**.

TEST REGISTRATION

Registration is online this year!

Please follow this link: [ECUSKF Jodo Exam 2026](#)

Registration will require:

- **Promotion Application Form**, clearly written or typed with **ALL** fields filled out.
- If from outside the **ECUSKF**, you must complete the Out of Federation Approval form, and it must be signed by your **Regional President!!!**
- If testing for **1st, 2nd, or 3rd Dan**, upload a copy of your **Ikkyu Menjo** (Certificate) with your application.
- **Written Test Responses**, clearly written or typed, must be uploaded with your application
- Testing fees to be paid online
- *****All applications and essay responses must be submitted by 09/13/2026*****

*****If anything is missing from the testing package, it will delay the application process and could cause your application to be rejected.*****