

Class Protocol



Class Opening

- Senior student lines up students at designated start time
- Students line up by rank from left to right facing the front of the dojo
- Black belts line up by rank from right to left facing the students
- Master/Head Instructor bows to senior student then all instructors turn to face the front of the dojo
- Senior student issues command for attention - "**Kiotsuke**" (key-o-zoo-key)
- Senior student issues command - "**Shomen ni rei**" (show-men nee ray) All bow to front, then black belts turn to face students
- If grand master instructors are present, senior student issues command - "**Hanshi ni rei**" (hon-she nee ray) All bow
- If master instructors are present, senior student issues command - "**Shihan ni rei**" (she-hon nee ray) All bow
- Senior student issues command - "**Sensei ni rei**" (sen-say nee ray) All bow
- All students recite - "**Onegai shimasu sensei**" (ona-guy she-mos sen-say) Asking the instructors to teach them
- All recite the oath

*I come to you with only karate - empty hands,
I have no weapons.
But should I be forced to defend myself,
My principles, my honor, or my family,
Should it be a matter of life or death,
Or right or wrong,
Then here are my weapons, karate, my empty hands*

- All recite the creed
*I intend to develop myself in a positive manner and avoid anything that would reduce my mental or physical growth.
I intend to develop self-discipline in order to bring out the best in myself and in others.
I intend to use what I learn in class constructively and defensively and to help myself and my fellow man and never be abusive or offensive.*

Class Closing

- Students and black belts line up as they would at the beginning of class
- Master/Head Instructor bows to senior student then all instructors turn to face the front of the dojo
- Senior student issues command for attention - "**Kiotsuke**" (key-o-zoo-key)
- Senior student issues command - "**Shomen ni rei**" (show-men nee ray) All bow to front, then black belts turn to face students
- If grand master instructors are present, senior student issues command - "**Hanshi ni rei**" (hon-she nee ray) All bow
- If master instructors are present, senior student issues command - "**Shihan ni rei**" (she-hon nee ray) All bow
- Senior student issues command - "**Sensei ni rei**" (sen-say nee ray) All bow
- Senior student issues command - "**Otadari ni rei**" (o-ta-dar-ee nee ray) All bow
- All students recite - "**Domo arigato gozaimasu**" (doe-moe ar-ee-ga-toe go-zie-mos) Students are thanking the instructors

Lining Up By Rank

- When more than one person is the same rank:
 - The student with more time at the rank lines up first
 - If students have the same amount of time at the rank then the older student lines up first

When a Master/Head Instructor Enters the Dojo

- If no formal activity is in progress, the senior student will issue the command - "**Kiotsuke**" (key-o-zoo-key) All students will stop what they are doing, face the Master/Head instructor. The senior student will issue the appropriate command - "**Hanshi ni rei**" (hon-she nee ray) or "**Shihan ni rei**" (she-hon nee ray) or "**Sensei ni rei**" (sen-say nee ray) All bow
- If a formal activity is under way, the senior student will wait till a natural pause in the activity and will issue the command - "**Kiotsuke**" (key-o-zoo-key) All students will stop what they are doing, face the Master/Head instructor. The senior student will issue the appropriate command - "**Hanshi ni rei**" (hon-she nee ray) or "**Shihan ni rei**" (she-hon nee ray) or "**Sensei ni rei**" (sen-say nee ray) All bow