

ETHICS GUIDELINES

Shin Kaze Aikido Alliance (Shin Kaze) is an organization whose members worldwide are dedicated to practicing, preserving and promoting the martial art of Aikido.

Shin Kaze recognizes that its members engage in a broad range of activities. These Ethics Guidelines (Guidelines) represent an effort to set a framework of minimum standards of conduct for these activities.

Responsible conduct within Shin Kaze on the part of members helps maintain the integrity of the organization.

These Guidelines clarify the responsibilities of members to each other and to the public and provide an approach by which Shin Kaze members can govern and discipline themselves. These Guidelines set forth for all members a set of expectations, values and objectives that form an ethical framework for Shin Kaze. These Guidelines apply to all its members but hold dojo-cho, instructors and senior ranking members to a higher standard than beginners and less experienced students.

The following are the key areas that are essential to ensuring that activities within Shin Kaze are conducted in a manner consistent with Shin Kaze's values.

A. Integrity and Responsibility of All Members

Members are expected to act with due regard and respect for their colleagues, instructors, and fellow students, both senior and junior, as well as toward Aikido, Aikido practitioners, other martial arts and martial artists.

Members are expected to take personal responsibility for their own conduct and not engage in activities that involve potential or actual violations of these

Guidelines. Violations of these Guidelines can be resolved through either informal or formal channels, as described in Section G, below.

B. Integrity and Responsibility of Instructors

Instructors are expected to uphold the values and ethics of Shin Kaze, including integrity and impartiality. Instructors are expected to protect the health, safety and welfare of their students. Instructors are expected to encourage and support the learning process of their students and demonstrate the best possible standards of the discipline and art of Aikido.

Instructors are expected to demonstrate respect for the student as an individual and adhere to their role as a guide and teacher. Instructors are expected to avoid exploitation of students for personal advantage and to make every effort to assure that evaluation of students reflects true merit. Instructors are expected to be aware of and sensitive to the power differential inherent in a teacher-student relationship.

C. Competence

Shin Kaze is known for its high technical standards and the competency of its instructors and members. Instructors are expected to accurately represent their competence, training and level of experience. Instructors have an obligation to carefully prepare for teaching duties and continue to expand their own understanding of Aikido.

D. Moral and Legal Standards

Shin Kaze prohibits discrimination, exploitation, or harassment as the terms are understood in each country, including but not limited to actions based on race, age, disability, sex, sexual preference, religion, socio-economic status or national origin. The actions of all members have an impact not only on the members of the Aikido community but on the public's perception of Aikido. Accordingly, members are expected not to engage in the above activities.

E. Discrimination, Exploitation, Sexual Harassment

All members are expected not to engage in discrimination, exploitation or sexual harassment activities.

Discrimination is the act of making distinctions between people based on categories to which they may or may be perceived to belong, partiality or prejudice rather than on individual merit.

Exploitation is the act of selfishly taking advantage of someone or a group of people to profit from them or otherwise benefit oneself.

Sexual harassment is sexual propositioning, physical advances, or verbal or non-verbal conduct that is sexual in nature, that occurs in the context of instruction and training of Aikido and that either: (1) is unwelcome, offensive, or creates a hostile environment; or (2) is sufficiently severe or intense to be abusive to a reasonable person in the context.

F. Public Information and Advertising

Honesty is a key value of Aikido and of Shin Kaze therefore, members are expected to conduct themselves in an honest and truthful manner in matters regarding credentials, attendance at camps and seminars, history of training with specific instructors, and in all materials prepared and/or disseminated by them or under their control.

The Shin Kaze name, logo and or seal, each of which is the property of Shin Kaze Aikido Alliance, may be used only as set out in the “Shin Kaze Policy on Use of Intellectual Property”.

G. Dispute Resolution

Shin Kaze believes that dispute resolution should begin with informal discussion between parties assisted, if appropriate, by the Chief Instructor and/or the dojocho. If informal conflict resolution is not possible or appropriate, a more formal

procedure may be initiated. The process to file a complaint for violation of these Guidelines is as follows:

1. Discuss the complaint with your Chief Instructor and/or dojo-cho for guidance and recommendation. If the complaint involves the Chief Instructor and/or the dojo-cho, directly or indirectly, contact the Shin Kaze Ombudsman at the address below.
2. After discussion, and if necessary, the Ombudsman in consultation with the Board of Directors will refer you to an appropriate person or persons for dispute resolution.
3. If the issue remains unresolved, you may file a formal complaint in writing and send it to the Board of Directors, Shin Kaze Aikido Alliance, 58 Ritchie Avenue, Toronto, ON, M6R 2J9, Canada.

H. Acknowledgement

I acknowledge receipt of the foregoing Ethics Guidelines as a policy of Shin Kaze Aikido Alliance, will abide by them and will post or publish them within my dojo.

Chief Instructor
and/or dojo-cho:
(Print name)

Date:

Signature:

Dojo:

I. Adoption

As adopted by the Shin Kaze Board of Directors, July 15, 2023.