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New York Budo Association is committed to fostering a safe and ethical environment for all iai practitioners. We adhere to fairly standard dojo rules. Please keep in mind that the New York Budo Association is a nonprofit organization 501-c(3). Everyone is volunteering, no one is paid and we are all here to learn. Our policies are approved by and overseen by our board of directors. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at [newyorkbudoassociation@gmail.com](mailto:newyorkbudoassociation@gmail.com)

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## DOJO RULES & CLASS ETIQUETTE

1. Please feel free to ask any relevant questions, but please refrain from chatting or mimicking the technique when instructors are teaching or demonstrating.
2. Try to be on-time for the beginning of class. If you arrive in class late, change off the Dojo floor, bow in and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before you join the class.
3. Cleaning the space is to be done by new students – we rent studio space, this means the floors are less than clean. Please help clean the room prior to class – remove chairs or tables, pick up any leftover garbage and sweep floor.
4. Bow to the Shomen before entering and when leaving the dojo space.
5. When not in use, swords should be placed, handle to the left, back of the blade to the wall and the tip facing away from the shomen. Never step over a sword, bokuto or jo if it is lying on the floor. When picking it up bend down on one knee. Never drop or bang a weapon on the floor or intentionally, this is considered extremely disrespectful.
6. Dues should be paid on time. If there is a problem, bring it up to the manager or treasurer before payment is due. Please be proactive with this matter.
7. If you cannot make it to class for an extended period of time, please be considerate and let one of the administrators know.
8. Be respectful to your fellow classmates and instructors. We are all here to learn.

9. If you must leave while the instructor is still teaching, excuse yourself quietly and bow out. When leaving or entering class always walk behind people for safety. Do not interrupt the class.
10. If you must stop in the middle of a Kata, immediately return your sword, and wait until the rest of the class finishes the Kata. Be mindful of the space around you.
11. Live (Sharp) swords are not permitted in class, it is too much of a liability. However, we do use them for tameshigiri (practice cutting), under guidance of the instructors.
12. New students are responsible for bringing down all equipment from the storage closet and hanging the Shomen with the portrait of Otani Sensei as well as removing them at the end of class.
13. Practice self-control. Arguments, harassment or loss of temper can result in expulsion from the Dojo. Never use a weapon in a threatening manner towards another student or instructor.
14. When borrowing class equipment, please be respectful and take good care of it. All borrowed equipment needs to be put back into the equipment bag at the end of the class. Students borrowing uniforms are responsible for washing them and folding them after class.