

Guidelines for Keub / Dan Grading



1. Color Belt and Black Belt Keub Grading

Keub tests are intermediate steps to accumulate experiences as a practitioner prepares him or herself for a Dan test; the ultimate goal of a Keub test is to stimulate, empower and help to grow confidence of the practitioner.

The examiner should have a flexible mind and try to accommodate each testing candidate to pass the Keub test and take into consideration the mental, emotional and physical state of the testing candidate. For example, in the event someone has used up all their chances at paper cutting, the examiner can give the testing candidate some time to practice a few more times in the back and then do the test again.

At the time of Dan gradings, however, the testing curriculum and regulations must be strictly followed.

2. Dan Grading System

These guidelines will provide the Dojang Master/Instructor with a better and deeper understanding about our Dan Grading system. The EUHGA training curriculum is a comprehensive system that prepares students to develop various physical, mental and emotional skills in their process of becoming a black belt. Therefore, rather than just checking if a student is able to perform the right steps and cuts (remembering the choreography), each Dan Grading will comprise of four essential elements:

- Determination test : kimase danjeon haenggong
- Technical skill test : gumbub, baldo-chakgum, kyukgum, cutting
- Theory and vocabulary test : questions asked by examiner or essay
- Basic fitness level test : push-ups

3. Minimum Training Period and Minimum Age per Dan Grading

The chart below shows the difference in regulations regarding the minimum training period and minimum age requirement per Dan grading between regular students and Instructors & Masters (including those who follow a special instructor's course).

| Regular Students | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Level | Minimum Training Period | Minimum Age |
| 1 st Dan | 36 months (3 years) | - |
| 2 nd Dan | 36 months (3 years) | - |
| 3 rd Dan | 48 months (4 years) | 18 years and older |
| 4 th Dan | 60 months (5 years) | 24 years and older |
| 5 th Dan | 72 months (6 years) | 30 years and older |
| 6 th Dan | 96 months (8 years) | 37 years and over |
| 7 th Dan | 108 months (9 years) | 45 years and over |

| Instructors & Masters | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Level | Minimum Training Period | Minimum Age |
| 1 st Dan | 18 months (1.5 years) | 18 years and older |
| 2 nd Dan | 24 months (2 years) | - |
| 3 rd Dan | 36 months (3 years) | - |
| 4 th Dan | 48 months (4 years) | 24 years and older |
| 5 th Dan | 60 months (5 years) | 29 years and older |
| 6 th Dan | 84 months (7 years) | 36 years and older |
| 7 th Dan | 96 months (8 years) | 44 years and older |



4. About Kimase Danjeon Haenggong

In Haidong Gumdo®, the internal spectrum is as important and therefore the Kimase Danjeon Haenggong test has been added to the Dan promotion curriculum during which a person's willpower / determination will be assessed. It is a battle against oneself where an unshakeable inner strength and mental strength are required to overcome any physical discomfort. It is empowering the student to triumph against overwhelming odds and attain an indomitable spirit. Upon passing this test the person will experience a much higher level of satisfaction and pride. This is also one of the reasons that we practice martial arts.

It is not a 100% requirement to stand in a 'perfect' Kimase position. If too much emphasis is put on maintaining the perfect position, this test becomes a technical test rather than a determination test. The focus of this test, again, lies in one's ability to manage physical power, breath, thoughts, etc. to complete the required time. It can be compared to running a marathon; if one takes off with the speed and power of a 100m sprint it will be impossible to complete the full marathon.

The examiner's should only assess whether the testing candidate does or does not have the determination to complete the Kimase Danjeon Haenggong test. As long as the person didn't give up till the end and the stance is not completely disrupted, the examiner should accept it as 'passed'.

If a testing candidate, for whatever reason, is not able to perform this test, it is the examiners responsibility to check whether it's a lack of preparation as a Keub grade (confidence) or an actual physical condition which prevents them from succeeding in this area. If the latter, the National Head Master is to be consulted, who will in turn notify the EUHGA. Where a decision will be made taking the individuals needs into consideration.

5. Haidong Gumdo Theory and Vocabulary Testing for 1st and 2nd Dan Grading

This test will be conducted for 1st and 2nd Dan grading only. A separate sheet with questions is available and the examiner shall ask on average 3 to 5 questions per testing candidate. The purpose of this test is to check the testing candidate's understanding of Haidong Gumdo® and to stimulate them in their ability to express themselves.

6. Essay Testing from 3rd Dan Grading onwards

The essay should be sent in at least one month prior to submitting the Dan Testing Application Form to EUHGA Headmaster Sang-Hyun Han. The chart below shows the assessment categories as well as the minimum required amount of pages to pass the respective Dan test.

| Essay Assessment Categories | Level | Minimum Page Count* |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Originality / Creativity | 3 rd Dan | 15 pages |
| Depth of research | 4 th Dan | 20 pages |
| Logic (based on philosophy and science) | 5 th Dan | 25 pages |
| Cohesion of contents | 6 th Dan | 30 pages |
| Sincerity and devotion | 7 th Dan | 35 pages |



It is up to the testing candidate to decide on an essay topic. Most important is that the essay reflects the testing candidate's sincerity. A few additional guidelines:

- Language : native language or English
- Page quantity : only the pages with the main text will be counted - not the front page, index, etc.
- Page size : A4
- Page margins : Normal (Word based - 2,54cm)
- Font : Arial, size 11
- Spacing : single spaced page
- Illustrations : Max. 33% of the number of pages (e.g. 15 pages = max. 5 images) - each illustration may be the size of 1/5 of an A4 paper

Lastly, essays that have been approved will be stored in a non-public library, accessible only to National Headmasters and Dojang owners who have been given access by the EUGHA upon the condition that they have fulfilled the yearly EUHGA dojang license fees. A testing candidate may indicate whether they would like to have their name public or not.

7. Procedure for Dan Test Result Announcement

The result shall be announced at least one day after, but not later than the third day after the Dan test.

- 1st - 2nd Dan : National Headmaster informs the Dojang Instructor/Master
- 3rd - 7th Dan : EUHGA official informs the National Headmaster, incl. essay result

8. Procedure for Dan Re-Test

1st - 2nd Dan Re-Test

- In the event of failing one or more of the testing categories, a re-test shall be done for only the failed part(s) after minimal 1 month.

3rd - 7th Dan Re-Test

- In the event of failing only one or more of the testing categories, a re-test shall be done for the failed part only after minimal 1 month. The re-test will be conducted by the National Headmaster.
- In the event of failing more than one of the testing categories, a complete re-test shall be done after minimal 3 months. The re-test will be examined by the National Headmaster.
 - In either case, the re-test shall be filmed from beginning to end and the footage must be submitted to the appointed EUHGA official for final examination.
 - The appointed EUHGA official will inform the National Headmaster on the final result of the re-test within 3 days after receipt of the the submitted footage.



9. Materials and Certificate Types per Dan Grading

Regular Students

| Level | Dobok | Certificate | Dan ID Card | Black Belt |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 st Dan | Navy Uniform | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 2 nd Dan | Navy Uniform | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 3 rd Dan | Navy top + Check pants | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 4 th Dan | Navy top + Check pants | A3 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 5 th Dan | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |
| 6 th Dan | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |
| 7 th Dan | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |

Assistant Instructors & Masters (Non Dojang Owners)

| Level | Title | Dobok | Certificate | Dan ID Card | Black Belt |
|---------------------|----------------|--|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 st Dan | Kyobeom (nim) | Navy Uniform | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 2 nd Dan | Busabeom (nim) | Navy top + Check pants | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 3 rd Dan | Sabeom (nim) | Navy top + Check pants | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 4 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | Blue top with tiger symbol + Check pants | A3 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 5 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |
| 6 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |
| 7 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |

Instructors & Masters (Dojang Owners)

| Level | Title | Dobok | Certificate | Dan ID Card | Black Belt |
|---------------------|----------------|--|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 st Dan | Busabeom (nim) | Navy Uniform | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 2 nd Dan | Sabeom (nim) | Navy top + Check pants | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 3 rd Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | Blue top with tiger symbol + Check pants | A4 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 4 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | Blue top with tiger symbol + Check pants | A3 Size | Yes | Yes |
| 5 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | White top with tiger symbol | Plaque | Yes | Yes |
| 6 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |
| 7 th Dan | Kwanjang (nim) | - | Plaque | Yes | Yes |