

# **Program and Regulations of the 53rd Kaiseiki Kendo Tournament**

1. Main Organizer: Akita Prefectural Kendo Federation  
The Sakigake Shimpō  
Akita Prefectural High School Athletic Federation
2. Supporting Organizer: All Japan Kendo Federation (AJKF)  
Tohoku Kendō Federation  
Akita prefecture  
Akita city  
Akita Prefectural Board of Education  
Akita City Board of Education  
Akita Broadcasting System
3. Event Term: Thursday, March 26th–Tuesday, March 31st, 2026
  - (1) Practice Match: Thursday, March 26th–Saturday, March 28th, 2026
  - (2) Referee and Managers Meeting: 13:00 Tuesday, March 28th, 2026 (Online)
  - (3) Competition: Sunday, March 29th–Tuesday, March 31st, 2026
    - Sunday, March 29th: 9:00 Opening Ceremony  
10:15 Women's Tournament 1st-2nd round  
Men's Tournament 1st round
    - Monday, March 30th: 9:00 Women's Tournament 3rd round-  
Men's Tournament 2nd round-
    - Tuesday, March 31st: 9:00 Women's and Men's Tournament (Top 16-Finals)  
Closing Ceremony
- ※ 1 Schools participating in the National High School Invitational Kendo Tournament will be given consideration so that they do not play any matches on the first day.  
Please note that teams other than those participating in the National High School Invitational Kendo Tournament and seeded schools (the previous year's top 8) will have matches on the first day.
- ※ 2 Details such as match schedule will be announced after the drawing. (February 19th).
4. Venue: Akita Prefectural Budōkan (Akita Prefectural Martial Arts Hall)  
(2-2 Arayamachi aza Sanuki, Akita-city TEL018-862-6651)

## 5. Regulation and method of the Matches

- (1) All matches shall be conducted in accordance with AJKF's "*The Regulations of Kendo Shiai and Shinpan*" and All-Japan High School Athletic Federation Agreements.
- (2) All matches shall be played by tournament rules.
- (3) Teams shall consist of 5 members, but 4 or 3 members are allowed to take part in. If 1 member withdraws, that shall be in the *Jiho* position, and if 2 withdraw, they shall be in the *Jiho* and *Fukusho* positions.
- (4) All matches shall be conducted by a winner-stays-on method, and the winner shall continue to compete with the next opponent until defeated.
- (5) The match time will be 4 minutes. Matches will be *sanbon-shobu*. If the match is not decided within regulation time, it will be declared a draw. Matches between *Taishos* will not be declared a draw and will go into extra time (*encho-sen*). Each *encho-sen* will be *ippon-shobu*. It will last 4 minutes and will continue in 4-minute extensions until the winner is determined. In the quarterfinals and beyond, matches against the other team's *Taisho* will not be declared a draw and will instead go into *encho-sen*. In the event that the match continues into multiple extensions, "rest" and "break" shall be alternately provided every two extensions.
- (6) *Shiai-sha* should wear either a mouth shield or a face mask.

## 6. Qualifications

Participants are required to meet the following requirements.

- (1) Members of an official Kendo club or recognized organization
- (2) Male high school students aged 15 to 18
- (3) Participants must undergo a medical examination in advance

## 7. Application and Participation Fee

- (1) Participation Fee: 20,000 yen per team.
- (2) Teams wishing to participate are requested to contact the Akita Kendo Federation.

### **Akita Prefectural Kendo Federation**

**5-11-10 Tsuchizakiminato-nishi, Akita-shi, Akita 011-0945, Japan**

**Email: a-kendo@abelia.ocn.ne.jp**

**Tel: +81-18-838-1783 Fax: +81-18-845-3255**

**(Available Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)**

**Please refrain from calling on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, public holidays, or outside the stated hours.)**

- (3) **Deadline: Thursday, January 29, 2026, at 12:00 noon (JST).**

## 8. Awards

- (1) The champion team will be awarded the championship flag, a certificate, and a prize.
- (2) The 2nd and 3rd place teams (two teams) will be awarded a certificate and a prize.
- (3) Outstanding players will be awarded a certificate and a prize.
- (4) Winning Streak Awards will be presented (e.g., 5 consecutive wins, etc.).
- (5) The coaches of the 1st to 3rd place teams will be presented with the Outstanding Coach Award.
- (6) Teams placing 1st to 3rd are required to attend the closing ceremony.

## 10. Player Change and Replacement

- (1) Changes or replacements of registered players after the submission of the application will not be accepted unless submitted using the prescribed "Player Change Form" (available for download on the official website after the drawing).
- (2) The order of players may not be changed.
- (3) A player who has been substituted once is not permitted to participate again in the tournament. However, if a player becomes unable to continue due to injury or accident, and the team is left with fewer than five available members, re-entry may be permitted with the approval of both the attending physician and the Chief Referee.

## 11. Safety Measures

- (1) First aid will be provided by the Tournament Committee; however, the organizers will not be responsible for any further medical treatment or expenses. Each team must enroll in sports injury insurance or an equivalent policy.
- (2) If any participant is confirmed to have COVID-19 or norovirus infection, the team must promptly report it to the Tournament Headquarters.
- (3) As no equipment inspection will be conducted on the day of the tournament, teams are required to submit the "Kendo Equipment Verification Form" and the "Shinai Inspection Completion Form" (available for download from the official website) in advance.
- (4) For emergency contact purposes, please ensure that a valid email address and mobile phone number reachable during the tournament period are clearly indicated on the application form.

## 12. Notices

- (1) Drawing will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2026.
- (2) The results of the drawing (match combinations) will be posted on the official tournament website.

(3) All participating players must display their team name and individual name on the *tare* and bring red and white markers (*mejirusi*) for team identification.

(4) For inquiries, please contact:

**Akita Prefectural Kendo Federation**

**Email: a-kendo@abelia.ocn.ne.jp**

**Tel: +81-18-838-1783 Fax: +81-18-845-3255**

**(Available Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Please refrain from calling on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, public holidays, or outside the stated hours.)**

## 12. Practice Match (*Renseikai*)

(1) Only teams participating in this tournament are eligible to join the practice session.

(2) The participation fee is 3,000 yen for Day 1 and Day 2 (March 26th-27th), and 2,000 yen for Day 3 (March 28th). The total fee should be submitted together with the tournament participation fee.

(3) Participating teams must bring referee flags, red and white *mejirusi*, and a stopwatch.

## 13. Handling of Personal Information

Personal information provided on the application form will be used by the organizers for the purpose of managing and conducting the tournament. In addition, such personal information and images or videos of the tournament may be published in newspapers, video media, the official tournament website, or other media, and may be provided to members of the press. Applicants are required to submit the application form with their consent to the above.