



Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo Titles

The following titles are used in Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo for senior instructors of the organisation. Each of the following titles is specifically awarded to an individual who meets the criteria, and then only at the determination of the Chief Instructor(s) of Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo. These titles are not to be assumed by any individual who has not been awarded them, regardless of whether they otherwise meet the listed criteria.

Tasshi (達士)

Minimum rank of 4th Dan, at least 30 years of age and have more than 15 years of practice of Shorinjiryu. Typically awarded after at least 12 months after the date of promotion to 4th Dan, although maybe awarded earlier for those individuals who have operated their own dojo for at least 2 years, or have otherwise made a visible contribution to Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo. Considered to be the karate equivalent to a Diploma level qualification.

Renshi (錬士)

Minimum rank of 4th Dan, at least 35 years of age with at least 20 years of practice. Typically awarded at least 12 months after promotion to 5th Dan, or 3 years after being awarded the title of Tasshi. Must have operated their own dojo for at least 3 years or have been a dojo assistant instructor for at least 5 years, and have made a visible contribution to the development of Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo. Considered to be the equivalent of a Bachelors level qualification.

Kyoshi (教士)

Minimum rank of 7th Dan, at least 45 years of age with at least 30 years of practice. At least one year since promotion to 7th Dan and three years since being awarded the Renshi title. Outstanding knowledge of the traditions and methods of Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo. Demonstrated excellence of technique and teaching methods. Visible contribution to the technical development of Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo. Considered to be the equivalent of a Masters level qualification.

Hanshi (範士)

Minimum rank of 9th Dan and at least 55 years of age. Kyoshi title holder. Individual of outstanding moral and personal character. Proven leadership and exceptional contribution to Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo. Deep understanding of the techniques, history and spirit of Budo. Written essay or publication required. Considered to be the karate of a Doctoral level qualification.



SHORINJIRYU KOSHINKAI KARATEDO

AUSTRALIAN SHORINJIRYU KARATEDO ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 34 934 453 341)
全豪州少林寺流古新会唐手道



- Spiritual Development of Individuality in Mind and Body -

Shihan (師範)

Special title for senior instructor(s) holding the rank of 6th Dan or above. Must hold the title of at least Renshi. Shihan means “master instructor”, and denotes an individual who has achieved a level of mastery of both technical and teaching aspects of Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo.

Kaicho (会長)

Title for the chief instructor of Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo, meaning “chief of organisation”. If the role is held jointly, the more senior will assume the title *Kaicho*, and the other will assume the title *Fuku Kaicho* (assistant chief of organisation).

Sensei (先生)

Literally meaning “born before”, *sensei* is a title of respect that can be used for any black belt holder, including the holder of any of the above titles. In Japan, the title of Sensei is used for all instructor-level practitioners, and formal titles are rarely used, except in very formal circumstances, particularly if you are a student of that instructor.

Unlike the formal titles above, the title of sensei is not specifically awarded, but is used as a sign of respect.