



Nippon Budō Seishin-Kan

Membership Interview Preparation Guide

In order to be considered for membership in the Nippon Budō Seishin-Kan, each applicant (and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s), if under 18) must be interviewed by a member of the Seishin-Kan Membership Committee. The interviewer will ask the kinds of questions listed in this interview preparation guide, so reviewing them in advance and thinking ahead about the answers will help prepare the applicant for the membership interview.

1. Why do you want to join the Seishin-Kan?
2. Which *budō* arts are you most interested in learning?
3. Why do you want to learn those *budō* arts in particular?
4. What do you think the purpose and goals of *budō* training really should be?
5. Have you had any training or experience in *budō* or “martial arts” previously?
If YES ...
 - a. Where have you trained previously?
 - b. Who are/was/were your instructor(s)?
 - c. What rank(s) did you attain and when?
 - d. How much do you remember of your previous training?
 - e. Why are you no longer training there?
 - f. What did you like most about your previous experience(s)?
 - g. What did you like least about your previous experience(s)?
 - h. What do you expect or hope will be different at the Seishin-Kan?
6. Have you ever been in a serious (someone trying to severely injure or kill you) fight?
If YES ...
 - a. Who started that fight, and why?
 - b. Who won that fight, and how?
 - c. How do you feel about that now?
 - d. What would you do in a similar situation today?
7. Have you ever had any police or military combat training?
If YES ...
 - a. How much do you remember of that training?
 - b. What do you think was most useful about that training?
8. Are you involved in a profession or activities that put you at risk of being assaulted?
9. Have you ever committed a violent crime?
If YES ...
 - a. What did you do, and when?
 - b. Were you arrested, prosecuted, and/or punished for it?
 - c. What are you doing now to make sure you don't do it again?
 - d. What would be the legal consequences of you possessing weapons now?
 - e. Why should we trust that you won't be a repeat offender?
10. Have you ever been a victim of a violent crime?
If YES ...
 - a. What happened, and when?
 - b. How has that affected your attitude toward violence and criminal assailants?
 - c. How will that experience affect your attitudes about practicing with weapons?
 - d. How will that experience affect your attitudes about practicing being assaulted?
 - e. Why should we trust that you won't seek revenge on your attacker(s)?
11. How committed are you to training at the Seishin-Kan?
12. How do you expect your *budō* training to change your life?
13. What do you expect to contribute to the *dōjō*?
14. What sort of spiritual atmosphere are you expecting in the *dōjō*?
15. Why should the other members be glad that you are joining our *dōjō*?