

APPENDIX B-2:

COMBAT PERFORMANCE QUALIFICATION TEST

Preface:

All combatants shall sign a form stating that they have read and understand the Combat Manual. All styles for Shinai, Rapier, Cut and Thrust, and Armored Combat will follow the same format.

The Combat Performance Qualification Test may be given by any one of the following for the style being qualified:

- Two qualified Knight Combatants
- One qualified Knight Combatant and the Crown Marshal
- The Minister of Joust and War and a qualified Combatant.

The Qualification Process:

Instructors, when available, should have another qualified combatant, a Knight Bachelor or Higher, available for the sparring process so both may be available for instruction (local subdivisions may establish their own traditions).

Armor and Weapons Inspection:

The Qualifying Combatant will report for an armor and weapons inspection. The Test Administrator performing the inspection shall explain the inspection procedure to the Qualifying Combatant, noting any deficiencies in the inspected equipment. Encouragement should be made to ask questions and discuss items so that the Qualifying Combatant becomes familiar with the process.

Sword Oath:

The Test Administrator shall review the sword oath with the Qualifying Combatant.

Power test:

The Test Administrator shall demonstrate acceptable power through the use of a shinai held perpendicular to the ground loosely and then struck. The shinai should not reach a 90-degree angle. The Qualifying Combatant will demonstrate their use of power by striking the shinai: first on one side, then the other, then in combination.

Understanding Voice Commands:

The Test Administrator shall instruct the Qualifying Combatant to demonstrate their understanding of the following voice commands by explaining their respective meanings and appropriate actions (see Combat Manual for descriptions):

- Hold
- Lay on
- Ware Edge

Identifying Target Areas:

The Test Administrator shall ask the Qualifying Combatant to identify the acceptable and unacceptable target areas of the Human body. In the case of an acceptable target area, the Qualifying Combatant shall explain the result, indicating the loss of a limb (arm or leg, if necessary). In the case of an unacceptable

target area, the Qualifying Combatant shall explain what can be expected if these areas are struck accidentally or targeted repeatedly.

Knowledge of Basic Combat Styles:

The Qualifying Combatant shall demonstrate the proper positions for both stance and standard blocks for the style being qualified. This should include the five standard blocks:

- High block
- Low block
- Blocks on left and right sides
- Head shot Block

The Qualifying Combatant shall demonstrate basic weapon knowledge:

- How the weapon can be held
- Identifying the striking surfaces
- Identifying the types of blows that the weapon can deliver:
 - o Slash
 - o Push or Draw cut
 - o Thrust

Engaging an opponent:

The Qualifying Combatant shall take a defensive stance and safely demonstrate the following while being engaged by an attacker:

- Defensive blocks
- How to call and accept scoring blows

The Qualifying Combatant shall engage while his opponent defends to demonstrate weapon control and safe movement.

The Qualifying Combatant shall then openly spar with an opponent. The sparring contest shall last a minimum of three passes, and may continue in order to offer some additional training if possible.

Test Evaluation:

The Test Administrators shall determine the outcome of the test and report the result to the Minister of Joust and War. The Minister of Joust and War must agree with the conclusion of the test before informing the Crown. If the Combatant qualifies, a Combat Card shall be issued by the Minister of Joust and War. The Test Administrators shall be listed on the Combat Card. If the Combatant does not qualify, local custom should be established to resolve the dispute, either by testing with another set of qualified combatants or assigning a time frame for more practice and review of the materials before the next qualification is offered.

Any issues or disagreements shall be addressed by the Local Minister of Joust and War or Local Crown respectively before proceeding to the Imperial Level. Any issues or disagreements in regards to a combatant's qualification shall be included in the monthly report to the Imperial Minister of Joust and War.