



# Dojo Etiquette and Code of Conduct for Kids

## Jin Sei Ryu Chicago Class Code of Conduct

Studying *karate-do* requires respect for the space (“dojo”), the teachers, other students, and the world around us.

### Respect to the Space:

A *dojo* is a space for studying martial arts.

#### Before we enter the dojo space:

- We make sure we’re fully dressed in the clothes we’re going to practice in
- We make sure our mind is open and ready to learn
- We always bow and say “Osu!” **before** entering the space, **and** any time we leave the space.
- We treat the karate space as special and do our best to control our bodies and voices in class.

### Respect to the Teachers:

Just as we always call our teachers at school by “Mr.” or “Mrs./Ms./Miss” or “Mx.” we have special titles for karate teachers.

- We always call our *karate* teachers by their title and first name (Senpai Kyren and Sensei Amy, Sensei Yesica, Kyoshi Erin, Senpai Abby)
- When we first see our teacher, we bow and say “Osu!” before saying hello.
- Anytime a teacher asks us to do something in class, we respond with “Osu Senpai Kyren!” or “Osu Sensei Amy!” (or “Osu! Sensei Yesica” or “Osu! Kyoshi Erin,” etc.)
- When a teacher is speaking, we do our best to control our bodies and voices and pay attention.

### Respect to Other Students:

- We save comments and questions that are not about the current activity for breaks during class so that we don’t interrupt others’ learning.
- When we partner in class, we bow and say “Osu” to show respect. We always introduce ourselves to other students and we ask if we forget someone’s name.
- When we partner in class, we show respect by working hard to focus on our partner and help our partner practice their karate.
- If our partner makes a request of us, we do our best to do what they ask.
- We help students junior to us and know that students senior to us will help us.

### Respect to the World

- We use our *karate* skills outside of class only when someone is trying to hurt our bodies, never when someone uses their words to hurt us.
- We use our powerful voice to stand up for ourselves and others and to ask for help



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## Responsibilities and Rights

### Responsibilities

You have the responsibility to...

#### Responsibility to the space

- Run ONLY on the matted area.
- Control your body by keeping our hands to ourself: Don't touch karate equipment, the shinzen, mirrors, plants, or anything in the kitchen area.
- Food and drink:
  - You may keep a water bottle near the mats but must drink off the matted area.
  - Food and drinks other than water are only allowed in the back area
- Not throw anything in the space unless it is part of a game organized by the teachers
- Show respect to the space and teachers by cleaning up any toys, books, or games you use before or after class and helping others clean up as well.
- Do your part in keeping Culture of Safety clean – if you spill something or create a mess, either clean it up yourself or ask for help in cleaning it up.

#### Responsibility to other students

- Do not touch another student or their belongings without permission
- Include everybody in games and activities, so nobody feels left out.
- If you say or do something that hurts another student (even if it's on accident), apologize.
- When another student says or does something that hurts your feelings, speak up: ask them to stop, and listen to their apology.
- Respect students' privacy in the bathrooms and changing area
- Don't keep secrets with or for other students or anybody at Culture of Safety. Surprises (like as part of a game) are ok, but secrets aren't

#### Responsibility to teachers

- Show respect for your teachers by saying "Osu!" when asked to do something, and then doing your best
- Do your best to pay attention. If you forget to pay attention to an instruction, raise your hand and ask the teacher to repeat it.
- When you have a conflict with someone in the space, ask your teacher for help. Sensei Amy or Senpai Kyren will help you work it out together.



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## Rights

You have the right to...

### Rights in the space

- Learn karate during your class time, and play with toys/read books in the back area before and after class
- Learn and play in a clean and safe environment
- Privacy in private areas – the bathrooms and changing area

### Rights with other students

- Not have your body or things touched without your permission
- Be included in games and activities
- Be treated with kindness and respect
- When another student says or does something that hurts your feelings, speak up: ask them to stop, and listen to their apology.
- Not be asked to keep secrets with or for other students or anyone at Culture of Safety. Surprises (that everyone will find out soon) are ok, but secrets aren't

### Rights with teachers

- Not have your body or things touched without your permission
- Get help with your karate from your teachers
- Get help from your teachers in dealing with conflicts with other students
- Be treated with kindness and respect
- Not be asked to keep secrets with or for teachers



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## Jin Sei Ryu Karate-Do Dojo Kun

In addition to the rules of etiquette and Code of Conduct that we ask that Jin Sei Ryu Chicago students follow, Jin Sei Ryu International (our parent karate organization) has published Dojo Kun, or “Dojo rules” that it expects all Jin Sei Ryu Karate-Do students to follow, and that all Jin Sei Ryu Karate-Do students can expect of their instructors and fellow students. The original text is included first. Afterwards, we’ve adapted the Dojo Kun to be simpler/more accessible for younger students.

- I/we practice karate-do seriously, with a strong spirit, pure heart and open mind
- I/we act with kindness, honesty, respect and patience
- I/we accept others regardless of their age, physical capabilities, gender or personal beliefs
- I/we strive to overcome our personal challenges and wholeheartedly support others through theirs
- I/we apply what we learn during our training to other areas of our daily lives
- I/we honor our families, serve our communities and wider society
- I/we pursue self-improvement tirelessly and humbly regardless of our age, rank or experience.

### Jin Sei Ryu Chicago Dojo Kun - Peewees and Juniors version (ages 4-8)

- We take karate class seriously and do our best to come to class ready to learn.
- We do our best to be kind, honest, respectful, and patient with everyone.
- We look for ways to include others who are different from us.
- Even when something is hard for us, we keep working to get better and to help others improve. We know it’s ok to make mistakes.
- We practice all these skills (kindness, honesty, respect, patience, helping others, and including others) at home and in our schools, not just in karate class.
- We look for ways to show respect to our families and serve our communities.
- We know that being older or having a higher karate rank doesn’t make us any better than anyone else. We keep working hard as we get older and advance in rank.