



**Te Whare Tū Taua o Aotearoa**  
**The National School of Ancient Māori Weaponry**

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**Code of conduct**

**“Ko tā te tū taua, he tiaki”**

As an akonga/pia/taura/taura of Te Whare Tū Taua o Aotearoa, I agree to the following rules for sparring and will adhere to them in the upmost endeavour to ensure the mana and integrity of our kaupapa is kept intact:

THAT THE FOLLOWING RULES FOR SPARRING BE RE-ESTABLISHED AND NOT NEGOTIABLE

- i. ALL KAIPAOA/PIA MUST PULL THEIR BLOWS (INCHES FROM THE STRIKE POINT - INCLUDES PAOA, WHAKAREHU, ESPECIALLY ATE).
- ii. NO BODILY CONTACT DURING SPARS (EXCEPT THAT REQUIRED DURING SOME OF KARO TAUA EXECUTIONS)
- iii. MAINTAIN ‘WHAKAHONORE’ AT THE BEGINNING/END OF EACH WHAWHAI
- iv. KAIPAOA MUST NOT STRIKE AGAIN AFTER THE CALL “KIA WEHE” AND MUST MOVE APART
- v. NO OVER EXCESSIVE USE OF PAOA
- vi. WHEN A KAIPAOA DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE CALLS OF KAI WHAKAWA HE/SHE WILL BE TOLD TO STAND DOWN
- vii. THE SPAR IS TO TEST THE PARTICULAR SKILLS OF THE STUDENT – AND IS NOT A COMPETITION BETWEEN TWO KAIPAOA
- viii. ANY VIOLENCE – THE OFFENDING KAIPAOA WILL BE STOOD DOWN
- ix. NO GRABBING OF RAKAU OR USING BODY WEIGHT TO FORCE A RAKAU OUT OF USE
- x. NO KICKING, KNEEING, OR PUNCHING (EXCEPT IN VALID KARO TAUA)

I understand that the above rules that the **Tumu Whakarae** has set out for us are there to ensure that our fighting art reaches the pinnacle of excellence in the use of ‘rākau’, and that any deliberate/ongoing offending of these rules may result in a stand down from TWTTOA.

INGOA/NAME ..... TURANGA/TITLE .....

PEKA/BRANCH ..... RA /DATE.....

WAITOHU/SIGNATURE .....