

## Explanation of Establishment of the Rules for Use of Shaft Feathers

### 1. Revelation of problems of illegal trades of shaft feathers

In February 2014, the All Nippon Kyudo Federation (“ANKF”) received a letter from a dealer of bow instruments informing that its employee seemed to be involved in illegal trades of shaft feathers. By interviewing related persons, the ANKF became aware that feathers of some Falconiformes, trades of which are prohibited under the laws for species preservation, seemed to be included in those traded shaft feathers, and that some of the Shogo holders of the ANKF seemed to be involved in those trades.

### 2. Punishments to the persons involved in those trades

Under these circumstances, in March 2015, the Board of the Directors of the ANKF established an independent investigative committee, and requested it to investigate this case. The investigative committee interviewed related persons and reviewed related information, and then, in June and October, the committee submitted the investigative reports to the ANKF. After reviewing those investigative reports, to punish those who were involved in those trades, the ANKF established an ethical committee. The ethical committee conducted additional investigations, and discussed possible punishments to the persons involved. In December, the ethical committee submitted its opinion to the President of the ANKF. Based on that opinion, the Board of the Directors punished the persons involved.

### 3. Establishment of the Rules for Use of Shaft Feathers

According to the reports from the investigative committee, to prevent similar problems, the ANKF established an examination committee to examine the Rules for Use of Shaft Feathers and the certification system of shaft feathers. The examination committee consulted with the Ministry of Environment, and established the “Rules for Use of Shaft Feathers.” At the extraordinary meeting of the Board of Directors held in January 2015, the ANKF evaluated and approved the Rules, and in February the ANKF published the Rules. The Rules were fully enforced on July 1.

### 4. Purposes, outline, and operation of the Rules

The Rules aim to comply with the Washington Convention and the Japanese Laws, which are established to realize the purposes of the Convention, such as the Act for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. To achieve these purposes, the Rules oblige members of the ANKF to voluntarily make lists (“Traceability Certificates”) of shaft feathers of Falconiformes, trades of which are prohibited under those laws, and to carry the lists whenever the members participate in competitions or examinations held by the ANKF and its affiliates.

By clarifying channels of distribution of shaft feathers, and by having members be conscious of legal compliance, the Rules aim to eliminate illegal shaft feathers, and then, to eradicate poaching and smuggling. The main purpose of the Rules is to ensure that members have strong sense of not using shaft feathers illegally traded, but not to punish persons who do not comply with the Rules. To explain the purposes of the Rules and the basic concept about the operation of the Rules, in April, the ANKF held an orientation meeting and published the “Manual about Operation of the Rules.”

**Manual about the Operation of the Rules  
for Use of Shaft Feathers**

April 2015

Public Interest Incorporated Foundation  
All Nippon Kyudo Federation

This Manual aims to facilitate the operation of the Rules for Use of Shaft Feathers ("the Rules") by explaining the basic concept and standardized operation of Traceability Certificates, etc., according to the Rules.

When we amend the Rules or this Manual, we will announce on it. Thus, please check the latest contents.

If you have any question on the Rules or this Manual, please contact the Secretariat Section of the ANKF by e-mail, etc.

## 1. The Purposes of the Rules

- According to the Ministry of the Environment that governs the Act for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ("the Act"), regardless of the timing of acquisitions, there is no problem in using the currently owned feathers, even if they correspond to those from the species listed in the Act. On the other hand, regardless of the timing of transactions, it is prohibited to transfer, to receive, or to sell, the feathers from the species listed in the Act.
- Regarding white-tailed sea eagles, the Washington Convention imposes very severe restrictions. Also, the Act prohibits transactions of them, regardless of domestic species or foreign species. Thus, if their feathers are in demand by those involved in Kyudo, there is a great risk to induce illegal transactions, such as pouching, smuggling. Also, regarding Steller's sea eagles, last year, the investigative committee reported that shaft feathers of them obtained by pouching were traded within the Kyudo society. Thus, it was highly necessary to deal with this problem. Under these circumstances, the Board of the Directors decided that shaft feathers from Steller's sea eagles and white-tailed sea eagles shall not be used at competitions, etc., and, in line with this decision, the Rules were established.
- The Rules oblige those involved in Kyudo to voluntarily make and carry lists ("Traceability Certificates") of shaft feathers, and aim to eliminate illegal shaft feathers, and then, to eradicate poaching and smuggling, by clarifying channels of distribution of shaft feathers owned by those involved in Kyudo, and by having them be conscious of legal compliance.

## 2. Basic Concepts in Operating the Rules

- As stated in Article 1, the Rules aim to ensure legal compliance with maintaining a harmonious balance with natural conservation and preservation of traditional culture. The main purpose of the Rules is to ensure that those involved in Kyudo have strong sense of not using shaft feathers illegally traded, but not to punish persons who use shaft feathers without complying with the Rules. (Last year, according to the opinion of the ethical committee, some persons were punished because of being involved in illegal transactions of shaft feathers. They were punished because they were involved in the transactions in strongly accusable way or frequency. Even if someone owns, uses, or purchases, etc., possibly illegal shaft feathers, that person is not immediately punished because of those actions. The reason to establish the Rules is not for such punishments.)
- Under the current operation, the Rules aim to have those involved in Kyudo reconfirm kinds of shaft feathers they own, and recognize each responsibility for legal compliance, by checking the "Traceability Certificate" being carried.
- The future and final goal of the Rules is to completely eradicate shaft feathers made by feathers illegally obtained by pouching and smuggling; however, under the current operation, as stated above, the main purpose of the Rules is to awaken those involved in Kyudo to have consciousness and responsibility regarding the legal compliance. Since the Rules are not for punishments, in every aspect, the moderate operation, with step-by-step instructions, shall be done.

## 3. Examinations and Competitions that the Rules shall be applied to

- The Rules shall be applied to all the examinations, competitions, and lectures held by the ANKF and its affiliates.
- The Rules shall also be applied to Yawatashi and Sharei performed in the above events.

## 4. Concept of "Members" in the Rules

- The Rules target at all the members registered in the affiliates of the

ANKF. The members of the affiliates are not directly members of the ANKF; however, since, to achieve legal compliance as the purpose of the Rules and to effectively function the Rules, cooperation of all those involved in the Kyudo society is essential, in the Rules, all members of the affiliates are defined as “Members” who should comply with the Rules.

## 5. Publicity and Guidance

- The direct guidance to the members shall be conducted by the affiliates. The affiliates explain the purposes, significance, etc., of the Rules to the members at opening ceremonies of examinations, competitions, lectures, etc.

## 6. Traceability Certificate

- “Traceability Certificates” are voluntarily made by owners of shaft feathers that correspond to those listed in the Rules. The Certificates are not necessary to be submitted to the ANKF or its affiliates, and are not to be registered to or approved by, any agency or organization. (The Certificates are not the documents to show legality or illegality of shaft feathers or arrows used, but to declare by owners themselves origins of arrows used.)
- In the Certificates, numbers of arrows per transaction and per kind of feather shall be listed.
- As providers of shaft feathers or arrows, basically names of dealers of bow instruments or individuals shall be listed. If a name of provider is forgotten, it is allowable to just mention it or to leave a column blank
- When new shaft feathers or arrows are obtained after the Certificate was made, it is necessary to add those new to the Certificate.
- The owners of shaft feathers or arrows can freely put shaft-feather numbers. (It is not necessary to put numbers sequentially from the older ones.)
- On the Certificate, for convenience of reference, owners can attach photos of shaft feathers or arrows, but it is not necessary to do so.
- It is permissible for owners to carry copies of the Certificates. The forms of the Certificates or the ways to carry them are not strictly defined. The

Certificates can be made in the forms or ways easier for owners to carry or for Supervisors or their Assistant Supervisors to check them.

## 7. Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors

- Supervisors shall be appointed by the President of the ANKF.
- To support Supervisors, Assistant Supervisors shall be staffed at each of the affiliates. Assistant Supervisors shall be recommended by the affiliates, and shall be approved by the President of the ANKF. The number of Assistant Supervisors shall be 2 to 3 per affiliate.
- Changes or replacements of Assistant Supervisors shall be reported to the ANKF, and the President of the ANKF shall approve new Assistant Supervisors.

## 8. Supervisions conducted by Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors

- When owners use shaft feathers or arrows listed in the Rules, Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors shall supervise if the owners are carrying their Traceability Certificates. However, different from Judges for Bow Instruments, Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors shall supervise the Certificates only when they notice the owners are using shaft feathers or arrows that seem to be those listed in the Rules.
- As stated above, since the duties of Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors are different from those of Judges for Bow Instruments, one can double as a Supervisor or Assistant Supervisor and as a Judge for Bow Instruments. However, when one doubles as both posts, it is necessary for one to fully understand the different intentions of both posts and to handle the matters.
- Considering the purposes of the Rules, current supervisions by Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors do not aim to find persons who violate the Rules, but only to check if the Traceability Certificates are made and carried by the owners.
- If Supervisors or Assistant Supervisors find persons who violate the Rules, they shall guide them to comply with the Rules in the future by softly lecturing them. Despite repeated lectures, if one does not change his/her

attitude, Supervisors or Assistant Supervisors shall report the fact to the ANKF, and the ANKF shall consider the best course of action.

- Even if species of birds used for shaft feathers are not identified, Supervisors or Assistant Supervisors shall not stop the owners using said shaft feathers, but they shall instruct the owners to identify the species of the feathers in cooperation with dealers of bow instruments.

## **“The Rules for Use of Shaft Feathers”**

### **Article 1 (Purposes)**

Regarding shaft feathers that have been traditionally used in Japan, the Rules aim to preserve rare species of animals listed in the Washington Convention and the Act for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (“Act for Conservation of Spices”), etc., which are laws and ordinances related to shaft feathers, and establish rules for fair use of shaft feathers under the three principles listed below:

- (1) Compliance with Laws and Ordinances
- (2) Natural Conservation and Symbiosis with Nature
- (3) Preservation of Traditional Culture of Kyudo and Protection of Property Rights

### **Article 2 (Application)**

The Rules shall be applied to the All Nippon Kyudo Federation (“ANKF”) and its affiliates (“Affiliates”) and all the officials and members of them.

### **Article 3 (Responsibility and Authority)**

The ANKF shall have the responsibility and authority to disseminate the principles of purposes stated in Article 1 to all Affiliates, Officials, and Members, and to make them comply with the Rules. All Affiliates, Officials, and Members shall comply with the Rules, as well as all the laws and ordinances including the laws related to shaft feathers.

All Officials and Members shall be conscious that the responsibility to comply with laws and ordinances is on each individual. On the other hand, property rights of Officials and Members shall be protected under the provisions of the Constitution.

### **Article 4 (Contents)**

#### **1. (Rules regarding Compliance with Laws and Ordinances)**

Regarding preservation of rare species of animals listed in the Washington Convention and the Act for Conservation of Spices, etc., any



illegal activities must be strictly prohibited.

For education, practice, and realization of compliance with laws and ordinances, and for establishing compliance with laws and ordinances, all Affiliates, Officials and Members, to which the Rules are applied, shall comply with the operations listed below.

- (1) The ANKF shall regularly conduct educations about laws and ordinances, etc., including the Rules, to Officials and Members.
- (2) The ANKF shall regularly conduct supervisions on the compliance with laws and ordinances, etc., including the Rules, by Supervisors approved by the President of the ANKF, but having authority independent from the ANKF. If any problems are revealed by the supervisions, the Supervisors shall report the results of the supervisions to the President, and the ANKF shall take proper corrective measures (measures for preventing similar problems).
- (3) Anyone who intends to buy or receive shat feathers that are possibly from the spices of animals listed in the Washington Convention and the Act for Conservation of Spices must ensure the traceability (check the proof showing that the shaft feathers are lawfully transacted).
- (4) Anyone who intends to use shat feathers that are possibly from the spices of animals listed in the Washington Convention and the Act for Conservation of Spices, to establish the traceability (show the proof showing that the shaft feathers are lawfully transacted), must make the "Traceability Certificate," according to the form separately provided, and carry it whenever he/she uses the shaft feathers in competitions and examinations held by the ANKF and Affiliates. Kinds of spices of Falconiformes that must be listed in the "Traceability Certificate" shall be provided in the Attachment to the Rules.

## 2. (Rules regarding Natural Conservation and Symbiosis with Nature)

Under the concepts of natural conservation and symbiosis with nature, all Affiliates, Officials, and Members shall pursue natural conservation in cooperation with governmental organizations, conservation groups, etc.

In cooperation with companies and organizations in various fields, the ANKF shall seek measures for preservation of rare species of animals, and shall develop shaft feathers not using feathers of rare species of animals.

3. (Rules regarding Preservation of Traditional Culture of Kyudo and Protection of Property Rights)

The traditional culture of Kyudo shall be inherited and developed. Property rights of each individual guaranteed by the Constitution shall be protected. Shaft feathers that were acquired properly and without violating laws and ordinances, etc., shall be properly sold and transferred based on the Rules.

Article 5 (Rewards and Punishments)

According to the Rules, organizations or individuals who contribute to preservation of rare species shall be rewarded. Also, Affiliates, Officials, or Members, who violate the Rules, shall be punished.

Article 6 (Miscellaneous)

1. (Revisions of the Rules)

Because of revisions of laws and ordinances, etc., if revisions of the Rules are necessary, “the Examination Committee of the Rules for Using Shaft Feathers,” which consists of members appointed by the President of the ANKF, shall make a draft of the revised Rules. The revised Rules shall be approved by the Board of the Directors after the President’s review.

2. (Date of Enforcement)

The Rules were enforced on January 26, 2015. Item 1, Article 4 of the Rules, after the dissemination period until June 30, shall be enforced on July 1, 2015.

(Attachment)

Kinds of birds of prey that should be listed in “Traceability Certificates”

In Traceability Certificates, the birds of prey corresponding to birds called by the following names in Japan shall be listed.

- (1) Northern Goshawk (“Oo-taka”)
- (2) Golden Eagle (“Inu-washi”)
- (3) Ogasawara Eastern Buzzard (“Ogasawara-nosuri”)
- (4) Crested Serpent Eagle (“Kanmuri-washi”)
- (5) Mountain Hawk-Eagle (“Kuma-taka”)

Feathers Certificate of Traceability

ID	Federation	Shogo, Dan	Japanese	
			Name	

No.	Feathers code number	Type	Common Name	Number of arrows	Place of acquisition	Date of acquisition	Remarks	
							Transferee name or disposal	Date of transfer / disposal
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								