

February 10, 2021

Dear members of AUSKF.

Thank you very much for responding to the AUSKF January 2021 Covid-19 survey. We would like to present you the result and summary of the survey.

Response 96 (39.5% : Total Dojo 243? , Response in November 2020: 117)

Practice kendo indoor 19 (19.8%)

1 dojo: Iai/Jodo: No mask or shield, loud Kiai : 10 members, 1 covid case with mild Sx.
(Not related to kendo)

With Mask /shield: 12 dojo

Only kata, no bogu, with mask and shield: 3

Practice kendo outdoor 3 (3.1%)

Zoom only: 23 (24%),

No practice 51 (53.1%)

Number of covid-19 cases within AUSKF

Covid -19 (+) test results:

13 dojos,

19 (+) cases with 5 members hospitalized

Probably Covid, not tested x1 dojo from SWKIF

Negative test but fever and sore throat in NY: 1 member /15

Covid Death: 2, not related to kendo. Elderly members.

Covid -19 Cases related to kendo ; 0

Vaccines: 44 members had one.

Using guideline? N/A 46, Partially yes 8, Yes 42

Using the questionnaire? N/A 51, Yes but modified 8, Yes 37

Discussion

The number of responses from dojo declined to 96 from 117. More participation is encouraged to increase the accuracy of our survey. Our country was hit by a large second wave from early December 2020, which continued through January, while this survey was conducted. Accordingly, majority of our members refrained from physically meeting for kendo practice.

The number of dojos practicing declined from 46 to 22. Indoor practice declined from 40 to 19. Zoom practice also declined from 43 to 23.

The Covid-19 cases with (+) test declined from 51 to 19 cases.

Kendo related covid-19 transmission declined from 7 (In March 2020) to 0.

Unfortunately, 2 members died from Covid-19 in January 2021. Neither one was related to kendo.

One dojo with 10 members is practicing indoor Jodo/laido, without face shield/ mask, with one member affected by Covid-19, not related to kendo.

One dojo with 25 members is practicing Kendo indoor, with face shield/ mask, with one member affected by Covid-19, not related to kendo.

The covid-19 vaccines became available from mid-December, and vaccination has started for medical professionals and elderly. So far 44 of AUSKF members have received vaccine. It is still a very small number so far, but vaccination for more members can make a difference in the future.

Overall, we would like to thank you for taking proper precaution in mitigating the risk of pandemic, and we are glad to report that we've had no Kendo related infection/ transmission over the last 10 months in the US. As of February 10, 2021, we are seeing declining cases of Covid-19, but still significant number of deaths are reported. Unfortunately, two of our beloved members succumbed to this disease, so please remember to stay safe, protect yourself and others.

Sincerely,

Yoshiteru Tagawa

President, AUSKF

Michio Kajitani

VP P&E, AUSKF