

Alamo Area Aikikai: Safety and Risk Management

*We follow the USAF code of ethics and grievance protocol involving sexual harassment and conflicts in the dojo.

1. All members of the Dojo will be respectful of the dignity and safety of their Aikido colleagues.
2. Aikido is a martial art that involves physical contact. However, members of the Dojo will not exercise excessive force or aggressive behavior in Aikido practice. Members will be aware of the physical limitations and rank of their Aikido colleagues and practice accordingly.
3. The practice of Aikido requires being in close contact with your partner. However, the Dojo will not tolerate inappropriate touching and body contact that can be construed to be of a sexual nature.
4. Any concerns by a member regarding aggressive, out of control, or unacceptable behavior should be addressed in the following manner. For adults (age 18+), the aggrieved party shall directly discuss the problems they are having with their colleague during practice and why it is making them uncomfortable. If these problems cannot be resolved, they will be presented before the grievance committee for adjudication. Students under 18 should speak with the adult assistants regarding grievances.
5. The grievance committee will evaluate all complaints about a colleague's behavior and all efforts will be made to rectify the situation. Members may be asked by the sensei to leave the mat if violations are judged to be of a serious nature. If a member is judged to be a consistent threat to the safety or dignity of a colleague they will be expelled from the Dojo. In such an event no refunds of instruction fees will be given.
6. Because of the physical nature of the study of Aikido, members are asked to remove all jewelry before practice. Rings, necklaces, and dangling earrings can be a danger to those who are wearing them and their practice partners.
7. Fingernails and toenails need to be trimmed to prevent injury during practice.

Following these simple and common sense rules of conduct will make your aikido experience safe, fulfilling, and fun.