

The Use of Real Weapons –Traditional Testing and Tournaments

Real weapons must be used at all times in tournament competition. All ancient weapons were designed for fighting and the majority of techniques used must be fighting techniques that would actually injure an opponent if used in a real situation.

The weapon must have the lethal strength and hardness to inflict serious damage when used in an actual encounter.

- 1. A blade weapon must be made of steel or iron alloy that is hard, strong, rigid, and unyielding. The blade must be sharp and able to cut. (Kama-Yari-Katana)**
- 2. A wooden weapon must be made with hard dense fibrous substance composed mostly from the stem and branches of a tree or shrub. (Bo - Oar- Nunchakun - Tonfa)**
- 3. A rod or spear weapon must be made of the same material as the blade weapon with the exception that it does not have to be able to cut.(Sai – Nunte - Jitte)**
- 4. A chain weapon must be made with a series of hard metal rings passing through one another that have the strength to bind, restrain, and support 1,200 pounds. (Kusarigama – Manriki – gusari)**
- 5. A collateral weapon must be coupled together either with a strong chain, leather, or strong rope that is permanently secured to the weapon. The connecting material must have the strength to bind, restrain, and support at least 1,200 pounds. (Nunchakun-Chijiriki)**

From the book :Render Yourself Empty by Robert A. Trias

An added note: **Traditional wooden weapons should not have varnish, painted designs, carvings, or metal studs of any kind on them.**

Remember extreme caution must at all times be used when in weapon practice