

*The following is a message from Urasenke Headquarters to Urasenke chado instructors in Japan, composed in response to inquiries about best practices when re-opening practice locations. Please note that it is very important that each instructor carefully gauge the current state of the spread of COVID-19 in their region. This information is provided for the reference of instructors when, upon careful investigation, the instructor concludes that it is safe to resume classes.*

June 1, 2020

To: All Chado Teachers

From: Urasenke Foundation and Urasenke Tankokai Federation Headquarters

### **Urasenke Chado Teacher Activities**

The state of emergency declaration associated with the novel coronavirus epidemic has been lifted nationwide in Japan, but we at the Urasenke Head House and Tankokai Headquarters are putting off our resumption of activities.

We have been receiving inquiries from chado teachers about resuming classes. To this, we ask that you continue to comply with the requests of the central and local governments, and follow the infection spread prevention guidelines for your particular keikoba facility.

In deciding to resume classes, take into consideration your region's infection spread situation, give priority to preventing the spread of the virus, and be thorough in carrying out the following hygiene management measures:

1. Regularly check your temperature, and when you have a fever or cold symptoms, cancel the class.
2. Install hand sanitizers at the entrance, in the mizuya, etc.
3. Disinfect places that are touched by the hands.
4. Be strict in washing hands preceding mizuya preparations and having keiko.
5. Be strict in ventilating and cleaning the air in the tea room and mizuya.
6. Take measures to avoid crowding, such as implementing a reservation system and separate class hours.
7. To avoid close contact, keep a certain distance in the tea room and avoid facing each other.
8. Teacher and students alike, wear masks at the keikoba.
9. Use chopsticks, etc., for arranging sweets, and use individual serving dishes (銘々皿).
10. For koicha and usucha alike, use separate tea bowls and prepare independent servings, so that guests do not drink from a shared tea bowl (回し飲み無し).
11. Wash the implements with running water for each temae (hot water where possible).
12. Change the wiping towel (布巾) each time, and wash with running water (hot water where possible).
13. Have everyone bring their own towel for hand-wiping, or use paper towels.

Please take utmost care, and give top priority to the safety of your pupils and their families. Make an appropriate decision depending on the future virus situation in your locality.

The Japanese-language page with links to Coronavirus-related information:

<http://www.urasenke.or.jp/temp01/index.html>