



Founded 1980

The art of knifemaking

Membership Application Pack

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Applying for Membership of the Knifemakers Guild of Southern Africa

Dear Applicant,

Applying for membership of the Knifemakers Guild of Southern Africa is an important step in the development of your knifemaking. It reflects a commitment to quality workmanship, continued improvement and participation in a community dedicated to the art and craft of handmade knives.

As part of the application process, your knives will undergo a formal peer evaluation by the Guild Evaluation Committee. The purpose of this evaluation is to determine whether your work meets the standards of fit, finish, design and technical execution expected of a Guild member.

Successful admission provides formal recognition that your submitted work met the Guild's required standard at the time of evaluation. It also places you among fellow makers who share a commitment to improving their skills, exchanging knowledge and contributing meaningfully to the knifemaking community.

Guild membership allows members to exhibit at the annual Guild Show. The Guild Show is a members-only show and provides members with an opportunity to present and offer their knives for sale to collectors, invited guests and members of the public, while representing the Guild and the standards associated with Guild membership.

Membership also carries an ongoing responsibility. Guild members are expected to maintain the standards of workmanship, quality and professional conduct required by the KGSA Constitution.

The Constitution provides a formal process for written client complaints relating to workmanship or materials. Where a complaint is upheld by the Executive Committee, the member must rectify the matter in the manner determined by the Executive Committee.

The evaluation process is demanding. Applicants should study the requirements carefully, seek guidance from experienced Guild members and submit their work only when they believe it consistently meets the required standard.

We wish you every success with your application.

Knifemakers Guild of Southern Africa

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1 HOW THE APPLICATION PROCESS WORKS

This section provides a high-level overview of the membership application process. Detailed requirements are contained in Sections 2 and 3 and the applicable appendices.

1.1 Select the Submission Route

The applicant must select the appropriate submission route in **Appendix A: Membership Application Form**.

The applicant must then study the General Application Requirements, the requirements for the selected submission route and the applicable evaluation schedule or schedules.

1.2 Prepare the Application

The applicant must prepare the required knives, sheaths, technical information and supporting documents.

Applicants using the Forged Fixed Blade Knives submission route must also complete the prescribed Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test and obtain a signed Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test Certificate.

1.3 Submit the Application

The applicant must complete the Membership Application Form, pay the evaluation fee and ensure that the complete submission package is ready.

Prior arrangements must be made with an authorised contact listed in **Appendix B: Guild Contact List** before the application is delivered or couriered.

1.4 Guild Evaluation

The Guild Evaluation Committee will evaluate the submitted knives in accordance with the applicable evaluation schedule or schedules.

1.5 Notification of the Outcome

A member of the Guild Evaluation Committee will contact the applicant by telephone to communicate the outcome and provide verbal feedback.

The Guild Secretary will thereafter send formal written notification of the outcome by email on behalf of the Executive Committee.

1.6 Reapplication

An unsuccessful applicant may reapply immediately.

The applicant must submit a new application in accordance with the current requirements. A previously completed Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test does not need to be repeated because it has no expiry date.

2 GENERAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The requirements in this section apply to all applicants and submission routes, unless the selected submission route states otherwise.

2.1 Evaluation Standard

The Guild expects the highest standard of workmanship.

Each knife scored under the applicable evaluation schedule must achieve a minimum score of 75%. If any scored knife achieves less than 75%, the application will be unsuccessful. The applicant's numerical evaluation scores are not disclosed.

For the Forged Fixed Blade Knives submission route, only the four presentation knives are scored. The performance-test knife is not scored.

2.2 Applicant Workmanship and Authorship

The applicant must personally make all knives and required sheaths submitted for evaluation.

All knives must be of the applicant's own design, except where the selected submission route prescribes a particular knife type, design or construction requirement.

The submitted work must comply with the requirements of the selected submission route and the applicable evaluation schedule or schedules.

2.3 Blade Steel, Materials and Technical Information

A recognised blade steel must be used for every submitted knife.

The applicant must complete **Appendix D: Knife Technical Information Sheet** for every knife submitted.

The information supplied must accurately describe the materials, construction, technical features, heat treatment, blade hardness and intended purpose of the knife, where applicable.

Required drawings, diagrams and construction photographs must accompany the relevant Knife Technical Information Sheet.

2.4 Referral Letters and Sheaths

The applicant must submit two separately completed and signed **Appendix C: Guild Member Referral Letters** from current Guild members.

Every fixed blade knife must be supplied with a sheath unless the selected submission route states otherwise.

The applicant must personally make every required sheath. Each sheath must meet the construction, material, safety and evaluation requirements applicable to the knife.

2.5 Evaluation Fee and Submission Period

The non-refundable evaluation fee is R900. Proof of payment must accompany the application.

If the application is successful, the evaluation fee includes Guild membership until the end of March of the following year.

Applications are not accepted during the six weeks immediately preceding the annual Guild Show.

Applicants must **allow at least two weeks for the evaluation** process after the complete submission has been received.

Bank: ABSA

Account number: 4056808599

Branch code: 632005

Payment reference: Applicant's name and surname

2.6 Packaging, Delivery and Applicant Declaration

The knives must be securely packed in a strong, reusable container. The points of daggers and fighters must be especially well protected.

Prior arrangements must be made with an authorised Evaluation Submission Contact before delivering or couriering the submission. Contact details and delivery addresses are provided in **Appendix B: Guild Contact List**.

The applicant must **read Appendix E: Constitution of the Knifemakers' Guild of Southern Africa** before submitting the application.

By signing **Appendix A: Membership Application Form**, the applicant confirms that the information supplied is accurate and agrees to comply with the Constitution if admitted as a Guild member.

3 SUBMISSION ROUTE REQUIREMENTS

The requirements in this section apply in addition to Section 2: General Application Requirements. The applicant must comply with all requirements applicable to the submission route selected in Appendix A: Membership Application Form.

3.1 Folding Knives

3.1.1 Required Submission

Folding knife makers must submit five folders of different designs.

3.1.2 Mechanism Requirements

Mechanisms must however contain a positive locking mechanism in the open and close position, either back lock, liner lock or slip joints may be submitted for evaluation.

Friction folders and spring backs do not qualify according to the criteria above and for purposes of this evaluation.

No kit knives may be submitted.

3.1.3 Applicable Evaluation Schedule

The five folding knives will be evaluated in accordance with **Appendix F: Evaluation Schedule for Folding Knives**.

3.2 Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives

3.2.1 Required Submission

Stock-Removed Fixed Blade makers must submit four knives of different designs, plus one double-sided symmetrical dagger with a minimum blade length of 120 mm.

The five knives must be of different designs.

3.2.2 Prescribed Symmetrical Dagger

The applicant must submit one double-sided symmetrical dagger with a minimum blade length of 120 mm.

The applicant may submit one of the following:

- A double-sided symmetrical dagger of the applicant's own design
- The Boot Knife designed by Piet Grey
- The Combat Dagger designed by Kevin Harvey

The two optional reference designs and their specifications are provided in **Appendix I: Optional Dagger Reference Designs**.

Where the applicant selects one of the reference designs, the dagger must comply with the applicable drawing and specifications contained in Appendix I.

3.2.3 Applicable Evaluation Schedule

The five knives will be evaluated in accordance with Appendix G: Evaluation Schedule for Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives.

3.3 Forged Fixed Blade Knives

3.3.1 Performance Test, Certification and Distribution

Before submitting knives for evaluation, the applicant must successfully complete the prescribed Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test under the supervision of a Guild-approved tester listed in **Appendix B: Guild Contact List**.

The applicant must personally forge and complete all work on the performance-test knife, including its heat treatment. No other person may assist with its construction or heat treatment.

The Guild-approved tester will provide the official Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test Certificate. Upon successful completion of the test, the tester must complete, sign and date the certificate.

Where the applicant cannot attend in person, the performance-test knife may be sent to the tester. In such cases, the applicant accepts the tester's result as final.

The signed certificate and bent performance-test knife must accompany the four presentation knives submitted for evaluation.

3.3.2 Submission and Evaluation Requirements

The applicant must submit:

- The bent performance-test knife
- The signed and dated SABA Performance Test Certificate
- Four forged fixed-blade presentation knives
- Two completed Appendix C: Guild Member Referral Letters
- A leather sheath for each presentation knife
- A clearly labelled blade-care kit

The additional forged-blade and Damascus certification in each Guild Member Referral Letter must be completed.

The blade-care kit must contain a clean, soft cloth and sufficient lint-free patches lightly treated with a suitable non-abrasive protective oil.

The four presentation knives will be evaluated in accordance with **Appendix H: Evaluation Schedule for Forged Fixed Blade Knives**. The performance-test knife is not scored.

Swords, axes, integral-construction knives, kit knives and knives without bolsters or guards may not be submitted as presentation knives.

The applicant must personally make each leather sheath. Each sheath must securely retain the knife, protect the user from the cutting edge and point, and have a top rivet protecting the stitching. A sheath is not required for the performance-test knife.

3.3.3 Required Knives

Knife No. 1: Performance-Test Knife

The performance-test knife specifications, pre-test dimensional compliance requirements, required safety equipment and test materials, and complete Performance Test procedure are contained in **Appendix J: Performance Test Knife Specifications and Procedure**.

The applicant and Guild-approved Performance Tester must comply with the requirements of **Appendix J** in full.

Knife No. 2: Symmetrical Damascus Dagger

The applicant must submit a double-edged symmetrical dagger of their own design.

The blade must:

- Have a minimum length of 150 mm
- Be made from carbon-steel Damascus containing at least 300 layers and personally produced by the applicant
- Display a recognised pattern. Random-pattern Damascus is not accepted.
- Be forged to profile
- Incorporate a distal taper

The Damascus may be made in another bladesmith's workshop, but it must be made entirely by the applicant without assistance or supervision. Only open-fire forge welding using flux and the cut-and-stack method is permitted.

The dagger must have a narrow-tang or through-tang construction with a pommel. The bevels may be flat or hollow ground.

S-shaped guards and recurved blades are not permitted because either feature would result in a non-symmetrical dagger.

Knife No. 3: Single-Edged Carbon-Steel Knife

The knife must have:

- A clearly visible hardening line or hamon
- A flat-ground blade
- An Apple-Seed edge, also known as a Convex or Moran-style cutting edge

Knives No. 4 and No. 5: Maker's Choice

Each knife must be a forged fixed-blade knife of the applicant's own design.

The knives may be made from plain carbon steel or Damascus steel personally produced by the applicant. The two knives should preferably demonstrate different construction methods.

3.3.4 Technical Requirements for the Presentation Knives

Only recognised carbon blade steels may be used and

For each presentation knife, the applicant must provide:

- All steels and materials used
- Approximate blade hardness in HRC
- Heat-treatment details, including annealing or normalising, quenching and tempering

For each Damascus blade, the applicant must also provide:

- The component steels
- The construction method
- The approximate average carbon content

The required information must be recorded in **Appendix D: Knife Technical Information Sheet**.

3.3.5 Performance Test Knife Specifications and Procedure

The performance-test knife specifications, pre-test dimensional compliance requirements, required safety equipment and test materials, and complete Performance Test procedure are contained in **Appendix J: Performance Test Knife Specifications and Procedure**.

The applicant and Guild-approved Performance Tester must comply with the requirements of **Appendix J** in full.

3.4 Mixed - Folding & Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives

3.4.1 Required Submission

The applicant may submit a mixed set of five knives comprising folding knives and stock-removed fixed blade knives.

At least one of the submitted knives must be a fixed blade knife.

One of the fixed blade knives must be a double-sided symmetrical dagger with a minimum blade length of 120 mm.

The applicant may submit one of the following dagger options:

- A double-sided symmetrical dagger of the applicant's own design
- The Boot Knife designed by Piet Grey

- The Combat Dagger designed by Kevin Harvey

The two reference designs and their specifications are provided in **Appendix I: Optional Dagger Reference Designs**.

Forged blade applicants may not submit a mixed set of folding and fixed blade knives.

3.4.2 Route Requirements

Each folding knife must comply with the requirements in **Section 3.1: Folding Knives**.

Each stock-removed fixed blade knife must comply with the requirements in **Section 3.2: Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives**.

3.4.3 Applicable Evaluation Schedules

The folding knives will be evaluated in accordance with **Appendix F: Evaluation Schedule for Folding Knives**.

The stock-removed fixed blade knives will be evaluated in accordance with **Appendix G: Evaluation Schedule for Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives**.

3.5 Culinary Knives

3.5.1 Required Submission

The applicant must submit four culinary knives of different designs, plus one double-sided symmetrical dagger with a minimum blade length of 120 mm.

The applicant may submit one of the following dagger options:

- A double-sided symmetrical dagger of the applicant's own design
- The Boot Knife designed by Piet Grey
- The Combat Dagger designed by Kevin Harvey

The two reference designs and their specifications are provided in **Appendix I: Optional Dagger Reference Designs**.

3.5.2 Sheaths

Each submitted knife must comply with the sheath requirements contained in Section 2 and the applicable evaluation schedule.

3.5.3 Applicable Evaluation Schedule

The five knives will be evaluated in accordance with **Appendix G: Evaluation Schedule for Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives**.

Appendix A: Membership Application Form

Please complete all applicable fields clearly. Fields marked Optional may be left blank.

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Full legal first name(s)	
Surname	
Preferred name	
South African ID number	
Passport number, if applicable	
Country of passport issue, if applicable	
Country of residence	

2. CONTACT DETAILS

Cellphone number	
WhatsApp number, if different	
Email address	

3. ADDRESS DETAILS

Residential address	
Suburb or district	
Town or city	
Province or state	
Postal code	
Country	

4. KNIFEMAKING DETAILS

Year started making knives	
Business or trading name, Optional	
Website, Optional	

Current knifemaking status: ☐ Full-time knifemaker ☐ Part-time knifemaker

Social Media, Optional

Instagram profile name or URL	
Facebook page name or URL	
Other social-media profile or URL	

5. SUBMISSION ROUTE

- ☐ Folding Knives
- ☐ Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives
- ☐ Forged Fixed Blade Knives
- ☐ Mixed - Folding & Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives
- ☐ Culinary Knives

☐ I confirm that I have read and understood the requirements applicable to the selected submission route.

6. KNIFE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEETS

A completed Appendix D: Knife Technical Information Sheet must be attached for every knife submitted for evaluation.

Number of Knife Technical Information Sheets attached	
--	--

☐ I confirm that a completed Knife Technical Information Sheet is attached for every knife submitted.

7. GUILD MEMBER REFERRAL LETTERS

Two separately completed and signed Appendix C: Guild Member Referral Letters must accompany the application.

Referring Guild Member 1 - Full name	
Referring Guild Member 2 - Full name	

☐ I confirm that two completed and signed Guild Member Referral Letters are attached.

8. APPLICANT DECLARATION

- ☐ I confirm that the information supplied in this application is true, accurate and complete.
- ☐ I confirm that I personally made all knives submitted for evaluation.
- ☐ I confirm that I personally made all sheaths required for the submitted knives.
- ☐ I have read and understood Section 2: General Application Requirements.
- ☐ I have read and understood the requirements applicable to my selected submission route and the relevant evaluation schedule or schedules.
- ☐ I have received and read Appendix E: Constitution of the Knifemakers' Guild of Southern Africa and agree to comply with the Constitution if admitted as a member.
- ☐ I understand that submitting knives for evaluation does not guarantee acceptance as a Guild member.
- ☐ I understand that the Executive Committee will decide whether my application is accepted or rejected.
- ☐ I understand that the R900 evaluation fee is non-refundable.
- ☐ I understand that my numerical evaluation scores will not be disclosed.
- ☐ I authorise the Guild to verify the information supplied in this application and to contact the referring Guild members where necessary.

By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understood and accepted the declarations above.

9. APPLICANT SIGNATURE

Full legal name	
Applicant signature	
Place of signature	
Date	

Appendix B: Guild Contact List

Applicants must contact the relevant person before delivering evaluation knives or arranging a Performance Test.

Where courier delivery is used, the recipient must be advised and provided with the tracking information.

KGSA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Name	Role	Cellphone	Email
Kosie Steenkamp	Chairman	083 308 5732	kosiesteenkamp@gmail.com
Andre Van Heerden	Vice-Chairman	082 566 6030	avanheerden1@gmail.com
Derek Rausch	Exco Member	082 475 7253	rausch@vodamail.co.za
John Arnold	Chief Adjudicator	082 389 2772	johnarnold5000@gmail.com
Herucus Blomerus	Exco Member	082 416 1538	herucus.blomerus@gmail.com

EVALUATION SUBMISSION AND DELIVERY CONTACTS

Applicants must make prior arrangements with the selected recipient before delivering or couriering knives for evaluation.

Name	Cellphone	Email	Delivery address
John Arnold	082 389 2772	johnarnold5000@gmail.com	14 Phillip Street Poortview Roodepoort 1424 South Africa
Albie Wantenaar	082 809 2111	Not provided	62 Holzgen Street Brackenhurst Alberton 1448 South Africa
Gavin Dickerson	084 250 1050	gavindknives@gmail.com	15 Anzac Street Germiston 1401 South Africa

Name	Cellphone	Email	Delivery address
Neels van den Berg	083 451 3105	neels@blackdragonforge.com	Black Dragon Forge, Farm 29 RSE, c/o R512 and Winsome Valley Roads, Lanseria, Johannesburg, Gauteng, 1748, South Africa

GUILD-APPROVED PERFORMANCE TESTERS

The applicant must arrange the prescribed Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test directly with a Guild-approved tester.

Where the applicant cannot attend in person, arrangements for sending the performance-test knife must be agreed with the tester beforehand.

Tester	Cell and WhatsApp	Email	Address
Kevin Harvey	074 892 9359	heavin@heavinforge.co.za	68 Lizana Magagula Street (old Van Kraayenburg Street), Belfast, Emakhazeni, 1100 South Africa
Heather Harvey	074 892 9359	heavin@heavinforge.co.za	68 Lizana Magagula Street (old Van Kraayenburg Street), Belfast, Emakhazeni, 1100, South Africa
Stuart Smith	084 248 1324	samuraistu@forgedknives.co.za	32 Elbon Road, Blairgowrie, Johannesburg, 2194, South Africa
Neels van den Berg	083 451 3105	neels@blackdragonforge.com	Black Dragon Forge, Farm 29 RSE, c/o R512 and Winsome Valley Roads, Lanseria, Johannesburg, Gauteng, 1748, South Africa

Tester	Cell and WhatsApp	Email	Address
Dave Skinner	083 651 3184	dskinner@icon.co.za	354 Sardinia Bay rd, Lovemore Park, Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha), Eastern Cape, 6070, South Africa
Theunis Greyling	082 896 1902	zr1rom@gmail.com	33 Mill Straat, Bothasig, Cape Town, 7441, South Africa

Appendix C: Guild Member Referral Letter

The applicant must submit two separately completed and signed Guild Member Referral Letters. Each letter must be completed by a current KGSA member.

APPLICANT DETAILS

Applicant's full name	
Cellphone number	
Email address	

Submission Route - select one

- ☐ Folding Knives
 ☐ Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives
 ☐ Forged Fixed Blade Knives
☐ Mixed - Folding & Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives
 ☐ Culinary Knives

REFERRING GUILD MEMBER DETAILS

Full name	
Guild membership number, if applicable	
Cellphone number	
Email address	
Relationship to applicant or period known	

GENERAL CERTIFICATION

By signing this letter, I certify the following to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- ☐ I am a current member of the Knifemakers Guild of Southern Africa.
- ☐ The applicant personally made all knives submitted for evaluation.
- ☐ The applicant personally made all required sheaths submitted with the knives.
- ☐ I have personally inspected the completed knives and all required sheaths.
- ☐ In my opinion, the submitted work is consistent with the quality expected of a Guild member.
- ☐ In my opinion, the applicant is of sound character and is suitable for Guild membership.

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION FOR FORGED FIXED BLADE KNIVES

Complete this section only when the applicant is applying under the Forged Fixed Blade Knives submission route.

- ☐ The applicant personally produced the Damascus steel used in the required symmetrical Damascus dagger.
- ☐ To the best of my knowledge, the Damascus steel and completed symmetrical dagger comply with the applicable Forged Fixed Blade Knives submission requirements.

DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

I confirm that the information contained in this Guild Member Referral Letter is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the Guild may contact me to verify any statement made in this letter.

Referring Guild member's signature	
Full name	
Date	
Place	

Submission Note: This completed letter must accompany the membership application and evaluation submission. A clear photocopy or scanned copy is acceptable, provided that the referring Guild member's signature is clearly visible.

Appendix D: Knife Technical Information Sheet

Complete for each knife submitted for evaluation.

APPLICANT DETAILS

Applicant's full name	
Submission Route	☐ Folding Knives ☐ Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives ☐ Forged Fixed Blade Knives ☐ Mixed - Folding & Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives ☐ Culinary Knives
Knife number	☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

KNIFE DESCRIPTION

Knife type		Intended purpose	
Overall length (mm)		Blade length (mm)	
Maximum blade width (mm)		Blade thickness at ricasso (mm)	
Construction method			

MATERIALS USED

Blade steel	
Guard, bolster or fittings	
Pommel material, where applicable	
Handle material	
Other materials	

DAMASCUS INFORMATION

Complete this section only where Damascus steel is used.

Component steels		Number of layers	
Damascus pattern		Approximate average carbon content	
Construction method			

CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

Methods and machines used	
Internal workings, mechanical features, where applicable	

HEAT TREATMENT

Annealing or normalising process		Blade hardness (HRC)	
Hardening temperature (°C)		Quench medium	
Quenching method		Tempering temperature (°C)	
Tempering duration		Number of tempering cycles	

BLADE AND EDGE DETAILS

Blade grind	
Blade finish	
Cutting-edge geometry	

SUPPORTING INFORMATION ATTACHED

- ☐ Drawing or sketch ☐ Construction photographs ☐ Photograph directly after hardening
☐ Photograph of components before final assembly ☐ Photograph of completed knife
☐ Other: _____

APPLICANT CONFIRMATION

I confirm that the information provided on this Knife Technical Information Sheet is accurate and relates to the knife identified above.	
Applicant's initials: _____	Date: _____

Appendix E: Constitution of the Knifemakers' Guild of Southern Africa

1. Name

The NAME of the Guild is THE KNIFEMAKERS' GUILD OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

2. Objectives

- a) The OBJECTIVES of the Guild are the following:
 - i. To watch over and advance the interests of members.
 - ii. To establish closer relations and associations between members.
 - iii. To mediate between members or between members and their clients and adjust and settle differences between them whenever called upon by such members or clients to do so.
 - iv. To set and maintain standards of conduct and workmanship amongst members.
 - v. To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these objects.

3. Membership

- a) Subject to the provisions of Article 15 b) and Article 16 b) below, only applicants who make knives shall be considered for voting membership of the Guild.
- b) A candidate for membership must submit with his written application at least 5 (five) examples of his work to the Executive Committee and an application fee to be determined by the Executive Committee, which amount is not refundable. The applicant shall state when he started making knives.
- c) The Executive Committee will in its sole discretion decide whether the applicant is to be accepted as a member. In arriving at its decision the Executive Committee shall consider the workmanship, design and quality of materials used in the examples submitted.
- d) The Executive Committee shall give the applicant written notice of the acceptance or rejection of his application.
- e) The new member shall attend and exhibit at the first Annual General Meeting and Show immediately after membership acceptance advice provided such advice is not within three months of such Annual General Meeting & Show. If acceptance advice is within three months this ruling then applies to the first Annual General Meeting & Show thereafter.
- f) All members are required to attend at least one out of three consecutive Annual General Meetings.
- g) All Members are required to attend, and exhibit at, at least one out of three consecutive Annual Shows.
- h) Failure to comply with Rules (e) & (f) above without good reason submitted to and accepted by the Exco prior to the event, can result in disciplinary steps taken against the offending member in terms of Article 13 below.
- i) Any member shall, at any stage of membership, when requested to do so by the Executive Committee, submit to the Guild 5 (five) knives for re-evaluation.

- j) Any member who is unable to continue making knives due to old-age and/or deteriorating health but wishes to continue membership will, following a written request to the Executive Committee, be considered for continued ordinary membership, without voting rights but all other privileges remaining unchanged. Such members will not be obliged to pay the prescribed annual membership fee as envisaged in Article 8.
- k) Membership shall cease upon death, resignation or expulsion in terms of the constitution.

4. Management

- a) The affairs of the Guild shall be managed by an Executive Committee.
- b) The Executive Committee shall consist of a chairman, a vice-chairman and four members elected by majority vote.
- c) The chairman of the Executive Committee shall be elected by majority vote, shall hold office for a period of one year and will be eligible for re-election.
- d) The new Executive Committee shall at its first meeting elect such office bearers as it may deem necessary and may for this purpose co-opt other members of the Guild to fill the post or posts.
- e) In the event of any vacancy or vacancies occurring on the Executive Committee the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall have the power to fill any such vacancy from the members of the Guild. The members so appointed shall hold office on the same terms and only for the remaining term of the member whose place he takes.
- f) At an Executive Committee meeting 3 (three) members shall be required to form a quorum.

5. Powers of the Executive Committee

- a) The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall conduct all the affairs of the Guild. Without limiting their rights of management the Executive Committee shall have the following special powers:
 - i. To convene meetings.
 - ii. To hold and have the custody and control of the funds and the property of the Guild.
 - iii. To open, should it deem necessary, a banking or savings account.
 - iv. To appoint sub-committees and delegate any of its powers to such sub-committees.
 - v. To do all other things that it may consider conducive to the interests or good management or the promotion of the objectives of the Guild.

6. Meetings

- a) The Executive Committee shall have full power and authority at any time to call meetings of the Guild on such notice as it may deem fit.
- b) A quorum of members at a meeting called in terms of Article 6 a) or 6 c) shall be not less than 15 (fifteen) members present within 15 (fifteen) minutes of the time appointed for such meeting. Should there be no quorum present at such meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned until a date to be agreed upon at such meeting (for which purpose those present shall constitute a quorum) and at such resumed meeting those members present shall form a quorum regardless of their number.
- c) Upon the receipt of a requisition signed by not less than 15 (fifteen) members, the Executive Committee shall convene a Special Meeting to consider the matters mentioned in the requisition. Should there be no quorum present at any such meeting it shall be adjourned.

7. Liability of Members and Vesting of Assets

- a) No member of the Guild shall be personally liable for any of the debts or engagements of the Guild and no assets of the Guild shall at any time vest in any member or former member thereof.

8. Funds

- a) Funds will be obtained by means of fees for membership application, membership fees, voluntary contributions, fines, donations and from any other source the Executive Committee may deem fit.
- b) All funds of the Guild shall be applied for the purpose of giving effect to the objectives of the Guild in accordance with (these rules) this Constitution.
- c) Each member shall pay, on or before the 1st March of each year, an annual membership fee as determined by the Executive Committee.
- d) Should a member fail to pay the annual membership fee, and remain in such default for a period in excess of 3 (three) months, he must be notified in writing of such default.
- e) Should a member fail to pay the annual membership fee within 30 (thirty) days of such notice, his membership of the Guild will automatically cease.

9. Voting

- a) Every voting member of the Guild shall have 1 (one) vote. Voting by proxy shall be permitted. In the event of an equality of votes the chairman shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.
- b) The majority at any meeting may demand that voting be by ballot.

10. Amendments

- a) The constitution may be amended, altered or added to at any Annual General Meeting of the Guild or any meeting specially called for such purpose. Any such alterations or additions shall not be deemed to be passed unless approved by two-thirds of the members present at such meeting, and members voting by proxy.

11. Notices

- a) Notices to members shall be deemed to be properly given if addressed to the address supplied to the Executive Committee by such member.

12. Inspection

- a) Upon receiving a complaint in writing about the standard of workmanship or quality of materials used by a member, the Executive Committee must inform the member of the fact that a complaint has been lodged against him/her.
- b) Should the Executive Committee, after inspecting the knife or knives that gave rise to the complaint as well as any other knives that the Executive Committee may require the member

to submit (in order to properly assess the complaint), find that the member is at fault, the member must rectify the problem which gave rise to the complaint in a manner to be determined by the Executive Committee.

- c) The Executive Committee may, after inspecting the knife or knives that gave rise to the complaint, find for or against the member. Should the Executive Committee find that the member is at fault, he/she must rectify the problem which gave rise to the complaint, in a manner to be determined by the Executive Committee.
- d) Should the member fail to comply with the instructions of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may take whatever disciplinary action against the member that it deems fit, including suspension or expulsion.

13. Code of Conduct

- a) The Executive Committee may draw up a code of conduct to set ethical standards to which members must conform in their dealings with their customers in the dealings with customers and in their conduct as members of the guild in general.
- b) If a member conducts himself in a manner unbecoming a member of the Guild or if a complaint against a member is lodged with the Guild, the Executive Committee may judge the member's actions after hearing representations by the member on the complaint (if the member wishes to make representations) and if found not to conform to the code of conduct, may fine, suspend or expel such member. Fines are limited to a maximum of 5 (five) times the annual Guild membership fee.
- c) A member shall at all times maintain a professional attitude towards clients, attempting in all his dealings with them to bring credit to himself, the Guild and knifemaking in general. To this end each member shall, inter alia:
 - i. Communicate with his client at such intervals as are necessary to ensure that the client is kept informed of the progress of any orders he has accepted, especially when the proposed delivery time cannot be complied with.
 - ii. A member shall honour all promises made to clients. In the event that he is not able to do so, the client must be informed in writing.
 - iii. A member shall not contravene any laws of the country in his dealings with clients.

14. Appeal

- a) A member disciplined under Article 13 b) may appeal to the Guild at the next general meeting. The members may, by a two-thirds majority vote, overrule the Executive Committee's decision and may expel, fine, suspend or declare the offending member innocent.

15. Associate Membership

- a) There will be a special class of membership to be known as associate membership. Save as provided for in Article 15 b) below, an associate member will not be granted the voting rights of a full member of the Guild, nor will an associate member be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee. Associate members may, however, be co-opted by the Executive Committee to serve on sub-committees. An associate member shall receive notice of all meetings of the Guild and shall be entitled to attend and participate in the meetings.

- b) If approved by unanimous vote at an annual general meeting of the Guild, an associate member may be accepted as a member with the voting rights of a full member of the Guild as envisaged in Article 9 above, and be eligible for appointment as a member of the Executive Committee.
- c) An applicant for associate membership shall apply in writing to the Secretary of the Guild stating his qualification for associate membership together with an application fee in an amount to be determined by the Executive Committee, which amount is not refundable.
- d) The Executive Committee will in its sole discretion decide whether the applicant is to be accepted as an associate member. The Executive Committee shall give the applicant written notice of the acceptance or rejection of his application without stating any reasons for such decision.
- e) Associate membership shall cease upon death, resignation, expulsion or when the associate member loses his qualification for being an associate member.
- f) Only an applicant falling within the ambit of one or more of the following classes of persons may qualify for associate membership:
 - i. Artists who by virtue of their craft embellish or adorn the products of knifemakers;
 - ii. Collectors of handmade knives;
 - iii. Suppliers of knifemaking materials, tools or machinery to knifemakers.

16. Honorary Membership

- a) There will be a special class of membership to be known as honorary membership. Save as provided for in Article 16 b) below, an honorary member will not be granted the voting rights of a voting member of the Guild, nor will an honorary member be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee. Honorary members may, however, be co-opted by the Executive Committee to serve on sub-committees. An honorary member shall receive notice of all meetings of the Guild and shall be entitled to attend and participate in the meetings.
- b) If approved by unanimous vote at an annual general meeting of the Guild, an honorary member may be appointed as a member of the Executive Committee, in which event, the honorary member shall have the voting rights of a voting member of the Guild as envisaged in Article 9 above for the term of his service on the Executive Committee.
- c) A person who has actively furthered the cause of knifemaking in the interests of the Guild may be nominated by the Executive Committee for honorary membership. Such a person becomes an honorary member if his nomination is approved by the majority of the voting members present at a meeting of the Guild.
- d) Honorary membership shall cease upon death, resignation or expulsion by the majority of the voting members present at a meeting of the Guild.

17. Founding Members

- a) The three founding members of the Guild, PC Grey, ZA de Beer and OD Wood will be honorary members of the Guild but with all the rights and privileges of a voting member of the Guild.
- b) The founding members shall not be obliged to pay the prescribed annual membership fees as envisaged in Article 8 c)

Appendix F: Evaluation Schedule for Folding Knives

A - Sharpness:

A knife, which does not easily fulfill No.1 below, scores no points in this category.

Note: The first evaluator only performs this test. The other evaluators will use his marks.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Ease with which knife shaves or cuts vertically held paper.	5					
Shave or cut vertical paper after ten cuts of 300 mm long in cardboard boxes.	5					
TOTAL	10					

B - Blade Finish and Logo:

All parts of the blade are viewed, including the back of the blade, sides, ricasso and choil.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Mirror polish: no grain structure of steel visible – Max 10 points, * Grain structure visible – Max 8, * Longitudinal satin finish – max 6, * Vertical satin finish – max 4, * Sand or bead blasted finish – max 2 Damascus blades: Mirror polish, unetched, pattern visible – max 8 points; Unevenness between layers – max 6; Chemical etched – max 2	10					
Logo, clarity and definition.	10					
TOTAL	20					

C – Grinding:

Hollow or Flatgrinds.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Symmetry of the grinding lines. The left and right side of the blade is compared.	10					
Symmetry of grinding run out/s viewed from the cutting edge sides.	10					
Neatness and definition of grinding bevels.	10					
Flatness of blade. No corrugations or dips.	10					
Is cutting edge straight and in centre of blade?	5					
Sharpening life of blade, height of grind.	5					
Thickness of cutting edge and edge geometry -vs- size/type of knife.	5					
Nail mark or other opening device: Efficiency	5					
Blade taper proportional to knife design and purpose. Not too thin at point.	5					
TOTAL	65					

D - Fit and Finish of Parts:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Lock bar or spacer flush with back of knife in blade open & closed positions.	5					
Fit between lock bar, spacer, and liners.	10					
Internal finish of all parts.	5					
Fit of handle material to bolsters and liners.	10					
Symmetry of bolsters and handle slabs seen from front, back, top and bottom.	10					
Provision to avoid concentric circle scratching of ricasso when blade is opened and closed.	5					
Fitting of pivot pin.	5					
Single blade knives: - Does blade lie centrally between liners when closed?	5					
- Does blade and handle form a straight unit when knife is open?	5					
Or - Multi blade knives: - Do all blades nest neatly and without touching when in closed position?	5					
- Can blades be closed in any sequence without fouling another blade?	5					
Overall external finish of entire knife and all parts.	10					
TOTAL	80					

E - Mechanical Features:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Vertical play of blade in open position.	10					
Horizontal play of blade in open position.	10					
Side to side blade play in closed position.	5					
Ease of opening.	10					
Ease of closing.	10					
Smooth rotation of blade. No roughness, grittiness or hesitant movement.	10					
Cutting edge held clear of lock bar or spacer.	5					
Is a "hold closed" mechanism or feature present? Does it keep the blade closed and work smoothly and without movement?	10					
Efficiency of mechanism to positively lock the blade in the open position. Back lock knives: Effectiveness of locking device under moderate pressure. Liner lock knives: Effectiveness of locking blade/device under moderate pressure.	10					
TOTAL	80					

F – General:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Mass of knife in relation to its size/use.	5					
General design and appearance. Refer to design and description of knives.	10					
Technical quality and execution of mechanical features i.e. position of pivot pin, lock mechanism, etc.	30					
TOTAL	45					

TOTALS

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
A – Sharpness.	10					
B - Blade Finish & Logo.	20					
C – Grinding.	65					
D - Fit and finish of parts.	80					
E - Mechanical Features.	80					
F – General.	45					
GRAND TOTAL	300					
Divide Grand Total by 3	100					

Total of 5 knives _____ divided by 5 _____ PASS / FAIL: _____

Appendix G: Evaluation Schedule for Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives

A - Sharpness:

A knife, which does not easily fulfill No.1 below, scores no points in this category.

Note: the first evaluator only performs this test. The other evaluators will use his marks.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Ease with which knife shaves or cuts vertically held paper.	5					
Shave or cut vertical paper after ten cuts of 300 mm long in cardboard boxes.	5					
TOTAL	10					

B - Blade Finish and Logo:

All parts of the blade are viewed, including the back of the blade, sides, ricasso and choil.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Mirror polish: no grain structure of steel visible - Max 10 points, * Grain structure visible - max 8, * Longitudinal satin finish - max 6, * Vertical satin finish - max 4, * Sand or bead blasted finish - max 2. Damascus blades: Mirror polish, unetched, pattern visible - max 8 points; Unevenness between layers - max 6; Chemical etched - max 2.	10					
Logo, clarity and definition.	10					
TOTAL	20					

C - Grinding:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Symmetry of the grinding lines and the centreline or spine in double-edged knives. The left and right side of the blade is compared.	10					
Symmetry of grinding run out/s viewed from the cutting edge sides.	10					
Neatness and definition of grinding bevels.	10					
Flatness of blade. No corrugations or dips.	10					
Straightness of entire knife. Viewed along back and cutting edge sides.	10					
Is cutting edge straight and in centre of blade?	5					
Sharpening life of blade, height of grind.	5					
Thickness of cutting edge -vs- size/type of knife.	5					
Blade taper proportional to knife design and purpose. Not too thin at point.	5					
TOTAL	70					

D - Guard, Pommel and Bolster:

Guards, bolsters and pommels must be made from a suitable metal.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Guard / pommel / bolster on narrow tang knives						
Attachment to tang: Pins, solder, etc.	10					
Symmetry of guard/bolster - all views.	10					
Blade/guard/bolster fit viewed from the front.	10					
Proportions of guard/bolster, front and side views.	5					
Invisible riveting of pins.	5					
Polish of guard or bolster. Marked by first evaluator only.	5					
TOTAL	45					
Or - Guard on full tang knives						
Attachment to tang: pins, solder, etc.	10					
Symmetry of guard/bolster - all views.	10					
Blade/guard/bolster if viewed from the front.	10					
Proportions of guard/bolster, front and side views.	5					
Invisible riveting of pins.	5					
Polish of guard or bolster. Marked by first evaluator only.	5					
TOTAL	45					

D - Guard, Pommel and Bolster:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Or - Bolsters on full tang knives						
Attachment to tang: Pins, solder, etc.	10					
Symmetry of guard/bolster - all views.	10					
Blade/guard/bolster fit viewed from the front.	10					
Proportions of guard/bolster, front and side views.	5					
Invisible riveting of pins.	5					
Polish of guard or bolster. Marked by first evaluator only.	5					
TOTAL	45					

E - Handle:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Full tang knives						

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Headed rivets or inter-screws. Both sides and their fitting Or small pins around periphery of handle and their fitting. At least four pins must be used.	10					
Narrow tang knives						
Threaded or riveted pommel and its fitting Or No pommel but pins through handle and tang.	10					

E - Handle:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
All knives						
Fit of handle to tang and/or guard, bolster and pommel.	10					
Shaping and size of handle for intended use.	10					
Balance and mass of knife in relation to its size.	5					
Is tang tapered and how well? To at least 1.5 mm.	10					
Flush finishing and polishing of tang, rivets and surrounding handle material.	10					
General appearance, originality and effectiveness of design.	10					
TOTAL	65					

F - General:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Mass of knife in relation to its size.	5					
General design and appearance. Refer to design and description of knives.	15					
General workmanship.	20					
TOTAL	40					

G - Sheath:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Quality of leather - blemish free.	5					
Thickness of leather and stiffness of sheath.	5					
Fit of knife in sheath. Too tight / too loose, retention devices etc.	10					
Ease of operation.	5					
Stitching and /or riveting.	10					
Is a substantial welt sewn in or a liner present?	5					
Dressing of all exposed leather edges.	5					
Top rivet to protect stitching.	5					

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
TOTAL	50					

TOTALS

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
A - Sharpness.	10					
B - Blade Finish and Logo.	20					
C - Grinding.	70					
D - Guard and bolster.	45					
E - Handle.	65					
F - General.	40					
Sub Total Knife	250					
Divide sub total by 2.5	100					

TOTALS

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
G - Sheath	50					
Sub Total Sheath	50					
GRAND TOTAL	300					
Divide Grand Total by 3	100					

Total of 5 knives _____ divided by 5 _____ PASS / FAIL: _____

Appendix H: Evaluation Schedule for Forged Fixed Blade Knives

A - Sharpness:

A knife, which does not easily fulfil No. 1 below, scores no points in this category.

Note: The first evaluator only performs this test. The other evaluators will use his marks.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Ease with which knife shaves or cuts vertically held paper.	5	X				
Shave or cut vertical paper after ten cuts of 300 mm long in cardboard boxes.	5	X				
TOTAL	10	X				

B - Blade Finish and Logo:

All parts of the blade are viewed, including the back of the blade, sides, ricasso and choil.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Carbon steel: Mirror polish, hamon visible - max 10 points, Fine satin finish, FeCl etch, hamon visible - max 8 points, Fine satin finish, no hamon visible - max 6 points, Vertical satin finish - max 4 points, Sand or bead blasted finish - max 2 points. Damascus blades: Mirror polish, gun blued, pattern visible - max 10 points; mirror polish, FeCl etch, pattern visible - max 8 points; Fine satin finish, FeCl etch, pattern visible - max 6 points; Vertical satin finish, pattern visible - max 4 points; Sand or bead blasted finish - max 2 points.	10	X				
Logo, clarity and definition.	10	X				
TOTAL	20	X				

C – Grinding:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Symmetry of the grinding lines and the centreline or spine in double-edged knives. The left and right side of the blade is compared.	10	X				
Symmetry of grinding run out/s viewed from the cutting edge sides.	10	X				
Neatness and definition of grinding bevels.	10	X				
Flatness of blade. No corrugations or dips.	10	X				
Straightness of entire knife. Viewed along back and cutting edge sides.	10	X				
Is cutting edge straight and in centre of blade?	5	X				
Sharpening life of blade, height of grind.	5	X				
Thickness of cutting edge and edge geometry -vs- size/type of knife.	5	X				
Distal taper proportional to knife design and purpose.	5	X				
TOTAL	70	X				

D – Guard and Bolster:

Guards, bolsters and pommels must be made from a suitable metal.

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Guard / bolster on narrow tang knives						
Attachment to tang: pins, solder, etc.	10	X				
Symmetry of guard / bolster – all views.	10	X				

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Blade/guard/ bolster fit viewed from the front.	10	X				
Proportions of guard / bolster, front and side views.	5	X				
Invisible riveting of pins.	5	X				
Polish of guard or bolster. Marked by first evaluator only.	5	X				
TOTAL	45	X				
Or - Guard on full tang knives						
Attachment to tang: Pins, solder, etc.	10	X				
Symmetry of guard / bolster – all views.	10	X				
Blade/guard/ bolster fit viewed from the front.	10	X				
Proportions of guard / bolster, front and side views.	5	X				
Invisible riveting of pins.	5	X				
Polish of guard or bolster. Marked by first evaluator only.	5	X				
TOTAL	45	X				

D – Guard and Bolster:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Or - Bolsters on full tang knives						
Attachment to tang: Pins, solder, etc.	10	X				
Symmetry of guard / bolster – all views.	10	X				
Blade/guard/ bolster fit viewed from the front.	10	X				
Proportions of guard / bolster, front and side views.	5	X				
Invisible riveting of pins.	5	X				
Polish of guard or bolster. Marked by first evaluator only.	5	X				
TOTAL	45	X				

E – Handle:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Full tang knives						
Headed rivets or inter-screws. Both sides and their fitting Or Small pins around periphery of handle and their fitting. At least four pins must be used.	10	X				
Narrow tang knives						
Threaded or riveted pommel and its fitting Or No pommel but pin/s through handle and tang.	10	X				

E – Handle:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
All knives						
Fit of handle to tang and/or guard, bolster and pommel.	10	X				
Shaping and size of handle for intended use.	10	X				
Balance and mass of knife in relation to its size.	5	X				
Is tang tapered and how well? To at least 1.5 mm.	10	X				

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Flush finishing and polishing of tang, rivets and surrounding handle material.	10	X				
General appearance, originality and effectiveness of design.	10	X				
TOTAL	65	X				

F – General:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Mass of knife in relation to its size.	5	X				
General design and appearance. Refer to design and description of knives.	15	X				
General workmanship.	20	X				
TOTAL	40	X				

G – Sheath:

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Quality of leather - blemish free.	5	X				
Thickness of leather and stiffness of sheath.	5	X				
Fit of knife in sheath. Too tight /too loose, retention devices etc.	10	X				
Ease of operation.	5	X				
Stitching and /or riveting.	10	X				
Is a substantial welt sewn in or a liner present?	5	X				
Dressing of all exposed leather edges.	5	X				
Top rivet to protect stitching.	5	X				
TOTAL	50	X				

TOTALS

	Max. Points	Knife No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
A – Sharpness.	10	X				
B - Blade Finish and Logo.	20	X				
C – Grinding.	70	X				
D - Guard and bolster.	45	X				
E – Handle.	65	X				
F – General.	40	X				
Sub Total Knife	250	X				
Divide sub total by 2.5	100	X				
G – Sheath.	50	X				
Sub total sheath	50	X				
GRAND TOTAL	300	X				
Divide Grand Total by 3	100	X				

Total of 4 knives _____ divided by 4 _____ PASS / FAIL: _____

Appendix I: Optional Dagger Reference Designs

Applicants applying under the Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives, Mixed - Folding & Stock-Removed Fixed Blade Knives or Culinary Knives submission routes, must submit one double-sided symmetrical dagger with a minimum blade length of 120 mm.

The applicant may submit one of the following:

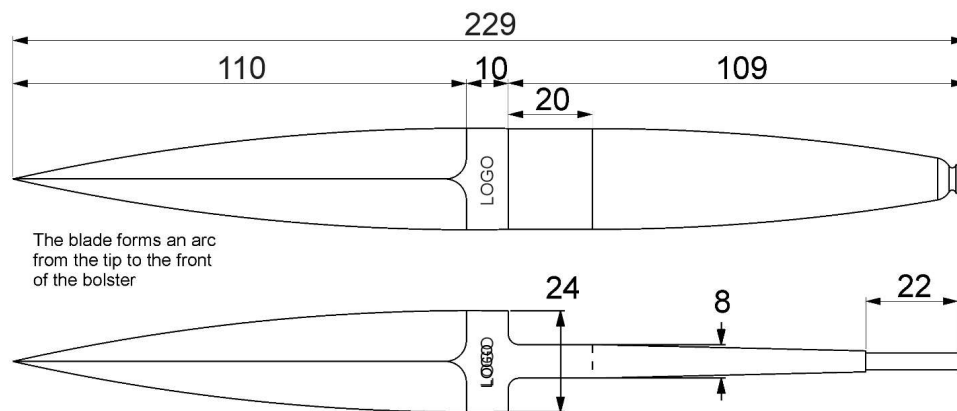
- A double-sided symmetrical dagger of the applicant's own design
- The Boot Knife designed by Piet Grey
- The Combat Dagger designed by Kevin Harvey

The Boot Knife and Combat Dagger are provided as optional reference designs.

Where the applicant selects one of the reference designs, the dagger must comply with the applicable drawing and specifications contained in this appendix.

Where the applicant submits a dagger of their own design, it must comply with all requirements of the selected submission route.

Boot Knife - Designed by Piet Grey



General Construction

Blade: Use any accepted blade steel, 4 mm thick.

Bolster: The bolster is of one-piece construction and is elliptical in section. No faceting or other ornamentation is shown. This is left to the maker's discretion.

Tang: The tang is 10 mm wide where it joins the blade so that two rivets can be used to attach the bolster. This construction can gain maximum marks, but is optional.

Spacers: Not shown but optional.

Pommel: The shape is optional, but it must be lathe turned and its maximum diameter must be 10 mm where it joins the handle.

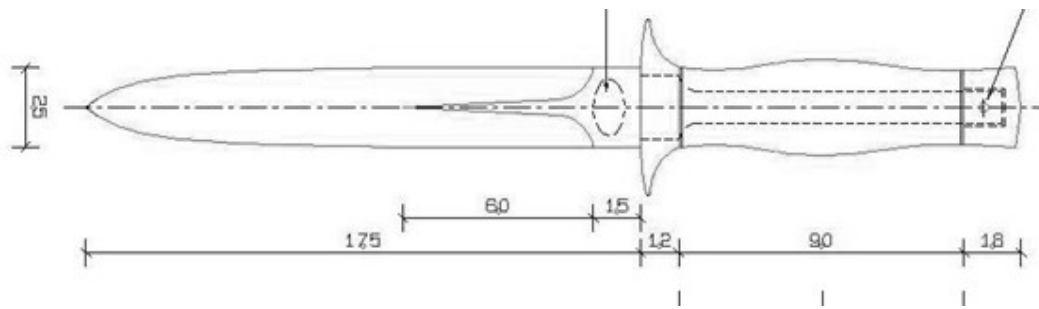
Logo: The logo must be applied where indicated.

Handle: Material is left to the maker's choice. In selecting handle material, consider the risk of shrinkage of certain materials, as this will have an impact on fit.

The shaping of the handle in this plane is left to the maker. The side view, however, must conform to the drawing.

Sheath: In designing the sheath, bear in mind that a boot knife is carried concealed.

Combat Dagger - Designed by Kevin Harvey



The dagger is designed with strong construction in mind, especially tang and point geometry.

General Construction

The guard and pommel may be made from materials selected by the maker. Both must be made from 12 mm bar stock.

The handle material is left to the maker's choice. The handle must be oval in cross-section throughout and smooth for comfort and grip.

The cutting edge must be thin, less than 0,5 mm.

No embellishments are permitted. Emphasis must be placed on symmetry and close fit and finish.

Hollow grinding should ideally be done using a 75 - 100 mm contact wheel.

The tang must be solid knife steel throughout, 5 mm thick, with a base plug to secure the pommel and drilling after final gluing and assembly.

Alternatively, the tang may consist of solid knife steel for at least two-thirds of its length, with a mild steel extension that is silver soldered or brazed, not welded.

Blade:

Use any accepted blade steel, 25 x 5 mm thick at the ricasso. The blade profile must taper gradually along its entire length. A small tapering flat must extend 75 mm from the ricasso down the centre of the blade and must be symmetrical on both sides.

Guard:

The guard must be of one-piece construction. Stock size: 55 x 16 x 12 mm.

The slot must fit a tang measuring 20 mm at the shoulder.

The guard must be shaped as follows:

Oval measuring 55 x 14 mm at the blade

Curved slightly back on the quillons or finger guards

Oval measuring 25 x 16 mm on the handle side

Tang:

Solid Steel Tang

Drill a 6 mm hole at the pommel end before hardening.

After hardening, fit a brass plug into the hole to accept a 3 mm pin through the pommel and plug.

File a small notch in the 6 mm hole to prevent the plug from rotating while drilling the 3 mm hole.

Mild Steel Extension Tang:

Grind a diagonal angle to increase the soldering area in the tang, approximately two-thirds of the distance from the blade.

After hardening, extend the tang using mild steel measuring 10 x 5 mm.

The extension must be silver soldered or brazed to the knife steel. Welding is not permitted.

Drill a 3 mm hole through the pommel and tang assembly after gluing.

Spacers:

Fit decorative spacers on both sides of the handle to complement the handle material.

Pommel:

The pommel must be of one-piece construction. Stock size: 28 x 18 x 12 mm.

Mill a slot in the pommel to accept a tang measuring 10 x 5 mm.

Shape the pommel as follows:

Oval measuring 23 x 12 mm at the handle

Oval measuring 28 x 12 mm at the end

Overall length of 18 mm

Logo:

The maker's logo must be applied where indicated on the drawing.

Handle:

The handle material is left to the maker's choice. The handle must be oval in shape and measure 90 mm long, including the spacers. The centre of the handle must have an oval cross-section measuring 25 x 16 mm.

Sheath:

In designing the sheath, bear in mind that this is a combat dagger. The sheath must be suitably firm, must securely retain the dagger and should be suitable for carrying on the side.

Important Note

These drawings are optional reference designs only. The applicant is not required to reproduce either design and may submit a dagger of their own design, provided that it complies with all requirements of the selected submission route.

Appendix J: Performance Test Knife Specifications and Procedure

3.1 Performance Test Conditions

Before submitting knives for evaluation, the applicant must successfully complete the prescribed Southern African Bladesmiths' Association (SABA) Performance Test under the supervision of a Guild-approved tester listed in Appendix B: Guild Contact List.

The applicant must personally forge and complete all work on the performance-test knife, including its heat treatment. No other person may assist with its construction or heat treatment.

Where the applicant cannot attend in person, the performance-test knife may be sent to the tester. In such cases, the applicant accepts the tester's result as final.

3.2 Performance-Test Knife Specifications

The performance-test knife must comply with the following **maximum dimensions**:

Maximum Overall Length: 375 mm

Maximum Blade Length: 250 mm

Maximum Blade Width: 50 mm

Steel: 5160 carbon steel is recommended.

The handle may be made with or without a guard, bolsters or other fittings. The handle material is the applicant's choice.

The handle must have a lanyard hole and lanyard that can be secured to the tester's wrist during the test.

The performance-test knife may ultimately be destroyed during testing.

3.3 Pre-Test Compliance

Before the Performance Test begins, the Guild-approved Performance Tester must inspect, measure and verify that the performance-test knife complies with the prescribed pre-test requirements.

The tester must confirm that:

- Maximum Overall Length does not exceed 375 mm
- Maximum Blade Length does not exceed 250 mm
- Maximum Blade Width does not exceed 50 mm
- The handle has a lanyard hole
- A lanyard is fitted
- The lanyard can be securely attached to the tester's wrist during the test

If the knife exceeds any prescribed maximum dimension, does not have the required lanyard hole, does not have a lanyard fitted, or the lanyard cannot be securely attached to the tester's wrist, the knife fails the Performance Test before testing begins.

No part of the Performance Test may be conducted using a knife that fails the pre-test compliance requirements.

The Guild-approved Performance Tester is responsible for determining whether the knife complies with the prescribed pre-test requirements.

The tester's decision is final.

3.4 Safety Equipment and Test Materials

Suitable safety equipment must be worn throughout the test, including the bending test. The person conducting the test must wear suitable safety glasses, an apron and gloves.

The following materials are required:

- A construction-grade pine beam measuring 38 x 114 mm and at least 1.2 m long
- Sisal or manila rope with a minimum diameter of 24 mm and at least 3 m long

Before the test, the applicant and tester must agree on who will provide the safety equipment and test materials.

3.5 Performance Test Procedure

Once the Performance Test has begun, no further work may be carried out on the blade. This includes stropping, sharpening or touching up the cutting edge.

The cutting edge may be dulled immediately before the bending test for safety.

The tests must be completed in the following order:

1. Rope Cutting
2. Wood Chopping
3. Shaving Hair
4. Bending

3.5.1 Test 1: Rope Cutting

The purpose of this test is to evaluate the knife's edge geometry and sharpness.

The rope must:

- Be sisal or manila
- Have a minimum diameter of 24 mm
- Be suspended so that the free end does not touch the floor or another object
- Not be held by another person

- Be marked approximately 150 mm from the free end

The rope must be severed completely with one stroke at the marked area.

The applicant is allowed a maximum of three (3) attempts. If unsuccessful, the Guild-approved tester is allowed a separate maximum of three (3) attempts using the same knife.

The knife passes if either the applicant or tester severs the rope within the permitted attempts. This tests the applicant's ability to make the knife, not their ability to use it.

3.5.2 Test 2: Wood Chopping

The purpose of this test is to demonstrate the toughness and durability of the cutting edge.

The pine beam must be securely clamped in a vice.

The knife must chop completely through the beam at least twice. Whittling, sawing, snapping or breaking off the remaining wood is not permitted.

The applicant may select the areas of the beam through which the cuts will be made.

After both cuts, the tester must inspect the cutting edge. Any nick, chip, flat spot, rolled edge or other visible deformation results in failure.

3.5.3 Test 3: Shaving Hair

The purpose of this test is to demonstrate edge retention after the rope-cutting and wood-chopping tests.

The test must use the section of the cutting edge used most extensively during the previous tests.

Where the applicant is present, the applicant must perform the test. Where the knife was sent to the tester, the tester must perform it.

The knife must shave sufficient hair to demonstrate that the tested section remains keen and shaving sharp.

3.5.4 Test 4: Bending

The purpose of this test is to demonstrate that the blade has a hard cutting edge and a tough, flexible spine.

The blade must be inserted tip-first into a vice, with approximately one-third of the blade securely clamped. Suitable jaw inserts may be used where necessary.

The blade must be bent by applying force to the handle. A suitable leverage device may be used where it does not create an additional safety risk. Its use is at the tester's discretion and at the risk of the person conducting the test.

The blade must be bent to 90 degrees. The tester must indicate when the required angle has been reached.

Cracking along the cutting edge is permitted, provided that the crack does not extend beyond approximately one-third of the blade width.

After the bending force is released, the blade should spring back to approximately 45 degrees and must display a gradual bend along its length.

The knife fails if:

- Any part of the blade chips or breaks off
- Any part of the tang breaks
- The blade develops a concentrated kink
- The blade bends at the ricasso

The tester must determine whether the extent and location of any cracking are acceptable.

The tester's decision is final.

3.6 Certificate Distribution

Following successful completion of the Performance Test, the Guild-approved tester must distribute a photograph of the completed and signed SABA Performance Test Certificate in accordance with the KGSA Procedure for SABA Performance Test Certification.

The photograph must be emailed to the Guild Chairman, with all current Guild-approved Performance Testers copied on the email.

Current contact details are provided in **Appendix B: Guild Contact List**.