

## 9/ TACTICAL GAUNTLETS

The Tactical Gauntlets are worn over the top of the Tekkou Gauntlets between the wrist and elbow joint, and level to the Ulna & Radial bone of each arm. The Gauntlets are to protect the user against close quarter blows or strikes to the forearm that would otherwise cause you to drop your weapon due to pain or damage to your forearm. All Tactical Gauntlets are designed to limit damage to areas they cover, and designed for. The Gauntlets however should not be used as a weapon themselves. You may still be injured depending on the force being applied to them, but your injuries would be far greater if you were not wearing one.

### 9b/ How to wear

You are lacing the Gauntlets in the same manner as you would lace up the Tactical Shin Guards of which is done sliding your arm through like a glove. The only difference here is how to tie the final knot with one hand?. Pull both cord with the one hand to secure the Gauntlet, then cross the cords at the back of the elbow in an overhand knot with one hand. Now place one end of the cord between your teeth and the free hand on the other cord end and pull to secure.

( This next step must be done correctly or your Gauntlet will not be secure ). Take each end of the cord and overlap at the fold of the elbow joint then raise the elbow so both cords fall at the back of the elbow joint obo e the hing of the elbow. Now take both cords in your hand and pull again to secure. Keep holding both cords to keep the tension on them make a overhand knot with one hand, place one free end between your teeth and pull to secure, then repeat a second knot to hold the Gauntlet in place. Everything is difficult at first, but the more you practice then it will become second nature to you.

## 10/ TACTICAL GLOVES

The Tactical Gloves are again worn over the top of the Tekkou Gauntlets, of which the hand slides through and are secured by a Velcro strap at the wrist.

### notes:

Always air your uniform when finishing training practices to avoid moisture damage to the uniform. Always hand wash with soap not washing powder to avoid excessive fading of the fabric, and air dry to avoid excessive shrinking. If drying outdoors then turn the uniform inside out before hanging in direct sunlight to reduce fade marks or bleaching from UV light. Treat your uniform with respect and it will serve you well, and try to hang rather than fold especially if left for long periods of time without use. Remember to use an inner garment for additional protection and warmth. Shadow Warriors are stealthy individuals so slight variations of colours within the garment is good in order for the eye to overlook your position. This uniform is not a Halloween costume, it is a the spiritual embodiment of who you chose to be. Wear your Shimenawa Rope with pride and remember a Shadow Warriors veins flow with the blood of Warriors, as there values were built upon the graves of men.

## 3/ KAKU OBI

The Kaku Obi is your next task of which many overlook and is often tied in-correctly, this may well be to your peril if not mastered and worn correctly. The Obi gives three wraps starting from the left hip and wrapping clockwise around the body to the front. The end of which should tail 3 ft in length then decided and folded together. The division and beginning should now come together in alignment and twisted to the front to be tied. Take the folded end and move forward and under all wraps made, then bring both ends closest to the abdomen out and make a basic overhand knot, then slide the created bow to the nape of the spine to the rear. A good firing belt will allow the flat of the hand to slide between the Gi and the Obi.

## 4/ THE SAGEO CORD

A traditional means of keeping the sleeves of your Kimono raised to avoid your sword becoming snagged during the performance of Iai or drawing of the sword. As with a standard Gi this is however unnecessary due to the sleeves falling short at the wrist. The Shadow warrior uniform is no exception to the rule and has two eyelets sewed into the garment sleeves in order to accommodate and enhance the functionality of the uniform required of the Sageo cord, as with this function re-established for a Gi gives back the ability not just to raise the sleeves due to the additional weigh of the Gi as with the Kimono made of silk, but also to give free movement to the Shadow Warrior uniform, and to avoid any excessive movement of the fabric and combat gauntlets when worn.

### 4b How to wear:

Take one free end of the Sageo cord into the right hand and pass this through the eyelet sewed into the Gi of the left elbow, pull the cord through whilst moving your right over the cord then pull the free end behind the neck in your right hand and stretch the right arm out to the right keeping the cord stretched. Moving your right elbow over the cord and under you armpit, take the free end of the. It's in your left hand and pass this through the right eyelet sewed into the garment near your right elbow starting from rear to front, pulling the free end back around your neck and over you left shoulder. You should now have both ends of the cord facing each other in order to make one overlapping knot, followed by a basic bow at your left shoulder.

## 5/ SHEMAGH HEAD SCARF

Fold the width of the scarf in half then place the centre portion to the forehead ( make sure the fold is facing downwards and covering the eyebrows, just above the eyelids). Pull both ends back behind your head and tie a basic overhand knot at the nape of the neck. Now focus on opening up the right end of the scarf pinching the corner between thumb and index finger ( make sure the scarf is not twisted but draped at this point ). Take this end over the face covering the mouth, nose, and touching the lower eyelid before making a second overhand know with the left free end of the scarf. Now tuck any loose ends into space between your Gi to cover any open flesh or skin that may be visible. The feeling of the scarf is taught not tight around the face, and keep the minimum of opening for the eyes as possible not to expose any skin.