



Medal design competition

Design the finisher medal for the FT Nikkei UK Ekiden Year 2!

THE FT NIKKEI UK EKIDEN: A long-distance running relay race

Launched in 2024 to mark the 100th anniversary of the Japanese race the “Hakone Ekiden” and the State Visit of the Emperor of Japan to the UK, the FT Nikkei UK Ekiden brings Japan’s iconic relay race to the UK.

The race is on Friday 20th June 2025. 15 university and 15 corporate-sponsored teams will compete along the picturesque Thames Path from Brocas Field in Windsor to King’s Meadow in Reading and back. Each runner will pass the symbolic Japanese tasuki sash, representing teamwork, endurance, and collective effort.

The event aims to further strengthen the bond between UK and Japan by introducing a slice of Japan’s renowned sports culture to the UK. This medal competition is one of several activities to include the wider UK and Japanese community in the FT Nikkei UK Ekiden.

Sponsors



COMPETITION BRIEF:

Design a medal which captures the spirit of the FT Nikkei UK Ekiden.

Design requirements:

- The design must be no larger than 75×75mm, but the medal can be any shape you choose
- The medal will be made from light birch wood and can have up to 2 darker shades of brown
- The ribbon will be in the FT and Nikkei colours with the FT Nikkei UK Ekiden logo design

Please make sure you:

- Incorporate the event's full name 'FT Nikkei UK Ekiden' on the front
- Leave space for a haiku in English and Japanese on the back (*the haiku is being sourced elsewhere and is not part of this competition.)

For reference please see the photos of the Year 1 medal.

The shape was an acorn which is the logo of The Thames Path, the race location. An oak tree is the tree of Great Britain and we also featured a cherry blossom to represent Japan.

Submission details:

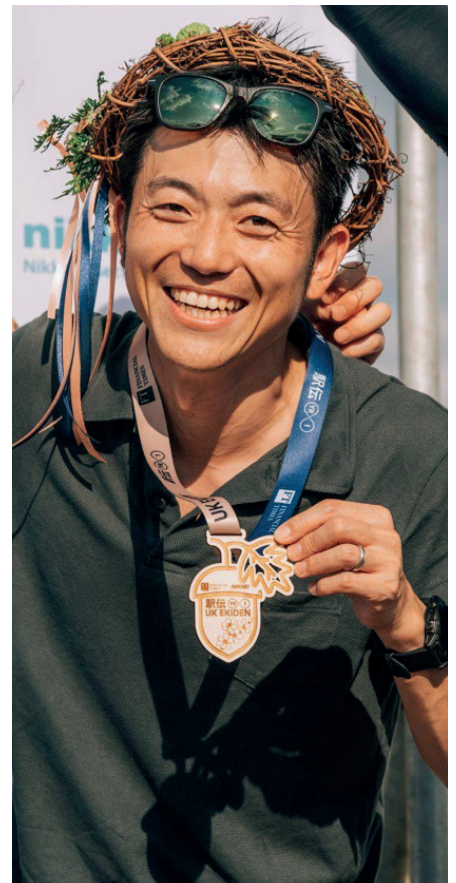
- **Launch date:** March 24th, 2025
- **Design submission deadline:** April 25th, 2025
- **Winner announcement:** May 6th, 2025
- Designs must be submitted as an A4 PDF and include your **name, age, and school or university name**
- Designs must be sent to **info@ukekiden.com** no later than **Friday, April 25th, 2025** with the subject: Medal Competition Entry

Prize:

The winning design will be awarded to all finishers of the FT Nikkei UK Ekiden Year 2.

Photos of the winning design (and some honourable mentions) will be posted on the UK Ekiden website and social media.

The winning designer will be invited to the event on the 20th of June 2025 and help hand out medals.



**This is your chance to be a part of the
FT Nikkei UK Ekiden Year 2!**

Get creative and submit your design today!