

# NPS Taekwondo Association

## Black Belt Promotion Policy

The NPS Taekwondo Association is an organization of Taekwondo practitioners that are dedicated to the principles of community-service based Taekwondo instruction. It is the vision of the Board of Directors of the NPS Taekwondo Association that Taekwondo is an art that can be practiced by any and all that wants to practice. Never should cost or physical handicap prevent a student from studying with a NPS Taekwondo club. With this vision in mind, it is the intention that students who get promoted to Black Belt ranks share this vision, and will work to further the goals of the association and its member clubs. Examples of how students can do this at each rank are as follows:

- 1st Dan Take an active role in his/her individual club and be familiar with the association.
- 2nd Dan Teaching - both at the group and individual levels, become familiar with all the clubs and develop a relationship with the association - develop the philosophy.
- 3rd Dan Starting new clubs - or administrators of the club they belong to. Leaders in the association - promote the philosophy of the association.
- 4th Dan Actively support the association, both locally and nationally. Promote consistency and collaboration between clubs. Express the philosophy of the association in both speech and behavior. Attend tests (whenever possible), whether or not they, or their students are involved.

The World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) establishes minimum requirements for promotion through the Dan ranks. These requirements ensure that any student promoted through the Dan ranks is working for the betterment of the association and its students. WTF requirements for promotion through the Dan ranks include Sparring, Theory and Poomse as shown below:

Grade	Poomse Requirements	Min TIG	Min. Age
	<u>One of</u>	<u>Compulsory</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Poom	Taegeuk 1-7	Taegeuk 8	<15
2 <sup>nd</sup> Poom	Taegeuk 1-8	Koryo	<15
3 <sup>rd</sup> Poom	Taegeuk 1-8, Koryo	Keumgang	<15
4 <sup>th</sup> Poom	Taegeuk 1-8, Koryo, Keumgang	Taebaek	<18
1 <sup>st</sup> Dan	Taegeuk 1-7	Taegeuk 8	15
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dan	Taegeuk 1-8	Koryo	16
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	Taegeuk 1-8, Koryo	Keumgang	18
4 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Taegeuk 1-8, Koryo, Keumgang	Taebaek	21
5 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Taegeuk 1-8, Koryo, Keumgang, Taebaek	Pyongwon	25
6 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Taebaek, Pyongwon, Sipjin	Jitae	30
7 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Pyongwon, Sipjin, Jitae	Cheonkwon	36
8 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Sipjin, Jitae, Cheonkwon	Hansoo	44
9 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Jitae, Cheonkwon, Hansoo	Ilyeo	53

Theory requirements are met in the early Dan ranks with oral examination on terminology, techniques, etc. Theory requirements for 4<sup>th</sup> Dan and above can include a written examination or thesis.

The NPS Taekwondo Association has additional requirements for ranks as follows:

Grade	Poomse Requirements
1 <sup>st</sup> Dan	Koryo
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dan	Keumgang, One of Palgue 1-4
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	Taebaek, One of Palgue 5-8
4 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Pyongwon
5 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Sipjin

Another issue of critical importance is the minimum time requirement for promotion. This is only a minimum. Increased rank in the association brings with it an increased expectation for skill, maturity, and responsibility in support of the association. Some students will require more time to qualify for promotion. It is essential that the student grow physically, mentally, and in maturity to qualify for promotion to higher Dan ranks. To help with that issue, in addition to the skill requirements listed above, NPS Taekwondo Association Black Belt Members will be required to submit a document at the completion of their black belt test outlining their goals for personal growth and supporting the growth of the association. As the student moves up in rank, these goals are expected to be more extensive. The purpose of this document is to establish a covenant or contract between the association and the student.

The procedure for this is as follows:

- 1) Within one month after completion of the current rank test, the student will prepare a Black Belt Goals Form with a list of goals to be accomplished before the next promotion test. (This is a living document and can be updated at any time during the performance period, but substantial changes to goals should be forwarded for approval through channels.)
- 2) This document will be turned in to the student's instructor, unless that student's instructor is of the same rank, in which case, it will be turned in to the instructor's instructor.
- 3) The instructor will review the document, recommend acceptance or revision and forward it to the nearest member of the Board of Directors (Master) for approval.
- 4) For 2<sup>nd</sup> Dans and below, the nearest member of the Board of Directors will approve or reject the document. For 3<sup>rd</sup> Dans and above, the entire Board of Directors will consider the document. If approved, the Master(s) will sign the document and a copy forwarded to the Chief Administrative Officer of the Association for filing. If rejected, it will be returned to the student for revision, at which point the student will get another month to respond.
- 5) At least three months prior to scheduled test, when the student has met all other requirements for promotion, and desires to be promoted, they will submit a request for promotion consideration form to their instructor. A blank request is attached to the end of this policy. On this form, the student will list all activities that **have been** performed to reach the goals identified on their promotion support form. Any goals not accomplished during the period should be explained with reasons why this goal could not be met clearly identified.
- 6) Upon receipt of the Request for Promotion, the instructor will endorse the request with either a recommendation to approve or disapprove the request for promotion to the Board of Directors with an assessment of how well the student has done in achieving their goals.
- 7) The recommendation will be reviewed and if acceptable, the student will be scheduled for the next available promotion test. Only after the request has been approved should the student submit an application for testing with fees and pictures.

This updated policy is intended to prevent students from getting promoted and contributing nothing to the association, and then expecting to get promoted to the next level, just because they have "put in their time." A blank Goals Form is attached to this document.

Authority for conducting promotion tests:

Promotion tests for candidates wishing to be promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Dan may be conducted by any member of the Board of Directors on a case by case basis with approval of the Board. Candidates for 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan and above must be examined at a regularly scheduled test by a minimum of three members of the Board of Directors.



# NPS Taekwondo Association

## Black Belt Goals Form



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Kukkiwon Dan Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Last Test: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mal: \_\_\_\_\_

My goals for earning my next promotion are:

I will accomplish these goals as follows:

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Review:      Recommend \_\_\_\_\_ Approval \_\_\_ Disapproval

Board of Director's:                      \_\_\_\_\_ Approve \_\_\_ Disapprove

Comments:



## NPS Taekwondo Association

### Black Belt Promotion Request



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Requested Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Kukkiwon Dan Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Last Test: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I have achieved my goals as follows:

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Review: Recommend                      Approval      Disapproval

Board of Director's:                                      Approve      Disapprove

Comments: