

USA TAEKWONDO

U.S. NATIONAL TEAM PATHWAY

2025-2026



ELITE SPARRING ATHLETES

JUNIORS
(Black Belts)



2025 ELITE ATHLETES

JUNIOR BLACK BELTS

U.S. TKD QUALIFIERS



TO QUALIFY FOR A USATKD STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

USATKD STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS ARE OPEN EVENTS FOR ALL ATHLETES

USATKD MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED.

ANY TAEKWONDO COLOR OR BLACK BELT ATHLETE MAY COMPETE AT ANY 2 (TWO) USATKD SANCTIONED STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

USATKD ATHLETES EARN USATKD RANKING POINTS.

TO QUALIFY FOR THE AMERICAN OPEN EVENT:

USATKD AMERICAN OPEN EVENTS ARE OPEN EVENTS FOR ALL ATHLETES (USATKD MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED)

ANY TAEKWONDO COLOR OR BLACK BELT ATHLETE MAY COMPETE.

ATHLETES MAY CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE AT 1-OR- ALL AMERICAN OPEN EVENTS.

USATKD ATHLETES EARN USATKD RANKING POINTS.

U.S. TKD NATIONALS



TO QUALIFY FOR THE U.S. NATIONAL EVENT:

EARN A MEDAL (GOLD, SILVER, OR BRONZE) AT A USATKD STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT

-OR- PARTICIPATE AT ANY AMERICAN OPEN EVENT

➔ CADETS & JUNIORS MUST PARTICIPATE AT THE 2025 U.S. TKD NATIONALS & MEET 2026 U.S. TEAM TRIALS QUALIFICATIONS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AN INVITE TO TEAM TRIALS

2025 U.S. National Team members DO NOT automatically qualify for the 2025 U.S. National Championships.

U.S. TKD SEASON FINAL



TO QUALIFY FOR THIS EVENT:

EARN A MEDAL AT ONE OF THE 2025 U.S. AMERICAN OPEN EVENTS (GOLD, SILVER, OR BRONZE).

-OR- EARN A MEDAL AT THE 2025 U.S. NATIONAL TKD CHAMPIONSHIP (GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE).

-OR- TOP 8 HIGHEST USATKD RANKED ATHLETES

-DID NOT QUALIFY THROUGH AN AMERICAN OPEN OR NATIONALS

-BASED ON AUGUST 1 RANKINGS

-GOING DOWN TO THE 25TH RANKED ATHLETE IN DIVISION

2026 U.S. TEAM TRIALS

TO QUALIFY FOR THE 2026 U.S. TEAM TRIALS:

ALL ATHLETES MUST PARTICIPATE AT THE 2025 U.S. TAEKWONDO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

-AND-

ALL ATHLETES WHO MEDAL AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

- 2025 U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP
- 2025 U.S. TKD NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
- 2025 U.S. SEASON FINAL
- WIN ANY 2 MEDALS AT 2025 WORLD TAEKWONDO G-RATED EVENTS

#1 USATKD RANKED ATHLETE AS OF 12/31/25

INTERNATIONAL DOMINANT ATHLETE

DOMESTIC DOMINANT ATHLETE

2025 U.S. JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER (January Team Trials Winner)

IMPORTANT: To register & compete at the 2025 U.S. TKD Nationals and/or the 2025 U.S. Season Final - United States citizenship documentation is required for the following divisions: World Class Black Belt Cadet & Junior (Poomsae & Sparring), World Class Black Belt Senior (Sparring), All Black Belt Masters (Poomsae).



2025 ELITE ATHLETES

JUNIOR BLACK BELTS

U.S. TKD QUALIFYING EVENTS



USATKD STATE
EVENT CALENDAR
GOTO: USATKD.ORG
- OR -
LOG INTO:
SPORT:80

WEST

MAY 08-10
SALT LAKE CITY, UT

EAST

MAY 16-18
RICHMOND, VA

MAY COMPETE
AT UP TO A
MAX OF
2 STATE EVENTS

MAY COMPETE AT 1 OR
BOTH AMERICAN OPEN
EVENT/S (EAST/WEST)

DOMESTIC PATHWAY TO QUALIFY FOR DOMESTIC DOMINANT ATHLETE

WIN at 3 of 4 of these USATKD Majors &
become a Domestic Dominant Athlete



FEB 14-16
RENO, NEVADA

FOR BLACK BELT
ATHLETES ONLY



JULY 23-27
ONTARIO, CA



SEPT 05-07
DAYTONA BEACH, FL



2025
EVENTS

U.S. TKD MAJOR EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL PATHWAY TO QUALIFY FOR INTL DOMINANT ATHLETE

TO BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL
DOMINANT ATHLETE:
WIN 3 MEDALS AT WORLD TAEKWONDO
G-RATED EVENTS:

- 2 GOLD MEDALS
- ANY 1 OTHER MEDAL

OR

TO QUALIFY FOR USATKD TEAM TRIALS:
WIN ANY TWO (2) MEDALS AT WT G-RATED
EVENTS.

A WT bracket must have at least 4
athletes from 4 different countries for
the medal to count toward the
international path.

Completed Results/Brackets must be
emailed to Eric Winger at
ewinger@usatkd.org.



2025 ELITE ATHLETES

JUNIOR BLACK BELTS

AGING UP JUNIOR ATHLETES

All Athletes Must Participate at the 2025 U.S. Taekwondo
National Championships

-AND-

16 and 17 year old athletes aging up qualify to compete as a
Senior at the 2026 USATKD Team Trials if one of the following earned in 2025:

2025 Domestic and/or International Dominant Athlete

2025 US Taekwondo National Championships Gold Medal

2025 US Final Gold Medalist

2025 US Open Gold Medalist

2025 US National Team Member (winner of January Team Trials)



2025 ELITE ATHLETES

JUNIOR BLACK BELTS

COMPETITION FORMAT

The 2026 USATKD Team Trials competition format will be a single elimination bracket.

If there are four or less athletes in a division, that division will be round robin.

If there are only two athletes in a division, that division will be best two out of three matches.

Athletes may enter the fight off in the division they qualified in or athletes may move up one weight division from the division they qualified in.

TEAM TRIAL SEEDING INFORMATION

- Seed 1: 2025 National Team Member
- Seed 2: International Dominant Athlete
- Seed 3: Domestic Dominant Athlete
- Seed 4: 2025 US Open Gold Medalist
- Seed 5: 2025 US Final Gold Medalist
- Seed 6: 2025 US Taekwondo National Championship Gold Medalist
- Seed 7: # 1 USATKD Ranked Athlete (as of 12/31/2025)
- Seed 8: Any two (2) WT G-Rated Event medals
- Seed 9: 2025 US Open Silver Medalist
- Seed 10: 2025 US Final Silver Medalist
- Seed 11: 2025 US Taekwondo National Championship Silver Medalist

SEEDING INFORMATION

All other seeds will be completed with qualified athletes based on their USATKD ranking.

If there are multiple international dominant athletes, the USATKD Rankings will be used to determine the higher seed. All other athletes will move down in seed based off the number of international dominant athletes or WT event gold medalist.

If there is not a qualified athlete to fill a seed, the lower seeds will move up to the next highest seed.