

2027 WORLD OPEN TAEKWONDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Information Packet

General Information

- **Date:** Saturday, January 30, 2027 (Doors open at 8:00 AM)
- **Venue:** Basha High School, 5990 S Val Vista Dr, Chandler, AZ 85249
- **Registration:** Online only at www.wotchampionships.com **NO AT THE DOOR REGISTRATION.**
- **Spectator Admission:** \$15.00 for ages 5 and up (cash only). Ages 4 and under are FREE.
- **Awards:** Medals awarded to 1st through 3rd place. Cash Scholarships awarded at opening ceremonies.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION & PRICING









 REGISTER ONLINE: www.wotchampionships.com

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION Ends Dec 6th 11:59pm MT	REGULAR REGISTRATION Ends Jan 10th 11:59pm MT	LATE REGISTRATION Ends Jan 26th 11:59pm MT
 \$95 + \$15 per Additional Event	 \$105 + \$15 per Additional Event	 \$125 + \$15 per Additional Event
 COACHING PASS \$30	 COACHING PASS \$40	 COACHING PASS \$50

Final Registration Deadline by Jan 26th | 11:59pm MT

NO AT THE DOOR REGISTRATION ❌

Event Eligibility

Rank	Olympic Sparring	Jump Kix	Trad. Poomsae	Sport Poomsae
Color Belts				
Black Belts				

Final Registration Deadline is **Jan 26th at 11:59pm MT.**

Coaches & Weigh-Ins

Coaching Pass: All schools receive 1 complimentary Coaching Pass. Additional passes must be purchased online before Jan 26th. All registered coaches must be Black Belt Certified. Dojang Owner VIP pass grants access to coaching privileges. Coaching Education – Coaching certification is HIGHLY recommended. Coaches are expected to comprehensively understand the 2026-2027 WT rules and regulations.

Team Weigh-In: Required for *Olympic Sparring competitors only*. A group weigh-in should be administered by the Master/Coach during the week leading up to the event (Jan 22 - Jan 26). Coaches must report athletes' TRUE WEIGHT and upload to tournament website or submit the signed form by **Jan 26th** to wotchampionships@gmail.com.

Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.

Competition Schedule/Report Times (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Athletes arrive 30 min before event start times. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.

Schedule of Events

January 30, 2027 Saturday

8am | Doors Open - Athlete Credential Pick up and Admission 

9am | Traditional Poomsae 

9:45am | Jump Kix 

10am | Sport Poomsae 

11am-11:30am | Lunch Break

11:30am-12pm | Opening Ceremony
(Team Walkout + Cash Prize Main Event)

12:15pm | Olympic Sparring 

12:15pm | Olympic Sparring

ORDER OF BLACK BELT DIVISIONS:

- Senior and Ultra (Report to holding area after Opening Ceremony)
- Youth
- Cadet
- Junior

ORDER OF COLOR BELT DIVISIONS

- 18 yrs and up (Report to holding area after Opening Ceremony)
- 7 yrs old and under
- 8-11 yrs old
- 12-17 yrs old

*Olympic Sparring Brackets will be posted the morning of competition.

*During the Olympic Sparring Competition, match numbers posted on the tournament Projector Screen will only be allowed in the holding area.

*Athletes may use Gym Hallways to warm up.

Competition Events & Rules

Olympic Sparring

- **Rounds:** Best of 3 rounds (1 min each) with a 30-sec break.
- **Rules:** Junior Safety Rules (LIGHT contact to head) for all Color Belts and Black Belts EXCEPT World Class Black Belt divisions (Full Contact). 2026 NEW WT RULES APPLIED: 6 points for spinning head kicks. Ages: 5 and under, 6-7yr, 8-9yr, 10-11yr, Cadet 12-14yr, Junior 15-17yr, Senior 18-32, Executive 1 33+, Executive 2 50+

Divisions may be combined at the tournament director's discretion

Ranks: BEGINNERS (White-Orange) | INTERMEDIATE (Green-Blue) | ADVANCED (Brown-Red)

- **Equipment:** Athletes supply their own headgear, foot pads, arm/shin guards, mouth guards, and tape. Red/Blue headgear must match the chest guard. Face Guards Allowed. See pg. 5 for cont. rules.

Traditional & Sport Poomsae

Sport Poomsae: Individual , Pairs, Team, and Freestyle for Black Belts Only (youth and up). Follows WT Cut-Off System (Prelim/Semis: 1 Poomsae | Finals: 2 Poomsaes). Designated Poomsae will be posted 1 week before competition date on WOT 2027 Social Media. Rules may be modified to random draw poomsae by the referee chair. See pg. 7 for cont. rules.

Traditional Poomsae: Used for Color Belts and Black Belts based on their rank. Scored on Power, Grace, Rhythm, and Energy Expression. Black Belts will compete with the poomsae in accordance to their rank (EX: 1st Dan will perform Koryo, 2nd Dan will perform Keumgang). See pg. 6 for cont. rules.



Color Belt Poomsae Requirements

White - Yellow	Taeguk 1 or 2
Orange - Green	Taeguk 3 or 4
Purple - Blue	Taeguk 5 or 6
Brown - Red	Taeguk 7 or 8

Jump Kix

Rules: Students will be matched up by size and rank and will see who can kick the highest! The foot must make contact with the target in order to advance to the higher rounds. Join us for one of the most exciting events of the competition!

Make contact with the hanging target with any part of the foot (ankle down) to advance to the next round. Moving target will increase in height after each successful round.



Olympic Sparring Brackets will be posted the morning of competition.

*During the Olympic Sparring Competition, match numbers posted on the tournament Projector Screen will only be allowed in the holding area. *Athletes may use Gym Hallways to warm up.



OLYMPIC SPARRING
SENIOR MEN WORLD CLASS

MEDALISTS

Keven Ketchum B
TKD Wellness
101
Lance Vo Nguyen R
JMAP

EXAMPLE BRACKET

B
R

Benny Regalado R
NBT

B
R

Dion Williams Jr. B
TKD Wellness

B
R

Nathaniel Taing (Auto Gr) R
Arizona TKD

1st _____

2nd _____

3rd _____

3rd _____

OLYMPIC SPARRING
HOW TO READ BRACKET

RING #

MATCH #

101

RING 1 MATCH 1



WOT Olympic Sparring Rules cont.

(Coaches to read carefully)

1. MATCH STRUCTURE

Best-of-Three Format: Matches are decided using a "Best of 3 Rounds" system. The athlete who wins two rounds takes the match.

Round Duration: 60-second rounds with a 30-second rest interval. (Note: World Class Black Belt Divisions may be modified to 90-second rounds at the tournament director's discretion.)

Round Scoring: Points reset to zero at the start of each round. If a round ends in a tie, the winner is determined by:

- Highest number of high-value points (spinning kicks, head kicks)
- Fewest penalties
- Referee/judge superiority

2. POINT SYSTEM

Points are awarded for valid strikes to legal scoring areas (trunk and head) with sufficient force or trembling shock. Light head contact rules apply to all divisions except World Class Black Belts.

- 1 Point: Valid punch to the trunk protector
- 2 Points: Valid straight kick to the trunk protector
- 3 Points: Valid straight kick to the head
- 4 Points: Valid turning/spinning kick to the trunk protector
- 6 Points: Valid turning/spinning kick to the head
- 1 Point (Penalty): Awarded to an athlete every time their opponent receives a penalty

3. PENALTIES (GAM-JEOM)

A Gam-jeom gives one point to the opponent. If an athlete accumulates five (5) Gam-jeoms in a single round, they automatically lose that round.

Common Infractions:

- Stepping out of the boundary line with both feet
- Falling down intentionally or to avoid combat
- Grabbing, holding, or pushing without following up with an attack
- Lifting the knee to block or impede an opponent's attack without kicking
- Attacking below the waist or attacking a fallen opponent
- Punching to the face

4. REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

All competitors must wear WT-recognized gear:

Uniform: Standard V-neck Taekwondo uniform (Dobok)

Core Armor: Trunk protector (Hogu) and headgear

Footwear: Sensor socks are not required. Instep guards are OPTIONAL for World Class Black Belt Divisions and MANDATORY for all other divisions.

Additional Guards: Shin guards, forearm guards, groin guard (worn under the uniform)

Mouthpiece: Must be white, clear, or clear-blue for braces

WOT Traditional Poomsae Rules cont.

(Coaches to read carefully)

1. Permitted Forms

Traditional Poomsae categories are usually open to a wider variety of lineages and classical patterns. Permitted forms include: Kukkiwon/WT Traditional: Taegeuk 1-8 and standard Black Belt forms.

2. Judging Philosophy and Execution

The most significant difference between WT "Recognized/Sport" Poomsae and Traditional Poomsae is how the form is performed. Traditional judging does not penalize an athlete for lacking extreme flexibility (e.g., kicks do not need to go vertically to the head unless specifically dictated by the traditional pattern).

Classic Stances: Stances are judged on traditional functionality (deep front stances, proper weight distribution in back stances) rather than the modernized "sport" stances optimized for aesthetics.

Realistic Power: Strikes and blocks are evaluated on their theoretical effectiveness and generation of power, rather than the "snap" of the uniform.

3. Scoring System

Traditional divisions forego the complex electronic decimal system used in WT (Accuracy vs. Presentation) in favor of a holistic scoring method.

The 7.0 - 9.9 Scale: Most traditional tournaments use a standard 10-point scale, heavily concentrated in the 8s. A panel of 3 or 5 judges will flash physical scorecards.

4. Scoring Criteria (What Judges Look For)

Judges look at the overall spirit and technical proficiency of the form, evaluating:

Technique: Proper fist formation, foot position on kicks (e.g., using the blade of the foot for a side kick, ball of the foot for a front kick), and correct blocking angles.

Focus and Concentration: The competitor's eye contact with imaginary opponents.

Power and Speed: Techniques should be delivered with maximum force and appropriate speed, finishing with a sharp, decisive stop.

Rhythm and Timing: Forms should not be rushed. There must be a clear distinction between fast combinations and slower, tension techniques.

Kihap (Spirit Yell): Loud, confident yells at the designated points in the form.

5. Deductions

Major Deductions: Forgetting a sequence, pausing for several seconds to remember the form, performing a form 2 or more ranks below the competitor's belt rank.

Minor Deductions: Slight bobbing between stances, weak kihaps, or sloppy transitions.

6. Required Equipment

Uniform: Competitors must wear a traditional martial arts uniform (Dobok). For Kukkiwon-style practitioners, this is the standard V-neck.

Sport Poomsae Uniforms: Modern WT Y-neck Poomsae uniforms (the blue/red pants for cadets/juniors or gold tops for masters) are generally not required and are sometimes discouraged in strictly traditional brackets to maintain a unified, classic aesthetic (standard white uniform). Sport Poomsae uniforms will be permitted during the Traditional Poomsae event.

WOT Sport Poomsae Rules cont.

(Coaches to read carefully)

1. Competition Categories

Sport Poomsae: Athletes perform WT/Kukkiwon forms (Taegeuk 1-8 and Dan-level black belt forms like Koryo, Keumgang, Taebaek, etc.).

Divisions: Individual, Pair (one male, one female), and Team (three members of the same gender).

Freestyle Poomsae: Athletes perform a choreographed routine to music. This combines traditional Taekwondo techniques with acrobatic elements and high-level kicks.

Divisions at WOT: Individual, Pair, and Mixed Team (5 members, usually 3 males/2 females or vice versa).

2. Match Structure

Duration: Recognized Poomsae performances must be completed within a maximum of 90 seconds. Freestyle Poomsae performances typically run between 90 and 100 sec.

Format: Competitors usually perform two assigned Poomsae per round, with a minimum 30-second rest period between the first and second form.

3. Scoring System (Recognized Poomsae)

Routines are scored by a panel of judges (usually 3, 5, or 7) out of a total of 10.0 points. The highest and lowest judges' scores are dropped, and the remaining scores are averaged. The score is divided into two categories:

A. Accuracy (4.0 Points Max)

Judges deduct points for errors in the basic movements and details of the specific Poomsae.

Minor Deductions (0.1 points): Slight deviations, such as an incorrect stance width, poor angle on a block, or slight loss of balance.

Major Deductions (0.3 points): Critical mistakes, such as performing the wrong movement, forgetting a sequence, striking the wrong target area, or a severe loss of balance (falling).

B. Presentation (6.0 Points Max)

Judges evaluate the overall execution, artistry, and athleticism of the form. This is broken down further:

Speed and Power (2.0 pts). Rhythm and Tempo (2.0 pts). Expression of Energy / Kihap (2.0 pts).

4. Scoring System (Freestyle Poomsae)

Freestyle is also scored out of 10.0 points but uses a different rubric to account for the acrobatic nature of the routine:

Technical Skills (6.0 Points): Evaluates the level of difficulty and execution of mandatory techniques (e.g., flying side kicks, multiple spinning kicks in the air, sparring combinations, and acrobatic actions).

Presentation (4.0 Points): Evaluates the choreography, synchronization with the music, and overall performance.

5. Required Equipment

For Recognized Poomsae, athletes must wear WT-recognized Poomsae uniforms. These vary by age and rank:

Cadets/Juniors (under 15): White top with red/black collar; blue pants for males, red pants for females.

Seniors (15-50): White top with black collar; dark blue pants for males, light blue pants for females.

Masters (51+): Yellow top with black collar; dark blue pants for both males and females.

Main Event Cash Prize Fight Off



General Information

2 Special Guest Fighters will compete in the Main Event Fight Off at our Opening Ceremony.

Fighter announcement Coming Soon.

Modified rules will be implemented**

no penalties for unintentional falling

no instep guards

no gloves

10 sec kick clock

3 rounds of 60 seconds



2027 WOT ALL-STAR TEAM

How to earn a spot on the team!

Land a sponsorship!

World Class Black Belt Winners will be named to the 2027 WOT All-Star Team and receive partial sponsorship to the 2027 AAU State Championships.

World Class Black Belt Categories:

Sport Poomsae: Cadet, Junior, Senior

Olympic Sparring: Cadet, Junior, Senior



2027 WOT Scholarship Application

General Information

We are looking for outstanding Scholar-Athletes from across the country currently in High School or College who may be deserving of our WOT Scholarship Award.

*Student must be a registered participant for this year's 2027 WOT Taekwondo Championship.

Outstanding Scholar-Athletes will be selected to receive our WOT Scholarship Award at this year's 2026 WOT Taekwondo Championship.

Scholarship amount: TBD
[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)



WOT Championships – OFFICIAL Weigh-In

Weigh in must be completed between Jan 22 - Jan 26 and turned in by Tuesday Jan 26th. Weigh-ins are required only for Olympic Sparring athletes. Assign a date for your team to weigh in at your dojang.

Athlete Name	Weight in LBS	Coach's Initial
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____

If more than 15 athletes, make a copy or use the back of this sheet for the rest of your team.

I hereby certify that the information given is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand false documentation will lead to disqualification.

COACH'S NAME _____ SCHOOL NAME _____

DATE _____/_____/_____

COACH'S SIGNATURE _____

Email a picture of the completed form to wotchampionships@gmail.com or upload file onto our website under our Coach Pass section by Tues Jan 26th