

# **THE 30<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL TAEKWONDO FESTIVAL 2026**

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## **MAY 16, 2026**

**Industry Hills Expo Center**  
**16200 Temple Ave. City of Industry, CA 91744**  
Updated 5/10/2026



**Tournament Director: Grandmaster Young In Cheon**  
**Tournament Chairman: Grandmaster Han Won Lee**  
**Tournament Honorary Chairman: Grandmaster Ik Bum Choi**  
**Referee Chairman: Grandmaster Danny Gonzalez**  
**Referee Co-Chair Master Eileen Sandejas**  
**Tournament Organizing Committee: YIC Taekwondo**

**Special Thanks to E-Productions, EZ Events, BMA/Mooto, Imagine Special Events**



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## **TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR GREETING**

May 16, 2026

Dear Grandmasters and Masters,

It is my sincerest pleasure to invite you to the 30th International Taekwondo Festival 2026! The first tournament I hosted was the World Taekwondo Festival in 1994 and it was a televised exhibition event that brought the most talented athletes from around the world to compete and showcase Taekwondo at its finest. It has changed and evolved from many titles like the Los Angeles Open Championship, Young In Cheon Invitational Championship and is now currently known as the International Taekwondo Festival. Over three decades we have attracted competitors from all across the country and internationally. I have seen athletes participate in their youth as grassroots athlete who are now high-level world-class athletes. I have seen athletes that were once young students who are now Masters and Dojang Owners teaching the future generation and I am deeply proud of everyone's success.

This year being our 30th anniversary I am grateful for you and your students. My family and I proudly welcome you to join us and wish you an exciting and memorable experience at the 30<sup>th</sup> International Taekwondo Festival Championship!

### **SCHOOL MASTER BENEFITS**

- Souvenir Gift for every Competitor
- Master Credentials will also be used as a Coaching Credential. We will give every school one Masters pass. Coaching Credentials is \$60
- VIP seating at the main stage with refreshments
- Lunch provided for Masters only (ticket will be distributed with master pass)
- Top 8 schools with most competitors will get a 40" Smart TV and 2 main grand prize 50" Smart TV

Please join us at the main stage for the **Opening Ceremony at 8:30am** to do the National Anthem and Athlete and Referee Oath. Please also join us for lunch at the hospitality 12pm-1pm. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,

Grandmaster Young In Che  
Tournament Director  
2000 Olympic USA Team Head Coach



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## **TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN GREETING**

Distinguished Grandmasters, Esteemed Masters, Respected Coaches, Honored Athletes and Distinguished Guests,

It is with profound honor and deep gratitude that I welcome you to the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Taekwondo Festival- a milestone that represents three decades of unwavering dedication, excellence and the enduring spirit our martial art. Today, we gather not merely to compete, but to commemorate a legacy. For thirty years, this festival has stood as a symbol of unity, discipline, perseverance, and international friendship. It reflects the very essence of Taekwondo – a tradition that shapes character forges resilience, and elevates the human spirit.

We are especially privileged to be hosted by Young In Cheon, Head Coach of the United States Team at the 2000 Summer Olympics. It was my distinct honor to serve alongside him as an assistant coach during those historic Olympic Games in Sydney. Standing together on the world's greatest stage remains one of the defining privileges of my career. Coach Cheon's leadership has left an indelible mark on American Taekwondo. Through his vision, integrity, and relentless pursuit of excellence he has shaped generations of athletes and strengthened the foundation of our national program. His influence extends far beyond medals and accolades; he has cultivated character, inspired courage, and exemplified the highest standards of our art. To me personally, he is not only a revered colleague, but a mentor, a senior and a cherished friend. His guidance has enriched my journey both on and off the mat.

As we celebrate this remarkable 30-year milestone, may we honor the past, embrace the present, and inspire the future. May this festival reaffirm our shared commitment to excellence, respect and the unbreakable bonds that unite us as one global Taekwondo family.

With deepest respect and heartfelt gratitude,

Grandmaster Han Won Lee  
1988 & 1992 USA Olympian  
2000 USA Olympic Coach



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## **TOURNAMENT HONOARY CHAIRMAN GREETING**

Dear Taekwondo Family

It is an honor and pleasure to welcome you all to this grand event. Athletes, referees, coaches, parents, friends of Taekwondo, you are present because the true value of the martial arts has touched your lives in some way. Most of you here have expanded your discipline, respect, confidence, citizenship and self-control through practicing Martial Arts, all qualities you can apply and share in your daily lives to make a positive impact on society.

Grandmaster Cheon is well known in the Taekwondo community for his role as a former coach for the U.S. National Team, U.S. Collegiate Team and 2000 USA Olympic Team but most important is his dedication to the growth and development of Taekwondo in the United States. To see his championship in its 30<sup>th</sup> year is a wonderful accomplishment and I applaud his success. The International Taekwondo Festival Championship attracts athletes from all over the country and the world and I welcome you and wish you good luck!

Sincerely,

Grandmaster Ik Bum Choi



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## GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>TOURNAMENT VENUE</b>	<b>Industry Hills Expo Center:</b> 16200 Temple Ave. City of Industry, CA 91744 <a href="http://www.IndustryExpoCenter.com">www.IndustryExpoCenter.com</a> (626) 330-0324		
<b>TOURNAMENT HOTEL INFORMATION</b>	<b>Pacific Palms Resort</b> 1 Industry Hills Pkwy, Industry, CA 91744 (626) 810-4455. \$175 rate		
<b>REGISTRATION</b>	<b>Early Registration Deadline 4/26/2026</b>	<b>Regular Registration Deadline 5/3/2026</b>	<b>Late Registration Deadline 5/13/2026</b>
<b>GRASSROOT REGISTRATION</b> Color Belts & Black Belts All Ages 4 Max Competitors Per Division	<b>GRASSROOT POOMSAE GRASSROOT SPARRING (4 Max Per Division)</b>  1 Event \$150 2 Event \$175	<b>GRASSROOT POOMSAE GRASSROOT SPARRING (4 Max Per Division)</b>  1 Event \$160 2 Event \$185	<b>GRASSROOT POOMSAE GRASSROOT SPARRING (4 Max Per Division)</b>  1 Event \$175 2 Event \$200
<b>WORLD CLASS REGISTRATION</b> Poomsae: Youth to U30 Sparring: Youth to Seniors <u>Daedo Gen 3 socks required</u>	<b>SPORT POOMSAE INDIVIDUAL WORLD CLASS SPARRING</b>  1 Event \$150 2 Event \$175	<b>SPORT POOMSAE IND. WORLD CLASS SPARRING</b>  1 Event \$160 2 Event \$185	<b>SPORT POOMSAE IND. WORLD CLASS SPARRING</b>  1 Event \$175 2 Event \$200
<b>MORE REGISTRATION Info</b>	Due to logistics and athlete safety, some 2 event combinations will not be allowed. You may not do both World Class Sparring and Grassroot Sparring. You may not do both Sport Poomsae and Grassroot Poomsae. You can do Sport Poomsae and World Class Sparring. You can do Sport Poomsae and Grassroot Sparring. You may do Grassroot Poomsae and World Class Sparring. You can do Grassroot Sparring and Grassroot Poomsae. <b>NO REFUNDS</b>		
<b>WEIGH-IN FRIDAY, MAY 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weigh-in for World Class Black Belts Only (CADET, JR, SR ONLY)</b> 2:00-6:00pm at the Venue. We will also have satellite weigh in locations which will be announced shortly.		
<b>COMPETITOR AWARDS</b>	All Grassroot divisions will have 4 maximum competitors per division with 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and two 3 <sup>rd</sup> place medals. World-class divisions will be full bracket with only the top 4 athletes medall.		
<b>MANDATORY EQUIPMENT</b>	WT approved WHITE v-neck uniform ONLY. All sparring competitors must wear WT approved equipment. Groin protector must be worn underneath. <b>World Class Black Belt Sparring 10-32 yrs old must bring their own Daedo Gen-3 Electronic-socks.</b>		
<b>COMPETITION RULES</b>	Current USAT Rules with Daedo Electronic Scoring System for World Class Black Belts		
<b>COACHING</b>	<b>Coaching Pass: \$60</b> (access into tournament floor) Each dojang owner will receive 1 complimentary Master pass which also grants coaching access. Coach attire will be enforced: no jeans, no shorts, no hats, no sandals/slippers		
<b>VENUE INFO</b>	<b>Parking: \$15 Admission: \$25</b> , Children 4yrs and under free. <b>CASH ONLY</b> <b>NO OUTSIDE FOOD, COOLER OR DRINKS ALLOWED.</b> Only water approved. ! Please be prepared. Subject to change by venue staff.		



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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TIME		FRIDAY – MAY 15TH	LOCATION
2:00pm	5:00pm	<b>WEIGH IN – World Class Black Belts ONLY</b> (CADET, JR, SR ONLY)	Industry Hills Expo Center or At Own Dojang
TIME		SATURDAY – MAY 16TH	LOCATION
7:30AM	11:00AM	<b>REGISTRATION</b> One representative will pick up the credential badges for the school. Please make sure to contact your Master for your badge.	Industry Hills Expo Center
8:30AM		<b>POOMSAE COMPETITION</b> <i>Competitors will be called by their age and belt rank starting with age 5 &amp; Under.</i>	Competition Floor
8:30AM		<b>SPORT POOMSAE COMPETITION</b> <i>Competitors will be called straight to Ring</i>  <i>Individual Only – Youth 10-11, Cadet 12-14, Jr 15-17, Under 30</i> <i>Youth and Cadet will be called 1<sup>st</sup>.</i>	Competition Floor Ring TBD
11:00AM		<b>OPENING CEREMONY</b> Immediately following end of Poomsae. National Anthem, Welcome Greetings, Athlete Oath	Industry Hills Expo Center
8:30am		<b>WORLD CLASS SPARRING COMPETITION</b> <i>Black Belt Youth, Cadet, Jr. and Senior Only. Need Daedo Gen3 Socks.</i> <b>[8:30am Seniors] [ 10:00am Juniors ] [ 12:30pm Youth] [3:00pm Cadet ]</b> <b>These are ESTIMATED times. Please be present and ready.</b>	Competition Floor World Class Ring TBD
11:00am		<b>SPARRING COMPETITION</b> <i>Competitors will be called by their age and belt rank.</i> <i>Competitors will be matched by age, gender, rank, and weight</i> <i>(4 max per division)</i>	Competition Floor

\*Subject to changes. These are estimated times. We may start sparring before 11:00am if Poomsae concludes.



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## COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

**POOMSAE:** Poomsae competitors must perform only the poomsae designated for their specific rank. Scores based on: proper order, beauty, grace, rhythm, accuracy, power, technique and attitude. 4 competitors per division except for Sport Poomsae.

Rank (Kup)	10-9	8-7	6-5	4-3	2-1	Poom-Dan 1-2-3
Belt Colors	White	Yellow	Green	Blue	Red	Black
Poomsae Taeguek	Kicho or T1	T1 or T2	T3 or T4	T5 or T6	T7 or T8	Koryo-Keumgang-Taebaek etc.

**SPORT POOMSAE will be released May 3. We will share on our Facebook and Instagram.**

**SPARRING/KYOROOGI:** The current USAT & WT competition rules will govern this championship. Best out of 3 round format. The organizing committee may modify some rules according to the local condition. Grassroots = 60 second rounds, best out of 3. World-class = 90 second round, best out of 3. 12 point gap and 5 gamjeon rule.

### Application of Junior Safety Rules for USAT State and Local Championships

Age	Belt Color	Applicable Rules
Dragon 6 - 7	Yellow	No Head Contact
	Green	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Black	
Ninja 8 - 9	Yellow	No Head Contact
	Green	No Head Contact
	Blue	
	Red	
	Black	Junior Safety Rules
Youth 10 - 11	Yellow	No Head Contact
	Green	
	Blue	
	Red	Junior Safety Rules
	Black	
Cadet (12 - 14)	Yellow	Junior Safety Rules
	Green	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Black	
Junior (15 - 17)	Yellow	Junior Safety Rules
	Green	
	Blue	
	Red	Adult Rules
	Black	
Senior	Yellow	Adult Rules
	Green	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Black	



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\* Note: Tournament director may change the time limit and alter weight division if necessary to ensure fairness and maintain safety

## WORLD CLASS BLACK BELT DIVISIONS

- We may combine two weight class to ensure everyone gets a match. Please look for updates.

Male:	Youth (10-11)	Female:
-30kg (66.0)	Fin	-30kg (66.0)
-35kg (77.0)	Light	-35kg (77.0)
-40kg (88.0)	Middle	-40kg (88.0)
+ 40kg	Heavy	+ 40kg

Male:	Cadet (12-14)	Female:
-33kg (72.8)	Fin	-29kg (63.9)
-37kg (81.6)	Fly	-33kg (72.8)
-41kg (90.4)	Bantam	-37kg (81.6)
-45kg (99.2)	Feather	-41kg (90.4)
-49kg (108)	Light	-44kg (97)
-53kg (116.8)	Welter	-47kg (103.6)
-57kg (125.7)	Light Middle	-51kg (112.4)
-61kg (134.4)	Middle	-55kg (121.3)
-65kg (143.3)	Light Heavy	-59kg (130.1)

Male:	Juniors (15-17)	Female:
-45kg (99.2)	Fin	-42kg (92.6)
-48kg (105.8)	Fly	-44kg (97)
-51kg (112.4)	Bantam	-46kg (101.4)
-55kg (121.3)	Feather	-49kg (108)
-59kg (130)	Light	-52kg (114.6)
-63kg (138.9)	Welter	-55kg (121.3)
-68kg (149.9)	Light Middle	-59kg (130.0)
-73kg (160.9)	Middle	-63kg (138.9)
-78kg (172)	Light Heavy	-68kg (149.9)
+ 78kg	Heavy	+ 68kg

### Seniors

Weight class	Men	Women
	Weight limit kg (lb)	Weight limit kg (lb)
Heavyweight	unlimited	unlimited
Middleweight	87 (191.8)	73 (160.9)
Welterweight	80 (176.4)	67 (147.7)
Lightweight	74 (163.1)	62 (136.7)
Featherweight	68 (149.9)	57 (125.7)
Bantamweight	63 (138.9)	53 (116.8)
Flyweight	58 (127.9)	49 (108.0)
Finweight	54 (119.0)	46 (101.4)



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## REFEREE SUPPORT



**Referee Chairman – Grandmaster Danny Gonzalez**  
**Referee Co-Chair – Master Eileen Sandejas**

Our Tournament success would not be possible without the support of our hardworking Referees thank you!

**International Referee: \$225/ day   USAT/AAU Certified Referee: \$175 / day   Non-Certified: \$125 / day**

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. Souvenir gifts, private restrooms, organized schedule guaranteed. Shared Hotel accommodations provided for those that qualify for Friday the 15<sup>th</sup>. \$200 flight credit for IR's that qualify.

**Referee Online Registration: [www.TKDFEST.com](http://www.TKDFEST.com)**

### **REFEREE SEMINAR:**

Please contact us at [tkdfest@gmail.com](mailto:tkdfest@gmail.com) to sign up for the seminar.



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## THINGS TO KNOW

1. The Industry Expo Center Grand Arena is an equestrian center turned into a competition arena. There is a roof covering but you will be outdoors and weather can be cool and windy in the early morning and evening. We highly encourage you to bring a light jacket or sweater.
2. There will be no ins and outs in the parking lot. Please note that once you leave the parking area you will have to pay for parking again. Parking is \$15 and Admission is \$25 children 4 and under are free.
3. Registration. One representative will pick up the credential badges for the school. Please make sure to contact your Master for your credential badge. Registration and badge pickup will be closed at 11:00am.
4. Athlete may NOT compete in both Grassroot Sparring Competition and World Class Sparring Competition. Athlete may not compete in both Junior and Senior divisions. Black Belts who are high level and experience please select World Class. Black Belts with not much experience please select grassroots.
5. Opening Ceremony will be at 8:30am this year. We will NOT stop for a lunch break once the tournament begins. Sparring competition will begin immediately after Poomsae. Referees will take lunch break in shifts.
6. The competition floor must be kept clear throughout the tournament for fire hazard policy. If security has to ask you to leave more than twice you may risk the loss of your coaching/master pass.
7. We will have many food vendors from Full Front Filipino BBQ grill, Burger & Hot Dog stand, Hermanos Empanadas, 101 Pizza, Kettle Popcorn, Boba shop, snack shop and more. No outside food or drinks (water allowed)
8. Sangmoosa/Mooto martial art supply vendor will be on site for your equipment needs.
9. Imagine Special Events will be our photo vendor please stop by to purchase your souvenir photos.
10. Pride Medical Inc. will be our on site paramedics for athletes.



**Open your phone camera and use the QR CODE for more info!**



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## VENUE & HOTEL INFORMATION



### Headquarter Hotel

**Pacific Palms Resort** One Industry Hills Pkwy, City of Industry, CA 91744  
(626) 810-4455 Mention Taekwondo for \$175 rate (limited)



### Tournament Venue:

**Industry Hills Expo Center** 16200 Temple Ave. City of Industry, CA 91744

