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Regulation for Promotion Test

Kukkiwon
(World Taekwondo Headquarters)

Article 1: Purpose

The purpose of these Regulations is to regulate the procedures of Kukkiwon (World Taekwondo Headquarters) Poom or Dan promotion tests and issuance of Dan certificates in order to up-lift the Taekwondo techniques and standardize the Poom or Dan grades throughout the World.

Article 2: Application

These Regulations shall be applied to the following:

- 1) Taekwondo instructors and their students who have been duly enrolled as members of an organization in each member national Association of the World Taekwondo Federation
- 2) Taekwondo instructors and their students who have practiced in the countries where there are no member national Federations affiliated with the WTF.
- 3) One who has a similar Taekwondo Dan certificate issued by a private group and wishes to receive a Kukkiwon Dan certificate on condition that he/she respect the Rules and Regulation of Kukkiwon.
- 4) Those who wish to apply for a Dan Certificate from outside their own countries, in which case it is necessary to submit a certificate proving their residence for more than 6 months in a foreign country.

Article 3: Rights

Kukkiwon shall be the supreme executive organ to exercise its exclusive rights over Dan promotion tests, e.g. approval of promotion tests, test performance, supervision of promotion tests including screening of Poom or Dan applications, certificates and sanctions of Poom or Dan certificates.

Article 4: Obligations

- 1) WTF will support the member national Associations to help perform the task of Dan promotion testing smoothly.
- 2) The president of each member national Association must faithfully perform the Dan promotion testing.
- 3) Applicants shall observe the test regulations provided by the Kukkiwon.

Article 5: Recommendation

- 1) Submission of Dan promotion test applications should be made only via the President of the Member National Association (MNA) of the WTF in nations where the MNA controls at least 70% of Taekwondo bodies and private instructors. It is not allowed to be recommended by the individual instructors in those countries. Individual instructors are not permitted to make personal recommendations.
- 2) In those countries which do not fall into this category (herein after called "the 1st category"), applications can be submitted by both the Member National Association and independent instructors.
- 3) The students who practice Taekwondo under the instruction of the instructors recognized by the Kukkiwon in the countries where are no Member National Federations affiliated with the WTF should be recommended by those instructors and submit the application along with the confirmation by the local authorities concerned in that country.

Article 6: Composition

1) In order to carry out the aforesaid tests, member national Association will establish the following organizations.

(1) Organization for promotion test

<i>Composition</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Applicant</i>
Ordinary Test Commission	Over 6th Dan holder	Under 5th Dan
Higher grade Test Commission	Over 7th Dan holder	Over 6th Dan

(2) Any Member National Association which does not have, among its members, official Kukkiwon 6th Dan or higher Dan holders should obtain approval from the Kukkiwon to carry out the testing.

(3) Promotion tests should be composed of three to ten members and they must be arranged so that they may easily view the testee's performance.

2) Article 6-1 will be applied if the Dan certificates are issued only through each country's Taekwondo governing body. Before implementation of procedure to issue certificates through each country's Taekwondo governing body, the present procedure shall be allowed in which an instructor who is recognized by the Kukkiwon or president of a Member National Association has the right to recommend the Application to the Kukkiwon directly.

Article 7: Test performance

1) Each test will consist of practical testing and theoretical study and it will be carried out in the following ways:

(1) Practical testing only will be applied to the applicants for under 5th Dan grades, however, if necessary, theoretical study will be required in the 4th or 5th Dan promotion test.

(2) Over 6th Dan promotion testing shall conduct the practical and theoretical test. However, for applicants staying abroad, practical test shall be conducted and recommended by the instructor who is recognized by the Kukkiwon or Member National Association. However one should submit a treatise not less than 10 pages (21 cm X 30 cm) in Korean, English, French, German or Spanish together with the application forms. Subject will be determined separately.

2) Promotion test for under 5th Dan may be entrusted to the city or province Taekwondo Association. However, the Member National Federation will exclusively manage and perform the tests for higher Dan grades (6th Dan and higher). If considered necessary, however, the execution of the tests may be adjustable.

3) Applicants worldwide for 8th and 9th Dan promotion should take physical performance test at the Kukkiwon. The test is conducted in every quarter of the year. Test applicants from outside Korea for 7th or lower Dan can be conducted under the joint inspection of the local higher Dan holder and the member of the test committee dispatched by the Kukkiwon to the country or region concerned.

4) In principle, promotion tests should be considered one time a month, if considered necessary, however, the execution of tests may be adjustable.

5) For the safety of the applicant, the chief of the test commission shall take the following measures:

(a) A doctor or a person qualified in first aid shall be present according to the scale of the test.

(b) Relevant instructions for safety shall be made to the applicants and the test commission prior to the examination.

Article 8: Time and age limits for Poom or Dan Promotion.

1) Time and age limits

<i>Poom/Dan</i>	<i>Minimum time required for promotion</i>	<i>Age limits for promotion</i>	
		<i>start from Dan</i>	<i>start from Poom</i>
1st Poom	N/A	N/A	less than 15 years old
1st to 2nd Poom	1 year	N/A	less than 15 years old
2nd to 3rd Poom	2 years	N/A	less than 15 years old
3 rd to 4 th Poom	3 years	N/A	less than 18 years old
1st Dan	N/A	15 years and above	N/A
1st to 2nd Dan	1 year	16 years and above	15 years and above
2nd to 3rd Dan	2 years	18 years and above	15 years and above
3rd to 4th Dan	3 years	21 years and above	18 years and above
4th to 5th Dan	4 years	25 years and above	22 years and above
5th to 6th Dan	5 years	30 years and above	30 years and above
6th to 7th Dan	6 years	36 years and above	36 years and above
7th to 8th Dan	8 years	44 years and above	44 years and above
8th to 9th Dan	9 years	53 years and above	53 years and above
9th to 10th Dan	N/A	60 years and above	60 years and above

Remarks: (1) all applicants should have passed the minimum time and age required for promotion.

(2) one who started from poom may have the privilege of test application with shortens time limits until 5th Dan promotion.

2) 1st,2nd,3rd Poom holder, being 15 years of age or above, is the same grade of Dan holder. (4th Poom holder, being 18 years of age or above, is the same as 4th Dan holder) *1st, 2nd, 3rd Poom holder, being 15 years of age or above, can have the Dan Certificates when they want to change their Poom certificates. (4th Poom holder, being 18 years of age or above, can change the 4th Dan certificate)

3) When 1st, 2nd, 3rd Poom holder, being 15 years of age or above, want to be promoted to the next higher Dan, he or she can be applied Dan promotion test. However, 3rd Poom holder who is 18 years of age and above can be applied 4th Dan and under 18 years of age can be applied 4th Poom.

Article 9: Classification of Test Applications

1) Poom/Dan promotion test

2) An Honorary Dan promotion test: An Honorary Dan grade may be awarded to those personages who are considered to have great merits in the development of Taekwondo.

3) Posthumous honors Dan test, one who holds a high grade of Dan will be endowed if he has extraordinary merits, with a next higher grade at his passing away.

Article 10: Subjects of Promotion Test

- 1) Test of Techniques
 - (1) Poomsae (Forms)
 - (2) Kyoroogi (Sparring)
 - (3) Kyukpa (Breaking)
 - (4) Special technique
- 2) Test of theoretical study (over 4th Dan applicant)
 - (1) Written examination
 - (2) Thesis

Article 11: Specified subjects of practical techniques applied to the Poom or Dan promotion tests.

- Poomse (Test Subject)

<i>Poom/Dan</i>	<i>Appointed (1 each)</i>	<i>Compulsory</i>
1 st Dan (Poom)	Taegeuk 1-7 Jang	Taegeuk 8
2 nd Dan (Poom)	Taegeuk 1-8 Jang	Koryo
3 rd Dan (Poom)	Taegeuk 1-8 Jang, Koryo	Keumgang
4 th Dan (Poom)	Taegeuk 1-8 Jang, Koryo, Keumgang	Taebaek
5 th Dan	Taegeuk 1-8 Jang, Koryo, Keumgang, Taebaek	Pyongwon
6 th Dan	Taebaek, Pyongwon, Sipjin	Jitae
7 th Dan	Pyongwon, Sipjin, Jitae	Cheonkwon
8 th Dan	Sipjin , Jitae, Cheonkwon	Hansoo
9 th Dan	Jitae, Cheonkwon , Hansoo	Illyo
10 th Dan	Decided by the Judgment of Technical Council	

Article 12: Scoring the Test

1) Scoring for the test shall be performed by means of attached forms and the main principles are as follows;

- (1) The members of the promotion board should consist of an odd number (3 or 5 persons) and shall score the player within 100 points.
- (2) One who obtains over 60 points will be passed and under 59 points will be failed.
- (3) There are the same as below example that passing or not is decided according to the scored result by the members of promotion board.

* In case of 1st Poom/Dan to 8th Dan (Except special promotion test for 8th Dan from abroad)

- Example: Promotion Test of Poomsae (Kyorugi)

Applicants	MPB (A)	MPB (B)	MPB (C)	Results
Kil-Dong Hong	60	55	60	Pass
Hee-Song Ma	60	55	60	Failure

* MPB : Members of Promotion Board

* Applicant will be passed when he get 2 of above 60 points and failed when he get 2 of below 59 points. (In case of 5 MPB, the applicant will be passed when he get 3 of above 60 points and failed when he get 3 of below 59 points)

* Poomsae points are the average value between appointed and compulsory Poomsae.

- In case of 9th Dan and special promotion test for 8th Dan from abroad.

- Example: Promotion test Poomsae

Applicants	MPB (A)	MPB (B)	MPB (C)	Results
Kil-Dong Hong	60	60	60	Pass
Hee-Song Ma	55	60	60	Failure

* Applicants will be passed when he get above 60 points from all of the MPB and failed when he get below 59 points from more than one of the MPB.

* Poomsae Points are the average value between appointed and compulsory Poomsae.

(4) One who gets under 59 points out of each part(Poomsae, Kyorugi, Theoretical test) will be failed in the promotion.

(5) In accordance with ATT.FORM #3 (Result of Practical Test and Thesis), the points of each part must be recorded and managed synthetically.

2) Check Point

<i>Poomse (Forms)</i>	<i>Kyoroogi (Sparring)</i>	<i>Kyukpa (Breaking)</i>	<i>Special Techniques</i>	<i>Theoretical Studies</i>
Eye control	Eye control	Eye control	Power of blow	Mental aspect
Concentration of spirit	Concentration of spirit	Balance	Special hand techniques	Practical aspect
Speed control	Speed control	Power control	Special foot techniques	
Strength control	Strength control	Speed		
Flexibility	Flexibility	Part of attack		
Balance	Balance			
Variety in Techniques				

Article 13: Test Uniforms

Applicants for the examination shall wear the following during the promotion test;

- 1) Official Dobok
- 2) Protectors (Trunk protectors, Headgear, Groin guard)

Article 14: Registration Fees

1) Registration fees which are required to maintain the Dan records and issuance of Dan/Poom certificates will be fixed separately.

2) Exemption or reduction of the registration fees will be allowed in the following cases, however, it should be approved by the president of Kukkiwon through a written report by the president of member national Association.

- (1) Due to a poor economy
- (2) When political support is required
- (3) Disaster by calamity
- (4) Others, to be determined case by case

3) One must pay all previous Dan fees if jumping a Dan is allowed.

Article 15: Discretionary Authority of President

Despite the present regulations, the president of Kukkiwon may exercise his discretionary authority in dealing with promotion tests in accordance with the decision of the Kukkiwon promotion test committee.

Article 16: Processing of Poom/Dan Certificate

The Kukkiwon Dan promotion committee which is composed of senior Dan grade black belt holders shall carry out the screening for the overseas Dan promotion. According to the result of screening, Dan certificates are issued in the following manners:

- 1) Those countries which fall in the 1st category (Article 5-1), Dan certificates of the 5th or lower Dan are issued in the joint names of both Presidents of the Kukkiwon and the pertinent Member National Association.

The President of each pertinent Member National Association should sign his/her official signature registered with the Kukkiwon at the left hand bottom of the Dan certificates. However, in those countries which are not included in the 1st category, Dan certificates are issued by the President of Kukkiwon.

- 2) 6th Dan certificates and above shall be issued by the signature by the President of Kukkiwon.

Article 17: Privileges

- 1) As in the following case, one who has merit for Taekwondo development may have the privilege of test application with shortened time limits.

(1)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Shortened time limits</i>
Result of championships	1. Winner of Olympic Games	100%
	2. Winner of world level championships sponsored by WTF	80%
	3. Winner of continental level championships approved by WTF	60%
Result of Merit	One who received a medal from the president of the country for his devotion for development of Taekwondo	50%

- (2) Privileges will be given only one time to his/her promotion in the period concerned.

(3) The one who wishes to receive the privileges should submit the concerned documents as follows:

- a. Winner certification confirmed by the Member National Association.
- b. Devoted or Instruction certificates confirmed by the official authorities.

(4) The privileges will be applicable from 1st up to 7th Dan promotion.

2) The students who will be graduated from the University of Physical Education. It shall be specially allowed to test for 4th Dan promotion before the required time limit to those who have 3rd Dan before senior year and majored in Taekwondo at a University of physical education.

In above case, one is required to be recommended by the guide professor in his/her school.

- Documents for an expectant graduate

(1) Students record (All the years)

(2) A school certificate (Graduate Diploma)

3) One who wishes to receive the privileges for the shortage of age of time.

(1) One who wishes to receive the privileges for the shortage of age or time should submit the concerned documents as follows:

a. Application for promotion test

b. Personal history/ Taekwondo career

c. Explanatory recommendation by the president of the Member National Association. However, in those countries which do not fall into 1st category, recommendation can be submitted by both the Member National Association and independent instructors.

d. Korean staying abroad is required to submit a document or residency in respective foreign countries.

e. Other supporting data, if any.

(2) Despite the shortage of age or period, president of Kukkiwon may exercise his discretionary authority in dealing with promotion tests in accordance with the decision of the Kukkiwon promotion test committee.

Article 18: Permission of Similar Dan Certificate

1) This applies to one who has a similar Taekwondo Dan certificates, it is required to submit the following documents:

(1) Application for promotion test

(2) Personal history/Taekwondo career

(3) Explanatory recommendation by the Member National Association. However, in those contries which do not fall into the 1st category, recommendations can be submitted by president of Member Nationa Association or independent instructors.

(4) Korean staying abroad is required to submit a document of residency in respective foreign countries.

(5) Other supporting data.

2) The one who does not have Kukkiwon Dan/Poom certificates or who needs to be promoted as jumped-up promotion in special reasons. It is required to submit the following documents.

(1) Application for promotion test

(2) Personal history/ Taekwondo career

(3) Explanatory recommendation and test record by the president of Member National Association. However, in those countries which do not fall into 1st category, recommendation and test record can be submitted by the president of Member National Association or independent instructors.

(4) Taekwondo activities and merits.

(5) Korean staying abroad is required to submit any document of residency in respective foreign countries.

(6) Other supporting data

2) Above clauses 1), 2) may be allowed through the screening by the Kukkiwon promotion test committee and with the approval it by the president of Kukkiwon.

Article 19: Sanctions

If any of the following violations are committed, the violator shall be sanctioned by expulsion, deprivation of Dan certificates and/or suspension of memberships.

1) Alteration or disqualification of Dan certificates

2) Dan promotion testing executed by unauthorized persons

3) Issuing Dan certificates by the name of own instructors or Member National Federation themselves.

Article 20: Gup Promotion Test

The instructor who holds 4th Dan or higher Dan has a right to test the Gup promotion and issue the Gup certificates by his/her name for his/her students. By-laws for Gup promotion test will be made up separately.

Article 21: Administration

Documents for applicants for Dan promotion tests are required as follows:

1) Application form (As attached Kukkiwon form No. 1 (Domestic), No. 1-1 (Overseas))

(1) Korean nationals staying abroad shall attach a document to confirm their actual residence in the respective foreign countries.

(2) Applications for Dan promotion tests shall attach a copy of residential registration (Korean only)

- List of applicant's name (As attached Kukkiwon form No. 2)
- Test results and payment of test fees

2) Above test documents shall be submitted to Kukkiwon within 30 days prior to the date of test, while within 10 days in case of Korean domestic district association.

3) Kukkiwon will issue Dan or Poom certificates to the pertinent qualified applicants according to the application form within 20 days from the date of test to overseas and 15 days to domestic applications.

Supplemental Provision

The regulations shall be effective as January 1, 1999.