



Taekwondo Belt and Rank information.

We are members of the **World Taekwondo Federation (WTF)** headquartered in Seoul Korea. The WTF is recognized by the IOC (Olympic Committee). Taekwondo is an art and also an Olympic Sport. The USA team is headquartered in Colorado in the USA.

Master Kirby is a 6th Degree Black Belt. Together with his wife Judi (a black belt) and his sons Scott and Chris (also Black Belts), TaewondoNetwork provides quality training all the way up to Black Belt and beyond.

9th Degree is the highest practical rank one can achieve in WTF Taekwondo. You will receive your WTF Black Belt Certificates from Korea when you achieve Black Belt Because Master Kirby is of a higher rank than that.... It will take approximately 2 years and 9 months on average to achieve your first degree Black Belt.

The belts to black belt are as follows:

Belt / Rank		Duration of time at that Rank
White Belt		3 months
Low Yellow		3 months
High Yellow (green stripe)		3 months
Low Green		3 months
High Green (blue stripe)		3 months
Low Blue		3 months
High Blue (red stripe)		3 months
Low Red		3 months
High Red (black stripes - 1 every 3 months)		9 months
1st Degree Black Belt		1 Year Minimum
2nd Degree Black Belt		2 Year Minimum

We test and promote students every 12 weeks. So, for example, White belts will be high yellow (green stripe) 6 months after their first day of class.

The following is a chart & information that explains ranks above Black Belt.

Students under the age of 15 years old will receive what is called a “Poom Certificate” when they achieve 1st Degree Black Belt. Students above the age of 15 years old will receive a “Dan Certificate” when they achieve 1st Degree Black Belt.

Here is how it works: (see chart below)

Under 15 years old: A student can achieve 1st Poom, then 2nd Poom, then 3rd Poom under the age of 15 years old. Then, when the child/student turns 15 years old, they can simply convert the Poom to the equal rank “Dan Certificate”. There is a small fee (under 50.00 dollars) to do so. So for example, a 12 year old, 2nd Poom, Black Belt will be a 2nd Degree (Dan) Black Belt when he or she turns 15 years old. If a child achieves 4th Poom Black Belt, then that student will need to wait till they turn 18 years old to convert that 4th Poom to a 4th Degree (Dan) Certificate.

Poom/Dan Chart below.

Poom/Dan	Minimum Time Required For Promotion	Age Limits Start From Dan	Age Limits Start From Poom
1 st Poom	N/A	N/A	Less than 15 years old
1 st -2 nd Poom	1 Year	N/A	Less than 15 years old
2 nd -3 rd Poom	2 Years	N/A	Less than 15 years old
3 rd -4 th Poom	3 Years	N/A	Less than 18 years old
1 st Dan	N/A	15 years and above	N/A
1 st -2 nd Dan	1 Year	16 years and above	15 years and above
2 nd -3 rd Dan	2 years	18 years and above	15 years and above
3 rd -4 th Dan	3 Years	21 years and above	18 years and above
4 th -5 th Dan	4 Years	25 years and above	22 years and above
5 th -6 th Dan	5 Years	30 years and above	30 years and above
6 th -7 th Dan	6 Years	36 years and above	36 years and above
7 th -8 th Dan	8 Years	44 years and above	44 years and above
8 th -9 th Dan	9 Years	53 years and above	53 years and above

Please see Judith Kirby with questions.