



2008 USA Taekwondo Annual Awards Program

USA Taekwondo would once again like to recognize individuals and clubs who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in many areas. If you feel you know an individual or club who meets the criteria for one of these awards please complete the application form and submit the required documentation by **November 30th, 2008**. All applications will be processed and tendered to the Awards Committee which will sort through the various applications and make their decisions. Winners will receive an award plaque.

Awards include:

- Male & Female Athlete of the Year
- Male & Female Junior (14-17) Athlete of the Year
- Referee of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Family of the Year
- Lifetime Service Award
- Directors' Leadership Award
- Alexa Miller Award

In order to maintain the integrity of the awards, if in the opinion of the Awards Committee none of the applicants truly meet all the standards for that one award, then that award will not be given that calendar year.

In the case of Athlete of the Year and Coach of the Year, major consideration will be given to the recipient of these awards in submission of the USAT nomination to the USOC for the USOC Athlete and Coach of the Year awards for 2008 given out in 2009.



USA Taekwondo Awards Program Application

Check only one:

- Male & Female Athlete of the Year
- Male & Female Junior (14-17) Athlete of the Year
- Referee of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Family of the Year
- Lifetime Service Award
- Director's Leadership Award
- Alexa Miller Award

Name of Person/Club Nominated: _____

Contact Info: _____

Name of Person Nominating: _____

Contact Info: _____

Please submit a one (1) page letter explaining why you feel this person/club exemplifies the criteria set by the USAT for this award. All applicants/clubs will require two (2) letters of recommendation from someone other than the nominator. All applications must be received in the USAT office:

USA Taekwondo
One Olympic Plaza, Ste 104C
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
719-866-4632
Bill.Kellick@usa-taekwondo.us

Return by November 30th, 2008 to be eligible for consideration.

Also, supply any supporting documentation such as newspaper articles, web pages, certificates, video, with your application. Support documents will not be returned, so please keep a copy. **Award winners agree to grant USA Taekwondo the use of their photograph in conjunction with publicity of the Awards Program.**

Note: All nominators and nominees must be USAT members.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

The Family of the Year Award honors a family whose members have contributed to USA Taekwondo at all levels of participation. This award provides public recognition of a family who has displayed exceptional support for USA Taekwondo. The members of the chosen Family of the Year will have distinguished themselves in their roles of athlete, coach, referee and/or event volunteer at official USA Taekwondo events.

1. Nominees for Family of the Year can be composed of two or more members of a family unit, including parents, children and/or other extended family members.
2. Family members have participated in USA Taekwondo in one or more ways, as athlete, coach, referee or event volunteer.
3. Family members have participated in four or more USA Taekwondo events (subject to verification by USA Taekwondo event registration):
4. Family members have displayed outstanding involvement and leadership during their participation at the above events.
5. Families previously nominated but not selected may be resubmitted.

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes the many ways an individual can contribute to USA Taekwondo. This individual has demonstrated a love and dedication to the sport through participation and service over an extended period of time. In short, the recipient of this award is being recognized for a lifetime of dedication to Taekwondo.

1. *Must have been a member of the USTU/USAT for a minimum of 10 years.
2. *Must have coached, competed, volunteered OR served as a committee member (BOG, etc.) consistently throughout the last 10 years at national events.
3. *Must have displayed exceptional involvement and leadership at the afore-mentioned events.
4. *Must demonstrate significant contributions that have helped to nurture the health of Taekwondo, perpetuate its growth, and/or influence development its development.

*As part of the award, the recipient will receive a lifetime membership to USA Taekwondo. In the event that the award winner is already a lifetime member, no substitute prize will be given.

REFEREE OF THE YEAR

1. Referee at least six (6) Taekwondo competitions using USAT rules during the current year including:
 - Junior Championships
 - One (1) USAT Qualifying Event
 - Three (3) local/regional events that are not part of a USA team selection process. Intramural events do not meet this requirement.
2. Provide documentation for tournament experience including a letter of recommendation from each tournament referee chair.

Subjective Criteria

1. Ability to work well with others
2. Ability to improve performance as a referee
3. Ability to mentor others
4. Ability to interact and communicate well with coaches and competitors
5. Ability to effectively apply competition rules in difficult situations
6. Smooth operation of the ring, e.g., smooth flow of competitors, punctual
7. Ability to contribute to creating a positive tournament experience for spectators, competitors, coaches, and volunteers

ALEXA MILLER AWARD

The Alexa Miller Award is named after a little girl who has excelled in the spirit of taekwondo despite the rare debilitating condition of progeria that is manifested by the acceleration of the aging process. Alexa began taekwondo at the age of three in an effort to help her combat some of the joint and muscle stiffness that accompanies her condition. At age seven, after four years of practicing Taekwondo and competing on the local and state level, Alexa was recognized at the Junior Olympics for her achievements. At that time, Alexa bore the rank of green belt. Her indomitable spirit has touched all that have met her, from parents and friends to Olympic gold medalist Steven Lopez. At age 11, after nearly eight years of training, Alexa was awarded her black belt. The Alexa Miller award is therefore, reserved for a practitioner of taekwondo who has persevered despite what appears to be insurmountable odds and has set the example for the rest of us to follow. The basic requirements for this award are as follows:

1. Participation in taekwondo for a minimum of 2 (two) years.
2. Perseverance despite a significant physical, mental or psychological condition which poses limitations to general life activities
3. Positive attitude
4. Sets an example for others to follow
5. Does not make excuses for what he/she cannot do, but seeks to find ways to overcome obstacles
6. Has had a significant positive impact upon the community
7. Serves as a positive role model for other taekwondo practitioners

DIRECTORS' LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Directors' Leadership Award is designed to recognize a person who has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and made significant contributions to the overall functioning and effectiveness of USA Taekwondo. This award is reserved for individuals who have shown dedication and initiative aimed at problem solving within the organization as well as in the development of sport Taekwondo in general. Typically, this individual will have made contributions that have positively impacted the organization on a national level and across various domains. This award will not necessarily be presented on an annual basis, but will be reserved for presentation only when the Board of Directors deems that the guidelines have been met or exceeded. The criteria for this award are as follows:

1. Significant contributions in various areas at the national level
2. Contributions have had a significant positive impact on organizational functioning and effectiveness
3. Contributions have been made which are above and beyond that which is specified within various job descriptions or outlined duties of individuals such as committee chairs, or elected or appointed positions
4. The individual has demonstrated initiative in tackling issues related to Taekwondo in a proactive as well as reactive manner
5. Serves as a positive role model for other Taekwondo practitioners

CLUB OF THE YEAR

1. Club must be registered with USAT for 2007 & 2008;
2. Club must show a significant membership increase in the past year;
3. Club must demonstrate a passion for advancing the sport of Taekwondo;
4. Club must be active in their community via outreach programs

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

1. Must have shown unusual dedication to the sport of Taekwondo by donating their time to the advancement of Taekwondo and/or worked on behalf of the USAT above and beyond even the average volunteer's efforts for the past year, as well as several previous years;
2. Must have shown a pleasant demeanor and a cheerful attitude in the face adversity;
3. Must have accomplished a body of work above and beyond the average volunteer's efforts for the past year;

*Nominee cannot be a USAT Referee, Athlete, Coach or Administrative Staff;

USA Taekwondo Male and Female Athletes of the Year

- Nominations for both the Male and Female Athlete of the Year are to be based on the athlete's performance for the calendar year of 2008.
- Priority should be given to those athletes who excelled at a world-level event such as an Olympic Games, World Championships, Pan Am Championships or World Collegiate Championships. Secondary consideration will include national, regional and local results.
- The final male and female award winners will be given primary consideration for USOC Athlete of the Year nominations.
- Nominees must be USAT members.

USA Taekwondo Junior Male and Female Athletes of the Year

- Nominations for both the Junior Male and Junior Female Athlete of the Year are to be based on the athlete's performance for the calendar year of 2008.
- Nominees must have celebrated their 14th, 15th, 16th or 17th birthday during the calendar year.
- Priority should be given to those athletes who excelled at a world-level or Pan Am-level event. Secondary consideration will include national, regional and local results.
- Nominees must be USAT members.

USA Taekwondo Coach of the Year

- Nominations for Coach of the Year are based on accomplishments of the coach during the calendar year of 2008.
- The nominee must currently be coaching or within one year of their retirement.
- Nominees must be USAT members
- Considerations should be given to:
 - Coaching record for the calendar year
 - Honors/recognition
 - Service to sport
 - Professional memberships
 - Initiation of new training programs/tools and innovative training methods