

# 2009 Kukkiwon Special Test

## Test Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where is the location of the test?

**The test will be held at the Tropicana Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.**

2. When will the test and Poomse Seminar be held?

**The test and mandatory seminar (4<sup>th</sup> Dan and above) will be held on February 13 & 14 during the U.S. Open. The test will be held at the end of the day on the Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> or in the morning of Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>.**

3. When is the application deadline?

**All applications must be received by January 7, 2009.**

4. When will I know if my application has been approved or not approved?

**All applicants will be notified of their approval/not approval as they are continually processed. All applicants will be notified no later than January 17<sup>th</sup>. We urge you to apply as soon as possible in order to have more time to prepare for this historic test.**

5. Can I attend the seminar even though my application for promotion is under fourth Dan?

**Absolutely, you are encouraged to take advantage of this rare opportunity. The seminar will be conducted by the highest level instructors from Kukkiwon. The fee for this 2 day, 12-16 hour seminar is only \$45 because you are applying for this special Kukkiwon test. Please attach the Seminar Application Form along with your testing application.**

6. I am not testing, but wish to take the Poomse seminar, is this allowed?

**Yes, everyone is permitted to take the Poomsae seminar with \$90.00 payment. You must be a registered USAT member in order to attend the seminar that is being taught by the best instructors from Kukkiwon. You must fill out and mail in the Seminar Application Form along with your payment.**

7. What are testing requirements?

**1<sup>st</sup> Dan-3<sup>rd</sup> Dan Applicants do not have to take a physical test and are not required to be in attendance at the testing. However, these applicants are strongly encouraged to attend and compete at the U.S. open and attend the poomse seminar, which will be taught by the best instructors from Kukkiwon.**

**Physical Test- Only 4<sup>th</sup> Dan & Higher**

**4<sup>th</sup> Dan & Higher Test** participants must perform their rank form (see below chart) and must perform one form from a previous rank to be chosen at the discretion of the testing board. Participants will also perform 1 minute of controlled sparring (purpose of sparring will be to show participants technique and movement). Sparring partners will be paired according to size, age and rank. Breaking will be optional with guidelines set at test.

Those testing for **6<sup>th</sup> Dan and above** must submit a thesis with their application. The thesis must be at least 10 pages long (12 pt. font or lower and no more than double spaced). Subject of the thesis is their experience and philosophy of Taekwondo; such as Taekwondo and My Life.

8. Can I apply 8-9<sup>th</sup> Dan application at this time?

**Yes, However 8-9<sup>th</sup> Dan will not test during this special Kukkiwon test. After we receive 8-9<sup>th</sup> Dan application forms, we will set up separate time to test for the 8-9<sup>th</sup> Dan. USAT/Kukkiwon will inform you time and location in USA.**

9. Is there a format for those with medical injuries? (ex. back injury)

**This will be judged on a case by case basis by the test examiners at the time of testing.**

**Specified subjects of practical techniques applied to the Poom or Dan promotion tests.**

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

10. What are the Kukkiwon Dan testing fees? –

**You need to pay maximum of 3 highest rank test fee that you are applying for.**

**Ex. If you are a 1<sup>st</sup> Dan and wish to test for 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan through 6<sup>th</sup> Dan at the test, you would pay \$150 (4<sup>th</sup> Dan Fee) + \$300 (5<sup>th</sup> Dan Fee) + \$350 (6<sup>th</sup> Dan Fee) = \$800 Total Test Fee.**

#### **Test Fees**

**1<sup>st</sup> Dan \$70**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dan \$90**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Dan \$120.00**

**4<sup>th</sup> Dan \$150.00**

**5<sup>th</sup> Dan \$300**

**6<sup>th</sup> Dan \$350**

**7<sup>th</sup> Dan \$450**

**8<sup>th</sup> Dan \$550**

**9<sup>th</sup> Dan \$700**

11. Where do we send our application to?

**You may send application to USAT Taekwondo: 1 Olympic Plaza, 104C Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909 or send application to USAT Martial Arts Commission 1349 Brice Road, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. All reviewed applications will be forward to USA Taekwondo who will forward them to the Kukkiwon.**

12. Do we send the money along with our application?

**Yes, testing fees are due at time of application.**

**Those testing for 4<sup>th</sup> Dan and above will be required to take the 2 day Poomse seminar which will cost \$45. This fee must also be included at the time of application.**

13. What form of payment is acceptable? (ex. check, money order, credit card etc..)

**Money Order, Cashier's Check, Credit Card – No personal or company checks.**

14. Who do we make payment out to?

**Payment must be made out to USAT.**

15. If my application for promotion is denied, will I receive a refund of my funds?

**Yes, you will receive a full refund of your fees, including all testing and seminar fees (if you applied).**

16. If I am accepted to test, but for any reason (medical, family etc.) cannot attend the test, will I receive a refund of my funds?

**Your payment will be refunded, minus a nominal administrative processing fee.**

17. What is an acceptable format for my resume?

**Please reference the sample Martial Arts Activity/History sheet located in the packet.**

18. What is an acceptable format for my application stating my reasons for wanting special testing?

**Please use Kukkiwon Special Dan Recommendation form – part of Package**

19. Do I need a thesis?

**Those testing for 6<sup>th</sup> Dan and above must submit a thesis with their application. The thesis must be at least 10 pages long (12 pt. font or lower and no more than double spaced). Subject of the thesis is their experience and philosophy of Taekwondo; such as Taekwondo and My Life.**

20. Do I need to currently have a Master or Instructor to test?

**No. However, please state reason on your form for not having a signature for instructor. If the reason is acceptable the martial arts commission review board will authorize you to test.**

21. Who is a candidate for Skip Dan Test?

**Skip Dan Test: Those who hold a Kukkiwon Dan rank, but who missed the opportunity (on more than one occasion) to test for subsequent Kukkiwon Dan ranks and would like to bring their Kukkiwon Dan current and will need to skip one or more Dan ranks to do so.**

22. Who is a candidate for Special Kukkiwon Testing?

**Kukkiwon Rank Recognition Test: Those who have never received a Kukkiwon Dan rank but who have received a Dan rank from a credible taekwondo organization or credible Master/Grandmaster Instructor and are seeking Kukkiwon recognition of the rank they have achieved.**

23. Who is a candidate for time reduction test?

**Those who wish to test for a higher rank, but whose age or time in the current rank do not meet Kukkiwon standards, may test if their overall training and experience otherwise satisfies Kukkiwon requirements.**

24. I want to skip from “x” dan to “y” dan. Is this ok?

**You are eligible to apply for rank, based upon your years training and the age requirement. Below is a chart indicating these requirements.**

25. I have already taken advantage of a Skip Dan testing. Am I able to also take advantage of this skip dan test?

**This may be permitted if your total history of training meets the Kukkiwon standard. A testing application and detailed martial arts resume should be sent so that Kukkiwon can make this determination with USAT’s recommendation.**

26. Can I do a skip dan and time reduction both?

**If your training history and time & age requirements as set by Kukkiwon are met, then it is allowed. If you are not sure if you meet Kukkiwon requirements, please send your application and a detailed resume and your appropriate rank will be determined. Please see chart below for further guidance.**

27. If I am requesting to be promoted two ranks above my current rank and am denied, can I still test for one rank above my current rank?

**Yes you can, you are allowed to apply for the testing according to your qualification for testing as determined by the Kukkiwon. Please see chart below for further guidance.**

<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
3rd to 4th 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

28. I have Kukkiwon Dan, but do not know my Kukkiwon Dan number. Can you find out what it is for me?

**Please visit the following website to find out: <http://www.kukkiwon.or.kr/english/pop.jsp>**

29. Will there be any make up dates?

**There are no other tests of this historic nature scheduled.**

30. I'll be competing or coaching or refereeing at the U.S. open and testing for 4<sup>th</sup> Dan or Higher, can I be excused from some or all of the Poomse Seminar to in order to compete/coach/referee?

**Yes, it is acceptable, with consensus of the Kukkiwon Testing Board, to miss a few hours of the seminar. Please note your plans to compete/referee/coach on your application and you will be notified whether you will be excused or not.**

31. Are spectators or family members allowed at the Poomse Seminar and at the Testing?

**Spectators will be allowed during the testing but not during the Poomse Seminar**

32. Should I bring my sparring gear?

**Even though sparring will be controlled, participants are required to bring sparring gear?**

33. What are the uniform requirements?

**An official Dobok (white with black v-neck) is required.**