



*Editors note: All articles are written by GM Todd unless otherwise noted.*



**Birthdays in November:**

I do not believe we have any birthdays to celebrate, but my list is always requiring updates. Please let me know if I am missing anyone who has a birthday in November.



**Axe Taekwon-Do Promotion Testing—November 21, 2024—Offutt YC**

The next promotion test will be on November 21st at the Youth Center. Everyone testing should have their testing forms, if not contact SM Bushor. All fees and forms returned by November 19th. If

you have *any questions please contact me*, SM Bushor or Master Bowling. Promotion testings are held in February, May, August, and November each year. Not all students test every time, it depends on attendance, skill, and attitude to name a few things. I have extensive experience in promoting Taekwon-Do students, particularly in black belts, as shown below.

**Black Belt Promotion Timing:** 1st Degree to 2nd Degree: 18 months, 2nd Degree to 3rd Degree: 2 years, 3rd Degree to 4th Degree: 3 years, 4th Degree to 5th Degree: 4 years, 5th Degree to 6th Degree: 5 years 6th Degree to 7th Degree: 6 years, 7th Degree to 8th Degree: 7 years, and 8th Degree to 9th Degree: 8 years.

The total number of Black Belts I have trained and promoted: Over 204, black belts and here is the breakdown: 1st Degree: 110, 2nd Degree: 44, 3rd Degree: 24, 4th Degree: 17, 5th Degree: 4, 6th Degree: 2 7th Degree: 2, and 8th Degree: 1, these numbers could be slightly off since my record keeping in the 80s wasn't the best.

The estimate is about 3% (3 out of 100 students) attain the rank of black belt. The figures for my students: given that I have trained and promoted over 204 black belts, and if use the 3% estimation for general martial arts, this would suggest I have taught around 6,800 students who started training in Taekwon-Do, which has allowed me the opportunity to promote 204 black belts. This probably isn't that surprising since I have been teaching for 41 years, in multiple states, schools, and overseas. You may wonder why the numbers drop as the black belt rank progresses, this is due to the fact that advancing in Taekwon-Do requires more dedication and commitment. I am dedicated to spreading the art of Taekwon-Do as taught by the founder, Gen. Choi and Sr. Grand Master Sereff.

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**Calendar Dates 2024**

- Nov 21 — Axe TKD Testing
- Nov 28—Closed—Thanksgiving
- Dec 14—Black Belt Luncheon
- Dec 19—Axe TKD Class Party
- Dec 24-Jan 2—Closed Holidays
- Jan 7—Return to Training

**Welcome New Students to Axe Taekwon-Do**

Welcome to all new students and their families joining Taekwon-Do. We currently have 10 white belts and hopefully more signing up for classes. Anyone new to Taekwon-Do, please feel to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns. Email: [axetkd@gmail.com](mailto:axetkd@gmail.com) or you can call or text me at 402-650-4399. The 530-630 pm class is finally becoming busy and any black belts that would like to assist are welcome. Contact SM Bushor or Master Bowing and they will get you started teaching.



**Closed Axe Taekwon-Do Testings**

Starting with this testing cycle, all promotion tests at Axe Taekwon-Do will be “closed” events. This means that attendance will be limited to our students and their families only, no other black belts (senior or junior) will be invited to attend. I want these testing events to be special occasions for us, the Axe Taekwon-Do family. It is a time for us to celebrate our progress and achievements together. As your instructor, I have dedicated my life to developing effective teaching and training methods. By keeping these events closed, we can share these moments together increasing the “spirit” in our school. If any black belt (senior or junior) approaches you regarding the testing, please feel free to share this decision with them or direct them to me. I want to ensure that you are informed about this change.

Regarding events at other schools:

If you plan to attend an event at another Taekwon-Do school, please check with me first. I will communicate with the other school’s head instructor to ensure we maintain proper etiquette and do not breach any rules. It’s important that we do not assume or invite ourselves to events at other schools without explicit permission from the head instructor. I am certain that that you will understand and appreciate this decision to hold closed testing events. Events that are open to all junior/seniors would be seminars and tournaments. I look forward to our next testing and 2025!



**Bad Weather—Class Cancellation**

Axe Taekwon-Do will not be closed for bad weather unless the Youth Center is closed. Typically, if the base is closed, the Youth Center will close, otherwise we are there training. You can email or text me at [axetkd@gmail.com](mailto:axetkd@gmail.com) or 402-650-4399. You can also call the Youth Center directly at 402-294-5152. I will attempt to text, email, and post on Facebook when we are canceled.



**No Classes—Thursday, November 28th—Thanksgiving**

Enjoy the time with your family and safe travels if you are leaving the local area.

## Axe Taekwon-Do

Axe Taekwon-Do was formed in 2004 at Offutt Air Force Base. Grand Master Todd and Master Bushor formed Axe Taekwon-Do which is an authorized school under the United States Taekwon-Do Federation.

USTF Taekwon-Do has been active at Offutt Air Force Base, Youth Center since 1988. The classes were originally founded by Mr. Vince Dowd, a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree black belt from Colorado. In 1989, the late Sr. Master Gary Meek took over the classes and renamed the school Meek's International Taekwon-Do. In 2004, the school was renamed Axe Taekwon-Do and Grand Master Todd and Master Bushor took over teaching.

Classes are taught on Tuesday & Thursday.

Beginners: 5:30—6:30 pm

Advanced: 6:30-8:00 pm

Offutt Air Force Base Youth Center  
Building 5085  
Bellevue, Nebraska  
Phone: 402-294-5152

### Direct Contact Instructors

Grand Master Todd  
Phone: 402-650-4399  
Email: axetkd@gmail.com

Sr. Master Bushor  
Phone: 402-321-7545  
Email: kbushor@cox.net

Master Bowling  
Email: arbowing11@hotmail.com

### *Holiday Gift Ideas For the Taekwon-Do Student*

We have several wholesale accounts where we can purchase Taekwon-Do gear, about anything you could want from plastic boards, kick pads, kick shields, clothing, etc. If you are interested in purchasing something for someone in your family, please contact SM Bushor.

### *Annual Black Belt—Luncheon*



I recently emailed a flyer to all active black belts. We will host the annual luncheon on Saturday, December 14th, from 12 pm—2 pm, at the Pizza Ranch in Council Bluffs. I have everything planned and set up for this event. This allows me to review the current year of events for Axe Taekwon-Do and plan for the next year. I understand December is a busy month for everyone, but I hope black belts make time in their schedule for this event. The luncheon is paid for by Axe Taekwon-Do



### *Annual Class Holiday Party—December 19th, 530-800 pm*

The Annual Class Holiday Party will be held in the Youth center on December 19th, during class time. There will be no classes that night and the dress will be casual. We will have a chili or whatever competition where the winner will receive a voucher for \$75.00 which can be used for any Taekwon-Do related event or gear. I will email out the flyer and further details soon. I already have all details scheduled, the event will roughly follow prior parties. All you have to do is show up (bring a dish if you want to compete). There will be a sign-up sheet in class so we can ensure we have everything covered.

### *Class Holiday Break for the holidays*



We will not hold classes on December 24th, 26th or the 31st. I had previously announced we would return to training on Thursday, January 2nd, but the Youth center will be closed for a family day. I look forward to seeing all of you back in training on January 7th. During this down time ensure you are still practicing your patterns.

### *Future Events—2024*

**November 21:** Axe Taekwon-Do Testing  
**November 28:** Class closed—Thanksgiving  
**December 14:** Black Belt holiday luncheon  
**December 19:** Axe Taekwon-Do holiday party  
**December 24th—Jan 2nd:** Closed for Holidays