



Mark your calendars! 2018 Training Opportunities and Testing Dates

Sep 15th – Casper TKD Tournament – WY	Dec 20th – Axe Taekwon-Do Holiday Party – Offutt YC
Oct 14th – Sereff TKD Tournament – CO	Dec 20th – Axe Taekwon-Do Holiday Party – Offutt YC
Nov 3rd – USTF Breaking Seminar – Battle Ground, WA	Dec 25, 27 & Jan 1 – No classes – closed for Holidays
Nov 15th – Axe Taekwon-Do Testing – Offutt Youth Center	Feb 23rd – USTF Technical Seminar – GM Winegar - CO
Dec 15th – Axe Taekwon-Do Black Belt Holiday Luncheon	

Kirkville Tournament – August 25th, 2018 – Sr. Master Todd



The annual USTF Tournament in Kirkville, Missouri was held on Saturday, August 25th, 2018. We had a great showing from Axe Taekwon-Do with 20 students travelling to compete. I was proud of all of our students and their accomplishments. There were 108 competitors at this event so this tournament is continuing to grow. After a hard day of competition, Ms. Staci Chamberlin, 3rd dan was named the Adult Black Belt Grand Champion!

Axe Taekwon-Do Promotion Testing – August 30th, 2018

Congratulations to the following students promoted this testing cycle. Mr. Ragone to 3rd degree black belt. Red Belt Black Stripe: Mr. John Fleming and Ms. Elizabeth Linder. Blue Belt Red Stripe: Mr. William Fleming. Blue Belt: Mrs. Tami Grgas, Mr. Tyler Jensen and Ms. Leilani Param. Yellow Belt: Mr. Hudson Baird, Ms. Olivia Baird, Mrs. Sara Baird and Mr. Taylor Sullivan. White Belt Yellow Stripe: Ms. Blasey.

Special Recognition – Mr. Dawsen Ragone



Mr. Ragone has recently completed the necessary requirements to obtain his private pilot's license. Now he can really fly in addition to his outstanding jumping ability in class! To all students, if you have an

accomplishment outside of Taekwon-Do please inform Sr. Master Todd. We want to ensure you receive the proper recognition.

Special Recognition – Ms. Staci Chamberlin



Ms. Chamberlin was recently inducted into the National Honor Society at Bellevue West High School. A significant accomplishment considering she also trains in four Taekwon-Do classes per week, plays hockey in a local league, and has two part-time jobs working as a hockey referee and in a local amusement park.

USTF Tournament – Casper, Wyoming



The next USTF tournament will be on Saturday, September 15th in Casper, Wyoming. We recently sent out an email trying to encourage others to travel for this event. We need to support our other USTF schools so we can continue to have an active tournament circuit in the U.S. Please contact Sr. Master Todd if you have any questions: The tournament flyer is located at: <http://www.axetkd.com/Tournaments/WyInvit2018.pdf>

USTF Tournament – Broomfield, Colorado



The final USTF tournament for 2018 will be on Sunday, October 14th. We will depart the Youth Center on Saturday and return Monday and this is the biggest tournament of the year. Currently we have 11 students from Axe Taekwon-Do scheduled to attend this event.

We always have room for more. Attending thus far: Sr. Master Todd, Master Bushor, Ms. Bowing, Mrs. Ragone, Ms. Matos, Ms. Chamberlin, Mr. Ragone, Ms. Ragone, Mrs. Chamberlin, Ms. Linder, and Ms. Loftus. The flyer is located at: <http://www.axetkd.com/PDF/Tournaments/Sereff2018.pdf>

Congratulations – Ms. Elizabeth Linder



Congratulations to Ms. Linder who won the Flash Annual Taekwon-Do Kids' Art Contest for 2018. Her grand prize drawing is shown here. This is the second year in a row that Ms. Linder has won the event. Great job ma'am.

USTF Blues – Sr. Master Todd

All black belts are to be dressed in their USTF Blues for promotion testing and tournaments unless I specify otherwise. Typically, after a tournament if there is a dinner you should plan to wear your blues unless the senior at the event informs us otherwise. If you are a referee or a black belt, you need to purchase the white shirt, blue pants and tie/tab at this time.

This is official outfit for the referees and official uniform you wear to USTF events. We have tournaments in Sept, Oct and the next promotion testing in November. This should allow sufficient time for all black belts to have this outfit prior to the future events. Please have it by the Sept tournament and at the latest the November testing.

USTF Blues



Blue Embroidered jacket (mandatory for all 4th dan and above). Embroidery (USTF logo/name) will be processed through me to USTF HQ. You can buy the jacket at any store to include Goodwill/Walmart, etc. You want a blazer, not a suit coat.



Blue (or dark navy) Pants – women can also wear a blue skirt if desired (needs to be at least below knee length). These pants can be plain front or pleated.



White shirt – plain, no logo. This can be long or short sleeve. I think the long sleeve looks more professional but it is your choice.



USTF Tie or Tab: You can purchase this through me and they are produced by the USTF. Men wear the tie and women have the choice of the tie or tab. Cost is \$25 for the tie and \$8 for the tab.

Shoes: For tournaments, they must be plain white tennis shoes (non-marking). For testing, you can wear dress shoes or the white shoes.

If you have questions please let me know. I understand that our younger black belts change sizes often, so don't spend a lot on these clothes, this is why I suggest Walmart or Goodwill.

Farwell – Mr. Daniel James, 2nd Dan



It is with great sadness that we wish farewell to Mr. James. Mr. James has accepted employment in Colorado and September 6th was his last class with us. In his typical fashion, he did not want to draw individual attention to the fact he was leaving. The good news is he

will enroll at Sereff Taekwon-Do in Broomfield, Colorado and continue his training in Taekwon-Do. Since we travel to Colorado at least twice per year, we should be able to stay in contact with Mr. James. You can email Mr. James at daniel.l.james@gmail.com

Black Belt Biographies

Did you know that once a student is promoted to black belt we maintain a biography on our website? You can read more about individual black belts on their individual pages. It is interesting to see that many of our black belts were born in other states and countries. We are truly a melting pot of students at Axe Taekwon-Do. You can view the active black belts at:

<http://www.axetkd.com/BlackBelts.html>

If a black belt leaves class, you can still see their bios at:

<http://www.axetkd.com/FormerBlackBelts.html>

New Students – Sr. Master Todd

We have several new students that have joined the Axe Taekwon-Do family. I encourage everyone to take time and make him or her feel welcome and part of the family. We were all white belts at one time and can remember the anxiety associated with being the “new person” in class. We are not the Cobra Kai, featured in the Karate Kid movies so we want to make everyone welcome. Taekwon-Do is not just for athletes. General Choi (the founder of Taekwon-Do) created this art for all people regardless of race, sex, religion or physical ability. We are all equal in the Taekwon-Do uniform, just students trying to learn the art, so welcome our new students into the art of Taekwon-Do! Here are some of our current black belts and a picture from lower ranks.



SM Todd Master Bushor Mrs. Ragone Ms. Matos



Mrs. Buckley Mr. Buckley Ms. Chamberlin Mr. Ragone



Ms. Ragone Mr. James Ms. Grant

My Thoughts on Sereff World Camp – 2018: Mrs. Sharon Buckley, III Dan

Sereff World Camp is a great experience. It is an opportunity to learn from the most senior instructors in the USTF. These senior instructors have many years of experience and a great amount of guidance to offer. Through the years, I learned that someone might present something in just a little bit different way from the way my own instructors teach. This contrasting method is not any better but another way to look at presenting instruction. The different method helped me to finally understand a technique that troubled me. There are many opportunities to hear different instructions from the various instructors at camp. Also, different instructors may share a training or stretching tip you didn't know that proves helpful in your practice. Taekwon-Do is a martial art you learn your entire lifetime. The experiences at World Camp provides so many great options to continue your learning.

Parts of camp may challenge you. Use those challenges to make yourself a better person and martial artist. My challenge was the hike to the waterfalls. It is a slight incline but difficult for me at the altitude of about 9,100 feet. I made it to the top and was able to stand under the waterfalls. It is an awesome moment to stand under the roaring, cold, refreshing water as it

rushes down on you as you strike a Taekwon-Do pose for a photo. This moment is a highlight of camp.

We do more than just train at camp. We also have a number of fun activities such as the opening games, campfire songs and entertainment including s'mores, seniors sharing their Taekwon-Do history and stories, training (and splashing) in the lake, jumping in the lake, the piñata, to standing under the waterfalls. This year the Australians taught the juniors how to throw boomerangs.

Students under the age of 13 may attend camp with Senior Master Todd's permission. Whether your child is under 13 or you have an older student, a week at camp may be their first time away from home by themselves. Fear not, parents. The Axe students at camp will ensure they are well taken care of and help them through any concerns they may have. Also, everyone at camp helps each other. A week at camp is a tremendous opportunity for young people to gain some independence and self-confidence and begin to mature into responsible young adults.

I have attended the last two camps. I enjoyed this year so much more than my first one. I think the reason is because of the people. Last time I met so many new people and they became friends. This year I met up with those good friends and made many more new friends. For me, making new friends from around the country and the world is the best part of Sereff World Camp.