

Happy Birthday - May

We want to wish a Happy Birthday to the following members of the Axe Taekwon-Do family:



- May 1: Mr. Roman
- May 2: Ms. Manzano
- May 15: Mrs. Ragone
- May 26: Mr. Ostrander
- May 30: Mr. Williams, J.

Is your birthday missing? If so, please email axetkd@gmail.com so we can be sure to celebrate!

Axe Taekwon-Do Tournament—April 11, 2026

Congratulations to all students who participated in our annual tournament. Our numbers were down slightly but I believe overall we had a better field of competitors. We had students from Nebraska, Utah, Colorado, Minnesota, Wyoming, and Missouri. The Tournament Director, **Master Bowling**, and the Chief Referee, **Mr. Sean Toppi, VI Dan**, kept the tournament running smoothly. **Grand Master Sereff** congratulated us on a great USTF Tournament. This was our 17th Annual event and we will be looking forward to next year in April. Thank you to the **USTF Armed Forces Director, Mr. Zach Ostrander, IV Dan**, for providing our medical support during the tournament. While everyone who participated is a winner, here are the students from Axe Taekwon-Do who earned medals

Junior Color Belt Grand Champion: Mr. Matthew Cordova, Red Belt Black Stripe.

Individual winners:

Ms. Grant, IV Dan, Silver in Patterns, Silver in Sparring.

Ms. Piele, I Dan, Bronze in Sparring.

Mrs. Williams, Yellow Belt, Gold in Patterns, Bronze in Sparring. **Mr. May**, Red Belt Black Stripe, Gold in Patterns, Silver in Sparring. **Ms. De La Cerda**, Yellow Belt, Gold in Patterns, Silver in Sparring. **Mr. Walsh**, Yellow Belt Green Stripe, Bronze in Patterns. **Mr. Steinberg**, Blue Belt, Gold in Patterns, Bronze in Sparring. **Mr. Cordova**, Red Belt Black Stripe, Silver in Patterns, Gold in Sparring. **Ms. Taylor**, Blue Belt, Bronze in Patterns, Gold in Sparring. **Ms. Steinberg**, Blue Belt, Silver in Patterns, Bronze in Sparring. **Mr. Roman**, Green Belt, Silver in Sparring.

Team Breaking: Peewee Division: Gold, Team Bananas (**Ms. De La Cerda, Mr. Williams, J., and Mr. Cordova**). Silver, Team Pickles 3000 (**Mr. Suggs, Mr. Steinberg, and Mr. Walsh**)



Inside this issue

- Birthday/Tournament.....1
- Tournament/Camp/Referee.....2
- Referee Seminar.....3

Calendar Dates 2026

- Jun 5: Color Belt Testing, Axe TKD
- Jun 21-26: Sereff World Camp, Colorado
- Sep 1: Black & Color Belt Testing, Axe TKD
- Sep 12: USTF Black Belt Testing, Sereff TKD
- Sep 26: USTF Tournament, Casper, Wyoming
- Dec 1: Black & Color Belt Testing, Axe TKD



Axe Taekwon-Do Tournament—April 11, 2026

Team Breaking: Junior Division: Gold, Team Bacon (**Mr. DeVries, Mr. Roman, and Ms. Piele**). Bronze, Team Spiders (**Ms. Steinberg, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Taylor**). Adult Black Belt Division: Silver, The Board Breakers (**Mr. May, Mrs. Lewis, and Mrs. Chamberlin**)

Tournaments—2026

October Fall Sereff Tournament cancelled. The October Fall Sereff Tournament has been cancelled. There will be the camp in June and another tournament September 26 in Casper, Wyoming. This cancellation is intended to give families and students a little break from their hectic 2026 travel schedules.

September 26: Tournament, Casper, Wyoming

The 25th Annual Wyoming Invitational will be held on September 26 in Casper Wyoming. Master Willcox is the promoter. Due to the travel distance, participants typically depart on Friday and return on Sunday. We can help coordinate rooms and rides for anyone interested in attending. This will be the only other tournament for 2026. Please refer to the registration flyer for additional details. The tournament features individual patterns, sparring and team breaking. Registration deadline is **September 4, 2026**. [Casper2026](#)



2026 Sereff Taekwon-Do World Camp at Snow Mountain Ranch



The 2026 World Camp is currently full. Attending from Axe Taekwon-Do. Grand Master Todd, Master Bowling, Mrs. Ragone, Mr. Toppi, Ms. Grant, Ms. Ostrander, Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. May. We are also excited to have a former Axe Taekwon-Do black belt, Ms. Lutzova joining us from the Czech Republic. As with the last camp, we plan to depart on Saturday rather than leaving early Sunday. We have to be at USTF HQ by noon on Sunday to travel as a group to the camp. ***This camp is full with students from various states and countries. However, there are always cancellations. Please contact GM Todd if you are interesting in attending.***

USTF Referee Seminar - October - Offutt Youth Center

I am coordinating the hosting and instruction of the USTF Referee Seminar this October. Additional details will be announced soon. All Black Belts are encouraged to attend for refresher training. Those eligible for certification or upgrades are listed below. Color belts will also be invited to participate in the practical portion of the seminar through sparring and patterns. The seminar provides 8 hours continuing education which every black belt must earn yearly to be considered active.

Class A Referee: must be an experienced Class "B" Referee who has developed a comprehensive knowledge of the rules and regulations, and expert conduct in the ring. Professionalism must be displayed in the ring at all times. Required aptitudes include the following:

- Ability to make a correct decision in a timely manner;
- Ability to communicate with officials, fighters, and spectators;

Axe Taekwon-Do

Axe Taekwon-Do was formed in 2004 at Offutt Air Force Base. Grand Master Todd and (Retired) Sr. 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.

OFFUTT YOUTH CENTER (NO BASE ACCESS REQUIRED)
2502 HRUSKA BLVD, BELLEVUE, NE 68123
AGES 6 AND UP
axetkd@gmail.com

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS	5:30 TO 6:30 P.M. BEGINNERS 6:30 TO 8:00 P.M. ADVANCED
---	---

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

USTF Referee Seminar - October - Offutt Youth Center

Class A Referee continued:

- Consistency in the conduct of matches;
- Ability to maintain safety in the ring;
- Ability to take charge of a situation; and,
- Good ring presence (Can stay out of the way of the fighters, determine when there is a problem, and otherwise conduct matches without undue delays).

Class B Referee: must be an experienced Class "C" official who has shown a willingness to gain experience, learned the rules and regulations, and expressed a desire to perform his/her duties. This official must be a minimum of 17 year of age. Black belts with known experience will be certified after attending the seminar. Inexperienced referees will be required to obtain experience in addition to passing the test (Class "B" in training).

Class C Referee: A Class "C" Referee may act in any of the above-mentioned capacities in a match, but must also be a black belt certified by the USTF. This official must be a minimum of 14 years of age. He/she must also have attended an official referee seminar. Note: Junior red belts and above (who are not yet 14 years of age) can test for a Class "C" certification, and may serve as time keepers, score keepers, etc. until they have reached the required age.

Refresher Training: Class A: Master Bowling, Mrs. Ragone, Mr. Toppi, Ms. Chamberlin, Mr. Buckley, Mrs. Buckley, and Ms. Grant.

Certification: For Class A: Mrs. Duralia, Mrs. Chamberlin, Mr. Ostrander, Ms. Buckley, and Mr. Garber, A. For Class B: Ms. Ostrander, Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. Garber, D. For Class C: Ms. Piele, Mr. DeVries, Mr. May, and Mr. Cordova.

Summer Vacation Plans?

Remember Taekwon-Do is a year-round activity. We are typically only closed for Christmas and New Year's, or when the base has closes the Youth Center. Many of you may be planning summer vacations or time away class. Please remember that students are required to notify me (Grand Master Todd), if they are missing class. This is a matter of courtesy and can easily be done by text at (402) 650-4399 or email (axetkd@gmail.com). While many activities may not require this, Taekwon-Do and martial arts are built on traditions of respect and courtesy that set us apart from other activities. I look forward to the months to come and appreciate everyone's continued dedication and respect.

Promotion Testing June 4

The next promotion testing will be on **Thursday, June 4th, beginning at 5:45 p.m.** All Black Belts will be dressed in doboks. The testing board, GM Todd & Master Bowling, will be wearing USTF Blues. Testing forms will be distributed prior to the May 26 class. Everyone will be evaluated for testing eligibility, and an email will be set to the full class next week identifying those who will be testing. The September and December tests are expected to be large events, with both color belts and black belts testing. *Train hard and be ready.*

