

WTSDA US Nationals Championship 2025 Competition Rules & Eligibility

RULES:

Championship will follow the rules of the WTSDA. Permitted Hyung (open hand & weapons) are listed in the Championship Handbook. See the 2022 WTSDA Championship Handbook for rules and more details. Rule books are available from WTSDA Headquarters at a cost of \$8.00

SPARRING:

Please remember to bring all of your sparring gear for the dae ryun. This includes head gear, mouthpiece, hand and foot gear and groin cup (males). All WTSDA competition rules are in effect.

UNIFORMS:

Only an official WTSDA dobok and belt may be worn. Regulation patches and trim are required.

ELIGIBILITY:

All competitors must be currently registered with the World Tang Soo Do Association for 2024 and must wear the official WTSDA white dobok. Sah Dan candidates are ineligible to compete in any area of competition.

TINY TIGERS / LITTLE DRAGONS:

Only those young children who: 1) have officially enrolled in a Tiny Tiger/Little Dragon program at their studio (not WTSDA 10th Gup or above) and 2) who have submitted a membership form to WTSDA will be allowed into these divisions. If you have any questions, please ask your instructor. All Tiny Tigers/Little Dragons will receive an awesome participation medal.

2025 Team Hyung Rules

Divisions:

Each studio may submit a total of two (2) teams in the following divisions:

Gup Division – all ages, all gup ranks (10th through Cho Dan Bo)

Dan Division – all ages, all Dan ranks (Cho through Sam)

Team Requirements:

1. Each team will consist of three (3) members

Competition:

1. All WTSDA Team Hyung rules outlined in the current Judging manual will be followed.
2. Teams must perform a traditional WTSDA empty hand hyung. 3. Participants must perform the hyung in synchronization
4. Non-synchronized hyungs will not be scored as high as synchronized hyungs.

2025 Kyuck Pa (Breaking) Rules

Divisions:

All competitors 10th gup white belt through Sam Dan may compete in the breaking category. All registrants will be provided with boards for the breaking category and will be automatically enrolled in the event but may opt out of the event during the championship. There will not be breaking for Tiny Tigers or Little Dragons.

Breaking Materials:

1. Wood only will be allowed for the breaking competition and will be provided for all competitors based on age:
 - a. Children 9 and younger = 6" boards x 1" thick
 - b. Children 10 – 17 = 8" boards x 1" thick
 - c. Adults 18 and older = 10" boards x 1" thick
2. No outside boards or other breaking materials will be allowed

Competition:

1. Breaking (Kyuck Pa) scores DO NOT count towards the championship cup calculations.
2. All WTSDA judging rules for breaking competition will be followed as outlined in the most recent judging manual.
3. Competitors should prepare their holders ahead of time. While there may be volunteers available to help at the championship, it is not guaranteed. Holders must be 18 years of age or older, a member of WTSDA, a registered volunteer via the registration form, and in traditional uniform.
4. Competitors under the age of 18 MAY NOT do open hand breaks (per judging manual).
5. Head breaks are strictly prohibited for all competitors.
6. Gup competitors will receive 2 boards and will break them in one or two stations.
7. Black Belt (Dan) competitors will receive 3 boards and may break them in any configuration up to three stations (3 individual breaks, one 3-board break, etc).
8. All contestants will have 2 attempts at their breaks. Center judges must be sure that all holders are holding the boards correctly for each break.

Performance and Judging Criteria:

1. Artistry of presentation
 - a. breaks set up in an artistic manner
 - b. consideration of the judges' view
 - c. the presentation flows between techniques.
2. Difficulty of techniques
 - a. speed vs. power
 - b. multiple boards vs. single boards
 - c. unspaced boards vs. spacers (we are not providing cinder blocks for holding with spacers)
 - d. spinning techniques vs. basic techniques
 - e. jump spinning techniques vs. spinning techniques
3. Contestants' attitude/demeanor

2025 Team Sparring Rules

Divisions:

Each studio may submit a total of six (6) teams in the following divisions:

Cho Dan Bo, Cho Dan, E Dan, and Sam Dans only (no gup divisions)

Male – ages 18 and older

Male – ages 14 to 17

Male – ages 13 and younger

Female – ages 18 and older

Female – ages 14 to 17

Female – ages 13 and younger

A maximum of eight (8) teams per division (listed above) will be accepted. Once full, the registrations for those divisions will be closed.

Team Requirements:

1. Each team will consist of three (3) members
2. All three (3) team members must be within the prescribed ages ranges for the divisions listed above and there will be no exceptions made
3. One (1) team member from each team must be appointed as the team captain

Competition:

1. Each match will last a total of three (3) minutes
2. There is no limit on the number of points that can be scored during the three (3) minutes
3. The team captain (who is also a participant) can swap out team members during any judge stoppage. Captains determine when swaps occur and who fights first.
4. Each team member **MUST** compete at least once, or a team forfeit will occur.
5. The team with the most points at the end of the three (3) minute match wins.
6. In the case of a tie, each captain will choose one fighter and the next point wins.
7. Teams will compete following all WTSDA sparring rules.
8. Scoring will be the same as the WTSDA sparring rules, including points and warnings.
9. Teams will compete in a bracketed format, the same as WTSDA sparring matches.

Please see the Championship Handbook for more information.