



## USTF Article Submissions

We request that any flyers or event details you wish to have featured in our upcoming newsletter be submitted to us. To ensure inclusion, all articles and materials **must be received by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month** prior to the publication date. Given the many events with the USTF, we are eager to highlight your events and students. However, it is essential that we receive the necessary articles and photographs to properly feature them. We encourage all instructors to share the newsletter with their students. Should anyone wish to be added to our distribution list, please submit your full name and email address directly to Grand Master Sereff at [rsereff@rmi.net](mailto:rsereff@rmi.net). We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to showcasing your contributions.

## USTF School Registration *Final Reminder*

We would like to remind all instructors that the **annual school registration** is required for any school with more than 20 students, this registration fee, which has replaced the USTF Plaque Program is **\$50 per year** and provides instructors with a discount on USTF merchandise. The registration fee is due by **January 31st**. Please ensure that when submitting your registration, you include the official name of your school for accurate processing. There are no additional special fees for any USTF region or schools.

## USTF Black Belt Testing: Sereff Taekwon-Do

A USTF Black Belt testing was held March 8th, 2025, and hosted by Sereff Taekwon-Do was a very special event. At the test, Grand Master **Mike Winegar** presented Grand Master **David Ott** his IX Dan certificate and belt after 52 years of training. We were happy his mother, Alea, 96 years old was able to attend this event. Special thank you to Mrs. **Tracey Pettijohn** for signing during the presentation. GM **David Ott** started at the YMCA Denver in 1977 under **Kent Smith**. He continued to train with Grand Master **Paul De Baca** and on to Sereff Taekwon-Do with Sr. Grand Master **Charles Sereff**. The fact that Grand Master **Ott** was deaf did not make a difference in his training or teaching. His ability to help deaf students in the martial arts was one of his great accomplishments.

Sr. Master **Bill Dubbeld** presented his student Master **Christopher Wadium** with his 8<sup>th</sup> Dan Sr. Master certificate and belt. Sr. Master **Wadium** has served as a USTF State Director. Sereff Taekwon-Do students **Billy Griswold** graded to IV Dan and **Daniel Pass, Kaasen Pass, Reid Hill, Grason Hill** and **Karma Martin** all graded to I Dan black belt. The USTF Test Board consisted of Sr. Master **Jim Smith**, Master **Gregory Shain**, and Ms. **Caitlyn Fitch** with special guest Grand Master **Mike Winegar**. The family support for these testing candidates was in full force! Thank you to all that helped these students reach their goals.



Testing group with Testing Board

## Calendar Dates 2025

**Apr 5:** USTF Step Sparring Seminar:  
Kennesaw, GA. Promoter Mr. Welch.  
[bsdtaekwondo@gmail.com](mailto:bsdtaekwondo@gmail.com)

**May 3:** Axe Taekwon-Do Tournament:  
Bellevue, NE. Promoter GM Todd.  
Flyer/Registration: [Axe TKD Flyer](#)

**May 10:** Black Belt Testing:  
Las Vegas, NV. GM Bosse.

**May 17:** Pacific Northwest USTF  
Championship: La Center, WA.  
Promoter Mrs. Mason.  
[Mountainviewtkd@gmail.com](mailto:Mountainviewtkd@gmail.com)

**May 17:** 2025 UCHTA Annual Utah Cup  
Tournament: Salt Lake City, UT.  
Promoter SM Wadium.  
[cwadium@yahoo.com](mailto:cwadium@yahoo.com)

**May 17:** Black Belt Testing:  
Senatobia, MS. Master Bennett.

**May 29:** Black Belt Testing:  
Bellevue, NE. GM Todd.

**May 31:** Spring Black Belt Testing:  
Salt Lake City, UT. SM Wadium.  
[cwadium@yahoo.com](mailto:cwadium@yahoo.com)

**Jun 1:** Black Belt Testing: Grafton, WI.  
GM Van Hecke.

**Jun 28:** USTF Technical Seminar:  
Arvada, CO. 9 AM—4 PM.  
Promoter GM Sereff.

**Aug 1-3:** 2025 UCHTA Summer  
Weekend TKD Camp. Morgan, UT.  
Promoter SM Wadium.  
[cwadium@yahoo.com](mailto:cwadium@yahoo.com)

**Aug 28:** Black Belt Testing:  
Bellevue, NE. GM Todd.

**Sep 13:** USTF Black Belt Testing:  
Sereff TKD, Broomfield, CO. GM  
Sereff.

**USTF Black Belt Testing: Sereff Taekwon-Do (continued)**

**Calendar Dates 2025 (cont)**



GM Winegar, GM Ott, SM Wadium, and SM Dubbeld



GM Ott with family

**Sep 20:** USTF Wyoming TKD Tournament: Casper, WY. Promoter Mrs. Wilcox. [a2willcox@yahoo.com](mailto:a2willcox@yahoo.com)

**Sep 27:** USTF Step Sparring Seminar: La Center, WA. Promoter SM Mason. [Mountainviewtkd@gmail.com](mailto:Mountainviewtkd@gmail.com)

**Oct:** Sereff Fall Championship Tournament: Denver, CO. Promoter GM Sereff.

**Nov 10:** Black Belt Testing: Bellevue, NE. GM Todd.



Mr. Griswold & family



Mr. Hill, Mr. Hill & family



Ms. Martin & family



Mr. Pass, Ms. Pass & family

**USTF Promotion Testing: Nebraska**

On March 4th, Axe Taekwon-Do in Bellevue, Nebraska conducted a color belt promotion testing. Students tested for various ranks from white belt through red belt. The testing board was composed of Grand Master **Ricky Todd**, USTF Region 2 Director. Sr. Master **Kevin Bushor**, USTF Nebraska State Director and Master **April Bowling**. Mr. **Sean Toppi**, 5th Dan was the testing Director.

The following students were promoted. Red Belt: Ms. **Izabella Piele**, and Ms. **Eva Graff**. Blue Red Stripe: Mr. **Matthew Cordova**, Mrs. **Amra Graff**, and Mr. **Logan DeVries**. Blue Belt: Mr. **Michael Williams**. Green Belt Blue Stripe: Mr. **James Williams**. Yellow Belt: Mr. **Harrison Hamerling**, Ms. **Aurelia Steinberg**, Mr. **Jeremiah Steinberg**, and Ms. **Addison Taylor**.

The students were tested on all physical and mental aspects of Taekwon-Do adhering to the USTF Testing Syllabus. Since 1988, Taekwon-Do from the USTF has been taught to both military and non-military students at the Offutt Air Force Base Youth Center. All USTF members are welcome to stop and train when traveling through the area, with approval from your instructor.



Mr. Williams

Mr. Steinberg



**USTF Breaking Seminar Washington—Pacific Northwest (PNW)**

On March 1<sup>st</sup> Mountain View Taekwon Do hosted a USTF Breaking Seminar conducted by Grand Master **Todd**. The Seminar Host Senior Master **David Mason** said, of all the courses we conduct up here in the PNW, the breaking course is the most popular. I think it's because of the demonstration of every student's application of the theory of power in real time. This gives them real confidence in their application of technique, it also shows them immediate results of poor technique as well. Plus Grand Master Todd's skill as the Breaking Seminar Instructor always puts a smile on all the students' faces. His ability to instill confidence while at the same time expect great etiquette enables every student to improve with every attempt. The seminar was attended by 6 schools: Mountain View, Bodystrong, Valley View, Golden Tiger, Next Level, and Axe Taekwon-Do. A total of **61 students** and **5 masters** attended the seminar. It was the first time that many high ranks have attended a seminar we have hosted. It was a special day to have them commit their time to training supporting the USTF seminar. We also had an outstanding number of USTF ladies and over 15 students that were over the age of 50! What a great day of training in the PNW and the USTF!



Group photo



Ladies of the USTF



SM Bushor, SM Mason, GM Todd, SM Stoppani & Master Bowing



Ms. Iris Brown demonstrating

## USTF Promotion Testing: Alaska

On March 7th, the students at Fairbanks Taekwon-Do were put through a rigorous test and subsequently awarded their green belt ranking. Among those recognized were **John Frykman** and **Greg Brinkman** who participated together as a father-son duo. The testing was conducted by Sr. Master **Williams**, who congratulated the students for their hard work and dedication. This milestone represents a significant achievement in their Taekwon-Do journey.



## Grand Master Sereff Closing Words - A Gentle Reminder

It is often necessary to issue a gentle reminder regarding certain courtesies with the rules of etiquette in Taekwon-Do. If you are aware of an answer to a question, please do not ask it. If you have a question, make sure to ask your instructor first, rather than seeking answers from another instructor or other higher ranking black belt. We have all been educated on the importance of etiquette by our instructors; and it is necessary to continue to uphold this standard. It is a responsibility shared by all students, instructors, to include senior members. We must continue to honor this standard of etiquette and respect.

Additionally, it is crucial to refrain from correcting another instructor's student. Consider this, would you correct General Choi's son or Sr. Grand Master Charles Sereff's son? If you feel the need to make this your business, go to their instructor and express your concerns but do not take it upon yourself to provide correction to the student. This extends to conversations in the dressing room or any setting.

When invited to a social gathering, such as a meal with seniors, it is important to exercise impeccable etiquette. A social event is not an appropriate setting to inquire about Taekwon-Do technical related topics. In these situations, we should remember the traditional guideline: "Speak only when you are spoken to". These events are an opportunity to foster relationships, not a time for formal instruction. Demonstrating this level of respect will ensure that our students understand how to behave in social settings especially when interacting with seniors.

A memorable lesson occurred during a Sereff World Camp when a young green belt, while I was in the restroom, approached me with a question about Won Hyo. I kindly explained that once I had finished and entered the workout area, she would be welcome to ask me. I took the opportunity to explain to her the inappropriateness of discussion Taekwon-Do matters in a restroom setting, highlighting the importance of proper etiquette.

We must continue to learn from each and it is vital that we set a positive example for all our actions. We need to remain mindful of the impression we leave and ensure that the standards are upheld to continue the legacy of Taekwon-Do. Make sure the example you are setting is a good one!

Grand Master Sereff  
 USTF Test Director  
 USTF Administrator  
<http://ustf-itf.com/>

