

August 15, 2025

To all Sask WT Taekwondo members:

**Re: Congratulations on achieving Kukkiwon 8<sup>th</sup> Dan Grandmaster Status**

Two long time Taekwondoists that as Saskatchewan athletes represented the Canadian National team multiple times have attained the lofty goal of their 8<sup>th</sup> Dan at a high Dan test conducted at Kukkiwon in Seoul. They have just recently received notification that they passed their test and have been presented with their certificates. Both brothers started Taekwondo at a very young age with their father, Grandmaster Kee S. Ha, of Kees Taekwondo in Saskatoon.

**Grandmaster Yoon Ha**, represented Canada (and Saskatchewan) at the 1991 Pan Am Games. At that time, he was the youngest Canadian athlete at the event. He has placed on the team both as a Kyorugi and Poomsae athlete a total of 6 times. Grandmaster Yoon has since moved to Calgary and is now a member of the Alberta Taekwondo Association.

**Grandmaster Duk Ha**, represented Canada and finished in the top 16 at the 1999 World Championships held in Edmonton. He has also has numerous Canadian gold medals in both Kyorugi and Poomsae. At the National Championships he placed with the gold medal in Poomsae seven times. In 2000, Taekwondo Canada named him Male Athlete of the year. He is the head instructor at Kees Taekwondo in Saskatoon.

To put this achievement into perspective: in Canada, there are fewer than 40 Kukkiwon certified 8<sup>th</sup> Dans and only 13 certified 9<sup>th</sup> Dans. There are even fewer who are still actively involved in Taekwondo.

The success of Saskatchewan's taekwondo programs reflects their strength and sustainability, driven by exceptional instruction from dedicated Grandmasters who mentor students from colored belt levels to achieving advanced Dan ranks.

Congratulations are extended to both new Grandmasters on their momentous accomplishment.

Sincerely Yours,

Susanne Mitchell - Interim President, Sask WT Taekwondo Association Inc.

*8<sup>th</sup> Dan Certificate Presentation*



*At Kukkiwon beside Han Moo Kwon Pillar*

