



World Para Taekwondo Newsletter

June 2025 | Issue #58

Kicking off -

The 2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp





The 2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp is under way in Taekwondowon in Muju. 40 athletes (20 Male & 20 Female) from around the world have been invited to camp that will take place from July 1-10, 2025.

Invitation of athletes has been made to ensure that there is a mix of elite athletes, including several Paralympic medalists, and up-and-coming athletes and athletes from developing countries. In addition, global spread, weight categories and even gender distribution was taken into consideration for the invitations.

Participants from 18 countries plus refugee athletes will take part in the training that is led by the successful Paralympic coaches, Rodrigo Ferla (BRA) and Payam Khanlarhkali (IRI). The training consists of morning exercise a technical session and an afternoon tactical session. In the evenings the participants will receive lectures on several Para Taekwondo related topics from athlete eligibility to classification, games structure and future development of Para Taekwondo.

All athletes attending the 2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp are in the K44 Sport Class (Paralympic).

World Taekwondo has the aim that the WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp becomes an annual event and one of the highlights of the annual World Para Taekwondo Calendar. This would also mean increasing the size of the camp and the number of participants as well as programs for coaches and officials.

Make sure to follow the 2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp on our [Instagram](#).



What a starting field!

2025 World Para Taekwondo Open Challenge



Registrations for the Gangwon Chuncheon 2025 World Para Taekwondo Open Challenge closed on June 30, 2025. A record 181 athletes has been registered for the tournament to be held in Chuncheon, Korea on July 11, 2025. This will be the third edition of the event.

33 countries representing 4 continents will attend the competitions as well as a refugee team and neutral athletes. The event was originally planned to be held on two courts. However, as registrations kept coming in it was expanded to three courts and then four in order to ensure that the competitions could be completed in only one day.

Among the registered athletes there are several top names like, Angelica Espinoza Carranza, the double Paralympic gold medallist from Peru, as well as Paralympic Gold medallists, Imamaddin Khalilov (AZE), Ana Carolina Silva de Moura (BRA), Mahmut Bozteke (TUR), Asadbek Toshtemirov (UZB) and Asaf Yasur (ISR).

To further strengthen the starting field a long list of World Championship medalists, former World Champions and Paralympic medallists are registered for the event. This is the first time that a G4 World Para Taekwondo Ranking event has attracted such a strong starting field.

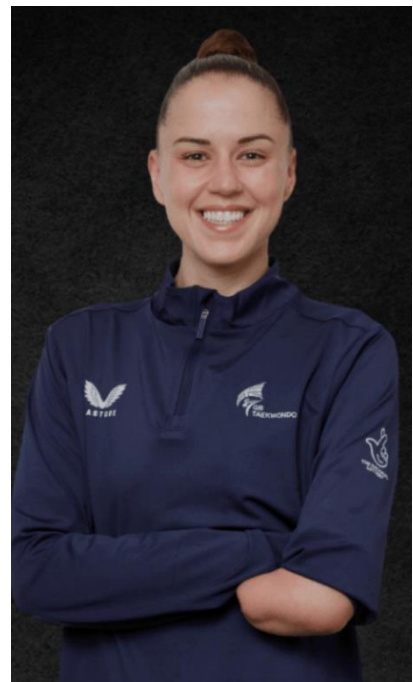
Paris 2024 Paralympic Games bronze medallist Zakia Khudadadi will be joined on the Refugee Team by two new athletes from the Syrian Refugee camps in Jordan.

Make sure to follow the competitions live on the World Taekwondo [Youtube](#) channel!



More than 70 athlete representatives from over 50 countries gathered in Bonn and Duisburg, Germany, for the fourth edition of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Athletes' Forum, held from 24 - 26 June 2025.

The Forum brought together athlete leaders from National Paralympic Committees, International Federations, Regional Organisations, International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled, and the World Anti-Doping Agency. Over the three days, participants engaged in meaningful discussions on key topics shaping the future of the Paralympic Movement.



World Taekwondo was represented by Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Silver Medalist Beth Munro (GBR).

"I was honored to attend the IPC Athlete Forum in Germany, where athlete representatives from around the world came together with the International Paralympic Committee to shape the future of Paralympic sport.

The forum provided a powerful platform for athletes' voices, ensuring that our perspectives were heard, respected, and integrated into decision-making at the highest levels.

We addressed key issues that impact Para athletes globally — from classification to athlete accessibility and inclusion.

As an athlete representative, I am proud to stand with my fellow peers in advocating for a stronger, fairer and more inclusive future for people with disability. Together we hope to empower and help towards the continued growth of the Paralympic Movement."

You can contact Beth for athlete related matters in Para Taekwondo at beth.munro@gbtaekwondo.co.uk.



Message from the Chair



As we reach the midpoint of the year, I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated International Referees, Classifiers, and especially the remarkable volunteers from our international classifier team. Your active involvement in promoting awareness through our social media platforms has not only amplified the visibility of Para Taekwondo but has also highlighted the exceptional work you do behind the scenes.

Your efforts are crucial in ensuring the credibility and fairness of our sport. The way you share your time, knowledge, and passion often without the spotlight is a testament to the spirit of service that keeps Para Taekwondo thriving.

I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to our Education Team. Their tireless work in developing and delivering quality education to our coaches and international referees continues to be a showcase of our progress. Through seminars, workshops, and digital platforms, their commitment to upholding high standards and building knowledge across our global community is truly inspiring.

Together, your contributions strengthen the foundation of Para Taekwondo and push us forward toward greater development and excellence. Let's continue to work hand in hand, driven by purpose and united in vision.

With appreciation,

Usman Dildar

Chair

WT Para Taekwondo Committee





Calendar



2025

- **World Para Taekwondo Open Challenge (G4), Chuncheon, Korea**

July 11, 2025

- **2025 European Youth Para Games (G2), Istanbul, Turkey (Europe only)**

July 25-27, 2025

- **Asia Para Taekwondo Poomsae Championships (G4), Kuching, Malaysia (Asia only)**

July 31, 2025

- **Asia Para Taekwondo Championships (G4), Kuching, Malaysia (Asia only)**

August 1, 2025

- **WT President's Cup Para Taekwondo Oceania (G3), Gold Coast, Australia**

August 14, 2025

- **WT President's Cup Para Taekwondo Poomsae Oceania (G3), Gold Coast, Australia**

August 15, 2025

- **Australia Para Taekwondo Open (G2), Gold Coast, Australia**

August 16, 2025

- **Australia Para Taekwondo Poomsae Open (G2), Gold Coast, Australia**

August 16, 2025

- **11th World Para Taekwondo Championships (G14) 2nd World Para Taekwondo Poomsae Championships (G14), Location TBD**

DATE to be confirmed

- **5th Asian Youth Para Games (G2) Dubai, UAE (Asia only)**

December 7-14, 2025 (TKD competition TBC)



Around the World



Para Taekwondo Poomsae in Spain



June 13-15, 2025, Malagasy municipality of Mollina in Andalucia was the stage for the 1st Copa de Espania de Para Poomsae. The tournament was a significant step on the road to full inclusion in Taekwondo. Nearly 50 athletes representing seven regions participated in the event, demonstrating their skills and talent. The event also shows Spain's commitment to growing the sport of Para Taekwondo Poomsae.

In paralell with the competitions seminars was also held for officials and coaches with the aim of continuing to increase the understanding and awareness of Para Taekwondo Poomsae as an all inclusive competition format.



Para Taekwondo Master Class in Medellin



Colombia celebrates Para Taekwondo with over 100 participants in Medellín city Master Class

On June 12, the city of Medellín hosted a free and vibrant Para Taekwondo Master Class, led by National Classifier “Pedro Bedoya”, with more than 100 athletes with intellectual

disabilities and other impairments. The participants came from various institutions that support people with disabilities, local Taekwondo clubs, and the disability research group (SINDIS) of the Politécnico Jaime Isaza Cadavid university. Most of them are part of the Taekwondo Para Todos program led by Taekwondo Adaptado Colombia.

For many attendees, this was their first time participating in a Taekwondo class. The session was divided into three parts: a warm-up and mobility phase, sport-specific physical exercises, and a technical poomsae practice.

Athletes had the unique opportunity to train alongside Colombia's top Para Taekwondo competitors: Luisa Restrepo (World Champion, ranked #2 in World Para Poomsae), Daniel Restrepo (World medallist, ranked #4), and Nicolás Vélez (Virtus Global Games Champion and World medallist, ranked #6). Their presence served as a powerful example for the new generation of athletes and their families, showing what is possible through dedication and opportunity.

Medellín City has been promoting Taekwondo for people with intellectual disabilities for over 15 years and has become a national reference for the development of Para Taekwondo in Colombia. Events like this highlight the importance of empowering athletes with disabilities and giving them the recognition they deserve through inclusive, high-impact sports experiences.





India selects team for Asia Para Taekwondo Championships



India Taekwondo recently conducted selection trials for its Para Taekwondo teams, encompassing both Para Kyorugi and Para Poomsae disciplines. Athletes from across the nation participated, vying for a spot on the prestigious teams.

These trials highlight the significant strides Para Taekwondo is making in India. Under the dedicated leadership of our Honorable President, Mr. Namdev Shirgaonkar, the sport and its athletes are experiencing substantial development and increasing popularity.

A testament to this growth is the remarkable achievement of the Para Poomsae female team, which was crowned world champion at last year's World Para Poomsae Championship held in Bahrain. Building on this success, India plans to send full teams to compete in both Para Kyorugi and Para Poomsae events in Asian para taekwondo championship.



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