



World Para Taekwondo Newsletter

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2025 Rio Para Taekwondo Open G2



The 2025 Rio Para Taekwondo Open was upgraded to a G2 World Para Taekwondo Ranking status. The event attracted athletes from 18 countries and a refugee athlete. 75 athletes (50M/25F) competed in 10 medal events in the K44 Sport Class.

The starting field was a good mix of experienced athletes as well as up-and-coming and new athletes. 16 athletes were classified ahead of the competitions.

It was the host Brazil that came out on top of the medal standings with a small but successful team from Georgia in second place and Mexico on a third place.

Notable performances was seen by Ana Japaridze from Georgia claiming the gold in the Women K44 -52kg division, her second this season, and Christina Gkentzou (GRE) earning the gold in the Women K44 -65kg category after defeating reigning World and Paralympic Champion Ana Carolina Silva de Moura in the final. Juan Eduardo Samorano (ARG) claimed gold in the Men K44 -70kg in his first competition since his bronze medal performance in Paris 2024. Refugee athlete Zakia Khudadadi claimed a bronze after moving up to the Women K44 -52kg weight category.

Teams are now looking forward to Gangwon Chuncheon 2025 World Para Taekwondo Open Challenge G4. Registrations for the event close June 13, 2025. Register [HERE](#).





2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp



World Taekwondo in cooperation with the Taekwondo Promotion Foundation and Taekwondowon in Muju, Korea will host the 2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp for the first time ever. As this is the first time that the camp is arranged it is exclusively for athletes in the K44 Sport Class. However, World Taekwondo aims to expand the camp in the coming years to include Para Taekwondo Poomsae.

40 athletes from around the world has been invited to attend the camp. World Taekwondo has based the invitations aiming to have four athletes in every weight category. In each weight category the aim has been to have a mix of top athletes as well as up-and-coming athletes while ensuring global representation for the overall camp.

The 2025 WT Para Taekwondo Training Camp will be held July 1-10, 2025 in Taekwondowon, Muju, Korea. The last day of the Camp transport will take all participants to Chuncheon for participation in the Gangwon Chuncheon 2025 World Para Taekwondo Open Challenge G4.

Two world class Paralympic Coaches has been invited to conduct the trainings during the Camp, Mr. Rodrigo Ferla from Brazil and Mr. Payam Khanlarkhani from Iran.

The Camp will also feature lectures on Para Taekwondo related topics such as biological aspects, psychological aspects, anti-doping, classification and future development.

LA28 Paralympic Games





World Taekwondo has been informed by the International Paralympic Committee of the medal and athlete quota for the sport of Para Taekwondo for the LA28 Paralympic Games.

Para Taekwondo Kyorugi will have the same program as the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games with 10 medal events and 120 athletes with an even gender distribution. World Taekwondo aims to make the competitions even better than the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

World Taekwondo also applied for Para Taekwondo Poomsae for athletes with an intellectual impairment (P21 and P22 Sport Classes) to be included on the medal event program for the LA28 Paralympic Games. Although World Taekwondo has made great strides in the development of Para Taekwondo Poomsae as well as promoting the competition format and researching the classification system, IPC deemed that the discipline was not ready for the LA28 Paralympic Games medal event program.

This is of course disappointing news, however, World Taekwondo remains committed to Para Taekwondo Poomsae. The application process for the Brisbane 2032 Paralympic Games start later this year. 2026 will see a World Para Taekwondo Poomsae Championships. The 2027 FISU University Games has Para Taekwondo Poomsae (P21 & P22) included on the program and negotiations are under way for Para Taekwondo Poomsae's inclusion on the 2027 Virtus Global Games in Cairo, Egypt.

In 2028 following the closing of the LA28 Paralympic Games IPC will make a call for applications for the Brisbane 2032 Paralympic Games. At this time we must ensure that Para Taekwondo Poomsae is ready and have achieved great depth of field in each medal event, global spread and a scientifically proven classification system.



The 2025 IPC IF Open Days were held in at the IPC headquarters in Bonn, Germany on May 12-14, 2025. This yearly event is an opportunity for the International Federations to meet with the different IPC departments and connect to receive information, inform about the IF's activities and discuss future projects.

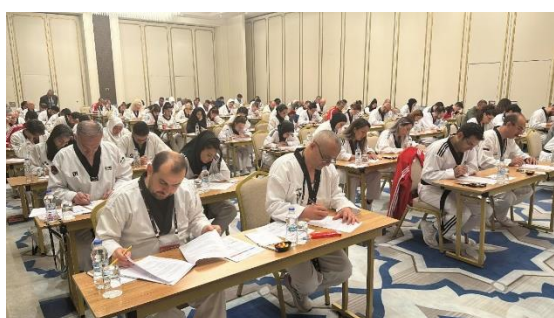
World Taekwondo was represented by Mr. Usman Dildar, WT Para Taekwondo Committee Chair and Mr. Olof Hansson, WT Para Taekwondo Director. They met with the IPC CEO, Mr. Mike Peters, as well as representatives from the IPC Member, Communications, Classification, Broadcasting, Education and Sport departments.

The IPC IF Open days are also a great opportunity for WT to meet with other International Federations and share ideas. At this year's Open Days a meeting was also held with representatives from the Association of Paralympic Sport Organizations (APSO).

Mr. Dildar said "I'm grateful to the IPC for hosting a successful and informative IF Open Days in Bonn. It was a great opportunity to connect with fellow International Federations and IPC departments, great collaboration and shared commitment to the growth of Para sports. "



May 25–29th 2025, Istanbul hosted the 136th International Referee Seminar and 151st Refresher Seminar, World Taekwondo’s third combined event this year for both Taekwondo and Para Taekwondo. The seminar reinforced WT’s commitment to unified standards, global education, and Para Taekwondo development, bringing referees together to enhance officiating skills and ensure fair, consistent competition worldwide.



From Virtual to Practical:

“A Milestone Month for WT Classification Education”

By: Dr. Hadwah Moawad, WT Classification Committee Chair

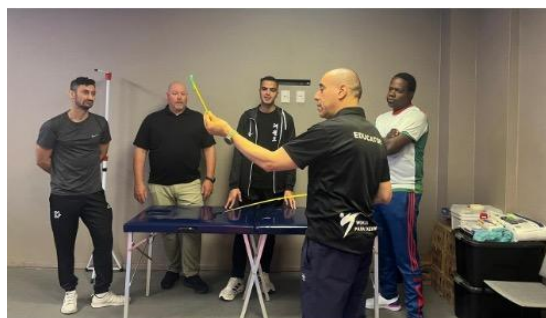


May 2025 was a landmark month for classification development in World Taekwondo.

We successfully delivered two education programs aimed at strengthening our classification system worldwide. Thanks to **Mohammed Amine Khelladi & Ashanti Ramierz Montes de Oca** for leading these course

May 4-5, a Level 1 National Classification Course was held **online**, welcoming 29 participants (18 male & 11 female). The course attracted **10 medical and 19 technical practitioners** (12 European, 8 Asian, 7 Pan American, and 2 from Africa), demonstrating the growing interest and commitment to classification at a national level.

Later in the month, 24-26 May, an in-person Level 2 International Classification Course was conducted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. While a smaller group of 4 participants (representing Pan America, Africa, and Asia) took part, and the quality of the training and engagement was exceptional.



Furthermore, the trainees had the opportunity to carry out their practicum by classifying a wide range of K40 impairments at the Rio Open Championship, gaining hands-on experience.

These courses reflect our continued dedication to building a robust, well trained National & International classification workforce, to welcome more athletes into Para Taekwondo.



Calendar



2025

- **Solidarity Para Taekwondo Open (G1), Montargis, France**

July 4, 2025

- **Solidarity Para Taekwondo Poomsae Open (G1), Montargis, France**

July 4, 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

- **2025 World Ability Sport Games (G2), Jakarta, Indonesia**

September 15-16, 2025 Kyorugi

September 18, 2025 Poomsae

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

DATE to be confirmed

- **11th World Para Taekwondo 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 Training Camp in Sao Paulo



The Confederacao Brasileira de Taekwondo hosted a Para Taekwondo training camp at the Brazil Paralympic Committee training center in Sao Paulo, Brazil May 18-25, 2025 ahead of the 2025 Rio Para Taekwondo Open G2.

Four countries participated in the camp. Besides Brazil athletes from Spain, France and Israel also attended. Several Paralympians attended including Gold medalists Carolina Moura, Silver medalist Djelika Diallo (FRA) and

Refugee bronze medalist Zakia Khudadadi as well as Paralympian Joel Villalobos (ESP) and Adnand Milad (ISR). In total 25 athletes participated in the camp.

On May 21, 2025 the camp received a visit from the country's President Mr. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. During the prestigious visit the Brazil President announced the renewal and increased funding of the sponsorships to the Paralympic teams for the Paralympic cycle leading up to the LA28 Paralympic Games.



Egypt getting organized for Para Taekwondo



On May 22, 2025 a meeting of the Egyptian Para Taekwondo Committee was held in the headquarters of the Egyptian Taekwondo Federation. The meeting was an important step in the institutional development and organization of Para Taekwondo activities in Egypt.

Among the key decisions made was the organizational framework for the



upcoming Egyptian National Para Taekwondo Championships (Kyorugi & Poomsae) that will be held June 26-27, 2025.

Plans for education of coaches and referees in Para Taekwondo were also established to be held on June 12-14, 2025 in Cairo. The aim for the course is to enhance the technical qualifications of national stakeholders and ensure full alignment with the latest World Taekwondo standards and classification rules.

World Taekwondo welcomes this initiative and are very pleased with Egyptian Taekwondo Federation's efforts to develop Para Taekwondo and create more sporting opportunities for persons with an impairment.

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