



# WORLD KUK SOOL ASSOCIATION, Inc.

20275 FM 2920, Tomball Texas 77377. Tel (281) 255 2550 Fax (281) 255 2548



*President & GrandMaster- In Hyuk Suh 10th Degree Black Belt*

<http://www.kuksoolwon.com>

## **KUK SOOL WON™ BLACK BELT TESTING AND PROMOTION**

Within WKSA, ONLY Kuk Sa Nim or his official representative (who is an official member of WKSA and appointed by Kuk Sa Nim) is authorized to promote students to Black Belt level or higher. No other Black Belt certificate is recognized for WKSA certification.

Within WKSA, there are certain average lengths of time to achieve various ranks. These lengths of time may vary according to each student's training schedule. However, a student should not be recommended for Black Belt promotion without a reasonable amount of training time and experience.

***To begin*** the Second Degree (Dahn) Black Belt Testing, the minimum length of time is two years **from the anniversary date of the last promotion**. This period of time must be active training time. Any candidate that has any non-active time will have this period extended, and such period will be decided by the School owner or designated Instructor and WKSA. Each candidate will be **required to test a minimum of 8 times** before promotion. Also, a minimum length of testing time is 2 years for promotion approval.

***To begin*** the Third Degree (Dahn) Black Belt Testing, the minimum length of time is two years **from the anniversary date of the last promotion**. This period of time must be active training time. The candidate must be at least 17 years of age at the time of the promotion. Any candidate that has any non-active time will have this period extended, and such period will be decided by the School and WKSA. Each candidate will be **required to test a minimum of 8 times** before promotion. Also, a minimum length of testing time is 2 years for promotion approval.

***To begin*** the Fourth Degree (Dahn) Black Belt Testing, the minimum length of time is two years **from the anniversary date of the last promotion**. This period of time must be active training time. The candidate must be at least 22 years of age at the time of the promotion. Any candidate that has any non-active time will have this period extended, and such period will be decided by the School Instructor and WKSA. Each candidate will be **required to test a minimum of 8 times** before promotion. Also, a minimum length of testing time is 2 years for promotion approval.

**Fifth Degree Master Testing** will be at the discretion and invitation of Kuk Sa Nim and the WKSA. The period of testing and the number of tests shall be at the discretion of Kuk Sa Nim. A basic understanding of the Korean language is required beginning with usage of appropriate greetings and salutations that are outlined in Kuk Sool Won™ textbooks. The candidate is highly recommended to study and learn the Korean alphabet and have some conversational understanding of the Korean language. The candidate **must be at least 28 years of age at the time of the promotion.**



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**Sixth Degree (Dahn) and higher Black Belt Testing**, will be at the discretion and invitation of Kuk Sa Nim and the WKSA. The period of testing and the number of tests shall be at the discretion of Kuk Sa Nim. Continued study of the Korean language is required.

\* All Black Belt testing **MUST** be conducted by official WKSA Instructor(s) at a HQ-approved testing site. All applications and fees must be submitted to HQ on timely manner to be counted towards the testing requirement. And there are a maximum of 4 testing per year allowed for a candidate to test. Only two tests may be missed for a reasonable excuse, and the make-up test may be conducted at home dojang.

In order for a Black Belt to advance to a higher degree, he/she must have the recommendation of a higher ranked Instructor, preferably the recommendation of his/her Instructor.

Together with the periods of time indicated above to **begin testing**, the following are **further requirements for Promotion:**

- Promoting to **Second Dahn** - The candidate must have attended at least one (1) WKSA seminar and **at least** one (1) WKSA tournament since his/her last promotion to First Dahn. In addition, he/she must have served at least once as a time or score keeper during a WKSA tournament.
- Promoting to **Third Dahn** - The candidate must have attended at least one (1) WKSA seminar and **at least** one (1) WKSA tournament since his/her last promotion to Second Dahn. In addition, he/she must serve as a judge during a WKSA tournament at least once per year.
- Promoting to **Fourth Dahn** - The candidate must have attended **at least** one (1) WKSA seminar, or one (1) WKSA tournament, AND one (1) **WKSA Instructors' workshop** annually. In addition, he/she must serve as a judge during a WKSA tournament **at least** once per year.
- Promoting to **Fifth Dahn** - The candidate must have attended **at least** one (1) WKSA seminar, or one (1) WKSA tournament, AND one (1) **WKSA Instructors' workshop** annually. In addition, he/she must serve as a judge during a WKSA tournament **at least** once per year.

Standard WKSA Black Belt Testing Forms must be used for all Black Belt testing.

**No one is allowed to invent, produce or use his/her own testing forms and no one is allowed to alter the face of standard WKSA testing forms. Any such action is in violation of the WKSA Quality Assurance Program and Operations Manual. Additional comments and/or bar codes for computerized programs may be added to the back of the form, only when authorized and approved by the WKSA.**