

# TAEKWON-DO PROTOCOL

1. Be a good partner when paired off- do your best to get many repetitions
2. Yes sir (or ma'am) should follow all commands
3. Wait until the instructor is done with what he (or she) is saying before raising hand
4. Stand still and at attention when classes are bowing in or out
5. Stand still and at attention for the National Anthem
6. Take your hat off when you enter a building (unless it is part of the outfit, but then even)
7. Higher belts should always advice lower belts on protocol, but look at it as an opportunity to learn together.
8. Always back away from a senior or higher belt
9. Always sit in listening position #1 or Ahn Jo (on your knees)  
Why?- because all of it adds to a positive and exciting learning experience.  
Everyone pays attention and tries their best because they can pay attention and the instructors know the students are hearing them because of the eyes on them and the quick and loud response.
10. Always help put things away.
11. If you know the job- take to it. It is the same idea of littering and picking up of litter. People who litter throw trash out thinking perhaps out of sight out of mind, and some think why should I pick it up- someone else littered. It is just the right thing to do. Whatever trash we make, we should take care of properly. When we see trash, we can only believe that if we pick it up and properly dispose of it, our example will lead others. It is the same thing with helping put things away in the dojang- a group effort makes everything easier for everyone in the long run.....and just like after we get done picking up trash, we have a feeling of great accomplishment and pride for helping all mankind.
12. Gup must always address the Black Belt with "Sir or "Ma'am", and all students of Taekwon-Do should address all public authorities in the same manner (police, government officials, hosts, management, teachers, doctors and others of the professional community, senior citizens, religious leaders, etc.).
13. Never talk when the instructor of the class is talking; no unnecessary talking during class at all.

14. All junior and senior black belts, when attending a test, must wear either their dobuk, or for guys: a coat and tie or a sweater and tie, for the ladies; a nice outfit or dress. If a dobuk is worn, that Black Belt should be ready to jump up and participate if needed.
15. Black Belts sit for pictures and as a testing board according to rank: highest in the middle with next highest to his or her right, the next to his or her left and back and forth down through the ranks. This includes junior black belts also.
16. Never turn your back on the testing board or during the regular class time.
17. Students must not turn their back on the formal front to fix their dobuks. Instead turn to face A (the right) as to show respect to the founder of Taekwon-Do and USA flag.
18. When certificates or test promotions are being handed out by the instructor in charge, the student whose name is called must run up to the front to the instructor to be presented with certificate. Student should accept award with both hands bowing eyes.
19. Students must raise their hands to be addressed in class, no one should speak without being acknowledged by the instructor in charge.
20. Never get tired of training or learning- a good student can learn anywhere at any time.
21. Always be loyal to your instructor and never criticize him or her. If you have a problem, come and talk to the instructor... preferably after class, one on one and never talk behind the instructor's back in the changing rooms or outside the school.
22. No jewelry should be worn (except if for religious or medical reasons) to ensure safety to yourself and others in contact.
23. Students should not concern themselves with other student's testing dates.
24. Students with yellow belt and above should own their own sparring gear.
25. When entering a dojang, a bow to the formal front should be done. In the case of our dojang, bowing when stepping up on the wooden floor is when it is expected.
26. All Black Belts must be greeted by gups with a bow, but not offering their hand for a shake unless higher ranking student offers their hand first.
27. Lower belt must stay at a bowed stance until higher belt rises.
28. "Taekwon" must be said by lower belt first in all greetings of higher belt.

29. Whenever a student enters a room where there is a higher belt, the lower belt must bow and "Taekwon" first as entering... no matter if there's a seminar or a class being run. In the case of a test, "Taekwon" does not have to be said as not to interrupt the test, but a bow is mandatory.
30. When leaving a room, 27, 28, and 29 must be observed.
31. Out in the public the same should be observed when a student comes upon another student.
32. T-Shirts under dobuks for all students is permitted and is required for all ladies.
33. Dobuks must be worn at all classes unless chief instructor makes a general announcement of uniform change (for hot weather, in such a case, students should ask permission, not just show up in a T-shirt)
34. All students must have the school patch sewn on their left chest unless the ITF patch is in that spot (in which case dojang patch would go on the right)
35. Students should be on time for class. Unavoidable lateness is still better than not coming at all. "Early is on time, on time is late and late is inexcusable" is a good motto.
36. Students still in grade school much have grades above average. If they don't, they must show constant improvement.
37. Students must always be prepared for class, meaning they should always bring their dobuks, sparring gear and MOUTHPIECES, sneakers and water bottle, even if it is not the student's class they are coming to, even if they have come to observe a test or seminar. The student must be prepared anywhere and anytime to take class on the demand of the instructor.
38. During class and on water breaks, students must show the utmost courtesy and respect to all parents and spectators, treating them as if they (parents and spectators) were the most important people in the world.
39. Students must get a drink according to rank, without idle chatter, without pushing and shoving, showing courtesy and respect to fellow students. If a higher ranking student is present, the lower rank should ask if the higher rank wishes to get a drink before the lower rank does so.
40. No horseplay or running in the dojang except for if the drill being done involves running.
41. Students must observe the tenets of Taekwon-Do.
42. Students must never misuse Taekwon-Do.

43. Students must observe all regulations and do whatever the instructor asks them to do without hesitation and with a "Yes sir" or "Yes ma'am".
44. Higher belt students must never belittle or physically discipline a student for breaking one of the Protocol rules, just remind them about the rule nicely like a friend lending advice to a friend and tell the chief instructor if the rule being broken continues to be broken.
45. Lower belt student must always show respect and thankfulness to the higher belt student for correcting them for breaking the rule and apologize for their conduct.
46. Students must not sit on the floor with their legs out nor lean against the wall.
47. Students must never wash their belts and it is advised to sew the cut end of a new belt or refrain from pulling on the strands so the belt doesn't come apart.
48. Lower Black Belts must go up and bow to all senior (in rank) Black Belts in situations such as class, seminars, tournaments, tests and group gatherings. Do not leave any of them out. It's the lower rank's responsibility!
49. Senior Black Belt must always be ready to call attention to a higher ranking Black Belt's entry to the dojang. At the end of each class, special bow goes to all 4th DANs and above.
50. When doing patterns, never go faster than the lead person. You may go slower, but never finish before the lead person.
51. Kiap whenever you change directions, and whenever you start a new technique during basic training.
52. When students are waiting for a class to end so their class will begin, they should stand in the rear of the class or off the floor and wait out of the way of all students taking class and all spectators.
53. When going over requirement sheets, with students under 10 years old, we must make sure they know what the words mean rather than the word for word of the Philosophy and Training Secrets.