

Taekwon-Do Etiquette

As a martial art developed in the Korean military, there are certain formalities that Taekwon-Do students are expected to adhere to. Here we will go over some of the practices that you should attempt to follow.

Names

During classes/in a Taekwon-do setting you should refer to your instructor as Sir/Ma'am, Mr/Mrs etc, not by their first name.

At the start of the lesson the senior grade says *Charyot sabum nim ke* – come to attention, turn and face the most honourable instructor

Instructor – Sabum

Assistant Instructor – Bo Sabum

Master - Siyun

Grand Master – Sasun

Start of lesson

Senior grade:

Charyot sabum nim ke kyong ye

<Bow> Taekwon

(from here, everyone repeats after the senior grade):

I shall observe the tenets of Taekwon-Do:

- Courtesy
- Integrity
- Perseverance
- Self-control
- Indomitable spirit

I shall respect the instructor and seniors

I shall never misuse Taekwon-do

I shall be a champion of freedom and justice

I shall build a more peaceful world

End of lesson

Senior grade:

Charyot sabum nim ke *Come to attention and turn and face the instructor*

Kyong ye *Bow*

Taekwon

Second highest grade:

Charyot Bosabum nim ke *Come to attention and turn and face the assistant instructor*

Kyong ye *Bow*

Taekwon

Instructor:

Haesan *Dismissed*

<Bow>

Lining up

Students should line up in grade order. When it comes to the oath, an adult will have seniority over a child of the same grade.

Moving out

We try to instill in the Little Dragons to put their hand up to ask if they can go to the toilet or move out to have a drink, and then stand at the side and wait rather than moving straight back into the class. Out of respect for your instructor, Main School students should behave in a similar manner.

Bowing

Attention stance – chariyot sogi – heels together, feet apart at 45 degrees. Hands out, knuckles facing up. While you bow, look at the other person.

Bow when you enter and exit the dojang.

When you bow to someone of a senior grade to yourself, you should wait for them to come up before you do.

If you bow to a Master, e.g. at the end of a class, do not immediately turn away; take three steps backwards first.

Shaking hands

Shake with the right hand while having the left hand underneath (perpendicular to the right arm), palm facing down.

Belts

Do not tie your belt when facing directly towards someone – it is seen as a challenge – turn away to tie your belt.

For the sake of consistency, it has been decided that black belts are to tie their belts with the name on their left.

Take your belt off if you are going to eat – for example at all day training.