

## **Black Belt Test Requirements (These are in addition to Breaking, Self-Defense, and Poomsae)**

### **Your Essay**

An essay is required on the topic of your progression in Taekwondo from when you joined the martial up until now as you test for your Black Belt or higher-level Dan.

Here are some suggested topics:

- Did it improve my focus or change my mental attitude?
- How do I feel about teaching others?
- How did it affect me physically such as my strength and coordination?
- Did it help to improve my self-confidence?
- Why do I want my Black Belt or higher Dan and what other personal feelings do I have towards the new rank?
- What are my plans after I reach Black Belt, Second Dan, Third Dan etc.?
- How do I feel about my school – possible acknowledgements of fellow students and/or instructors?

You will need two copies of your essay. One for you to read in front of the class and one for Grand Master Kim to follow along as you are reading. Please treat your essay as you would a formal report at school. Present it in a cover with title page. Essay length should not exceed 2-3 pages and should be easily read in approximately five minutes in front of the class.

### **Personal Reference**

It is a further requirement of all people progressing to the Black Belt rank to obtain a personal endorsement from someone outside their family like their boss, teacher, or a close friend. The personal reference should be kept short (Just a paragraph or so) and is usually read by the head student or Master of the school at the test before the student reads their essay.

### **Photos and Fees**

You will require a headshot of yourself for your new Kukkiwon ID. This can be created the day of the test or sometime during class to be sent via email to Grand Master Kim. **Please ensure that all of your information is together in an envelope along with your Black Belt payment cheque made out to “Woo Kim” and is presented to Master Steve before or on the day of the test.**

The fee for First Dan Black belt is \$500 (Kukkiwon Official Korean Certificate)

Rank fees for Second Dan Black Belt and higher are to be negotiated with Grand Master Kim personally.

**Please make the cheque payable to Woo Kim**

If you have any further questions, please let Master Steve know in class or send an email to [stevlarge@shaw.ca](mailto:stevlarge@shaw.ca)