

DUKE[®]

CLUB TAEKWONDO

Winter Newsletter

2021-2022 Issue 1 | November 30th, 2021



A Word from our President

On behalf of the 2021-2022 Executive Board, welcome to our Winter Newsletter!

This was our first semester training in-person in almost one and a half years, and our club members didn't miss a beat. From a historic performance at the UNC tournament to our first Division victory in several years at Brown University, our team showed that Duke Taekwondo is still one of the premier collegiate taekwondo clubs in the nation. We hope that this brief snapshot is a reminder that, whether you graduated a decade ago or last year, you are still a part of our Duke Taekwondo family.

Wishing y'all a wonderful holiday season.

Best,
Rayhan Jhanji | President of Duke Taekwondo

Highlights - Back in Business

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After a year and a half of training over Zoom, we returned to Wilson Gym for in-person practices this semester! We were also able to return to our regular socials programming, and the team bonded through Durham food adventures and Retreat.

Our first practice back had a record number of 50 students in attendance! Come the first belt test, 16 of them tested for a new belt rank, including the club's first ever black belt tip tester.



We had an amazing Fall Retreat with hiking, game nights, and great memories in Pinehurst, NC. Special shoutout to VP of Programming Melody Gao for organizing!



Follow to stay up to date!

Duke Taekwondo Facebook Group and @dukeclubtaekwondo on Instagram

ACATA at UNC

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26 members attended our first tournament of the year on October 30th and did a fantastic job! This tournament was a long-awaited return to competing for old members and a great first taste of competition for new members, and left us all excited for more.



Poomsae Awards:

Men's white/yellow belt: Samy Boutouis – gold
Women's white/yellow belt: Ashley Chen – silver
Men's green belt: Nathan Huang – gold, Vatsal Varma – silver
Women's green belt: Phuong Huynh – gold, Katie Zhang – bronze
Men's blue belt: Harrison Huang – gold, Rithik Castelino – silver
Women's blue belt: Grace Zhang – gold
Men's red belt: Jonathan Shi – gold
Men's black belt: Daniel Lee – gold
Women's black belt: Priya Juarez – gold, Vivian Zhang – silver, Meera Patel – bronze, Melody Gao – bronze

Sparring Awards:

Men's beginner L: John Huang – gold, Vatsal Varma – bronze
Women's beginner L: Julia Lin – gold, Katie Zhang – silver
Men's beginner M: Han Zhang – bronze
Women's beginner M: Emma Evans-Nolet – gold
Men's intermediate L: Larry Zheng – gold, Sam Thompson – silver, Rithik Castelino – bronze, Jonathan Shi – bronze
Men's intermediate M: Taehoon Lee – gold, Harrison Huang – silver
Women's intermediate M: Florence Liu – gold, Phuong Huynh – bronze, Annaleise Linkenhoker – bronze
Men's elite L: Siyun Lee – bronze
Women's elite L: Priya Juarez – gold, Melody Gao – silver, Grace Zhang – bronze



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ECTC at Brown University

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20 members competed at Brown on November 21st and our team won **First Place** in Division III! The dedication that each member put in this semester was clear and we were so incredibly proud of everyone's performances.

Poomsae Quarterfinals Teams:

Intermediate: Harrison Huang and Larry Zheng

Intermediate: Rithik Castelino, Kathleen Chen, and Jonathan Shi

Black Belt: Priya Juarez and Daniel Lee

Sparring Quarterfinals Teams:

Women's C Team: Emma Evans-Nolet, Kaitlyn Lewars, and Julia Lin

Women's B Team: Florence Liu and Anna Linkenhoker

Men's B Team: Rithik Castelino and Harrison Huang

Women's A Team: Melody Gao and Priya Juarez



Special shoutout to alumni Caroline Wang and Heesu Park for visiting us at our team dinner after the tournament! We loved getting to reconnect with them and invite all alumni to stop by at one of our spring competitions (dates and locations will be posted in our Facebook Group)!



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Season of Giving

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Club Taekwondo is participating in **Duke Sport Clubs Giving Day**, which will take place on **November 30th**. YOU can help us raise money and win additional prizes!

Donations made will go towards travel expenses for our yearly tournaments (including NCTA Nationals this spring), coaching fees for Master Lee, and holding color belt and black belt testing.

Any donation is appreciated and extremely helpful to subsidize the operations of Club Taekwondo. To donate, you can:

- Use the link below to navigate to Club Taekwondo's Giving Page
www.gifts.duke.edu/?designation=3910840
- Mail a check made out to Duke University and include Club Taekwondo in the memo
Mail check to: Duke Recreation & Physical Education, ATTN: Sport Clubs
Box 90548, 117 Wilson Center, Durham, NC 27708

Donations and gifts may be tax deductible. If you have questions about how your gift may benefit Club Taekwondo, or questions regarding tax deductions for this gift, please contact the Iron Dukes office.

Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for this club.
Wishing you a very happy holiday season and we hope to see all of you soon!

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