

Congratulations

TKD *TaeKwonDo*
TIMES

2008

Grandmaster of the Year

Grandmaster of the Year Grandmaster Eui Min Ko



Grandmaster Eui Min Ko received his degree from Kyung Hee University in Seoul in 1965. By 1971, he introduced the first Tae Kwon Do step techniques for Gyeorugi worldwide. Three years later, he invented the first coaching mitt and coached the Korean national team to eight gold medals at the 1st Asian Championships. The next year his team had a repeat performance at the 2nd World Championships in Seoul, winning another eight gold medals.

Grandmaster Ko was awarded for his excellent coaching and contributions to the world of Tae Kwon Do when he was honored with the Girinjang award by the President of South Korea. He then went on to coach his team to the 3rd World Championships in Chicago, winning seven gold medals. This win brought him another honor when he was awarded the Baegmajang second-degree award by the President of South Korea for his outstanding achievements.

Grandmaster Ko continued his work on Gyeorugi and published the first World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) competition book in 1980. He also began promoting hundreds of semi-pro Tae Kwon Do events throughout Europe.

He continued to pursue his career as an inventor as well, constantly attempting to improve Tae Kwon Do and Tae Kwon Do competition. In 1994, he patented the Kick and Punch Enforcer, Ko then patented the Shock Power Tester two years later.

While still inventing, Grandmaster Ko was appointed as Vice Chairman of the Technical Committee of the WTF in 1996. A year later he earned his ninth-dan in WTF Taekwondo. His great achievements did not go unnoticed when he was awarded with Sports Awards from the Korean Ministry of Culture, U.S. President Bill Clinton and U.S. President George W. Bush.

In 2001, Grandmaster Ko was made the President of the Taekwondo World Leaders Society and became a Guest Professor of Physical Education at his alma mater of Kyung Hee University a year later. His continued presence in the world of Tae Kwon Do was again rewarded when in 2002 he was awarded for outstanding achievements by the President of the Korean Parliament and in 2003 when he received a plaque of honor from the then WTF President, Dr. Un-Yong Kim.

In 2005, Grandmaster Ko was promoted from Vice Chairman to Chairman of the Technical Committee of the WTF. Within a year, Grandmaster Ko made another contribution to Tae Kwon Do when he introduced the circle formed competition area. In 2008, he was appointed as Technical Delegate for the Olympic Games in Beijing and made a member of the advisory board for the Kukkiwon.

Since 1981, Grandmaster Ko has taught and coached Tae Kwon Do in Germany. His contributions and leadership in the world of Tae Kwon Do for over 35 years have earned him a spot in the *TaeKwonDo Times* Hall of Fame in 2008 as Grandmaster of the Year.

