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### What it's all about

Dartmouth Club Taekwondo alumni and current members have expressed a desire to create a more connected alumni base for the club. To address this feedback, we are piloting a quarterly Alumni Newsletter to share all the amazing things that past and present DTKD members are up to and to better connect the DTKD community.

Each newsletter will seek to highlight club events, alumni, and current members. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions.

### State of the Club

Dartmouth Club Taekwondo is a student-run organization founded in 1984 that competes in the Eastern Collegiate Taekwondo Conference (ECTC) and performs termly demonstrations on campus. Although the Club has been unable to continue training with Master Linda Smith-Blais and Master Jean Del Porte due to Club Sports budget cuts in 2016, the Club maintains a strong relationship with them and has held joint practices with the Hanover Blue Wave. The Club has grown rapidly in recent years and currently has about 30 regular members.

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*Team photo after the MIT tournament*

## Events and announcements

### MIT Tournament

DTKD travelled to its first tournament of the year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 19 members competed, and recent alum Genna Liu '19 stepped up to coach the team. Almost half of the competing members were freshmen (Go '23s!) Some highlights are featured here. For a full gallery of pictures, check out our Facebook page.

[\(facebook.com/Dartmouth.TKD/\)](https://facebook.com/Dartmouth.TKD/)

### Thai Tea Sale

In addition to working concessions at basketball games, DTKD held a fundraiser to raise ~\$200 by making and selling Thai tea to help students get through their midterms.

### Belt Test

DTKD held its termly belt test. Eight white belts demonstrated their forms, sparred against each other, practiced their Korean, and broke their first boards to be promoted to yellow belt!



*Kaitlyn Kelley '22 goes for a headshot*



*Jennifer He '20 performing Taeguk 4*



*'23s doing pushups for the belt test*

## Freshmen blurbs

We asked a few '23s to share some information about themselves and why they joined TKD. Their answers are featured below:



### **Helen Laird**

Helen is most interested in ecology and animal communication. She grew up on a sailboat in the Antarctic and Arctic and has no background in martial arts. She heard about the club on Trips and has been enjoying the practices and particularly the tournament at MIT.



### **Roman Olavarria**

Roman, from southern California, is undecided on a major, but knows that he won't major in philosophy or theatre. He enjoys dancing, baking, writing, and not sleeping. He joined the club for the self-defense but stayed for the fun during practice. Outside of Taekwondo, he studies in FFB, speaks Spanish, Korean, and some Chinese, and is part of the Street Soul and Sheba dance groups on campus.



### **Kris Moreno**

Kris comes from the East Boston neighborhood just outside of the city. He decided to join Taekwondo after hearing about it during Dimensions, and has been enjoying making new friends, staying active, and learning martial arts with chill people. His first trip to a tournament was a step outside of his comfort zone but was very fun with all the support he got from his fellow teammates. He is currently thinking about careers in the life / physical sciences.



### **Anna Gundlach**

Anna is STEM major from north of Chicago. She decided to try taekwondo with no previous experience and fell in love with the sport and the people. When she's not learning Taeguk 1, you can find her studying in Fairchild Tower or hanging stage lights at the Hop.

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### Alumni highlights

Here's what some of our awesome alumni are up to! We'd love to hear about the paths that you have taken after Dartmouth and your experience with TKD. If you'd like to share your experience, please send a quick bio to [daehyun97@gmail.com](mailto:daehyun97@gmail.com).



#### **Amanda Simon '17**

Amanda '17 studied Neuroscience and East Asian Studies, and was a former Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Club. She is currently a first-year PhD student at Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences in New York City. As a Dartmouth student, Amanda was also involved in the Dartmouth Japan Society, E.E. Just STEM Program, and various Christian campus ministries. She worked the smoothie station at the Late Night Collis Café. Her favorite memory of TKD was when she broke several boards at once with a palm strike during a demonstration.



#### **Genna Liu '19**

Genna '19 studied Economics and Quantitative Social Science and was a former member of the Club. She is currently an Analyst at Analysis Group based in Boston. At Dartmouth, she was involved with Epsilon Kappa Theta and the Dandelion Project, and she was a frequent patron of Rocky, Silsby, and 4th Floor Stacks. Her favorite memory of TKD was when the women's black belt team advanced to the quarterfinals at MIT.



#### **Dae Kim '19**

Dae '19 studied Economics and Government and was a former President of the Club. He's currently an Associate at L.E.K. Consulting and is based in Chicago. At Dartmouth, he also debated for the Dartmouth Forensic Union. His favorite memory of TKD was when the Club won third place in its ECTC division or when the Club woke up at 2am to drive to the Cornell Tournament during his sophomore year.

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## Dartmouth Taekwondo Newsletter



### Stay connected

We'd love to hear your thoughts on the Club and ways to connect alumni. Let us know if you know other alumni that might want to receive this newsletter, so we can ask them about adding them to DTKD listserv.

If you'd like to stay updated on Club activities please follow our Facebook page ([facebook.com/Dartmouth.TKD/](https://facebook.com/Dartmouth.TKD/)).

While the Club has been building up its finances through careful management, fundraising campaigns, and Club dues, your support would be greatly appreciated. Some specific items on the Clubs wish-list:

- Replacing broken sparring gear (\$500)
- Training sessions in Boston / Vermont (\$1,000)
- Funding for travel to long-distance tournaments such as Cornell (\$1,800)

Gifts can be made through Dartmouth's website for gifts ([www.supportdartmouthsports.com/](http://www.supportdartmouthsports.com/)) and by selecting "Friends of Club Sports" and specifying that the gift is for "Dartmouth Club Taekwondo" in the "Other Instructions" section. So far, the Club has raised **\$350** through the generosity of alumni. **A generous friend of Dartmouth Taekwondo has pledged to match the first \$1,000 in donations this year.** Every dollar you contribute will bring two dollars to the Club, and of course your gifts are tax-deductible.

Thanks for thinking about the club! Please contact us if you're interested in learning more about our fundraising efforts or if you'd like to mail a check.

Amanda Simon '17  
Dae Kim '19  
Kris Moreno '23

- Please email [daehyun97@gmail.com](mailto:daehyun97@gmail.com) for any questions or feedback