



WORLD TAEKWONDO FEDERATION

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WTF Officials,
Presidents, WTF Member National Associations

WTF-member notice: Poomsae changes to Pumsae in 2014

Dear WTF Officials and Presidents of WTF Member National Associations,
Dear Friends and Colleagues.

It is my great pleasure to extend my warm greetings to you and an even greater pleasure to look back on the 2013 WTF World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships which were held in Bali, Indonesia from October 31 to November 3, 2013.

WTF membership has been grown from less than 20 to 205 for the past four decades and taekwondo has participated in the Olympic Games as an official sport since 2000. WTF had inaugurated Poomsae competition at the world level in 2006 to provide more people with opportunity to enjoy and compete in taekwondo.

WTF included free-style Poomsae competition in the 2012 WTF World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships in Tunja, Colombia, which was welcomed by so many taekwondo practitioners around the world. The number of participants in the World Poomsae Championships has been ever increasing and the Championships in Bali were another great success in the history of World Poomsae Championships.

Poomsae became international and this is why the World Taekwondo Federation decides to correct an error in the romanization of the word Poomsae. During the 2013 WTF World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships we realized that a lot of member nations have a hard time to pronounce Poomsae the right way. A lot of European and Eastern countries pronounced it as Pomes, which is unacceptable in respect to the Korean language and heritage and unacceptable in our long-term goal to include Poomsae in the Olympics. In order to make it easier to pronounce and also to distinct Poomsae from the Poom belt level we will change the name of Poomsae in 2014 and now look forward to the 2014 WTF World Taekwondo Pumsae Championships.

So please use the word Pumsae in all upcoming publications and help us creating a worldwide standard of Taekwondo. I look forward to seeing you and your team at upcoming Pumsae competitions.

Sincerely yours,

Patrice-Jean Picard
Vice Secretary General, World Taekwondo Federation