



2015 US Open Poomsae Report

Jan 21, 2015

by USA National Poomsae Team Head Coach Dan Chuang

US athletes had an outstanding day of competition at the 2015 US Open in Orlando, FL on Wednesday, January 21. The athletes built on the successes of the 2014 World Poomsae Championships, where our national team placed third in the world. Other countries prominently represented at the US Open Poomsae competition were Korea, Canada, China, Australia, Singapore, Norway, Denmark, Peru, Puerto Rico, and others. Notably missing this year was USA neighbor Mexico, which did not send any players.

Out of a total 30 divisions, US players earned $19\frac{1}{3}$ gold medals, Korea earned $5\frac{2}{3}$ gold medals, China earned 2 golds, and Australia, Canada and Singapore each earned one gold medal. The total medal counts for all medalist countries are listed below.

2015 US Open Medalists by Country

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
USA	$19\frac{1}{3}$	$19\frac{2}{3}$	$25\frac{1}{3}$
Korea	$5\frac{2}{3}$	$3\frac{1}{3}$	$6\frac{2}{3}$
China	2	1	1
Australia	1	1	2
Canada	1	1	1
Singapore	1	0	2
Norway	0	1	0
Peru	0	0	1

(Note: $\frac{1}{3}$ medals due to teams composed of players from more than one country)

It should be noted that medals are listed by the country reported in the USA Taekwondo registration system. Anecdotally, some athletes are representing the USA as residents and not citizens. However, this is a small percentage of the total athletes. Because athletes from different countries can combine to create teams, medals are split between countries in some cases.

As described in the table, the US won the great majority of the gold medals. Special congratulations to multiple division winners Yerim Jeong (3 golds), Elva P. Adams (3 golds), Cameron Tsai (2 golds), Yewon Jeong (2 golds), and Kathy Do (2 golds). These are exceptional results in very deep divisions.

In the male individual divisions, US winners included Humza Sulaiman Qazi (Youth Male Individual), Cameron Tsai (Cadet Male Individual), Alex Tae Lee (Junior Male Individual), and Concie L. Reid (3rd Master Individual).



Alex Tae Lee – Junior Male Gold



Cameron Tsai – Cadet Male Gold

The US women did especially well, sweeping every female individual division that was contested. USA female individual champions included Yewon Jeong (Youth Female Individual), Priscilla Ahra Jo (Cadet Female Individual), Yerim Jeong (Junior Female Individual), Carissa Angela Fu (1st Senior Female Individual), Kathy Do (2nd Senior Female Individual), Elva P. Adams (1st Master Female Individual), Kristi George (2nd Master Female individual), and Erica Linthorst (4th Master Female Individual).



Kristi George – 2nd Master Female Individual Gold



Yerim Jeong – Junior Female Individual Gold



Carissa Fu – 1st Senior Female Individual Gold



Elva Adams – 1st Master Female Individual Gold

In the pairs divisions, winners from USA included Cameron Tsai and Hannah Rose Mooney (Youth Pair), Jewoong Jeong and Yerim Jeong (Junior Pair), and Elva Adams and Doo Hyun Chung (2nd Pair).

In the male team divisions, US gold medalists were Andrew Joonhyun Lee, Miguel Pelaez, and Ethan Brian Sun (Cadet Male Team) and Edward Jeong with Korean teammates Hyunwoon Kim and Gunsoo Kim (1st Male Team).



Andrew Joonhyun Lee, Miguel Pelaez, and Ethan Brian Sun – Cadet Male Team Gold



Edward Jeong warming up with Korean teammates Hyunwoon Kim and Gunsoo Kim - 1st Male Team Gold

Female team US gold medalists included Christina Marie Castillo, Yerim Jeong, and Suhyun Cindy Kim (Junior Female Team), and Elva P. Adams, Kathy Do and Thoa Van Nguyen (2nd Female Team).



**Yerim Jeong, Christina Marie Castillo, Suhyun
Cindy Kim – Junior Female Team Gold**



**Elva P. Adams, Thoa Van Nguyen and Kathy Do –
2nd Female Team Gold**

2014 National Team Performance

Although a fair number of our 2014 US National Team Athletes were not present, particularly in the cadet and junior divisions, those that were present performed very well and showed their competitiveness. Nearly every team member came away with at least one medal. We had several 2014 world medalists from the national team present, including Edward Jeong, Carissa Fu, AJ Munoz, Elva Adams, Kathy Do, Kristi Koch George and Erica Linthorst. The national team member performances are listed below:

- **Edward Jeong** – Gold in 1st Male Team, Silver in 1st Senior Male Individual
- **Michael Couloucoundis** – Silver in 1st Pair, 5th in 1st Senior Male Individual
- **Carissa Angela Fu** – Gold in 1st Senior Female Individual, 5th in 1st Pair
- **Adalis “AJ” Munoz** – 5th in 1st Senior Female Individual
- **Kathy Do** – Gold in 2nd Senior Female Individual, Gold in 2nd Female Team
- **Elva P. Adams** – Gold in 1st Master Female Individual, Gold in 2nd Female Team, and Gold in 2nd Pair
- **Kristi Koch George** – Gold in 2nd Master Female Individual, Silver in 2nd Pair
- **Garth A. Cooley** – Silver in 2nd Pair, 5th in 1st Master Male Individual
- **Erica Linthorst** – Gold in 4th Master Female Individual

Taekwonsoft

The new software worked well overall and implemented the new bracketed finals system with seeding successfully. There were some small technical issues: at least 4 cases I witnessed where there was a problem with recording the scores of a judge and the ring took several minutes to enter the scores. In one case, the scores were lost and had to be entered from memory during the 1st pair final. Future judges perhaps could be instructed to record their scores in a secondary manner until this issue is resolved.

Another technical issue involved the separation of flights during the preliminaries. In the men's 1st senior individual division, athletes were originally listed as two flights since there were 21 competitors, but were combined into one division due to software limitations, according to the

TA for that ring. This resulted in a player being originally announced as a semifinalist, but later being told he did not make the cut.

Overall however, the software seemed to work well from the coach/competitor standpoint, and many of the technical issues will be likely worked out in future competitions.

Bracketed Poomsae

As a coach, I received feedback that the seeded bracketed competition was a large improvement over the unseeded competition method that was contested at the world championships. Some players expressed concern about the system being used for team selection due to the single elimination nature of the draw which makes it difficult to rank players.

International Athletes

Some very strong international athletes were present, including current and former national team members from Korea, Singapore, Canada, Denmark and Australia, among other countries. Notable athletes included Korean Suji Kang, 4-time world champion, who competed in the 1st pair division with US team member Michael Couloucoundis (they earned silver), world medalist Bronwyn Butterworth from Australia (2nd Master silver at US open), and a very strong men's 2nd team from China (gold, 2nd team), who also swept the mens' 2nd senior individual division (gold, silver and bronze). Suji Kang's father, former Korea National Team coach Jaejin Kang, also won the 2nd Master division. Some very strong Korean players who are students at the University of Bridgeport did very well in 1st Senior Individual (gold/bronze in men's, and silver/bronze in women's, gold in men's/women's 1st team). Singapore brought some very high level 1st Senior athletes and won the 1st pair division and earned bronze medals in the 1st Senior individual divisions.

Concluding Thoughts

The US athletes' performance was dominant by any measure. Our women in particular showed their strength, earning a gold medal in every contested individual division. Our national team athletes who were present also did very well among a legitimately challenging international field. The new bracketed finals added an element of drama to the competition and seemed well received by both spectators and competitors. On a division-by-division basis, the divisions sizes were slightly down from last year, but nearly all of the divisions were still very hotly contested. It was great to see some new faces on the podium in the cadet and junior divisions especially – those divisions seem very deep in the United States at this time and bode well for the future of our US national team!

Photo Credits

Thank you to Master Bronson Ko and the Kansas Taekwondo Association for providing many of the photos in this report.

Appendix of Terms

Individual Divisions (male or female)

Youth	10-11 Years Old
Cadet	12-14 Years Old
Junior	15-17 Years Old
1st Senior	18-30 Years Old
2nd Senior	31-40 Years Old
1st Master	41-50 Years Old
2nd Master	51-60 Years Old
3rd Master	61-65 Years Old
4th Master	65+ Years Old

Pair divisions (1 male, 1 female per pair)

Youth Pair	10-11 Years Old
Cadet Pair	12-14 Years Old
Junior Pair	15-17 Years Old
1st Pair	18-30 Years Old
2nd Pair	30+ Years Old

Team divisions (3 males or 3 females)

Youth Team	10-11 Years Old
Cadet Team	12-14 Years Old
Junior Team	15-17 Years Old
1st Team	18-30 Years Old
2nd Team	30+ Years Old

2015 US Open Taekwondo Championships

Olando/USA

21-Jan-15

Game Result of Poomsae Competition

Division	Category	Rank	Name	NOC	Country
Individual [M]	Youth	1	HUMZA SULAIMAN QAZI	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Youth	2	RYAN CAUTHEN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Youth	3	GRIFFIN REYTOMAS	AUS	Australia
Individual [M]	Youth	3	HUDSON HUYNH	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Youth	5	CARTER DILL	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Youth	5	IAN JOSHUA HONG	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Youth	5	JAKE DE GUZMAN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Youth	5	MICHAEL ANGELO MORA	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	1	CAMERON TSAI	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	2	ETHAN BRIAN SUN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	3	AARON SORIANO	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	3	BRANDON HYUN JUN CHO	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	5	CHANDLER TORRES	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	5	CHRISTOPHER TRAN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	5	ETHAN SHENG-MING SEN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Cadet	5	ETHAN T. LAM	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Junior	1	ALEX TAE LEE	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Junior	2	HYO JE JO	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Junior	3	Jae Yeok Cho	KOREA	Korea
Individual [M]	Junior	3	JEREMY DAVID	PER	Peru
Individual [M]	Junior	5	AJ ASSADIAN	CAN	Canada
Individual [M]	Junior	5	JEWOONG JEONG	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Junior	5	SAMUEL LEE	CAN	Canada

Individual [M]	Junior	5	SUNWOO SUNNY KIM	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 30	1	GUNSOO KIM	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 30	2	EDWARD H JEONG	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 30	3	HYUNWOON KIM	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 30	3	RUI JIE KANG	SIN	Singapore
Individual [M]	Under 30	5	HARRY NGUYEN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 30	5	JAE WON HEO	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 30	5	MICHAEL COULOUOUNDIS	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 30	5	SEBASTIAN HANUL CHOI	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 40	1	ZHONG MIN GUO	CHN	China
Individual [M]	Under 40	2	GUO SHENG WU	CHN	China
Individual [M]	Under 40	3	JING CHEN ZHOU	CHN	China
Individual [M]	Under 40	3	MYEONGKI JEONG	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 40	5	CHOUNG HWAN RYU	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 40	5	HAK SEOP LEE	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 40	5	KWANGJIN HA	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 40	5	POK SUN YANG	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 50	1	KYEONGMIN BAE	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 50	2	TIMOTHY ALLEN STEGER	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 50	3	DOO HYUN CHUNG	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 50	3	TAEWON JUNG	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 50	5	CHRISTOPHER DREW HILLYER	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 50	5	GARTH A. COOLEY	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 50	5	KIHO JEONG	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 50	5	ROWDY ELVIN LEEDEMAN	PUR	Puerto Rico
Individual [M]	Under 60	1	JAE JIN KANG	KOR	Korea
Individual [M]	Under 60	2	GEORGE DUONG	USA	United States of America

Individual [M]	Under 60	3	BRADLEY HOLLENBAUGH	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 60	3	JUNG HWAN JIN	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 60	5	DONALD EUGENE COTTEE	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 60	5	RONALD ALAN SOUTHWICK	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 60	5	THANG LAM	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 65	1	CHONCIE L. REID	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Under 65	2	DAVID HALL PRATT	USA	United States of America
Individual [M]	Over 65	1	BARRY ROY JORDAN	AUS	Australia
Individual [F]	Youth	1	YEWON JEONG	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	2	KAYLEE AHYOUNG JO	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	3	ELLA FOX	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	3	MEGAN HANA LEE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	5	ABIAGEAL NOELLE LEONARD	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	5	AVA N WELLER	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	5	KIYA LEE BIRCH	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Youth	5	SEOYEON PARK	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	1	PRISCILLA AHRA JO	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	2	HAYLEY ALEXIS JUE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	3	HANNAH ROSE MOONEY	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	3	MICHELLE PERIBANEZ	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	5	AINSLEY FOX	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	5	ANASTASIA YASMINE SHEHADY	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	5	CASSIE HUYNH	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Cadet	5	VICTORIA JIAHUI RUAN	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Junior	1	YERIM JEONG	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Junior	2	PARK KULEE	KOR	Korea
Individual [F]	Junior	3	Suhyun Cindy KIM	USA	United States of America

Individual [F]	Junior	3	VICTORIA NGOCCHAU DO	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Junior	5	ANGELICA ROSE JENSEN	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Junior	5	CHRISTINA MARIE CASTILLO	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Junior	5	KIM AREUM	KOR	Korea
Individual [F]	Junior	5	LEE HYEBEEN	KOR	Korea
Individual [F]	Under 30	1	CARISSA ANGELA FU	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 30	2	HYEEUN KIM	KOR	Korea
Individual [F]	Under 30	3	CHELSEA SIM	SIN	Singapore
Individual [F]	Under 30	3	SUNA KIM	KOR	Korea
Individual [F]	Under 30	5	ADALIS J. MUNOZ	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 30	5	EMILY ROSE WEISS	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 30	5	SOFIA SONIA HOVNANIAN	CAN	Canada
Individual [F]	Under 30	5	THANH-VAN HUYNH	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 40	1	KATHY DO	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 40	2	SUNMI JUNG	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 40	3	JENNIFER T HOWARD	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 40	3	JEONG HYUN PARK	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 40	5	EMILIA CAMASTRO	CAN	Canada
Individual [F]	Under 40	5	LISA FEARON	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 40	5	NILSA DE LOS ANGELES MONTSERRAT GUZM	VEN	Venezuela
Individual [F]	Under 40	5	TARA RENEE LANDRUM	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	1	ELVA P. ADAMS	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	2	SIN SOOK LEE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	3	CYNTHIA LYN MILFORD	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	3	KATHLEEN A. KEAN	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	5	JENNIFER KATHLEEN GLAGOLA	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	5	LISA J. D. RIVERA	USA	United States of America

Individual [F]	Under 50	5	THOA VAN NGUYEN	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 50	5	WENDY WILKINS	CAN	Canada
Individual [F]	Under 60	1	KRISTI KOCH GEORGE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 60	2	BRONWYN BUTTERWORTH	AUS	Australia
Individual [F]	Under 60	3	LISA MARIE VANHECKE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 60	3	THU NGUYEN DOOLITTLE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 60	5	DEBORAH P. WHITE	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 60	5	DINA TERESA LOPEZ	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 60	5	KIRSTEN TOLSTRUP	USA	United States of America
Individual [F]	Under 60	5	NADIA HELENA HABIB	CAN	Canada
Individual [F]	Over 65	1	ERICA LINTHORST	USA	United States of America
Team [M]	Cadet	1	ANDREW JOONHYUN LEE,MIGUEL PELAEZ,ETHAN BRIAN SUN	USA C	United States of America
Team [M]	Cadet	2	ROHAN VIKRAM BUTANI,GERALD C KIM,BRIAN PHILLIPS MEAGHER	USA A	United States of America
Team [M]	Cadet	3	DANIEL J LEE,DAVID LEE,WILLIAM JUNHA SHIN	USA B	United States of America
Team [M]	Junior	1	SEONG WON JANG,HYO JE JO,JAE YEOK JO	Korea A	Korea
Team [M]	Under 30	1	HYUNWOON KIM,GUNSOO KIM,EDWARD H JEONG	KOR/USA	Korea
Team [M]	Under 30	2	KEVIN HU,JONATHAN R. PRICE,SETH MATTHEW WEINBERG	USA B	United States of America
Team [M]	Under 30	3	DONAVAN CAINE BARRETT,SEBASTIAN HANUL CHOI,ADAM VINCENT KIM	USA A	United States of America

Team [M]	Over 30	1	ZHONG MIN GUO, GUO SHENG WU, JING CHEN ZHOU	China	China
Team [M]	Over 30	2	KIHO JEONG, DOO HYUN CHUNG, TAEWON JUNG	KOR/USA A	Korea
Team [M]	Over 30	3	HAK SEOP LEE, JAE SUNG YOO, KWANGJIN HA	KOR/USA B	Korea
Team [F]	Cadet	1	CEILI MARIE PETERSON, MELISSA VAN OIRSCHOT, SARAH WARNAAR	Canada	Canada
Team [F]	Cadet	2	HIBA ALI ATRA, CALISTA ROSE COFFMAN, CLARE GESSLEY	USA	United States of America
Team [F]	Junior	1	CHRISTINA MARIE CASTILLO, YERIM JEONG, SUHYUN CINDY KIM	USA	United States of America
Team [F]	Junior	2	MATHILDE JENSEN BORGENSEN, MAREN-KRISTIN TEMTEMOEN EILERTSEN, MARIE FIRING LEMME	Norway	Norway
Team [F]	Junior	3	LEE HYEBEEN, KIM AREUM, PARK KULEE	KOREA	Korea
Team [F]	Under 30	1	HYE EUN KIM, HYEON JU KIM, SEONGKYUNG LEE	Korea	Korea
Team [F]	Under 30	2	MADELINE ELIZABETH LESKO, HILARY T. MONACO, JEAN SMITH	USA	United States of America
Team [F]	Over 30	1	ELVA P. ADAMS, KATHY DO, THOA VAN NGUYEN	USA	United States of America
Pairs	Youth	1	RYAN CAUTHEN, YEWON JEONG	USA B	United States of America
Pairs	Youth	2	BOMIN KIM, SEOYEON PARK	USA A	United States of America

Pairs	Cadet	1	Cameron Tsai,HANNAH ROSE MOONEY	USA D	United States of America
Pairs	Cadet	2	SEAN VINCENT HENRY,SARAH ARIANA JUMAN	Canada	Canada
Pairs	Cadet	3	CHLOE VICTORIA BORG,BENJAMIN CAMUA	Australia	Australia
Pairs	Cadet	3	EMILY ELIZABETH PARLIER,HYUN MIN KIM	USA C	United States of America
Pairs	Cadet	5	CASSIE HUYNH,ETHAN T. LAM	USA B	United States of America
Pairs	Cadet	5	JACOB B. SWERDLOW,NATALIE S SWERDLOW	USA A	United States of America
Pairs	Junior	1	JEWOONG JEONG,YERIM JEONG	USA A	United States of America
Pairs	Junior	2	SUNWOO SUNNY KIM,SUHYUN CINDY KIM	USA B	United States of America
Pairs	Junior	3	SAMUEL LEE,MARIA INEZ PHILIP	Canada	Canada
Pairs	Junior	5	CHANTELLE ROSE SPARNENN,ANDRE PETER THAISEN	Australia A	Australia
Pairs	Junior	5	JESSICA MEGAN NGAN,CHRISTIAN THAISEN	Australia B	Australia
Pairs	Under 30	1	RUI JIE KANG,CHELSEA SIM	Singapore	Singapore
Pairs	Under 30	2	MICHAEL COULOUOUNDIS,SUJI KANG	USA F	United States of America

Pairs	Under 30	3	EDWARD H JEONG,EMILY ROSE WEISS	USA G	United States of America
Pairs	Under 30	3	GUNSOO KIM,HYEEUN KIM	Korea C	Korea
Pairs	Under 30	5	DAVID SIU LUNG CHAN,CARISSA ANGELA FU	USA B	United States of America
Pairs	Under 30	5	JAE WON HEO,HYEON JU KIM	Korea A	Korea
Pairs	Under 30	5	SEBASTIAN HANUL CHOI,MAGAN MARIE POWELL	USA D	United States of America
Pairs	Under 30	5	THANH-VAN HUYNH,HARRY NGUYEN	USA C	United States of America
Pairs	Over 30	1	ELVA P. ADAMS,DOO HYUN CHUNG	USA D	United States of America
Pairs	Over 30	2	GARTH A. COOLEY,KRISTI KOCH GEORGE	USA C	United States of America
Pairs	Over 30	3	JENNIFER KATHLEEN GLAGOLA,CHRISTOPHER DREW HILLYER	USA B	United States of America
Pairs	Over 30	3	JENNIFER T HOWARD,BENNY JOSEPH LOPEZ	USA E	United States of America
Pairs	Over 30	5	HAK SEOP LEE,JEONG HYUN PARK	USA/KOR	Korea
Pairs	Over 30	5	NILSA DE LOS ANGELES MONTERRAT GUZM,DENNY ALI TORCATES ALVAREZ	Venezuela	Venezuela
Pairs	Over 30	5	THU NGUYEN DOOLITTLE,GEORGE DUONG	USA A	United States of America