

NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary

In preparation for the upcoming announcement and launch of Taekwondo Canada's new Club Excellence Program, Taekwondo Canada is launching the **NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary**, designed to support and encourage young and developing Kyorugi athletes to take advantage of the high-quality training opportunities offered by Club Excellence-recognized clubs.

This initiative is not intended as a sponsorship or partnership program, but rather as a mechanism to recognize and support the domestic training opportunities available to Canada's developing Kyorugi athletes. By aligning bursary use with Club Excellence-recognized initiatives, Taekwondo Canada ensures that investments directly strengthen athlete pathways while reinforcing high performance development standards.

Organizations such as Own the Podium (OTP) provide support, guidance, and targeted initiatives for what they define as *NextGen* athletes—emerging performers objectively identified as being four to eight years away from reaching an Olympic or Paralympic podium. The intent of OTP's *NextGen* initiatives is to invest in these athletes early, ensuring Canada remains a competitive force internationally by shaping future Olympians and Paralympians.

In taekwondo, as in other combat sports, it is particularly challenging to develop objective performance metrics to track and predict an athlete's long-term medal potential. Recognizing this and acknowledging the excellent work many Canadian clubs are already doing in developing athletes and providing advanced training environments, Taekwondo Canada has created the NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary.

Each year, up to an annual budgetary maximum, bursaries covering the registration costs to attend a designated domestic training camp will be awarded to both the Cadet and Junior National Champions. These bursaries can only be applied toward attending an identified domestic camp hosted by a Club Excellence-recognized club. Based on annual club applications to the Club Excellence Program, Taekwondo Canada will designate regional domestic training opportunities eligible for bursary use.

Process for Utilizing the NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary

1. Clubs apply annually to the Club Excellence Program.
2. Approved clubs may submit details of planned training camps that must occur between April 1 of the same year and March 31 of the following year, including:
 - Date
 - Location
 - Costs
 - Anticipated registration numbers (supported by data from previous camps)
 - Anticipated number of Canadian clubs and international participants (with supporting data from previous camps)
3. Taekwondo Canada reviews submissions and designates eligible regional domestic training camps.
 - Submissions will be evaluated by Taekwondo Canada's High Performance Director on a number of factors including:
 - Evidence of past success running a high-level international calibre training camps.
 - The number of anticipated clubs from within and outside the province that will attend (with evidence provided to justify the estimation).
 - The number of anticipated international participants (with evidence provided to justify the estimation).
 - The coaching and leadership planned for the camp. This should include invited international coaches that will be contributing, as well as high level international and domestic athletes that will be in attendance.
4. The bursary will not be paid directly to athletes.

- Cadet and Junior National Champions must submit a request to Taekwondo Canada to attend a designated camp.
- If approved, the hosting club invoices Taekwondo Canada directly for the athlete's registration fee, which Taekwondo Canada pays on their behalf.

Pilot Implementation of the NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary

For the pilot rollout of the bursary program, Taekwondo Canada has designated the **Black Belt World 2025 International Kyorugi Winter Training Camp**, hosted at Black Belt World HQ (974 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON) from **December 15-29, 2025**, as the sole eligible domestic training camp for the 2025 calendar year. 2025 Cadet and Junior National Champions are eligible to have up to a **7-day pass** to this camp covered by Taekwondo Canada. To claim the bursary, eligible athletes must submit a request through the **NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary Application Form** **before** registering for the camp. Once approved by Taekwondo Canada, the athlete can register for the camp and Black Belt World will directly invoice Taekwondo Canada for the athlete's registration fee.

- <https://www.cognitoforms.com/TaekwondoCanada1/ApplicationFormNextGenIDKyorugiDomesticDevelopmentBursaryFormulaireDeCandidatureBour>

Questions regarding the NextGen ID Kyorugi Domestic Development Bursary and/or the athlete application process can be sent to Allan Wrigley (awrigley@taekwondo-canada.com).