

Dear Honored Guests, Competitors, Judges, and Volunteers,

We couldn't have asked for a better turnout at our 35th Anniversary USKSF tournament! Reaching this milestone has been an incredible journey, and your participation made it all the more rewarding. This collective achievement, uniting our Kung Fu family and friends from across the country and the globe, is a testament to our collective dedication and spirit. We welcomed many new participants this year and celebrated an increased international presence since COVID. The camaraderie at this event is unparalleled, and it brings our team together, rekindling bonds that last a lifetime. We're already excitedly planning next year's event on July 25-27, 2025!



We are profoundly grateful for your unwavering support. Thanks to you, we had a phenomenal turnout. The 35th Annual U.S. International Kuo Shu Championship Tournament brought together over 1,000 participants to celebrate Chinese martial arts in Rockville, Maryland, from July 12-14. Nearly 500 competitors, their families, supporters, spectators, vendors, judges, and dignitaries from the U.S. and around the world joined us. Teams from Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Paraguay, and Switzerland enhanced our international flair. We were honored to welcome representatives from the White House and the Governor's Office of Maryland. Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich and Massachusetts Representative Donald Wong also personally attended the event.

The weekend featured nearly 300 events, showcasing a variety of Chinese martial arts, including Northern and Southern-style Kung Fu, full-contact Lei Tai, sparring, Kenpo, Tai Ji Quan, Xing Yi, push hands, and more. The competition was fierce, with many divisions having over 25 high-caliber competitors at a time. In the end, Grandmaster Richard Lee's East West Kung Fu school claimed the grand champion trophy, the Wang, Chueh-Jen Cup.



My father, Grandmaster Huang, Chien-Liang, says, "The bigger the problem you can handle, the bigger the leader you can become." This event has strengthened my belief in our organization's resilience.

It was only a few months ago that we had no idea what we were going to do for our 35th anniversary tournament. In late October, our long-standing venue informed us they were repurposing the property, leaving us just a short time to find a new location for 2024. While other organizations were booking venues for 2025, we embarked on a frantic search spanning four cities and over 100 venues. Within two months, we secured what we believe was the perfect venue for all of you.

To be candid, it was a stressful period. We had to make tough decisions, and although we had "safe options," we wanted a venue that matched the high standards of our tournament. There were many unknowns, no backup plan if things went wrong, financial risks, and a last-minute date change. Nonetheless, we charged ahead, staying true to our mission: *To host a first-class event that creates unity, friendship, harmony, and peace through Kuo Shu across international boundaries*.

As a true non-profit, none of our team members take a salary. Any surplus funds go directly toward next year's tournament, and I personally cover any losses. This commitment underscores our dedication to this event. I would like to give a special shoutout to our sponsors: Grandmaster Sung Baek, Dr. Art Panella, and our generous private donors. Their unwavering support and dedication to our cause were crucial to our success, and we appreciate you being an integral part of our team.

If you enjoyed our event and would like to see us continue promoting traditional Chinese martial arts as a first-class event, please consider donating to our organization. As a non-profit, your contribution may be tax-deductible.



SCAN TO DONATE

Mark your calendars for next year's event: July 25-27, 2025. We have some exciting news to share next year, so stay tuned! To stay up-to-date, please scan the QR code below.



KEEP UP-TO-DATE

We're always looking for enthusiastic participants like you. If you know of a teacher or student who would be a great fit for us, please get in touch with one of our regional directors listed below.

<u>Region</u>	Contact Person	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
North East Region Director	Shi Fu Mai Du	mdu@usksf.org	(781) 397-0338
South East Region Director	Shi Fu Chris Facente	cfacente@usksf.org	(704) 488-0849
South Region Director	Shi Fu Martin Ware	mware@usksf.org	(513) 481-4406
North Region Director	Shi Fu Nelson Ferreira	nferreira@usksf.org	(608) 347-3836
West Region Director	Shi Fu Morgan Newman	mnewman@usksf.org	(925) 831-0292

I am already looking forward to seeing you all next year. With your continued enthusiastic support, I am confident that the 2025 tournament will be our best yet. Together, let's make it a memorable and successful event!

Sincerely,

Master Michael Huang USKSF General Manager

P.S. Our tournament's success over the past 35 years is due to one key factor: our people. Many return year after year, even if they're no longer training or involved in martial arts because they share our vision. Sadly, we lost a long-time team member, Mrs. May Law, shortly after the tournament. She will be deeply missed and irreplaceable. Her family was happy she could attend our event one last time. She will forever hold a special place in our hearts.



MRS. MAY LAW