



TSDMA SOUTH NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 11, NUMBER 4 – APRIL 2026

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2025 Students of the Year

ETTSD

Little Dragon - Isabel Jones



This Little Dragon is an exceptionally bright & cheerful student who is always looking to make new friends or try something new. She is consistent, helpful and a joy to have in class.



Youth - Gabriel Hale

This Student is one we wish to see more of. He has always been hardworking, ready to learn something new, and ready to help. We hope to see more of him this coming year.



Adult - Burr Strader

This student started off as a private student but worked up the confidence to regularly attend standard classes. He has prove himself to be a hard worker, highly skilled, and tenacious as he has to overcome so much more than other students.



NMAA Braxton Metcalf

We are proud to recognize this year's recipient. He has demonstrated unwavering commitment through discipline, determination, and respect. His dedication and focus have truly stood out.

ETTSD Summer Uniforms

From **May 1 through Sep 30**, we allow Summer dress. Permitted:

T-shirts instead of uniform top:

- **Studio t-shirt.** If you do not already have one, you can purchase one from the studio or shop at our new Café Press store: cafepress.com/shop/ETTSD
- **White t-shirt.** Plain, white, no design, no pattern.
- **Plain colored t-shirt** in a color on your belt. And once again, PLAIN, no design, no pattern.
- **Karate t-shirt**, including our old style t-shirts or tournament t-shirts.
- **Shorts** are permitted but **WHITE ONLY!** Totally white. No stripes, no stars, no plaid, no trim. White. 100% white. No other colors anywhere on the shorts

Tip Test Timing

Normally, the Belt Exam would be the first Saturday of the month, and Tip Testing is the second full week.

However, this month, Easter is the first weekend, and the Rogersville tournament is the 2nd Saturday. The puts the belt exam on the 3rd Saturday.

We decided that since Tip 1 is basically a review of the last belt, we'd keep Tip Testing on the 2nd full week and not have the students get behind on tips.

So, students who are testing this month will work on their first tip for their NEW belt during Tip Testing.

Calendar

General

- **Tue/Thu 4:45-5:15PM, Combined Class.** Open and free to all members, friends, and family.
- **Sat, Apr 18, 3PM.** Shim Sa. See below.
- **Tue, Apr 28, 6:30PM.** Free Self-Defense class @ETTSD. Open to all.
- **Tournaments.** See page 2.

East Tennessee Tang Soo Do

- **Thu, Apr 9.** Mat Chat
- **Tue-Thu, Apr 14-16,** Tip Testing
- **Sat, Apr 18, 1:30PM** Staff meeting

Newport Martial Arts Academy

- **Fri, Apr 3.** Closed for Easter.
- **Fri, Apr 10.** Tip testing, Mat Chat. Wear school/team colors.
- **Fri, Apr 17.** Wear NMAA shirt, parent observation, dragon belt test, sparring
- **Fri, Apr 24.** Dress like a teacher, Weapons
- **Fri, May 1.** Partner work.

April Shim Sa



Sat, Apr 18, 3:00 p.m.

Testing students: 2:45 p.m.

\$40 testing fee.

Full Uniform required.

Spectators welcome.

At ETTSD, eligible students will be listed on the white board above Ms. Jennifer's desk.

2026 Tournaments & Events

Mat Chat

RESULTS

Sat 3/28

TSDMA South Interclub '26

<p>Little Dragons</p> <p>Breaking</p> <p>1st Isabel Jones 2nd Lily Sanderson 3rd Vincent Carhartt</p> <p>Forms</p> <p>1st Lily Sanderson 2nd Isabel Jones 3rd Vincent Carhartt</p> <p>Flag Sparring</p> <p>1st Lily Sanderson 2nd Vincent Carhartt 3rd Isabel Jones</p> <p>Beginner Youth, age 7</p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>1st Cayson Short 2nd Colton Landers</p> <p>Forms</p> <p>1st Cayson Short 2nd Colton Landers 3rd Isaac Morris</p> <p>Sparring</p> <p>1st Colton Landers 2nd Cayson Short 3rd Isaac Morris</p> <p>Beginner Youth, age 8</p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>1st Scarlett Caceres 2nd Grayson Morie 3rd Kenny Hatfield 4th Levi Brooks</p> <p>Forms</p> <p>1st Scarlett Caceres 2nd Grayson Morie 3rd Levi Brooks 4th Kenny Hatfield</p> <p>Sparring</p> <p>1st Scarlett Caceres 2nd Kenny Hatfield 3rd Levi Brooks 4th Grayson Morie</p> <p>Beginner Youth, age 9</p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>1st Branson Short 2nd Abel Jarnigan 3rd Dryden Griffin</p>	<p>Forms</p> <p>1st Branson Short 2nd Abel Jarnigan 3rd Dryden Griffin</p> <p>Sparring</p> <p>1st Dryden Griffin 2nd Abel Jarnigan 3rd Branson Short</p> <p>Beginner Youth, age 10-13</p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>1st Kenzie Landers 2nd Xavier Caceres 3rd Braxton Metcalf</p> <p>Forms</p> <p>1st Kenzie Landers 2nd Xavier Caceres 3rd Ava Kuyt</p> <p>Sparring</p> <p>1st Chloe Butcher 2nd Kenzie Landers 3rd Xavier Caceres</p> <p>Intermediate Youth</p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>1st Logan Roberts 2nd Mason Hadley 3rd Jackson Davis</p> <p>Forms</p> <p>1st Jackson Davis 2nd Logan Roberts 3rd Mason Hadley</p> <p>Sparring</p> <p>1st Logan Roberts 2nd Jackson Davis 3rd Mason Hadley</p> <p>Advanced/Cho Dan Bo Youth</p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>1st Noah Clendenin 2nd Oliver Zahoran</p> <p>Forms</p> <p>1st Oliver Zahoran 2nd Noah Clendenin</p> <p>Sparring</p> <p>1st Noah Clendenin 2nd Oliver Zahoran</p>
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Adults

Weapons

1st Burr Strader
2nd Connor Thomas
3rd Izabella Thomas

Forms

1st David Woodby
2nd Connor Thomas
3rd Izabella Thomas

Sparring - Men

1st Connor Thomas
2nd David Woodby

Sparring - Women

1st Izabella Thomas
2nd Bethany Earley

Black Belts

Weapons

1st Brayden Salend
2nd Caden Lovell
3rd Blake Clendenin

Forms

1st Brayden Salend
2nd Caden Lovell
3rd Silas Hales

Sparring

1st Caden Lovell

2nd Blake Clendenin

You can find our full **Mat Chat** pages on our website. Select: **Parents/Mat Chat**

This month:

Tenet/Code:

Never Retreat in Battle (Code)

What it means.

Do not give up and walk away from challenges because something seems hard or difficult to accomplish. Stay the course!

What it DOESN'T mean.

It does not mean that you fight every fight that comes your way.

What would you do?

- You struggle with learning something at school. You keep trying but it is so difficult to learn. Do you give up? Do you say "I quit"?
- You make a promise to yourself to start eating healthy. You work really hard to stay away from junk food, but one day you splurge and eat all kinds of candy and soda. Do you say "oh forget it...too late now. I blew it."?
- You try and try but can't seem to do your new break in breaking boards. Do you decide to just tell your instructor you can't do it? Do you ask to be allowed to do something easier?
- You have attended several tournaments and have not brought home a trophy yet. Do you stop going to tournaments?

Terminology

- **Sun Bae** – Senior Member
- **Yo Dan Ja** – Black Belt Member
- **Kyo Sah Nim** – Instructor 2nd/3rd degree black belt
- **Sah Bum Nim** – Master Instructor
- **Kwan Ja Nim** – Grandmaster

UPCOMING

APR

11 Kelly's Heroes Championship, Rogersville



This is by far the closest tournament, and we really like to support it. Opening ceremonies tend to be long. Trophies for

1st, 2nd, 3rd.

18 Dragon Revolution

This is on our Belt Exam day so we cannot support it, but encourage anyone who wants to go to compete. It's a good tournament.



<https://www.facebook.com/events/821386463941134/>