



Convention & Visitors Bureau

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TAEKWONDO OLYMPIC HOPEFULS BEGIN JOURNEY IN SAN JOSE

Event a Stepping Stone to U.S. Team With Gold-Medal Legacy

SAN JOSE, CALIF. – February 28, 2005 – For those Americans hoping for 2008 Olympic glory in taekwondo, the road to Beijing will begin in San José. Today, the San José Convention & Visitors Bureau (SJCVB) and USA Taekwondo announced the Taekwondo National Qualifier competition will be held at the San José McEnery Convention Center on March 19-20. The USA Taekwondo National Qualifier is the first level of competition for athletes seeking a place on a U.S. Olympic team that has captured gold medals at the previous two Olympic Games.

Spectators can see exciting martial-arts action as Olympic hopefuls begin their journey on the road to Beijing in 2008. The top four athletes from each division will advance to the World Class Division at the 2005 USA Taekwondo Junior Olympic Championships, June 21-25 in San Antonio, Texas, and/or the 2005 Senior National Championships, October 27-30, also in San José.

Advance tickets are \$10 for a one-day pass and \$16 for a two-day pass. Tickets at the door will be \$12 for a one-day pass and \$18 for a two-day pass. Information on advance ticket sales will be available at USA Taekwondo's website, <http://www.ustu.org>.

About USA Taekwondo

USA Taekwondo is the National Governing Body for the sport of Taekwondo in the United States. U.S. Taekwondo athletes have won three medals in the past two Olympic Games (gold by Steven Lopez in 2000 & 2004, and silver by Nia Abdallah in 2004). USA Taekwondo's mission is to enable U.S. athletes to achieve sustained competitive excellence and promote and grow the sport of Taekwondo.

About The San José Convention & Visitors Bureau (SJCVB)

The San José Convention & Visitors Bureau's (SJCVB) mission is to enhance the image and economic well being of San José by taking the leadership role in marketing San José as a globally recognized destination. The SJCVB offers meeting planners, tour operators, and individual visitors a team of professionals who can assist with their destination planning process from beginning to end. To receive a copy of the Bureau's *Meeting Planning Guide* or

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Official Visitors Guide, please contact the SJCVB at 1.800.SAN.JOSE (1.800.726.5673) or visit <http://www.sanjose.org>.

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