



Legend of International Taekwondo Federation Choi Jung Hwa visited Ussuriysk

The Grand Master met with the Mayor, the disabled and rehabilitation center, athletes (PHOTO)

Vladivostok, October 1, PrimaMedia. Legend of International Federation Taekwondo Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa visited Ussuriysk. During his visit, the Grand Master met with the head of Ussuriysk, and visited the Ussuriysk rehabilitation center for persons with mental disabilities, where he talked with the disabled and presented a souvenir to the center. In the evening Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa met with the athletes in a family fitness club “Taekwondo Land” and handed certificates of successful corresponding belts and dans promotion to athletes, the correspondent of RIA PrimaMedia reports.

The Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa arrived to Primorsky Krai being invited by the Primorsky Krai Taekwondo Federation President Roman Karchemkin, and events organized in conjunction with the maritime

branch Russian Martial Arts Union, whose president is the deputy of Primorsky Krai Legislative Assembly Valery Kan.



Nikolai Rud and Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa

At a meeting with the Grand Master the mayor of Ussuriysk Nikolai Rud proudly told those present that Ussuriysk is one of the most sporting cities in Primorsky Krai with established infrastructure and various sports organizations and associations.

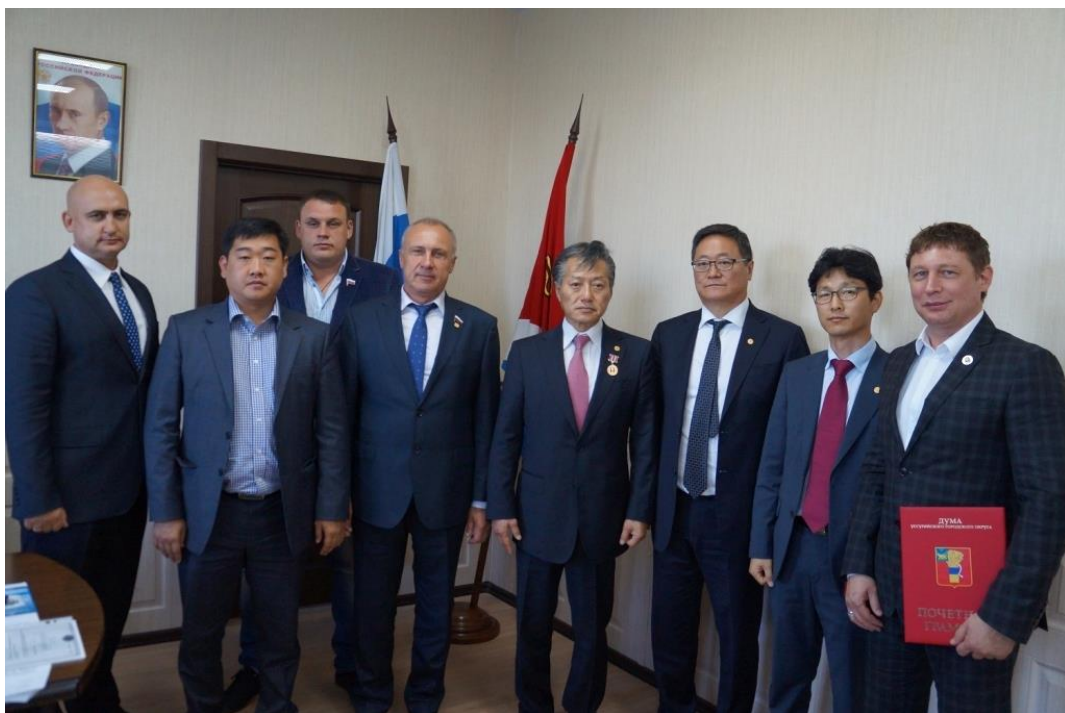
- An important role is played by the dynamically developing Taekwondo Federation, which already brought up more than 12 world champions and 18 European champions. We have two deputies in the State Duma, who are engaged in Taekwondo: World Championships medalist Roman Klimenko and world champion Vladimir Li – noted Nikolai Rud.



Nikolai Rud awarded the Grand master with a badge of honor

Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa said that all sports events that are held on the territory of Primorsky Krai and the Far East, in general, are very important to him and thanked the city Mayor for the warm welcome.

- My father was in the Primorsky Krai 20 years ago, and for me it was very important to come here after all this time. The skill of Taekwondo athletes since that time has increased. Taekwondo evolves, and my goal is to inform of new technique, standardize the rules of martial arts
- said Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa.

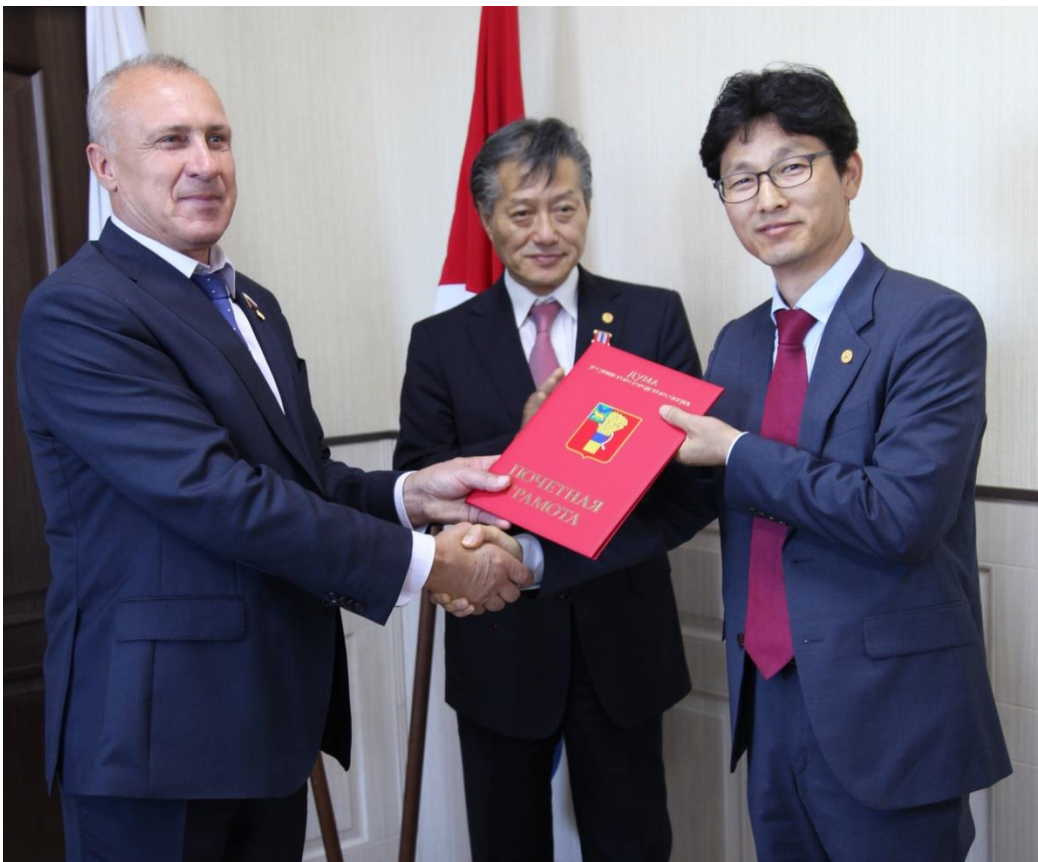


Honored guests

In honor of the 60th founding of Taekwondo anniversary the Grand Master presented to the head of Ussuriysk their anniversary memorial sign. For contribution to the development of physical culture and sport in Ussuriysk and promotion of Taekwondo as a popular sport among youth the Ussuriysk Mayor Nikolai Rud handed Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa the Ussuriysk Duma's badge of honor, as well as awarded the first International Taekwondo Federation (ITF) Vice-President Volmir Ligay, the Chairman of the Public Relations Committee of International Taekwondo Federation (ITF) Jung Chan Kuk(Chris-J) and the President of Primorsky Krai Taekwondo Federation Roman Karchemkin with an honorable diploma of the Ussuriysk's Duma.



An honorable diploma was awarded to Volmir Ligay and Jung Chan kuk(Chris-J)



Grandmaster Choi Jung Hwa warmly refers to the development of sports among disabled, so on the same day the delegation of honored

guests visited the Ussuriysk rehabilitation center for persons with mental retardation (URC). The Director of the URC Galina Yanishevskaya warmly welcomed the guests, told them about the pupils of the center and conducted a tour of the institution.



Meeting the Grand Master with students of URC

- There are 265 people aged 23-25 years in our center. Of course a very important place in the life of pupils in the center are sports. Our students are engaged in a variety of sports to the extent of their ability: athletics, football, darts. But they are interested in martial arts, and interested in the demonstration performances of sportsmen, - said Galina Yanishevskaya.



Taekwondo Grand Master in URC

Grandmaster Choi Jung Hwa arrived with gifts for the disabled - water dispensers, and talked with the pupils of URC and tasted freshly baked pancakes. Pupils of the center presented memorable gifts to the Grand Master.

The meeting in URC ended with a sports event on the football field - pupils of "Taekwondo ITF-Land" under the guidance of coach Alexei Kim demonstrated to all those present a vivid performance.



Demonstration performance

At the end of the visit to Ussuriysk Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa met athletes in the family fitness club “Taekwondo Land”.



Grand Master's speech for the athletes

- In Taekwondo you have to become not only good soldiers, but good people. A black belt warrior must have a heart strong as metal, and soft and gentle as a child. I believe that you will become good ambassadors of Taekwondo ITF - appealed to the athletes Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa.



Demonstration performance in family fitness club “Taekwondo Land”

Athletes addressed the audience and guests of honor with demonstration performances, and the smallest student of Taekwondo ITF 4-year-old Julia read poems to the honored guests.



Awarding of dans

- In general, we believe that the most important part in taekwondo is power, but in fact the spiritual component is also very important. All Taekwondo instructors must focus not only on the athlete's strength, but also on instilling good human qualities - respect for elders and helping your neighbor, to become good people and to distinguish good from bad, to help the weak. Primorsky Krai has a fine example of training a strong personality in Taekwondo - Valery Kan, who is not only an athlete, but also a wonderful person with a developed intellect and of high moral character - said the Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa.



Autographs from the Grand Master



Valery Kan

Deputy of the Primorsky Krai Legislative Assembly

Photo: Courtesy of Valery Kan

The arrival of the Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa for Primorsky Krai is a historical event, since this year marks 60 years since the founding of Taekwondo. 20 years ago I was a participant in the Far East Taekwondo Championship, personally participated in the seminar which was conducted by the Taekwondo founder Choi Hong Hi. Martial arts are actively developing in Primorsky Krai, our athletes not only glorify victories of their homeland but also the whole of Russia, and the arrival of the Taekwondo founders will remain for centuries in the history of the region. Those children who took part in the seminar today had the chance to mingle and take pictures with the legend of Taekwondo and will be able to become truly real athletes and good people. After all, as Choi Jung Hwa said, Taekwondo - it's not just a martial art. It is above

all the doctrine of educating high moral qualities and fortitude. And such significant, respected professionals like Choi Jung Hwa, provide a major breakthrough in a particular sport.



Klimenko

Ussuriysk Duma Deputy, Honorary President of Primorsky Krai Taekwondo Federation

I am delighted that today, thanks to that relay, which the new president of Primorsky Krai Taekwondo Federation Roman Karchemkin took, Taekwondo has acquired a new stage of development. Thanks to the arrival of Taekwondo Legend Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa our athletes have new perspectives. Especially proud of the fact that the Grand Master liked our coaches, which means that taekwondo in Primorsky Krai is developing in the right direction.

At the end of the meeting with the athletes Grand Master Choi Jung Hwa awarded certificates of successful corresponding belts and dans promotion. The event ended with an autograph session and a commemorative photo. Choi Jung Hwa made a promise to the athletes that he would visit the Far East again.



Sportsmen and honored guests