

TEXAS USA GYMNASTICS



From my desk to yours . . .

It is hard to believe that another season has drawn to a close and the Olympic Games are just around the corner. Your state committee has been hard at work all year reviewing our competitive program, gathering information from you and other gymnastics professionals and bringing new ideas to the table for discussion. Texas has been the host site of many wonderful competitions and has been chosen to host several high level competitions including Level 8 Regional Championships, US Classics, Challenge and men's Visa Championships. We just keep getting better! I hope that during the upcoming summer months that you find a few moments to take a dip in cool water after basking in the sun and relaxing in the shade. Try to take a Friday night to share a long relaxing dinner with your family and friends and then follow it with a Saturday morning lounging around the house. Every one of you deserves a vacation! It is always an honor to represent the talented athletes and wonderful coaches of Texas. Thank you for being so great, please let me know if I can do anything to help you.

Best of life to you,

Diane

WEBSITE – WHAT'S NEW?

Texas USAG extends a huge thank you to Leslie Patterson for all she has accomplished over the past years to bring our website into the high tech world we live in. After much consideration she has handed over the web reins to Keith Hansen who has given us a website facelift and continues to work towards keeping information at your fingertips. Keith is making it easier to navigate the website for all of us. He added drop down menus, easy to find links and much more. We have added an interactive form to allow you to update your contact information without having to track one of us down (so when you are browsing the web at 3:00a.m., you can take care of that change of address, phone number or email address). We now have a subscription to Constant Contact, a service that allows us to send email notices to all professional members to keep you informed on changes made to the website. All we need for you to do is to keep your email address current with the national office (our database source). So don't get left out of the loop, keep your email address current at the national office so that we can contact you directly instead of only reaching you through your employer.

During the next year we are investigating the possibility of going completely paperless on meet entries. We have been investigating Meetmaker.com, a service that provides entries on line. If you have knowledge about this technology that you would like to share, please contact one of the SAC members so that we can continue to move forward making meet entries just a click away for you!

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**Texas USA Gymnastics
State Administrative Committee**

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South Competition Chair
Lisa England

Coaches Education
Larry McDonough

District 1 Representative
Al Gamboa

District 2 Representative
Donny Yarros

District 3 Representative
Martin Parsley

District 4 Representative
Carol Robuck

District 5 Representative
Oni Twilley

District 6 Representative
Barbara Hughes

Ex Officio Board Members
NAWGJ – Leslie Patterson
Admin Assistant – Lynn Waldon

Please see the Blue book
Or
TX USAG website for contact info.

ANNOUNCING...

THE ARRIVAL OF PROSCORE

Tired of hunting for volunteers to flash scores at your meets? We have your solution! The state is in great shape financially and Texas is in the process of purchasing Proscore an electronic scoring system. We are purchasing the Alpha –Numeric scoreboards which will display the gymnast name and score. We have voted to purchase the wireless system which will allow quick and easy set up at meet sites. No more taping cables, yeah!

Proscore is a PC driven scoring system, which is Vista compatible. The scoring system will be available for rent at a cost of \$400 with a \$150 discount for State Championships and above. Transportation not included. Please contact the State Chair for further information.

ATHLETE HONORS BANQUET

This year the Banquet will be held on July 26th at the Crown Plaza Hotel in North Houston. We will use a new format to show a bit of the personal side of each of our athletes being honored... This year we will present a slide presentation including photos of each of our honorees. All forms and instructions are posted on the TXUSAG.com website for the convenience of coaches, clubs and parent. A list of the Honorees is also posted on the web site, if you find a correction that needs to be made email it to txusagadmin@woodlandsgymnastics.com

Subject Line: 2008 Banquet.

Newsletters

To help save the expense of publishing and mailing, the Texas USAG newsletter will now be published electronically and posted on this page of the website.

Paper copies of the newsletter can be requested by filling in the form on the web site under the Newsletter button. **You must be a current Texas USAG Professional member and must supply your Pro Number.**

SAMPLE OF FORM ON WEB SITE PAGE

Please send me hard (paper) copies of the Texas USAG newsletters.

Name:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip:

USAG Pro #:

Send

Clear

Moved Lately?

All address and contact changes should be registered with the national Office. Email changes should also be reported to your District Representative. This will ensure that you receive important information throughout the year. Judges should contact Texas NAWGJ as well as the national office.

LOOKING??

For a Coach . . . Want to Sell
Equipment?

How about Advertise here for your
upcoming Invitational?

ENTRY FEES/GATE FEES

After considerable review the state committee voted to increase the Entry Fees for many of the state sponsored meets. The committee also voted to not raise the cost of admission to any of the state sponsored meets. We believe that increasing the gate fees would have a negative effect in the ability of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other spectators attending competitions to show support for their athletes.

New Entry Fees are listed in the SAC Minutes from March 30, 2008 posted at TXUSAG.com

MEET BIDS AWARDED

This was a record setting year for the number of bids submitted to the state committee for selection of meet sites. It was a blessing to have so many wonderful bids submitted, yet with that the realization that not all clubs would get the number of bids they were hoping to receive. The selection of meet sites was based on many factors; facility, audience appeal, equipment and of course track record of prior competitions. The committee wants the meet to be athlete and coach friendly, and attempts to “spread the wealth” among the huge number of clubs in Texas interested in hosting competitions. Texas USAG and the members of its committee want to thank each of the clubs who submitted bids.

Background checks Are now required for all USAG pro members!

For those of you that have renewed your Pro-membership recently you may have noticed the new requirement by the National Office to have a backgrounds check. If you have not renewed, don't get caught short, do it today.

ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES

Once again the members of the SAC will meet to assign the panels of judges for all north, south and state championships along with the selection of judges for all optional meets. The committee will take into consideration the recommendations made by NAWGJ as well as coaches throughout the state. Last year the committee attempted to accommodate judges by making the assignments in the summer for the compulsory meets and during GAT for the Optional competitions. Unfortunately this only increased the number of cancellations and changes to the judging panels. This year availability is due to the SJD June 30 and assignments for the compulsory season will be completed in early August.

Coaches, remember it is your right to share your recommendations and concerns with your district representative or other committee members concerning which judges you would like to represent Texas during state sponsored competitions.

MEET INFORMATION, SCHEDULES & RESULTS

REMEMBER!

Meet directors of state sponsored competitions are required to post their meet information, schedules and results on the TXUSAG.com website either via a link or direct information. Invitational meets are not required to use the website for posting information and schedules.

CAROL HILLENBURG MEMORIAL ACHIEVEMENT STATE INVITATIONAL

This December will see the achievement level athletes of Texas heading to Lancaster to participate in our annual state invitational. This fun filled competition will be hosted at Trevino's Gymnastics again this year... Rich Trevino and his staff have done an exemplary job at making this memorial competition a complete blast for the athletes who attend. It is an exciting opportunity for all of our achievement athletes to end their season on a great note. Mark your calendars on December 6-7 and 13-14 for this year's extravaganza!

DRESS CODE

Please visit the TXUSAG.com website to review the Professional dress code immediately.

No shoes, no shirts, *a problem!!*

Updates & Blue Book

Don't forget to review the minutes for all the updates for the upcoming season...and make arrangements to pick up your 2008-09 Blue Book at the conclusion of the Awards Banquet.

GYMNAST, COACH AND UNSUNG HERO OF THE YEAR

Please nominate your favorite gymnast, coach or unsung hero for recognition during our annual banquet. Nominations should include a brief explanation of why in your opinion this person should be recognized by the state for one of these prestigious awards. Nominations should be submitted via email to dpcallison@earthlink.net immediately.

Criteria:

Gymnast of the year: This athlete should be a JO gymnast who has demonstrated the essence of sportsmanship while accomplishing a high quality of gymnastics within the state of Texas in the Junior Olympic program. Level of competitions will be considered, but will not be a deciding factor (it is not about how far you advance, it is about the whole person).

Coach of the Year: This award is designed to recognize a coach who demonstrates their expertise in the coaching arena as well as the ability to work in a positive way with the young athletes in their charge. This person should be an excellent role model for other coaches and should be a working example of someone who uses different positive teaching techniques to help athlete achieve their goals.

Unsung Hero: This award is designed to recognize someone who has consistently worked within the JO program yet has not held a high visibility position. This person is usually someone who has consistently and quietly gone about working within the JO program, either as a coach, club owner or other person without fanfare. We all know someone like this. Send in your nomination so that we can recognize this deserving person.

Nominations are due June 30, 2008.

TEXAS SWEEPS LEVEL 8 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

It is no surprise that Texas once again rose above the competition to be on top of the awards box time after time. Believe it or not, Texas took 1st place All Around in EVERY age group during the recent Level 8 Regional Championships which were held in Plano. Way to go! Congratulations to all the athletes and their coaches.

WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, TEXAS STYLE

More than 50 athletes represented Texas and travelled to St. Louis, Missouri for Western National Championships to compete against the best of the best. It is no wonder that Texas continues produce gymnasts at the highest level of competition. Kudos to all the coaches and clubs who helped so many young gymnasts reach their goals and obtain a chunk of the gold!

JO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS A SUCCESS

The lone star state once again rose to the occasion and gave their all to during the 2 days of competition at JO National Championships which were held in Kissimmee, Florida. We finished the weekend with one of our Junior D competitors, Liz Green of Texas Dreams, capturing the National Team Member title for the 2nd year in a row. Congratulations Liz, way to go!

On another Texas high note, Caitlin Kennedy who trains with Kim and Mark Walsh at Texas Tumblers Harker Heights has placed herself in the Code of Points. She successfully performed a new uneven bar element. The toe on front layout dismount will now be known as the Kennedy. It was awarded "D" value. Congratulations Caitlin!

Among many spectacular performances our Region 3 Junior D age group team took 2nd place with only .15 separating them from the 1st place team. The Junior C age group was as mire .025 out of 1st place. What a great showing, congratulations ladies, you and your coaches continue to amaze me. I am always so proud of our athletes across Texas, and it is great the way you always bring a little Texas justice to every time you enter the competition arena.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP LEOTARD PROGRAM

Well the verdict is in. Good news, we are keeping the leotard program for the Level 5, 6 & 7 State Championships due to popular demand and I'm already shopping for new colors for next year!