

TEAM PARENT MEETING 2016

1: WELCOME

2: PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: TO GET EVERYONE ON THE SAME PAGE.

-All new members should have received a copy of the team handbook when you registered

-former parents got it in the past ---it is on line (If you wish a hard copy please check at the

Desk

-We will hit the main parts of the handbook we feel are most often questioned and hopefully make yours and your child's competitive experience a positive one

3: Read mission statement and criteria of placement

-Staff spends many hours discussing and evaluating where children should be placed

-Skill criteria is not the only thing. SUCCESS for the child is always the most important thing we try to keep in mind plus other things as well

1; With younger children: success is very important over the level they compete

2: friends are important—but not always our main focus

3: We as a staff want the child to compete at a comfortable level and work upgrade skills

4: WE DO NOT hold our athletes “back” to win the team (even though at times it is tempting---other compulsory programs do

We may not win state meet at the compulsory level -but look at the overall success of our program!!!!

5: OLDER children: also need success, but sometimes due to age we move them on (the end of their career is much closer.)

PARENTS WE KNOW YOUR SENSE OF PRIDE AND BRAGGING IS THAT MY CHILD IS LEVEL--- PLEASE STOP AND THINK WHAT IS BEST FOR YOUR CHILD! If a child gets C's and D's on their report cards (which is 6-8 in gymnastic scores) are they going to do better as they advance in school if they don't understand the fundamentals of that subject?

3: TEAM COACHING STAFF

4: COMMUNICATION

-Most of it is done through e-mail. Should your email address change, please log on into your customer portal via our website and update as needed. All e-mail sent out should be posted on our team bulletin boards. If you don't get the communications check:

1: if our email is being read as spam

2: do we have your correct e-mail

Add to your directory: gwsecretary@gymworldohio.com; ronganiam@gymworldohio.com; joanganiam@gymworldohio.com; gregganiam@gymworldohio.com; gymjar@yahoo.com; mr.skupski@gmail.com

For families with separate households -we must know if we need to send two sets of information out whenever a mailing is necessary. We also must know which parent is responsible for related gymnastics expenses and tuition.

-Team mail boxes

5: ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS ON ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, VACATIONS, PROMPTNESS TO AND FROM PRACTICE AND TEEN AGE DRIVERS. See team handbook pgs 6-7

6: MEDICAL CREDITS—see pg 14 of handbook.

Emphasize importance of filling out the form -get from the desk

7: TEAM UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

8: GENERAL RULES OF BEHAVIOR (pg 9 of handbook Emphasis on #4-5-6)

9: COMPETITION PROTOCOL (see blue sheets)

10: CAMP PHILOSOPHIES --- summer and state/regional camps

State and regional: that require a staff member to be there—you are charged coaches expenses (not salaries but per diem, mileage, housing etc.)

Summer camps -no reduction in fees

11: CHOREOGRAPHY—explain to all and warn the compulsory parents about the transition that does come ahead.

12: COLLEGE -discuss briefly with younger parents -more fully with older

COMPETITION PROTOCOL

1: ONCE YOU RECEIVE THE COMPETITION SCHEDULE -look it over carefully to see if you have any conflicts. Let the desk know in writing as to which dates have a conflict

-please understand that this does NOT mean we want you to PICK AND CHOOSE what meets you want to attend but more so if you have a prior engagement on those dates such as a family wedding, etc.

*see pg 11 of handbook

ALSO BE AWARE ---competition is not THE ENTIRE WEEKEND -we just don't know when your child will compete (explain)

2: PRIOR TO THE COMPETITION, please check the meet website for any information about hotels, directions, etc. We suggest making a reservation at the host hotel and then decide if you need it or not when the meet schedule comes out. (Usually 2-3 weeks before actual competition)

---as coaches, we will try to get the information out to you also, but please use the internet to try to search out the info for yourself

3: BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME FOR THE COMPETITION, check for the following items:

- Competition leo and warm up suit
- Gymbag with grips, wristbands, etc.
- NO ELECTRONICS of any kind on the competition floor
- Extra copy of your floor music (just in case)
- GW flip flops
- A “Nutritious” snack and water for the athletes

4: ARRIVE AT THE COMPETITION SITE 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO CHECK IN TIME

- There will be 2 lines, one for athletes so they can receive their number or just to check in. Other line is for parents and guests
- Parents will pay an admission fee to get in. Expect to pay \$5-\$20 for adults and \$5-10 for children. BRING CASH

- Once your child has checked in, she should try to find her coach or teammates to get instructions. From this point on PLEASE DO NOT try to talk or contact your child for the remainder of the competition. If you need to contact your child, please ask the coach to relay the message. At NO TIMES are parents, siblings, and relatives allowed on the competition floor. This is not our policy but the policy of USA Gymnastics.
- Plan on being at the competition for 4 hours or more. So bring something to keep your other children occupied.
- Your child will get to come see you at the completion of the competition, prior to awards. It is required to stay for ALL awards. So, PLEASE do not put your child in a predicament and ask her to leave. Of course there are always exceptions, but you must discuss with the coach before you remove your child!
- At all home competition, you are required to stay until the entire gym is put back into order and the coach dismisses everybody.
- Before leaving a competition site, please make sure your child has all her belongings.....PLEASE!
- Any other questions -ask other team families.

COMPETITION PROTOCOLS AND COMMON “ROOKIE” MISTAKES MADE BY PARENTS

- Bribery is not a good method to encourage your child
- Any adult that talks bad or insults another team member behind or in front of their face will be asked to leave the program
- Do NOT let your personal emotions effect your child’s relationships with judges or other team members
- Swearing or yelling out in a competition is not ok!!! Positive cheering only. Remember, this is not a Brown’s game. Talking bad about another team is also a bad idea and will not be tolerated...practice good sportsmanship
- Just enjoy your child’s journey and let them experience gymnastics for what it is ... enjoy the weekend, enjoy the moment...all this hard work they do does not get rewarded by only medals, ribbons and big scores....take these moments as growing and learning experiences.
- If you have a problem with a coach, a judge, a meet director, a meet worker, the awards person, a parking lot attendant, the T-shirt guy, the hot dog vendor....PLEASE come and talk to your coach and have him or her handle this for you. You DO NOT want to get mixed up in a situation that could be harmful or detrimental to your child or your team.
- Do not yell at the person checking your child in, particularly if your athletes name is not on the sheet...clerical errors happen all the time and you don’t want your athlete getting all worked up before the competition...come find a coach and we will take care of it for you.
- If you are going to be late to a competition...DON’T PANIC...we will figure out a way to get your athlete to compete. CALL US...this is not the first time a traffic accident has occurred on the highway during the meet. Don’t get your athlete in a nervous state.
- All judges hate your child and only your child....get used to it. Welcome to Gymnastics! (AND THEY DON’T REALLY HATE THEM)
- It is the coaches decision as to what your child’s routine will be...do not try to tell us what to do with your child.
- The order in which they compete is also the job of the coach, or it’s a blind draw by the meet director....sorry if you do not agree with it.

- Your child may be asked to scratch an event due to MANY reasons...please understand that we have standards and will always make decisions based on what is BEST for your child and has nothing to do with whether or not we like your child.
- If you have an issue with an decision made by a coach....PLEASE talk with the coach on Monday and DO NOT get your child or another parent involved in your issues... you are allowed to disagree with anything you like, but you are not allowed to voice your opinion to your child or surrounding adults that you have now put in an awkward situation to have to agree with you.
- Remember you have parent goggles on..if you see a bent leg all the time on the same trick....rest assure that the coach has pointed this out probably as many times as you asked your child to turn the lights out in their bedroom...sometimes athletes just don't listen..talk with the coach about this PLEASE.
- No contacting the host gym for ANY reason. It is our job not yours so please come to us with your questions.
- Some of these meets may be on school days..get used to it...most meets are now a 3 day event in which we have no control over when your daughters session will be.
- Please understand that meets are not by choice but...if you have a family obligation, you will get an opportunity to tell us ahead of time. Most meets have a drop deadline and after that there is no refund. So be sure you tell us ASAP.
- No swimming the night before the meet. Or very minimal .
- Behavior at hotel and that includes parents. You are representing Gym World!