



Competition Season Packet

Dear Parents and Athletes,

The staff and coaches of Twister Gymnastics are so proud of how hard all of the girls have been working and are very excited about the 2012 competitive season. We are also continuing to "Go Green" with the administration of team paperwork. We have compiled a team email list, so please look for important team notices in your email inbox as well as displayed on the team bulletin boards. We will frequently be directing you to our website teamtwesters.com where you can download important forms. Please print out and return the forms that pertain to your child's particular level.

Due to the continued growth of the entire Twister girls team program we have been able to maintain a low overall cost of competing as we are able to spread the budget out over more team members. The fees and information in this packet pertain specifically to competitions. These competitive fees are separate from your monthly tuition payments which are dedicated solely to the expenses associated with the training of the athletes in the gym.

The attached **2012 competition season packet** contains the following

1. **Participation in Meets**
2. **Fee Explanation Page**
3. **Tuition vs. Competition Fees/Fundraising Page**
4. **Competition schedule/selection form (Level 2/3)**
5. **Competition schedule/selection form (Level 4)**
6. **Competition schedule/selection form (PO - EXCEL/Level 7)**
7. **Competition schedule/selection form (Level 8/9/10)**

Please email Head Coach, Gary Anderson (MrMvt@aol.com) if you have any questions or concerns. Gary will also be conducting brief 1-hour meetings with interested team parents to address any questions or concerns about the competitive season, schedule, fees, meet conduct, etc. Parents can attend their level-appropriate meeting at either gym. These meetings are not mandatory. Meeting times are:

American Twisters (Dance Room):

Levels 8-9-10: Sat, Sept 17th 9:00-9:45am
All Compulsory Levels(2/3/4): Sat, Sept 17th 11:30-12:15am
All Compulsory Levels(2/3/4): Mon, Sept 19th 5:00-5:45pm
Level 7 & Prep Opt: Mon, Sept 19th 6:30-7:30pm
All Compulsory Levels(2/3/4): Mon, Sept 19th 7:30-8:15
"Make Up" Meeting for any level: Sat, Sept 24th 9:00-9:45am

Thank you for your support of the program and for the privilege of working with such wonderful athletes!

Sincerely,

The Twister Gymnastics Organization

Participation in Meets

You may be asking yourself the questions “Which meets should my child attend?” or “How many meets should my child attend?”

While we would love to see all the gymnasts go to all the meets, we realize that due to family, religious, and school commitments, competing in every competition is not always possible. At Twisters, we focus on developing well rounded athletes both inside and outside of the gym, which is why we give families the opportunity to select which competitions to attend. If you are unable to attend all of the competitions, below are some guidelines to help you make a decision.

At both the compulsory and optional competitive levels, it is important that an athlete participate in a minimum of five competitive meets prior to “peaking” at the State, Regional, or National competitions.

First, there must be a “deadline competition;” a Mid-December meet that we are aiming toward—Athletes must be in shape and able to perform their competitive skills. Without this, it is too easy for both the coach and the athlete to continue to say, “We aren't ready yet!” and continue to delay their first competition until the State meet.

Next, there should be three more competitions where the girls “get out the bugs” and in some cases try out new skills. Here our athletes will have the opportunity to “learn to compete.” Two to three weeks prior to the State Championships there should be a “tune up” competition to prepare for State.

There are also some competitions that stand out above other competitions that you may want to incorporate into your decision-making. For example, the Presidential Classic at Disney’s Wide World of Sports is one of the largest and most prestigious gymnastics meets in the country. Here your child will not only have the opportunity to compete at Disney World, they will also have the opportunity to watch some of the best gymnasts in the country and compete against girls from over 20 different states.

In the next few pages you will find the schedule for your daughter’s level. In addition to the ***highly recommended*** meets already selected, please choose any additional meets that best fit your schedule. Please return the bottom section of the form to the office by October 18th. **Be sure to make a copy of the schedule and the meets that you selected to keep for your own personal use.**

You will note that all meets listed usually have both a Saturday and Sunday date listed (in some cases a Friday date). Team entries (with a club check) are due 5 weeks prior to the competition date. Once the meet director receives the entries, levels are assigned their competition days & times. We are completely at the mercy of the meet host - they can assign any level to any day & time slot. Usually (75% of the time), Optional level gymnasts compete on Saturdays & Compulsory level gymnasts compete on Sundays. However, any level can be assigned a Friday competition (this may happen once or twice a year). We will email competition schedules (days & session times) to you as soon as they are published or released to us.

Explanation of Fees

Twister Annual Registration Fee

Twister Gymnastics assesses an annual registration fee of \$125 for compulsories (AAU) and \$185 for optional (USAG) gymnasts. This fee covers

- Team insurance fees
- Coaches registration, education, and certification
- Athlete fees for obtaining USAG/AAU competitive membership
- Team equipment replacement/refurbishment fund that is used specifically for team and upgrading equipment to meet competitive standards

The Team Twister Registration fee is due annually on September 15th of each year.

General Competition Fund:

The General Competition Fund is made up of an additional \$40 from each compulsory athlete, \$60 from each level 7/prep-op, and \$85 from each level 8-elite. This fund benefits everyone by spreading out administrative costs across the whole team. This fee helps cover the administrative costs of:

- Entering athletes in the meets
- Collection and accounting of competitive expenses and fees
- Making coaches travel arrangements

Additionally, this fund helps defray the costs for the highest level gymnasts that are traveling nationally to competitions. Instead of “burying” these fees somewhere, we prefer to disclose what the fees will be used for and present it as a way for those who will eventually be at the higher levels to support those that are currently there. This means that when your child reaches these levels, there will be funds to help support her competitions. With fewer athletes competing at the higher levels, coaching expenses are spread among fewer families. On each schedule we have labeled these particular meets as “Stand Alone Meets,” indicating that there will be additional fees assessed to the families that attend those events. These “stand-alone” meets will be given a subsidy from the fund to cover a portion of the coaches expenses and athletes entry fees. Any expenses above and beyond the subsidy will be covered by the families of the gymnasts that are attending the meets.

The following meets are eligible to receive the subsidy from the fund:

- Level 7/8/9/10 Regionals
- Level 9/10 Nationals
- Elite Qualifiers & Training Camps
- Elite US Classic/Challenge Competition
- USA Elite National Championships
- National TOPS Testing & TOPS Training Camps

The General Fund Contribution will be charged to all Team Families on November 15, 2011.

Competition Leotards & Warm-ups:

Compulsory levels (2/3/4) are required to purchase the “tank style” team leo and black leggings. Official warm-up jackets are not required but parents are welcome to purchase.

Optional levels are required to purchase the long-sleeve team leo (due to change in 2013) and warm-up jacket (changing for 2012 season) and black leggings.

Ordering forms for the upcoming season will be available in October.

Tuition vs. Competition Fees

The Difference between Tuition and Competition Fees

Please be aware of the important distinction between tuition and competition fees/expenses. Monthly *tuition* is paid to Twister Gymnastics and this revenue is used to pay expenses associated with *your gymnast's daily training*. *Competition fees/expenses* are used to pay expenses associated with *competing* (meet entry fees, coaches' traveling expenses, etc). Competition fees are divided into two categories **Coaches Fees & Entry fees.**

Coaches Fees:

Our annual competition budget is over \$80,000 per year and our goal is to break even. The coaches fees are different for each level and is based upon the projected coaching costs associated with each competition. This fee covers coaches expenses such as travel, food, lodging, coaching compensation, and covering coaches absences when they are at meets

Entry Fees

Entry fees for competitions vary from \$35-\$107 per event. The level of competition, the location and the nature of the competition (invitational, state championship, regional & national competition) are all factors in the hosts setting their entry fee (Entry fees are set by meet hosts, not by Twisters). All entry fees are collected by Twisters in a "lump sum" and remitted to the competition host a minimum of 5+ weeks in advance in order to ensure that our team secures their space in the meet. Entry fees are not pro-rated or refunded for missed competitions.

The next section will outline fundraising opportunities that are available to all Twister families interested in defraying the costs of competing. Participation in these fundraising opportunities is completely optional.

Fundraising

Help defray your competition fees!!

Twisters offers a variety of options to pay your competition fees for the 2012 season.

By early November, we will be have a fundraising meeting for all families interested in raising money to subsidize their competition fees. We will notify all team parents when this meeting date has been set and a packet with more detailed information has been posted online.

Below are 3 ways you can subsidize your personal competition fees for the year by signing up businesses to support Twisters and USA Competitions (USAC).

1. **Sign-up a business to advertise in the USAC competition program:** Our meets offer businesses valuable exposure to consumers in South Florida.
2. **Sign-up a business to purchase a banner in the Twister Gym:** Twister's new banner fundraising program gives business exposure to the hundreds of families that attend Twisters each week.
3. **Sign-up a business to become a corporate sponsor of a USA Competitions event:** USA Competitions offers lucrative, cost-effective marketing opportunities for its corporate sponsors.
4. **Purchase a good luck ad for your daughter in the USA Competitions program:** Grandparents and relatives usually like to show their support in this way and often buy an ad that includes a picture of the athlete.

2012 Competition Selection Level 2/3

<u>Date</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Entry Fee + Coaches Fee</u>	<u>Total Fees</u>	<u>Fee Due Date</u>
Dec 17-18	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	11/12/11
Dec 30-31	New Year's Invite	Disney World, FL	\$67 + \$30	\$97	11/12/11
Jan 14-15	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	1/11/12
Jan 27-29	Sun & Surf *Highly Recommended	Coral Springs, FL	\$67 + \$20	\$87	12/13/11
Feb 17-19	Presidential Classic *Highly Recommended	Disney World, FL	\$67 + \$30	\$97	12/15/11
March 2-4	AT Tim Rand Invite *Highly Recommended	Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$67 + \$20	\$87	1/25/12
March 31	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	3/1/12
April 21-22	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	4/15/12
May 5-7	Super Stars	Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$50 + \$20	\$70	2/15/12
May 18-20	AAU Championships *Highly Recommended	Boca Raton, FL	\$67 + \$20	\$87	4/12/12
	General Fund Support **Mandatory**		\$40	\$40	11/15/11

Please complete and return this form to the front desk by October 15th, 2011

Gymnast Name _____ Competitive Level _____ Date of Birth _____

Please Check Competitions Attending:

- ___ Dec In House Meet: \$35
- ___ New Year's Invite: \$97
- ___ Jan In House Meet: \$35
- ___ Sun & Surf Spectacular: \$87
- ___ Presidential Classic: \$97
- ___ AT Tim Rand Invite: \$87
- ___ March In House: \$35
- ___ April In House: \$35
- ___ Super Stars: \$70
- ___ AAU Championships: \$87
- ___ \$40 general fund fee (Everyone will be charged the \$40 regardless of meet attendance)

Payment Information: Credit cards "on file" will be charged on the due date for each entry. If you do not want your card to be charged please bring an alternate form of payment to the office before the due date.

2012 Competition Selection Level 4

<u>Date</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Entry Fee + Coaches Fee</u>	<u>Total Fees</u>	<u>Fee Due Date</u>
Dec 17-18	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	11/12/11
Dec 30-31	New Year's Invite	Disney World, FL	\$87 + \$30	\$117	11/12/11
Jan 14-15	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	1/11/12
Jan 27-29	Sun & Surf *Highly Recommended	Coral Springs, FL	\$87 + \$20	\$107	12/13/11
Feb 17-19	Presidential Classic *Highly Recommended	Disney World, FL	\$87 + \$30	\$117	12/15/11
March 2-4	AT Tim Rand Invite *Highly Recommended	Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$87 + \$20	\$107	1/25/12
March 31	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	3/1/12
April 21-22	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$30 + \$5	\$35	4/15/12
May 5-7	Super Stars	Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$60 + \$20	\$80	2/15/12
May 18-20	AAU Championships *Highly Recommended	Boca Raton, FL	\$87 + \$20	\$107	4/12/12
	General Fund Support **Mandatory**		\$40	\$40	11/15/11

Please complete and return this form to the front desk by October 15th, 2011

Gymnast Name _____ Competitive Level _____ Date of Birth _____

Please Check Competitions Attending:

- ___ Dec In House Meet: \$35
- ___ New Year's Invite: \$117
- ___ Jan In House Meet: \$35
- ___ Sun & Surf Spectacular: \$107
- ___ Presidential Classic: \$117
- ___ AT Tim Rand Invite: \$107
- ___ March In House: \$35
- ___ April In House: \$35
- ___ Super Stars: \$80
- ___ AAU Championships: \$107
- ___ \$40 general fund fee (Everyone will be charged the \$40 regardless of meet attendance)

Payment Information: Credit cards "on file" will be charged on the due date for each entry. If you do not want your card to be charged please bring an alternate form of payment to the office before the due date.

2012 Competition Selection Level PO-EXCEL/7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Entry Fee + Coaches Fee</u>	<u>Total Fee</u>	<u>Fee Due Date</u>
Dec 17-18	In House Meet *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$35 + \$5	\$40	11/12/11
Dec 30-31	New Year's Invite	Disney World, FL	\$107 + \$37	\$144	11/12/11
Jan 14-15	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$35 + \$5	\$40	1/11/12
Jan 27-29	Sun & Surf *Highly Recommended	Coral Springs, FL	\$107 + \$23	\$130	12/13/11
Feb 17-19	Presidential Classic *Highly Recommended	Disney World, FL	\$107 + \$37	\$144	12/15/11
March 2-4	AT Tim Rand Invite *Highly Recommended	Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$107 + \$23	\$130	1/25/12
March 16-18	L7 Selection Meet	Baltimore, MD	Stand Alone		
March 23-25	PO State Champs	Tampa, FL	\$75 + 40	\$115	2/15/12
Mar 30-Apr 1	L7 State Champs	Tampa, FL	\$75 + 40	\$115	2/22/12
April 19-22	Level 7 Regionals*	Orlando, FL	Stand Alone		
May 21-22	PO AAU Champs*	Boca Raton, FL	\$87+ \$25	\$112	4/12/12
	General Fund Support **Mandatory**		\$60	\$60	11/15/11

** Stand alone meets **are included** in the General Competition Fund. The Fund will subsidize a portion of coaches expenses and/or entry fees. All remaining expenses will be divided between the Twister gymnasts that qualify.

Please complete and return this form to the front desk by October 15th, 2011

Gymnast Name _____ Competitive Level _____ Date of Birth _____

Please Check Competitions Attending:

- Dec In House Meet: \$40
- New Year's Invite: \$144
- Jan In House Meet: \$40
- Sun & Surf Spectacular: \$130
- Presidential Classic: \$144
- AT Tim Rand Invite: \$130
- State Championships: \$115 (Prep & L7)
- PO AAU Champs: \$112
- \$60 general fund fee (Everyone will be charged the \$60 regardless of meet attendance)

Payment Information: Credit cards "on file" will be charged on the due date for each entry. If you do not want your card to be charged please bring an alternate form of payment to the office before the due date.

2012 Competition Selection Form: Level 8/9/10

<u>Date</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Entry Fee + Coaches Fee</u>	<u>Total Fees</u>	<u>Fee Due Date</u>
Dec 18-19	In House Meet *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$35 + \$5	\$40	11/12/11
Dec 30-31	New Year's Invite	Disney World, FL	\$107 + \$37	\$144	11/12/11
Jan 13-16	L9-10 Team Meet	Phoenix, AZ	Stand Alone		
Jan 14-15	In House *Highly Recommended	American Twisters	\$35 + \$5	\$40	1/11/12
Jan 27-29	Sun & Surf *Highly Recommended	Coral Springs, FL	\$107 + \$23	\$130	12/13/11
Feb 17-19	Presidential Classic *Highly Recommended	Disney World, FL	\$107 + \$37	\$144	12/15/11
March 2-4	AT Tim Rand Invite *Highly Recommended	Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$107 + \$23	\$130	1/25/12
March 9-11	Level 8 Selection Meet	Athens, GA	Stand Alone		
March 23-25	9&10 State Champs	Tampa, FL	\$75 + \$40	\$115	2/15/12
Mar 31-Apr 1	Level 8 State Champs	Tampa, FL	\$75 + \$40	\$115	2/22/12
April 13-15	Level 9/10 Regionals*	Manatee, FL	Stand Alone		
April 19-22	Level 8 Regionals*	Orlando, FL	Stand Alone		
May 3-5	Level 9 Nationals *	Massachusetts	Stand Alone		
May 10-12	Level 10 Nationals*	Maryland	Stand Alone		
	General Fund Support **Mandatory**		\$85	\$85	11/15/11

** Stand alone meets **are included** in the General Competition Fund. The Fund will subsidize a portion of coaches expenses and/or entry fees. All remaining expenses will be divided between the Twister gymnasts that qualify.

Please complete and return this form to the front desk by October 15th, 2011

Gymnast Name _____ Competitive Level _____ Date of Birth _____

Please Check Competitions Attending:

- Dec In House Meet: \$40
- New Year's Invite: \$144
- Jan In House Meet: \$40
- Sun & Surf Spectacular: \$130
- Presidential Classic: \$144
- AT Tim Rand Invite: \$130
- State Championships: \$115
- \$85 general fund fee (Everyone will be charged the \$85 regardless of meet attendance)

Payment Information: Credit cards "on file" will be charged on the due date for each entry. If you do not want your card to be charged please bring an alternate form of payment to the office before the due date.