

TWISTARS' BOOSTER CLUB
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND AGREEMENT
2014-2015

PURPOSE OF CLUB AND MEMBERSHIP

Primary Purpose:

The Bylaws of the Twistars USA Booster Club state the primary purpose of our non-profit organization as “providing encouragement and expanded opportunities for competitive gymnastic experiences.”

Without the financial support of a booster club, the cost of competitive gymnastics wouldn't be feasible for most families. Costs of competing go far beyond coaching costs, including meet fees, travel costs, camp opportunities, etc...

Through booster club commitment fees and fundraising events, the booster club is able to allow affordable, high-quality competitive gymnastics opportunities for all of its members.

Secondary Objectives:

- Assistance in paying costs incurred by competitive gymnastic teams and their members.
- Provide an effective and efficient means of communication among members, the community and the competitive gymnastic teams and individual gymnasts.
- Promote mental, physical, and moral development of gymnasts as outlined in the Code of Conduct (See Travel Guidelines document).
- Offer sponsorships for individuals in the community for gymnastic involvement.
- Provide gymnastic exhibitions to the general public at no cost.
- Donate to the USA Gymnastics Region 5 Fund.
- Any other means, approved by members, which would promote competitive gymnastic opportunities.
- Assisting Twistars USA Inc. with providing one of the best gymnastics programs in the world... (this would include assistance on things like gym clean, joint promotion and marketing and other helpful items).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBERSHIP

All families of Twistars USA Gymnastics Club COMPETITIVE TEAM gymnasts are members of the Twistars' Booster Club. Pre-team and 1st Year Silverstars are not considered members at this time.

Each year, members of the Booster Club vote to elect a board of directors, for a one year term from July 1 to June 30. The Board typically includes nine positions, including: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator, Travel Coordinator, Special Events Coordinator, and Publicity Coordinator.

Any booster club member can nominate themselves or another member to run for a Board spot. At this time, specific Board positions are decided upon by the elected board members after the election.

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The Board holds regular meetings that are open for attendance by the entire membership. Occasionally, if a private financial matter needs to be discussed, the Board meets briefly in a closed meeting.

COMMITMENT FEES

Purpose and Determination of Fees:

Club members must pay fees to offset the administrative costs of the club, underwrite club functions and activities, and serve to defray the overall cost of competition for gymnasts. The amount of the commitment fee is the same for all families, regardless of how many gymnasts are in the program.

Each year, the Treasurer/Finance Committee, with assistance from Twistars, Inc. Owner/ Head Coach John Geddert, work together to create a proposed operating budget. The budget is based on a proposed schedule of gymnastics meets, camps, events, and fundraisers. Commitment fees are based on estimated costs for the upcoming year and estimated profit from Booster Club fundraising events. Commitment fees are the same for all Booster Club members. The Club votes on the budget at a predetermined meeting, typically in August of each year.

Schedule and amount of payments:

The Booster Club's fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.

A commitment fee payment schedule is determined at the start of each fiscal year. Payment statements are placed in your mailbox each month. Payments are accepted in the form of checks or money orders only, made payable to "Twistars Boosters Club" no later than the 15th of each month a payment is due. **A \$5 late fee is incurred if the payment is more than 10 days late.**

Fees for the 2014/2015 year are \$1300-1500 (based on final treasurer statement this amount could change). The total amount is due in full on August 15th, **OR** the Booster Club will allow a per month payment plan set up by the booster club board, which will run from August through March with a final April payment to be determined at a later date IF deemed appropriate by the booster club board of directors and based on the financial successes of the general fundraising efforts.

Members who decide to leave the gym prior to December 31, will owe dues that carry them through the 30 day notice. Any member leaving the gym as of January 1st, will owe the full amount of that seasons dues.

No refunds or credits are given for commitment fees.

Delinquencies:

In the event that Club members are delinquent in paying commitment fees or in meeting any other obligations including time commitments for hosted meets required under the Requirements or By-laws, gymnasts may not be registered for meets and may be withheld from competition, camps or other events.

In addition, the By-laws provide that under certain circumstances, memberships can be terminated.

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If a member fails to meet committee commitments (Standing and/or Meet committees), upon the recommendation of the Committee Chair and the Board President, they may assess a financial penalty for each delinquency. A financial penalty may also be assessed for failure to attend a meet clean up/tear down.

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PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Standing Committee:

Each family will participate in one "standing committee". Members have the opportunity to sign-up for a committee at the beginning of the season. Members joining throughout the season will be asked to help where needed.

Meet Committee:

Each family will participate in one "meet committee" involved in planning the annual Twistars' Invitational fundraiser and any other meets hosted by the Booster Club.

Time Commitment:

Each family will contribute a specified number of volunteer hours at the annual Twistars' Invitational and any other Booster Club general fundraiser.

Communication Responsibility:

Members are responsible for staying informed on Booster Club happenings in one of the following ways:

- 1) **E-mail.** All announcements and information will be sent to the entire membership. Club members are responsible for informing the Club Secretary of their current email address. Members are responsible for opting in to our automatic email system:
 - * Log in to TwistarsUSA.com
 - * Click on the log in tab at the top of the page
 - * Fill out the registration information and submit
 - * Verify Opt In permission by looking for an email from WORD PRESS. Click on the link provided in that email and follow the instructions in order to finalize the OPT IN Process "OPTING IN" is required by law so that we can include you on our email list.
- 1) **Website.** There is a Booster Club tab on the Twistars website at www.twistarsusa.com. Copies of meeting minutes, forms, guidelines, etc, are filed on this site.
- 2) **Bulletin Boards.** Twistars, Inc. has provided the Booster Club with the use of the first two bulletin boards inside the gym. The first board contains news, sign-ups, notices, fundraising information, etc. Club members wishing to post something on the bulletin board must contact the Communications Chairman. The second bulletin board houses meet results as posted by the Head Scorekeeper, a member of the Club.
- 3) **Mailboxes.** Every team member has a mailbox (file folder) for official communication located on the file cabinet just inside the gym. Club members should check this as often as possible and read newsletters and other documents thoroughly.

***First year Silverstars families are not required to serve on a Standing or Meet committee. They ARE required to contribute by providing volunteer hours for our Invitational Meet.**

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Financial Benefits include:

- Competitive meet fees and related team entry fees
- Coaching costs related to competitions (per diem, meals, mileage, lodging)
- ½ of airfare for the team trip (this applies to all team air travel trips) if applicable and eligible to compete (second year level 4 and higher athletes)
- A session of summer camp at Twistars (one athlete per family) for eligible gymnasts. Those who have submitted 30/6month notices would be ineligible
- A Region 5, national Team or Elite Developmental Training Camps (as deemed appropriate by the coaching staff and with budget approval by the Booster Club board.
- An End-Of-Year Awards Banquet (complementary for gymnasts and senior parents)
- Availability of Medical Staff and Athletic Trainers

The Booster Club also provides several other means of support to the gymnasts, including:

- Picture day
- Fall Mixer
- Holiday Party
- Awards Banquet
- Used-Leo sale

WHERE TO TURN IN PAYMENTS

Any payments or forms that need to be turned in for the Booster Club can be placed in one of the metal lockboxes located on the wall under the first bulletin board. There are boxes for SCRIP payments, Commitment Fees and Travel payments.

Remember, monthly tuition to Twistars, Inc. is **NOT** to be placed in a Booster Club lock box. Tuition payments are made to the Twistars office upstairs.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Any competition fees paid on behalf of any athlete by the booster club, must be refunded to booster club if the athlete withdraws from the competition after the refund entry deadline. This would apply to all reasons with the exception of illness or injury.
- Members that are delinquent with tuition/money owed to Twistars Inc. or the Booster club may be considered ineligible for team events and or competitions.
- Should members wish to terminate their membership with the Booster Club/Twistars Inc a WRITTEN 30 Day notice of departure is required.
- All membership benefits cease as of the termination of membership.

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AGREEMENT

- I have read the Membership Requirements of the Twistars' Booster Club pages 1-4.
- I agree to fulfill the requirements as a member of the Club.

(Signature)

(Date)

(Print Name)

(Gymnast(s) Name(s))

Please sign this page and place in the “**DEAN**” mailbox (Membership Chair) no later than August 15th.