

2008-2009



Team Handbook

Thank you for your interest in the United team program. You will receive an email when tryout results are ready. Results will be available on the website under "Team Tryouts." The schedule for Monday night classes and a team practice schedule will also be posted. We look forward to another fantastic year!

Book your room now for Nationals! As most of you know, rooms go very quickly. Team members must be in Tucson on July 16 & 17. We will practice on July 16, and all teams will compete on July 17. Call today to book your room.

The host hotel for USTA is The Hotel Arizona. It is located adjacent to the Tucson Convention Center where the competition will be held.

The Hotel Arizona

181 W. Broadway
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 226-4366

<http://thehotelarizona1.reachlocal.net>

Ask for the USTA rate: \$104/standard room, \$199/one-bedroom suite

Other Tucson hotels recommended by USTA:

Doubletree Hotel

445 S. Alvernon Way
Tucson, AZ 85711
(520) 881-4200

www.doubletree.com

Ask for the USTA rate: \$79/standard room, \$149/one-bedroom suite

InnSuites

475 N. Granada Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 623-8922

www.innsuites.com

Ask for the USTA rate: \$89/studio king or double queen, \$104/executive studio
(Cheaper rates are listed on their website!)

River Park Inn

350 S. Freeway
Tucson, AZ 85745
(520) 239-2300

www.theriverparkinn.com

Ask for the USTA rate: \$85/standard room

More info on the competition can be found on the USTA Website at www.ustawirling.com.



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Contact information:

P.O. Box 1416
Hixson, TN 37343

Phone: (423) 667-8780
Fax: (423) 842-5225

Email: UnitedTwirling@aol.com
Website: www.unitedtwirling.com

Team requirements:

1. All team members are required to attend a weekly twirling technique class (30 minutes), taught by Jenny Hannah & Jackie Stewart, unless permission is granted by the director for other arrangements. Jenny is a USTA Certified Level II Coach & Master Judge. She is a 12 time USTA Grand National Champion, 6 time World Championships Bronze Medalist, member of the 2005 World Championship Gold Medalist team, and has been a member of the USA World Team since 1992. Jackie is the current USTA & WBTF Judges' Chair & a member of the USTA Board of Directors.
2. All team members are required to attend a weekly gymnastics class (30 minutes), taught by Linda Ballard, unless permission is granted by the director for other arrangements. Linda has taught gymnastics for over 20 years. She is a former member of the UTC Gymnastics Showteam and has competed in the Jr. Olympics.
3. All team members must attend team practices.
4. Team fees are \$65/month, which includes team practices, technique class, and gymnastics. Additional children in family will be \$45/month. You will receive a newsletter each month via email reminding you it is time to pay your fees, which must be paid by the 10th of each month. Fees paid after the 10th of the month will be \$75. (Checks post-dated after the 10th of the month will be considered late and should include the late charge). Fees should be paid by mail or put in the fee box on Monday nights & RECEIVED by the deadline.
5. All team members are encouraged to take private lessons and compete individually as this will certainly make our teams better!
6. All team members must be members of USTA. Membership forms must be returned to Tracy no later than September 15 via mail (to address above).

Team selection:

Once teams are selected, you will be able to check the team lists on the website. There will be a list of team members separated by team, along with a team practice schedule and a technique/gymnastics schedule. Technique and gymnastics classes will begin Monday, September 15 at Oakwood Baptist Church, located at 4901 Bonny Oaks Drive. Team practices will begin the week of September 15, location TBA based on what day/time your team practices.

Team practices:

"Fall semester" classes will be September-December and "Spring Semester" classes will be January-April. "Summer semester" practices will be June and the first two weeks of July.

We want our teams to be the best they can be! Therefore, it is imperative that team members be at practices and classes. Our team routines are often quite complicated and cannot be practiced fully if even one member is absent from practice. If you have a conflict with the schedule, you should notify your coach immediately. Team members with unexcused absences will become alternates on their team.

Team members will be allowed to miss 2 Monday nights each semester. If a team member misses more than the allowed absences, it will be up to the Director & the coach if the team member will be allowed to continue or be placed on alternate status.

All team members must attend a mandatory team training camp the week before USTA Regionals. The anticipated date of Regionals is June 12-14, 2009, therefore our camp will be held on June 8-10. Another mandatory camp will be held before Nationals. The tentative dates for this camp are July 7-9.

Team members will be required to purchase United Twirling shirts for practice.

Team members must wear a United Twirling shirt to team practices. You will be given a schedule of what shirt to wear on which days. Team members should come to practice with hair in ponytail, bun, or otherwise secured off of face/neck. **Hair should be fixed such that we will not have to stop practice for you to re-fix your hair!** You must wear tennis shoes to practice, preferably twirling shoes.

Team Fundraisers:

Parents are welcome to organize fundraisers for our team members to help raise money for warm-ups, costumes, competitions, etc. Any fundraisers must be approved by Tracy and made available to all team members. Participation in team fundraisers is not mandatory.

Christmas Parades:

Team members are required to march in local Christmas parades. We will order team warm-ups in October. Team members will be allowed to miss one parade with the permission of the director. Acceptable reasons for not participating in a parade include, but are not limited to:

Illness

Injury

Death in the family

Family wedding

Required to march with band, majorette group, etc.

Other excuses will be handled on a case by case basis.

Competitions:

All United Teams will compete at USTA TN State & Southeast Regionals & some teams will compete at USTA Nationals.

USTA Tennessee State will be held in Memphis on May 2, 2009.

USTA Southeast Regionals will be held in Orlando, FL on June 12-14, 2009. (Team competition will be held on Saturday, June 13.)

USTA Nationals will be in Tucson, AZ on July 13-18, 2009. (Dance Twirl Team competition will be held on July 17.)

On May 30, we will have the United Twirling Championships. Criteria for United Twirling Championships (age divisions may be combined or separated based on the number of entries):

Beginner Twirling Champions

Tot Division (0-6): Competes in Basic Strut, Parade, and Dance Twirl

Primary Division (7-9): Competes in Basic Strut, Parade, and Dance Twirl

Juvenile Division (10-12): Competes in Basic Strut, Parade, and Dance Twirl

Junior Division (13+): Competes in Basic Strut, Parade, and Dance Twirl

Advanced Twirling Champions

Primary Division (0-9): Competes in Dance Twirl, Solo, and Parade

Juvenile Division (10-12): Competes in Dance Twirl, Solo, and Strut

Junior Division (13-15): Competes in Dance Twirl, Solo, Strut, and Two Baton

Senior Division (16+): Competes in Dance Twirl, Solo, Strut, and Two Baton

Grand Champions will also be awarded for the top finisher in each of the following events: Parade, Dance Twirl, Solo, Two Baton, Three Baton & Strut.