



Gymnastics Handbook 2023-2024

TNT's Mission Statement

Unlocking potential through movement

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SECTION 1: TNT KID'S FITNESS OVERVIEW

TNT KID'S FITNESS & GYMNASTICS

TNT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 2005 working to unlock potential through movement for individuals of all abilities. TNT offers a variety of programs including: gymnastics, ninja classes, special needs programming, cheer, birthdays, special events, Parkinson's Performance Boxing, and a licensed school age childcare program

TERMS

The following terms will be used in this document to describe the following

- TNT: refers to TNT Kid's Fitness & Gymnastics
- Competitive Program: refers to all programs at TNT that are a team program: includes both Development Program and Xcel
- Development Program: (formally JO) refers to women's and men's Levels 3-19
- Xcel: refers to the Xcel Bronze, Silver, Gold, Diamond, & Platinum teams
- Athletes: refers to a child participating in a team program
- Coach: refers to an employee at TNT that works with athletes. Used in place of employee, educator, etc
- Parent: refers to the parent and/ or guardian of an athlete
- USAG: USA Gymnastics

TNT CONTACT INFORMATION

- 2800 Main Ave. Fargo, ND 58103
 - Customer Service Phone: 701-365-8868
 - Website: tntkidsfitness.org
 - Customer service email: kidscomefirst@tntkidsfitness.org
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SECTION 2: Athlete Responsibility

Being a member of TNT's Competitive Program is a privilege. Your athlete earned a spot on the team through hard work and dedication. Gymnastics encourages athletes to challenge themselves to take risks, stretch their inner resources, and conquer fears. It teaches athletes to accept failures and the value of sustained effort, to achieve excellence and the concrete rewards of relentless efforts. When you give 100% effort and mix it with drive and determination, you set yourself up for success in life.

Athlete Responsibilities

TNT utilizes a "**Be Someone**" Philosophy & Code of Conduct:

- **Be active:** Be "present" at practice, intentional in your efforts and hardworking during your time at the gym.
- **Be safe:** Be focused during your work and encourage your teammates to do the same – take smart, efficient turns and focus on making corrections and utilizing proper technique.
- **Be respectful:** Respect yourself and those around you. Time spent at TNT is a privilege for you and for your teammates – make sure you are making every effort to utilize it wisely. Respect your body by fueling, resting and maintaining it to be at its best for you and your work in the gym.
- **Be responsible:** Be accountable for your efforts inside and outside of the gym. Take your assignments seriously and follow circuits properly and as intended. The rate of your progress and the level of your accomplishments are a direct result of the work you put in. The choice is yours.

Disciplinary Procedure

TNT fosters a positive and structured environment that encourages learning. **These procedures relate to attitude and behavior, not form or skill acquisition problems such as balking.** We categorize behavior that hinders this environment into the following levels:

Level 1: Affect only the individual.

Level 2: Affect the individual and a select group of others.

Level 3: Affect the individual and their entire training group.

Level 4: Threaten the safety of the individual, other athletes, or TNT Staff.

For levels 1-3 offenses, we use the following steps to maintain a positive learning environment:

1. A verbal reprimand or alternative assignment will take place.
2. Athlete removed from the group or workout.
3. A conference with the athlete and parent takes place to find a solution that is best for all involved, including the team.
4. If solutions fail to curb behavior, TNT reserves the right to dismiss the athlete from the Competitive program.

Level 4 offenses result in immediate removal from TNT and require a parent conference before the athlete returns to the team.

Parental Responsibilities:

Gymnastics is difficult, trying, exhilarating, exciting, and beneficial far beyond what we can see. Congratulations on taking the first steps with your child down this road to success. As the USAG national slogan says, **"Begin Here. Go Anywhere."**

Financial Obligations

All fees must be current. Parents are required to set up automatic payment with the business office before participating in team programming. In the event an account becomes delinquent, a removal from practice or meets will occur until the fees are paid. Any account, more than 30 days overdue, with no payment or communication to the business office receives a collection notification. Subsequently, any account, which goes more than 60 days, with no payment or communication to the business office turns over to collections.

Family Contact Information

Parents are expected to attend parent meetings to have an open form of communication about upcoming events. Please make sure that your email address and phone number is current on your iClassPro account, so that you can receive updated information.

Coach/Athlete/Parent Relationship and Responsibilities (C/A/P)

As a C/A/P team, we work together to create a positive experience for everyone. Together we encourage and motivate our athletes to strive to improve every day. We learn and grow from the success or failures they encounter. All athletes experience ups and downs of year round training, so please communicate with your coaches through a scheduled meeting, an email or a phone call as soon as a problem arises.

SECTION 3: Policies & Procedures

Time Commitment/Attendance Policy

We encourage well-rounded, multi-sport athletes and take into consideration gym time missed for other activities. However, competitive gymnastics is unique from most other sports in that it is a year-round commitment. In order to safely ensure skill maintenance, progression, strength, and flexibility; it is strongly recommended that athletes attend 85% of all scheduled practices.

Gym Etiquette

The viewing area is reserved for recreational classes. TNT competitive practices are drop-off/ pick-up. Parents are not allowed in the gym area unless escorted by a TNT employee. If you need to contact a coach or your athlete, please check in with the Customer Service Team and they will assist you.

TNT Hosted Gymnastics Meets

All competitive families are expected to assist during gymnastics meets that TNT may host. This is a requirement to your membership with TNT. Annually TNT hosts the Winter Challenge, a women's competition in the last week in January. Each competitive family will receive a finalized schedule 1-2 weeks prior to the hosted meet. Please remember that this event is for the benefit of the athlete. Your commitment is valued.

Nutrition

TNT's Wellness Policy adheres to the most updated USDA guidelines and supports healthy food choices. For practices that are more than three hours, there will a 5-10 minute rest period for a quick snack and energy boost. Only nutritionally sound foods are allowed during this time. Please see the healthy athlete nutrition reference guidelines provided by Essentia Health. This reference is available on our website on our team page and under forms.

Team Uniforms

Uniforms are required for each competitive athlete and vary by level. The cost and upkeep of the uniform is the responsibility of the parent. Competitive level athletes are required to be in the competitive attire from the time they enter the competition site to the time awards are completed. TNT coaches measure each athlete and order the appropriate apparel. TNT keeps uniforms for a minimum of two seasons. All athletes are required to have hair pulled back and out of their face at practice and meets. Jewelry is not permitted.

Conferences/Mobility

Conferences for Development Program athletes are held twice a year (pre-season / end of season) to discuss athlete's progress and **potential mobility**. Conferences for Xcel athletes are held in April. Additional conferences may be schedule any time to address concerns. Mobility is determined by TNT Level Specific Mobility Standards and mobility is discussed with C/A/P at conferences. Please remember that moving up is not guaranteed and is based on the athlete's ability and skill acquisition after being assessed by his or her coaches.

Make-Up Policy

There are no make-ups at the team levels for personal reasons. Inclement weather make-up practices may be scheduled after two consecutively cancelled practices.

Competitive Program Communications

TNT's Competitive Teams have an open and direct communication policy. Please contact your athlete's specific coach for day to day concerns or updates. Please contact the Competitive Gymnastics Manager regarding all other concerns. If an after practice ride is going to show up late, please contact our Customer Service Team.

Competitive Program Coach Directory

Kelly Brost:	kellyb@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5009
Cass Dahl	cassandra@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5000
Khayvon Hawkins	khayvon@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5006
Ashlee Hilliard	ashlee@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5010
Jon Lee:	jon@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5000
Tia Sepulveda	tia@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5013
Marina Peterson	saree@tntkidsfitness.org	(701) 551-5000

Voluntary Termination

If an athlete decides they no longer want to participate in the competitive program, the parent must submit a drop form through the TNT website. The drop form is located at tntkidsfitness.org, "Forms", "Membership Drop Form". Any tuition collected up to the point of notice will be forfeited, unless in the case of an injury, in which case a physician's note is required.

Forms must be completed by the last day of the previous month to cancel the auto-withdrawal for the next month, or you will be responsible to pay.

Non-Contact Weeks/ Modified Practice Weeks

There will be 2 scheduled non-contact weeks during the calendar year. These will be the last week of school in May and the first week of school in August, following the West Fargo School District's calendar. There will be modified practices during the week of July 4th, the week of November 20th, and the days between December 23rd and December 31st. TNT reserves the right to cancel or modify practices based on meet schedules and unique events.

In addition to non-contact weeks, TNT recognizes the efforts and stamina it takes to be a competitive athlete. Each athlete has an optional week they can take based on the level they are competing in, culminating their season. Compulsory athletes, the week after state. All Women's Xcel levels, the week after Regionals. Women's DP levels 6-10 and Men's DP levels 6-10 the week following DP National Championships.

SECTION 4: HEALTH & SAFETY

Coaching/Spotting

Strength, flexibility, drills, and proper progressions are utilized in developing skills and creating safe, confident, independent athletes. Hands-on-training is constant. Spotting is used for shaping and technique only. **This means that if an athlete cannot perform the skill alone in practice, they will not be competing it at the competition.**

Liability Coverage & Insurance

TNT holds liability & accident medical coverage through Snyder Insurance. If an injury occurs at practice, a TNT employee fills out an accident report, provides one copy to the guardian, and keep the original for TNT's records. Any medical expenses first process through the individual's insurance company. Any remaining expenses for the claim, the individual pays up to a \$100 deductible and the remainder processes through TNT's insurance. Injuries that occur at a meet are handled through USAG.

Accidents, Injuries, and Emergency Care

TNT requires coaches to be certified in both CDC's HEADS UP to Youth Sports Concussion training and First-Aid/CPR training and renew every two years. In an event of an injury, employees provide immediate care. In the event an injury supersedes employee's training, the parent/guardian and/or 911 is called. If the parent/guardian does not answer, TNT calls the emergency contact listed on the registration form. TNT employees do not transport injured individual to obtain care at another facility.

Serious injuries require written athlete clearance from a health care provider before re-entering practice or a competition. To help prevent re-injury, the athlete completes a roughly 6 week return to fitness regimen before resuming normal practice.

Ill Athlete

Illness policy strictly enforced

Athletes with a fever of 100.4 or above are required to stay home from practice until fever free (without medication) for 24 hours.

If your child becomes ill or displays flu like symptoms while at TNT, TNT calls the child's parent/guardian and ask for the child to be picked up.

Mandated Reporting

All TNT employees are 'Mandated Reporters'. If a TNT employee has reasonable suspicion of abuse of a child, they make a good faith report and call Cass County Social Services Family Services Division Intake Unit or complete the Child Abuse Neglect Form.

Closures

TNT reserves the right to reduce, suspend, or close programs due to weather concerns, facility damage, or other emergency conditions that prevent normal operations. The decision to reduce, suspend, or close programs for emergency reasons, disruptive actions, or health risks comes from the Executive Team.

SECTION 5: TNT COMPETITIVE GYMNASTICS

TNT's Competitive Team is composed of the Men & Women's Development Program TOPS, and Women's Xcel Program.

TNT Women's Program

Developmental Program

TNT's Developmental Program is comprised of four groups: Profile 1, Profile 2, Level 1, and Level 2. The Developmental Teams are **non-competitive**, achievement-based groups focused on proper skill, technique, and shape development for progression into the competitive levels. Participation in our development program is not required to advance to the competitive levels, nor does it guarantee mobility to the competitive levels.

Fast Track Program

- 1. TOPS:** Talent search and educational program for athletes ages 8-10 and their coaches. Athletes are identified based on physical abilities, cognitive maturity, and gymnastics skill set. Athletes must meet or exceed all current program expectations to be considered for TOPS

Compulsory Program

TNT's Compulsory Program is comprised of three levels: Level 3, Level 4, and Level 5. The Compulsory-level athletes train and compete routines designed by USA Gymnastics to build upon the foundation of skills and techniques learned in the developmental levels as well as prepare the athletes for optional level competition. Athletes in TNT's Compulsory Program compete within North Dakota as well as in surrounding states with their season culminating at the State Championship Meet.

Optional Program

TNT's Optional Program is comprised of five levels: Level 6, Level 7, Level 8, Level 9, and Level 10. The Optional-level athletes train and compete routines designed specifically for them following the guidelines and requirements set by USA Gymnastics. Athletes in TNT's Optional Program compete throughout the state, region, and nation with their seasons culminating at three different meets: Region 4 Championships (Levels 6, 7, & 8), Westerns Championship (Level 9), and National Championships (Levels 9 & 10).

Xcel Program

TNT's Xcel Team is an alternative to the Development program. Xcel offers individual flexibility to athletes with varying abilities and commitment levels and allows them the opportunity to experience a rewarding competitive gymnastics experience. TNT's Xcel Program is comprised of five divisions: Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Diamond. Xcel athletes train and compete routines designed specifically for them following the requirements set by the USA Gymnastics Xcel Code of Points. Xcel athletes compete within North Dakota as well as in surrounding states with their season culminating at the State or Regional Championship Meet.

TNT Men's Program

Men's Developmental Program

TNT's Development Program is comprised of 2 groups: foundations and mens' pre-team. The development teams are **non-competitive**, achievement-based groups focused on the proper skill, technique, and shape development for progression into the competitive levels. Participation in our developmental program is not required to advance to the competitive levels, nor does it guarantee mobility to the competitive levels.

Compulsory Program

TNT's Compulsory Program is comprised of four levels: Level 3 - Level 6. The Compulsory-level athletes train and compete routines designed by USA Gymnastics to build upon the foundation of skills and techniques learned in the Developmental Program, as well as prepare the athletes for optional level competition. Athletes in TNT's Compulsory Program compete within North Dakota as well as in surrounding states with their season culminating at the State Championships.

Optional Program

TNT's Optional Level Program is comprised of Levels 7-10. Optional-level athletes train and compete routines designed specifically for them following the requirements set by USA Gymnastics using the FIG Requirements. Athletes will compete throughout the state, region, and nation with their seasons culminating at two different meets: Regional Championships and National Championships (qualification dependent upon age and level).

SECTION 6: Competition Rules

Gymnastics meets are typically held at gymnastics clubs and/or public facilities. Most competitions are held on weekends, including Fridays, between November and May. Meet information will be distributed to families immediately upon coaches' receiving of it. Meet attendance requirements vary per specific competition level.

Requirements for competitions:

- Athletes must arrive to the competition site at least 15 minutes prior to the start of general stretch.
- Athletes are allowed to have one small snack that should remain in their gym bag during the competition. They will be allowed to eat at the meet site only when given permission by their coach, so plan meals accordingly and appropriately. They should have a water bottle with them filled only with water, and stored in a zip lock bag to avoid spilling.
- Athletes are to remain with the team at all times. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- Athletes are expected to compete all-around at competitions. In the event that an athlete cannot safely execute all of the required skills in a routine, he or she will not compete on that particular event. Athletes will not be spotted on skills during a competition, and will have to scratch the event if they cannot perform the skills in warm-up. While rare, this does occur, and is enforced for the safety of your athlete.
- Athletes expressing negative attitudes, emotions, or comments prior to the competition will be removed from the meet.
- Parents are not allowed to contact the athlete during warm-ups, competition, or during the awards ceremony. Athletes will return to their families upon the completion of awards.
- **Parents, under no circumstances, will contact a meet host.** Any questions regarding a specific meet (schedule, session, refund, etc.) should be directed to your coach.

Travel Meets

Some competitive athletes are expected to leave the state (and region) for competitions. Parents should plan to travel with their athlete(s) or arrange for their athlete(s) to travel with another family and notify the competitive coaches of their arrangements. This would also apply to "fly" meets that may be scheduled. Fly meets are typically for optional levels only. Parents and athletes are welcome to coordinate travel plans with the competitive coaches. TNT releases flight numbers and hotel information of TNT staff, but does not make travel or lodging arrangements for athletes or families. Parents are responsible for ensuring arrangements are made.

Routine Choreography

Women's optional level athletes are required to have tailor made routines on both the Balance Beam and Floor Exercise. Floor music selection and routine choreography will be arranged and approved by the coaches. **Athletes/families are responsible for any fees and or expenses incurred, generally \$150 and up for floor routine choreography, \$70 for music, and \$50 and up for beam choreography.**

Xcel Athletes: Athletes pay a \$25 yearly fee for choreography. Platinum and Diamond athletes may opt out if they purchase their own music and choreographer.

Grips and Tiger Paws

As gymnasts progress in skill level, grips and wrist guards are necessary. We try to keep them on hand and sell them at cost, between \$45 and \$60 per pair. We recommend all gymnasts have two pair of grips at all times once the coach determines that they are ready to wear them.

SECTION 7: Tuition and Additional Fees

Tuition payment

Monthly payments are withdrawn from either a checking account or credit/debit card each month on the 1st (or the following business day if the 1st falls on a weekend). Every athlete is required to have an account to be debited each month for tuition costs. The account holder shall provide written authorization to TNT Kid's Fitness to debit the account each month on the 1st for tuition.

If tuition payment is rejected, the account must be brought current by the 15th of the month or the athlete will be held out of practice and potentially withdrawn from participating in a meet.

Competitive Program Fees

Tuition: Fees are based on a set yearly tuition. Monthly payment varies by amount of practice hours and occurs on a sliding scale, more hours = less money per hour. **The Competitive Programs are a year-round commitment and competitive program families are expected to maintain monthly enrollment.**

All Competitive and Development Program Athletes:

- 1. TNT Registration Insurance Fee:** \$55 per year, due & paid with September 1st Auto-payment.

All Competitive and Development Program Athletes:

1. Development Program Athletes, Women's & Men's, Level 3-10

USAG Annual Membership Fee:

- \$69
- \$25 for first time athletes

This fee covers the athlete's membership that is set and required to compete in sanctioned USA Gymnastics competitions. USAG will email each family a link to register and pay online.

2. North Dakota USAG Annual Membership Fee (Amount subject to change):

- Women's \$21
- Men's \$30
- Xcel \$11

This fee covers the athlete's membership that is set and required by the North Dakota State Administrative committee and may change from year to year. North Dakota USAG Annual Memberships are due September 1st of each year.

- 3. Meet Fees:** Athletes are required to attend all scheduled meets. Payments will be processed in conjunction with monthly tuition payments.
 - **Xcel:** Must submit meet RSVP by due date or your athlete will be registered for all scheduled meets.

Travel Fee

Travel fees are collected per athlete per month for the duration of the competitive season, November – April (6 months). Travel fees are non-refundable are a season-long commitment regardless of injury or withdrawal from the program.

Competition Meet Entry Fees (Development Program & Xcel Athletes)

Competition entry fees are set by the host gym and vary from meet to meet. The prices range from \$60 – \$200 per competition.

All meet entry fees:

- Are due by the dates specified.
- Will be processed on the due date through the auto-payment system
- If not paid in full by the due date, will result in the athlete not being entered with their team into the respective meet.
- Are to be considered non-refundable. In the event of an injury, the meet host may deem some entry fees refundable (with Dr.'s Note) at their discretion.

Withdrawing:

If an athlete must withdraw from a program, we require a drop form and notice given to Kelly Brost or Tia Sepulveda by the 25th of the month before the athletes plans to drop. This ensures stoppage of the auto payments. The drop form is located at tntkidsfitness.org, "Forms", "Membership Drop Form". Any tuition collected up to the point of notice will be forfeited, unless in the case of injury, in which case a physician' note is required.

Fundraising Opportunities:

TNT provides at least 1 fundraising opportunity per athlete to offset the cost of uniforms, travel, and or meet fees. Fundraising dollars cannot be credited or refunded and remain with TNT if an athlete drops from the program.

iClassPro Account:

If families have questions on any charges or payments, individual TNT accounts can be accessed through the iClassPro parent portal. <https://app.iclasspro.com/portal/tntkids>

TNT asks parents to either update their iClassPro account or notify customer service with any change of information such as address, phone number, email, payment information, etc.