



2009 International Sport and Cultural Festival

June 23-28, 2009

Fort Worth, Texas, USA



Activities Descriptions

The Participation card

The Festival **Participation Card** is required of all athletes and coaches*. The Participant Card (\$150 for USA participants and \$175 for international participants) includes several activities and privileges.

- **Primary Festival Activity** – The participation card covers part of the expenses associated with the primary activity for which each participant registers. When registering, each special activity for which participants register carries a small additional fee.

* **NOTE:** Coaches receive a discount based upon the number of Athlete Participation Cards from their club. \$100 x [# of Coach Credits]

The Coach Credits are computed on the Registration Form as follows:

[# Athlete Participation Cards] / 10 (rounded up/down to nearest whole number)

The activities and events that are included in the participant card are described below:

- **Spectator Entrance to Opening Ceremonies** – The Opening Ceremonies will include highlights of activities that will take place throughout the week. The ceremonies will take place in the 12,000 seat arena at the Fort Worth Convention Center. All participating organizations and countries will have representation during the ceremonies. There will also be special appearances by local, national and international guests. The Opening Ceremonies will take place on Tuesday evening, June 23rd.
- **Downtown Parade** – All participants are invited to take part in a Parade in Downtown Fort Worth. The parade will conclude at the Fort Worth Convention Center and is expected to take 1½ to 2 hours. Groups can march or build and ride a float. Participation in the parade is available for anyone who has a Participation Card. The parade will take place Friday morning, June 26th.
- **Participation in City Performances** – There will be some limited opportunity for clubs to add-on a Gymnaestrada-style “City Performance” during the Festival. If your group would like to be involved with the City Performances, be sure to include this request on the Registration Form.
- **Stockyard Social** – The Stockyard Social takes place on Thursday evening, June 25th at Stockyard Station in the famous Fort Worth Stockyards. Two live bands and a DJ will entertain in this multi-space venue. Light snacks, soft drinks and water will be provided. A cash bar will be available for the adults to enjoy. Lots of dancing, games and photo opportunities! Anyone with a Participation Card or All Access Spectator pass is welcome to attend.
- **Festival Exhibit Hall** – In the style of the USA Gymnastics Congress Exhibit Halls, the Festival will include an Exhibit Hall with various gymnastics and sport vendors as well as National Federation booths. This is a great place to gather for conversation while shopping for gymnastics related equipment, apparel, and more!
- **Spectator Entrance to PAGU Evening and the Festival Gala** – Similar to the World Gymnaestrada “National Evenings,” there will be two 1½ hour showcase performances during the Festival. The first managed by the Pan American Gymnastics Union (PAGU) with other invited guests, and the Festival Gala. The Festival Gala will feature top performance groups from Festival as well as invited guest performances.
- **Spectator Entrance to Closing Ceremonies** – The Closing Ceremonies will take place at historical Farrington Field. The ceremonies will include mass calisthenics routines and a grand finale.

All participants are encouraged to participate in the Grand Finale! Special choreography has been prepared including two different parts — One part is suggested for children and older adults and the second part is suggested for active teenagers and young adults. The text and DVD of the Finale choreography will be provided for all clubs that register for the Festival.

Everyone will be on the field performing at the same time.

T-shirts will be provided for all of those who elect to participate in the Grand Finale.

Participation is available for anyone who has a participation card. A required rehearsal for the Finale will take place on Friday evening, June 26th and the program will take place Saturday evening, June 27th.

- **Spectator Entrance to All Competitions** – This includes the USA Gymnastics competitions as well as Sokol competitions.
- **Open use of local transportation** – The Organizing Committee has made arrangements for the Participation Card to be used to access various local transportation services.
- **Souvenir Program Book**
- **Commemorative Gift**

Descriptions of the Primary Activities for USA Gymnastics Participants

GymFest

Description:

- The GymFest is for all clubs (USA and international) with groups desiring to perform non-competitive display performance routines as seen during the World Gymnaestrada. Clubs participating in the GymFest will receive a special GymFest participation memento.
- GymFest performances may show the wide variety of gymnastics – dance, acrobatics, folk, and so forth. All ages may work together.
- There is no theme for the GymFest, but we encourage each group to show their own style, traditions, creativity.
- Performance duration – 5 minutes (minimum) to 10 minutes (maximum). The time allotted includes entrances/exits and placement/removal of all equipment, props, costumes, etc.
- All GymFest groups will have the opportunity to show their routine in two different performance slots.
- Additionally, selected clubs may be invited to perform in the Festival Gala Showcase on Saturday, June 27th. Groups should be prepared to perform a showcase routine with an actual performance time to music of no more than 3 minutes.

Group information:

- The size of the performance group should be a minimum of 10 active members. There is no maximum number.

Equipment:

- Performances are done on carpet-bonded floor with a minimum area of 40' x 60'.
- Props and hand apparatus are acceptable.
- Equipment: We do not supply "heavy" gymnastics equipment. The only heavy equipment is that which is pre-set in the arena for the TeamGym competitions. This equipment may not be moved.
- Additional mats may be available by specific request. If you have other special equipment needs, please contact Steve Whitlock to see if we will be able to assist you.

Gymnastics for All Challenge

Description:

- The Challenge is very similar to GymFest performances, but the displays are evaluated by a panel of experts – resulting in Gold, Silver, or Bronze award for each.
- Award recognition: All performers will receive an award representing the designation of the performance.
- Performance duration – The actual performance time to music should be 4:30-5:00 minutes.
- Additionally, selected clubs that have earned the GOLD award may be invited to perform their routine in the Festival Gala Showcase.

Group information:

- The size of the Challenge performance groups should be a minimum of 10 active members. There is no maximum number.

Equipment:

- Performances are done on carpet-bonded floor with a minimum area of 40' x 60'.
- Props and hand apparatus are acceptable.
- Equipment: We do not supply "heavy" gymnastics equipment. The only heavy equipment is that which is pre-set in the arena for the TeamGym competitions. This equipment may not be moved.
- Additional mats may be available by specific request. If you have other special equipment needs, please contact Steve Whitlock to see if we will be able to assist you.

TeamGym Competition

Description

- TeamGym is a competitive component of *Gymnastics for All*. Squads compete for awards in their respective Levels.
- Two TeamGym Divisions will be offered at the 2009 Festival:
 1. The USA squads will compete together as this is the 2009 TeamGym National Championships. Squads must pre-qualify by earning the qualification score. This competition will be governed by the USA Gymnastics 2009 TeamGym Regulations.
 2. International Division – We will offer a division for TeamGym squads from other National Federations to compete showing TeamGym under international guidelines.
- The schedule will be somewhat dependent upon the number of squads that register in each division.
- Levels 1 and 2 will compete on one day for GOLD, SILVER, or BRONZE designation based upon their scores. Level 1 and 2 squads will be able to attend a TeamGym Workshop/Clinic conducted by high level national and international coaches on the day following their competition. Additionally, for those squads interested, they are invited to perform their Group Floor routine at one of the City Performance locations – days/times TBD.
- Levels 3 and 4 will compete on one day for individual squad placement awards based upon their scores. The Level 3 and 4 squads will also be able to attend a TeamGym Workshop/Clinic conducted by high level national and international coaches on the day following their competition. And, for those squads interested, they are invited to perform their Group Floor routine at one of the City Performance locations – days/times TBD.
- Levels 5-8 and the International division will have two days of competition — a Qualification round on one day followed by a Finals round 2 days later. The TeamGym Workshop/Clinic conducted by high level national and international coaches on the day following the finals competition.

Equipment and specifications

- The equipment for the TeamGym competitions is outlined in the USA Gymnastics TeamGym regulations. See: X. Levels 7-8; 9. Equipment / Apparatus for Levels 7-8.
See: <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/Story.aspx?tabid=806&prog=g>

Aesthetic Group Gymnastics

- Aesthetic Group Gymnastics will be conducted in a clinic + evaluation format. AG regulations are in development stage. This event will serve as the first large field test. Regulations and score sheets are available at <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/Story.aspx?tabid=810&prog=g>
- Performances are done on a carpet-bonded floor area.
- Groups with previous international competitive experience may elect to participate in the OPEN division following the international senior rules. Teams in the OPEN division are asked to bring one person to serve as judge and/or clinician for the event.
- Aesthetic clinic activities will take place during the festival.
- Elite international teams may be invited to also perform in the Festival Gala Showcase on Saturday, June 27th and/or the Opening Ceremonies on Tuesday, June 23rd.
- Award recognition: Each team member will receive a participation medal based on the team's evaluation level (gold, silver or bronze).

Festival Rhythmic

Festival Rhythmic will include evaluation sessions for individual and group athletes. Regulations and score sheets are available at <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/Story.aspx?tabid=810&prog=g>

- Performances are done on a carpet-bonded floor area.
- All Festival Rhythmic gymnasts must complete skill testing prior to participating in the routine evaluations.
- Top-ranking groups or individuals may be invited to also perform in the Festival Gala Showcase on Saturday, June 27th.
- Award recognition: Each participant will receive achievement awards for each routine performed based on the routine evaluation level (gold, silver or bronze).

PAGU Evening and Festival Gala

Participation for these two special events is by invitation or based on placement rank in other earlier activities/events. Invitations will be extended by the Organizing Committee.

Paula Lord is the Director for the PAGU Evening

- Assistant-Director is Carmen Gomez (MEX), President of the PAGU/GFA Committee

Co-directors for the Festival Gala are:

- Steve Whitlock, USAG/GFA Director
- Lori Laznovsky, USAG/Event Manager for the *International Sport and Cultural Festival*