

2019-2020



Team Handbook

Thank you for your interest in the United team program. You will receive an email with more information when the teams have been divided.

All team members will begin practice on Monday, September 16, from 6-8pm at Oakwood Baptist. In the event that this schedule changes for any of our teams after the teams are divided (i.e. some teams may need to practice from 5:30-7:30 or 6:30-8:30), we will email you and post this information on the website. 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 Stockton, CA, by noon on Friday, July 17, and are free to leave on Sunday, July 19. The above dates are for those team members who are only competing in team events (no individual events); if you plan to compete in individual events, please see the schedule on page 6. The list of hotels with discounted rates will be available soon on the USTA website. Book your room ASAP- you can always change your reservation!

More info on the competition will be listed (when it is available) on the USTA Website at www.ustwirling.com.



2019-2020 Team Handbook

Contact information:

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Team requirements:

1. All team members are required to attend a weekly twirling technique class (30 minutes), taught by Jenny Hannah, unless permission is granted by the director for other arrangements. Jenny is a USTA Certified Level II Coach & Master Judge. She is an 18 time USTA Grand National Champion, 6 time World Championships Bronze Medalist, member of the 2005 World Championship Gold Medalist team, and has represented the US at the World Championships numerous times.
2. All team members are required to attend a weekly gymnastics class (30 minutes), taught by Serena Lucas, unless permission is granted by the director for other arrangements. Serena is a former team member and coach at United Twirling.
3. All team members must attend team practices.
4. Team fees are \$75/month, which includes team practices, technique class, and gymnastics. Additional children in family will be \$45/month. Fees paid after the 10th of the month will be \$85. (Checks post-dated after the 10th of the month will be considered late and should include the late charge). Fees can be paid by mail, via PayPal, credit card, 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 twirlers and teams better!
6. All team members must be members of USTA. Membership forms must be completed at tryouts or online prior to tryouts.
7. Team members who quit team before the year is over or do not fulfill their team member obligations are not eligible to try out the next year without permission of the director.
8. Returning team members with remaining financial obligations to United Twirling must take care of these or set up acceptable payment arrangements prior to tryouts.

Team selection:

Once teams are selected, you will receive an email with information. There will be a list of team members separated by team, along with a team practice schedule and a technique/gymnastics schedule. Team practices, technique and gymnastics classes will be every Monday (except as noted on the calendar) at Oakwood Baptist Church, located at 4901 Bonny Oaks Drive.

Team practices:

“Fall semester” classes will be September-December and “Spring Semester” classes will be January-May. “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 during the fall and spring semester. Team members may not miss practice during the summer unless an emergency arises. 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 5-7, 2020; therefore our camp will be held on June 1-3. Mandatory camps will be held before Nationals. The tentative dates for these camps are June 15, 22, 29, and July 6-9.

Team members may be required to purchase and wear United Twirling shirts 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 or twirling shoes to practice.

Team Fundraisers:

Parents are welcome to organize fundraisers for our team members to 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 optional.

Team Competition Expenses:

All team members will be required to raise a certain amount of funds via fundraisers for team entry fees and our coaches’ travel for competitions or pay directly to cover these expenses. It is estimated that competition entry fees and coaches’ travel expenses for the entire year will be \$275-350 per team member. The exact amount required by each team member will be determined by the number of team members each year, the amount of our team entry fees for all competitions, and the amount of travel required for our coaches.

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.

USTA Competitions (see pages 5-7 for detailed information):

All United Teams will compete at several competitions:

USTA Tennessee Memorial Open (TMO), White House, TN, on March 7, 2020

USTA Tennessee State, Hixson, TN, on May 9, 2020

USTA Southeast Regionals, location TBA, on June 5-7, 2020.

Pre-Trials will be held on Friday afternoon, June 5. Team competition will be at 9:00am on Saturday, June 6, followed by open (beginner, intermediate, advanced) individuals. Regional individual competition will be on Sunday.

USTA Nationals will be in Stockton, CA, on July 15-18, 2020

Team members not competing individually must be in Stockton by noon on July 17, and are free to leave on July 19.

United Twirling Championships:

On May 30, we will have the United Twirling Championships. Only members of United Twirling may compete in this competition, where our annual champions will be chosen to represent our group for the following year. 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 Artistic Twirl

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

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

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

Advanced Twirling Champions

Primary Division (0-9): Competes in Artistic Twirl, Solo, and Presentation

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

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

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

Grand Champions will also be awarded in each of the following events: Artistic Twirl, Solo, Two Baton, Three Baton & Strut.

2020 Competition Info

USTA TENNESSEE MEMORIAL OPEN

Date: March 7, 2020
Saturday, March 7, 2020 (9:00am)---Team & Individual Competition (Team members must arrive dressed and ready to perform no later than 8:00am)

Location: White House Heritage High School
White House, TN

Entry Deadline: Postmarked by February 18, 2020
(Entries are sent to Tracy, so you can save a stamp if you want.)

Hotel Info: TBA

USTA TENNESSEE STATE

Date: May 9, 2020
Saturday, May 9 (9:00am)---Team & Individual Competition (Team members must arrive dressed and ready to perform no later than 8:00am)

Location: Loftis Middle School
Hixson, TN

Entry Deadline: Postmarked by April 13, 2020
(Entries are sent to Tracy, so you can save a stamp if you want.)

Hotel Info: Enter your address here! 😊

USTA SOUTHEAST REGIONALS

Date: June 5-7, 2020
Friday, June 5 (time TBA)---Pre-trials
Saturday, June 6 (9:00am)---Team competition and Open (Novice, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)
individual competition
Sunday, June 7 (9:00am)---Regional individual competition

Location: TBA (likely Central Florida)

Entry Deadline: Postmarked by May 11, 2020
(Entries are sent to Tracy, so you can save a stamp if you want.)

Hotel Info: Enter your address here! 😊

USTA NATIONALS

Dates: July 15-18, 2020 (*official daily schedule has not been announced, so the schedule below is an educated guess based on the 2019 schedule*)

Wednesday, July 15---PreTrials competition (music tests will be held on Tuesday, July 14)

Thursday, July 16---Festival of the Future (Beginner/Intermediate) Foundation Events- Basic, Parade, Presentation, Military

Festival of the Future (Beginner/Intermediate) & National 2 Baton, 3 Baton, Artistic Twirl, Artistic Pairs

Friday, July 17--- Festival of the Future (Beginner/Intermediate) & National Strut, Solo & Duet; Finals Show Team practice

All team members must be in Fariborn by noon Friday!

Saturday, July 18--- All Teams, Trios, Parade & Show Corps, Collegiate Event

All other teams compete!

Saturday, July 19---***Team members are free to leave.***

For those only coming for team, you should plan to be in Stockton by noon on Friday, July 17.

All teams events are on Saturday, July 19, so all team members must be at the competition all day Saturday.

Location: Stockton Arena
248 W. Fremont St.
Stockton, CA 95203

Hotel Info: USTA has worked with several local hotels to offer discounted rates. This information should be available soon at www.ustwirling.com by clicking on "Events" and then "National Championships" on the left side of the page.

Entry Deadline: Postmarked by May 1, 2020 (Entries must be submitted online at www.ustwirling.com)

2019-2020 Tentative Schedule of Events

- September 16 First team practice/gymnastics/technique class
- September 29 Hamilton County Fair performance, 1:00pm, Community Stage
- September 30 Warm-up deposit due (\$60)
- October 7 No classes (Fall Break)
- October 11-12 USTA iTwirl Clinic in White House, TN
- October 21 Warm-up balance due (\$55)
- November 11 Costume deposit due (\$40)
- November 25 Parade Practice 6-8pm (Oakwood Baptist)
- December 1 Soddy Daisy Christmas Parade 2:00pm (Lineup 1:00)
- December 6 Red Bank Christmas Parade 6:00pm (Lineup 5:00pm)
- December 9 Costume balance due (TBA)
- December 16 Last Monday practice before Christmas break
- January 6 Classes resume
- January 20 No classes (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- February 3 Team competition fees – 1st payment due (\$100)
- February 22 Team Choreography Clinic (All team members must attend)
- March 2 Team competition fees – 2nd payment due (\$100)
- March 7 USTA Tennessee Memorial Open Contest (White House, TN)
- April 4 USTA Memphis Classic (Memphis, TN)
- April 6 No classes (Spring Break)
- April 13 Team competition fees – 3rd payment due (\$100)
- April 17 Parents Night Out & Showcase Rehearsal (at Loftis Middle)
- April 18 United Twirling Showcase (at Loftis Middle)
- May 9 USTA Tennessee State Competition (Hixson, TN)
- May 25 No classes (Memorial Day)
- May 30 United Twirling Championships (at Loftis Middle)
- June 1-3 Mandatory Regionals Team Training Camp (9am-5pm)
- June 5-7 USTA Southeast Regional Competition (TBA – likely in FL)
Pre-Trials will be held on Friday afternoon, June 5. Team competition will be at 9:00am on Saturday, June 6, followed by open (beginner, intermediate, advanced) individuals. Regional individual competition will be on Sunday.
- June 8 No classes (break after Regionals; take a vacation!!)
- June 15 Mandatory Nationals Team Training Camp (9am-5pm)
- June 22 Mandatory Nationals Team Training Camp (9am-5pm)
- June 29 Mandatory Nationals Team Training Camp (9am-5pm)
- July 6-10 Mandatory Nationals Team Training Camp (9am-5pm)
- July 15-18 USTA Nationals in Stockton, CA (*official daily schedule has not yet been announced, so the schedule below is an educated guess based on the 2019 schedule – but the dates are definitely July 15-18*)
All team members who are not entering individual events must be there by noon on July 17.
All team members free to leave on July 19.
Wednesday, July 15 – PreTrials competition
Thursday, July 16 – Beg/Int Foundation Events
Beg/Int/National 2 Baton, 3 Baton, Artistic Twirl, Artistic Pairs
Friday, July 17 – Beg/Int/National Strut, Solo, Duet, Finals Show & Athletes' Party
Saturday, July 18 – Beg/Int/National Teams & Groups
- September 14 First team practice for 2020-2021 season

****Some dates are tentative and subject to change. If something changes, we will let you know ASAP. ****