



MEMBER SERVICES NEWS

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The votes are in, and the 2010 USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Conn., was an overwhelming success. With more than 2,600 in attendance, 60,000 sq. ft. of space for the Trade Show, 180 educational sessions and expanded hospitality for three straight nights, this year's Congress has set a new standard for excellence.

[Tips to maintain proper record keeping](#)

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"The city of Hartford opened its arms to the gymnastics community," said Steve Penny, president of USA Gymnastics, "and our Congress attendees, coaches, athletes and VIPs were made to feel very welcome. The city's layout made it simple for Congress attendees to branch out after sessions concluded to enjoy the local hospitality and events. The evening hospitality at the Old State House



provided the perfect opportunity for Congress attendees and coaches to interact and connect."

[National Gymnastics Day](#)

[USAGymClub.com](#)

EDUCATION EVENTS*

click course title to register

Hartford was transformed into "gymnastics city" for the week. Downtown was dressed with gymnastics imagery, as were major facilities like the airport and train station, and at the host hotels. Staff at the host hotels wore Visa Championships apparel, and nine restaurants created special entrees as part of the Taste of Visa Championships, a competition for the best healthy entr e. As part of the Go Hartford! program, special discounts were available for local businesses and attractions, as well as transportation to and from the airport.

[Safety Certification](#)

Sept. 19 - Portland, OR

Nov. 27 - Stroudsburg, PA

[Click here to read more.](#)

[Preschool Fundamentals Pt. 2: Hands on Training](#)

Sept. 17-19 - Portland, Ore.

*please check the schedule online to verify course dates and times



Reminders: Tips to maintain proper record keeping

Most club owners and administrators understand the importance of practicing proper record keeping as it applies to the day to day operation of their gymnastics businesses. Unfortunately, some club owners and administrators often fail to follow such practices when it applies to the applications and registration of their USA Gymnastics introductory/athlete members.

Failure to follow proper record keeping not only places the gymnastics club and USA Gymnastics in a poor legal liability situation, but also causes confusion and frustration on the part of the athlete and the athlete's parents. Reviewing the tips below is a great way to ensure that your business and clients will not be caught in an unfavorable legal and/or financial situation.

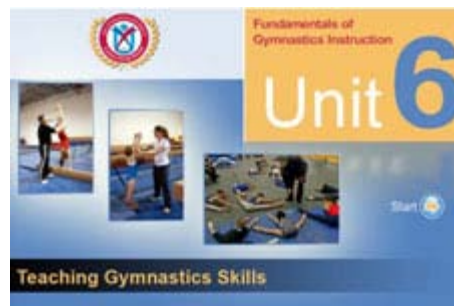
- Print the introductory/athlete membership application form(s) from the USA Gymnastics website prior to registering any athlete(s) in your club. Ensure that the form is completely filled out by the parent, athlete and the club administrator. All USA Gymnastics membership application forms are available on the [USA Gymnastics website](#). A new athlete/introductory athlete form MUST be completed each new competitive season regardless of how long an athlete has participated with your club.
- Ensure a copy of the completed introductory/athlete membership form is given to the parent(s) of each athlete for their personal recording keeping. As a reminder, the completed application form is a signed legal contract between USA Gymnastics, the parent, and the club. Therefore, it is important to provide the proper documentation to all parties involved.
- NEVER register an introductory/athlete membership online unless you first have the completed form(s) in possession and on file in the club at the time of registration. Failure to complete this vital step, often leads to forgetting to obtain the form. As a reminder, USA Gymnastics can audit a club at anytime and request copies of the completed introductory/athlete membership application forms. Don't be caught off guard, be prepared!
- Contact USA Gymnastics IMMEDIATELY following a mistake made in online registration. All USA Gymnastics memberships are Non-Transferrable and Non-Refundable. In the event of an online registration error USA Gymnastics MUST be notified within 72 business hours. Under certain circumstances a refund or transfer may be granted. Please keep in mind, that when such incidents occur you may and will be requested to submit the completed introductory/athlete membership application forms of those you wish to have the introductory/athlete membership. USA Gymnastics may not be able to process a request if proper forms are not submitted to the National Office in the time guidelines requested. Please also note that USA Gymnastics CANNOT provide any refunds or transfers on introductory/athletes that have already competed with the current membership, switched gymnastics locations, or stopped participating in the sport of gymnastics.
- Ensure proper communication between the individuals collecting the introductory/athlete membership application, and the individual actually processing the actual membership application payments. Often Member Services receives calls from clubs stating that there was a mistake in communication

between the individual collecting and the individual processing payments and therefore, a mistake in registration occurred. While USA Gymnastics respects such errors, we often cannot resolve the errors that may occur in these situations.

- Notify Member Services of any changes/deletions to your club roster list. Maintaining a proper club roster with USA Gymnastics is an important way to avoid mistakes in the future. Send changes to Member Services via [email](#).

Fundamentals of Gymnastics Instruction Course

- Designed to provide gymnastics professionals with a knowledge base of key principles and proven coaching techniques used in gymnastics today.
- Topics range from coaching principles, basic safety and risk management, communication, supervision and instruction, teaching gymnastics skills, to athlete development and preparation
- Each unit contains a "Coaches Clinic" segment with common terminology as well as video demonstrations of beginning recreational skills and progressions.
- Beneficial to all gymnastics professionals - both experienced and inexperienced Experienced professionals can use this course as a self-assessment to fine-tune their own skills and coaching philosophy as well as align with industry best practices. All gymnastics professionals will gain greater insight, knowledge, training tips, and ideas throughout the course.



For more information on this course, [click here](#).
To register for this course, [click here](#).

National Gymnastics Day - September 18, 2010

National Gymnastics Day has two goals: to increase excitement and raise awareness for the sport of gymnastics. Through the Tyson Fitness Challenge, gym clubs across the country join together to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. National Gymnastics Day is celebrated by thousands of gymnasts and gymnastics clubs across the country. Led by legendary gymnastics Coach Bela Karolyi, this fun and charitable initiative is something you can't afford to miss!

Celebrate [National Gymnastics Day](#) this year on September 18. Gather your gym club members and local community to give back to those in need. For fun ideas on how you can celebrate this day, [click here](#).



Once you have decided how you will celebrate this special day, tell USA Gymnastics what you are doing.

By sending us photos and stories, you have the chance to be featured on our website and gain free publicity for your gym club.

USAGymClub.com

Join USA Gymnastics in promoting our new member club website, to be released next week. This resource is helpful for parents who are deciding which gym club to place their child in. Also on our new website, you will see our most recent grassroots marketing campaign. Visit usagymclub.com today!



USA Gymnastics is a non-for-profit organization which is the sole national governing body (NGB) for the sport of gymnastics in the United States. Our mission is to increase public awareness of, and encourage participation in, all aspects of gymnastics, and to support athletes in their pursuit of competitive excellence.

Tell us what you think! We'd like to hear from you about what information you'd like to see in Member News. Contact us by [clicking here](#).

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