



Welcome New Team Parents (or those considering Team for the 2020-21 season)!

Congratulations on making the Team! I know this is a challenging time, and we are all adjusting to a new normal (and hopefully temporary) way of life through this COVID crisis. While we would normally have a new parent meeting for introductions and answering general questions, I wanted to reach out and help stay connected until we can all get together in person.

I was new to Midwest in 2019, and I have two gymnasts on the JO Compulsory team. I remember feeling very overwhelmed with information when I first joined (or when I was deciding whether to accept the offer to join the Team). First, you can always reach out to me directly with any questions:

president@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org. Second, who am I and what is the booster club?

Glad you asked! The Booster Club is a separate nonprofit entity from the gym. We are run entirely by parent volunteers. We have a Board of Directors, but really, we rely on every Team parent to help throughout the year to make this a great experience for our kiddos. We help coordinate treats during competition season, we help answer questions and facilitate information sharing between the parents and coaches/gym, we coordinate fun get togethers and activities for the girls to get to know each other off the mats. We also manage the fundraising efforts to help offset fees that can add up quickly. We have plenty of meetings throughout the year to help explain the fundraising in more detail, but as a new parent, I realize you want some answers up front! I hope this letter helps.

The Booster Club board is currently made up of the following five parents (and emails may come from any of us, with most general announcements coming from either myself --

president@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org or Emily Sutherland --

ginamorri@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org. Please go ahead and save both in your contacts so you don't miss important emails.

- Nicole Faulkner, President (president@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org)
- Eddie Faulkner, Vice President (midwestgymnasticsboosterclub@gmail.com)
- Susan Viergever, Treasurer (treasurer@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org)
- Betsy LaLiberte, Secretary (secretary@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org)
- Emily Sutherland, Fundraising Director (ginamorri@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org)

Once you've decided to join the Team (and we hope you do!), here are a few important immediate to-dos:

TO-DO! But first, in order to start receiving booster club emails, you need to OPT IN to the booster club. Go to www.midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org → Parent Portal → and click the link to “opt-in.”

TO-DO! Save the Date! Please block February 12-14 on your calendars for our annual Gina Morri Invitational. See below for more details.

Following is some additional, general information but rest assured we will have a new parent meeting (whenever the current COVID crisis has subsided) to answer all of your questions.

There are two types of general fees you will pay for a Team gymnast.

Tuition: The gym will invoice you directly for monthly tuition that will vary depending on your gymnast’s practice schedule/hours per week.

Athlete Fees: Separate from monthly tuition, Athlete Fees cover the costs associated with the actual meets (the competition season). There are meet registration fees, paying coaches for their travel/time, and USA Gymnastics registration fees. The gym will invoice you directly for monthly tuition, and the Booster Club will invoice you directly for these Athlete Fees. These fees vary depending on which level you are in (because each level and team has a different competition schedule, some teams travel and some don’t, some teams have a lighter meet schedule and some are heavier). We do not have actual fees set for the 2020-21 Season yet (it all depends on the meet schedule, which the gym decides and gives us later in the summer). But, I can share what the Athlete Fees were for the 2019-20 season (see chart below). The total fee is split up into four equal payments (Aug/Sept/Oct/Nov), and the Booster Club invoices parents directly for these monthly payments. Whether you join the Booster Club or not, you will still be responsible for fees invoiced by the Booster Club to cover the competition costs for your gymnast.

For your first year on the Team, you are responsible for paying 100% of these Athlete Fees.

New in the 2019-20 season, we added the SCRIP program as a voluntary option for new (and all) families to fundraise on their own to help offset their fees during your first year. We are continuing this program in 2020-21. It’s easy and families are enjoying the rebates they get for shopping they would be doing already!

The BIG fundraising happens at the end of the season -- in February. But we work hard for it all season long. The Booster Club hosts the Gina Morri Invitational. All net profits from that meet go back to the gymnasts to help offset the **following** season’s fees. We require all members to do two things: (1) volunteer during the meet weekend in February, and (2) help get sponsorships and donations in advance. For all members who fulfill the requirements (more specific details to come), they will be eligible for the athlete fee subsidy the **following** season. For example, the parents of the 2019-20 season just finished a TON of work and effort to put on the February 2020 meet last month, and those parents earned a contribution towards their athlete fees for this upcoming season. New parents have to first meet the eligibility requirements (through efforts for the next February 2021 meet, to earn athlete fee contributions for the 2021 season). Even though new parents don’t get a subsidy in their first year, you still have the SCRIP program that you can begin doing immediately!

Last Year's 2019-2020 Athlete Fees

(provided as an example only - fees vary each year and cannot be estimated for the 2020-21 season yet - subject to change/increase)

JO Petites	\$390	JO Optionals (Levels 7+)	\$2,390
JO Level 3 & 4	\$950	JO Elite	\$3,866
JO Level 5/6	\$1,226-\$1,500		
Xcel Beginner	\$385		
Xcel Intermediate	\$950		

By way of example, the Gina Morri meet in 2018 earned the parents a 60% subsidy for the following 2018-19 athlete fees. The Gina Morri meet in 2019 earned those parents a 100% subsidy for the following 2019-20 athlete fees. Subsidy for last year's parents for the 2020-21 season isn't finalized yet.

We are looking forward to getting to know each of you and your gymnasts. Follow us on FaceBook (Midwest Gymnastics Booster Club) and visit our website at www.midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org for updates. Most importantly, make sure you OPT IN to become a member (follow instructions on the website) so that you receive emails with important information.

Sincerely,

Nicole Faulkner (president@midwestgymnasticsboosterclub.org)

On behalf of the Midwest Gymnastics Booster Club 2019-20 Board of Directors

- Nicole Faulkner - President
- Eddie Faulkner - Vice President
- Susan Viergever - Treasurer
- Betsy LaLiberte - Secretary
- Emily Sutherland - Fundraising Director