



**9 INTERNATIONAL
0 SPORT &
0 CULTURAL
2 FESTIVAL
JUNE 23-28
FORT WORTH TEXAS**

**BULLETIN I
APRIL 30, 2008**

USA Gymnastics, the Pan American Gymnastics Union GFA Committee and the American Sokol Organization will be hosting the 2009 Sport and Cultural Festival in Fort Worth, Texas. The event will take place June 23-28, 2009. Participants from all over the world are expected to take part in the multi-sport and cultural activity.

Planned Activities

USA Gymnastics

Competitions – TeamGym Nationals, *USA Gymnastics for All Challenge*, International Rhythmic Gymnastics Invitational, Festival Rhythmic, Aesthetic Gymnastics Invitational.

Displays – National GymFest, USA Gymnastics/Sokol Gala Showcase Evening, City Performances, Large Group performance opportunity for the Closing Ceremony

Education – Coaches Congress & Forum, TeamGym instructor and judge's course, and more!

Fun – Fitness Challenge, social activities, etc.

Pan American Gymnastics Union Gymnaestrada

Includes Educational Forum and workshops, Choreography sessions; PAGU Gala Evening; Preparation, planning and workshops for 2011 World Gymnaestrada.

2009 American Sokol Slet

Multi-sport activities – Artistic gymnastics, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Volleyball, Basketball, Fitness activities, Golf Tournament, Bowling, fun Run/Walk, Marching Competition.

USA Gymnastics/Sokol Gala Showcase Evening
Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Combined Activities

Opening and Closing Ceremonies
Downtown Parade
Educational Forums

Transportation

- Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) offers over 1,900 flights per day with non-stop service to 135 domestic and 36 international destinations.
- All air travel arrangements should be made in to and out of Dallas/ Fort Worth International Airport.
- Airport Transfers will be offered for a nominal fee.
- The Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport is approximately 20 minutes from downtown Fort Worth, Hotels and the Venue.

Venues



All event activities are planned to take place in the Downtown Fort Worth area.

- The primary activities will take place at the Fort Worth Convention Center.
- The Convention Center is walking distance from all official hotels as well as restaurants and shopping areas.
- The parade will take place in downtown Fort Worth.
- Social activities are planned in the downtown area as well.

Meals

The downtown Fort Worth area is home to many restaurants ranging from fast food to fine Steak Houses.

Meals will be the responsibility of the participants. Some hotel packages may include breakfast. No other meals will be provided.



Accommodations/Hotel Information

We currently have rooms blocked for this event at:

The Fort Worth Omni
1300 Houston Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102



- Nightly Rate for up to four persons in one room- \$159 + tax per room
- Located Directly across the street from the Convention Center
- Brand new facility with an indoor pool, meeting rooms and restaurant.

You can book rooms online by visiting the 2009 Event information posted at www.usa-gymnastics.org or by calling 1.888.444.6664 and use special code 190691777 to receive our exclusive rate.

Side Trips and Excursions

A variety of half-day and full-day tours and excursions will be available during the event.

- Customized tours for your group prior to, during, or following the event are also available.
- More information regarding specific tours and prices will be available in the next bulletin.
- Possible excursions include the JFK Memorial, Southfork Ranch, shopping, Fort Worth Stockyards, Museums, and more!
- Excursions will be arranged by National Travel Systems.



The Participant Card

The participation card includes:

- Participation in one competition or GymFest activity (additional activities will incur a "double-dip" fee)
- Spectator Entrance to all activities and Vendor areas
- All socials and parties
- Participation in Parade and Closing Ceremonies

U.S. Participant Card \$150

**International Participation Card (Includes Foreign Athlete Membership)
\$175**

Insurance/Membership

In order to participate in a sanctioned competition, an athlete must be a USA Gymnastics registered USA Gymnastics Member.

FOR U.S. Participants

Acceptable athlete memberships for competition include:

- For Levels A and B TeamGym athletes, Festival Rhythmic Athletes and GymFest Athletes: GG Introductory Athlete, Regular GG Athlete, Jr. Pro, or Professional membership
- For Levels C and D TeamGym athletes: Regular GG Athlete, Jr. Pro, or Professional membership

Proof of membership (athlete #) must be submitted with final registration information athletes should be prepared to visibly present their current USAG member card at all sanctioned events.

FOR U.S. COACHES

- **Each registered A and B Level TeamGym squad** must have at least one (1) coach who is a current GG professional member of USA Gymnastics in good standing. Additional coach/spotters are permitted, but must have an acceptable USA Gymnastics membership such as Introductory Coach, or Jr. Pro.
- **Each registered C and D Level TeamGym squad** must have at least two (2) coaches who are current GG professional members of USA Gymnastics in good standing. USAG Jr. Pro Members may serve as additional assistant coach/spotters.

For Foreign Participants and Coaches

The Participation Card for foreign athletes includes USA Gymnastics Foreign Athlete Membership and meets all requirements.

General Tentative Schedule

Monday, June 22	Arrivals
Tuesday, June 23	Opening Ceremonies/ Gala
Wednesday, June 24	TeamGym Competition, GymFest and PAGU Gala
Thursday, June 25	GFA Challenge, TeamGym Competition, Participant Social
Friday, June 26	Educational Forum, Parade, Closing Ceremony Rehearsal
Saturday, June 27	GFA Gala and Closing Ceremonies
Sunday, June 28	GFA Day at Six Flags Over Texas

About Fort Worth, Texas

Fort Worth -- the most typically Texan of all Texas cities -- began as a tiny outpost on a lonely frontier. Today, this metropolitan area of more than 600,000 people blends its cattle and oil heritage seamlessly with an ever-growing, diverse array of new businesses and industries. Fort Worth was established through the efforts, the courage and the sacrifices of countless men and women; and the story, even in barest outline, is an American saga.

The fertile, game-rich land surrounding the banks of the Trinity River had long been a favorite hunting ground for Native Americans in the area, but it soon proved irresistible to settlers as well.

A settlement had been established by Jonathon Bird in the winter of 1840, three miles east of where Birdville is today. In 1843, Sam Houston came to what was then called Fort Bird or Bird's Fort and remained more than a month, awaiting chiefs from different tribes to discuss a peace parley. Houston departed, leaving Gen. Edward H. Tarrant and George W. Terrell to meet with the chiefs. When the tribes came to the negotiating table, a treaty was made under which the Native Americans were to remain to the west of a line traced passing through the future site of Fort Worth. The line marked "Where the West Begins" -- giving Fort Worth its famous slogan.

