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March 10, 2015

Dear parents of the world's most awesome kids,

We would like to invite your athlete to join our Women's Competitive Gymnastics Team! We love to surround ourselves with hard-working, positive, great people, and feel that your family will be a good fit for us at Planet.

Competitive gymnastics can be an amazing and fun tool for helping raise strong, self-confident women, and we hope you will view it in that light. It is also a commitment not to be taken lightly. It requires time, energy, and financial investments for a year at a time. Feel free to go to www.PlanetGymnastics.us and scroll down until you see the Team link. There you will find the Womens Artistic Team Handbook, which explains our program in much greater detail.

We would love for your athlete to attend a Trial Workout to experience what this program will be like. It will be held on Monday, March 23 from 4:30 to 7:30, followed by a parent meeting to further explain the program and answer questions.

Following are logistics of the group you are being invited to join:

3 Hours per Week: Currently Mondays 4:30-7:30. This time slot may change during the summer and/or next fall.

Levels: This group will be working towards Levels 2 & 3. The athletes will progress at different rates, and levels will be determined to maximize each athlete's individual success.

Coaching Staff: Our competitive coaching staff is a team who work together for the success of all of our competitive athletes. While this group will have experience with the entire coaching staff over time, the primary coach will be Coach Moriah Nieves.

Tuition: The monthly tuition for 3hrs/wk is currently \$125 + tax. Although you may choose to try this initially, after a trial period, this should not be considered as a month-to-month commitment like gymnastics classes. This is an annual commitment broken into 12 payments.

Annual Registration Fee: Everyone has a \$40 Annual Family Registration Fee due each September. However, for competitive team, this charge is included in the Annual Team Fee. The rates have not been established for the 2015/2016 Season, but a rough estimate is \$100 ... which is per family, not per athlete, and includes the \$40 Annual Family Fee you have already been paying.

Equipment & Uniform: A team leotard costing approximately \$35 and a warmup costing approximately \$50 are required prior to your first competition. There is also a personal equipment list with nominal cost that may be required down the road (grips, grip bag, etc.).

Competitions: First competition – July! That does not mean that everyone will be ready for a competition by July. We want an athlete's first competition to be a positive experience, so if an athlete isn't ready for a positive experience, we'll wait! This is not a failure. This is not a punishment. ...This is smart coaching towards self-confidence and enjoyment of the sport.

Beginning with the next competition season of 2015/2016, these athletes will attend approximately 5 meets per season. Each meet entry will be approximately \$60. Most of the meets will be in the St. Louis area, but not further than a reasonable drive.

Parent Support Group: Many of our competitive team parents work together to fund raise and offset the costs of the sport. All costs/fees other than monthly tuition may be funded through this group. The group is organized so that the funds you personally raise apply directly to your athlete. If you choose not to fund raise, that is absolutely fine. This is a voluntary organization available to you should you wish to participate.

We look forward to speaking with you in person over the next couple of weeks, and hope to see you on March 23!

Happy cartwheels!
The Planet Gymnastics Competitive Team Coaching Staff