



**AAU GYMNASTICS  
AGE GROUP NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
Kids Helping Kids - We R 1**

**June 29 - July 3, 2016 – Entry Information**

**ESPN Wide World of Sports at Walt Disney World® Resort  
700 Victory Way  
Orlando, FL 34747**



[www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org)



**2016 AAU Gymnastics  
Age-Group National Championships  
Kids Helping Kids – We R 1  
June 29 – July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016  
[www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org)**

**Facility:** Jostens Center, ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at  
Walt Disney World® Resort  
700 Victory Way, Orlando, FL 34747

**Entry Fee – \$87.00 per athlete**  
NON-REFUNDABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE

**Skill Levels /  
Age Division:**

**Girls Compulsory Divisions:**

Level 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

**Girls Optional Divisions:**

Level 6, 7, 8, Open Optional

Xcel Levels Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze

**Ladies Division:** (No Age Divisions)

Levels, 6, 7, 8, Open Optional

Xcel Levels Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze

**HUGS Division** – Hope Unites Gymnastics with Special Athletes

Ruby and Ruby Stars Level

**2016 Age Group National will not have a boys competition.**

**Theme:**

Our theme will be **KIDS HELPING KIDS – WE R 1**. We will be donating some of our proceeds to charitable organizations that deal with many of the challenges faced by children and their families. It will be the AAU Gymnastics Program's way of giving back and an opportunity to raise awareness to our gymnasts about the importance of **KIDS HELPING KIDS**. We will have a wishing well so that our gymnast can write letters of well wishes to children who need their encouragement and throw into the well with any donations, none too small. These letters will be sent to the organization recipients of our donation for distribution to the children. Each gymnast will receive a commemorative patch of the event and we are also adding All American Awards in each level and designated age division to be determined after all entries are accepted. The athlete celebration party is going to be fantastic.

**Qualification:** Participants **are required** to participants in their District State Championships. There is no Qualification score. Participants who are unable to attend district championships in their skill level should send in petition form at the end of this document after being completed by signatures required. If their skill level is not offered by their district or if the district does not have an AAU program, they should fill out the form at the end of this document and send directly to the National Chair for petitioning and approval process. Minimum age must be 5 years of age as of the start date of the competition.

HUGS Divisions - Open (No Qualification Required)

Please send in all completed petition forms to Liz Nichols, AAU Gymnastics National Chair, at [aaunichols@bellsouth.net](mailto:aaunichols@bellsouth.net).

**Entry Deadline:** **May 6, 2016** - There will be a late fee of \$5.00 per athlete for all athletes and coaches registered after the deadline, **if room allows**.

**Online Registration:** Athletes and Coaches must register online at [www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org). You must have your AAU Membership ID for each athlete and coach in order to complete the registration process.

***IMPORTANT: Your entry for Age Group National is populated from your information used when registering for an individual AAU membership number. Therefore, if the birthdate of your athlete was entered incorrectly while registering for your individual membership, they will be incorrect on the entry information. We ask your due diligence in making sure that all of your data is correct, otherwise your athlete could be placed in the incorrect age division. Correct entry information is absolutely of utmost importance in being able to provide a complete schedule in a timely manner to all participants.***

You will be sent a roster to confirm all athlete information. There will be a **\$5.00 change fee** for each correction that has to be made to the data after schedule is complete. All Instructions for on line registration are included in this entry packet.

**Check In:** All athletes and coaches will be required to check in prior to their competition to pick up credentials which will allow them to enter the competitive area. Check in will be located at the venue – more information will be available soon. At check in each athlete and coach will receive an AAU National T-shirt and a gift.

**Competition Rules:** **AAU National Routines and Rules (NO DISTRICT MODIFICATIONS)** – refer to AAU National Handbook at [www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org).

**HUGS DIVISION** – Routine requirements, allowable skills and judges guidelines [https://usagym.org/PDFs/Group/Rules/hugs\\_wartistic.pdf](https://usagym.org/PDFs/Group/Rules/hugs_wartistic.pdf)

**Tentative Schedule:**

The schedule is **TENTATIVE** and is be subject to change depending on the final number of participants in each level. The daily schedule will not start earlier than 8:00 AM and all competition is to be completed by 9:30 PM.

Date	Description	Tentative Times and Levels
Wednesday, June 29th	Registration Opens	3:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Thursday, June 30th	Registration Opens Girls Competition	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM Levels 1, 2, 3, Excel – Bronze, Silver, Gold
Friday, July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Registration Opens Girls Competition	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM 8:00 AM – 7:00 Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, All Levels Excel HUGS DIVISIONS
Friday, July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Opening Celebration Ceremony	Tentative 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Saturday, July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Registration Opens Girls Competition  Ladies Division	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM Levels 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Open Xcel Diamond and Platinum HUGS DIVISIONS Ladies All Levels
Sunday, July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Registration Opens Girls Competition  Ladies Division	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Levels 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Open,  Ladies All Levels

**Competition Format:**

Traditional Format, Modified Traditional Format, Modified Capitol Cup, Capitol Cup for all women’s divisions. There will be three competition areas; so coaches should be prepared that athletes in different Levels could be competing at the same time on different designated area in the competitive area. **Subject to change as determined by number of participants.**

**Awards:**

Awards are provided for each skill level and age division. Every athlete will be awarded an AAU National Championship All-Around Medal. Individual event awards are provided at a 50% + 1 ratio within each age division. All American recognition and awards in each level in designated age divisions to be determined after receipt of all entries.

**HUGS DIVISION ONLY – Achievement awards and All-Around**

- 8.0 And Up Gold Medal
- Below 8.0 to 7.95 Silver Medal
- Below 6.5 Bronze Medal

**Admission:** Athletes that are entered in the Age Group Nationals receive complimentary entrance to all sessions. Spectator admission is required for all events at ESPN Wide World of Sports.

Daily Pass: \$12.50/Child (Ages 5-12) \$17.50/Adult  
Length of Event: \$25.00/Child (Ages 5 -12) \$35.00/Adult  
**Ages 3 and under is free!**

**Parking:** Parking at ESPN Wide World of Sports is FREE

**AAU Membership:** All athletes and coaches must have a 2016 AAU Membership before registering online. For more information on AAU Membership, or to purchase your athlete or non-athlete membership go to [www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org). You can no longer register for non-athlete (coach) membership onsite. Background screens are conducted for all non-athletes and adult athletes therefore memberships are no longer instant. Be Prepared and register your coaches early.

**Ages and Groups:** Age determining date is the opening date of the Age Group National Championship, June 30, 2016. Athletes in each skill level will be grouped into Age Divisions determined by birth date ranges. Age Divisions with 18 athletes will be divided into smaller groupings. Minimum age is 5 years old.

**Welcoming Ceremony/  
Athlete Celebration:** Tentative – Date and Time Subject to Change - A Welcoming Ceremony and Athlete Celebration will be held on Friday, July 1 in the evening at the Jostens Center. More information available at a later date. National Grand March in and District Athlete Recognition and entertainment provided free of charge.

**Hospitality for Coaches:** There will not be a coach's hospitality at the 2016 AAU Gymnastics Age Group Nationals. All **registered** coaches will receive a care package at registration, containing snacks and water, to better serve the needs and demands of coaches' schedules.

**Housing:** For hotel bookings at Walt Disney World® Resort properties, please call 1-800-743-9876 to speak with a Disney Sports Travel Agent. More information regarding Non-Disney resorts will be coming soon.

AAU has selected Anthony Travel as the Official Housing Provider for all AAU Orlando events in 2016. This partnership has been put in place to help streamline your travel management efforts and provide competitive hotel rates and amenities for you in the Orlando area. Although there is no requirement to book with Anthony Travel, we highly recommend their services. Hotel accommodations are now available and guests can book online ([CLICK HERE](#)), 24 hours a day, or by calling (866) 796-5222, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm CT.

**Theme Park Information:** Discounted theme park tickets are available by visiting <https://disneytickets.disney.go.com/store/rxuunv>. Once you have registered for the event, please contact Amanda Steelman at the AAU National Office for the Ticket Store Password.

**Coaches Registration:** Clubs must register their coaches at [www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org) through the online registration system by May 6, 2016.

<b>For more information:</b>	<b><u>National Chair</u></b>	<b><u>AAU National Office</u></b>
	Liz Nichols	Amanda Steelman
	678-596-1374	407-934-7200
	aaunichols@bellsouth.net	asteelman@ausports.org

This event is sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union of the U. S., Inc. All participants must have a current AAU membership. AAU membership may not be included as part of the entry fee to the event. AAU membership must be obtained before the competition begins except where the event operator has a laptop available with an internet connect. Participants are encouraged to visit the AAU web site [www.ausports.org](http://www.ausports.org) to obtain their membership.

**Online Instructions – Next Page**  
**Petition Form – Next Page**

## **\*\*\*AAU ONLINE ATHLETE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS\*\*\***

The 2016 AAU Gymnastics Age Group National Championship will be using an online athlete registration system ONLY! Below are some instructions and helpful hints on how to register your team:

### **Login Steps:**

1. To register your team(s) please visit [www.aaugymnastics.org](http://www.aaugymnastics.org). Click on the online registration link to get started!
2. **Step 1:** Log In/Register (Create an Account) – **The person registering the team must create a user name and password. This is not your AAU membership or club number.** A confirmation email to confirm your information and activate your account will be sent. You must activate your account before you can proceed. Once your account is activated you can begin to register your Gym and athletes.  
\*If you created your account for 2014 event, this account is still active for your use for the 2015 event.
3. **Step 2:** Enter Gym Information – Add your Gym information. As a team, be sure that you list the gym's name as you wish to have it presented/announced at the event (no abbreviations or shorthand). If you are an individual, please complete the information as well even if the rest of your team/gym is not competing with you at this event (no abbreviations or shorthand).

### **Roster Steps:**

4. **Step 1:** Enter Athletes to Roster – Click on the Enter Athletes link. To add an athlete to the Gym roster you will need to enter their 2016 AAU Membership ID and zip code. You may update an athlete's information from 2015 by clicking on the athlete's name from your roster. **IMPORTANT: From the Gym Roster screen please make sure that you enter your entire athlete's Level information! You cannot process your registration until this is complete!** AAU Gymnastics Program is offering Freestyle Acrobatics Individual events; you will need to select these levels and events as well while entering your athlete's information ONLY if this athlete intends to participate in this new discipline of gymnastics.
5. **Step 2:** Enter Coaches – Click on Enter Head Coach, Assistant Coaches link. **IMPORTANT:** You MUST have all coaches 2016 AAU Non Athlete Membership card prior to entering your coaches. You may update a non-athlete's information from 2015 by clicking on the non-athlete's name from your roster. Please note, that you will only be able to list one (1) Head Coach per Club/Team entered.
6. **Step 4:** Hotel & Contact Info Form – Please be sure to complete the hotel and contact information in its entirety listed in Step #4 of the online roster system.

**NOTE:** Please review your entire roster and be sure that each athlete is listed correctly: 1) check the date of birth, 2) the division 3) the age and 4) any other pertinent information. Please also review that you have your coaches information listed correctly and your team name listed correctly.

7. **Step 5:** Check Out - This is where you pay your entry fee(s). Please use a debit or credit card ONLY (VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express). If you cannot pay with a credit card please contact Amanda Steelman, 407-934-7200 (Phone) or [asteelman@ausports.org](mailto:asteelman@ausports.org) for further instructions. We will accept Cashier Checks or Money Orders, but only if necessary (We know a lot of the gyms or YMCA organizations will only pay by check. We will accommodate this request). Once this process is completed, you will receive an email confirmation verifying your payment. We recommend printing and saving this email for your own records.

Amanda Steelman  
AAU Gymnastics, Sport Manager  
407-934-7200 (Phone)  
[asteelman@ausports.org](mailto:asteelman@ausports.org)



## AAU Gymnastics Petition to Participate in Age Group Nationals

Any gymnast that wishes to compete at the AAU Gymnastics Age Group National Championship must compete in their District Championship. If you are unable to attend your District Championship, please fill out the below form and return it to your District Chair. If your District does not have an AAU program or will not be hosting a District Championship, please send this form to the AAU Gymnastics National Chair, Liz Nichols, at [aaunichols@bellsouth.net](mailto:aaunichols@bellsouth.net) or Amanda Steelman, from the National Office, at [asteelman@aausports.org](mailto:asteelman@aausports.org). For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Liz Nichols or Amanda Steelman.

**Gymnast Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **AAU Number** \_\_\_\_\_  
(If individual is applying for petition)

**Club Name and Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **District of Residency** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please explain why you were unable to attend your District Championship:**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
(For individual only not entire club)

**Coaches Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Chair's Signature of Approval**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



# AAU Gymnastics

## Petition to Participate in an Alternate District Championship

Gymnasts and Clubs **must participate in their District Championship**. If you would like to compete in a neighboring District Championship as an alternate for any reason, including to be eligible for the Age Group National Championship, you must fill out this form and return it to your District Chair. The District Chair from the District you reside in must approve the petition first, followed by the District in which you wish to compete. If your District does not have an AAU program or will not be hosting a District Championship, please send this form to the AAU Gymnastics National Chair, Liz Nichols, at [aaunichols@bellsouth.net](mailto:aaunichols@bellsouth.net) or Amanda Steelman, from the National Office, at [asteelman@ausports.org](mailto:asteelman@ausports.org). For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Liz Nichols or Amanda Steelman.

**Gymnast Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **AAU Number** \_\_\_\_\_  
(If individual is applying for petition)

**Club Name and Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **District of Residency** \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain why you are unable to attend the AAU Gymnastics District Championships in the District of your residency.

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**Coaches:** If you are seeking to petition an entire club into an alternate District Championship, please state the number of athletes involved, the levels of each athlete, and attach a verification of all AAU Membership Numbers.

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**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
(For individual only not entire club)

**Coaches Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Chair's District Chair's Signature of Approval**

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Chair Signature (District of Residency) **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Chair's District Chair's Signature of Approval**

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Chair Signature (Alternate District) **Date** \_\_\_\_\_