

Volunteering at the Meets

Twisters, Inc. hosts two to three meets per season. The number of sessions/fees required depends on the number of meets, number of gymnasts and the budget.

Volunteer assignments consist of assisting judges at scoring tables, greeters, clean up, admissions, retail sales, etc. Each shift is generally the length of one meet session.

Sign Up

Signing up for shifts is done through volunteer software. You will receive an email when the shifts are ready for assigning. We will release a limited number of shifts per gymnast at a time so that everyone has equal access to picking shifts. We need all volunteers to plan to spend time at each meet. In a two-meet season, please sign up for half your sessions at each meet. In a three-meet season, please sign up for a third of your sessions at each meet. You or someone 16 and older may work your shifts.

You have the ability to change your shifts until approximately 2 weeks before the meet. Also, it is imperative that you do not 'overbook' yourself and at the last minute, pick the shifts that work. That may leave shifts unassigned.

Job assignments will be assigned at the time of check-in. If there is a position that you do not feel comfortable working, please say so at that time. It is critically important that you BE ON TIME!

Set Up & Tear Down

The most physically strenuous part of running the meets is set-up and tear-down. It is impossible to have too much help. One member from each family (age 16 or older) is required to help with both set-up and tear-down. This does NOT count as a shift. Set Up has generally been Thursday at 5pm. Tear Down is at the conclusion Sunday evening.

Volunteer Coordinator / Check In & Check Out

Upon arrival for your shift and set-up/tear-down, you must check in with the Volunteer Coordinator. He/She will either be in the coach's check-in room or at the entry to the floor (during set-up). At the conclusion of your shift, you must check-out before you leave. It's up to you to make sure you get full credit for working.

Attire

All volunteers will be given a red TCT long sleeve shirt to wear during the meets. Volunteers need to wear khaki or black pants (no jeans with tears or faded, shorts or sweat pants). No hats or headphones allowed. You will also be given a name tag/lanyard which identifies you and allows entry in and out of the hall. Return it upon your final shift.

Set-up/Tear-down: No uniform required, please wear comfortable clothes.

Meet Entry

TCT families (parents and siblings of gymnasts on girl's L3-Elite) are not charged admission to our meets. Your red shirt will serve as an identifier. Stop in to the coach's check in room to get wrist bands for the remaining siblings or for yourself.

DO:

- Keep in mind that the meets are for the benefit of our gymnasts.
- Come prepared to help with whatever needs doing to make the meets run smoothly and be as successful as possible.
- **Encourage ALL gymnasts**, not just your gymnast and not just TCT gymnasts.
- Be positive about TCT, the meet and our coaches.
- Wear a red TCT meet worker shirt with khaki or black pants. The Volunteer Coordinator has extra shirts. Please, no holes, rips or faded jeans, even if correct color.
- Be respectful of all gymnasts, coaches, judges, parents, volunteers, guests and facility staff, regardless of how they're treating you. Remember, these people are our customers.
- Be punctual for any session you're working, we're counting on you.
- Sign in and out for your work sessions to be sure you get credit for working.
- Work the job you're assigned to work.
- Learn from the judges you're working with but be cognizant that they have a job to do.
- Keep communication with the judges to a minimum. They do not mind talking before/after competition, but when competition is going on they need to stay focused. It sends a bad message to the audience if there are unnecessary conversations/distractions going on when their child competes.
- Talk to the Meet Coordinators if you have any problems or questions.
- Have fun.

DON'T:

- Use your cell phone to talk or text while working on the floor. If there is a break in the action, step away from the floor to take care of your communication. All judges and coaches are held to the same standard.
- Challenge, disagree or even discuss scores with the judges.
- Trade jobs with other workers. If for any reason you can't do the job, see the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Complain (but if you have a complaint, direct it to the Meet Coordinators).
- Drink or use illegal drugs at the meet or come to work under the influence.
- Bring younger children to 'help' you or expect other volunteers to babysit them during your shift.
- Send someone under age 16 to work your shift.
- Wear hats or headphones.
- Question coaching decisions. This topic should be discussed at the gym before or after a meet.
- Bring problems or questions to Mike. Please see the Meet Coordinator or Volunteer Coordinator in the Coach's room.

At times the meet directors need to be firm, and some people do get offended by that. Please do not take this personally as we must make decisions that are in the best interest of all gymnasts attending our meets, coaches, the booster club, our gym, visiting gyms, paying customers, judges, all while complying with the rules of USA Gymnastics.

If you cannot follow these do's and don'ts, please don't work the meets. If you choose not to follow them while you're working a meet, you won't get credit for your work, you'll probably be asked to leave and you'll make things a whole lot less fun for the rest of us.

Remember, we're all just volunteers in this whole process and we need each other to make it a success!

We look forward to your participation in working the meets. Even though it is an incredible amount of work, we have found it to be a fun and rewarding team building experience for both our daughters and us as parents! The TCT girls really love our meets!