



THE CHALKBUCKET

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT SUMMER WITH TAG!

We enjoyed our three weeks of summer camp, tons of Zoolympics and GymEd classes, and summer conditioning with the TAG Team! We hope you enjoy the fall/winter terms with us!



ABOUT RIBBONS AND EVALUATIONS:

Over the years, TAG has created a method of evaluation and progression that allows athletes to move up through various skill levels confidently. The levels contain skills TAG's coaches deem important for the overall development of your athlete.

Evaluations are hosted on the fourth and seventh weeks of every term. This is a chance for your athletes to "check off" skills at their current level for each event.

Practical example: Bars (and all other events) have ten levels. Each level contains skills that must be performed at least twice before they are checked off (i.e. Back hip circle, front hip circle, etc.) When a block of skills is checked off they will receive a ribbon at the end of the term for that block.

As the athlete ascends through levels, the skills become progressively harder, making it more challenging to earn ribbons.

Girls:

- To achieve Girls' Beginner from Novice, they need to earn eight ribbons.
- To achieve Girls' Intermediate from Beginner, they need a total of 16 ribbons.
- To achieve Girls' Advanced from Intermediate, they need a total of 24 ribbons.

Boys:

- To move from Novice to Beginner they need to have 19 of 24 skills.

TAG has found this system to be both encouraging and supporting for our budding athletes! Don't forget to attend the ribbon ceremony on the last day of the Term so that you can cheer on the progress made by your athlete.

TAG BOOSTER FUNDRAISERS COMING THIS FALL!

The TAG Team Booster Club will host a Papa John's Coupon Card sale this fall and several other fundraisers into winter and spring. This is a great way to support TAG's hardworking team members as they strive toward their goals this year. More information on these cards and how to purchase them will be available soon!



COACH HIGHLIGHT

CHUCK CLARK

ZOOlympic's Coach

Chuck Clark (known by his students as Mr. Chuck) is a staple at TAG and coaches primarily ZOOlympics students ages five years and younger. Mr. Chuck grew up in Maryland outside of Washington, D.C., and during his first year at Tennessee Temple University, where he majored in art, he was introduced to a new love for gymnastics.

"I roomed with eight guys," said Mr. Chuck. "Two were from Pennsylvania, and besides being farmers, they both did gymnastics in High School. They brought one of those 6x10-yard trampolines and coached me on many different skills. I was on that tramp just about every day. They also had a subscription to International Gymnast Magazine, which I would read over and over."

Mr. Chuck changed his major to Secondary Education with a minor in Math and moved to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. During this switch, he maintained his love for gymnastics.

"After graduation in 1986, I took a short tour in the U.S. Navy as a P3 Orion pilot on Patrol Squadron," said Mr. Chuck, who liked Chattanooga enough to move back after completing his service when he began working with TAG and young athletes. "I've had several coaches influence me. Most obviously, Larry Denham was very good at understanding the mechanics of skills and developing drills to teach gymnasts."

He also enjoyed Phil Savage's contagious passion for the sport. He remembers being wowed by Jack Beisterfeldt, who judged their meets using a computer scoring program—probably the first of his kind to score with a computer program. Mike Tataru, a Romanian gymnast skilled at coaching children, heavily influenced Mr. Chuck's current rapport with young gymnasts.

"I think gymnastics is great for any child," Mr. Chuck said. "It's just lots of fun with various mats and pits. When you try new skills, the mats give you the ability to make mistakes and get back up and try again. Scoring gymnastics is something any child would find challenging, as it involves many different skills and gaining strength and flexibility."

Mr. Chuck describes gymnastics as a sport that benefits every child, especially those competing. They can travel and meet kids all over the region, see cool outfits, train in different environments, and grow toward their goals in a supportive community.

Mr. Chuck is proud of TAG's legacy in the gymnastics community, mainly because they hosted some Olympic gymnasts from the 1995 Summer Games to train at TAG as they geared up for their big Olympic performance in Atlanta.



TAG's gym is well-loved and set up to help our athlete's succeed in their goals!



**We enjoyed our three weeks of
TAG Summer Camp!**

