

**17th ANNUAL
JASON WHITFIELD INVITATIONAL
JANUARY 19-20, 2008
CLIFF KEEN ARENA
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN**

Sixteen years have passed since the first Jason Whitfield Invitational was held honoring the memory of this young, aspiring gymnast. In that time the Foundation has awarded \$132,500 in scholarships, which have aided 51 dedicated athletes who shared the same dreams as Jason. We are also proud to announce that the Foundation will be subsidizing a portion of the Region 5 All-Star camp that is held every summer. This camp further develops and fine-tunes the top athletes in Region 5 on their quest to achieve their goals.

The growth and popularity of this meet have allowed the Foundation trustees to continue to award sizable scholarships. Four deserving young gymnasts will each be honored with scholarships of \$3000 this year.

Clubs from all over the USA continue to attend this competition making it one of the most prestigious boys meets in the country. Traditionally, this meet fills quickly and we may be forced to turn clubs away if the meet gets too large. **All sessions will be traditional formats** (warm-up all six events and then compete with no “one touch”). All entries will be accepted on a first come-first served basis. Be sure to complete your entry forms and return them to us promptly. We appreciate your continued commitment to the “Whitfield” and hope to continue our tradition providing a quality competition for your athletes.

Please contact Al Scharns via e-mail at Branchgym1@aol.com or by phone at 269-963-4770 with any questions regarding the competition. Hopefully, everything is clearly explained in this packet of information. Please be sure to fill out the entry form in its entirety. That means phone numbers, FAX numbers, e-mail address, and all pertinent club information and contact information. **Entries that are not sent on the Official Meet Entry Forms will be sent back. Please utilize the entry form in this packet.**

Entry Deadline: All entries MUST be received by **Friday November 30, 2007** on the enclosed Meet Entry Form. Due to the facility limitation we will need to restrict the number of participants in each session. All entries will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis, according to postmark. **All checks should be made payable to the Jason Whitfield Foundation.** Please utilize the enclosed entry form. **Entries submitted on different entry forms will be returned.**

IMPORTANT: Please provide a **FAX #** and an **e-mail address** where information regarding the meet can be sent. **Changes in Competition Schedule** will be sent either by **FAX or E-mail.**

ENTRY FEE: \$45 per gymnast for Level 4
\$60 per gymnast for Levels 5-10
\$50 per team (3 or more gymnasts of the same level)

Note: \$1.00 per entry fee goes toward USAG Men's Gymnastics Scholarship Fund.

Send entries and checks to:

**Al Scharns
Jason Whitfield Invitational
393 N. Helmer Road
Battle Creek, Michigan 49037**

**Don't forget to use the enclosed Meet
Entry Form!!!!**

No entries accepted by FAX!

USAG Athlete Numbers: All athletes must have a valid USAG Athlete Number. No entries will be processed without these numbers. All coaches must also have their USAG Professional Number and their current Safety Certification. Professional Numbers must be included on the Meet Entry Form. Coaches will not be allowed on the floor without current numbers.

MEET HEADQUARTERS: The host hotels for this competition will be the Holiday Inn & Suites and Four-Points Sheraton Inn-Ann Arbor. A block of rooms is reserved on a first come-first served basis. For reservations, call the hotels directly and mention "Jason Whitfield Invitational".

Holiday Inn & Suites (\$94.00/double)
3155 Boardwalk Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(734) – 213-1900

Four Points Sheraton (\$92.00/room)
3200 Boardwalk Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(734) – 996-0600

COMPETITION SITE: The competition will be held in Gym Room 1700 on the campus of the University of Michigan on the corner of State Street and Hoover Street, adjacent to the University track and just north of Yost Ice Arena.

State Street is Exit #177 off of I-94. Keen Arena is approximately 2 miles north on State Street.

EQUIPMENT AT COMPETITION SITE:

FX: AAI Stratum Floor

PH: AAI Pommel Horse & AAI Mushroom

SR: AAI Ring Tower

V: AAI Vaulting Table & Stratum Boards

PB: AAI Parallel Bars (new base with taller uprights will be used)

HB: AAI Horizontal Bar

Mats: AAI Competition Landing Mats, 10 cm Throw Mats, 8” Skill Cushions, Panel Mats

MEET SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS: A special meet t-shirt or sweatshirt will be available to all competitors and coaches at a discounted price until November 30th, 2007. These shirts will be available for pre-order on a separate form that is included with this packet. The Shirt Order Form should be sent with a separate check made out to the “Jason Whitfield Foundation” to the following address:

Whitfield Foundation
PO Box 51271
Livonia, MI 48150

DO NOT SEND SHIRT ORDER FORMS TO AL SCHARNS. DO NOT INCLUDE SHIRT ORDER FORMS WITH MEET ENTRY FORMS. Thank you.

Sweatshirts will only be available through the pre-order form. T-Shirts are available through pre-order or onsite. Pre-ordered shirts will be available for pick-up at the Competition Site at the Admission Area T-Shirt Counter. T-shirt pre-order prices are \$13.00. Sweatshirt pre-order prices are \$23.00.

JUDGING: All judges will be N.G.J.A Certified and assigned by the Michigan Judges Association President Jonathan Conrad.

ADMISSIONS: Admission to the Meet for adults will be \$7.00 per day. Senior citizens and students will be \$5.00 per day. Children under the age of five are free.

SCORING: USA Gymnastics age group compulsory and optional rules will be followed. Scores will be tabulated by computer and posted at the meet. Complete results will be posted on the USAG – Michigan website (www.usag-mi.org) and the Branch Gymnastics website (www.Branchgymnastics.com). Results will NOT be mailed out.

AWARDS: Age divisions will be determined after entries are received. Individual awards will be presented at the conclusion of each session.

TEAM AWARDS: Team awards will be determined by the top three (3) scores on each event regardless of age for each level.

CONCESSIONS: Concessions are run through Gladieux Corporation. They are contracted by the University and the Whitfield Meet has no involvement with the concessions.

MEN'S COLLEGE MEET: The University of Michigan Wolverines will host Penn State University at 7:30 PM in Keen Arena on Saturday, January 19th. All competitors and coaches will receive free admission to watch Michigan host Penn State!!

REFUND POLICY: There will be NO REFUNDS after the Entry Deadline (November 30th, 2007). Injury withdrawals will be considered on an individual basis and with a doctor's note sent to meet director. No refunds for any reason will be granted after one week before the competition (January 11, 2008). All other conflicts with schedule will not be considered for refunds.

LATE ENTRY FEE: There will be a \$50.00/club Late Entry Fee assessed for any entries received after the Entry Deadline of November 30th, 2007.

