

MIKE WALKER INVITATIONAL SOUTHAMPTON GYMNASTICS CLUB

WWW.SOTONGYM.CO.UK 02380 529952

FACEBOOK: SOUTHAMPTON GYMNASTICS CLUB TWITTER: @SOTONGYM



Competition details

Where: Southampton Gymnastics Club, Cuckmere Lane, Southampton, SO16 9AR

Judging: Each club to supply at least 1 judge per discipline, for example if you enter both Acro and Tumbling, you will be required to supply 1 judge per competition. £25 penalty fee if no judge is supplied per discipline. Food & drink provided.

Coaches: All coaches must hold the appropriate British Gymnastics membership and qualifications to the level of the elements being performed by their gymnasts. All gymnasts must have a coach present on the competition floor at all times.

Gymnasts: All gymnasts must hold current British Gymnastics Silver membership to enter the competition.

Entry Fee: There is an entry fee of £15 per gymnast, to be paid via bank transfer or cheque with final entry. Please contact us to confirm our bank details. Please do not pay this until we have received all provisional entries and confirmed that the event is able to proceed.

Entries: Provisional entry by **Tuesday 24th July 2018** and final entry with entry fee by **Tuesday 28th August 2018**. Provisional entry forms will be downloadable from our website -

<http://www.sotongym.co.uk/info/club-calendar-events-competitions/the-mike-walker-invitational-2018>

Tumbling

When: Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st October 2018

Level: Club 1-3, NDP 1-7 & FIG

Tariff Sheets: All tariff sheets are to be emailed to anna@sotongym.co.uk by Friday 12th October 2018, please ensure you bring a paper copy on the day as a backup.

Other Information: We will have mixed gender groups from Club 1 through to Club 3, all other grade levels for NDP and FIG will be normal Men/Women categories.

The rules for the Mike Walker Tumbling competition for NDP will be following the same format as the 'English Silver Judging Rules'. Please see the documents attached to the email for further details.



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Acrobatics

When: Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th October 2018

Level: NDP Grade 1 to 5, YOUTH, IDP & FIG.

- Regional and National level for Grade 2 and 3.

The NDP Grades 1 to 5 will be termed 'National' Grades in the competition. In addition, NDP Grades 2 and 3 will also have an additional category termed 'Regional' Grades. There will be separate medals and groups for 'National' and 'Regional' Grades. In order to enter 'Regional' Grades 2 or 3 the gymnasts must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- They normally only train a maximum of two sessions per week (It is considered acceptable that they may on a very occasional basis train an additional session –perhaps in the week or two before the competition)
- They normally only train a maximum of 6 hours per week (It is considered acceptable that they may on a very occasional basis train a couple of extra hours –perhaps in the week or two before the competition)
- It is reliant on the integrity of the coach / club that gymnasts who are entered at 'Regional' Grades meet the above criteria (in the spirit, as well as the letter, of the rules)

Other Information: Minimum age of 6 years and no height deductions. We will be awarding medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place per routine (e.g. for balance, dynamic and combined); as long as there is more than one entry in the category.

Music: Music to be emailed in mp3 file to anna@sotongym.co.uk before Friday 12th October 2018. Please bring CD as back up on the day.

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MIKE WALKER (1936 - 2014)

Mike Walker, former Head Coach at Southampton Gymnastics Club and British National Coach in Acrobatic Gymnastics, passed away on 30th December 2014, at the age of 78 years, after a long illness.

Mike, along with his wife Pat, began coaching as a parent volunteer in the seventies, leading to a career that spanned over three decades as a coach with a great passion for the development of Acrobatic Gymnastics at Club, Regional, National and International level. The fundamental spirit that underpinned Mike's work within the sport was one of inclusion and friendliness combined with a desire to share knowledge which he so freely imparted to so many developing clubs across the country.

Mike led Southampton Gymnastics Club in cementing Acrobatic Gymnastics as a discipline within the country, with gymnasts from the club achieving many firsts within the sport with World, European and International medals at a time when this was a rarity within British Gymnastics. This resulted in Mike's appointment as British National Coach for Acrobatic Gymnastics, where the success of Great Britain continued and participation in the discipline across the country grew. Mike achieved this by recognising that the selfless sharing of knowledge via training camps, regional and national squads, combined with making the Club open to all, would ensure that there was abundant opportunity for all interested gymnasts and coaches to learn about the sport. Indeed it is true to say that Mike was amongst those who created the sound building blocks for the incredible success that Acrobatic Gymnastics has achieved in Great Britain.

We applaud, thank and admire Mike for the tireless effort he gave to the sport. He will be remembered with such fondness.