



Dear 2019 Turnfest Participants,

First and foremost we would like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome and THANK YOU for all those registered to attend the 55th Quadrennial American Turner National Festival (Turnfest) held in Fort Wayne, IN. We are excited to announce approximately 700 individuals have registered to participate, in some form, in the 2019 Turnfest. We hope to add multiple spectators which will bring the total to an astonishing 800+ attendees. We cannot thank you enough for your participation and help in making this such an exciting event.

A few items for everyone to be aware of prior to making the trip to Fort Wayne.

- If you are 18 or over and plan to participate in swimming, whether competing or coaching, and you plan to be on the deck at the Helen Brown Natatorium **YOU MUST go thru the Natatorium's strict security screening.** Even if you are a parent going to the locker room to assist your child. **NO EXCEPTIONS! We are encouraging you to visit the Helen P. Brown Natatorium located at 3301 South Calhoun Street, 46806 (prior to Saturday's swimming events) and provide your government issued picture I.D. to receive your security clearance.** You will then receive a wrist band to be worn at all times while at the Natatorium, even while swimming. If you wait to gain clearance on Saturday please allow extra time for process when arriving prior to the start of competitions that day.
- Every participant, regardless of event type, or spectator will be required to wear their check-in badge at all times (unless competing and then it is not recommended). This is your **PREPAID PASS** into all events whether they are held at North Side, Lions Park, Helen Brown Natatorium, Canterbury Green Golf Course or Fort Wayne Turners for the banquet. You have purchased this pass through your check-in fees so **please do your best to keep track of it all week.** Just plan on making it a part of your daily wardrobe!
- Reminder for all societies to bring your banners to use in the parade and your society flags for the cultural exhibit. **You must provide your own stands for your flags/banners.**
- Alcohol will not be permitted at any sporting event. The event facilities are Fort Wayne Community Schools and Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation facilities and alcohol is not permitted. Alcohol is permitted at the Fort Wayne club and Canterbury Green Golf course only if purchased at those locations.
- **For all golfers,** you will pay your additional \$25 green fees (**no credit card transactions**) when you come to the club for festival check in. No payments will be accepted Friday morning at the golf course.
- **Good news** - We have a Final Schedule for the Festival events. A tremendous amount of people registered for Pickleball. As a result we had to make a significant change to Thursday's schedule for Pickleball and Gymnastics. We made every effort to keep conflicts to a minimum.

Unfortunately, some people might have to make a decision which event they want to compete in on Thursday. We are thrilled with the amount of participation in Pickleball and will make sure the schedule for the next National Festival is adjusted to better accommodate Pickleball. Please review the attached Final Schedule. There is also a slight time change for Tumbling and Rhythmic on Friday.

- We have several additional forms of activities/entertainment for you to enjoy throughout the week as well. Wednesday at 6:00 pm we will have the opening ceremonies and parade, followed by the Miss American Turner pageant (7 participants). During the intermission and after the pageant the Toledo Turners Deutsche Volkstanz Gruppe will be performing.
- Thursday night at 7:00 pm under the pavilion, Concordia Turners has graciously agreed to have a Sport Cup Stacking demonstration/contest for all ages. Concordia has members who compete in the National Championships of Sport Cup Stacking.
- Friday night at 7:00 pm, along with the food trucks, live entertainment and fireworks (at dusk), we will be hosting a bourbon tasting venue. There is an additional fee (\$10 for 6 one ounce pours) and tickets will be sold at check-in to the first 100 participants.
- We hope you all come out to sit back, relax and watch or participate in these added festivities!

If anyone needs to purchase a spectator badge or an additional t-shirt, these items will be available for purchase at check-in at the Fort Wayne club.

Fort Wayne Turners will be open from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm Tuesday 7/23, 9:00 am to 11:00 pm Wednesday, 7:00 am to 11:00 pm Thursday and 11:00 am to 1:00 am Friday and Saturday. Kitchen hours are 11:00 am to 3:00 pm Wednesday – Saturday for lunch and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Wednesday – Friday for dinner. Saturday is the festival banquet in the gymnasium @ 6:00 pm.

Fort Wayne Turners, as well as all Turner clubs, are a family society. We could not be more excited and honored to be able to host this 55th American Turner National Festival. We are encouraging all members of any age, young and old, to come and enjoy our club and more importantly to feel welcome while out of town. All we ask is to respect one another and for everyone to have a memorable experience while in Fort Wayne.

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact myself or Michelle and we will gladly get back with you as soon as we can.

Safe travels to Fort Wayne and we look very forward to seeing you all soon!

With Turner Greetings,

Jim Markland & Michelle Lesperance
2019 Turnfest Chairpersons
American Turners