

## Team Lightning— Competitive Camp Housing Form

Dear Parent,

Thank you for considering our camp. Unlike some of the ‘glamour’ / ‘college’ camps, we do not have dormitory style housing for our guest. What we have done successfully for now 30 years is help facilitate Camp housing by pairing up visiting athletes with Team Lightning member families. Essentially we look at your child’s age, level, interests, allergies... and try to match them up with one of our Team Lightning Families of similar age, level.... We then send a questionnaire to our Team Parents asking if any family is interested in ‘hosting’ a gymnast for the week. We then provide both of you with contact information to contact each other and make sure it’s a good fit.

Your child’s safety, comfort, and health are our concern, not just at the camp, but the entire experience. We want them to have a great experience and want them to learn a lot, have a lot of fun, tell their friends, and come back next year. Legally, Erie Gymnastics Center can NOT directly host an athlete. Our liabilities and legal status only apply at the facility and during training. As a result, we say ‘facilitate’ or help connect to willing families for the experience.

The first thing I will say is that I use the same criteria I use when helping facilitate housing as I do when hiring staff. I use the “Mackenzie Test” (you can read about it in detail on our staff page). “Mackenzie” is my daughter and now a young adult. However when she was a young gymnast here, prior to hiring a new staff member, I asked myself—“Would I feel comfortable, safe, and trust my daughter in this ‘staff persons’ class or team practice?” If so, they are hired. If not, they were not considered for the position. I continue to use this line of thought to this day. I use the same thought process when matching up families. I say... “Would I trust my daughter staying with this family for the week?” We get to know our families fairly well here at EGC. If I did not feel comfortable allowing my child to stay there, I certainly wouldn’t recommend that family to you.

So the process of ‘matching / pairing’ families starts with the questionnaire. Once you return this form, we will look for an appropriate match. You will be given their contact info and can call/ write / talk to them to ensure you feel comfortable with the arrangement. If you don’t simply let me know and we will try another match. We have over 100 Team Lightning Women’s Team Members of all ages and levels and lifestyles.

The “Host Family” serves their daily needs. The host family will drive them to and from the gym for practice as well as to various nightly activities we have throughout the week. It’s a very vigorous & exhausting—but rewarding week. In addition, the Host Family will treat your child like their own, feed them, pack a lunch, provide bedding, towels.... In addition we provide you / them with a document allowing them ‘legally’ act in your interests in the event of an Emergency such as an illness or injury.

The “Host Family” does take on a significant responsibility for the week. From their end it’s an additional mouth to feed, additional laundry, additional mess in the house.... While we (nor they) charge anything for the week, we recommend that you at minimum make a \$75.00 donation to the family for food and expenses. Just like your gym, our families vary widely in their ‘economic status’. Some may not accept it, others may and it will defray their additional costs, but it is more the recognition of their part for the week.

For the most part, both the visiting gymnast and the host gymnast & family enjoy the experience. For both the visiting & host gymnast, they get a new friend / gym sister for the week. Most of these relationships are extremely positive and most keep in touch throughout their gymnastics careers. For the ‘host gymnast’, it’s an extended sleepover party for a whole week, although we typically tire them out that they don’t stay up all night. It’s typically a rewarding & enriching experience for all.

If interested in staying with a Host Family, please fill out the following form and return it via email to the gym. Each year we typically have about 15-20 visiting gymnasts who stay with a Host Family. We have many other visiting gymnasts who live close enough to commute back & forth or who make other arrangements to stay in the Erie Area.

Please return the form ASAP so we can help facilitate the arrangements.

# Team Lightning Competitive Camp

## Visiting Gymnast Housing Request Questionnaire

Gymnasts Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gymnast Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gymnast Current Competitive Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Gymnasts Home Gym: \_\_\_\_\_ Coaches Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents / Guardians Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Name & Number should Parent not answer: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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• Does your child have any Medical Problems / Allergies / Medications: ( Yes / No ) If Yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

• Has your child stayed away from home before? ( Yes / No ) Briefly explain (Ex. Yes, stays with Grandma, or stays at friends for sleepovers...) \_\_\_\_\_

• Does your child have any Dietary Restrictions / Dislikes...? (Yes / No) Briefly explain (Ex. Gluten Free / Vegetarian / Peanut Allergy, hates Fish) \_\_\_\_\_

• Does your child have any aversion to Family Pets? ( Yes / No ) (Ex. Pet allergies / afraid of dogs / or no, we have cats & dogs...) \_\_\_\_\_

• Swimming Ability: After camp, we often go to Lake Erie beaches as well as the Water Park. ( Can't Swim at all / Limited to shallow water only / Moderate / Swims like a fish and can't get her out of the water ) Briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_

• Please briefly describe your child's personality: (Ex. Shy at first, but once warmed up—won't shut up / or / Very independent... \_\_\_\_\_

• Any other Hobbies or Interests? \_\_\_\_\_

• Anything else of interest or concern that we or the host family might like / need to know about your child? \_\_\_\_\_

• Any concerns you may have? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT OF MINORS

Prepared by Team Lightning Inc. dba Erie Gymnastics Center for Team Coaching Staff for Team

If your child needs emergency medical, dental, or hospital services, you as a parent must give permission. It is the law.

What about the times when you cannot be reached for permission or are too far away to respond in a timely manner? A child may be treated without the parental consent when a physician determines a true emergency exists. That means the doctor determines the child needs immediate medical care and that an attempt to obtain parental consent would result in delay which would increase the risk to the child's life or health.

Except in a true emergency, care may be ordinarily rendered to a child only with the consent of the parent or legal guardian. Sometimes a child may need unexpected care which is not, however, a true emergency. In such cases, making an effort to contact a parent for permission can delay treatment and create unnecessary anxious moments for the child.

You can prepare for unexpected care your children might need when you are away from home. To do this, make sure baby-sitters know how to reach you at all times. And when you know you will be hard to reach, you can give permission to other adults. They can then act for you by permitting your child to be treated if unexpected care is needed.

This is a legal document. With it you may appoint relatives, friends, teachers, clergy, neighbors-anyone who is over 18 years of age-to be responsible for your children when you are away from them. It is especially important to prepare this form for the occasions when you know it will be hard to contact you.

Fill out this form carefully. Have your signature witnessed by an adult different from the person you are making responsible for

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◆ Name of Minor \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

◆ Identify Allergies or Special Conditions \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We being the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the above named minor(s), so hereby appoint:**

Name of Sponsor—Douglas Pershun / Stef Hargest / Tina Pershun / Justin Whitman / Cindy Bretz

- c/o Erie Gymnastics Inc. 4725 Park Harbor Dr. Erie, PA 16511 (814) 898-2936

Additional Sponsors--Employees & Coaching Staff of Team Lightning Inc. Host Families of visiting gymnasts.

**To act in my/our behalf in authorizing unexpected medical, dental, surgical care and hospitalization for the above named minor during the period of my/our absence, from DATE: 6/15/20 through DATE:**

**7/4/20**

**This document shall be presented to a physician, dentist or appropriate hospital representative at such time as unexpected medical, dental, surgical care or hospitalization may be required.**

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date