

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



MEDIA CONTACTS:

Jenny Popis, Communications Manager
Greater Cleveland Sports Commission
216-363-1128 direct
216-570-3232 cell
jpopis@clevelandssports.org

Amanda Robinson, Media & Public Relations Coordinator
USA Gymnastics
317-829-5679 direct
arobinson@usagym.org



Cleveland will host USA Gymnastics Trampoline & Tumbling 2012 Stars and Stripes Cup – May 10-13, 2012

Cleveland, Ohio (February 3, 2012) – More than 400 gymnasts are to compete in USA Gymnastics Trampoline and Tumbling Stars and Stripes Cup, May 10-13, in Cleveland, Ohio. Held at Cleveland Public Auditorium, the three-day event showcases the USA's best in men's and women's trampoline, tumbling, synchronized trampoline and double mini-trampoline. The Stars and Stripes Cup is the second of three events in the selection process for the U.S. Olympic Team for trampoline.

In addition to the junior and senior elite levels, the Stars and Stripes Cup also includes athletes in Levels 8-10 and the Olympic Development Program. The four events for the elite and Olympic Development Program levels will have both preliminary and final rounds.

The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission, the City of Cleveland and Cleveland Public Auditorium are assisting with the hosting and staging of the Stars and Stripes Cup which is estimated to bring over \$275,000 in economic activity to the region.

"The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission is thrilled to work with USA Gymnastics once again to bring this gymnastics event to Cleveland that showcases the best athletes in trampoline and tumbling. This will be a great opportunity for our community to support our country's finest trampoline gymnasts as they prepare for the Olympic Games in London," stated David Gilbert, President and CEO of the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission.

One man and one woman will represent the United States in trampoline at the 2012 Olympic Games in London. The Stars and Stripes Cup is the second of three qualifying events for the 2012 U.S. Olympic Team for trampoline. The other two events are the 2012 U.S. Elite Challenge, held March 30-April 1 in Tulsa, Okla., and a final selection event held in conjunction with the U.S. Elite Trampoline and Tumbling Championships, June 27-28 in San Jose, Calif. Athletes earn points based on their finishes at the three selection events, with points earned at two of the three competitions counting toward the final ranking.

Trampoline events involve athletes using trampolines that can propel them up to 30 feet in the air, during which they can perform double and triple twisting somersaults. Tumbling utilizes elevated rod-floor runways that enable athletes to jump at heights more than 10 feet and execute a variety of acrobatic maneuvers. For

the double-mini competition, the athlete makes a short run, leaps onto a small two-level trampoline, performs an aerial maneuver and dismounts onto a landing mat.

Based in Indianapolis, USA Gymnastics is the national governing body for gymnastics in the United States. Its mission is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in the sport. Its disciplines include men's and women's artistic gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics, trampoline and tumbling, acrobatic gymnastics and group gymnastics. For more complete information, visit www.usagym.org.

###

About the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission: The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission prides itself on being one of the most distinguished Sports Commissions in the country, effectively leveraging sports events and activities to further economic development in Northeast Ohio. The philosophy of the Sports Commission sets it apart from others by operating as an economic and community development organization utilizing sports as a vehicle to forward other community agendas. The organization takes the unique approach of becoming a management and financial partner in each event with the goal of producing events that are more successful in Cleveland than other cities in which they have been held. Since 2000, the Sports Commission has been responsible for attracting, creating and/or managing over 120 sporting events resulting in more than \$370 million in economic activity. For more information, please visit www.clevelandsports.org.