

February 25, 2026

Dear Members of the Arlington County Board,

On behalf of USA Gymnastics, the national governing body for the sport of gymnastics in the United States, we write to express our strong support for the continuation of Arlington County's gymnastics programming at Barcroft Sports & Fitness Center and to respectfully urge the County to reconsider the proposed elimination of these programs due to budget constraints.

Arlington County's gymnastics programs have served as a model for accessible, community-based sport and recreation. Publicly supported gymnastics programs such as those offered by the County play a critical role in the national sport ecosystem by providing safe, affordable, and inclusive entry points for youth participation. These programs not only promote physical literacy and healthy lifestyles, but also foster discipline, confidence, and lifelong engagement in sport.

Arlington County provides a variety of gymnastics programming that include recreational, competitive, and adaptive gymnastics classes. County-operated programs, like Arlington's, uniquely serve families who may not otherwise have access to private gymnastics facilities due to cost, transportation, or accommodation needs. The elimination of these offerings would significantly impact youth with disabilities and families who rely on public recreation programs to access high-quality sport experiences.

Local public programs are essential to sustaining the long-term health of gymnastics within our country. They provide foundational skill development, expand participation opportunities, and help ensure that gymnastics remains inclusive and accessible. Communities that maintain strong public sport infrastructure contribute directly to improved public health outcomes and increased community engagement.

We believe Arlington County's gymnastics programs represent an investment in youth development, equity, and community wellbeing. We respectfully urge the County Board to consider the long-term value of these programs and to work collaboratively with stakeholders to identify solutions that allow them to continue serving the community.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration. USA Gymnastics would welcome the opportunity to provide additional perspective or support as the County evaluates future options for its gymnastics programming.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Woodnick".

Jason Woodnick
Vice President of Men's Program
jwoodnick@usagym.org
317-829-5634