

Head Coach's Report – November 2025

North Devon Display Gymnastics Club

Firstly, I'd like to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone for their continued support throughout the past year. The commitment shown by our coaches, management team, trustees, gymnasts, and families has once again been outstanding. North Devon Display Gymnastics Club continues to grow stronger each year, and this success is entirely down to the dedication and teamwork of everyone involved.

This year has been a particularly strong one for the Club. Membership numbers remain high, and the atmosphere in the gym continues to be positive, busy, and full of energy. Lots of classes are at capacity, with waiting lists in operation for some of our classes. Our taster days continue to be popular and bring new gymnasts to the club at organised times.

We've introduced new classes designed to help gymnasts bridge the gap between recreational and competitive gymnastics - this class is in its infancy, but we are already seeing our gymnasts show progress. It's also been amazing to see gymnasts embracing new challenges and progressing confidently in our tumbling programme from our recreation classes.

Our display team is continuously growing and is going from strength to strength. Our display gymnasts have once again represented NDDGC superbly at a variety of events this year, performing at the North Devon Show, half-time for the Exeter Chiefs, and a truly memorable Chance 2 Dance performance at Alton Towers. Each event has given our gymnasts the opportunity to perform in front of new audiences, showcase their hard work, and promote the positive, inclusive spirit of our Club.

Competitively, the Club has enjoyed great success, with two out-of-county competitions resulting in strong performances, medals, and plenty of proud moments. Our development squads have been working hard, with new gymnasts successfully moving up from recreational classes – largely invited through impressive performances in our hugely popular and successful Club recreational competition. Their commitment and enthusiasm have been fantastic, and we're excited to see how they progress over the coming year. It's been wonderful to see the continued improvement in skill level and confidence across all age groups of our development squad.

The new Levels Award System introduced earlier this year has now been fully implemented. It's proving to be a really positive addition, giving gymnasts clear goals to work towards and recognition for their ongoing progress.

We've also introduced a Gymnasts' Code of Conduct, aimed at promoting positive behaviour, respect, and teamwork across all sessions. This has been implemented to ensure the gym remains a safe, encouraging, and enjoyable environment for everyone. Early feedback from coaches and gymnasts has been very positive, and we're already seeing improvements in focus, teamwork, and productivity in the gym.

A major highlight of the year was our Annual Awards and Presentation Show – a sell-out theatre event that celebrated our gymnasts' achievements and showcased their talent. The performance was outstanding, and it was fantastic to see so many families coming together to celebrate the Club's success.

Young Leaders Academy

The Young Leaders Academy continues to go from strength to strength. It's been great to see our young leaders gaining confidence, developing their coaching skills, and becoming an integral part of our sessions. They bring real energy and enthusiasm to the gym and serve as excellent role models for our younger gymnasts.

Our coaching team has remained stable this year, with very few changes – something that provides a great sense of continuity for our gymnasts. This consistency has allowed us to refine our coaching approach and ensure all sessions are of high quality, structured, and supportive.

Club Environment and Communication

We've made a conscious effort this year to make the gym a more inviting and positive space for everyone. Coaches, gymnasts, and families have all worked together to keep the gym and communal areas tidy and organised, creating an environment that reflects the pride we all have in our Club.

We've also updated all of our information boards and improved how we share key messages, successes, and updates. The main information board now provides focused, clear details for members, while the outside noticeboard shares key club updates for parents and visitors. We've also added a rolling information screen in the viewing area, making it easier for families to stay informed about upcoming events and achievements.

In addition, our social media presence has improved significantly, allowing us to manage communication more efficiently and keep members updated in real time. This has strengthened engagement across our community and helped celebrate the club's many achievements throughout the year.

Events, Fundraising and Community

This year's fundraising efforts have been exceptional. Our staff, parents, and volunteers have worked incredibly hard, organising everything from bingo nights and cake sales to competitions and sleepovers. These events not only raise important funds but also strengthen our sense of community – something that truly defines NDDGC.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Trustee Committee for their ongoing guidance and leadership. Their time, effort, and expertise are invaluable in keeping the Club moving forward. We're also very fortunate to have such strong support from

our parent volunteers. Their hard work behind the scenes ensures our events and classes run smoothly, and their commitment continues to make a real difference to what we can achieve.

A special thank you also goes to our coaching team for their dedication, professionalism, and passion for helping every gymnast reach their potential. I'm proud to work alongside such a talented and caring group of people.

And of course, thank you to our gymnasts and their families. Your enthusiasm, encouragement, and loyalty are at the heart of everything we do. Watching our gymnasts grow in confidence, skill, and teamwork is what makes all the hard work worthwhile.

Looking Ahead

As we look forward to the 2025–2026 season, our focus will remain on providing high-quality gymnastics coaching, expanding development opportunities, and continuing to nurture the positive, family-oriented atmosphere that makes NDDGC so special.

We're excited to build on this year's successes, continue supporting our coaches and young leaders, and give our gymnasts every opportunity to shine – both in the gym and beyond.

Thank you all once again for an incredible year. It's an honour to be part of such a dedicated and inspiring community, and I can't wait to see what we achieve together next.