

Ceremonial Protocols for Events

1 Opening Ceremonies Protocol

Gym Sask is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion. Honoring Indigenous Peoples and the traditional territories on which gymnastics events take place is an important part of Truth and Reconciliation within sport. Embedding respectful practices within the Opening Ceremonies creates space for learning and relationship building with Indigenous communities.

In preparation for an event, host organizing committees are encouraged to reach out to the local [Tribal Council](#) to:

- Invite Indigenous leaders to participate in the March-In
- Create opportunities for Indigenous participation during the event (e.g., performing during Opening Ceremonies, inviting school/community groups to come watch)
- Ask if and what kind of gift should be presented to Indigenous dignitaries participating in the event

*****Reaching out at least one month before the event is recommended*****

Please note, it is **required** to have the following at all Gym Sask sanctioned Opening Ceremonies:

- The playing/singing of the Canadian National Anthem (preferably in official and Indigenous languages)
 - Example: English/French/Cree version
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9hnrGwGF14)
- A land acknowledgment
- Athlete March-In & introduction
- Greetings on behalf of the Gym Sask Board
- Greetings on behalf of the Host Organizing Committee
- March-in and/or display of:
 - Canadian flag
 - Saskatchewan flag
 - Treaty flag
 - Métis Nation flag
- Athlete, Coach and Judge* Oath

Oaths

Athlete's Oath

"In the name of all gymnasts, I promise that we shall take part in these Provincial Championships (NAME of event) respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honor of the gymnasts."

Coach's Oath

"In the name of all Coaches, I promise that we shall commit ourselves to ensuring that the spirit of sportsmanship and ethics is fully adhered to and upheld in accordance with the fundamental principles of sport. We shall commit ourselves to educating the gymnasts to respect all rules governing these Provincial Championships (NAME of event)."

Judge's Oath *(for competitive events only)

"In the name of all judges and officials, I promise that we shall officiate in these Championships (NAME of event) with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship."

EXAMPLE - Basic (Treaty 4 territory)

"We acknowledge that we are hosting this Provincial Gymnaestrada on Treaty 4 territory, homelands of the nêhiyawak (nay-hi-yuh-wuk (Cree)), Anihšīnāpēk (uh-nish-i-naa-payk (Saulteaux)), Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda, Anishinaabe, and Métis Nation, whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We come together in the spirit of respect and reciprocal learning to grow together as a community."

Gymnastics Saskatchewan and the CLUB would like to extend a special thank you to all the volunteers and organizing committee members for this event.

A few housekeeping announcements:

Just a reminder that for the safety of our athletes - there is NO flash photography permitted. Professional photos are available for purchase in the vendor area by the main entrance.

Now, let's welcome our athletes for march in.