



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

The University of Texas at Austin hold ownership of the longest instance of the sport at any University in Texas. Tracing its roots back over a century to 1912, the sport of gymnastics was introduced to UT by L. Theo Belmont, a German tumbler who later went on to become athletic director of the University. Over the next century, the sport of gymnastics played a vital role in UT's history, from physical education, air force training, and as a competitive sport.

In the later half of the 20th century the University was home to a varsity women's team in the women's precursor to the NCAA, the AIAW. While the varsity team was short lived, the ambition of the student athletes carried their love for the sport into future years as a club sport, while at the same time, the men's team excelled and competed at NCAA meets - until it was discovered they were just a club. In 1993, the two clubs were consolidated into a unisex organization where they remain today.

Although they lost their on-campus gymnasium in 1996, the UT team has helped put Texas on the map, with more Men's NAIGC national championship titles than any other school - except for long time rival Texas A&M University, with whom they share this distinction, and are second place for most women's titles. The Gymnastics club also currently holds more championships than any other sport club at the university. In total they have lit the UT tower orange 11 times.

With two to three dozen regular competitive members, the UT Longhorns are one of the biggest teams in the TGC. Team practices are held Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30pm to 10:00pm. Club membership is \$300.00 per year, and the team raises money each year via fundraisers to help offset its travel and competition costs. Although the practice facility is located off campus, the team arranges carpools to assist those who need transportation help.

The Texas Longhorns have celebrated a rich history of competition. Their men's team has frequented the USAG collegiate championships, and in recent years the team's alumni from the past few decades have held reunions to recollect their competition days.



Additional information on the Longhorns' team can be found by emailing info@texasgymnastics.org or by visiting the links below.