

Subject: DPR- Gymnastics Program Fees

**FY 2019 Proposed Budget
Budget Work Session Follow-up**

3/29/2018

The following information is provided in response to a request made by Christian Dorsey at the work session on 3/13/2018, regarding the following question:
Why is there a cost disparity between boys' and girls' gymnastics program fees?

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) sets gymnastics competitive team program fees by following the Board approved Cost Recovery Model and recommendations of the Aquatics and Gymnastics Team Work Group ("Work Group"). The Work Group was established August 2014 at the request of the Arlington County Board and concluded in January 2015 with recommendations included in the FY 2016 DPR Fee Resolution adopted by the County Board.

Each year since the Work Group, annual fees are developed in collaboration with the competitive team booster clubs. The team fees in the FY 2019 DPR Proposed Fee Resolution reflect that collaborative process.

Aquatics and gymnastic fees are set at each of the competitive team levels. These fees are based on a variety of factors such as the number of participants per team level, ratio of coaching staff to participants, and the number of practice hours. As a result of these factors, competitive team fees may differ between the boys' and girls' gymnastics team and at the teams' different levels.

Furthermore, the instructional programs for each level is not the same between the teams. For example, Level 4 of the boys' team and Level 4 of the girls' team have different instructional programs; consequently, these two levels have a different number of participants, practice hours and coaching staff ratio required which results in a different fee. As each of these factors influence the fee set, levels that have the same number of practice hours can still have a different fee.