



929-2869

Grand Traverse Bay

GYMNASTICS

Northern Michigan's Premiere Gymnastics Center

231-929-2869 www.gtbaygymnastics.com

News Release

submitted by
Betsy Van Deirse

December 12, 2021

GT Bay Gymnastics Opens Season “On the Grand”

(Grand Rapids, MI) – The Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics teams returned to competition this past weekend, led by Tabitha Pritchard’s Level 4 first-place gold-medal finish. Pritchard earned gold by winning the floor exercise, placing second on beam, and collecting a third-place bronze medal for her vault.

Grand Rapids’ “On the Grand” meet was the first team competition for the local gymnasts in nearly two years. Prior to the shutdowns, Level 9 gymnast Avery Wisniewski and teammate Olyvia Galton had qualified for USAG Nationals in May of 2019, finishing 10th all-around and third on floor next to teammate Olyvia Galton who won that national championship in stunning fashion with all-around and floor gold medals. Wisniewski’s return to competition in Grand Rapids included a second-place silver medal vault and a third-place bronze medal floor routine.

“In a lot of ways, this first meet of the season felt like our first meet ever,” commented coach Jennifer Van Deirse. “With all of the rebuilding we’ve had to do – the whole sport has had to do – we’re relieved to have this one under our belts. There’s nothing like real competition, and I’m proud of the way Tabby [Pritchard] and all of the girls stepped up.”

Backing up Pritchard with all-around medals were Adalyn Tillman (Level 3 second-place all-around, first-place beam and floor, and third-place vault and bars), Olivia Crane (Level 6 third-place all-around, second-place floor, and third-place bars), and Zahra Mitchell (Level 4 second-place vault and third-place all-around, bars, and floor).

Other event medalists for the Grand Traverse Bay team included Naima Mitchel (Level 3 second-place vault), Maeve Carlson (Level 6 second-place beam), Sophia Tucker (Level 9 second-place beam), Payton Crane (Level 9 third-place bars), Skylar Hawkins (Level 6 third-place floor), and Zoe Butler (Level 4 third-place beam).

The Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics teams next compete at the Winter Cup Classic in Mt Pleasant, MI January 14 - 16. For more information about Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics, now located in the Grand Traverse Mall, go to www.gtbaygymnastics.com, or contact Betsy Van Deirse at 929-2869.

Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics * 1100 Woodmere, Ste A * Traverse City, MI 49686 * 929-2869 * www.gtbaygymnastics.com

“Where Grace Abounds”

2021
"On The Grand"



Above: Level 3 Team Members Naima Mitchell, Adalyn Tillman, Norah Reed, Sarah Sheeran, Marlee Travis

Left: Level 4 Team Members Lilah Groves, Tabitha Pritchard, Sophie Olson, Zahra Mitchell, Lily Doornbos, Zoe Butler

Below: Level 9/10 Team Members Avery Wisniewski, Sophia Tucker, Peyton Crane

