



John Geddert

**Owner & Head Coach, Gedderts' Twistars USA
USA National Team Coach**



HALL OF FAME

Inducted 2009

*John Geddert
Class of 2009*

Years of Service to Region 5

20 Years Service to Region 5 as JOPC, Apparel Coordinator, AllStar Team Trip Coordinator, Congress Speaker

Number of gymnasts coached who have made the JO National Team: Over 20

**Consistently coached gymnasts at JO National Championships
or at Elite Competitions:**

Has coached at least 40 gymnasts who were JO National or Elite NATIONAL Champions and over 20 JO or Elite National Team Members. Has coached gymnasts at competitions in over 15 countries including Spain, Italy, France, Malaysia, Argentina, Brazil, Great Britain, Australia, Mexico, Jamaica, El Salvador, Sweden, Guatemala, Germany, Costa Rica, China, and Japan to name a few) He was on the coaching staff of the 1995 Sr. Pan American Games team champions. He was on the coaching staff of the 1996 Sr. Pacific Alliance team champions. He coached one of the alternates to the gold medal winning 1996 Olympic team. He coached the 2009 Jr. Elite National Champion and the 2009 American Cup Champion and the 2009 US v. Japan Dual Meet Champion.

Number of Years in Coaching: 32

Coaching Positions Held

1980-1984: Coach for Marvateens- Rockville Md

1984-1996: Coach for Great Lakes Gymnastics, Lansing, MI

1996-Present: Owner and Head Coach of Geddert's Twistars USA, Lansing, MI

Gymnasts and Coaches developed

Elites: Katie Teft, Melissa Green, Jordyn Wieber, Kamerin Moore, Laura Szczepanski, Heather Berry, Melissa Grupe, Jane MacIntosh

JO National Champions and National Team Members: Over 40 Gymnasts

John Geddert *Class of 2009*

Education

K-5th: Herman Klix- Mt. Clemens, MI

6th grade: Sanborn Elementary – Ossineke, MI - Discovered interest in gymnastics when PE/Assistant Principal Roger Witherbee conducted a introduction to gymnastics session as part of the PE Curriculum.

7-9th grade- Thunder Bay Jr. High - The interest continued in gymnastics in Jack Discher's gymnastics classes. Trained with the HS varsity team during his Freshman year.

10-12th grade: Alpena High School - John graduated from AHS with honors in 1976.

-He was a 3 year varsity letter winner.

-Co-Captain during senior year.

-He also assisted then coach Vicki Bowersock with the girls varsity team (unofficially as a spotter).

College: John attended Central Michigan University on an athletic scholarship for gymnastics. He again was voted Co-captain during junior year. Physical education was his main focus.

Employment History

During his senior year at CMU, John began coaching the Mt. Pleasant High School team. It was at this point that he found that coaching was his passion.

To further his coaching knowledge, he moved to Maryland to accept a coaching job at one of the top private club gymnastic programs in the country, the MarVaTeens. He worked under the direction of then national team coach Gary Anderson from 1980-84.

In 1984 he returned to Michigan to take over as head coach of a very young and un-established club in Lansing. The Great Lakes Gymnastics club would grow to national prominence under his direction. A private club with less than 200 students when he arrived had grown to a national power with over 800 students when he left in 1996.

In 1996 he and his wife Kathryn started Gedderts' Twistars USA Gymnastics Club. It is 13 years later now and Twistars has etched it place as one of the top gymnastics clubs in the country.

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Awards and Honors

- Region 5 COACH of the YEAR: 1990-1991-1993-1996-2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008
- Awarded the FIRST EVER USA NATIONAL COACH of the YEAR by USA Gymnastics - 2007
- Michigan COACH of the YEAR: 1990, 1993, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2007 and 2009
- Region 5 CONTRIBUTOR of the YEAR: 1989, 1990, 1999, 2003 – This award is given to the volunteer that contributes the most to the sport of gymnastics within our 5 state region.
- U.S. Elite Coaches Association - CONTRIBUTOR of the YEAR: 2003. This is a national award given for contributions to the sport of the gymnastics that go above and beyond the call of volunteer duties.

Community Service

John has served on the National Governing Body's (USA Gymnastics) Junior Olympic Program Committee for the past 20 years. He has been instrumentally involved in the development of the current system, which is now used world wide as the preferred developmental program for gymnastics. He helped author the current compulsory routines used in the grass roots system, and he is actively involved in rules and policy making that govern the sport of gymnastics in the US.

Besides his contributions to the sport of gymnastics, he is also actively involved within his local community. Currently, Twistars USA is involved with the Children's Miracle Network and has raised in excess of \$30,000 for the cause.

In a project designed to assist less fortunate countries with obtaining new and used donated equipment from the USA, John was instrumental in providing a club in Columbia with a full gym of equipment. This club eventually went on to qualify Columbia's first ever Olympian in 2008.

Similarly in an attempt to assist less fortunate athletes, John and his club at Twistars USA have played host to aspiring international athletes from Slovenia, El Salvador, and Columbia.

Distinguished Characteristics and Accomplishments

John is the most decorated women's gymnastics coach in Michigan gymnastics history. His 24 year win/loss club record is an unprecedented 1751 wins and 50 defeats in STATE CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION. His teams have compiled more state championship titles than ALL OTHER MICHIGAN TEAMS COMBINED.

On the National front, Gedderts Twistars USA has emerged as the National Power in Junior Olympic Gymnastics. In the years 2001-2002 and 2004 Twistars USA had more National Qualifiers, National medalists, and National Team Members than any other club in the USA. He has coached well over 40 National Champions at the Junior Olympic and Elite levels. He has coached over 20 USA National Team members.

Club gymnastics is where collegiate programs get their athletes. During the past 24 years, Twistars gymnasts have earned in excess of 2.7 million dollars in athletic scholarships to major universities around the country.

John has represented the USA as a coach in international competition in well over 15 countries (Spain, Italy, France, Malaysia, Argentina, Brazil, Great Britain, Australia, Mexico, Jamaica, El Salvador, Sweden, Guatemala, Germany, Costa Rica, China, and Japan to name a few) He was on the coaching staff of the 1995 Sr. Pan American Games team champions. He was on the coaching staff of the 1996 Sr. Pacific Alliance team champions. He coached one of the alternates to the gold medal winning 1996 Olympic team. He along with his wife Kathryn have coached more NATIONAL CHAMPIONS than ALL other Michigan coaches combined.

In 2008 John coached the USA ELITE NATIONAL CHAMPION in the Junior Age Division and placed a second athlete on the Jr Elite National team. This is the most national team members at the highest level in the country.

In 2008-09 Current elite national team members, Jordyn Wieber and Kameron Moore placed in each of their USA Gymnastics international assignments. 1st (Wieber) and 3rd (Moore) in Belgium, Jordyn won American Cup (USAs most prestigious competition), Kameron won the USA vs Japan Dual competition and they placed 1st and 3rd at the GymNix international event in Montreal.

Other

John is currently actively involved in the educational process for regional coaches, athletes and judges. He is instrumental in various regional programs that support and reward athletes for their participation in the sport. Over \$110,000 was raised this past year in order to outfit our national qualifiers for National and International competition. He is instrumental in organizing international experiences for our Regions top athletes and many of his program ideas are being implemented in other regions around the country.