

On The Road to Success...

This past weekend, 14 Kamloops Gymnasts of Kamloops Gymnastics Trampoline Centre started off their competition season for 2010 with a bang! The girls competed at the Cobweb Invitational in Kelowna, which for 3 of the girls was a trials meet for the 2010 BC Winter Games. Hannah Bley, Kassia Gifford & Britney DePalma have been training hard for the last year to compete for a spot on the team to travel to Terrace for the Games this March. With stiff competition and only 4 spots on the team, Gifford shone through the pressure and took the Gold Medal All Around guaranteeing her spot for the 2010 team. Kassia also took home the Silver Medal on Vault, Gold on Beam and Gold on Floor. DePalma will be the first alternate for the team with an All Around 5th place, finishing 4th on both Vault and the Uneven Bars. Bley who bumped up a level in order to compete in the trials, will be the 3rd alternate with a 5th place finish on Vault and 7th All Around.

Chantal Martens, Emily Matthew and Taylor Baxter competed in the P1 Argo category with 22 athletes in their age group. Martens won the Bronze medal on Floor with an outstanding performance, Matthew who was a first time competitor took 4th on the Uneven Bars, while Baxter placed 5th with a 12.2 on the Floor Exercise.

Taylor MacKenzie and Tamberly Harper who were also both first time competitors competed in the P1 Tyro category. MacKenzie won the Silver All Around with a First place finish on the Beam while Harper took home the Bronze All Around with a Silver on Vault and Beam.

Shayla Gifford, Sydney Leahy, Kristina Dodd and Jade Wood who are now in their second year of competing did outstanding performances in their P2 Argo category. Gifford won the Gold All Around title with a Gold on the Vault and Silver on the Bars and Beam. Leahy tied for Gold on Vault to share the podium with her teammate. Leahy placed 4th All Around. Dodd, the youngest of the crew, took home the 5th All Around with a consistent performance on every event. Wood shone on floor to win the Gold Medal for her routine.

Emilee Gal competed in the P2 Tyro category and placed 2nd All Around with Silver medals also on the Bars, Beam and Floor while her teammate, Meghan McGilivray who competed in the P2 Novice category won the Bronze All Around with a Silver on the Balance Beam.

Overall, the team of gymnasts who train anywhere from 9-22 hours a week at the Tournament Capital Centre's Gymnastics Facility, KGTC took home a total of 28 medals this weekend. An outstanding start to the Competitive Season for this group of young girls aged 8-14. Next up, these athletes will travel to Abbotsford to compete at Flip City Invitational.