MEDIA RELEASE

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National Champions to bring state pride to the 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships

Victoria’s best athletes will be setting the gymnastics floor alight as they vie for the title of Victorian Champion at the 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships, which is being held from Saturday 6th – Monday 8th June at the State Netball & Hockey Centre in Parkville, Melbourne Victoria.

Off the back of impressive results in the Women’s and Men’s Gymnastics competition at the 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships, elite Victorian athletes will be looking to secure their reputation as the Victorian Champion at the Victorian Gymnastics Championships.

Chief Executive Officer of Gymnastics Victoria, Jamie Parsons, said the Victorian Gymnastics Championships is the pinnacle event for Men’s and Women’s Gymnastics in Victoria.

“The Championships are an affordable day out, where families can watch Victoria’s best gymnasts compete for the title of Victorian Champion and children can also participate in recreational gymnastics classes,” Jamie said.

“It’s a family-friendly event not to be missed in Melbourne over the Queen’s Birthday Weekend.”

A number of Women’s gymnasts from the Victorian State Team achieved some terrific results at the 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships and will be using the 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships as another opportunity to perform for selectors before the announcement of the 46th Artistic Gymnastics World Championships Australian Team.

The Senior International Stream gymnasts for Women’s Gymnastics showed fine form at the National Championships last week, with Maddi Leydin from Williamstown and representing the National Centre of Excellence (Melbourne), securing podium finishes in the All-Around (3rd / 107.400) and individual apparatus finals for Vault (3rd / 12.363), Uneven Bars (2nd / 13.900), Balance Beam (2nd / 13.515) and Floor (3rd / 13.500).

Senior Coach of the National Centre of Excellence, Tracey Penaluna, said the 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships is a valuable competition for all Senior International Stream athletes.

“It was pleasing to see Maddi and the other senior athletes from the National Centre of Excellence compete to a high standard at the 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships,” Tracey said.
“Senior athletes will refine their technique at the 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships before selection trials commence for the 46th Artistic Gymnastics World Championships, which is arguably the most important qualification competition this year for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.”

Australia’s future stars of Women’s Gymnastics in the Junior International Stream competition also shone at the 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships, with gymnasts from Waverley Gymnastics Centre and the National Centre of Excellence securing all podium placings in the All-Around competition.

Emily Whitehead of Rosebud from Waverley Gymnastics Centre, proved why she’s been touted as a future Australian representative on the world stage, taking out All-Around title (1st / 112.975) and Individual Apparatus finals for Uneven Bars (1st / 14.975) and Floor (1st / 16.125).

Fellow Waverley Gymnastics Centre gymnast Talia Folino from Hampton Park, will be competing at the 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships with her Vault and Balance Beam apparatus routines the ones to watch, placing 1st at the 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships with scores of 14.000 and 13.725 respectively.

The Victorian State Team for Men’s Gymnastics also came away with some terrific results from last week’s 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships, with many athletes aiming to continue their winning form against their team mates at the upcoming 2015 Victorian Gymnastics Championships.


Luke will be looking to continue his consistent form into the Victorian Championships alongside fellow Victorian State Team athletes Kent Pieterse from Mount Waverley, Briece Newton from Malvern and Philip Stewart of Mentone.

Another star on the rise from the Victorian Men’s High Performance Centre is Level 9 Under 15 gymnast Hudson Irwin who hails from the town of Horsham. Hudson blitzed the field at the 2015 Australian Gymnastics Championships by taking out the All-Around competition (1st / 142.250) and Individual Apparatus competitions for Pommel (1st / 12.400), Rings (1st / 12.050) and the High Bar (1st / 12.200).

Program Manager and Head Coach of the Victorian Men’s High Performance Centre, Greg Corsiglia, said the staff and coaches at the centre are dedicated to developing Victoria’s elite Men’s Gymnast to compete on the world stage.

“Senior athletes Luke Wadsworth and Kent Pieterse are not only paving their own career pathway in Men’s Gymnastics, but also mentoring future stars from our centre, such as Hudson Irwin, to continue striving for their gymnastics goals,” Greg said.

*** Media Release Ends ***
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**Photos and Interviews**

Photos and interviews with the following persons can be arranged with the following persons:

- Jamie Parsons - Chief Executive Officer of Gymnastics Victoria  
- Dee Jennings – Performance Manager of National Centre of Excellence, Melbourne  
- Greg Corsiglia - Program Manager & Head Coach of the Victorian Men’s High Performance Centre  
- Maddi Leydin - National Centre of Excellence, Victorian State Team Gymnast  
- Emily Whitehead – Waverley Gymnastics Centre, Victorian State Team Gymnast  
- Talia Folino – Waverley Gymnastics Centre, Victorian State Team Gymnast  
- Hudson Irwin – Victorian Men’s High Performance Centre, Victorian State Team Gymnast