

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2013

Utah State Gymnastics Announces 2014 Competition Schedule



Utah State head gymnastics coach Nadalie Walsh has announced the 2014 competition schedule, consisting of 13 meets, five of which will be held in the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. (photo from Athletics website)

Utah State [University] head gymnastics coach [Nadalie Walsh](#) has announced the 2014 competition schedule, consisting of 13 meets, five of which will be held in the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum.

After eight years in the Western Athletic Conference, Utah State gymnastics will be competing unaffiliated this year as the Mountain West does not sponsor gymnastics. However, the Aggies are set to compete against several former WAC rivals.

“We’re excited to be able to release our upcoming competition schedule to the public,” Walsh said. “I took the approach to add some great high-level completions to the schedule to increase our exposure and raise our expectations of the program.”

The Aggies will open the 2014 season in a road meet at the University of Iowa Saturday, Jan. 11. With a long history of success, the Hawkeyes finished the 2013 season ranked No. 30 in the Troester/Gym Info poll.

Following its trip to Des Moines, Utah State will travel to Cedar City, Utah, to take on the familiar foe of Southern Utah for one of three match-ups on the year. This first meeting will be held Friday, Jan. 17.

The Aggies then have a weekend in Logan with the first home meet of the season. The team will host in-state foe BYU Friday, Jan. 24, for the first of three meetings between the two teams.

With a quick turnaround, the team will hit the road again for a four-meet

stretch. Up first is a quad-meet at the University of California-Davis, joining former WAC competitors Sacramento State and San José State Sunday, Jan. 26. The Aggies will get a small taste of the military academy life in a tri-meet at Air Force with Seattle Pacific on Saturday, Feb. 1, followed by a quick trip to Provo for a dual-meet at BYU Friday, Feb. 7.

The road swing will then continue in a quad-meet at Oregon State on Friday, Feb. 15. The Beavers finished last season at No. 16. Joining the Aggies in the competition will be Seattle Pacific and Boise State who finished last season at No. 23.

After a month on the road, the team will spend the next four weeks within the familiar walls of the Spectrum. The home stretch will begin Friday, Feb. 21, in a meet against Denver, who finished as No. 20 last year, followed by a dual-meet against Sacramento State on Friday, Feb. 28. The Spartans of San José State will make the trip to Logan Friday, March 7, followed by the second meeting against Southern Utah Friday, March 14.

It will be a busy weekend for the team following the SUU match-up as it heads back to California for a tri-meet at UCLA. The Bruins ended 2013 at the No. 4 spot in the rankings. The Aggies will be joined in L.A. by Bowling Green State on Sunday, March 16.

“Competing at UCLA and Oregon State is going to be exciting and will be the beginning steps in giving the Aggies an opportunity to go up against tough competition and display their talents,” Walsh said. “In order to change the culture of this program I want my team to be confident to walk into any arena and know they can get the job done.”

As Utah State is not in an official conference for this season, there will be no championship meet. However, BYU will host an end-of-season meet Saturday, March 22, featuring the Aggies and other unaffiliated teams.

Based on its Regional Qualifying Score (RQS), Utah State or any individual student-athletes will compete in the NCAA North Central Regional Championships April 5. The locations for the Regional Championships will be announced at a later date. The 2013 NCAA National Championships will follow the various Regional Championships April 18-20 at the University of Alabama.

The Aggies ended the 2013 season with a fourth-place finish as they exited the WAC. The team returns three NCAA Regional qualifiers in junior

[Sarah Landes](#), senior [Paige Jones](#) and sophomore [Stefanie Daley](#) for the 2014 season. Sophomore [Michelle Yasukochi](#) joins Landes and Jones as all-conference honoree returners.

For USU gymnastics ticket information, contact the USU Ticket Office at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum, by phone by calling 1-888-USTATE-1 or (435) 797-0305, or online 24 hours a day at www.UtahStateAggies.com.

Fans can follow the USU [Gymnastics' Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. Aggie fans can also follow the Utah State athletic program on [Twitter](#) or on Facebook at Utah State University Athletics.

[2014 Utah State Gymnastics Schedule](#)

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