

2020 *26th Annual* Granite State Open



BODYBUILDING ~ FIGURE ~ BIKINI ~ PHYSIQUE ~ FITBODY & COUPLES COMPETITION

~ INBF SANCTION / WNBF PRO QUALIFIER ~

This long overdue show wrap up is being added to a new website and at a time when the end is visible on the COVID pandemic. Thank you all who take time to keep in touch. Our heartfelt condolences to those who have lost loved ones or suffered because of the strains on lifestyles this year.

We are more than blessed to of had a fantastic GSO 2020, with all that was going on in the world. It is primarily the love of the fitness community, the perseverance of athletes, friends and officials, the generosity of sponsors and the adherence protocols, that we made the 26th Annual GSO on October 24, 2020 happen.

Once gyms closed and folks had to stay home, masks were required and cases began to escalate, the competition world came to a halt. Keeping hope alive, we worked with contest preparations a step at a time. Fortunately, restrictions and their parameters gave us enough space to screen everyone included in the event planning and execution of our GSO. Thank you everyone for adhering to guidelines.

So, on a quiet Saturday in Dover NH, the GSO was held. It was amazing! Special gratitude to Rivermill at Dover Landing for the creative use of space. Thanks to DJ Ryan Parker for cobbling lighting and stage. Our ever generous Woos Crew set up, expedited and tore down in record time. The Turtle team were on top of cleaning, rotating participants and keeping the social distancing in check.

Alas, we featured every planned division. See the results page for top five placings. Congratulations to the Figure ladies: Nikki Ware on her Novice win, Masters Champ and Pro Card winner Katrina Shafer and Julie Cline as Open were astonishing. These ladies embroil grace, style and condition!

Women's Bodybuilding drew a fine level of competitive quality. Natalie Morin took Novice, Erica O'Neil Won Masters and Overall Open and a Pro Card went to Ashley Sullivan. Each of these ladies held their own in musculature, separation and balance. On the same note, so did the gents. Congratulations to newcomer Mark Troiano in Novice, 40+ Jason Pratt, 50+ Michael Carter. Jason went on to take the Open men's Heavyweight and had a good run with middleweight Nick DiMartino and lightweight Hozan Zaza. As the sport decrees, these men were well balanced, presented complete fullness and solid conditioning. We want more of them to return to the stage! Part of honoring this elemental division is Best Poser awards. We love the routines and commend Natalie Morin, Lisa Arpino, Ashley Sullivan, Peter Tang, Jason Pratt and Matt Schmitt on winning these accolades.

Alike their more muscled colleagues, Women's fit body competitors showed that home gyms and video training can certainly get you ready! Congratulations to Brooke Park as Novice, Suzette Monteiro (Open Short) and Katrina Schafer (Open Tall and Overall) as Fit Body Champs. This win gave Katrina a pro card in her second division of the day.



L.J. Turtle Promotions 

149 Dartmouth Circle • Newmarket, NH 03857 • (603) 659-2288

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Taking the staging area for a personal best journey this year were the Feminine Physique competitors. These ladies prepared most of the year in a self-generated weight loss and conditioning plan that allowed them to show off their success as women of beauty and dignity. Yeah's go out to Judy Cazeau on a fabulous culmination of diet and exercise. If you, the reader, are interested in competing in this division, reach out to LJTurtle to apply.

Men's Physique brought style, talent and conditioning from a variety of ages and shapes to the Novice class. Special joy was felt by 18 year old Christoforos Jordan as his family celebrated his win. Taking the Open category Nick DiMartino changed from bodybuilding to physique trunks and polished his style to an Open title, it was a good day for this up and comer.

And the most colorful is saved for last. The bikini gals found their services and amenities in fine form, as hair, make-up, tanning, peak prep all came together this afternoon. Special gratitude to all of the coaches who cobbled their styles to meet restrictions. The tall and elegant Erin Letsky won Novice bikini. An excited and appreciative Betsy Kennedy took a Pro Card and Overall win in Masters Bikini. And like these two full classes, so were the short and tall of the Open. Pushing hard to the wire were Amanda Donahue (short) and Steffanie Gould (Tall). Officials put them through quarter turns, stage walks and gave them quite a workout, to see that Amanda Donahue win the Overall and Pro Card. This became the 101st award of the day and everyone reported having had a fine competition!

So, like every year, I can diatribe about all the hard work, the comradery, the loyalty, the fun...and that is all true. This year, let me add that the love of the sport, year-round, keeps us humble. Please take care of yourselves, come join us in Hampton, NH on October 30th 2021. Ms. Turtle has been promoting for 31 years now, and the show has been in a number of venues over the decades. From High Schools, to indoor tennis courts, to lecture halls and Music Halls. No matter where we build it, you come. Please do so again, entry packets are waiting for your request. gsobodybuild@comcast.net

Love and light,
Laura Tourtellot



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