

Region 5 Committee Meeting
September 16, 2012; 1:03 a.m. – 5:02 p.m.
Indianapolis, IN

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Regional Administrative Committee Chairman, Bobbi Montanari, at 1:06 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Present

Bobbi Montanari, Regional Administrative Committee Chairman (RACC)
Char Christensen, Regional Technical Committee Chairman (RTCC)
John Geddert, Regional Junior Olympic Committee Chairman (RJOCC)
Norbert Bendixen, Illinois Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: IL)
Linda Barclay, Indiana Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: IN)
Vicki Smith, Kentucky Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: KY)
Jim Comiskey, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-MI)
Augusta Lipsey, Regional Secretary and Hall of Fame Coordinator

Guests

Kristin Moore, Regional Apparel Coordinator and Regional Webmaster
Dave Rawles, Regional Training Camp Coordinator

Absent

Nina Dent, Ohio Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: OH)

III. COMMUNICATION

Bobbi expects that all communication will be done in a professional manner. We are all here for the athletes. Char Christensen distributed a list of Ground Rules that committees and teams use to prevent chaos during meetings.

IV. OVERVIEW OF REGION 5 CONGRESS

Bobbi Montanari, RACC, asked the Committee to give their suggestions on changes that could improve future congresses.

1. The suggestion was made to have the auction immediately after the last session of the day before people go to dinner.
2. Place the silent auction items out for bidding throughout the congress.
3. Have the raffle at the end of the sessions to bring people back into the exhibit area.
4. Have a microphone for the raffle announcer.
5. Do a casino night instead of the auction. (*Linda Barclay has looked into the cost of doing a casino night. It would cost \$1100.00 for the license. We would have to provide our own dealers. Region 6 has had great success with a casino night and a cash bar. Bret Norman will research it further.*)
6. Have a combination of a casino night and an auction.
7. Have the vendors sponsor a game at the casino night.
8. Have vendors sponsor the lunch room.
9. Announce the award recipients prior to the congress so that their families may be in attendance.

The motion was made to have each award recipient receive one free ticket to the banquet. The athlete award recipients' ticket goes to their coach.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Norbert Bendixen
Passed: Unanimous

The award recipients will be notified by a letter from the Regional Administrative Committee Chairperson, Bobbi Montanari.

10. During the all star team introductions, announce the resumes of the gymnasts that are not receiving separate awards. The resumes of those receiving awards will be announced during the award time.
11. Congress attendees would like a fleece jacket and a tee shirt available for purchase. Linda Barclay will take care of the orders and design the tee shirt. She will communicate with the USAG office to develop a pre-order procedure.
12. The video screen was too small in the business room. We must communicate with the presenters to make sure their font is sized for easy viewing.
13. The response was very positive about the videos that were shown at the banquet.

V. WEBSITE

The regional website looks good. Char Christensen thanked Kristin Moore for putting links to the judge's forms on the website. It has made it easier for the judges to find the required forms.

Kristin Moore is the webmaster for the Regional Website. She does not write the articles. To have an article or information placed on the website it must be sent to her.

VI. JO NATIONALS APPAREL

The National apparel is an award system for our athletes. They have earned it. The money raised from apparel fund events is supposed to be spent on the athletes. It looks like a lot but they are given five days worth of travel supplies. Everything they are given is to be used while the team is traveling. The apparel the Level 9's receive matches the apparel that other regions give their athletes. The Level 9's received a grip bag, water bottle, tee shirt and shorts. They paid for their apparel at cost. The suggestion was made to add a sweatshirt instead of the tee shirt.

The motion was made to increase the Level 9 apparel package to the \$30.00 amount.

Motion: John Geddert
2nd: Jim Comiskey
Passed: Unanimous

VI. TRAINING CAMPS

The training camps are exploding. We are turning away 120 athletes. Dave Rawles will communicate with Kristin Moore to set up a different registration program for the training camps that would stop taking registrations once the camp is full. He would also like to have an automated system of payment. The suggestion was made to lower the number of athletes per camp to increase the quality and raise the price. The price of the camps will be increased to \$125.00.

The Hot Shot Camp and the Super Camp did not have athletes that met the required ability level. The following criteria will be required for the individual camps.

Super Camp

The participating club must have a coach attend.

The maximum number of athletes will be 16 per group.

An athlete must have competed Level 8 or a Level 7 who has received an all-around score of 37.00 or higher. *(Jim Comiskey will verify the scores of the Level 7 athletes).*

Hot Shot Camp

The participating club must have a coach attend.

12 Years or under

An athlete must have competed Level 6 or a Level 5 who has received an all-around score of 37.00 or higher.

Vault: 9.0 Handspring

Bars: Kip cast handstand, single bar giant, cast flyaway

Beam: Flic Flac on high beam, Round Off on low or high beam

Floor: A two element front tumbling pass with a minimum of one salto, Layout at shoulder height.

High Tech

The participating club must have a coach attend.

High Tech camp will be limited to 60 athletes (6 groups of 10).

Spots will be filled in rank order from Elites to Level 10 National qualifiers plus 1st and 2nd alternates.

Forward Progress

The participating club must have a coach attend.

An athlete must have competed Level 9 or 10. If there is room in the camp, Level 8's with a 37.00 all-around will be considered.

The gyms that violate the criterion above will be approached by the camp director and reported to Dave Rawles and/or John Geddert. This procedure will go into effect during the 2013 season.

The list of athletes registered in a camp will be put on the Regional Website so they know for which camp they are assigned.

The motion was made to pay the camp host \$400.00 to be used for incidental expenses beginning in the 2013 camp season.

**Motion: John Geddert
2nd: Norbert Bendixen
Passed: Unanimous**

The motion was made to accept the new criterion package for the training camps.

**Motion: John Geddert
2nd: Jim Comiskey
Passed: Unanimous**

VII. REGIONAL MEET ENTRY FEES

A recommendation was made at the last Regional Administrative Committee meeting to increase the entry fees for the regional meets. The entry fees charged in the 2012 Level 9/10 Regional Meets did not cover the cost of the facility, awards and judges.

The motion was made to increase the Regional Meet entry fees to \$90.00.

**Motion: Vicki Smith
2nd: John Geddert
Passed: Passed**

VIII. REGIONAL MEET BIDS

There was one bid for the Level 9/10 Regional Meet and three bids for the Level 8 Regional Meet received prior to the deadline. (John Geddert was excused from the meeting during the Regional bid discussion because his facility submitted bids on both regional meets).

The 2013 Level 9/10 Regional Meet is awarded to Gedderts Twistars.

The Level 8 Regional Meet bids were submitted from Gymnastics X-Calibur, Halker's Gold and Gedderts Twistars. Geddert's Twistars was removed from consideration because they were awarded the Level 9/10 Regional Meet. Because of this, John Geddert was invited to return to the meeting for the discussion on the Level 8 Regional Meet.

A motion was made to accept Pam Halker's bid for the Level 8 Regional Meet with the stipulation that she submit an updated floor plan that included two full floors.

Motion:	Norbert Bendixen
2nd:	Char Christensen
Passed:	Unanimous

IX. JUDGES RECOMMENDATIONS

Char Christensen distributed a list of the judges that could be considered for National Meet assignment based on their leadership role in the region. Because the Level 9 Eastern Nationals will be hosted by Branch Gymnastics in Michigan, there will be four judges representing Region 5. Four judges will be selected for the Junior Olympic Nationals. After Char Christensen, Augusta Lipsey, and Vicki Smith were excused from the meeting the remaining Committee Members discussed and voted on the judges to represent Region 5 at the National Championships. The following judges were chosen.

Level 10 Junior Olympic Championships (listed alphabetically)

1. Kittia Carpenter
2. Char Christensen
3. Judy Kemp
4. Shirley Tranquill

(If Kittia Carpenter is unable to judge JO Nationals she will switch with Hilary Carlson)

Level 9 Eastern Championships (listed alphabetically)

1. Hilary Carlson
2. Michael Crowe
3. Augusta Lipsey
4. Linda McDonald

Alternates (listed alphabetically)

1. Faye Campana
2. Mary Jo Reohrig
3. Vicki Smith

X. ALL STAR TEAM CRITERIA

The set number of athletes to comprise the Regional All Star Team is twelve. To increase this number the budget, housing arrangements, travel expenses, safety concerns and ground transportation must be taken into consideration. More often than not the All Star Team has increased in size but there is never a guarantee that athletes will be added to the travel squad. If elite athletes make the USA National

team they are not allowed to travel with the Region 5 All Star Team. 95% of the time the elite spots are taken by Junior Olympic athletes.

In order for an athlete to be eligible for the All Star travel squad, she must personally participate in a training camp. In tabulating their average score their regional and or national score must be used. The purpose, goals, funding and qualification criterion can be found on the regional website. All of the state chairmen will have the final tabulations of the All Star Team.

Purpose

The purpose of the Region 5 All-Star team is multidimensional. Some of the reasons for its existence are:

- To recognize and reward our top Junior Olympic and Elite level athletes for their uncompromising devotion to our sport and our region.
- To provide experiences designed to enhance the future growth of these athletes not only in the sport of gymnastics but in life itself.
- To provide the coaches of these athletes with experiences designed to enhance their professional growth in our sport and to reward the often overlooked and underappreciated efforts.
- To spread and nurture a common bond and to establish a “team Spirit” within our region and to provide a vehicle from which regional pride can be fostered and delivered.
- To share the wealth of knowledge that we possess with those that might be less fortunate.

All Star Team Goals

- The goals of the Region 5 Committee, as related to the athletes and coaches and their qualification to the Region 5 All-Star Team, are to recognize our top athletes at our annual mini congress banquet.
- Recognition may take on many forms, but a few words about the accomplishments of the athletes, a video presentation and an awards plaque have been used as the normal procedure in the past. In short we want the athletes within our region to feel special and to believe that Region 5 is the very best place in the country to achieve gymnastics goals.
- The Regional Committee also wishes to provide an international assignment designed to give sports experience, exposure to a variety of world cultures, to enhance regional pride and to serve as a prestigious reward that the athletes earn through their superior results in our sport. This assignment will usually be scheduled in mid to late fall so as not to interfere with the normal USAG competitive seasons.

All Star Team Funding

The international assignment is to be funded by an allocated amount determined by the Regional Committee. These funds will come from the Region 5 Apparel Fund with supplementation from the regional funds if deemed appropriate by the elected Committee Members. Only the qualified athletes will receive financial assistance from this allocated budget. Qualified athletes can include those added to the initial squad based on logistical and safety considerations for each individual trip.

The fund can pay for the following, with the actual amount being determined on a trip by trip basis that takes into consideration the various costs involved. At times it may be necessary to require a co-pay when expenses exceed the budget. All efforts will be made to keep the related costs in line with the approved budget.

1. Athletes air and transportation
2. Athletes lodging
3. Any applicable registration or entry fees
4. Delegation gifts for the host organization of the international event
5. Cultural excursions

The allocated budget for the international assignment will be determined based on the financial stability of the Apparel Fund in any given year. The budget will be reviewed each year at the summer committee meeting.

Criterion for Qualification to the All Star Team

- The following criterion is to be published with updates each and every year in the various state and regional newsletters and/or web sites. This material is vitally important and should be made readily available to our membership in Region 5.
- The top eight Junior Olympic, the top two Junior International and the top two Senior International Elite athletes, based on the following criterion will be named to the Region 5 All-Star Team Travel Squad.
- Athletes must have qualified to their respective national championship event. No petitions will be allowed. This means Championships of the USA for Elite athletes and Level 10 Junior Olympic Nationals of the Junior Olympic athletes.
- All Elite USA National Team Members will be named to the All Star Team but may or may not be eligible for travel.
- International Elite rankings will be taken from the Championships of the USA, (top two junior international elites and top two senior international elites). Due to the USA National Team Agreement, all members that qualify to the USA National Team must request permission from the National Team Coordinator in order to be considered for any non USA National Team function. This needs to be done in writing (with a copy to John Geddert) indicating the athletes' intention to request permission to participate. If permission from the Nation Team Coordinator is granted, then and only then will the athlete(s) be added to the travel squad.
- Elites that qualify to US Classic, American Classic or Visa Championships (and do not qualify to the All Star Team based on the above criterion) may submit three All Around scores for ranking purposes and consideration for eight Junior Olympic spots. Elites must use the same criterion as used by Junior Olympic athletes for submitting scores (see criterion listed under Junior Olympic #3 less the requirement that states that the regional or national meet score must be used).
- Spots not filled by eligible elite athletes will be filled in rank order from the eligible Junior Olympic athletes list.
- Junior Olympic rankings will be taken from averaging the top four all around scores for the current competitive season.
- An athlete may only use USAG sanctioned scores (AAU, USAIGC and High School scores would not count).
- Athletes may only use one home meet score, provided there are at least two additional Level 10 teams present. (Home meets do not include State, Regional and National Meets)(a team consists of three or more members). In the case when a club hosts more than one home meet, the club must designate which competition is to be used for potential All Star Team scores. (This is to eliminate the possibility of hosting meets until the athlete receives the scores needed to qualify to the All Star Team). It will be assumed that the first hosted meet will be used for All Star Team scores unless the club declares in writing to the Junior Olympic Program Committee

Chairperson, prior to the date of the first meet, that they want to designate the second meet as their choice.

- Athletes may only use one all around score per meet (i.e. – meets that have prelims and finals). This rule is used to avoid getting lucky with overly friendly evaluations that certain meets may have and to avoid having those scores count as 50% of the athletes' All Star Team qualification criterion.
- All qualification scores must be achieved prior to the conclusion of Level 10 Nationals. (This is to eliminate the possibility of hosting meets post season with the sole purpose of creating a better All Star Team score average).
- Scores in the form of official meet results must be submitted no later than August 1 (late entries will not be accepted). The online reporting system may also be used.
- Scores must include either regional championships or national championships AA score. (This is to provide an equal playing field for all candidates for a minimum of 25% of the submitted scores).
- Athletes must attend one of the four regional training camps responsible for funding the international assignment. These camps include SUPER CAMP, HOT SHOT CAMP, HI TECH CAMP AND FORWARD PROGRESS CAMP. This displays support for the regional activities and it is the presence of our top athletes at these training camps that truly provide the camps with credibility and substance. In other words others learn from watching what and how the best athletes act and train.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted 9/23/12
Augusta A. Lipsey
Regional Secretary