

**Region 5 Committee Meeting
July 12, 2011; 10:30 – 3:51 p.m.
Indianapolis, IN**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Regional Administrative Committee Chairman, Bobbi Montanari, at 10:32 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)
Cap Caudill, Kentucky Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: KY)
Jim Comiskey, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-MI)
Nina Dent, Ohio Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: OH)
Hilary Carlson, Region 5-NAWGJ Judging Director
Kittia Carpenter, Assistant Regional JO Committee Chairman
Augusta Lipsey, Regional Secretary and Hall of Fame Coordinator

III. WELCOME

Bobbi welcomed the Committee to Indianapolis and thanked them for their work during the past year. Bobbi stated the protocol for communication during the meeting.

IV. ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bobbi reminded Committee Members that all communication during the meeting is to be kept confidential. The USA Gymnastics Policy Confidentiality Forms, Ethical Obligations of USA Gymnastics Employees, Officers, Directors and Committee Members, and Conflict of Interest Questionnaire were distributed for each member's signature.

V. MINUTES

Deadlines for the distribution of the minutes were set. Following approval the minutes will be posted on the Regional website, State websites, and distributed to the Professional Membership via e-mail and/or newsletters.

VI. COMMUNICATION

Kristin Moore has been appointed Regional Webmaster replacing Bret Norman who will continue to produce the Regional Newsletter. Information for the August 2011 Regional Newsletter is due to Bret Norman by August 1, 2011.

Information for the Regional website should be sent to Bobbi for approval prior to being sent to Kristin.

State websites need to post the following items as they pertain to their state:

- Judges Selection Process
- State specific Rules & Policies
- State Committee Minutes

VII. WOMEN'S ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT (Bobbi Montanari)

The minutes from the Women's Administrative Committee Meeting can be found on the USA Gymnastics website. Some of the highlights include the following.

1. IIIB. – The Prep Optional Program is now called Xcel.
2. IIIB. – The current judges' fee for the Xcel Program will only be in effect when the recommended entry fee of \$35 or less is followed.
3. IIIG – The maximum entry fee for the Junior Olympic National and the Eastern/Western Championships was raised to \$125.00.

VIII. STATE CHAIRMEN WORKSHOP (Jim Comiskey)

The State Chairmen Workshop was held in Orlando, FL on June 6 & 7, 2011. Some of the highlights are:

1. Gymnasts must compete in the state in which their gym is located or in the state in which they reside – but not both.
2. Entry fees are now \$125.00 for Nationals (as reported in VII)
3. If a coach takes part in an USA Gymnastics sanctioned event without proper credentials, the coach and the Meet Director will be fined.
4. The attorney for USA Gymnastics reminded everyone that information discussed in meetings is to be kept confidential.
5. The phrase “meet head tax” should not be moved. It should be called administrative operating fees.
6. Bullying of the coaches towards the athletes is becoming a concern.
7. Parents are the #1 liability claim at meets in recent years to include falls, mishaps in the parking lot, and other meet site related incidents.
8. The first US Open National Championship was considered very successful. There were approximately 800 competitors this year.
9. A promotional video of the championships can be found on YouTube.
10. The Xcel (Prep Opt.) Program is over 4000 athletes strong. USA Gymnastics is working toward developing a National Xcel Program. This will not go into effect until 2013.
11. Each Region is required to select an Xcel Regional Representative by September 1, 2011.
12. Background checks and safety expiration dates will be coordinated to the same expiration date in the future.
13. Lynn Moskovitz and Cheryl Jarrett introduced the newly designed USA Gymnastics University.
14. The first JO Coaches Certification Camp was held at the Women's Training Center at the ranch in Houston, Texas. The next one will be held at the Women's Training Center at the Ranch on October 10-13, 2011.
15. It is recommended that all meets use MapQuest to determine judge's mileage.

IX. REGIONAL XCEL REPRESENTATIVE

The Xcel Representative position was discussed. Bobbi spoke to Claudia Kretschmer about taking on this assignment.

The motion was made to select Claudia Kretschmer to be the Region 5 Xcel Representative to the National Xcel Committee to develop the National Xcel Program. She must represent our Region 5 Philosophy about the program.

Motion: Norbert Bendixen

Second: Jim Comiskey

Passed: Unanimous

Claudia Kretschmer will present the Region 5 Xcel Program philosophy for approval at the next Region 5 Administrative Committee meeting on September 25th.

X. REGIONAL TECHNICAL CHAIRMAN REPORT (Char Christensen)

Char congratulated the Region for their success at the JO Championships and the Level 9 Eastern Nationals. The Level 9's were the overall winner, and the Level 10's came in 2nd.

- A. Because the summer Region 5 Administrative Committee meeting is later than normal, the deadline for the Professional Involvement forms will be September 15, 2011. The forms will be on the Regional website by July 20, 2011. The PIF's are to be used to assist in the selection of recommended judges for State and Regional assignments.
- B. The Professional Involvement Forms should be part of the criteria for choosing the judges at the State and Regional levels. This is the second year for an electronic PIF. Judges not completing a PIF by September 15, 2011 will not be assigned to a State or Regional Meet.
- C. The Judges Recommendation deadline is October 15, 2011. Each State Chairman must submit a rank order list of 12-14 judges to Char by the designated date. Affiliation of each judge must also be documented. Judges will be notified by November 1, 2011 of their selection to judge the National Championships. There is a new goal to have judges know their event assignments for Level 9 and 10 Nationals by December 15, 2011.
- D. Char gave Hilary a huge thank you for once again handling all of the petitions for the Level 8, 9, and 10 Regional Championships. There were approximately 80 petitions.
- E. The Judges Volunteer Form for the Regional Training Camps have been on the Region 5 web site since June 1, 2011. A big shout out goes to Kristin Moore for the Training Camp website. The State Chairmen are asked to place on their State website to remind all judges or coach/judges that plan to volunteer in a leadership role need to complete this form by August 1, 2011.
- F. State newsletters are to be sent to John, Char, and Bobbi.
- G. Char thanked all the state meet directors for sending hard copies of the Level 8, 9, and 10 state meet results to her at the end of the optional season.
- H. The State Committees criteria for judge's selection to state meets should be on their State websites or in a newsletter by October 1, 2011. Char asked each State Chairman to summarize their system for determining their rank order list.
 - a. MI – Jim Comiskey stated that a point system is used. It has worked quite well and can be found on the Michigan Gymnastics website.

- b. OH – Nina Dent stated that all the Committee Members get a copy of the Professional Involvement Forms. The assigners and the coaches ranked the judges. Last year there were only two judges that were not ranked in the same order by each group. This year the State Committee will be recommending event assignments. The desire is to limit two State Meets per judge.
- c. KY - Cap Caudill stated that there are not many judges in KY. They use a point system to rank the judges with input from the assignors.
- d. IN – Linda Barclay stated that her system was similar to everyone else but they also use the judge’s availability forms. They try to limit the judges to two state meets per judge. Their system will probably remain the same.
- e. IL- Norbert Bendixen stated that the judges that were given a Regional assignment were given a first and second place vote by each Committee Member then the remainder of the eligible and available judges were voted on by each individual Committee Member via blind vote in number order from three on. If a judge had not turned in a Professional Involvement Form, they did not receive a State Meet assignment. During the State Series Judge Selection process everyone discusses the judges, using a complex system of full committee discussion and then dismissing those judges involved (including spouses) that are eligible and available and then a blind vote is taken by all. Norbert will recommend to the Illinois Committee that a separate State availability form be used this year. Last year, for the first time, an attempt was made to spread out the meet referee responsibilities. Illinois had some problems that occurred and will discuss these problems and use the discussions in their decisions for next year.
- I. All clinics for USA Gymnastics and NAWGJ must be registered with USA Gymnastics. At the end of each session, judges need their CPE forms signed by a designated official. Judges are reminded to print their CPE forms from the USA Gymnastics website.
- J. State Chairmen are asked to place petition and inquiry forms in their State Handbooks for easy access by coaches.
- K. Meet Directors are reminded that only recognized meet formats listed in the Rules & Policies can be used. If a format is used that has not been pre-approved or any other violation to the Rules & policies occurs, the violation should be noted on the sanction form.
- L. Coaches are reminded that a score of 9.0 is required at their State Meet for an event specialist to qualify to the Regional Championships. Qualifying criteria into the State Meets should be on the State websites by October 1, 2011.

XI .REGIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAIRMAN REPORT (John Geddert)

- A. Overview of 2010-2011 Season
We improved over last year’s JO Championship results but were edged out of 1st place due to a couple of age groups that were basically destroyed due to injury. Region 5 won four of the eight age groups and place 2nd in another. We have work to do but we have no reason to hang our heads.
- B. Objectives for 2011-2012 Season

There is an underlying tone of complacency that must change. To recreate the excitement should be a priority this year. We need to find some ways to bring energy to our camps and National Championships.

C. Junior Olympic National Results

More than 25% of the National Team are gymnasts from Region 5. They are listed below.

Twistars USA – Bayle Pickel, Rachel Haines, Lindsey Lemke

IGI – Hayley Scaman, Allison Flores

CGA – Kayla Williams

Buckeye – Nia Dennis

Phenom – Keely Kmeiciak

Arena – Tenille Funches

Mega – Rachel Dickson

The National All Around Champions are

Bayle Pickel – Twistars USA

Allison Flores – IGI

National Event Champions are:

IGI – Scaman (V/UB) and Pearsal (BB)

Twistars USA – Amor (UB) and Lemke (UB)

Buckeye – Dennis (BB)

Gyms with multiple National Qualifiers are:

Twistars USA – 14 (this ties the national record for JO National Qualifiers)

IGI – 10

Legacy Elite – 5

Oakland – 4

Phenom – 4

D. Training Camps

Kristin Moore has designed the 2011 Training Camp T-shirt. There are three sites for the Super Camp this year. We have previously talked about adding a second Hot Shot Camp but the problem is staffing. Jim Comiskey stated that the funds raised from an additional Hot Shot Camp could offset the cost of using the modified capital cup format at the Level 8 Regional Championships. Kittia Carpenter supported offering two sites for the Hot Shot Camp because it would lessen the travel expenses for everyone involved. John Geddert will speak with Dave Rawles about adding a second site.

E. Apparel Fund

The Apparel Fund has been very successful. We were able to pay the Level 9 and Level 10 National Championship entry fees for those who attended a Regional Training Camp.

F. All Star Team

The Region 5 All Star Team has been determined. The All Star Team trip will be to Brazil this year. This will be the regions first trip to South America. Five of the eight gymnasts were on the All Star Team last year. There is usually about a 50% turn over in the All Star Team members. The 2011 All Star Team Members are:

1. Keely Kmeiciak – Phenom

2. Grace Williams – Twistars USA

3. Tenille Funches – Arena
4. Haley Scaman – IGI
5. Kate Kluz – Oakland
6. Amanda Wellick – Legacy
7. Rachel Haines – Twistars USA
8. Lindsey Lemke – Twistars USA

G. Proposals

Because the Region 5 Apparel Fund contains excess funds John suggested three proposals to benefit Region 5.

1. John proposes that the Regional Administrative Committee approve a \$27,000 budget for the All Star Trip to Brazil. This would basically eliminate any co-pay on the part of the athletes and provide them with an “opportunity of a lifetime”.

Via E-mail vote, the proposal was approved on June 29, 2011.

Yes: 5
No: 1
Abstain: 1

2. Level 9 National competitors are not allowed to receive apparel gifts from their Regions, per USA Gymnastics policy, although there is a precedence of allowing gymnasts to purchase apparel. It is proposed that the Region 5 Administrative Committee develop a gift package for the Level 9 National Qualifiers to purchase.

The motion was made to develop a spirit package for Level 9 gymnasts to purchase who have qualified to Nationals.

Motion: John Geddert
Second: Jim Comiskey
Passed: Unanimous

3. John suggested that the Apparel Fund be used to supplement one national clinician for each state clinic or congress in Region 5. This would benefit the Region 5 coaching community.

A motion was made to supplement the state workshops \$2500 that will be retroactive for 2011.

Motion: John Geddert
Second: Char Christensen
Passed: Unanimous

The funds must be documented. Each State Chairman will send an invoice to Bobbi and she will have the funds transferred to the state accounts.

H. Additional Information

1. Kristin Moore would like to know what the Regional Administrative Committee would like on the Regional website. Some of her suggestions are Hall of Fame, Judges, Regional history, etc.
2. Kittia Carpenter stressed concern for the Training Camp format. By Sunday many of the gymnasts are unable to do much because they are not used to training so many hours. The rotations are very long. We should either shorten the day or have it just two days. John Geddert stated that a 40 minute rotation on bars would be difficult. On Sunday they could do six 30 minute rotations and add flexibility

instead of doing only five rotations. John will have Dave Rawles change the rotations for the Super Camp and the Hot Shot Camp to 40 minute rotations on Friday and Saturday and six 30 minute rotations on Sunday. This format will be revisited at the next Regional Administrative Committee meeting on September 25, 2011.

XII. JUNIOR OLYMPIC & TECHNICAL COMMITTEES JOINT MEETING

- A. The minutes from this meeting can be found on usa-gymnastics.org.

XIII. REGIONAL JUDGING DIRECTOR REPORT (Hilary Carlson)

A. Overview of 2010-2011 Season

1. Hilary Carlson felt that the Region had another positive year. The Level 9/10 Regional Meet went well from a judging point of view. She was very proud of the Level 8 Regional judges. Although the format was difficult, the judges did an excellent job of keeping the meet on time and staying at their events until all events were finished.
2. The recent Regional Judging Symposium in Indianapolis was excellent.
3. There have been some problems between the Meet Directors and judges concerning carpools, need of hotels, meals, etc. Development of State guidelines may be on the National horizon.

B. Objectives for 2011-2012 Season

1. One of the biggest challenges throughout the nation is the development of National and Level 10 judges. With meet directors able to request certain judges it is hard to assign other judges to the higher level meets. This leaves the less experienced judges judging at the lower level meets with fewer opportunities to train with higher level judges. NAWGJ is asking that when a meet director requests certain judges that the assigner place one or two "newer" Nationals or Level 10 judges on the meet.
2. A cannon was added to the NAWGJ ethical guideline about Facebook and other social networks. It is inappropriate to contact gymnasts, coaches and parents on social networking sites concerning meets and other gymnastics issues.

C. Additional Information

1. The National Judges Cup will again be in Region 5 at the Indianapolis Convention Center on January 6-8, 2012.
2. Linda McDonald is the new State Judging Director in Illinois. The remaining state judging directors in our region ran unopposed.
3. As the person receiving all regional petitions, Hilary will continue submitting a letter to the state meet directors for the coaches' packets. She has added a statement saying that if the coach has not heard from her within three days of the petition submission, the coach needs to contact her again.

XIV. REGIONAL HALL OF FAME REPORT (Augusta Lipsey)

- A. The biographies of all nominees were sent to the Regional Administrative Committee prior to this meeting. It was determined that a point system be used in which each Regional Administrative Committee voting member would list their choice for the top six nominees. The top ranked nominee would receive six points; the second ranked nominee would receive five points, etc. The points for the nominees were tallied by Kittia

Carpenter. The six nominees receiving the greatest number of votes will be presented to the Region 5 Hall of Fame Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will conduct a conference call on Wednesday, July 20, 2011 to determine the 2011 inductees into the Region 5 USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame. Three nominees will be inducted this year.

XV. REGIONAL MEETS

A. Overview

There was discussion about the format of the Level 8 Regional Championships.

A motion was made to use the modified capital cup format at the Level 8 Regional Meet with the option of doing a two or three day meet. The bids will be due by September 1, 2011.

**Motion: Jim Comiskey
Second: Norbert Bendixen
Passed: Unanimous**

Kittia Carpenter suggested that the Regional Administrative Committee pay for one set of equipment of a modified capital cup format Level 8 Regional Meet.

A motion was made that if the 2012 Level 8 Regional Meet host chooses to run a two gym-two day modified capital cup format meet, the Regional Administrative Committee will fund one set of apparatus at a maximum of \$6000.00.

**Motion: John Geddert
2nd: Linda Barclay
Passed: Unanimous**

The meet host will have to provide documentation of the costs.

B. Financial Reports

The financial reports were presented with each showing a profit.

C. Request from Ron Ganim

Ron Ganim of Gym World hosted the Level 9/10 Regional Championships and paid the meet workers because they do not have a booster club. He would like to be reimbursed \$2652.00 for this expense and the expenses related to apparel which included: rental of a truck, Apparel Chairman, and additional workers. The Committee stated that the rental of the truck was a legitimate expense, but the payment to the workers was a choice. If we reimburse him for the workers, we would need to reimburse other gyms that have done this before. This should be considered a normal operating expense. The apparel truck rental will be reimbursed \$159.00.

D. Qualifying Scores, Entry Fees and Judging Panels

Qualifying scores for the 2012 Regional Championships will remain the same.

Level 8: 34.00
Level 9: 34.00 (established by USA Gymnastics)
Level 10: 34.00 (established by USA Gymnastics)

E. Entry Fees

Entry fees for the 2012 Regional Championships will remain the same.

- Level 8: \$80.00
- Level 9: \$80.00
- Level 10: \$80.00

F. Judging Panels

The Judging Panels for the 2012 Regional Championships will remain the same.

- Level 8: 2 judge panels
- Level 9: 4 judge panels
- Level 10: 4 judge panels

XVI. REGION 5 USA GYMNASTICS CALENDAR

	2012	2013	2014
9/10 State Meets	March 24-25 or March 31/Apr. 1	March 23-24 or March 16-17	March 22-23 or March 15-16
9/10 Regionals	April 12-14	April 12-14	April 11-13
Level 8 Regionals	April 27-29		
Level 9 East Nationals	May 3-6 Landover, MD	May 2-5 Region 5 or 8	May 1-4
JO Nationals/NIT	May 10-13	May 9-12	May 8-11
JO National Compulsory Workshops		May 31-June 2 Indianapolis, IN June 7-9 Reno, NV	

XVII. NATIONAL CONGRESS

The USA Gymnastics National Congress will be held August 17-20, 2011 in St. Paul, Minnesota. All State Administrative Committee Chairmen are required to attend. The Business Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17, 2011. This is an approved business expense for State Chairman. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony is on Friday, August 19, 2011. Region 5 has purchased two tables for the ceremony. Each State may invite two people to join the Regional Administrative Committee for the Hall of Fame luncheon.

XVIII. REGIONAL CONGRESS

A. The Region 5 Congress is scheduled for September 23-25, 2011 at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, Indianapolis, IN.

B. Congress Responsibilities

1. Watch for e-mails from Kristin Moore regarding the proper shirt to wear each day. The Regional Committee is asked not to wear blue jeans, warm-up pants or short shorts.
2. The Regional Administrative Committee is asked to be visible and answer any questions the Congress attendees may have. Please help to maintain a clean and organized environment.
3. Cap Caudill will be our public relations person on site.

4. The Regional Administrative Committee is to promote the Auction. Augusta Lipsey and Norbert Bendixen will assist with the set-up and assist Kristin with the selling of the items.
 5. Kristin Moore and Kittia Carpenter are responsible for the preparation of the Banquet. All Regional Committee Members are required to assist with the set-up for the Banquet.
 6. Nina Dent and Linda Barclay will collect tickets and money for the banquet.
 7. Bret Norman will be the photographer for the banquet.
 8. Jim Comiskey and Ed Gibson will be the audio trouble shooter.
- C. Volunteers
1. Volunteers will get their congress registration waived if they work seven or eight sessions.
 2. One volunteer will need to work with Rachel Brazo at the main registration table.
 3. Any professional member can volunteer by contacting Linda Barclay.
 4. We will need one volunteer per session to be the session coordinator. Possible jobs include introducing the speaker, have water available for the speaker, check credentials of the audience, distribute the speaker's handouts if applicable, and complete the feedback form. Bobbi will develop a complete job description for the session coordinators.
- D. Kristin Moore will set up the Apparel Store and assign work shifts for the Regional Administrative Committee.
- E. Next year's Congress is scheduled for September 13-16, 2012 at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, Indianapolis, IN.

XIX. Next Meeting

- A. The next Regional Administrative Committee meeting will be September 25, 2011 at 1:00 pm following the Regional Congress.
- B. Agenda items include
 1. Overview of the Regional Congress
 2. Regional Meet Bids
 3. Judging Recommendations
 4. Region 5 Xcel Program Philosophy
 5. Training Camp Rotations

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:51 PM

Respectfully Submitted 7/18/11
Augusta A. Lipsey
Regional Secretary