

Region 5 Administrative Committee Meeting
July 24, 2014; 10:00 a.m. – 5:17 p.m.
Indianapolis, IN

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Regional Administrative Committee Chairman, Dave Stiles.

II. ROLL CALL

Present

Dave Stiles, Regional Administrative Committee Chairman (RACC)
Char Christensen, Regional Technical Committee Chairman (RTCC)
Kittia Carpenter, 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)
Tami Jacobs, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-MI)
Nina Dent, Ohio Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: OH)
Nancy Gibson, Regional Xcel Committee Chairman (RXCC)
Hilary Carlson, Regional Judging Director (RJD)
Augusta Lipsey, Regional Secretary and Hall of Fame Coordinator

III. WELCOME

Regional Chairman, Dave Stiles, welcomed everyone to the summer committee meeting.

IV. MINUTES

The 2013 Regional Administrative Committee minutes have been approved via E-mail. The current minutes will be approved by E-mail before placing it on the regional website. An E-mail blast will be sent to the professional membership when the minutes are placed on the web.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

At the time of this meeting the Level 9/10 Regional Meet financial report had not been received. The report was due six weeks following the conclusion of the competition. Discussion ensued about the consequence for not meeting the deadline for the report.

Beginning August 1, 2014, per the Regional Meet policy, a Regional Meet Host (club) will not be allowed to bid on the following year's regional meet if the financial statement is not submitted to the Regional Administrative Committee within 6 weeks after the completion of the Regional Championships.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Motion: | Char Christensen |
| 2nd: | Nina Dent |
| Passed: | Unanimous |

The Region 5 financial report will be shared after the end of the fiscal year July 31, 2014. The apparel fund is doing well with approximately \$90,000.00.

VI. State Reports

Illinois (Norbert Bendixen)

Illinois had very successful, well run, state meets with over 500 gymnasts. The Secret Classic was once again held in Illinois.

Illinois is working on a system for dealing with meets that have to be cancelled due to acts of God.

Illinois has had some problems using out of state scores as state qualifying scores. 33% of each age group is given awards at state meets. The age groups are usually 33 gymnast which allows for 10 placement awards per age group.

The Xcel divisions are increasing in numbers every year though the numbers are still lower in Illinois than in the other Region 5 states. This is mainly because the other states have had a head start and due to a previously established AAU program.

In 2015 Illinois will have an abbreviated state congress due to the National Congress being held in Indianapolis.

The judges for the Illinois state meets will be selected by blind vote in November. Every year prior to the Judges Selection meeting the Illinois Administrative Committee establishes what criteria they will use in the selection of the judges for that year based on what communications have been received from the professional members. A joint meeting is being scheduled with the state NAWGJ. In the 2013-2014 competitive year, Illinois wanted the best judges possible for the level which resulted in many of the same judges being selected for each state meet. Prior to the judges selection for the 2014-2015 competitive season Illinois will revisit (as it does every year) their philosophy of selection and their selection procedures.

Char Christensen was thanked by Norbert Bendixen for allowing over judgments that were needed at their State Meets by a small number due to slight overages. Char commented that the Illinois meet directors and meet referees did an excellent job of providing follow-up with final numbers, times and schedule to show that the meets finished on time and judges did receive appropriate break time.

The state committee has been realigned because the Xcel division is growing and Level 5 is diminishing.

Indiana (Linda Barclay)

Indiana is excited to be represented on the Region 5 All-Star team this year by Sarah Smith from JPAC as the #1 gymnast.

The Indiana State Meeting, Congress and Awards Banquet were held last weekend. We had great clinicians and sessions with Peter Pidcoe, PhD., Enrique Trabanino, Becky Cox, Paula Lord, Jeannie Johnson, Judy Kemp and Connie Maloney. Even though these events are free to all Indiana professional members only 30% of the membership attend. New incentives or different formats are being explored to increase participation. These events are held on the same weekend each year – 2nd weekend in July, so Indiana members are encouraged to save the date for next year.

Indiana also holds a Base Score Clinic every year at the beginning of the season to encourage judges and coaches to start on the same page. It is mandatory this year that judges attend the State Congress and/or Base Score Clinic to be eligible to judge a state meet.

Kentucky (Vicki Smith)

Kentucky had two state meets with more gymnasts than in previous years.

Approximately 200 people participated in the state banquet.

The larger clubs are being encouraged to bid on the regional meets.

Michigan (Tami Jacobs)

Michigan is considering doing away with the "of the year" awards. To replace them a Lifetime Achievement award will be given along with an annual scholarship for a senior gymnast.

Michigan has over 1000 gymnasts at the Xcel level. Level 5 has lower numbers and Level 6 is larger.

Assessment Fees have been raised to \$1.00 per gymnast for all Michigan invitational meets.

Michigan is in the process of developing a new website which includes a judging site. The state committee is working with the MI-NAWGJ to develop a revenue source. The state is looking to add a statistician position on the committee.

A character award is being introduced in 2015. Anyone including parents and coaches may nominate a gymnast for the character award.

Michigan will have an open meeting for all Michigan Professional Members at the Regional Congress at 8:00am on Saturday, September 13, 2014.

Ohio (Nina Dent)

At one Ohio state meet a water pipe burst causing the rest of the meet to be added to the following weeks state meet. This resulted in additional judges being added to the new state meet.

The age groups at the state meets are limited to 15-18 gymnasts. Larger medals are awarded to first through third place and a smaller version of the medal is awarded to fourth through tenth place. Six places are awarded for each event and 10 places are awarded in the all around. Ohio is suggesting that each state meet host hire a meet organizing company.

In 2015 Ohio will have two state meets. One state meet will be Level 2, 3, 4 and 5 with the other being Levels 6-10.

497 people attended the 2013 banquet. The State committee meeting was held on Friday with the banquet held on Saturday and the Optional Camp held on Sunday. The Compulsory Camp was held in December.

The Ohio State Handbook has been revised.

VII. 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 took third place. The Level 10's were the overall Super Team winners for 2014. We had 16 National Championship titles on individual events and all around. Eight different clubs contributed to this accomplishment.

- A. Professional Involvement Forms (PIF) will be on the websites as soon as possible. They will need to be returned to officers by September 1, 2014. PIF's are to be used to assist in the selection of recommended judges for State and Regional assignments. The PIF form and the Judges Training Camp Volunteer Form will be under Judges on the Region 5 website.
- B. Each State Chairman must submit a rank order list of 12-14 judges to Char by September 14, 2014. Affiliation of each judge must also be documented. There is a goal to have judges know their event assignments for the Level 9 and 10 Regional Meet and have it available on the website by December 15, 2014.
- C. There were approximately 75 petitions for Level 8, 9, and 10 Regional Championships. A huge thank you is extended to Hilary Carlson for her hard work on our petition process.
- D. The judge's volunteer form for Regional Training Camps should have been on the regional website since June 1, 2014. In order to be assigned a teaching or coaching assignment, judges need to complete this form electronically by August 1, 2014. State Chairmen are asked to send a reminder e-mail to judges in July.
- E. Please include Kittia, Char and Dave with important web updates.
- F. Char thanked the states for sending hard copies of the Level 8, 9 and 10 state meet results to her at the end of the optional season.
- G. The criteria used to select judges for state meet assignments should be on the state websites or in newsletters by October 1, 2014. State Chairmen are asked to send this information to Char, Dave and Kittia by October 1, 2014.
- H. Please remember that all clinics sponsored by USA Gymnastics or NAWGJ must be sanctioned with USA Gymnastics for CPE credits to be valid. Judges must have their forms signed at the end of each session. Judges are reminded that it is their responsibility to print their CPE forms from the USA Gymnastics website.
- I. Petition and inquiry forms should be included in each state handbook.
- J. USA Gymnastics members are reminded that Rules and Policies meet formats are the only ones that can be used. If there is a violation of this or any sanction violation, it should be noted on the newly revised sanction form by the meet referee and/or meet director.
- K. The table below lists the percentage of athletes that qualified for their regional meet from their state meet in 2014. The second number is the number of gymnasts that did not qualify.

| | Level 8 | Level 9 | Level 10 |
|----|-----------|-----------|----------|
| MI | 93% / 7% | 88% / 12% | 100% |
| OH | 79% / 21% | 85% / 15% | 96% / 4% |
| IN | 91% / 9% | 92% / 8% | 94% / 6% |
| IL | 88% / 12% | 94% / 6% | 93% / 7% |
| KY | 87% / 13% | 87% / 13% | 100% |

- 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. It is up to the individual states to determine the qualifying criteria into their state meets. These criteria should be on the state websites by October 1, 2014.
- M. To be recommended to be assigned to a national meet, judges are reminded that they must judge at the Level 9/10 Regional Meet or have judged at a Level 9/10 State Meet and coached at the Level 9/10 Regional Championship in the recommended year.
- N. Judges assigned to the Regional and National Championships will be on the State and Regional websites by November 1, 2014.
- O. Sanction violations need to be put in the comment section of the sanction form by meet directors and meet referees. Violations such as finishing past 10:00pm, over the number

of gymnasts allowed for the competitive format, etc. must be documented. For the falsification of memberships and dates, there is a \$500 fine for the first offense and \$1000 fine for the second offense.

- P. The 2014 Level 9/10 Regional Championship did not have any inquiries.

VIII. REGIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAIRMAN REPORT (Kittia Carpenter)

A. Junior Olympic Nationals

1. Region 5 won four age divisions and were second in three other age divisions. There were three all around winners and two of them won two other events.
2. Shannon Hunt arranged all of the hotel accommodations. The gymnasts were in rooms by their placement at the Regional Championships. When the girls entered their room their banquet apparel was on their bed. The processing of the apparel was very efficient. Shannon also arranged for the hotel restaurant to stay open so our gymnast could have a meal following their competition.

B. Training Camps

1. All Regional camp hosts receive a contract with their responsibilities.
2. There have been concerns that the Super Camps and Forward Progress Camps are becoming state camps. To remedy this, the suggestion was made to pay a person from outside the hosting state to do the camps. It was preferred that this coach have had a gymnast on the floor at nationals.
3. A National Staff member will be hired for the Hot Shot Camp.
4. To encourage coaches to work more than one Regional Training Camp it was suggested that all coaches who work two complete camps be put into a drawing for a prize such as National Congress or Regional Congress registration, tickets to Championships, Tops Camp travel expenses, All-Star trip Expenses or an iPad.

A motion was made to place Coaches and Judges names into a drawing for an iPad if they worked two or more full camps in 2014. Each additional camp that is worked will receive an additional chance in the drawing. Coaches must have coached at JO Nationals and/or Eastern Nationals and/or Elite Nationals (Classics or Championships) in 2013 or 2014.

**Motion: Kittia Carpenter
2nd: Linda Barclay
Passed: Unanimous**

5. National qualifiers were given an invitation to register for Hi Tech Camp before others were allowed to register.
6. There was discussion concerning the requirement for entry into Super Camp.

A motion was made to change the requirement for a gymnast to attend Super Camp. A gymnast must have competed L7 and scored a minimum of 36.00 or have competed Level 8 or higher effective 2015.

**Motion: Vicki Smith
2nd: Norbert Bendixen
Passed: Unanimous**

7. Following discussion concerning the organization of the Training Camps it was determined that the host gyms would continue to receive \$400.00 for hosting the camp. This year the Regional Administrative Committee Chair, Dave Stiles, will verify all athlete numbers and Luke Wasson and Sandy Sabo will assign all coaching positions.

C. All Star Trip

1. This year's All Star Trip will be on October 20-26, 2014 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. There was concern about the quality of the gymnastics equipment but after

speaking with Ron Galimore and Coach Rodriguez, it was determined that they have a new AAI floor, bars and vault table.

2. Sarah Smith has declined the all-star trip so the next alternate will attend. Kittia will make flight arrangements following Championships. The schedule is on the Regional website.
3. Four judges applied to attend the All Star Trip including Nina Dent. During the remainder of the All Star Trip discussion, Nina was excused from the meeting.
4. Lori Koch reported that it was difficult to meet the responsibilities of the delegation leader of the 2013 All Star Trip because she needed to be with her gymnasts rather than organizing the activities of the delegation.

A motion was made that a delegation leaders expenses be paid and \$500.00 be given to support a chaperone.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Tami Jacobs
Passed: Unanimous

A motion was made to assign Nina Dent as the delegation leader and for Judy Kemp to attend the All Star Trip as the judge (chaperone).

Motion: Linda Barclay
2nd: Nancy Gibson
Passed: Unanimous

A motion was made to allow each club that qualifies a gymnast to the All Star Team to request \$500.00 in assistance (with the option of donating it back to the region).

Motion: Kittia Carpenter
2nd: Norbert Bendixen
Passed: 7-Yea 1-Nay

5. All future delegation leaders will be chosen by the Regional Administrative Committee.

D. The 2014 All Star Team members are:

1. Sarah Smith, JPAC – 76.725
2. Rachel Dickson, Michigan Elite Gymnastics Academy – 76.225
3. Delanie Harkness, Twistars USA – 76.10
4. Kai Rivers, Twistars USA – 76.075
5. Marissa Oakley, Phenom – 76.00
6. Wesley Stephenson, Legacy Elite – 75.95
7. Shea Mahoney, Legacy Elite – 75.95
8. Michaela Burton, Legacy Elite – 75.90
9. Rachel Cutler, Twistars USA – 75.875
10. Lexi Funk, IGI – 75.85
11. Kasey Janowicz, Bay Valley Gymnastics – 75.45
12. Alecia Farina, Gym World – 75.40

E. All Star Team Alternates

1. Karen Howell, Olympia – 75.35
2. Madison Preston, Cincinnati Gymnastics Academy – 75.35
3. Carly Preston, Twistars USA – 75.30
4. Jenna Swartzentruber, Buckeye – 75.20

F. Junior Olympic National Format

1. A survey was circulated concerning the Junior Olympic National format but it was not discussed at the Junior Olympic Committee meeting.
2. The NIT competition may be eliminated for 2016 and each Regional Championship would have additional age divisions. This will be decided after USA Gymnastics national office works on arrangements with GK and their contract. This will not take effect in 2015 since all contracts are in place for this seasons JO National Championships.

Effective 2015, Level 9 Eastern National Championships will qualify seven gymnasts instead of six for each age division.

IX. HALL OF FAME (Augusta Lipsey)

- A. The biographies of all nominees were sent to the Regional Administrative Committee prior to this meeting. A ballot listing all current Region 5 Hall of Fame nominees was distributed to all of the Regional Administrative Committee members. Each Regional Administrative Committee member listed 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 six nominees receiving the greatest number of votes will be presented to the Region 5 Hall of Fame Selection Committee. A conference call will be set up with the Selection Committee to determine the 2014 inductees into the Region 5 USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame.

X. XCEL REPORT (Nancy Gibson)

The Regional Xcel Committee Chairman, Nancy Gibson, reviewed the changes in the Xcel rules that were made for the 2014-2015 competitive year. The minutes from the Xcel Committee meeting can be found on the USA Gymnastics website.

Judges education was a concern voiced by all the regions at the National meeting. The committee has finished a Training Script to go with a training DVD. There will be another base/training DVD produced by the USA Gymnastics office. Members of both the Xcel National Committee and RTC scored the DVD. This training tool will be used at all Regional Congresses and at National Congress.

A judging Xcel webinar will be presented Wednesday, August 6th at 1:00pm.

XI. REGIONAL CONGRESS DETAILS AND SUPPORT

Additional clinicians are needed for some of the sessions at the Regional Congress. The Regional Administrative Committee was asked to make some suggestions as soon as possible.

XII. LEVEL 9/10 REGIONAL FORMAT SOLUTIONS

Due to the length of the Level 9/10 Regional Competitions around the country USA Gymnastics has allowed Regional Administrative Committees the ability to change the qualifying scores. Region 5 has determined that our choices are to have sessions on Thursday, raise the qualifying score, add a Sunday evening session, have fewer judges or leave the format the same. The Regional Administrative Committee's preference will be to have a full day on Sunday as our first option and the second option will be to have a session on Thursday evening.

XIII. LEVEL 8 REGIONAL

A. Age Groups

The Regional Administrative Committee discusses changing the Level 8 Regional age groups for awards. The teams would not be changed.

A motion was made to divide each session at the Region 5 Level 8 Championships

into two equal age groups for individual awards.

Motion: Nancy Gibson

2nd: Nina Dent

Passed: Unanimous

B. State Leotards

A suggestion was made to use the same leotard design for each state but in a different color. Discussion on the suggestion will be deferred until the next Region 5 Administrative Committee meeting.

IX. XCEL REGIONAL

Some regions in the country are putting their Level 7 and Xcel Regionals together. During the past few years individual clubs have hosted a Regional Invitational in Region 5. This meet is not endorsed by the Regional Administrative Committee. It was suggested that if a club is going to host the meet and advertise it at the Xcel State Meets, the club should pay for a vendor table.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Norbert Bendixen

2nd: Nancy Gibson

Passed: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm

Respectfully Submitted 7/29/14

Augusta A. Lipsey

Region 5 Administrative Committee Secretary