

Region 5 Administrative Committee Meeting
June 23, 2015
10:13 a.m. – 6:08 p.m.
Indianapolis, IN

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:13am 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)
Shane Sanders for 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)
Donna Trevethan, 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 September 14, 2014 Administrative Committee Meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from September 14, 2014.

Motion:	Tami Jacobs
2nd:	Nancy Gibson
Passed:	7 - Aye, 1-Abstention

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

The yearly financial report was distributed. The USA Gymnastics is not separating the General Account from the Apparel Fund so the total of the Region 5 funds is \$245,933.03.

As of the 2014-2015 competitive season all states in Region 5 are charging a competition fee of a minimum of \$1.00 per gymnast for all sanctioned meets. Due to the amount of revenue that states are receiving from competition fees it was recommended that the \$0.50 per gymnast reimbursement from the region be eliminated. This will help the region since revenue from a regional congress will not occur this year.

A motion was made to leave all competition fees collected by the region with the region beginning with the 2015-2016 competitive season.

Motion:	Vicki Smith
2nd:	Linda Barclay
Passed:	7 – Aye, 1 - Abstention

VI. State Reports

Ohio (Nina Dent)

Ohio is financially sound. They had only two state meets (a compulsory and an optional) during the 2014-2015 season. There was some grumbling that the state meets felt more like invitationals than state meets.

Ohio had six national champions.

Ohio will be hosting a gymnastics camp in the fall of 2015 instead of a congress. Compulsories will be held one day and the optionals on the next day.

500 people attended the State Banquet honoring 122 gymnasts.

One judge, Joanne Hester, passed during the season and one coach, Tim Price, is very ill.

For the 2015-2016 season Ohio will have three state meets. The Xcel level will have its own State Meet because of the lack of available judges due to the NCAA Conference meets.

Illinois (Shane Sanders for Norbert Bendixen)

Illinois felt that the Level 8 and Level 9/10 Regionals ran smoothly. This year was one of the smoothest years ever. The Illinois State Meets also ran smoothly. The Level 3-4 State Meet had 1500 athletes. There was a significant drop in the number of Level 5 gymnasts this year but this should change in the future. Many coaches stated that they would not skip Level 5 again.

Illinois has a new Level 6/7 State Chair, Nick Becker.

The Illinois State Congress is this weekend. Nancy Gibson will be doing a day of Xcel sessions.

The Congress will focus on lower level information for people that cannot make it to the National Congress.

The Secret Classic will be held in Illinois again.

Michigan (Tami Jacobs)

Michigan currently has 5-6 different State Meets. The State Administrative Committee is considering using Ohio's system of having two State Meets.

Michigan had 76 Level 10's competing this year. Michigan had a drop in the number of Level 5 gymnasts but Level 6 and the Xcel program have grown.

During the 2014-2015 competitive season a higher competition fee was implemented. A \$1.00 per gymnast competition fee was required at all USA Gymnastics sanctioned meets.

In 2016 Michigan will host a State Congress. Lower level and Xcel coaches are the ones that need the education but are not receiving this due to cost. This year the State Banquet will be held in July. Beginning in 2016, the State Congress and the State Banquet will be held together. Six Administrative Committee positions were open this year.

One judge (Barb Summerfelt) passed away this year and one judge (Annamarie Roe) is leaving Michigan although she will remain in our region (IN).

Kentucky (Vicki Smith)

Kentucky's State Banquet was held the last weekend in May with 250 participants.

Twelve Kentucky athletes qualified to Nationals this year.

Next year's State Meet will be held on March 11-13, 2016 so that judges will be available.

Kentucky is planning to host a lower level Congress in September, 2016.

Kentucky is working on finding a place to host the Level 8 Regional and the Regional Congress.

Lexington is being considered for the Level 8 Regional Meet. Louisville is out of the question.

Owensboro has a new convention center but the location will be difficult for many to reach.

Indiana (Linda Barclay)

Only one committee position was contested this year. The committee will remain the same for the next two years.

We will not be holding a State Congress this year due to the National Congress being held in Indianapolis. Our state meeting and banquet will be held July 12th.

The Hope/ Love Gymnastics camp held each summer is an interactive camp for gymnasts, coaches and judges. Profits from the camp go to a fund for any USA Gymnastics-IN professional member who needs assistance with medical expenses.

Indiana also holds a Base Score clinic in September. We get closer each year in finding the best format to be used to help all judges and coaches start the competitive season on the same page.

Indiana will hold five State Meets this year. The Level 2-3 State Meet had been divided into North and South and held in the same weekend. This year the Level 2's will be combined with Xcel Bronze and their state meet will be held on their own weekend.

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 were awesome winning the overall team competition. There were five All-Around Champions from five different clubs. The Level 10's tied for second. We had 10 National Champions from seven different clubs. Region 5 had one champion in the NIT competition. Region 5 continues to succeed because we pay attention to details. We stand out because we pay attention to our hair, make-up, march-in, pride, professionalism and team work.

- A. Professional Involvement Forms (PIF) will be on websites and in newsletters by July 20, 2015. Judges must return the form by September 1, 2015. The PIF is an objective tool for states to use to assist in the selection of judges for State and Regional assignments.
- B. Each State Chairman must submit a rank order list of 12-14 judges to Char by September 14, 2015. 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, 2015.
- C. There were approximately 80 petitions for Level 8, 9, and 10 Regional Championships. A huge thank you is extended to Hilary Carlson for her hard work on the petition process. Although leaving the position of Regional Judging Chairperson, Hilary Carlson will continue as a volunteer to assist with petitions for 2015-2016. Donna Trevethan was welcomed to the Regional Administrative Committee as the newly elected Regional Judging Director.
- D. The judge's volunteer form for Regional Training Camps is on the Region 5 website. The form must be completed by August 1st for a judge to be assigned a leadership role at one of the camps. State Chairmen are asked to put a reminder on their state websites.
- E. Char thanked the state chairs for sending state news to her, and other Regional Administrative Committee members. Please continue sending important web updates to Kittia, Char and Dave.
- F. Char thanked the State Chairmen for sending hard copies of the Level 8, 9 and 10 State Meet Results to her. Please continue this procedure.
- G. The criteria used to select judges for State Meet assignments should be on the state websites (in a very visible area) or in newsletters by October 15, 2015. State Chairmen are asked to send this information to Char, Dave and Kittia by October 15, 2015.
- H. There have been some concerns with finding information on the Region 5 website. Members should be reminded that the website may look different on a smart phone or iPad. To see the full website a desktop or laptop should be used.
- I. All clinics for USAG and NAWGJ must be sanctioned by the USA Gymnastics to be used for CPE credit. Judges are reminded to print their CPE forms from the USA Gymnastics website.

- J. Petition and inquiry forms should be included in each state handbook.
- K. Members are to be reminded that the only meet formats that can be used are the ones in the Rules and Policies booklet. USA Gymnastics is not opposed to the use of other formats if prior approval is given.
- L. The table below lists the percentage of athletes that qualified for their regional meet from their state meet in 2015. The second number is the number of gymnasts that did not qualify.

	Level 8	Level 9	Level 10
MI	91% / 9%	87% / 13%	96% / 4%
OH	76% / 24%	91% / 9%	90% / 10%
IN	94% / 6%	90% / 10%	94% / 6%
IL	98% / 2%	90% / 10%	93% / 7%
KY	85% / 15%	75% / 25%	82% / 18%

- M. 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. A score of 9.25 is required to petition to the Regional Championships as an event specialist. 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 15, 2015.
- N. 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.
- O. Judges assigned to the Regional and National Championships will be on the State and Regional websites by November 15, 2015.
- P. 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 a State Meet to go over time it must be approved by Char. For the falsification of memberships and dates, there is a \$500 fine for the first offense and \$1000 fine for the second offense.
- Q. Regional Meet Discussion - There was some policies that may have been misinterpreted concerning the Level 8 Regional Meet. Changes in the line-up were being made right up to the start of the meet. During the first session gymnasts from the same club were placed in different rotations. This problem was fixed before the beginning of the first session. The Level 8 Regional Meet Director's Manual has current and historical information in it. It was suggested that only current information be included in the Manual. Char would like someone to complete the Regional Host Handbook that Jim Comiskey started. Kattia, Dave, Nina and Char will review the Handbook and present it to the committee at the September Regional Administrative Committee meeting.

At the Level 9 Eastern National Meet a gymnast arrived at the meet without knowing she was competing in the competition.

An apparel vendor was brought in at the Level 9/10 Regional Meet but they did not generate much in sales due to the regional store being on site. The meet host can supply additional vendors to sell apparel but they must be aware that the Region 5 store will sell to the general public. This information will be added to the bid form.

VIII. REGIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAIRMAN REPORT (Kattia Carpenter)

- A. The Level 9's performances were weak in 2014 but we came back in 2015 and won the Level 9 Eastern Championships. At the Junior Olympic Nationals we won the most (3) age divisions but ended up tying for 2nd.

- B. The training camps are on the regional website. To continue improving our camps Kittia would like to have national staff attending the High Tech Camp.
- C. Nationals were great, exciting and fun. The coaches were very involved. Ali Arnold ran a Skype session on how to focus for competition and gave our gymnasts some motivational words in preparation for our JO National competition.
- D. In 2016 28 gymnasts will be added to the National Championship because the NIT has been eliminated. We are estimating that Region 5 will send additional 12-15 gymnasts. All entry fees were paid for the national qualifying gymnasts. We are not sure the moneys will be available to pay for these additional gymnasts. It was determined that we should have enough money this year since the state rebates have been eliminated beginning this season. This topic will be address again next year.
- E. This year's All Star Trip will be in Glasgow, Scotland immediately following the National Team training camp from October 26th through November 1st. The World Championships will be a highlight of the trip. Airline tickets range from \$1300 - \$1400 per ticket. Kittia was informed that Virgin Airlines has tickets approximately \$1000. An activity is being planned in England on October 30th if the price is reasonable. Kittia would like the Regional Administrative Committee to consider maintaining a delegation leader for the All Star Trip. This will help the gymnasts have the best possible experience. Nina Dent did a great job making sure the trip activities were organized. It is too hard for a coach to do this and still be involved with their gymnasts. There was something for the gymnasts to do each day. Kittia would like the delegation leader to be someone from the Regional Administrative Committee. Nancy Gibson suggested that the judge that goes on the All Star Trip be the assistant to the delegation leader. Char suggested that the states ask their committees to donate to the cost of a judge from their state to participate in the All Star Trip.
- F. Jason McDonald had videos online each day of the All Star Trip. He interviewed three gymnasts each day.
- G. All USA Gymnastics members must get approval from the national office if they do anything with a foreign country such as foreign exchange practices, run a meet, judge a meet out of the country, etc.
- H. Kittia would like to continue the Ambassador trip. She has contacted a Prince George facility to help in a low income area.
- I. If an Individual Event Specialist wins an event at their Regional Championships they can no longer compete at Nationals.
- J. For Level 8 vault a coach can touch a gymnast during a Yurchenko vault and only receive a 1.0 deduction. Also at Level 8 vault, if a gymnast takes a second vault the second vault score must be taken even if the vault results in a "0".
- K. August 22, 2015 will be Region 5 Day at Cedar Pointe. John Geddert and Kittia Carpenter will do the rip cord together.
- L. The 2015 Banquet date is set for Friday, August 14th during the National Congress. There is concern that people will not attend. It is being held at the same time as the first night of the Men's competition. There was discussion about moving the Banquet to the weekend of the High Tech Camp. The Committee verbally agreed to leave the Banquet on Friday evening of the National Congress at one of the hotels or a ball room at the convention center. A news blast will be sent to the membership. Admission will be collected by the USA Gymnastics office. Mary Lee Tracy was suggested as the Master of Ceremony.

IX. TRAINING CAMPS (Lori Koch)

Lori Koch has taken on the job of co-director of the Region 5 Training Camps. She has talked to Sandy Sabo and Dave Rawles about the Camps to develop a job description. Sandy has continued with the communication to the membership. Dates and sites for the camps were completed before Lori took on this position. She is trying to improve on the areas that need improvement. There is concern that the camps have turned into state camps instead of Regional camps. We are losing the camaraderie that can be developed at a Regional camp. This problem mainly occurs at the Super Camp and The Forward Progress Camp due to the number of camps that are provided. Lori called and spoke with some teams in the region and only one team was concerned about the cost of going to a camp out of state when a camp is available in state.

Tami Jacobs would like to see a bid process for the awarding of camp sites.

Luke Wasson will help Lori staff the camps. Kittia suggested limiting the number of people at one camp or limit the Student-teacher ratio. Lori suggested having a Master Staff that stays on an event and the rest of the coaches rotate with their gymnasts. These coaches must be willing to work with gymnasts that are not their own.

It was suggested that the first day of camp be basics and physical preparation. The 2nd day of the camp would be skills that the gymnasts already have. Coaches will help them improve on their skills.

It was also suggested that the judging session on Sunday be replaced with a session on sports psychology, dance, strength, floor bar, yoga or etc.

Judges participating in the camps can judge portions of a routine to show the gymnasts where they need to improve. Lori and Char will work together for new ways to involve the judges.

A recommendation for 2016 Super Camp and Forward Progress Camp are to limit the number of gymnasts from one team to 20 and send one coach per 10 gymnasts.

A data base system for registering for a camp is being developed. For the High Tech Camp a link to a gymnast's bio will be available for college coaches.

Video review will be on Sunday rather than a judges session. Since Sunday is a shorter day than Friday or Saturday, Char will notify judges that are signed up for Sunday that they must also sign up for Friday or Saturday for full credit.

All of the discussion on camps will be reviewed for changes next year. Input should be presented to Lori Koch. We will also discuss having 2 day camps so girls do not have to miss school on Friday. Lori will be available for all the camps to explain the changes that are anticipated.

X. HALL OF FAME (Augusta Lipsey)

- A. The new Contributor/Judge criterion for the Region 5 Hall of Fame was distributed for review. Dave Holcomb was thanked for rewording the criteria.
- B. The biographies of all nominees were sent electronically 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 2015 inductees into the Region 5 USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame.

XI. XCEL REPORT (Nancy Gibson)

- A. There is no mobility between the Xcel program and the Junior Olympic program. If an Xcel gymnast wishes to move to the JO program but they have never been in the JO program the gymnast may enter as a Level 3 or 4. If the gymnast is 14 years old or a freshman in High School they may petition the State Administrative Committee, with a video, for entry into Level 7.

- B. Xcel Silver vault matting must be 8" (+/- 2") ABOVE the height of the table. There is a 0.30 deduction for incorrect equipment specifications.
- C. Each state is required to have a drop-back date.
- D. The number of judges per panel must be specified on pre meet information.
- E. The goal for the Xcel National Committee is to not have any major changes until the quadrennial.
- F. To judge the Platinum or Diamond Divisions a judge must have a minimum of a Level 7/8 rating unless approved by Char Christensen.
- G. State Administrative Committees must make decisions on
 - 1. A declaration date. This may be the same or different from the JO declaration date. It is recommended that the date be 4-6 weeks before the State Meet entry due date.
 - 2. Open scoring at the State Championships.
 - 3. The number of judges to be used at the different divisions for qualifying meets and State Meets.
 - 4. Qualification into the State Meet.
- H. Regional Administrative Committees must make decisions on
 - 1. Eligibility of athletes to enter State and Regional Championships.
 - 2. Hosting a Regional Championship.
 - 3. Open scoring if a Regional Championship is held.
- I. The Regional Xcel Invitational had some issues although the gymnasts had a good time. If a Regional Championship is sanctioned by the Regional Administrative Committee there would be control over bids, qualification, meet operation, etc. The country is going in this direction. It allows the lower levels to have a peak experience.

A motion was made to host a Regional Championship for Xcel Silver and above gymnasts in May.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Nancy Gibson
Passed: 5 – Aye, 2 – Nay, 1 - Abstention

A motion was made to host a Regional Championship for Level 7.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Nancy Gibson
Passed: 7 – Aye, 1 - Abstention

- J. The Level 7 Regional will be held on May 7-8, 2016 and the Xcel Regional date will be May 14-15, 2016. The qualification score and entry fee will be determined by email vote.

A motion was made to have a \$5.00 competition fee at the Xcel Regional.

Motion: Nancy Gibson
2nd: Linda Barclay
Passed: 6 – Aye, 2 – Abstentions

- K. After some discussion it was decided to not have open scoring at the Xcel Regional.
- L. The Level 7 Regional will be run the same as the Level 8 Regional.

XII. JUDGES SELECTION (Char Christensen)

Char Christensen has worked on documents for the selection of judges to help eliminate confusion. The first is a policy for using alternates for the JO Level 9 and 10 Nationals. Following the selection of judges for the JO Nationals, the RTCC will contact the judges in the following ways.

1. Level 10 JO National judges must confirm within 10 days that they are available and confirmed.
2. The Level 9 Eastern National judges will be notified after the Level 10 judges have been confirmed. This allows one of these judges to replace a Level 10 judge if one or more are not available.
3. After 10 days are allowed for confirmation of accepting the above assignments, the alternates will be used in rank order for replacements if needed.

Another document that was presented is an application for Level 8, 9, and 10 Regional Championships. This application must be completed by September 1, 2015 for a judge to be considered for Regional and National Championships. The application will give added details for the selection process. Changes and additions to the document were discussed.

A motion was made that a judge must be in a leadership role for a minimum of one day of a Regional Camp to receive a regional judging assignment.

Motion: Kittia Carpenter
2nd: Vicki Smith
Passed: 7 – Aye, 1 – Abstention

A motion was made to use the Regional application form for Level 8, 9 and 10 Regional and National Championship assignments for Level 10 National and Brevet Judges only. The PIF form must still be completed by all judges.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Nancy Gibson
Passed: 7 – Aye, 1 – Abstention

A motion was made to use three judges from Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana, two from Kentucky and two from the host state for the Level 9/10 Regional Championships.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Linda Barclay
Passed: 7 – Aye, 1 - Abstention

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The 2015 Regional Meet Financial Reports were distributed.
- B. USA Gymnastics is asking that the region be represented in the Member Club Legislative Advocacy Program.
- C. A box of chalk has been donated for the Regional auction. David Stiles asked that additional donations be solicited.
- D. PIF's are due September 1, 2015
- E. The next Regional Administrative Committee meeting will be on Sunday, September 20, 2015.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08pm

Respectfully Submitted 7/1/15

Augusta A. Lipsey

Region 5 Administrative Committee Secretary

