

**Region 5 Administrative Committee Meeting**  
**June 7, 2016; 11:01 a.m. – 5:28 p.m.**  
**Columbus, OH**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:01am 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 Schaafsma, 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  
Lori Koch, Regional Training Camp Director

*Guests*

Brian Blewitt, Chairman Elect - Kentucky  
Amy Repogle, Chairman Elect - Indiana

**III. WELCOME**

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

**IV. YEARLY REVIEW**

**A. Regional Technical Chairman Report (Char Christensen)**

Char congratulated the Region for their success at the Level 9 Eastern Nationals. Region 5 took first place as a region with the Super Team Award. We won eight out of the 16 age divisions with many All Around and event National Champions. Char also congratulated the Level 10's from our region who placed a close third behind the first place tie between Region 3 and Region 1. We had 12 individual event and all-around champions compared to 10 last year.

Char congratulated the Region for the great state representation on the All Star Team. There are five gymnasts from Illinois, four from Michigan, two from Ohio and one from Indiana. This represents ten different clubs which shows that talent is being spread across many clubs.

Professional Involvement Forms (PIF) will be on websites and in newsletters by July 1, 2016. Judges must return the form by September 1, 2016. The PIF is an objective tool for states to use to assist in the selection of judges for State and Regional assignments. The Professional Involvement Form and the Judges Training Camp Volunteer Form will be on the Judges page of the Region 5 website for easy access.

Each State Chairman is asked to submit a rank order list of 18 judges to Char by September 6, 2016. There are more judges required than in the past due to the addition of the Level 7 Regional Championship. Affiliation of each judge must also be documented because two to four judges per state are to be used as head judges. The goal is to have judges know their event assignments for the Level 7, 8, 9 and 10 Regional Meets and have it available on the website by December 15, 2016.

For Xcel Regionals, each state has the option of allowing Char to use the rank order judges list that was used for the Level 7, 8, 9, and 10 Regional Championships or a separate ranked list specifically for Xcel Regionals.

Congratulations are extended to Kittia Carpenter and the staff from Buckeye Gymnastics for a beam skill being named after their gymnast, Jenna Swartzentruber. The skill is a Squat 2/1 turn to a stand that rises from the squat position to a stand. It is a variation of a Humphrey on beam.

There were approximately 85 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. Hilary will continue as a volunteer to assist with petitions for 2016-2017.

To be eligible to judge the Level 8, 9 and 10 Region 5 Championships, all judges need to complete the online application form by September 1, 2016.

The Judges Training Camp Volunteer Form should be on the Region 5 website within two weeks. State Chairmen are asked to remind judges, on their websites, that this form must be completed by August 1, 2016 in order to receive a teaching or coaching assignment. The judging session at the Training Camps will only be on Sundays. Judges will be technical assistants on Fridays and Saturdays.

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, 2016. State Chairmen are asked to send this information to Char, Dave and Kittia by October 15, 2016.

All clinics for USAG and NAWGJ must be sanctioned by USA Gymnastics to be used for CPE credit. Judges are reminded to print their CPE forms from the USA Gymnastics website. At the end of each clinic session, judges need their CPE forms signed by a designated official.

Petition and inquiry forms should be included in each state handbook. It is recommended that the gymnasts age group be placed on the petition form.

USA Gymnastics members are 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. One new format was approved from Illinois which is a modified traditional format with the addition of a second beam. (Refer to the 2016 Rules & Policies).

To qualify to the Regional Championships an Individual Event Specialist must score a 9.0 at their State Meet. It is up to the States to determine the criteria for an Individual Event Specialist to compete in their State Meet. The criteria should be on each States website by October 15, 2016.

**A motion was made to allow an Individual Event Specialist with a disability to qualify to the Regional Championships with a score that is the all-around qualifying score divided by four.**

**Motion:** Kittia Carpenter  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Norbert Bendixen  
**Passed:** Unanimous

Sanction violations are being checked by the USA Gymnastics. Meet directors and meet referees are responsible for notating all violations on the sanction form. Violation penalties are \$500 the first time and \$1000 for the second time. Connie Maloney is also auditing around 80 judges per year.

#### **B. Regional Training Camp Director (Lori Koch)**

Several changes have been made to the structure of the Region 5 Training Camps. Registration opened on June 6, 2016. A dozen or so clubs registered the opening day. Each camp will have two sessions. A morning and an afternoon session will be held on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday the two sessions will be combined to cover five of the following topics; sports psych, nutrition, injury prevention, judging, leadership, interviewing skills, Region 5 cheers and marching or Region 5 goals for Nationals. Each topic will be 45 minutes in length. Each camp will have a social activity for the gymnasts on Friday and a coaches activity on Saturday.

The Camp Committee is devised of one person from each state. They have been working on securing the Master Clinicians for each camp. Mary Lee Tracy, John Geddert and Todd Gardner have agreed to do a camp. Assistant staff will need to sign up on line. Some assistants will remain on an event and some may rotate with a group. This will be based on what works best for the coach and camp.

The 2016 State Meet, Regional Championship and National Championship scores will be used to qualify for the camps. To enter the Hot Shot Camp a gymnast must be 12 years old or under. A gymnast that competed in the 2015 Junior Olympic Nationals but was injured for the 2016 Junior Olympic Nationals will be grandfathered into the High Tech Camp. The Region 5 Training Camp Committee will determine the placement of a gymnast that competed in the NIT in 2015 but was injured for the 2016 season.

JPAC and Naperville Gymnastics will be hosting Forward Progress and Hot Shot Camps on different weekends. A Big Sister/Little Sister activity may be planned.

The High Tech and High Performance Camps will be held at the University of Michigan on October 7, 8 and 9, 2016. The High Performance Camp will be taking the place of the Showcase. To qualify for the High Performance Camp a gymnast must score a 36.00 or above but did not qualify for JO Nationals or Level 9 Eastern Championships. High School seniors are not eligible. Two judges will be needed for judging rotations on Sunday for the High Tech and High Performance Camps. For all camps we will continue to use Coaches Eye on the iPads. Videos will be deleted after use.

College coaches are invited to the High Tech and High Performance Camps but they can attend any camp that they wish. They can be invited to coach one day of a camp and recruit the second day of the camp without violating NCAA compliance rules. Lori will rotate the college coaches. For recruitment purposes the college coaches like having uncommitted gymnasts wearing a different color leotard for easy identification.

Lori will work on the Training Camp part of the website to make it more user friendly.

The criteria for the camps are complete but there will be clarifications. The gymnasts level is based on their competitive level during the 2016 season.

Super Camp – a gymnast must be Level 6-10 with emphasis on Level 6-8.

Hot Shot Camp – a gymnast must be Level 4-10 and 12 years of age or under.

Forward Progress Camp – a gymnast must be Level 9-10.

High Performance Camp – a gymnast must be Level 9-10.

High Tech Camp – a gymnast must be Level 10.

It is anticipated that there will be 10-14 gymnasts per group.

Except for the November camps the camp director at each camp will be a Region 5 Training Camp Committee person.

Tumble Trak has volunteered to be at every camp.

It is recommended that the camp host have a trainer on staff. The Region 5 Training Camp Committee will review requirements. Water needs to be provided.

Invitations will be sent to High Performance and High Tech eligible gymnasts.

There was discussion concerning having a set amount for the Training Camp Host Fee. For a two session Camp, \$800 or \$1000 was suggested. For a one session camp half of this amount was suggested. Five Regional Administrative Committee members voted for a \$1000.00 Training Camp Host Fee for a two session camp and a \$500.00 host fee for a one session camp. Three Regional Administrative Committee members voted for a \$800.00 Training Camp Host Fee for a two session camp and \$400.00 host fee for a one session camp.

**The Training Camp Host Fee for 2016 will be \$1000.00 for a two session camp and \$500.00 for a one session camp.**

### **C. Regional Meet Discussion**

Donna Trevethan distributed a chart that shows Region 5 as the only region in the nation that does not have a four judge panel at Level 8 Regional Championships.

It was felt that the last session on Saturday and Sunday of the Level 9/10 Regional Championship was not fair to the gymnasts because they were too long. Four sessions per day is hard on the judges. Kattia suggested that one set of judges could judge the Level 10's in the first four sessions of the meet and a different set of judges could judge the Level 9's. The Level 9/10 Regionals had 650 registered gymnasts with 618 competing. A qualifying score of 35.00 would reduce the size of the meet by two sessions.

Preprinted individual judges' slips in competitive order were not provided at the Level 9/10 Regional Championships. This requirement went into effect in 2014.

374 gymnasts competed in the Level 7 Regional Championships. The meet ran well but it felt like a big invitational. There was no team competition. Many of the Level 7

coaches did not receive meet etiquette information from their gyms. Many did not have their USA Gymnastics membership cards and were not familiar with rotating in a capital cup format.

The Level 8 Regional Meet host couldn't get catering for the meet. It would have cost \$22,000.00. Therefore, vouchers were used.

There needs to be more clarification on awards. There were not enough medals or plaques at the Level 8 Regional Meet. The splitting of the age groups was not taken into consideration.

**A motion was made to have the Regional Junior Olympic Committee Chairman order all the regional awards (medals and plaques).**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>Kittia Carpenter</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	<b>Char Christensen</b>
<b>Passed:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

Kentucky did a great job bringing the flavor of Kentucky to the meet.

The meet referee for the Level 7 Regional Championships (Debbie Campbell) felt that the judges were well prepared. Char felt that team competition would add to the meet and make it feel more like a regional meet instead of an invitational.

Nancy Gibson, the meet referee, was very happy with the Xcel Regional Meet. She suggested having a second meet referee if a second panel of judges is used. The meet referee position was educational for the coaches. There were over 1100 gymnasts.

#### **D. Regional Junior Olympic Chairman Report (Kittia Carpenter)**

With more age divisions at the Junior Olympic Championships the strength of Region 5 is more spread. There were some gymnasts that did not appear to be ready. There were quite a few scratches at the last minute which made it difficult for Kittia to prepare an alternate to compete.

Region 5 had seven Junior Olympic National team members.

Some of the changes effective August 1, 2016 (see the May, 2016 Junior Olympic Committee Meeting Minutes) are:

1. Acro elements in Level 1-5 balance beam compulsories may land in a straight leg closed finish or as written in the text.
2. The number of credentialed coaches allowed at the Level 9 Eastern and the Junior Olympic Championships has been limited. If there are one to four gymnasts, three coaches are allowed. For four to nine gymnasts, a maximum of four coaches are allowed. For 10 or more gymnasts the Women's Junior Olympic Program Director must be contacted. Additional credentials can be obtained at the cost of \$100.00.
3. Level 4 and 5 gymnasts may lower the vault table to any manufactured setting.
4. Landing into a loose foam pit is not allowed for competition unless the landing surface is deemed firm by the meet referee or meet director prior to the start of the competition.

5. The minimum qualifying score to the Junior Olympic Nationals has been raised to 35.00. This will allow more spots to deserving gymnasts from other Regions. Additional gymnasts will be by percentage of eligible athletes in each region.
6. A giant half on bars can be an A, B, or C element based on the angle of the turn.
7. The format for the Junior Olympic Nationals will remain the same but will use corrals as in college. Two gyms will be for warm-ups and two will be for competition. This is expected to reduce confusion as to who is competing. The Junior Olympic Nationals will stay with a two day format.

## **E. State Reports**

### **Illinois (Norbert Bendixen)**

The Level 8, 9, and 10 were combined and the Level 6 and 7 were together with over 600 gymnasts. There were 700 gymnasts in the Level 3 State Meet and over 650 athletes at the Level 4 State Meet. The Level 5 and Xcel State meet were held together.

There will be over 500 at the Illinois Banquet this weekend.

### **Indiana (Linda Barclay)**

A Friday session had to be added for the Indiana Xcel State Meet. The optional State Meet was a three day meet. All state meets will be in March in 2017.

The Indiana State Congress will be held July 23-24, 2016.

### **Kentucky (Vicki Smith)**

The Level 4-10 State Meet had 360 gymnasts competing. The Level 2, 3 and Xcel State Meet had almost 500 gymnastics competing.

The State Banquet was held on May 22, 2016 with 270 in attendance.

The Kentucky State Clinic will be held July 22-13, 2016.

### **Michigan (Tami Schaafsma)**

Three state meets were held this year. The Level 7-10 State Meets were held together. The Level 3-6 State Meet had 1454 gymnasts competing and the Xcel State Meet had over 1000 gymnasts competing. Coaches like having fewer weekends occupying State Meets.

At the State Meet many Xcel Coaches were not familiar with the rules of competition.

With the Regional Congress being held in Michigan this year a State Congress will not be held until 2017.

Claudia Kretschmer and Al Scharns will be stepping down from their positions on the Michigan Administrative Committee. Claudia has served on the committee for 30 years. They will be recognized for their contribution at the State Banquet that will be held in the middle of July.

### **Ohio (Nina Dent)**

The Ohio State Clinic, Banquet and Camp will be held July 13, 2016.

In 2016 the Level 2-5 State Meet had 1500 participants. The Level 6-10 State meet had 1000 athletes and the Xcel State Meet had 804 athletes.

All State Meets in 2017 will be held in March. The Ohio state meet calendar is complete through 2019.

The state leotard is the Ohio Administrative Committee's main fund raiser. Coaches' tee shirts are given to them. The cost of the leotard is refunded to all gymnasts that make the state team.

42 different judges were used for the Ohio State Meets. Char stated that 50% of all judges are over 50 years of age. New judges are needed to be used with experienced judges as USA Gymnastics and NAWGJ recommend for invitational and championship meets.

#### **F. Xcel Report (Nancy Gibson)**

Some changes have occurred in the Xcel program to make judging easier. It is important to read the minutes that are on line. One of the changes is the elimination of order matters. Also, Xcel has adopted the new balk definition as defined by the Junior Olympic and Technical Committees.

There was a 24% increase in the Xcel program in our region.

#### **V. FINANCIAL REPORT**

The yearly financial report was distributed. Income was limited due to the lack of a Regional Congress in 2015. Additional expenses were incurred because of the \$10.00 increase in the entry fee for Junior Olympic Nationals and Level 9 Eastern Championships. This increase was not known at the time the Region 5 Training Camp entry fee was established. Approximately \$40,000.00 of income was also lost due to National Congress being held in our region.

#### **VI. HALL OF FAME (Augusta Lipsey)**

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 five nominees. (Normally six people are chosen. Only five were chosen this year because Kathy Kelly deferred her induction from last year to 2016). The top ranked nominee would receive five points; the second ranked nominee would receive four points, etc. The five 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 2016 inductees into the Region 5 USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame.

#### **VII. REGIONAL CONGRESS**

The 2016 Regional Congress will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The club that has the most registrants will receive an award.

There are four volunteers so far. More are needed. Please contact Tami Schaafsma if you are interested in volunteering.

The Trivia Night is being put together on a power point. There will be five rounds of 10 questions. There is a \$600.00 cash prize. The Silent Auction will be held on Friday evening with the vendors providing the items.

Suggestions were made for the Master of Ceremonies for the Auction and the Banquet.

### **VIII. STATE CHAIRS RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. All State Committee meeting agendas are to be approved by the Regional Administrative Committee Chairman.
- B. State Chairs have the responsibility of tracking scores for State Meet qualification and mobility between the levels. Dave would like to have a tracking program developed and placed in the cloud for the use of all the states in our region. It would need to be in an Excel format.
- C. Meet Directors must be reminded that entries may not be refused from competitors who wish to enter a competition that serves as a qualifier to a State Championship or above. (pg. 61 and 96, 2015-2016 Women's Program Rules and Policies).
- D. Entry fees for compulsory and optional state meets are found in the Women's Program Rules and Policies. To increase these entry fees a request must be made to the Regional Administrative Committee Chairman on an annual basis.
- E. If one-judge panels are used in a meet it must be stated in the pre-meet information per Rules and Policies.

### **IX. REGIONAL BIDS**

The financial reports from the 2016 Regional Championships were distributed. Based on the reports, entry fees do not need to be adjusted for the 2017 season.

The qualifying score to the Level 9/10 Regional Championships was discussed. Based on the 2016 Championships a score of 35.00 would have resulted in a nine session meet. The cost for judges would remain the same except for the hotel expense. Adding one or two sessions on Thursday was suggested as well as raising the qualifying score. It was suggested that the Level 10 sessions be in succession followed by the Level 9 sessions. It was also suggested that Survey Monkey be used to allow the membership to determine if the score should be raised or an additional day be added for the following year.

**A motion was made to have the Level 9/10 Regional Championship competition held with two sessions on Thursday if needed and no more than three sessions on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, if needed. The Level 10's will compete first and in succession.**

**Motion: Char Christensen  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Kittia Carpenter  
Passed: 6 Yea, 1 Nay, 1 Abstain**

The Level 8 Regional Championship format will remain the same. A State team member scratch must happen by Noon on Wednesday prior to the competition.

**A motion was made to have the Level 7 Regional Championship combined with the Level 8 Regional Championship on April 21-23, 2017.**

**Motion: Tami Schaafsma  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Nancy Gibson  
Passed: Unanimous**

The Level 7 Regional will have the same team format as the Level 8 Regional.

The Xcel Regional Championship will be held on May 12-14, 2017.



#### **X. ALL STAR TRIP**

Costa Rica is being considered for the All Star trip this fall. Kittia has been in contact with Ron Galimore to arrange the trip. The last week in October is being negotiated. It is expected that the cost will be reduced by staying closer to home this year.

#### **XI. REGIONAL PROCEDURES**

Each member of the Regional Administrative Committee was asked to write one or two areas of a procedure manual to be used for all Regional Championships.

#### **XII. APPAREL COORDINATOR**

Stephanie Malas is retiring as the Region 5 Apparel Coordinator. She has done a wonderful job and has done so without taking a stipend. The Region will give her something special for her time.

Shannon Miles has volunteered to become the Region 5 Apparel Coordinator. Myra Hargrove, a mother of a gymnast from Cincinnati has also volunteered. Kittia would like to have both ladies handle the responsibility. This would allow Shannon the ability to coach her gymnasts when needed.

#### **XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. The next Region 5 Administrative Committee will be on Saturday, July 9, 2016, 4:00pm – 6:30pm, for a light dinner before attending the Parade of Champions.
- B. Vicki Smith and Linda Barclay were thanked for their service to their states and our region.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm

*Respectfully Submitted 6/13/16*

*Augusta A. Lipsey*

*Region 5 Administrative Committee Secretary*