

**Region 5 Committee Meeting  
June 15, 2010; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Indianapolis, IN**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Regional Administrative Committee Chairman, Bobbi Montanari, at 11:00 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) effective 7-1-10  
Cap Caudill, Kentucky Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: KY)  
Jim Comiskey, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-MI) effective 7-1-10  
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

*Absent*

Ed Gibson, Indiana Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: IN)  
Doug Rowe, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: MI)

Linda Barclay and Jim Comiskey were welcomed to the Region 5 Committee. Ed Gibson will continue to work with the Committee taking care of the video operations during the Region 5 Congress, obtaining regional scores and calculating the age groups for the Region 5 Level 8 Championships and obtaining the site for the Annual June Region 5 Administrative Committee Meeting. Bobbi Montanari thanked the Committee for their help during a difficult year. She appreciated the extra work that many of the Committee took on during her pet, Sarah's, illness. Kristin Moore was also thanked for the extra work she did with the Region 5 apparel. Kristin attended the Level 9 East Nationals to insure that all of the gymnasts received their apparel.

**III. ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Bobbi Montanari, reminded all Committee Members that all communication during the meeting is to be kept confidential. The USA Gymnastics confidentiality forms will be sent to the Committee Members for signing.

**IV. 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.

## **V. COMMUNICATION**

The Region 5 Committee is now on Facebook. Each State Chair will be placed on Facebook as an administrator. The Regional newsletter will be printed in July. Information is due to Bret Norman by July 1, 2010.

State Rules and Policies are to be placed on the State websites.

E-mails from the State Chairs are to be copied to the Regional Chair. E-mails from the Regional Chair will be copied to the National Chair, Kathy Ostberg.

## **VI. REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMANS REPORT (Hilary Carlson)**

Bobbi Montanari thanked Hilary Carlson for attending the Level 10 National Championships and the Women's Administrative Committee Meetings for her. The meeting was held on May 9, 2010 in Dallas, Texas. Hilary Carlson reported that the decision was made that no gifts are to be given to judges beyond their normal pay rate. Some judges have requested to be assigned to certain meets because of the gifts.

USA Gymnastics will be centralizing the banking system for all Regional and State accounts. This change is necessary to stay in compliance with IRS regulations. It will also eliminate Regional and State financial reporting.

Bobbie Montanari stated that all Committee Members may be reimbursed for their Regional and State expenses with the proper documentation (receipts). State Chairs may use their State accounts for reimbursement.

## **VII. STATE CHAIRMEN WORKSHOP IN LAS VEGAS (Nina Dent)**

The State Chairmen Workshop was held separate from the National Congress. Nina Dent stated that it was a very good workshop. There was not the time pressure that is usually felt when the workshop is held in conjunction with the National Congress. The workshop was well thought out. The topics of discussion are listed below.

1. The State Chairmen were told that they must stay professional.
2. When bids are reviewed for meet selection, accessibility for spectators should be considered.
3. The meet director(s) that sign the sanction should be on all meet documents. This is due to liability. The 2009 Edition Gymnastics Risk Management / Safety Course Handbook should be reviewed. The forms in the back of the Handbook should be review by an attorney. Remember that the forms are a guideline. Some of the things in the forms may not apply to your State.
4. It is the State Chairs duty to report violations, not to investigate them.
5. Policies set by the state should be followed.

6. The Prep Opt Program was designed with a soccer mentality. (Get in, compete, have fun).
7. Kathy Feldman reported that the USA Gymnastics has had a 6-7% growth in membership.

### **VIII. REGIONAL TECHNICAL CHAIRMAN REPORT (Char Christensen)**

*Bobbi Montanari congratulated Char Christensen for receiving a Service Excellence Award from the State of Ohio.*

Char Christensen congratulated and reviewed the successes that Region 5 had at the Level 9 East Championships and the Level 10 National Championships. At the Level 9 Eastern Championships, Region 5 was the overall Champion by winning 10 out of 16 age groups, had 9 All-Around National Champions and 55 gymnasts in the top 10 All-Around. At the Level 10 National Championships, Region 5 took second place and won one age group and took second in two age groups. We also had one All-Around National Champion and 10 in the top 10 All-Around. There were 20 new National qualifiers.

- A. Professional Involvement Forms will be on the web sites and in newsletters by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The forms are to be returned to the proper officers by September 1<sup>st</sup>. The PIF forms should be used to assist in the selection of recommended judges for State and Regional assignments. Bobbi Montanari asked all State Chairs to E-mail Bret Norman with their State Meet dates by June 24<sup>th</sup>. *Norbert Bendixen stated that the State Chairs need to be able to capture the availability dates of judges from the website. The PIF form should be assessable and workable from different servers. It needs to be put into a date base that can be manipulated as needed.*
- B. Judges recommendations for the Level 9 and 10 Nationals from the State Committees are due by the Regional Congress. Judges recommendations for the Regional Championships are due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Each State Committee should selected 12-14 judges in rank order for selection for a Regional assignment. Please indicate if the judges are affiliated, as 2-4 judges per state are needed as unaffiliated head judges. *Norbert Bendixen stated the NCAA dates may cause problems with judges meeting the deadline. Char Christensen responded that judges must make a decision if they want to do USA Gymnastics or NCAA. Region 5 does not punish judges for doing NCAA instead of USA Gymnastics. Regional NCAA assignments come out in July.*
- C. During the 2010 Championship season, there were 75 petitions for all of the Regional Championships. Following discussions at the WTC and JO meetings, there will be no changes in the petition procedures for the 2010-2011 Season. Once again Char Christensen thanked Hilary Carlson for her hard work on the petition process. Beginning in 2011, Hilary will begin checking State Meet scores to make sure that petitioning gymnasts have not competed all around at their State Meet. This violation in the petitioning process occurred during 2010.
- D. The Judges Volunteer Forms will be on the Regional website and in newsletters by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Judges will have a deadline of July 15<sup>th</sup> to be considered for judging assignments at the Regional Training Camps.

- E. Char Christensen requested that she, John Geddert, and Bobbi Montanari be included in communications from the States via newsletters and web updates.
- F. Char Christensen thanked the States for sending hard copies of the Level 8, 9, and 10 State Meets.  
results at the end of the optional season. Please continue this process.
- G. State Committees are to have the judges criteria for State Meet assignments on their websites or in their newsletters by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Judges should be aware of the criteria by which they are being evaluated for State Meet assignments. The criteria should also be sent via E-mail to Bobbi Montanari and Char Christensen by October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- H. Remember that all clinics for USA Gymnastics and NAWGJ must be registered through USA Gymnastics. Judges must have their CPE forms signed by a designated official at the end of each session. All CPE forms can be found on the USA Gymnastics website. *Nina Dent asked why camps and clinics had to apply to offer CPE credit. By merely applying for a camp or clinic sanction, CPE credit should be available.*
- I. Please include petition and inquiry forms in the State Handbooks for easy access.
- J. A reminder to all Region 5 Members that the only competitive formats that can be followed are listed in the USA Gymnastics Rules and Policies booklet. If there is a violation of this or any sanction violation, it should be noted on the revised sanction form.
- K. Each State may determine the qualifying score for individual specialists to enter the State Meet. This criterion is to be posted on the individual State websites by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Copies are to be sent to Bobby Montanari and Char Christensen. The mobility score for individual specialists is an 8.50. Currently, we do not have injury petitions to Regionals as a specialist.
- L. In 2008 the decision was made that in order for a judge to be recommended for a National Meet, the judge must judge at the Level 9/10 Regional Meet or have judged at a Level 9/10 State Meet and coached at the Regional Championship in the recommended year. This requirement will continue for the 2011 National Championships.
- M. The list of judges assigned to the Regional Championships will be posted on the State and Regional websites by November 15<sup>th</sup>. National Championship judges will be posted by January 15<sup>th</sup>.
- N. Any sanction violations should be noted by the meet director or the meet referee in the comment section on the newly revised sanction form. Violations such as finishing past 10:00PM, over the number of gymnasts allowed for the competitive format, etc. should be noted.
- O. The Level 8 Regional Meet format was discussed. Based on the format there are 7 or 8 gymnasts per team and 3 or 4 scores count per team. No petitioning or specialists can be used to fill the spots. If a state does not have enough to fill a team, all-stars cannot fill the empty spots. *Norbert Bendixen stated that the Level 8 Regional Meet should be a 1 gym system. Modified Capital Cup has coaches possibly in 4 gyms. By using a Capital Cup format we would ease the problem with coaches being with their gymnasts. The cost of the apparatus and equipment would also be less. John Geddert stated that having back to back 10 session weekends would be difficult for coaches. It would be an easier meet to run but now we would need a Friday venue. Sunday night*

*tear down is also a logistical nightmare. Jim Comiskey stated that the regional apparatus and equipment the past few years has not been very reputable. John Geddert stated that it is up to this Committee to review the bids and only grant those that will supply equipment from reputable companies.*

- P. For Level 9 and 10, the USA Gymnastics Rules and Policies have allowed the use of scores from the previous or current season for the petitioning process. This has not been the case for Level 8's because some Regions use placement by numbers rather than scores. Our Region has the right to allow the use of scores from the previous year.

**The motion was made to allow Level 8 gymnasts to petition to Level 8 Regionals by using scores from the current or previous season.**

**Motion:** Char Christensen  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** John Geddert  
**Passed:** Unanimous

- Q. A request was made to the Regional Committee to have the high school seniors compete on Friday so that the competition would not interfere with their high school proms. Proms in different school districts are not always on a Friday night or always on a Saturday night therefore this request cannot be granted.

## **IX. REGIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAIRMAN REPORT (John Geddert)**

### **A. Overview of 2009-2010 Season**

Although we did continue our 21 year streak of at least one National Championship title, the season was somewhat unfulfilling. Region 5 finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall at the Level 10 Championships. Although the Level 9's won, they gave away some ground. There seemed to be less "team spirit", and the underlying tone may have been leaning toward complacency.

### **B. Objectives for the 2010-2011 Season**

We will go back to the drawing board and stick with what we have done in the past. BASICS. Consistency and cleanliness of routines is what has worked in the past. This will be the main focus of training camps and newsletters.

### **C. Junior Olympic Program Meetings**

The minutes from this meeting can be found online. Criteria for the selection of the JO Coach of the Year were discussed. John Geddert suggested to the Regional Committee that two or three names be solicited then after the results of Nationals are determined, choose the person from our region that will be nominated for this award. Some of the criteria to be used is excellence in multiple levels, contributes to the Region and sportsmanship. The format for the Level 9 East and West Championships was discussed. The East Championships will remain with 16 age groups while the West Championships will use 8 age groups with 12 athletes per Region.

### **D. Regional Training Camps**

The 2009 Training Camps were very successful. Special thanks go to Dave Rawles and Glen Willmeng for organizing the details of the various camps. We had the largest participation ever which resulted in having to add a third Super Camp site. This year we are starting with three sites. There were fewer complaints about the

Camps in 2009. The total income from the Camps was \$85,600. *Nina Dent stated that the Camps have lost some of their spirit. There is no cheerleading as Dan Miller used to do. Kittia Carpenter noted that there are no Training Camps in Ohio in 2010. John Geddert stated that there used to be a bid process but everyone thinks their gym is worthy of a Camp so Dave Rawles solicits Camp sites with a phone call. Kittia responded that Buckeye Gymnastics would be interested in holding a Regional Camp. Nina Dent stated that people have complained about working the Camps and only receiving a t-shirt. John Geddert responded that each club gets a suitcase, computer bag, flip flops, beach towel, and three t-shirts if they qualify a gymnast to Level 10 Nationals. John Geddert will speak to Dave Rawles about thanking the clinicians at the Camps and on the website. John Geddert will also put something on the website and facebook thanking coaches for their time at the Camps. Bobbi Montanari also thanked Dave Rawles for the Camp Newsletter.*

The 2010 Training Camps are listed below.

- a. Super Camp West – GymKhana, Illinois, August 6-8, 2010.
- b. Super Camp North – Olympia Gymnastics, Michigan, August 6-8, 2010.
- c. Super Camp Central – DeVeaus , Indiana, August 6-8. 2010.
- d. Hot Shot Camp – United Gymnastics, Illinois, September 17-19, 2010.
- e. High Tech Camp – Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, October 1-4, 2010.
- f. Forward Progress North – Naperville, Illinois, November 5-7, 2010.
- g. Forward Progress South – SIGS, Indiana, November 5-7, 2010.

All information is posted on line on the regional web site.

E. The Apparel Fund

The apparel fund balance is \$28,000. It is usually much less at this time of year.

F. All Star Team Trip

The All Star Team trip will be to Slovenia by way of Venice, Italy. They will be flying into Venice then taking a bus to Ljibijana, Slovenia. The time in Slovenia will be spent in a training/teaching situation using our coaches as clinicians for the host club. The group will then return for two nights in Venice before returning home. The dates of the trip are September 21-28, 2010.

John Geddert suggested that a change be made to the All-Star Team assignments. He proposed that National Team Members be assigned to the All Star Team because they may never receive a National Team assignment.

**The motion was made to use rank order at Championships for placement on the Region 5 All Star Team, less any athletes that will be accepting upcoming National Team assignments or have participated in previous years National Team assignments. If a person accepts a Region 5 All Star Team assignment and then declines it because of a National Team assignment the gymnast would be expected to refund the Region the cost of a ticket change.**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>John Geddert</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	<b>Char Christensen</b>
<b>Passed:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

A judge will be solicited for the All Star Team trip. The cost of the airline ticket is \$1100 and the hotel is \$300.

G. Standards



Region 5 has built its success on a philosophy of unity and cooperation. There have been isolated instances of coaches straying from this philosophy. When this occurs we try to bring them back into the fold on an individual basis. Without adhering to the directives of our Region we will become ordinary. It is expected that all of our coaches will show and maintain a professional attitude and a spirit of harmony.

#### **X. REGIONAL JUDGING DIRECTOR REPORT (Hilary Carlson)**

##### **A. Overview of 2009-2010 Season**

Hilary Carlson was satisfied with the judging assignments for both Regionals. The process for assignments worked well. She would like to keep this procedure in the event that both Regionals are held in the same State. She does have a concern if the Level 9/10 Regionals were to be held on Thursday. John Geddert does not think that this will be an issue since with the rule changes, last year was the peak year.

##### **B. Objectives for 2010-2011**

Hilary Carlson feels that the judges' education is lacking for the judges that are not affiliated with a gym. She would like to see some Training Camp changes. At the High Tech and Hot Shot Camps, she recommends a judge be assigned to each event to answer judging questions, give input to gymnasts if they see recurring mistakes and doing other tasks the head clinician believes would be beneficial to the gymnasts. They will also be available to help other judges who attend to see technique, training methods, and assist them to see the difference between great, good and poor performances. This judge will remain at the event the entire day. Judges that are not assigned to an event will be expected to remain at an event for the entire rotation before being allowed to go to another event. Judges that work at one of these camps for an entire day, in a leadership role, will be considered to be assigned to a National Meet along with showing involvement on the Professional Involvement Forms for State and Regional judging assignments.

#### **XI. REGIONAL HALL OF FAME REPORT (Augusta Lipsey)**

- A. Augusta Lipsey presented the Regional Administrative Committee with copies of each of the 2010 nominees. Based on the Hall of Fame Guidelines, a maximum of 6 people are to be submitted to the Region 5 Hall of Fame Selection Committee for final selection. Augusta Lipsey suggested that in the future the nominees biographies should be sent to the Regional Administrative Committee prior to this meeting so that the biographies can be reviewed in advance. The Regional Administrative Committee will review the resumes and E-mail Augusta Lipsey by June 24<sup>th</sup> with the names of 6 nominees to be considered for induction. The votes will be tallied and the top 6 nominees with the most votes will be submitted to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

#### **XII. REGIONAL MEETS**

##### **A. Financial Reports**

The financial reports were presented with each showing a profit.

##### **B. Qualifying Scores**

The qualifying score for the 2010 Level 8 Regional Meet was lowered to 34.00 from

34.50. When this occurred, it allowed approximately 50 gymnasts to be eligible to compete in the Regional Meet. Only 12-15 gymnasts accepted the invitation.

**A motion was made to change the qualifying score for the Level 8's to 34.00.**

**Motion: Cap Caudill**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: Norbert Bendixen**  
**Passed: Unanimous**

Qualifying scores for the Level 9 and 10 gymnasts are established by USA Gymnastics at 34.00.

**C. Entry Fees**

Entry fees for the 2011 Regional Championships will remain the same.

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

**D. Judging Panels**

The Judging Panels for the 2011 Regional Championships will remain the same.

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

**XIII. USA GYMNASTICS CALENDAR**

Sites listed are pending final contracts.

	2011	2012	2013
9/10 State Meets	March 26-27	March 24-25	March 23-24
9/10 Regionals	April 15-17	April 20-22	April 13-14
Level 10 only Regionals	April 9-10	April 28-29	April 20-21
Level 9 East Nationals	May 5-8 Worcester, MA	May 10-13	May 3-5
JO Nationals	May 12-15 Long Beach, CA	May 17-20	May 10-13
JO National Compulsory Workshops			May 31-June 2 Indianapolis, IN June 7-9 Reno, NV

The Level 8 Regional is the week after Easter on April 29-May 1, 2011.

The NCAA National Championships will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on April 15-17, 2011.

**XIV. THE NATIONAL CONGRESS**

The USA Gymnastics National Congress will be held August 11-14, 2010 in Hartford, Connecticut. All State Administrative Committee Chairmen are requested to attend. The Business Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. This is an approved business expense for State Chairman. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony is on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. Region 5 has purchased two tables for the ceremony.

**XV. REGIONAL CONGRESS**

A. The Regional Congress is scheduled for September 9-12, 2010 at the Westin Chicago, Itasca, IL.



- B. Work has just begun on this year's congress. Cheryl Jarrett, JO Chair and one of the JO Compulsory Choreographers, will be one of our quest speakers.
- C. Char Christensen will be responsible for the judging tract.
- D. 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. Debbie Roller, Universal Gymnasts' secretary, will monitor the "food break room" and see to the needs of the vendors.
  - 4. Shirley Ashley, Universal Gymnasts' secretary, will assist Kristin Moore in the Apparel Store.
  - 5. The Regional Administrative Committee is to promote the Auction, assist with the set-up and assist Kristin with the selling of the items.
  - 6. 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.
  - 7. Nina Dent and Linda Barclay will collect tickets and money for the banquet. Nina Dent will brainstorm to come up with a better system for entering the Banquet.
  - 8. John Geddert and Dan Miller will be the Masters of Ceremonies
  - 9. Bret Norman will be the photographer for the banquet.
  - 10. Ed Gibson is the audio trouble shooter.
  - 11. Norbert Bendixen will direct the Illinois volunteers with their responsibilities.
  - 12. Jim Comiskey will be in charge of the trivia contests. Char Christensen will compose the questions.

Kristin Moore has volunteered a lot of her time and money to Region 5 as the apparel coordinator.

**A motion was made to increase Kristin Moore's stipend to \$1500.00 per year from \$800.00.**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>Char Christensen</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	<b>Cap Caudill</b>
<b>Passed:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

- E. The 2011 Region 5 Congress will be held on September 16-18, 2011. The State Chairs of Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio are asked to investigate possible sites for the Congress.

## **XVI. NEW BUSINESS**

Level 8 Regional Format – If the Level 8 Regional format is modified capital cup, clubs could send fewer coaches. Bids will be solicited with either modified capital cup (one gym) or double modified capital cup (two gyms). The quality of the apparatus and equipment will be a primary consideration in awarding a bid.

Jim Comiskey asked if the date can be moved up when the Regional Administrative Committee selects the sites for the Regional Meets. This could be beneficial for the Meet Directors because it takes time to organize the meet. Bobbi Montanari commented that that would require scheduling another meeting for the Committee. John Geddert also responded that Booster Clubs are having a change in their administration right now so the Booster Club that directs the meet could be different than the one that put the bid in.

## **XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:43 PM

*Respectfully Submitted 6/30/10*

*Augusta A. Lipsey*

*Regional Secretary*