

Region V Committee Meeting
June 12, 2007; 10:00 – 2:54 p.m.
Huron, Ohio

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bobbi Montanari, RACC at 10:00 A.M.

II. WELCOME

Bobbi Montanari, RACC and Kathy Shufflin, past RACC, welcomed all Committee Members to the meeting. On behalf of Region V, Bobbi thanked Kathy for 23 years of service as the Region V Administrative Committee Chairman. Bobbi is very anxious, nervous, and excited about following in Kathy's footsteps. She does not plan to make any major changes but would like to increase communication and visibility. Bobbi's goals over the next few years are to attend each State's Committee Meeting and State Meets. Her objective is to learn how each State operates and meet their Professional Membership.

Confidentiality: Bobbi Montanari stated that she expects the meetings to be open and friendly yet stay on task and everyone to speak one at a time. She also reminded the Committee that what is discussed during the meetings is to remain confidential.

III. ROLL CALL

Bobbi Montanari, Regional Administrative Committee Chairman (RACC)
Kathy Shufflin, Past Regional Chairman
Char Christensen, Regional Technical Committee Chairman (RTCC)
Enrique Trabanino for Mary Lee Tracy, Regional Elite Committee Chairman (RECC)
John Geddert, Regional Junior Olympic Committee Chairman (RJOCC)
Kittia Carpenter, Assistant Regional JO Committee Chairman
Norbert Bendixen, Illinois Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-IL)
Ed Gibson, Indiana Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-IN)
Cap Caudill, Kentucky Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-KY)
Douglas Rowe, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-MI)
Nina Dent, Ohio Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC-OH)
Hilary Carlson, Region V-NAWGJ Judging Director
Augusta Lipsey, Regional Secretary

IV. MINUTES

Deadlines for the distribution of the minutes were set. The minutes will be posted on the Regional website, State websites and E-mailed to the Regional Professional Membership by July 3, 2007.

V. OPERATING CODE

The USA Gymnastics Operating Code is revised on a yearly basis and will be posted on the USAG website.

VI. COMMUNICATION

- A. Bret Norman will be taking over the construction of the Regional web page effective September, 2007. Any information for the website should be E-mailed to Bobbi Montanari first for approval. She will then forward the information to Bret.
- B. Bobbi Montanari will send out a Regional Newsletter three times per year. The newsletter will be published in the pre-season (fall), prior to Regional Meets (March) and during the post-season (summer). There will be a section in the newsletter for each Committee Member to distribute information.
- C. The State Chairmen are instructed to send their states Rules and Policies to Bobbi Montanari by September 1, 2007.

VII. REGIONAL TECHNICAL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Char Christensen congratulated and reviewed the successes that Region V had at the Level 10 National Championships. Region V won the National Team Championships for the sixth time in eight years winning 5 out of 8 age divisions. Region V also has 4 out of the 8 All Around champions. Kari Pearce of Gedderts Twistars USA will have a skill named after her. She successfully performed a Chen Flic in a stretched position. Char highlighted the minutes from the Regional Technical Committee Meeting. Additional information may be found on the USAG website.

- A. Good Feedback was made on the two vault system used at the Level 8 Regional Championships.
- B. Criteria for the judges selection to the state meets should be printed. Use of the Professional Involvement Form is recommended. There was some discussion about which judges should be sending in the Professional Involvement Form to the states. It was determined that this is up to the states. Illinois would like more detail on the form. Char Christensen and Bobbi Montanari will develop an electronic Judges Professional Involvement Form. This form will be available on the Regional and State websites. The Professional Involvement Form is due, to the specified people, by September 1, 2007.
- C. The state list of judges recommended for the Regional Championships is due to Char Christensen by October 1, 2007.
- D. Hilary Carlson will continue to handle the regional petitions. Petitions will usually be approved if all required information is submitted.
- E. The wearing of the USAG membership card at meets is still a problem. After some discussion about the need for visibility and the safety issues concerning lanyards, Nina Dent suggested we have regional wrist bands at the Regional Meets. Different colors could designate different responsibilities of the meet. Norbert Bendixen suggested that the wrist bands specify Region V.
For the Regional Championship Meets, meet directors will provide bright colored wrist bands for all USAG Professional Members on the competition floor.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: John Geddert
Passed: Unanimous

Connie Maloney will be contacted for approval for the RAC to develop their own system.

- F. The Judges Volunteer Form for training camps is to be put on each state web site and in newsletters. This form is needed for any Level 10 judge wishing to have a leadership role at the camps. It is also a criterion to be eligible to be nominated for a national meet. Forms are due to the appropriate people by August 1, 2007.
- G. A hard copy of the Level 8, 9 and 10 State Meet results are to be sent to Bobbi Montanari, Char Christensen and John Geddert.
- H. The criteria that each state uses to assign judges for state meets should be published by October 1, 2007. This should also be sent to Bobbi Montanari and Char Christensen.

VIII. REGIONAL ELITE REPORT

Enrique Trabanino presented an overview of the elite program during the last season.

- A. The HOPES and Pre-elite programs have been successful in their first year.
- B. The Elite Regional Meets loses money because of the low number of participants. Many of the elites would rather go to the ranch in Texas.
- C. 2008 will have one elite season because it is an Olympic year. There will be one Classic meet and two national qualifiers.
- D. There were 475 TOPS athletes tested during the last season. 45 gymnasts made it to the national testing and 8 of them made the National Team. There are 6 Diamond Top gymnasts in Region V.
- E. There are low numbers of Pre-Elite gymnasts because they participate in the HOPES division.
- F. There will be five Senior International Elites from Region V trying to make the Olympic team.

IX. REGIONAL JO REPORT

John Geddert reported from the National JO Committee Meeting – See the May 21 and 22, 2007 Minutes from the JO Committee, WTC Committee and Joint WTC-JO Committee.

- A. AAI reported to the JO Committee that the apparatus that will be used at the National Meet will be listed on line.
- B. Sally Weaver from GK Elite Sportswear thanked USAG for their support. GK Elite Sportswear's sponsorship has provided over ¼ million dollars to USA Gymnastics. They are trying to be cost effective. GK has an exclusive contract

with USAG therefore other competitive businesses can not sponsor anything at the Level 9 East/West National or the Level 10 JO National Meets. At Regional Championships, GK Elite Sportswear is to be given a complimentary booth.

- C. Kathy Feldmann reported that background checks on every professional member will begin by August 1, 2007. The cost will be \$20.00 online. There could be additional charges. NCSI is the company that will be doing the background checks.
- D. Vault values for twisting vaults were lowered some for Levels 9 and 10.
- E. Discussion was made on doing one vault at the optional level. This was tabled until more feedback is received from the professional membership.
- F. Gymnasts may now compete on three events at a qualifying meet without jeopardizing their chance to petition due to injury.
- G. Level 7 warm-up time is 1½ minutes for all competitive formats.
- H. The special requirement of a bar change at Level 7 has been removed. A special requirement of an “A” cast (45°) has been added.
- I. Past state meet scores may be used when petitioning to State Meets.

X. REGIONAL JUDGING DIRECTOR REPORT

As the new Regional Judging Director Hilary Carlson has two goals.

- A. Hilary will work closely with Char Christensen to get more judges involved in the Regional Camps.
- B. Hilary would like to encourage the Regional Committee to encourage Steve Penny and Kathy Kelly to move on the recently presented compensation package for the judges. Entry fees for meets this season may be dependent on the package.

The Level 9 &10 Regional Championships was very lengthy. What can be done?

A clerk will be required for each judge at the Level 9 & 10 Regional Championships to administer the score entry into the electronic scoring system or to manually display the judges’ score.

Motion: Norbert Bendixen

2nd: Doug Rowe

Passed: Unanimous

Additional changes to improve the administration of the Regional Championships will be discussed at the next Regional Committee Meeting.

XI. REGIONAL MEETS

- A. Ed Gibson asked that a Rules and Policies be developed for the Level 8 Regional Championships. Char Christensen sends out Regional Meet Reminders. Bobbi Montanari will keep track of questions this year and develop a handbook for subsequent years.

- B. Norbert Bendixen suggested that Capital Cup or Modified Capital Cup be used at the Level 8 Regional Championships if the Meet Director agrees and the same number of gymnasts can compete as compete with the traditional format.
- C. Bobbi Montanari will ask the Regional Meet Directors to redo the financial reports on the USAG form with all information (admission fees, vendors, etc.).
- D. Because of the Jewish holiday of Passover, the national office has requested that the date of the 2008 Level 9 &10 Regional Championships be discussed by each Regional Committee.

Recommendation made to move the Level 9 & 10 Regional Championships to April, 25-27, 2008 and the Level 8 Regional Championships to May 3-4, 2008 to accommodate the Jewish Holiday of Passover.

Motion: Char Christensen
2nd: Norbert Bendixen
Passed: Unanimous

- E. *Clarification: By sending the request to the RACC, RTCC and RJOCC the maximum number of gymnasts per session may be exceeded by a small percentage. This only applies to State Championships. Regional Championships must receive approval to exceeding the maximum number of gymnasts per session from the NTCC and the NJOCC. (Invitational Meets cannot plan to go over the number of gymnasts per session by even one gymnast without possibly receiving a sanction violation. The penalty for a sanction violation may be a monetary fine.)*
- F. A suggestion was made from Don McPherson to have the State Chairman look at the Regional Championship location to judge the acceptability of the facility to host the meet. They should take into consideration the lighting, seating and additional items. After some discussion no changes were made in the selection procedure.
- G. Bids for the 2008 series of Regional Championships are due to Bobbi Montanari by September 1, 2007. A floor plan should be included with the bid.
- H. Qualifying scores for the regional championships will remain the same.
 - Level 8: 34.50
 - Level 9: 34.00
 - Level 10: 34.00
- I. Entry fees for the Regional Championships were discussed. Concerns were made related to the amount of the facilities fees at the 2007 Level 8 Meet. Ed Gibson suggested setting a per day maximum amount to be charged for a facility. This was not approved because costs are dependent upon the area. Kittia Carpenter questioned why there was a difference in the entry fees of the Level 8 Regional Meet compared to the Level 9 & 10 Regional Meet. It was determined that the Level 8 Regional Meet has typically been a two day meet and the Level 9 & 10 Regional Meet is a three day meet.

Motion made to change the Regional Championship entry fee to \$70.00 for the Level 8 and \$80.00 for the Level 9 & 10 Championship Meets.

Motion: Ed Gibson
2nd: Char Christensen
Passed: Unanimous

J. The number of judges will remain the same.

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

XII. TRAINING CAMPS

A. The 2007 Regional Training Camps are as listed below.

* Super Camp: August 3-5, 2007

1. North: Mills Gymnastics (Michigan)
2. South: Champion Gymnastics (Kentucky)

* Hot Shot Camp: September 7-9, 2007

1. Olympia Gymnastics (Michigan)

* Hi-Tech Camp: October 5-7, 2007

1. DeVeau's Gymnastics (Indiana)

* Forward Progress Camp: November 2-4, 2007

1. East: Flytz Gymnastics (Ohio)
2. West: Illinois Gymnastics Institute (Illinois)

B. Staffing for all the camps is being handled by Dave Rawles. Anyone wanting to take part in a camp should E-mail their name, club, E-mail address, the name of the camp they are interested in, and the event they would prefer to coach to Dave.

C. Athlete registration forms and payments are to be sent to Terry Russell.

D. There was discussion about assigning a Director for the regional camps. This person would conduct the staff meeting and emphasize the objectives and philosophy of the camp. It was determined that a Director should be assigned to each individual camp. Terry Russell and Dave Rawles will assign the Director of each camp from the list of volunteers for each camp.

XIII. NATIONAL CONGRESS

There will be a Regional Committee Meeting on August 17, 2007 at 5:00 at the National Congress. The location of the meeting will be determined at a later date.

XIV. REGIONAL CONGRESS

A. Bobbi Montanari has been communicating with Kathy Kelly concerning the responsibilities of the Committee Members at Regional Congress.

B. Bobbi Montanari suggested that the Committee wear matching shirts at the Regional Congress so that they can be easily identified.

- C. John Geddert is responsible for the banquet. He needs help in marketing the banquet. Many are not aware that the banquet cost is not included in the registration fee.
1. Ed Gibson will collect pictures, videos, and DVD's of coaches and gymnasts that have been instrumental in our Region.
 2. Kittia Carpenter will develop a letter requesting information for Ed Gibson. The letter will be on the Regional website and E-mailed to the Regional Membership July 1, 2007.
 3. John Geddert will put together a list of responsibilities for the banquet then assign them. Some possible responsibilities are
 - a. development of the program
 - b. invitation to the athletes
 - c. obtaining and operating the AV equipment
 4. Invitations to the banquet will be sent to clubs and professional members.
 5. It is recommended that the banquet be on Saturday evening rather than Friday.
 6. A formal thank you will be extended to Carole Liedtke for 12 years as the Region V NAWGJ Chairman.
 7. All Star Team applications are due to John Geddert by July 1, 2007. The team will be presented at the banquet.
- D. Region V will develop a Hall of Fame.
1. Augusta Lipsey and Kathy Shufflin will develop the criteria for entry into the Hall of Fame. References will be taken from the Kentucky Hall of Fame, the Illinois Hall of Fame, the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame, and Carolyn Bowers.
 2. Weighing of the criteria will be considered.

XV. OTHER

- A. Kathy Shufflin lobbied for an increase in the head tax per gymnast. Region V has the lowest head tax in the country. She suggested it be a minimum of \$2.00 per gymnast. The additional funds would be used for Bobbi Montanari's travel to meets, meetings, and for the newsletters. Discussion on this topic was tabled until a budget could be developed.
- B. Claudia Kretschmer will be contacted to do a presentation on Michigan's Prep-Opt Program to the Regional Committee at the next meeting held at the National Congress.

XVI. CLARIFICATIONS

See the May 21, 2007 Minutes of the Joint Junior Olympic and Technical Committee Meeting.

- A. There is no tumbling on the diagonal during the open stretch warm-up period of competitions. Line drills involving simple elements are allowed.
- B. State Committees may decide to allow individual specialists at Level 7 though Level 10. They are allowed to compete through the state meet. Duplicate awards are to be given.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM

Respectfully Submitted 6/14/07

Augusta A. Lipsey

Regional Secretary