

**Region 5 Administrative Committee Meeting**  
**June 6, 2020; 10:05 a.m. – 11:18 a.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am 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)  
Robert Neat, Indiana Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: IN)  
Brian Blewitt, Kentucky Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: KY)  
Beckey Burden, Michigan Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: MI)  
Patrick Jordan, Ohio Administrative Committee Chairman (SACC: OH)  
Nancy Gibson, Regional Xcel Committee Chairman (RXCC)  
Debbie Campbell, Regional Judging Director (RJD)  
Augusta Lipsey, Regional Secretary and Hall of Fame Coordinator

**III. STATE REOPENING PLANS**

1. IL – After putting together a campaign toward their state legislature, gymnastics clubs in Illinois have been able to open at 50% capacity. Stations must be set up 10 feet apart, gymnasts must remain social distant at six feet, and groups must be 30 feet apart with a maximum of 10 kids per group. Some clubs have not opened because the required format is not very economical. Illinois will enter Phase 4 at the end of June although some clubs have gone ahead of that. Some clubs are debating if they will be able to stay open once creditors that delayed payment begin requiring payment.
2. MI – Michigan just received word yesterday that Region 6 and 8 can open on Wednesday. These regions are in the upper peninsula and the upper part of the lower peninsula. All gyms should be able to open by July 4, 2020. The Governor of Michigan developed work groups to plan for the reopening of the state. Gymnastics clubs are part of the amateur sports work group. Jamie Hamilton, owner of Red Cedar Gymnastics in Lansing, participated on this work group. The group developed a document to show what needs to be done to reopen. It will be available Monday. There will be no limit on capacity but social distancing must be observed. Everyone must take an on-line hand washing class. Wellness checks must be set up. The State Committee is developing a Facebook Learning Platform that gym owners can use. 10 volunteers have been assigned to vet all statements and comments before being placed on the platform.
3. KY – The state of Kentucky will allow youth sports to officially open on the June 15<sup>th</sup>. Competitions can occur on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Some gyms have already opened. There are not a lot of restrictions but spacing is important. Decisions are based on keeping the six-foot spacing. This will not affect the smaller gyms as much. Brian is not aware of any gyms that are considering closing.

4. OH – Most gymnastics clubs reopened about a week and a half ago with team training. Recreational classes started this week. A. J. Ganim set up an owner's website that has been very helpful. Another small gym owner participated. Patrick has not heard any negative responses. Ohio is currently in a non-contact phase in which there is no spotting. The gyms are being encouraged to do basics. Hopefully, Ohio will soon be able to participate fully. American Eagles and Flip 'n' Twist, have closed. Most gyms are at or below 50% of their normal capacity for this time of year. Patrick is encouraging gyms to use every means possible to get kids back in the gym.
5. IN - Everyone is open in Indiana except a few clubs that are still under curfew. The State Committee has sent banners, disinfectant, social distant stickers, etc. to the gyms to help in their reopening.

The information sent out by USA Gymnastics to help with the reopening was very helpful. Club administrators just need to be encouraged to read it. There was concern that the information was sent out late. This was due to the USA Gymnastics doing legal research to make sure the information worked for each state.

#### **IV. TECHNICAL AND JUNIOR OLYMPIC UPDATE (Char Christensen and Kittia Carpenter)**

There was limited new business to discuss at any of the National meetings because they wanted to make as few changes as possible. All meetings were held by Zoom. The largest change is at all sanctioned competitions a coach can request a video review by the Meet Referee and the highest rated unaffiliated judge, if a video is available, in the event that the inquiry involves the possibility that the judges missed an element that could affect the Start Value. The video review process may not be used for degree of cast, degree of split, direct connections, leg separations, etc. The normal procedure for an inquiry must occur first.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 the Junior Olympic Committee encourages State and Regional Committees to show flexibility when making decisions relating to qualification into 2021 State meets provided the athlete is competing at the same level as 2020.

The new Compulsory review, with general and specific deductions, is moving forward.

All professional members are encouraged to read the minutes on the USA Gymnastics website. A link to those minutes will be placed on the Region 5 website.

#### **V. XCEL UPDATE (Nancy Gibson)**

52% of the gymnasts registered in the Women's Program, with USA Gymnastics, are in the Xcel program. The only changes that were made this year were made to fall in line with the changes made in the Junior Olympic program.

There has been concern about movement between the Xcel program and Junior Olympic program. If this is a concern, the declaration date can be used.

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

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee postponed any additional inductions this year except for the induction of Mrs. Carole Liedtke who's induction was delayed from 2019. Her video and biography will be placed on the Region 5 website.

We will continue to try to make the nomination process more user friendly by making the nomination form available for submission on-line.

## **VII. TRAINING CAMPS**

Tammie Schaafsma was asked to talk to the Training Camp Subcommittee about this year's training camps. They decided that all training camps should be cancelled for this year. There are too many variables and restrictions to have the training camps. It was suggested that a showcase might be held later in the year (October or November). It was decided that it is too hard to plan for something like this due to all the guidelines and protocols that need to be met. As we get more information, the decision about hosting a showcase could change.

Although the Region will not be hosting any Training Camps this year, our financial status is firm. All the apparel from 2020 is in stock right now for next year. The only expense will be the entries into the National Championships.

**Motion: If a club is in good standing with the Region, the Region will pay the athlete entry fee for the 2021 Junior Olympic and Eastern Nationals.**

**Motion: Char Christensen**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: Norbert Bendixen**  
**Passed: 7 Yea – 1 Nay**

## **VIII. SANCTIONS**

Sanctions will be available soon. Guidelines for competitions will be issued. Meet Directors will be responsible to follow their individual state guidelines as well.

If requested, the USA Gymnastics refunded sanction fees for meets that were cancelled due to COVID-19.

All Regional Congresses have been cancelled. The virtual National Congress is the only opportunity for education this year.

## **IX. NAWGJ (Debbie Campbell)**

The NAWGJ is working with the office to get judges back in gyms and meets. They are working on developing clinics for the judges.

## **X. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Regional Administrative Committee thanked Brian Blewitt for his tenure as the state chair of Kentucky. Jason Button will be taking over the position of State Chair from this time forward.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18am.

*Respectfully Submitted 6/7/20*

*Augusta A. Lipsey*

*Region 5 Administrative Committee Secretary*