

Region 8 USA Gymnastics Committee Summer Meeting
Thursday, July 15, 2021
New Orleans LA

Members present:

Mike Holdefer	AL	Cynthia Dedeaux	MS
Toni Rand	FL	Karen Pleasants	NC
Michelle Pomerantz	GA	Joanne Child	SC
Jackie Latino	LA	Larry Corrigan	TN

Deb Kornegay	RACC
Evelyn Chandler	RTCC
Brad Harris	RDPCC
Pam Kitchen	RXCC
Elaine Wulf	former RXCC, acting secretary
Diane Thompson	RJD, guest
Erica Koven	USA Gymnastics, guest (11:00)

Meeting called to order at 8:50 A.M. CT.

All Committee members and guest in attendance.

All Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest forms have been submitted by Committee members & guest

- Deb reminded all present that all discussion at this meeting is confidential and may not be shared

Awards presented at National Congress –

- Larry Corrigan, 15 years as TN SACC
- Cynthia Dedeaux, 5 years as MS SACC
- Deb Kornegay, 45 years as MS SACC, AL SACC, and RACC

Region 8 Committee members must recuse from discussion and votes that could/do impact them financially

MOTION – Joanne, 2nd Jackie – to use NAWGJ as the Region 8 judging contractor

PASSED

Discussion regarding judges for 2022 Nationals

- These judges need to be assigned to 2022 L9/10 Regionals

Discussion regarding using 4 judge vs 2 judge panels at Region 8 Regional meets

- Committee members have received positive feedback from using 2 judge panels in 2021
- Dianne reminded the Committee of the additional pressure a 2 judge panel places on the CJ

Reviewed 2021 Regional meet reports

- Discussed using portion of L 6/7/8 and Xcel Regional entry fees to subsidize L9/10 Regionals
 - o By having per athlete rebate from each of these meets to Region

Discussed ways to encourage more and younger judges to be eligible for these meets

- Limit judges to 1 Regional meet/year, if state has sufficient qualified judges to fill slots
- Possibly change criteria for being considered to judge Xcel Regionals
 - o Ideas –
 - only require a State clinic

- use judgement numbers for Regional consideration

A state's number of judges at L9/10 Regionals is based on a state's number of entries into the previous year's L9/10 Regional Meet – not the number that finish the meet

MOTION – Cynthia, 2nd Michelle – use 2 judge panels at Xcel Regionals
PASSED – 9 for, 2 opposed

MOTION – Toni, 2nd Larry – increase the Xcel Regional meet competition fee from Meet Director to \$25/athlete beginning in 2022 payable to Region 8. (This can go into effect 2022 Since judges were changed from 4 judge panel to 2 judge panel.)
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY – Mike recused

MOTION – Evelyn, 2nd Michelle - Region 8 will provide L9/10 Regional meet director \$15000 stipend toward Regional meet expenses in show of support to maintain 4 judge panel. This will begin in 2023, as 2022 bids have already been awarded.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Information given to Committee members pertaining to number of judges/state as determined by 2021 L9/10 Regionals

MOTION – Mike, - accept 9/10 Regional judges roster as presented
MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF A SECOND

Diane stated that at the recent National NAWGJ that assigning officials were directed to maintain neutrality when assigning for different organizations

MOTION – Mike, 2nd Cynthia – accept the L9/10 Regional meet judges' roster as amended
PASSED (Toni, Diane, and Karen recused)
Cookie Batsche, Joan Gnat, Nikki Spinelli, Serena Albauer, Denise Weaver, Sheila Ragle, Kim Joye, Dana King, Kristi Aguilar, Cheri Hampton, Karen Pleasants, Portia Propst, Diane Thompson, Paul Padron, Joyce Wallace, Sibby Lane, and Meet Referee - Evelyn Chandler

MOTION – Mike, 2nd Jackie – accept the L 6/7/8 Regional meet judges' roster as amended
PASSED
Stephanie Kuhlmann, Jarrett Ezell, Gayli Craver, Sharon Griffin, Pam Sherwood, Kevn McNamara, Mark Robbins, Amy Duiguid, Kathlyn Skeslock, Cathy Campfield, Becky Oppenheimer, Cynthia Davis, Beth McKnight, Brenda Eberhardt, Kathy Kuhn, Monica Zeningue, Reg Shurden, Laurie Moore, Lisa Harden, Bobbye Strickland, Cindy Cotton, Kim Stenson, Mary Hoagland, Julie King, Mendi Knisley, Rose Brady, Janet Efland, Lisa Bayan, Audrey Green, Laurel Douthwaite, Natalie Grosso, Dawn Roy, and Meet Referee - Evelyn Chandler

MOTION – Toni, 2nd Joanne – accept the Xcel Regional meet judges' roster as amended
PASSED
Greg Kuhlmann, Jessica Chapman Earnest, Rose Casterline, Katie Kohlmeyer, Marian Dykes, Helena Brizzi, Beth McKnight, Rose Robertson, Reg Shurden, Laurie Moore, Amanda Carter, Jennie Adams, Dana Browy, Jackie Gifford, Kerma Headrick, Joyce Wallace, and Meet Referees - Evelyn Chandler and Gayli Craver

Judges' Availability
- Educate judges that -

- judgement numbers will continue to be asked for on the Judge's Availability form
- the Regional Committee does use the number of judgements they list on their availability form when considering Regional assignments
- these judgement numbers are strictly numbers of USA Gymnastics competitors in USA Gymnastics sessions
- State Meet judges' assignments must be to Evelyn by November 1, 2021
- Regional assignments will be available by December 1, 2021 for Level 6/7/8 Regionals and Xcel Regionals. Level 9/10 Regional event assignments will be available soon after National event assignments are available.

National Committee Reports –

- All National Committee meeting minutes are available on the USA Gymnastics website
 - Please note revised Joint DP/WTC meeting minutes were posted on July 9
- Administrative Committee
 - Allowable State meet entry fees have been raised \$10 for the upcoming season
 - Worked on Judges' Compensation Package (Travel Insurance)
 - Beginning with next SACC election, SACC term will be 4 years
 - Animals on the field-of-play –
 - Subject to state and local laws
- Xcel Committee
 - Minimal changes for upcoming season
 - New Xcel Code of Points will be presented Spring/Summer 2022
 - In 2022-2023 season, Platinum athletes will be permitted to use Yurchenko on – repulsion off to the feet and Yurchenko on – repulsion off with ½ twist in competitions
 - Start Values TBD
 - 1 years' notice is being given to encourage coaches to use this time to safely train these vaults
 - The Committee is in the process of developing a Division above Diamond to pilot in the 2022-2023 season in 4 Regions
 - Region 8 will be one of the pilot Regions
- WTC Committee
 - Judges break time has been clarified
 - Meet director must be made aware of timing that could be avoided that would result in increase in judges' fees
 - Meet Referee no longer has final say on equipment
 - Referee reports issue to Meet Director
- DP Committee
 - Proposal for IES at Thursday night session at DP Nationals
 - Training for DP qualifiers will be on Friday
 - Minimum height for L3 vault stack is 32"
 - L7 Vault – it is now permissible to miss the feet on landing for Tsuk and Yurchenko
 - New DP Code – 2022
 - Some BB "E" elements will have lower skill values in order to get BB bonus with Acros
 - This was not done to make things harder

Clarification for State Teams at Xcel Regionals and L6/7/8 Regionals

- If a state has a team of 8 and has a scratch, the qualified all-star gymnast may replace the scratch

Bids

MOTION – Pam, 2nd Toni – Xcel Regionals be awarded to American Twisters, FL
 PASSED

MOTION – Michelle, 2nd Cynthia – L9/10 Regionals be awarded to Tampa Bay Turners, FL

PASSED (Brad and Larry recused)

Regional Meet entry fees

- Fees will remain as they stand for 2022
- Will re-address for 2023

Regional meet gate fees

- "Student" gate fee must list ages or grades – be sure meet director packet indicates need to do this

Regional set-up for Xcel Regionals and L6/7/8 Regionals

- will try to move one level of team to the other judging panel.

State Administrative Committee –

- Determines which competitions will be listed on their respective competition calendars
- Competition fee should be paid to the state in which the meet occurs

Regional Training Camps

- Training Camps are fund raisers
- The Region wants to encourage coaches and judges to volunteer and participate at Training Camps
- The Region's athletes can be better served with more active volunteers, particularly coaches
- A coach can make the choice to watch, as opposed to actively coaching. In this case, a \$500 fee is charged. This fee contributes to the fund raising as well as gives value to the work of our volunteer coaches.
- A smaller number of judges can adequately meet the needs of our gymnasts at Camps. However, the Region wants to encourage judges to come attend. Watching the quality and technique shown by our gymnasts at the camps is an important learning process in judging. For this reason, the fee for a judge to attend without volunteering time is less.
- Evelyn, Diane, and Deb will co-ordinate assignments for judges volunteering at Camps beginning this year

Concerns with athletes/their coaches committing to entering L6/7/8 Regionals and Xcel Regionals

- A commitment to attend or not attend these Regional Meets is required at State Meets from qualifying gymnasts
- There is NO replacement if an athlete changes their mind. The state will have fewer gymnasts participating at Regionals than were allotted.
- It is concerning to the Committee that athletes who would love to take advantage of a Regional experience are left home because other athletes/their coaches/their families committed to attend at their State Meet and then chose not to enter
- Continue to educate coaches and clubs on this procedure

MOTION – Joanne, 2nd Toni – that a fee of \$50/gymnast be assessed to a club who has indicated at State Meet that a gymnast would participate at Regionals and subsequently fails to enter the gymnast. This policy does not apply to petitions, sickness, or injury. The fee is to be paid by the club to their SACC. Clubs must be in good standing with their State and Region 8 to be eligible for team awards at any state Competitions the next season. If the fee is not paid, the club will not be in Good Standing and therefore not eligible for state meet team awards at any State championships in the following season.

PASSED

- o A SAC representative must state this policy at every session of a state's State Meet(s).

State webpages

- No commitment to use Sports Engine

- Check links to Regional website as well as from the Regional website to the state's website

Regional Address Book

- A paper version will not be available
- In the future, only a digital version may be available

2024 Regional Dates

- L 6/7/8 Regionals April 26-28, 2024
- Xcel Regionals May 3-5, 2024

Sophomore/Junior Form is due to Deb by Level 8/9/10 Training Camp

Region 8 Hall of Fame

- All 2020 HOF Inductees were given the option to be included in the class of 2021 or 2022
- Class of 2022 will be discussed at the RC December meeting

Region 8 will make a donation to the National HOF

IES athletes at L 9/10 Regionals

- Athletes must declare themselves to be an IES when entering their State Meet

SACC

- Need to publicize their Declaration Dates and how these work
- Send SAC agenda and minutes to Deb
- Add Deb and Evelyn to SAC email list
- Send Deb a list of all SAC members
- Please fill out and put state's Competitive Info Form in Regional Dropbox

All Region 8 Committee members – inventory forms are due by August 15, 2021

National Gymnastics Day is September 19, 2021. Michelle will help with ideas to celebrate at National Team Training Camp.

December Regional Committee will be Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. in Atlanta at an airport hotel

There will be a form to ask for modification in deductions due to an athlete's physical disability.

Erica Koven –Massive membership restructuring

- o More in line with a individual' actual role in the sport
- o When re-enroll, make sure to identify ALL roles in the sport
- o Only one membership fee
- o Parent roster is to enable additional parent education
- o 2 new additional member education requirements
 - U113 USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy
 - U112 Tough Coaching
- o Renewals and reminders will be more personalized based on roles checked
- Adult athletes are required to take U110
 - o Ramp up reminders to parents
 - o If not taken within 60 days of turning 18, membership may go to "pending"
- When you know better, you do better
- Coming – a professional membership health insurance plan
 - o Webinars will be held
 - o If interested, member will need to provide their information

- USA Gymnastics not providing a contact list/information
- Safety Champion designated in each member club
 - Clubs need to identify this individual
 - This is a USA Gymnastics role NOT a Center For Safe Sport role
 - USA Gymnastics Safe Sport releases, reminders, education, etc. will be sent to this person
 - This person will NOT handle complaints, not a tattletale
 - No one in the club that cannot serve in this role

GK presented apparel for the Committee's consideration for L6/7/8 Regionals and Xcel Regionals. The Committee thanked GK for their continued support of Region 8 and USA Gymnastics.

MOTION – Mike, 2nd Toni – to adjourn

PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 P.M.

Email vote 11/8/21

Region 8 Committee voted unanimously to accept the plan for 80% payment of monies owed Region 8 USA Gymnastics presented by USA Gymnastics and Survivors Committee.