

**JOINT MEETING
JUNIOR OLYMPIC & TECHICAL COMMITTEES
Jackson, MS
May 11, 2014**

I. Meeting was called to order by Tom Koll (NJOCC) and Cheryl Hamilton (NTCC) at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call:	<u>Technical Committee</u>	<u>JO Committee</u>
Region 1	Neela Nelson	Shane McIntyre
Region 2	Linda Mulvihill	Laurie Reid
Region 3	Carole Bunge	Mark Folger
Region 4	Linda Thorberg	Bryon Hough
Region 5	Char Christensen	Kittia Carpenter
Region 6	Pat Panichas	Larry Goldsmith
Region 7	Myra Elfenbein	Linda Johnson
Region 8	Marian Dykes	Brad Harris
NXCC	Claudia Kretschmer	
JO Program Director	Annie Heffernon	
JO Technical Director	Connie Maloney	
VP – Women’s Program	Luan Peszek	
Dir. Program Admin.	Rachel Brazo	
VP of Member Services	Cheryl Jarrett	
Guest- NAWGJ President	Evelyn Chandler	
Guest- GK Elite representative	Wendy Martin	

On behalf of both committees, Tom Koll welcomed the committee members and introduced the new members and guests.

II. GK Elite Sportswear report – Wendy Martin expressed that GK is honored to be working with USA Gymnastics and explained the goals of GK and the passion of their staff, including some former high level athletes.

III. NAWGJ report - Evelyn Chandler, President of NAWGJ, distributed a report to the committees. She announced that the National NAWGJ Symposium will be held July 18-20, 2014 in Atlanta. She expressed that the main challenge currently is to mentor the newly rated judges and to encourage them to continue their involvement. NAWGJ Membership registration is now available online and all NAWGJ memberships will be expiring July 31. Their National office is now located in Minnesota.

IV. Xcel Report – Claudia Kretschmer updated the committees on the progress of the Xcel National program. The *Xcel Code of Points* was developed and published in the first part of 2014. It is also now available as an iBook. Many clarifications have been made and these Code and Q & A corrections are posted on the website. Two webinars have been conducted.

- Tom suggested that the JO and Tech Committee members discuss with their Xcel reps any agenda items and concerns prior to the Xcel Committee meeting on May 30-31.
- Decisions should be made based upon the philosophy of the program; however, the philosophies of the various states and regions are quite varied, so there will be growing pains. It was also clarified that any Xcel questions of a technical nature should be directed to the respective Regional Technical Committee Chairman. They will forward the answers to Claudia.

V. Member Services Report – Cheryl Jarrett updated the committees about the new website, which will be ready to launch soon. Information on the National Congress was also given. She announced that the Women’s Program Education W300 & W400 Courses, under the direction of Mary Lee Tracy, will be held in May and another course has been added in October.

VI. Administrative Committee Report - Cori Rizzo reported on the Administrative Committee Meeting held earlier in the day. The new branding materials were discussed, as well as financial reporting procedures. The Administrative Committee reviewed the *R&P* and will forward revisions to Annie.

- The State Chair Workshop at National Congress will be held on Sunday. The JO and TC committees are invited to join them for breakfast and service awards presentation. Rachel requested that the JO and TC members RSVP.

VII. USA Gymnastics Report – Luan Peszek, VP, Women’s Program – Luan discussed the success of the USA National Teams in Jesolo, Italy and at Pacific Rim Championships. She also discussed the calendar of events, including the American Classic, the Secret US Classic, P&G Championships, the Pan American Games, and the upcoming World Championships in China.

VIII. Office Financial Procedures – Rachel Brazo explained that all per diem is now listed as taxable income. You would need to keep receipts in order to claim per diem on your income tax return.

IX. NEW ELEMENTS SUBMITTED AT THE 2014 JO NATIONALS AND JO NIT

It was clarified that only new skills performed by gymnasts at Junior Olympic Nationals or NIT would be added to the *JO Code of Points*, and named after the gymnast who first performed it.

- A. Floor Exercise:
 1. 1½ twisting double salto backward tucked: Jones “E” 8.503 – Passed Unanimously
 2. Sheep jump with 1/1 turn: Dunn “C” #1.311 – Passed Unanimously
- B. Beam:
 1. Side aerial, swing back (free) leg forward-upward to a stand on one foot with the leg held above 140° with the hand Marinez “D” 7.403 – Passed Unanimously
 2. Mount: Split leap forward with leg change (180° leg separation) to cross split sit position, no hand support; Whitney “D” 1.405 – Passed Unanimously

X. FLOOR EXERCISE AND BALANCE BEAM

- A. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014, to allow one restricted “C” dance element (receiving “B” credit) without penalty for Level 7 Beam and Floor.
Motion: Pat Panichas
Second: Linda Mulvihill
PASSED
- B. Compulsory Beam and Floor: The Committee discussed the deduction for failure to contract or extend on compulsory beam and floor elements. Recommendation, effective August 1, 2014 to specify that a maximum deduction of 0.10 may be applied for failure to contract and/or extend on the sequential wave in the Level 5 beam and the Levels 4 and 5 Floor Exercise.
Motion: Laurie Reid
Second: Linda Johnson
PASSED

XI. FLOOR EXERCISE

- A. The committees recommend that on floor exercise, the meet director be able to plug the music device into a charger while playing floor music, or to remind the coaches to make sure that all devices are fully charged, in airplane mode, and volume turned up before starting the routine.
- B. Clarification: Stag-split leap, and split leap on Floor are considered the same element – all listed as element #1.101 in the *JO Code of Points*.
- C. Clarification: Stag-split jump, and split jump on Floor are considered the same element – all listed as element #1.101 in the *JO Code of Points*.
- D. Recommendation to **amend** *R&P* page 70, F. 1. d and page 71, 2. B. and *JO Code*, page 229, I. A. 2:
Whenever additional matting is placed on the Floor Exercise area and covers any portion of the boundary line(s), the mat must be clearly marked. **It is recommended that athletic tape (provided by the coach) be used to mark the mats. Chalk may be used, but should be removed before the next competitor. A towel should be provided by the meet director to facilitate the removal of the chalk markings.**
Motion: Linda Thorberg

Second: Char Christensen
PASSED

- E. Clarification regarding the coach on the Floor exercise mat - **amend** the following:
1. **JO Code of Points, p. 231, V.A. changes to:** No deduction is applied if a coach inadvertently steps into the corner area of the Floor Exercise mat when placing, adjusting the placement of, or removing the mat. This applies to Levels 6-10.
 2. **JO Code of Points, p. 231, V.A.2. becomes a bullet under V.A.** – No deduction is applied if the coach enters the Floor Exercise area during the exercise to remove any object (such as hair clips, eyeglasses, etc.) which may impede or endanger the athlete.
 3. **JO Code of Points, page 248 Add an asterisk (*refer to page 231) to K.** Coach on floor exercise mat (Levels 6-10) = CJ deducts from average 0.50
- Motion: Larry Goldsmith
Second: Carole Bunge
PASSED
- F. Clarification for the landing of the last element in an Acro series on floor:
There is no deduction for landing with feet a maximum of hip-width. A small step backward to a lunge is acceptable.
- G. Discussion on Floor Exercise to consider lowering the value of a switch-side leap to "B" – no change at this time.
- H. Clarification: In the Level 5 floor routine, the ending poses after the sequential fall were designed to allow for creativity. There is **no deduction** for adding movements which could be viewed as elements, i.e. back spin, shoulder roll, splits, etc.

XII. BALANCE BEAM

- A. Clarification - Stag-split leap and split leap on Beam are considered the same element, both listed as element #2.101 in the *JO Code of Points*.
- B. The stag or double stag jump in place on beam is an "A" (2.101). The split jump on beam is a "B" (2.201).
- C. Beam Mount - Recommendation to add to the *JO Code of Points* under Group 1, Beam mounts: Back pullover - "A" value part #1.109
Motion: Carole Bunge
Second: Brad Harris
PASSED
- D. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that the Level 6 Balance Beam Acro element must achieve or pass through vertical. If a kickup to handstand is used, it must be held 2 seconds.
Motion: Brad Harris
Second: Linda Johnson
PASSED
- E. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014, elements 1.208 and 1.308, the Silivas-type mounts, are considered sideward beam elements for compositional credit.
Motion: Myra Elfenbein
Second: Brad Harris
PASSED
Note: A press handstand mount with a pirouette would not be considered a sideward element.
- F. Recommendation to add to p. 163 of the *JO Code of Points* (IV.A.1.a.2) that a kick-up to handstand with a pirouette to step down is not eligible as a sideward element as it is from Group 5.
Motion: Char Christensen
Second: Mark Folger
15 yes, 1 abstain
PASSED

- G. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 for Compulsory Beam: Levels 3-5 Dismount-Cartwheel to Side handstand, ¼ (90 degree) Turn Dismount to add a 0.20 deduction for failure to perform the ¼ (90 degree) turn.
Motion: Linda Mulvihill
Second: Larry Goldsmith
PASSED

XIII. GENERAL AND VAULT

Tom explained *Operating Code* procedures regarding voting. As chairmen, Tom and Cheryl do not have a vote on their respective committees unless there is a tie.

- A. If a judge realizes that a gymnast was mistakenly judged using the incorrect rules for her level, the routine may be re-evaluated using the appropriate rules to determine the correct Start Value and specific compositional deductions, based on the judges' shorthand. This re-evaluation must occur within 5 minutes of the end of the competition for that session. The judging panel must notify the Meet Referee and the scoring personnel that the re-evaluation is to occur. The coach must be notified immediately of any score change.
Motion: Marian Dykes
Second: Mark Folger
PASSED
- B. Recommendation that, for State Championships and above: In extenuating situations, the Meet Referee has the authority to allow a judging panel to review a routine to verify that Special Requirements were fulfilled. The coach must be notified that a review will occur. No additional deductions are allowed to be taken by a judge after the review if the special requirement(s) in question is (are) awarded.
Motion: Neela Nelson
Second: Char Christensen
PASSED
- C. Recommendation to amend the following in the *Rules and Policies*: Page 60 F.2.a.1) and F.2.b.1) - lengthen the time frame from 7 days to 2 weeks.
Motion: Linda Johnson
Second: Carole Bunge
PASSED
- D. Discussion regarding the deduction of hair out of place. The coach is responsible for the safety of the athletes. The *R&P* indicates that the hair has to be secured away from the face.
- E. Clarification that when a gymnast falls on an element on bars or beam, the coach is not allowed to ask the judge if the element received value-part credit before the gymnast re-mounts the apparatus.
- F. Compulsory Vault - Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 to allow Level 1 gymnasts to stand on the board after the stretch jump to perform the handstand to straight lying position on the back.
Motion: Brad Harris
Second: Bryon Hough
PASSED
- G. Regarding landings on Vault and dismounts on Uneven Bars and Balance Beam:
Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that no deduction be applied for landing with feet a maximum of hip-width apart, provided that they join (slide) the heels together on the controlled extension. If the entire foot/feet are sliding or lifted off the floor to join, it is considered a small step and a deduction of up to 0.10 would be applied. Landing with feet further than hip-width apart will receive a 0.10 deduction.
Motion: Kittia Carpenter
Second: Shane McIntyre
PASSED

- H. Recommendation that a deduction of up to 0.10 would be applied for landing with feet staggered (one in front of the other).
 Motion: Linda Thorberg
 Second: Mark Folger
 PASSED
- I. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 to add Vault #5.301 - Yurchenko ½ on, front salto tucked to the Level 9 vault chart. (Level 9 Start Value – 10.0, Level 10 Start Value – 9.90)
 Motion: Neela Nelson
 Second: Bryon Hough
 PASSED
- J. Recommendation to **amend** the following in the *Rules and Policies*: page 38 II.A.2.a.4) - If a **squad** has more than one level competing, the timed warm-up time will be designated for the highest level **within the squad**.
 Motion: Bryon Hough
 Second: Shane McIntyre
 PASSED

XIV. UNEVEN BARS

- A. The Committee discussed the Level 6 casting requirements. No action was taken at this time.
- B. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 to change the Level 6 Bar Special Requirement of one element from Groups 3, 6 or 7 to one 360° clear circling element from Groups 3, 6 or 7.
 Motion: Brad Harris
 Second: Shane McIntyre
 PASSED
- C. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that in order to fulfill the compositional requirement of sufficient change of direction at Levels 9 and 10, the routine must include two elements (pirouette or release), one of which has a 180° or 540° turn and a second which has a minimum of 180° turn. The deduction is “up to 0.10”.
 Motion: Neela Nelson
 Second: Pat Panichas
 PASSED

Examples of applying the up to 0.10 deduction:

0.10	No elements with a minimum of 180° turn
0.05	Only one element with 180° or 540° turn Only one element with 360° turn Both elements with 360° turn
No deduction	Two elements with 180° and/or 540° turn One element with 180° or 540° turn and one element with 360° turn

- D. Clarification: The Weiler Kip elements (#3.207, 3.407) may be performed with legs straddled (hips bent) or together (hips extended) to receive “B” or “D” credit at the JO level.
- E. Whenever a “B” release element with flight over LB is directly connected with no counterswing to a “D” or E” release element on HB, the “B” release will receive “C” value-part credit.
 Motion: Myra Elfenbein
 Second: Pat Panichas
 PASSED
- ~~F. Recommendation for Level 7 and 8 Bars to eliminate the option of performing a 180° out of the clear hip, staller or sole circle to handstand. If these elements are performed with a 180° turn, they will be considered a restricted “C” element.~~
 Motion: M. Folger
 Second: B. Harris
 In favor - 4
 Opposed - 10

Abstention - 2
DEFEATED

- G. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that a back uprise directly connected to a Group 3, 6 or 7 circling element to handstand may be counted as either one "C" or may be separated into two elements, to the gymnast's benefit.

Motion: Linda Mulvihill

Second: Pat Panichas

PASSED

XV. MEET FORMATTING

- A. The Committees recommend to Meet Directors that Xcel athletes compete before JO athletes when competing in the same squad. When there are multiple levels within the squad, athletes should compete in ascending order of level or division (lowest to highest).

Example Rotation Sheet: 52 athletes, combined JO Levels 7,8, Xcel Platinum
Modified Non-Traditional Format (Modified Capitol Cup)

Flight A

<u>Squad 1 - Vault</u>	<u>Squad 2 - Bars</u>	<u>Squad 3 - Beam</u>	<u>Squad 4 - Floor</u>
AG 7s - 1	AG Plat - 6	J's Gym Plat - 8	J's Gym 7s - 2
McP 7s - 1	McP Plat - 1		J's Gym 8s - 3
McP 8s - 1			
AG 8s - 2			
TOTAL - 6	TOTAL - 7	TOTAL - 8	TOTAL - 5

Flight B

<u>Squad 5 - Vault</u>	<u>Squad 6 - Bars</u>	<u>Squad 7 - Beam</u>	<u>Squad 8 - Floor</u>
Xtr 7s - 8	ATG Plat - 1	GA Plat - 2	AMG 7s - 5
	KCG Plat - 2	GA 7s - 2	EC 7s - 1
	CAG Plat - 1	GA 8s - 1	GEG 7s - 1
	CAG 7s - 1		
TOTAL - 8	TOTAL - 6	TOTAL - 5	TOTAL - 7

- B. Clarification: The maximum number of competitors in a combined JO and Xcel session will follow the guidelines on page 36 of the *Rules and Policies*. Bronze, Silver, and Gold Divisions follow the JO Compulsory guidelines. Platinum and Diamond Divisions will follow the JO Level 7 guidelines. The chart will be updated in the 2014-2015 *Rules and Policies*. The squad assignments are at the discretion of the meet director.
- C. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that the maximum number of athletes allowed in a session that combines Compulsories (Levels 1-5) and Levels 6 and/or 7 is 80. Any number of optional or compulsory level athletes, within the maximum number of 80 per session, is allowed.
Motion: Linda Johnson
Second: Laurie Reid
PASSED
- D. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that for all sanctioned events that have multiple sessions of the same level vying for the same individual awards and team awards, athletes must be judged by the same judging panels. This does not apply to overall team awards with combined levels of competition.
Motion: Laurie Reid
Second: Bryon Hough
PASSED
- E. Recommendation effective August 1, 2014 that for Levels 6 and 7, squads with up to 10 athletes are not required to split for timed and touch warm-up.
Motion: Linda Johnson
Second: Neela Nelson

PASSED

XVI. Clarification regarding declaration dates:

The level the athlete competes in a sanctioned competition after the "declaration" date designates her level for the remainder of the current season. If the athlete competes in a sanctioned event in the open division after the declaration date, she may continue competing at her declared level.

- If a Level 8 or 9 gymnast competes in an Open division (using Level 10 rules) at an invitational after their own state's declaration date, it will not effect the gymnast's eligibility to continue to compete at qualifying meets.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm