



## Program Committee Conference Call Thursday, July 3, 2008

I

### 1. Role Call – Chairman Linda Ocmnd called the meeting to order at 10:00am EST.

Linda Ocmnd – Program Chair  
Tonya Case – Vice Chair  
Kari Duncan – Technical Chair  
Selena Peco – Junior Olympic Chair  
Ivaylo Katsov – Elite Chair  
Michael Rodrigues – Athlete Representative  
Tom Housley – Program Director

### 2. 2008 USA International Track Proposal

JO Program Chairman Selena Peco discussed the current proposal for the USA International Track for the USA Acrobatic Gymnastics Program. The proposal will be discussed further at the Acrobatic Gymnastics National Championships in July. An international track is being developed to eliminate the need for multiple routines for athletes representing the United States on the international stage.

#### a. Level 8 International (L8-I) Proposal:

- i. Pair/Groups will use 11-16 FIG rules for Local, State, Regional, and National-level events.
  1. Difficulty (up to .50) converts to a 10 point scale
- ii. L8-I athletes will be considered for the 11-16 Junior National Team
  1. Pair/Groups will be required to meet a qualification score at the State, Regional or Junior Olympic Acrobatic Gymnastics National Championships to compete and vie for a spot on the 11-16 Jr. National Team at Visa Championships.
    1. A qualifying score of 48.00 must be met (two routines)
    2. Minimum age is 10 years old
    3. Maximum age is 16 years old
  2. Visa Championships will serve as the selection event for the 11-16 Jr. National Team.
- iii. Visa Championships will crown the L8-I National Champions in each event.
  1. L8-I athletes are to follow elite rules of attending State or Regional Championships in the year of a Visa Championships. The decision is made to aid with athlete travel expenses.

## Program Committee Conference Call (continued)

- b. JE (12-19 International) Proposal:
- i. Athletes will use FIG rules for 12-19 (Junior)
  - ii. All Junior Elite's will be considered for 12-19 Junior National Team. Priority will be given to the athletes meeting competition age for 12-19 ages for international travel in the year of naming the team.
    1. 12-19 International athletes must meet the below ages to be considered for the team:
      1. Minimum age is 10
      2. Maximum age is 19.
      3. Priority will be given to athletes meeting competition ages for 12-19 for open slots on the 12-19 Junior National Team.
    2. 12-19 International who meet the qualification score at State, Regional and/or JO Championships will participate at Visa Championships
    3. Visa Championships will serve as the selection event for the 12-19 Jr. National Team.
  - iii. Difficulty caps would be added at this level to be more in line with the 12-19 rules. The decision is being considered to keep in mind the safety issues specifically to the younger athletes competing at this high level. The difficulty caps are a slightly higher than the FIG caps, however leaves room to work towards senior difficulty.
    1. Difficulty caps will be determined pending new FIG Tables of Difficulty Charts.

### 3. Level Mobility – International Track

L8-I athletes will be required to test through levels either at a competition or skills testing. Athletes competing at the L8-I athletes must meet Level Mobility procedures per the Rules and Policies to move from Level 9 to Level 10 and from Level 10 to Junior Elite. Athletes competing at the L8-I level do not have to compete Level 9 or Level 10 rules because they test up. Athletes must move through the Level Mobility rules before going from L8-I to Junior Elite/12-19 International.

**A motion was made to allow Skills Testing for all levels at National-level events only (i.e. Super Clinic, Selection Events, etc...)**

**Motion: Selena Peco**

**Second: Linda Ocmand**

**Passed**

### 4. Junior Olympic National Team

Athletes competing at Level 8, 9, and 10 USA rules will be considered for the Junior Olympic National Team. Athletes will be required to meet qualification scores, per the Rules and Policies, to compete at the Junior Olympic National Championships. The JO National Championships will serve as the selection event for the JONT team.

Coaches may choose to have athletes compete both a USA level and L8-I (for example Level 10 and L8-I). Coaches and athletes must accept the published competition schedule.

## **Program Committee Conference Call (continued)**

### **5. USA Level 9 Age Group Change Proposal**

USA Level 9 will be reduced to two age groups due to pair/group numbers decreasing. Age Groups are being considered based on previous numbers of athletes competing at National Championships. The decision is being considered to create more head to head competition at this level. USA Special Requirements will remain at the current levels. Small revisions may be necessary at some levels.

### **6. USA Level 10 Rule Change Proposal**

USA Level 10 will require adding a combine routine for a total of three routines – balance, dynamic, and combined. The decision is being considered to better prepare athletes for the Junior Elite level. Difficulty will be capped at 110 Balance, 80 Dynamic, and 110 Combined. A 2.0 deduction will be implemented for going over difficulty. Age groups would be collapsed at L10 in preparation for Junior Elite. USA Special Requirements will remain at the current levels. Small revisions may be necessary at some levels.

### **7. World Championships/IAGC Officials**

Technical Chairman Kari Duncan discussed potential officials for the 2008 World Championships and International Age Group Games. Officials were discussed and final decisions to be made after we have more information.

#### **Program Committee recommends the following delegation officials:**

- a. **WC – HOD: Steve Penny\***; **Team Manager: Tom Housley**
- b. **IAGC – HOD: Tom Housley**

*\* If USA Gymnastics President, Steve Penny is unable to attend World Championships, the Program Committee defers decision to Steve Penny to select the HOD for the World Championships.*

**Motion: LO**

**Second: SP**

**Passed**

### **8. World Games Test Event**

The program committee discussed the importance of supporting the World Games Test Event. World Games is the equivalent of the Olympic Games for Acrobatic Gymnastics. Athletes who attend the test event will have an advantage over those who do not. However, due to budget constraints, no financial support is possible.

*Approved Steve Penny, USA Gymnastics President 08/17/2008*