



March 5, 2013

From: Men's Program/Junior Olympic Program Committee  
To: Men's Junior Olympic Community  
Re: Update to Procedure for Qualification to the 2013 Junior Olympic National Championships.

**A. Qualification to the 2013 Junior Olympic National Championships**

**1. Junior Olympic Division qualification to the Junior Olympic National Championship is based on the following criteria**

**State Championships:** Must compete optional routines:

1. Meet Regional Qualifying score if any
2. Approved petitions – must meet requirements to petition

**Regional Championships:** Must compete optional routines.

Qualification to the Junior Olympic National Championships is determined by:

1. Must fall within the Region's total allotment or,
2. Top 5 scores at Regional Championships in Individual Events qualify to JO Nationals as an event specialist - Level 10 only. (Will compete only on qualified event at the Junior Olympic National Championships) or,
3. Approved petitions – must meet requirements to petition

**2. To remain eligible for advancement to the Junior Elite Division Finals at the JO National Championship athletes must meet the following criteria:**

**State Championships:** Must compete the Technical Sequences

1. Must compete on six events – no minimum qualifying score to the Regional Championships
2. Approved petitions - must meet requirements to petition

**Regional Championships:** Must compete both the Technical Sequences and Optional Routines.

1. Must compete Technical Sequences on six events.
2. Optional AA score must fall within Region's total allotment
3. Approved petitions – must meet minimum criteria
4. Athletes must declare upon submission of entry their intent to remain eligible to advance to the Junior Elite Division or they will be placed in the Junior Olympic Division with no possibility to compete Technical Sequences at the JO Nationals.

***Note: There is no minimum TS qualifying score or Junior Elite allotment. Qualification to the Junior Elite Division will be determined by ranking after the first day of optional competition at the JO National Championship from Junior Elite Division eligible athletes.***

**JO National Championships:** To qualify to the Junior Elite Division -

1. The top 42 eligible athletes (those who declared JE eligibility on entry from the Regional Championships) in each age division must advance to the Junior Elite Division finals session 2<sup>nd</sup> day of competition.
2. Junior Elite Division athletes will perform Technical Sequences in the finals session 2<sup>nd</sup> day of competition.
3. Athletes who do not qualify to advance to the Junior Elite Division Finals from the preliminary optional session on Day #1 will remain in the Junior Olympic Division and eligible to qualify for the Junior Olympic Division Finals Session.

**3. General Information regarding qualification**

**Regional Allotment:**

- Regional allotment will be determined by the JOPC based on national participant numbers at the state championships. Regional percentage is based on the number of a region's participants as a percentage of the national numbers to achieve the target number of athletes qualified to the Junior Olympic National Championships
- The allotment will be announced on or about April 1.

**Qualifying Score for the Junior Olympic Division:**

- The JOPC has determined that there will be no qualification score used for the 2013 JO Nationals.
- Advancement to the JO Nationals will be determined by the published allotment numbers based upon ranking within the region by optional score in each age division.

**Petitions:** An athlete must meet the stated criteria in order to petition

- Junior Olympic Division: Petition criteria as published in the Men's Rules and Policies
- Junior Elite Division: Petition criteria as published in the Men's Rules and Policies plus must have performed Technical Sequence score at a USA Gymnastics Sanctioned event within the competitive season.

**B. Format for Junior Elite Division Finals**

1. Traditional Capitol Cup format will be used for the finals session with gymnasts from each club placed in one squad regardless of age division. Squads will consist of 7 gymnasts.
2. 4 judge panels will be used with JONAL acting as head judge. High and low scores will be dropped and average score determined from remaining two scores.
3. Final ranking will be determined by combined scores of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> day for both the All-Around and Individual Events.

**Format for Junior Olympic Division Finals**

1. From the remaining pool of Junior Olympic eligible athletes, 24 All-Around athletes will advance in rank order from each single age year to the finals session.
2. 12 athletes on each individual event in rank order from the remaining pool will advance from each single age year.
3. Alternating Capitol Cup format will be used with 2-judge panels. One panel will judge (i.e., 11-12 year olds or 15-16 year olds), one panel will judge (i.e., 13-14 year olds or 17-18 year olds).
4. Each Flight (A & B) will be composed of 6 squads of 12 athletes. Athletes from the same club will be placed in the same squad and flight wherever possible. One flight will compete while the other flight warms up. Squad assignments for finals qualifiers

will be published and posted on the day following the preliminary optional session for each age division.

5. Junior Olympic Finals sessions will be held according to the session schedule published on the JO National web site for Level 10 on Saturday & Levels 8 & 9 on Sunday.

## **B. Qualification for Junior National Team selection**

1. 7 athletes will be selected to the Jr. National Team in both Level 8 & Level 9 at the conclusion of the Junior Elite Finals Technical Sequence session on Sunday based upon their combined All Around score from Day #1 (Opt) and Day #2 (TS).
2. The top 18 rank order all around athletes in both Level 10 (15-16 & 17-18\*) age groups will advance to the US Championships. All Around scores for the Junior Elite Division will be the combined totals from Day #1 (Opt) and Day #2 (TS) competition.
3. 7 athletes in both Level 10 (15-16 & 17-18\*) age groups will be selected to the Jr. Elite National Team based upon their combined 2-day result at the U.S. Championships.

**\*Special Note: Athletes who were 18 years old on September 1, 2012 are eligible to compete in the 17-18 Level 10 age division at both the 2013 Junior Olympic Nationals Championships and at the 2013 U.S. Championships based on the Junior Elite qualification requirements noted in this document.**