



March 8, 2019

To: Men's Junior Olympic Community
From: Dusty Ritter, Junior Olympic Program Coordinator

Re: **Procedure for Qualification to the 2019 Junior Olympic National Championships**

I. Qualification to the 2019 Junior Olympic National Championships

A. Junior Olympic Division qualification to the Junior Olympic National Championship is based on the following criteria:

State Championships:

1. Must compete optional routines
2. Meet regional qualifying score or qualification requirements
3. Approved petitions – must meet requirements to petition

Regional Championships:

Qualification to the Junior Olympic National Championships is determined by:

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

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

State Championships:

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

Regional Championships:

1. Must compete both the Technical Sequences and Optional Routines
2. Must compete Technical Sequences on six events
3. Must qualify within the allotment
4. The following combined score must be achieved to advance to the Junior Elite Division at the 2019 JO National Championship:
 - a. Level 8 – 125.00 AA
 - b. Level 9 – 125.00 AA
 - c. Level 10 (15-16 AND 17-18) – 126.00 AA
5. Approved petitions – must meet requirements to petition
6. Athletes must declare upon submission of entry their intent to advance to the Junior Elite Division or they will be placed in the Junior Olympic Division.

C. General Information regarding qualification

Regional Allotment:

1. Regional allotment will be determined by the JOPC based on participant numbers derived from the USA Gymnastics Meet Reservation System for the respective state championships within that region. 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.
2. The allotment will be announced on or before April 1.

Qualification for the Junior Elite Division:

1. Advancement to JO Nationals will be determined by the published allotment numbers based upon ranking within the region using the optional score in each age division.
2. Junior Elite athletes must also achieve the combined optional and technical routine score published in Section I.B.
3. Athletes who do not fall within a region's published allotment according to the AA score, but do achieve the required JE combined score will automatically have their scores reviewed by the men's program for potential inclusion in the Junior Olympic National Championships.
4. At Levels 8 & 9, a minimum of 60 athletes in each level will be approved to compete in the Junior Elite Division by rank order combined AA score from Regional Championship results. Approved petitions will be added to the field in addition to the qualified athletes. Should less than 60 athletes qualify by score plus approved petitions in Level 8 or 9, the field will be adjusted to reach a minimum of 60 athletes by this process.

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

1. **Junior Olympic Division:** Injury petitions to the JO National Championships should follow current petition requirements published in the Men's Rules and Policies and in addition, athletes must submit results from a minimum of two USA Gymnastics sanctioned meets during the current competitive season, showing that their scores would place them in the top 50% of athletes who qualified by score from their region using the published national allotment.
2. **Junior Elite Division:** Injury Petition criteria as published in the Men's Rules and Policies plus must have performed Technical Sequence score at a USA Gymnastics Sanctioned event.
3. Athletes who fall within the allotment but do not meet the approved JE qualification score may petition to be placed in the JE division. Scores from previously competed Technical Sequences at the same level may be submitted and combined with the optional score from the regional championship. The resulting combined score must show the athlete would have met the current qualifying score to advance to JO Nationals in the Junior Elite division. Factors such as past championship level competition performance may be considered. Supporting materials must be included in the petition. Petitions submitted will be reviewed by the Junior Olympic Program Coordinator and placement will be based on merit. **Level 8 JE Petitions for 11 year olds will not count against the allotment.**

II. Format for the JO National Championships

A. Format for Junior Olympic Division: Refer to Official Event Website for Schedule times.

1. JO Level 9's will compete one session Capitol Cup format on Thursday morning. Awards for All-Around and Individual Events follow immediately after the session. Refer to official website for training times. Awards will be given in single age years.
2. JO Level 8's will compete one session Capitol Cup format on Sunday morning. Awards for All-Around and Individual Events follow immediately after the session. Refer to official website for training times. Awards will be given in single age years.

3. JO Level 10's will compete in three Capitol Cup sessions on Friday. The third session will include the Regional Team for Level 10 (15-16) and Level 10 (17-18). Three additional squads of non-regional team athletes will be placed in this session by random draw.
4. From the pool of Junior Olympic Level 10 eligible athletes, 36 All-Around athletes will advance in rank order from each single age year to the finals session on Sunday afternoon from both the Level 10 (15-16) and Level 10 (17-18) divisions. Refer to official website for training times. Awards for All-Around and Individual Events are based upon combined score of both days and will be given in single age years.
5. Level 10 Athletes who place in the Top 6 on an individual event who are not already in the Top 36 AA will advance to finals on that event only from each single age year.
6. Each Flight (A & B) will be composed of 6 squads of approximately 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.

B. JO National Championships – Junior Elite Division:

1. Level 8 & 9 Junior Elite Division athletes will perform Optional routines in the second session on the first day of competition (Thursday). Level 10 Junior Elite Division athletes will perform Optional routines in the third session on the first day of competition (Thursday).
2. Junior Elite Division athletes will perform Technical Sequences in the finals session on their second day of competition (Saturday). Refer to official event website for schedule times.
3. All Junior Elite Division athletes will advance to the Finals session on the second day of competition.
4. Junior Elite Division athletes will be eligible to receive awards in single age year categories in each age division.

C. Format for Junior Elite Division Finals:

1. Format for the Junior Elite Division will be based upon the number of athletes qualified to participate at the JO Nationals in each level.
2. Final ranking will be determined by combined scores of Day 1 and Day 2 for both the All-Around and Individual Events.
3. Junior Elite Division athletes will compete in Session 1 on their second day of competition and perform Technical Sequences to achieve their combined score and ranking.

III. Qualification for Junior National Team selection

- A. 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 Saturday based upon their combined All-Around score from Day 1 (Opt) and Day 2 (TS). Refer to the published document for selection procedures for the 2019 Junior National Team.
- B. Athletes in both Level 10 (15-16 & 17-18*) age groups will advance to the U.S. Championships. All-Around scores for the Junior Elite Division will be the combined totals from Day 1 (Opt) and Day 2 (TS) competition. Athletes will advance based upon rank order AA score as follows:
 - Level 10 (15-16) – 22 athletes
 - Level 10 (17-18) – 14 athletes
- C. Athletes in both Level 10 (15-16 & 17-18*) age groups will be selected to the Junior Elite National Team based upon their combined 2-day results at the U.S. Championships. Refer to the published document for selection procedures for the 2019 Junior National Team.

*Special Note: Athletes who are 19 years old on the May 31, 2019 competitive age determination date and are eligible to compete in the Junior Olympic program as determined in the Rules & Policies will be placed in the 18-year old age group.

IV. Regional Allotment:

2019 Allotment Table					
	Level 8	Level 9	Level 10 Jr.	Level 10 Sr.	Total
Region 1	25	26	37	37	125
Region 2	7	8	17	10	42
Region 3	22	33	42	39	136
Region 4	10	11	18	19	58
Region 5	24	34	40	42	140
Region 6	12	11	13	15	51
Region 7	21	28	36	40	125
Region 8	18	28	35	36	117
Region 9	8	14	15	15	52
Total	147	193	253	253	846