



Rhythmic Program Committee Meeting

April 18, 2021 Grand Rapids, MI

Roll Call:

Suzi DiTullio (Chair)	National Administrative Committee, Chair (non-voting)
Olga Kutuzova	National Judges Representative
Elena Savenkova	Member at Large
Natalya Kozitskaya	IEC Representative
Rebecca Sereda	Absent: approval given electronically

Caroline Hunt (non-voting) Rhythmic Program Director

Regional Championships: Revisit

The RPC met to discuss Regional Championships given the evolving national landscape since February in terms of vaccinations, lifted travel restrictions within states, and further “opening” of state restrictions which has led to new availability of potential competition venues.

Additionally, USA Gymnastics has now hosted two live events in February and April with effective safety protocols in place.

Regions continue to request the possibility to compete live. The RPC proposed that Regions who met a 70% mark from parents for in-person competition allow their Regional Board to convene on this topic given the progress made and make a determination if live competition is the priority and can be managed safely.

As judges may have been contracted already virtually, the RPC empowers the Regional Board to determine their own panel structure, requiring at a minimum that the D judges are live.

If a “mixed” judging panel is used (some live, some virtual), both judges who are virtual or both judges who are in-person must judge the same component of the score.

Proposed: Suzi DiTullio

Second: Elena Savenkova

Approved

FIG Groups at USA Gymnastics Championships

Level distinction

USA Gymnastics has the space and time to accommodate all FIG Groups to compete at the USA Gymnastics Championships Level 9/10 and Elite Championships. This decision is approved in recognition of the tremendous effort of clubs to support Group training throughout a pandemic.

At the time of the December 2020 Minutes, the RPC's decisions on level designations were based on only a certain number of Groups advancing, as in the case of Individuals, where the complete field had a qualification process from 213 Juniors to 40 to achieve the Level 10 designation, and from 52 Level 10 to 25 who become Elite.

The Olympic Selection Procedures must also be respected which state:

Three (3) Senior FIG-level Groups will advance to the 2021 USA Gymnastics Championships through the following methods: 1. If a Senior FIG-level Group is assigned to an official FIG international competition following the 2021 Rhythmic Challenge, this Group automatically advances to the 2021 USA Gymnastics Championships. 2. From the 2021 Level 9 Senior Classic and Elite Qualifier, the top Group (not already qualified) by All Around results will advance to the 2021 USA Gymnastics Championships. 3. If no Group is assigned to official FIG international competition following the 2021 Rhythmic Challenge, the second and third place Groups by All Around results at the 2021 Level 9 Senior Classic and Elite Qualifier will also advance to the 2021 USA Gymnastics Championships.

With the goal of supporting all Groups and following the Olympic Selection Procedures, the following is determined:

1. Two FIG SR Groups have already advanced to the USA Gymnastics Championships (the Elite event due to that being Olympic qualification) due to #1 in the Procedures: National Team has been assigned to World Cups and National Prep to the Deleanu Cup (FIG); therefore, the next-ranked SR Group at the Qualifier will advance to the Championships (Elite competition). These 3 Groups become Level 10 Group, as with Individual.
2. All other FIG Groups (JR and SR) will compete at the USA Gymnastics Championships Level 9/10 as Level 9 Group.
3. FIG JR Group: if a JR Group is named to the 2021 JR Pan American Championships, this Group is the JR Group National Team 2021 and becomes "Elite" Group.
4. All gymnasts retain their Individual level should they wish to return to Individual competition in the future.

Age of gymnasts

Following the same principle as FIG SR Groups (see RPC Minutes December 2020, #11), only JR Groups with JR-age athletes may compete for the official ranking at the USA Gymnastics Championships. Any JR Group with Hope-age athletes may participate as exhibition.

The RPC reminds all member clubs that gymnasts who qualify to the Elite Championships are considered “Elite.” The following level designations are in effect: Level 9, Level 10, Elite.

Proposed: Suzi DiTullio
Second: Nataliya Kozitskiy
Approved

Score Entry at Qualifying Events

The RPC recommends having a staff member at the forthcoming qualification events (Regional and National) to verify the judges’ score entry in relation to their forms at the end of each competitive session due to the new system of individual judges entering their scores into an iPad.

In case the total score recorded on the form is different than the posted score: the coach must contact the Meet Referee within 24 hours of receiving the form; the Meet Referee will verify if there is an inaccuracy; if so, the corrected result will be communicated and a duplicate award in the relevant event and AA will be given if applicable.

USA Gymnastics will have this in place for the Elite Qualifier, USA Gymnastics Championships, and the Developmental Championships.