

Sanctions

In order to host a USA Gymnastics rhythmic sanctioned competition, all Meet Directors MUST be a current USA Gymnastics Professional member with a current safety/risk management certification and criminal background check and be well-versed in the Meet Director responsibilities outlined in the Rules and Policies. In addition, the Meet Director must be affiliated with a current Member Club.

An unaffiliated athlete will not be permitted to participate in the event.

For specific information on sanctions with foreign participants, see Chapter 1 *of the Rules and Policies*.

I. Sanctioning A USA Gymnastics Event

- A. USA Gymnastics, as the governing body for the sport in the United States, is responsible for the granting of Sanctions for those events, as defined in the USA Gymnastics Sanctioning Policies and Procedures
- B. Sanctions are required for all USA Gymnastics competitions. See Chapter 3 for competition guidelines.
- C. Sanctions may also be obtained for clinics, workshops, educational events, tours, and exhibitions.
- D. Only a current USA Gymnastics Member Club may register athletes into a sanctioned event.
- E. A USA Gymnastics sanctioned event CANNOT be run concurrently in the same session with a non-USA Gymnastics sanctioned event.

II. Procedures for Requesting a Sanction

- A. Request for sanctions may be obtained either online or by faxing/ mailing the sanction request form to the Member Services Department.
- B. To apply for a sanction online or to access forms visit usagym.org/memberservices
- C. Only domestic sanctioned events may be applied for online

CHAPTER TWO: SANCTIONS

- D. When requesting a sanction, equipment/venue set-up/take down and training days must be included, as well as competition days.
- E. Only one discipline per sanction.
- F. Events conducted in more than one location must have a separate sanction for each location.
- G. Once a sanction has been granted, the *USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Rules and Policies* must be followed. Please see Chapter 3 for specific meet director responsibilities.
- H. Domestic Sanction Fee
 - 1. The fee is \$100.00 for ALL domestic sanctioned events. Sanction fees (and any late fees) are not refundable, regardless of the reason for cancelling a meet.
- I. Foreign Sanctions
 - 1. For events in which foreign athletes and coaches participate, a foreign sanction request form and fee of \$300 must be sent via mail/fax/e-mail to the Member Services department for processing. For more details, see Chapter 1 of the *Rhythmic Rules and Policies*.
- J. Rush Fees
 - 1. Sanction request for in-house processing 7 business days or less than the start date of the event will be assessed a \$35 rush fee. Online request will not incur a rush fee.

III. Sanction Violations and Penalties

SANCTION VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN A FINE, VOIDING of A COMPETITION AND its RESULTS, AND/OR LOSS OF SANCTIONING PRIVILEGES.

1. Sanction Violations

When a Meet Director and/or other Professional or Jr. Professional member(s) participating in the event fails to follow the *USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Rules and Policies*, actions will be taken against the Meet Director and/or the individual offenders by the USA Gymnastics Office.

2. Violations on the part of the Meet Director include:

- a. Allowing coaches, judges and athletes on the floor without current, valid memberships and/or educational/background check certifications. This includes Professional members, Junior Professional members, Introductory Athletes and Athlete members.
- b. Violations of any regulation within the Rules and Policies.
- c. Improper timing of the competition:
 - i. Athletes in the gym too long (over 5 hours).

CHAPTER TWO: SANCTIONS

- ii. Starting the warm-ups before 7:30 A.M.
 - iii. Finishing after 10:00 P.M due to poor scheduling
 - d. Failure to return required sanction forms and athlete fees by the designated deadline.
 - e. Failure to return sanction paperwork form in the allotted time allowed.
 - f. **Altering USA Gymnastics language on sanction report form**
 - g. **Failure to obtain signatures/initials of officials/coaches on the sanction report form sign-in sheet(s)**
3. Violations on the part of a competitor
- a. If an individual gymnast is in violation of the regulations, she will be disqualified and all awards returned. (Example: Wrong Level, wrong age division)
4. Violations on the part of a coach/judge
- a. If an individual who does not have the appropriate current Professional, Jr. Professional Membership and/or educational or background check certifications, or falsifies one of the above mentioned memberships and attempts to participate on the field at a USA Gymnastics sanctioned competition
 - b. **Violations of any regulation within the Rules and Policies.**
5. **Meet Director Penalties for Violations**
- a. **A meet director may receive the following penalties for violating any of the above stated violations.**
 - i. **A first time violation results in a fine of \$100 for one violation plus \$100 for each additional violation associated with the same sanction.**
 - ii. **A second time violation results in a fine of \$500 for one violation plus \$500 for each additional violation associated with the same sanction.**
 - iii. **A third time violation results in a fine of \$1000 for one violation plus \$500 for each additional violation associated with the same sanction, and a one-year suspension of sanctioning privileges.**
 - b. **Fines apply only to the individual and/or the Meet Director.**
 - c. **Hosting institutions may also be denied sanctioning privileges if violations are repeated with multiple Meet Directors.**
 - d. **The State Administrative Committee Chairman and/or Regional Administrative Committee Chairman will be notified of any violations by e-mail.**
 - e. **If a fine is assessed to a Meet Director, but not paid by the deadline indicated, the ability to sanction an event will be denied until all balances are paid.**
 - f. **If the violation is due to the lack of mandatory forms being returned, the ability to sanction an event will be denied until all mandatory forms are returned.**

CHAPTER TWO: SANCTIONS

- g. If a fine is assessed but not satisfied by the deadline indicated, the Meet Director's membership may be placed in a pending status.
 - h. Escalating penalties accrue during the current competitive season (August 1-July 31).
 - i. If a Meet Director incurs three sanction violations in one competitive season, he/she will be placed in pending status. He/she must re-take and pass the Meet Director Exam before being placed in active status.
6. Professional Member Penalties for Violations:
- a. A Professional Member may receive the following penalties for violating any of the above stated violations
 - i. A first time violation results in a fine of \$100.
 - ii. A second time violation results in a fine of \$500.
 - iii. A third time violation results in a fine of \$1000 and possibly suspension of membership.
 - iv. Fines apply only to the individual and/or the meet director.
 - v. The State Chairman and/or Regional Chairman will be notified of any violations by email.
 - vi. If a fine is assessed to a professional member, but not paid by the deadline indicated, their membership will go into a pending status until all balances are paid.
 - vii. Escalating penalties accrue during the current competitive season (August 1st- July 31st)

IV. Sanction Report Forms

- A. An official USA Gymnastics Sanction Report Form is available online. To access the report forms, visit usagym.org/pages/membership, "My Sanctions".
- B. **Keep a copy of the report form**, then email, fax, or mail pages 1-6 of the Sanction Report form plus all of the officials and coaches' sign-in sheet(s) to the USA Gymnastics Member Services department **within 72 hours**.
 - 1. Email: sanctions@usagym.org
 - 2. Fax: 317-692-5212
 - 3. Mail to: USA Gymnastics Member Services Department, 132 E. Washington St., Suite 700, Indianapolis, IN. 46204.
 - 4. Make copies of the Sanction Report Form and send them to the State Chairman within 72 hours.
 - 5. Applicable competition fees must be sent to the State/Regional Chairman of the host state (based on the physical location of the meet). See Chapter 3 Sanctions.

CHAPTER TWO: SANCTIONS

6. **If an event is canceled, written notification must be submitted to USA Gymnastics Member Services prior to the start date of the event. Email: sanctions@usagym.org Fax: 317-692-5212.**