

OPERATING CODE – RHYTHMIC PROGRAM

ARTICLE 1

USA GYMNASTICS MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

Membership in USA Gymnastics is a privilege granted by USA Gymnastics. That privilege can be withdrawn by USA Gymnastics at any time where a member's conduct is determined to be inconsistent with the best interest of the sport of gymnastics or the athletes we are serving.

An individual who holds current paid membership, safety certification and has passed a background check and completed all safe sport requirements, shall be deemed a Professional member. This individual must be a minimum of 18 years of age and shall receive a membership card stating that she/he is a Professional member with full voting privileges. Junior Professional members do not have voting privileges.

ARTICLE 2

STRUCTURE

The Rhythmic Program is composed of the Rhythmic Program Committee (RPC), which shall be the governing body of the Rhythmic Program, and its sub-committees. These sub-committees are charged with specific Rhythmic programs and are as follows: Rhythmic National Administrative Committee (NAC), International Elite Committee (IEC), Junior Olympic Technical Committee (JOTC), and Rhythmic Xcel Committee (RXC). They function per the Operation Code.

ARTICLE 3

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATIONS

All nominees must be: Professional members of the Rhythmic Program at least 21 years of age and in good standing for a minimum of 2 (two) consecutive years immediately prior to the nomination. A member in good standing is defined as a person who has complied with all aspects of the program as outlined in the *Rules and Policies*. Prior to being placed on the ballot, all nominees must sign a document that verifies that they have read and understood the duties and responsibilities of the office for which they have been nominated and submit their resumes to the appropriate USA Gymnastics officer.

ARTICLE 4

MEETINGS

The Committee meetings are closed. Any Chair may extend an invitation to attend the meeting, or any portion of a meeting, to an individual she deems necessary to present information to her committee. All members must be notified verbally or in writing of pending meetings to ensure participation. A quorum of the Rhythmic Program Committee and all its sub-committees is necessary to conduct official business. A quorum for the Rhythmic Program Committee and all its sub-committees is 2/3 of the voting members present. All minutes from all meetings must be published in a timely manner on the appropriate website.

ARTICLE 5

RHYTHMIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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5.01 Responsibilities: The Rhythmic Program Committee and its sub-committees:

1. Are obliged to support USA Gymnastics, its Rules and Policies, and programs of competition
2. Shall carry out all responsibilities in a professional manner in order to promote the growth of gymnastics in an atmosphere of cooperation and communication.

The Rhythmic Program Committee, through its sub-committees, shall:

- A. be charged with the development of a well-organized and well-designed program for rhythmic gymnastics in the United States, consistent with the goals and objectives of the corporation,
- B. distribute and disseminate technical materials, rules and regulations, educational and scientific literature and other information necessary and appropriate to support the coaching and judging community,
- C. provide for the improvement and growth of rhythmic gymnastics through the training education, certification and evaluation of coaches, judges, and athletes,
- D. Receive recommendations from the sub-committees for changes in the *Rules and Policies and Operating Code*
- E. maintain and update the *Rules and Policies*
- F. review and approve minutes of all sub-committees, except IEC international assignments, and serve in an arbitration capacity of all sub-committees, when necessary, and make the final decision after all parties have presented their views.
- G. accept recommendations from sub-committees and recommend candidates to represent USA Gymnastics in FIG activities
- H. assist in setting goals for each sub-committee
- I. evaluate, on a continuing basis, the progress of the sub-committees
- J. set the criteria for nomination of candidates for the (1) Membership Director of the Rhythmic Program to the Board of Directors.

5.02 Membership and Term of Office The USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Committee shall be composed of the following members:

- A. Rhythmic National Administrative Committee Chair (NAC) (2-year term).
- B. International Elite Committee Chair (IEC) (elected every year).
- C. Judges representative (4-year term).
- D. Athlete Representative elected by USA Gymnastics Athlete Council (term of office determined by Athlete Council).
- E. Member At-Large
 1. Any active Rhythmic Program Professional Member will be eligible for nomination.
 2. Following a call for nominations, an election will be held and all active rhythmic Professional Members will be eligible to vote. The top vote-getter will be named the Member At-Large on the Program Committee and will serve a 4 year term.
- F. Rhythmic Program Director (non-voting)

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- G. USA Gymnastics President (non-voting)

5.03 Qualifications

- A. Each constituency shall determine the qualifications for its elected member.
- B. The Judges representative must:
 - i. Hold a current professional membership
 - ii. Have a current National or Brevet rating.
 - iii. Be fully certified in the J.O. Development Program of the current cycle.
 - iv. Have active judging assignments which include but are not limited to Regional and National events in the current or previous cycle.
 - v. Have previous or current coaching background within the US, including but not limited to the JO Development Program.
 - vi. Have organizational, communication and computer skills needed for this administrative position.

5.04 Elections

- A. The election of the Judges' representative shall be conducted by the National Office. They will be elected by all National and US Brevet judges.
 - a. The Judges representative shall be elected by majority (1 over 50%) of votes cast. If no candidate receives the majority vote and a run off election is necessary, the run off election will be between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes.
- B. All other elections shall be conducted by the respective groups (IEC, RAC, Athletes' Council, National RG membership for Board Director, etc.)

- 5.05 Chair - Voting members shall serve as Chair on a rotating basis every year. The Chair must be actively involved in the Rhythmic Program as a coach, judge, or administrator and must have served on the Rhythmic Program Committee for 2 years. The Chair shall be responsible for the following:

- A. Chair all Rhythmic Program Committee Meetings
- B. Act as the liason to all sub-committees, as necessary
- C. Represent the Rhythmic Program Committee (RPC) to other organizations, as designated or requested.
- D. Prepare and distribute the agenda to the Rhythmic Program Committee (RPC) in a timely manner prior to meetings.
- E. Attend as many national and regional functions as possible to be familiar with all aspects of the Rhythmic Program.

5.06 Meetings

- A. All members may be required to attend an annual paid meeting.
- B. Interim business will be conducted by e-mail or conference call.

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- C. Special meetings may be called by USA Gymnastics President or the Rhythmic Program Director.
- D. It is recommended that the sub-committees meet at least once annually
- E. Minutes of all meetings will be compiled by the Rhythmic Program Director and published on the website www.usagym.org.

5.07 Voting

- A. All action requires the vote of a majority of voting members (5).
- B. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

5.08 Vacancies

In the event of the resignation or removal of an elected member, the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Director will call for a vote of the member's constituency in order to elect a replacement member to fulfill the remainder of that member's term.

5.09 Funding

- A. All revenues generated by the Rhythmic Program Committee shall be deposited in the general fund of USA Gymnastics, and appropriate records concerning those funds shall be maintained by the USA Gymnastics and made available to the Rhythmic Program Committee upon request.
- B. No obligation of the USA Gymnastics funds shall be made by the Rhythmic Program Committee nor any of its sub-committees, without approval of the USA Gymnastics Board of Directors and/or the President via USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Director.

ARTICLE 6

USA GYMNASTICS PROGRAMS COUNCIL

6.01 Purpose: The USA Gymnastics Programs Council is a Special Committee that serves to provide a forum for its representatives to consider and offer perspectives on matters related to (i) relevant operations and strategic development of USA Gymnastics, and (ii) the development of best practices and uniform criteria and guidelines for program administration that can be adopted by the National Program Committees. The rhythmic program will have two

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representatives on the Programs Council. Individuals who serve on the Programs Council are eligible to be elected as National Membership Directors to the Board.

6.02 Criteria for Rhythmic Representatives:

- A. Representative #1
 - i. This representative must serve on a national standing committee or as a chair within the last four years. The following committee members/chairs are eligible:
 - 1. RPC
 - 2. JOTC
 - 3. IEC
 - 4. RNAC
 - 5. XCEL
 - 6. Regional Chair
 - 7. State Chair
- B. Representative #2
 - i. This representative must be an active coach or club owner with a deep knowledge of the rhythmic program. Eligibility requirements:
 - 1. A registered coach of a level 7-10/Elite gymnast at USA Gymnastics Championships
 - 2. A rhythmic club owner for the last 4 years
- C. If no eligible candidates are nominated, the Rhythmic Program Committee may nominate a candidate with demonstrated ability and suitability for the position.

ARTICLE 7

RHYTHMIC NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

- 7.01 Responsibilities: The Rhythmic National Administrative Committee shall, with the help of specialized people:
- A. Determine the format and organization of all the designated qualifying events and programs under their jurisdiction within the Regions
 - B. Support and attend Regional Events
 - C. Ensure that all active states have a State Chair either by election or appointment
 - D. Determine the entry fees for all State and Regional Championships
 - E. Establish the policies for the operation of the Junior Olympic competitive program
 - F. Establish the Junior Olympic Competition schedule
 - G. Be responsible for overall organization of all regional events
 - H. Establish procedures to raise operating funds for regions, if necessary.
 - I. Be responsible for service and recognition awards for the regions
 - J. Determine technical rules and regulations as they apply to USA judging for Junior Olympic Levels 3 through 8

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- K. Recommend policies and procedures for USA Gymnastics rhythmic judges' ratings and evaluations, training, fee structure, and Code of Conduct
- L. Be responsible for the continuing education of judges and coaches at the State and Regional level
- M. Make recommendations regarding the Junior Olympic technical program to the JOTC
- N. Recommend Rhythmic topics to the Program Director gathered from the Regions for National Congress
- O. Attend as many national and regional rhythmic functions as they can to be familiar with all aspects of the rhythmic program

7.02 Membership and Term of Office The Rhythmic National Administrative Committee shall be composed of:

- A. *Six Regional Representatives*, elected to a four-year term by all USA Gymnastics professional members of the respective regions
Combined Regions (Zones): (1 & 2), (3 & 6), (4 & 5) will elect one Technical and one Administrative representative to a four year term. The representative will serve each Zone (combined 2 regions).
- B. USA Gymnastics Judges Representative
- C. *USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Director* (non- voting).
- D. *USA Gymnastics President* (non-voting).

7.03 Qualifications

- A. No elected member of the Rhythmic National Administrative Committee may hold an elected position on the Rhythmic Program Committee or any other subcommittees.
- B. Candidates for Rhythmic Administrative representative must be a regional administrative chairperson, have been active USA Gymnastics professional member for a minimum of four years, and have a working knowledge of the Rules and Policies.
- C. Candidates for Rhythmic Technical representative must be a judge (National rating or higher) and have been an active USA Gymnastics professional member for a minimum of four years and have a working knowledge of the Junior Olympic Rhythmic Program and the Rules and Policies.

7.04 Elections

- A. Elections for Rhythmic Administrative representatives and Rhythmic Technical representatives, shall be conducted by the National Office. If no candidate receives the majority vote and a run off is necessary, the run off election will be between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes.

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- B. Voting for the Zone Administrative and Zone Technical Representative positions shall be open to all current professional members in the Zone.

7.05 Chair

The Chair of the Rhythmic National Administrative Committee shall be elected by the members of the NAC Committee in even numbered years and must have been a member of the NAC for 2 years. The Chair will be responsible for the following:

- A. Represent the Rhythmic National Administrative Committee on the Rhythmic Program Committee
- B. Represent the Rhythmic National Administrative Committee to the National Office
- C. Review and audit the financial reporting system of the Regional and State Administrative Committees
- D. Prepare and distribute the agenda to the NAC in a timely manner for each meeting
- E. Recommend subject and content for National Congress sessions and/or workshops
- F. Recommend corrective measures for *Rules and Policies* violations reported by States and Regions
- G. Oversee and guide the work of the Regional and State Administrative Committee Chairs.
- H. Prepare and disseminate information to the Zones and to Professional members
- I. Prepare an annual report of the NAC activities, if requested by the RPC Chair.

7.06 Meetings

- A. All members will be required to attend one annual paid meeting.
- B. Interim business may be conducted by mail or conference call.
- C. Special meetings may be called by the USA Gymnastics President or the Rhythmic Program Director.
- D. All minutes will be published in the USA Gymnastics Technique magazine and on the website www.usagym.org.

7.07 Voting

- A. All action requires the vote of a majority of voting members (7)
- B. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

7.08 Vacancies

In the event of the resignation or removal of an elected member, the Rhythmic Program Director may call for a vote of the member's constituency in order to elect a replacement member to fulfill the remainder of that member's term. If the remainder of the term exceeds one year the election procedures shall be followed.

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ARTICLE 8 INTERNATIONAL ELITE COACHES COMMITTEE

8.01 Responsibility:

- A. Organize and develop the National Team training plan
- B. Work closely with the Rhythmic Program Director in matters pertaining to the National Team.
- C. Govern all aspects of the USA National Team and the USA International Elite Program.
- D. Draft all Selection Procedures with the Program Director and the President of USA Gymnastics, for World Championships, Pan American Games, Youth Olympic Games, and the Olympic Games.
- E. Revise the International Elite section of the USA Gymnastics *Rules and Policies* on an annual basis as needed and submit to the Rhythmic Program Committee (RPC) for inclusion.
- F. Assign athletes to international competitions per 7.04 below for those events which do not have formal selection procedures (i.e: JR Pan American Championships, Pacific Rim, World Cups, Grand Prix, etc).
- G. Assign judges to international selection camps, international qualifying national competitions, and international competitions. Assign coaches and/or judges to international courses or seminars, including the Intercontinental Judging Course and Brevet Courses.
- H. Recommend to the RPC candidates to represent the USA Gymnastics in FIG activities including the Intercontinental Judges Courses, Technical Committees, Congresses and Competitions
- I. Provide recommendations to the National Judges Selection Committee for national judging selection for international qualifying events (Rhythmic Challenge, National Qualifier, and USA Gymnastics Championships).
- J. Recommend topics for National Congress to the Program Director Rhythmic

8.02 Membership and Term of Office: The IEC members will each serve 1-year terms:

- A. Four (4) coach representatives
- B. Athlete Representative
- C. Rhythmic Program Director (non-voting)

8.03 Qualifications:

- A. A coach must have been an officially nominated US coach to the Olympic Games or World Championships and have a current level 9-10 athlete.
- B. An athlete representative must be a member of the RPC and/or a rhythmic representative on the Athletes Council.

8.04 Athlete Selection Committee

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- A. Will consist of one (1) IEC coach, the Athlete Representative, and 1 Brevet Judge
- B. The IEC coach will not have an athlete contending for international selection; in case all of the IEC coaches have contending athletes, a second Brevet judge will be nominated based on the combination of Brevet level and most experience at the Olympic Games, World Championships, Continental Championships, and/or Youth Olympic Games.
- C. The Brevet judge will be the highest-rated judge based on the combination of Brevet level and most experience at the Olympic Games, World Championships, Continental Championships and/or Youth Olympic Games.

8.05 Elections:

- A. The athlete representative is elected by her respective group.

8.06 Chair: The IEC Chair will be elected by the IEC members annually. The Chair will be responsible for the following:

- A. Serve as a voting member on the RPC
- B. Be responsible for the activities of the International Elite Committee (IEC).
- C. Prepare an annual report of the International Elite Committee's (IEC) activities, if requested by the Rhythmic Program Committee Chair.

8Meetings

- A. Meetings will be conducted at national events and training camps
- B. Interim business will be conducted by e-mail or conference call.
- C. All minutes will be published on the website www.usagym.org

ARTICLE 9

JUNIOR OLYMPIC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

9.01 Responsibility:

- D. Formulate philosophies to guide the Junior Olympic technical program
- E. Develop, write and revise the Junior Olympic Technical Handbook
- F. Respond to technical inquiries for the Junior Olympic Program
- G. Develop the Junior Olympic Compulsory routines for Levels 3-5
- H. Make recommendations to the NAC for qualification guidelines and Junior Olympic Competition schedule
- I. Design content for educational symposiums for the community
- J. Evaluate and advise the NAC on material used for Junior Olympic Judges' training; create educational material as directed
- K. Advise the NAC on format and content for Junior Olympic Judges' Courses
- L. Other duties and projects as identified by the Rhythmic Program Committee

9.02 Membership

- A. IEC Coach (elected within the IEC yearly)
- B. National Judge's Representative
- C. Junior Olympic Development Coordinator (as needed)

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9.03 Meetings

- A. The JOTC may meet during national events. Additional meetings will be required depending on the needs of the Handbook, Compulsory development, or other.

ARTICLE 10 RHYTHMIC XCEL COMMITTEE

10.01 Responsibility:

- A. Formulate philosophies to guide the Rhythmic Xcel program
- B. Develop, write, and revise the Rhythmic Xcel Technical Handbook
- C. Develop and implement strategies for growth of the Rhythmic Xcel Program in all six regions of the country
- D. Respond to technical inquiries for the Rhythmic Xcel Program
- E. Design content for educational symposiums for the community
- F. Establish policies for the operation of the Rhythmic Xcel competitive program
- G. Determine technical rules and regulations as they apply to competitive evaluation for Rhythmic Xcel
- H. Support and attend Rhythmic Xcel events in their area
- I. Recommend Rhythmic Xcel topics to the National Office for USA Gymnastics Congresses
- J. Other duties and projects as identified by the Rhythmic Program Committee or USA Gymnastics office

10.02 Xcel Development Chair

- A. The Xcel Development Chair will be responsible for the following:
 - Developing, writing, and revising the Xcel Technical Handbook in Collaboration with her committee members
 - Preparing and distributing the agenda to the RXC prior to each meeting
 - Prepare an annual report of the RXC activities, if requested by the RPC chair
 - Act as the liason to other committees and the USA Gymnastics office

10.03 Membership and Term of Office:

- A. Six Regional Coach Representatives (two-year term): one coach representative for each of the six rhythmic regions. The coach representatives will be elected by all current rhythmic gymnastics professional members of the respective zone at the time of the election.
- B. Xcel Development Chair (four-year term)

10.04 Qualifications

- A. Regional Coach Representatives
 - a. To be eligible to serve as a coach representative, an individual must currently be coaching athletes in the Rhythmic Xcel Program
- B. Xcel Development Coordinator
 - a. To be eligible to serve as the Xcel Development Coordinator, an individual must have served a prior term on the Rhythmic Xcel Committee.

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10.05 Elections

- A. Elections for Rhythmic Xcel Coach Representatives and the Rhythmic Xcel Development Chair shall be conducted by the National Office. If no candidate receives the majority vote and a run-off is necessary, the run-off election will be between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes.
- B. Voting for the Regional Coach Representatives will be open to all current professional members in the Region at the time of the election.
- C. Voting for the Xcel Development Coordinator will be open to all current USA Gymnastics rhythmic professional members at the time of the election.

10.06 Meetings:

- A. Meetings will primarily be conducted via email/conference call. In-person meetings can be scheduled, as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE 11

NATIONAL RHYTHMIC JUDGES SELECTION COMMITTEE

11.01 Responsibility: Assign officials to national events

11.02 Membership and Term of Office

- A. National Judge's Representative (4-year term)
- B. Rhythmic Program Director
- C. Athlete Representative
- D. USA Gymnastics President (non-voting)

ARTICLE 12

REGIONAL COMMITTEES

12.01 Each Regional Committee shall be composed of:

- A. Regional Chair
- B. Each State Chair
- C. Regional Judging Coordinator
- D. Zone Technical Representative (non-voting)
- E. Other people deemed necessary by each region (non-voting unless position is elected by Professional members of your Region)

12.02 Responsibilities Each Regional Committee shall:

- A. Hold an annual Regional Committee Meeting

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- B. Determine the Rules & Policies for the regional competition format when the USA Gymnastics Rules & Policies have relegated the decision to the region.
- C. Assist in planning and hosting events in the Region
- D. Address concerns within the Region
- E. Recommend Rhythmic topics for National and Regional Congresses to the NAC
- F. By vote of the committee, award the bid for the location of all State and Regional meets
- G. By vote of the committee, determine how regional funds will be used, including what support will be granted to Regional meet hosts.

12.03 Meetings

- A. USA Gymnastics Regional Committee will hold one meeting per year at a time called by the Regional Chair.
- B. The Regional Chair will appoint a secretary for each meeting if a secretary is not already a member of the committee.
- C. Minutes from the Regional Committee meeting will be forwarded to the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Director and the National Administrative Committee.

ARTICLE 13 REGIONAL CHAIR

13.01 Authority: Each region shall elect a Regional Chair, who is given the responsibility for the leadership of the USA Gymnastics Regional rhythmic programs

13.02 Responsibility The Regional Chair shall:

- A. Serve as the USA Gymnastics representative in the Region to ensure that the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Rules and Policies are followed
- B. Be eligible to represent the regional USA Gymnastics professional rhythmic membership on the NAC Committee
- C. Maintain the regional competition reporting system
- D. Maintain the regional finances as directed by USA Gymnastics, submit regional financial reports as required by USA Gymnastics, and distribute region moneys as determined by the Regional Committee to facilitate the growth and development of rhythmic gymnastics in the region
- E. Conduct an annual meeting, at an appropriate time, open to all rhythmic professional USA Gymnastics members of the region in order to gather input for the Rhythmic Rules and Policies and to plan region programs
- F. Respond to all requests for information about rhythmic gymnastics in the region
- G. Publish Regional Updates to all USA Gymnastics regional professional members about changes/clarifications to the rules and events
- H. Work closely with Regional Meet Director to ensure that the competition is well planned and executed,
- I. Respond in a timely manner to all requests from the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Director and/or the USA Gymnastics President
- J. Establish the operating procedures for the Regional Committee

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- K. Attend the annual USA Gymnastics Congress, funded by Regional finances, when possible
- L. Attend all Regional events and as many state events as possible.
- M. Submit service awards for the Region to USA Rhythmic Program Director by June 1st each year

13.03 Term of Office

- A. The Regional Chair shall be elected by all current USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Professional members in the respective region at the time of the election.
- B. The Regional Chair shall serve a four-year term.

13.04 Qualifications

- A. To be eligible to serve as the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Regional Administrative Chairman, a person must have been a USA Gymnastics Professional member for a period of four years.
- B. If no one in a Region meets the above requirement, the RP Director may make exceptions.

13.05 Election Procedures

- A. A Regional Chair, one from each region, is elected to a four-year term by all USA Gymnastics professional members of the respective region based on current membership at the time of the election.
 - a. Even Number Regions (2, 4, and 6) will elect a chairperson in the Spring/Summer of the year preceding the Olympic Games.
 - b. Odd numbered Regions (1, 3, 5) will elect a chairperson in the Spring/Summer of the year following the Olympic Games
- B. All USA Gymnastics Professional members in the respective region who are active members at the time of the election are eligible to vote.
- C. The person receiving the highest number of all votes cast shall be declared the Regional Chair.

13.06 Vacancies

- A. In the event of the resignation or removal of an elected Regional Chair, the RP Director will call for a vote of the member's constituency in order to elect a member to fulfill that member's term.

ARTICLE 14

REGIONAL JUDGING COORDINATOR

- 14.01 Authority: RJC's will contract state and regional judging assignments and any other requests for USA Gymnastics sanctioned events.

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14.02 Responsibility The Regional Judging Coordinator shall:

- A. Work directly with the Regional Chair
- B. Approve the list of judges and determine which judge on the panel will serve as the meet referee for all invitationals. Note, the NJC must approve the meet referee for all events with a foreign sanction.
 - a. Criteria for RJC Consideration in Meet Referee Selection:
 - i. Recent National Assignment
 - ii. Ranking
 - iii. Familiarity with the Rules and Policies
 - iv. Closely follows the Code of Ethical Conduct
 - v. Professionalism
 - vi. Well organized
- C. Select judges for all State and Regional Championships within their region in consultation with the Meet Referee and/or Regional Chair (or Committee)
- D. Rotate the assignment of judges in the region on a fair and equitable basis.
 - These are the considerations for the assigning of judges:
 - 1) Expenses to the meet director
 - 2) Rotate the assignment of judges
 - 3) Availability of appropriate level judges needed
 - 4) Ethical Standards
- E. The RJC should make every effort to give unaffiliated judges in her region the opportunity to judge the minimum number/level of competitions within her region necessary to fulfill her requirements for mobility.
- F. Maintain a record of the judging assignments in the region for that year, collect judges logs annually, and send an updated list of judges' status to the National Judge's Representative, Zone Technical Representative, and Regional Chair annually.
- G. Notify other Regional Judging Coordinators if contracts are accepted by a judge in their region.
- H. Contract judges for any non-qualifying meets upon the request of a meet director when the request is in accordance with guidelines outlined in the R&P.

14.03 Qualification To be eligible for this position, a candidate must be a professional member of USA Gymnastics, be unaffiliated, and hold a US judge's certification for a period of four years.

14.04 Election:

- B. The Regional Judging Coordinator will be elected by all current Professional Members in their respective regions at the time of the election.
- C. Regional Judging Coordinators will serve a 4-year term.
- D. Elections will be held in the Fall of the year following the Olympic Games.

ARTICLE 15 STATE CHAIR

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- 15.01 Authority The responsibility for providing the leadership of the USA Gymnastics State Rhythmic Gymnastics programs shall be given to the elected State Chair.
- 15.02 Responsibilities The State Chair shall:
- A. Serve as the USA Gymnastics representative in the state.
 - B. Serve as the representative of the state's USA Gymnastics professional members on the Regional Committee
 - C. Ensure that the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Rules and Policies are followed in the state.
 - D. Maintain the competitive reporting system in the state.
 - E. Maintain the state's finances as required by USA Gymnastics.
 - F. Respond to all requests for information about rhythmic gymnastics in the state.
 - G. Respond in a timely manner to all requests from the Regional Chair and the Rhythmic Program Director.
 - H. Establish the operating procedures for the state, in consultation with the Regional Chair
 - I. Attend the annual state competition and as many local events as possible.
 - J. Ensure there is a State Championship annually.
- 15.03 Term of Office
- A. The State Chair shall be elected by all current USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Professional members at the time of the election, held in the Spring/Summer of even numbered years.
 - B. The State Chair shall serve a two-year term.
- 15.04 Qualifications
- A. To be eligible to serve as the USA Gymnastics State Rhythmic Chair, a person must have been a USA Gymnastics Professional member for a period of two years.
 - B. If no one in a State meets the above requirement, the Regional Chair may make exceptions
- 15.05 Election Procedures
- A. In Spring/Summer of each even numbered year, the Regional Chair shall conduct the election for State Chair.
 - B. All USA Gymnastics Professional members in the respective State are eligible to vote who were registered Professional members in the election year.
 - C. The person receiving the highest number of all votes cast shall be declared the State Administrative Chairman.
 - D. In the event that a state has only one (1) competitive Rhythmic club and no unaffiliated professional members, the Regional Chair will appoint a professional member from the club to serve as the State Chair.
- 15.05 Vacancies

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- A. In the event of the resignation or removal of an elected State Chair, the Regional Chair will call for a vote of the member's constituency in order to elect a member to fulfill that member's term.
- B. In the event of the resignation or removal of an appointed State Chair, the Regional Chair will appoint a USA Gymnastics professional member to fulfill that members term.

ARTICLE 16

REMOVAL

SECTION A – ADVISORY LETTER

At any time that a USA Gymnastics Chairman is in danger of being removed from their current position, the appropriate National Chairman or Rhythmic Program Committee Chairman will send a letter advising the individual of their failure to comply with any applicable policies, procedures, codes, or rules.

SECTION B – CHAIRMEN

Any of the Chairmen may be removed by action of USA Gymnastics for any of the following reasons:

1. Failure to attend two (2) consecutive meetings of their regional and/or national committees
2. Failure to comply with any applicable policies, procedures, codes, or rules. (Refer to specific sections of Chair responsibilities for additional information.
3. Removal of a State Chairman can be initiated and effectuated by a two-thirds majority of the Rhythmic Program Professional members of the state, upon request to the Regional Chairman or by a two-thirds majority vote of the Regional Committee.
 - a. A State Chairman may be removed from their position for failure to fulfill the duties of his/her position; however, every attempt to resolve the situation should be made.
 - b. After receiving documentation that the committee member failed to meet his/her obligations, the Regional Committee or Rhythmic Regional Administrative Committee may vote to remove the individual.
4. Removal of the Regional Chairman or Regional Judging Coordinator may be effectuated by a two-thirds majority vote of the Rhythmic Program Professional Members of their Region or a two-thirds majority vote of the Rhythmic National Administrative Committee. Request for removal of a Regional officer should be directed to the Rhythmic National Administrative Committee Chairman.
5. Removal of a National Administrative Committee member, Rhythmic Program Committee member, International Elite Coaches Committee member, or, National Judges Representative can be effectuated by a two-thirds majority of the voting members of the committee on which they serve or a two-thirds majority vote of the Rhythmic Program Committee.

ARTICLE 17

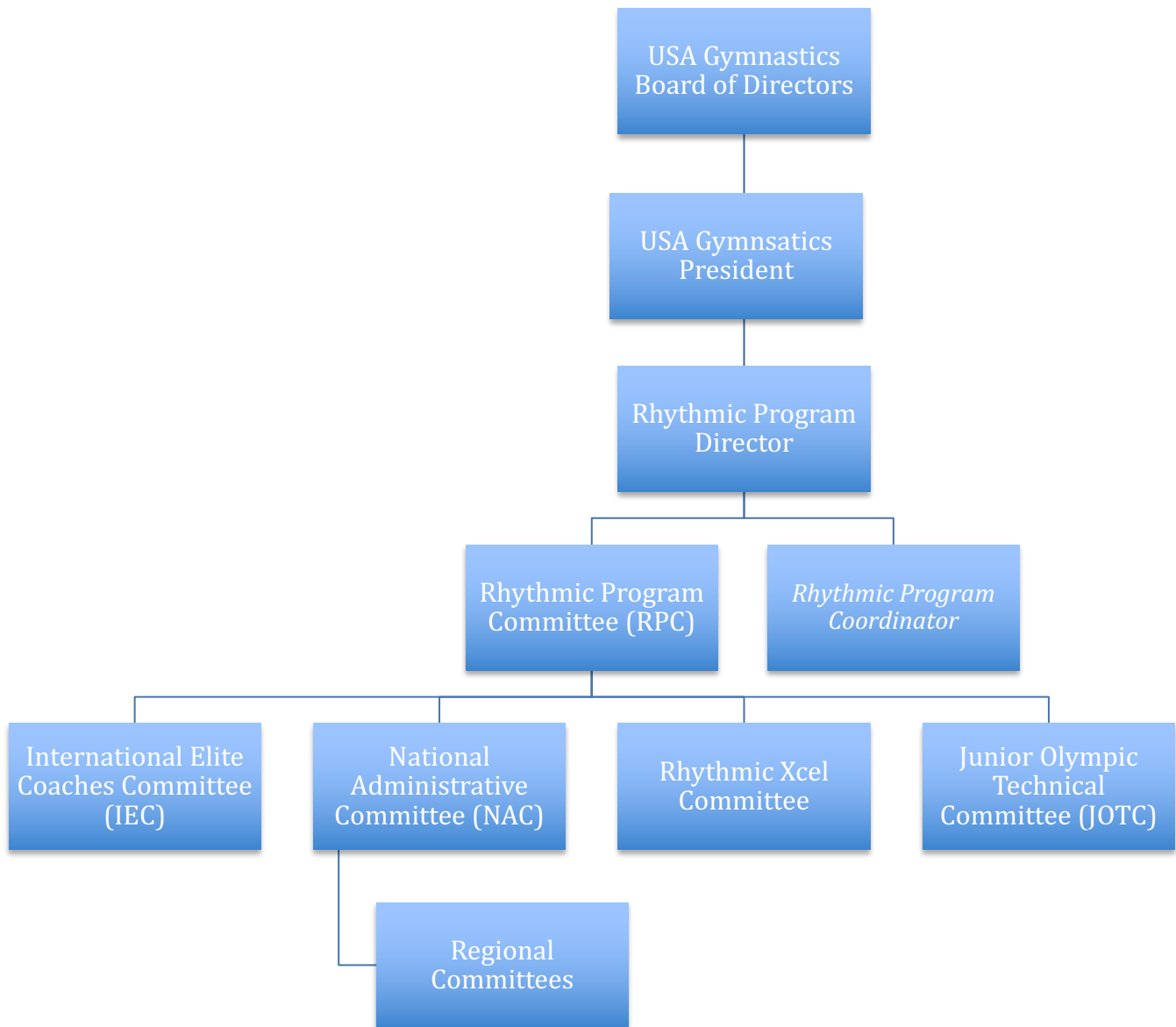
AMENDMENTS

OPERATING CODE – RHYTHMIC PROGRAM

This Operating Code may be amended at any meeting of the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Program Committee by two-thirds majority of members voting with approval from the USA Gymnastics President.

OPERATING CODE – RHYTHMIC PROGRAM

**RHYTHMIC PROGRAM
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



OPERATING CODE – RHYTHMIC PROGRAM

USA GYMNASTICS RHYTHMIC PROGRAM
ELECTION SEQUENCE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
2017	Spring/Summer At Nationals	Regional Chairs 1, 3, 5 IEC Chair
2018	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall Summer	All State Chairs IEC Chair NAC Chair Judges Representative
2019	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall	Regional Chairs 2, 4, 6 IEC Chair Zone Technical Reps to RAC
2020	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Summer/Fall	All State Chairs IEC Chair Rhythmic Representative to Board of Directors NAC Chair Zone Technical Reps to NAC Xcel Coach Representatives
2021	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Fall	Regional Chairs 1, 3, 5 IEC Chair Xcel Development Coordinator Zone Administrative Reps to NAC Regional Judging Coordinators
2022	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall Summer Summer/Fall	All State Chairs IEC Chair NAC Chair Judges Representative Xcel Coach Representatives
2023	Spring/Summer At Nationals	Regional Chairs 2, 4, 6 IEC Chair
2024	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Summer/Fall	All State Chairs IEC Chair Rhythmic Representative to Board of Directors NAC Chair Regional Judging Coordinators Xcel Coach Representatives Zone Technical Reps to NAC
2025	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Fall	Regional Chairs 1, 3, 5 IEC Chair Xcel Development Coordinator Zone Administrative Reps to NAC Regional Judging Coordinators

OPERATING CODE – RHYTHMIC PROGRAM

2026	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall Summer Summer/Fall	All State Chairs IEC Chair NAC Chair Judges Representative Xcel Coach Representatives
2027	Spring/Summer At Nationals	Regional Chairs 2, 4, 6 IEC Chair
2028	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Summer/Fall Summer/Fall	All State Chairs IEC Chair Rhythmic Representative to Board of Directors NAC Chair Regional Judging Coordinators Xcel Coach Representatives Zone Technical Reps to NAC
2029	Spring/Summer At Nationals Summer/Fall Summer/Fall	Regional Chairs 1, 3, 5 IEC Chair Xcel Development Coordinator Zone Administrative Reps to NAC