Trampoline and Tumbling Elite Committee Meeting

Elite Committee Chair                     Scott Lineberry (absent)
Elite Committee TRA Rep                   Nuno Merino
Elite Committee TUM Rep                   Chauncy Haydon
Elite Committee DMT Rep                   Amber Van Natta
Athlete Representative                    Michael Devine
National TUM Coach                        Becky Brown
National DMT Coach                         Chelsea Rainer
Program Committee Chair                   Patti Conner (acting EC Chair)

Meeting called to order by Patti Conner at 9:00pm on October 18th, 2019.

Elite Committee Meeting Agenda

1. Proposal for future Selection Procedures

A proposal was received regarding selection procedures for 2020 and beyond, including methodology and examples for a point-based system.

The committee expressed their appreciation for the work and thought that went into providing the proposal, and the need for ongoing dialogue on such subjects. An in-depth discussion regarding the philosophy behind selection procedures ensued, with focus on the current and proposed methodology.

The consensus among the committee was that the total score procedure (current method) has the benefits of:
- Consistently putting the correct athletes on the team over the past 2 years.
- Having the transparency that has been requested by the membership.
- Requiring both results (ranking) and consistency (2/3 competitions hit).
- Being clear and simple to justify (uses purely competition scores to rank).
- Having consistent rules across all three disciplines.

Concerns with a point system include:
- It is more difficult to justify (uses an arbitrary second calculation rather than published scores given by qualified judges).
- It doesn’t make a difference between large vs small gaps in scores between athletes.
- It is arguable as to why some competitions have higher point values, and how those values have been assigned.
- There is less emphasis on consistent results than the current method – an area we are working to improve on.
- Although this could work for trampoline, tumbling and double mini representatives felt that it would not fit well into their disciplines.
The committee liked the proposed idea of using approved (non-USAG representative) international competitions as an option for obtaining scores. The method of doing this while not advantaging wealthier athletes and gyms requires further discussion. This may be a good option for World Cup and other assignments that have traditionally depended on results from the full previous 12-months.

The committee discussed the idea of raising the minimum score requirement in all disciplines, as this has worked for tumbling and double mini.

The committee agreed on the three competition / two highest score method remains the preferred option for formal selection procedures.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm