



Trampoline and Tumbling Program Committee Meeting

Program Committee Chair	Patti Conner
Elite Committee Chair	Scott Lineberry
Technical Committee Chair	Deanna Hanford
JO Committee Chair	Chelsea Rainer
Athlete Representative	Alex Renkert
Athlete Representative	Michael Devine
Program Director	Jacqui Godfrey
Program Manager	Sydney Carlson
Programs Council member	Dian Nissen

Meeting called to order by Patti Conner in Des Moines, IA at 12:00pm CST on July 7th, 2019.

Program Committee Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Roll Call

2. Review Minutes

The committee reviewed the major Program Committee minutes from July 8th, 2018 and September 13th, 2018.

It was noted that Hans Nielsen was *interim* JO Committee Chair. Other than this, the committee agreed that the minutes were a true and complete record.

- **Motion: Chelsea**
- **Second: Scott**
- **Vote: unanimous**

3. Athlete Representative

The committee discussed the direction from USA Gymnastics (in line with the Deborah Daniels report), for the Selection Athlete Representative to be included in all selection, petition and discretionary processes. It was agreed that this should be the case.

Jacqui and Patti will update the R&P and present the changes to the September meeting for approval.

4. Mobility Season

The committee discussed how long mobility scores should be valid for. It was agreed that the current principle is correct, but the verbiage is confusing.

Jacqui and Patti will update the R&P and present the changes to the September meeting for approval.

The committee discussed what the consequences would be if an athlete competes in a level without their mobility being approved. The discussion was tabled for the September meeting.

The committee discussed the idea of having a Google Doc where approved mobilities are listed, for access by all Professional members. The discussion was tabled for the September meeting.

5. USA Gym Champs Petitions

The committee discussed the current USA Gym Champs petition process, and the letter of feedback received from the community. It was agreed that it would be reasonable to potentially allow athletes to miss their State/Regional meet for extenuating circumstances, but that they should not be allowed to skip that meet requirement altogether.

Motion to allow athletes with extenuating circumstances to petition to compete in another State or Region for the purposes of qualifying to USA Gym Champs or Stars & Stripes. The petition must be sent to the Regional Chair, and will be voted upon by the Regional Chair, Relevant Committee (JO or Elite) Chair and USA Gymnastics Athlete Representative.

- **Motion: Chelsea**
- **Second: Alex**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the R&P, including additional verbiage regarding the requirement to abide by the directives of the replacement competition, and present the changes to the September meeting for approval.

6. Increasing Athlete Numbers at Competitions

USA Gym Champs SYN numbers almost doubled from 2018. The committee discussed the issue that resulted with lack of warmup time, and possible solutions. It was noted that Elite Challenge has similar issues and should also be considered, although it may not have the same solution.

Possible solutions were suggested, and the committee members will take these to their committees for consideration and/or proposal of other ideas. Discussion was tabled for the September meeting.

7. 2020 Selection Procedures

The committee discussed the preferred method of determining Combined Score for international selections: preliminary vs total score. Using relevant historical data, it was agreed that preliminary scores give a better indication of international success, and this was the preferred method. It was discussed whether the method should be the same for all disciplines.

Jacqui proposed a combination procedure that would select the top athletes by either Preliminary Score or Total Score. It was agreed that this could be the best way of meeting both goals of choosing the athletes most likely to have success of making finals, and also of medaling. Selection of alternate under this method requires further thought. This principle could also be used for National Team selection. Jacqui will draft 2020 procedures with this in mind, for review and feedback.

The committee discussed the makeup of the selection committee. It was agreed that elected Elite Committee representatives should be on this committee, plus the Selection Athlete Representative, should be on this committee. Jacqui will draft a proposed updated committee outline and provide to the committee for discussion and voting at the September meeting.

The committee discussed the method for approving selection procedures. It was agreed that the following process should take place:

- Program Director drafts initial processes based on USA Gym and Program Committee direction
- Program Committee approves method, and Selection Committee reviews method
- Elite Committee provides specifics as required (e.g. scores)
- USA Gym has final approval

Motion to accept the above process for approving selection procedures.

- **Motion: Scott**
- **Second: Deanna**
- **Vote: unanimous**

It was agreed that the current system of using athletes' best two scores across three competitions was working well. For early 2020 events it was preferred that a mobility meet be designated as the third selection event rather than using WAGC and Worlds selection camp scores, as these events would exclude some eligible athletes.

8. USA Gym Champs Verification Process

The committee discussed the issue of time-consuming verification of entries to USA Gym Champs. State and Regional Chairs are required to undertake this process with in a very limited timeframe.

The committee agreed that to assist State and Regional Chairs to complete their verification more efficiently:

- The USA Gym Champs registration form will include a field for where an athlete qualified to Nationals.
- Meets will be requested to fill out an excel template with results and submit to the State and Regional Chairs after the competition.

Patti will put together the template and provide that tool to State and Regional Chairs at Congress.

9. Elite Committee Items

9.1. Elite Mobility

The committee discussed the process for applying for elite mobility meets. It was agreed the current system was working well, but meets should be required to have contracted judges before applying to have their meet sanctioned, and include the contracts in their application. This will reduce the risk of judges pulling out and leaving the meet with underqualified panels.

Sydney will updated the mobility competition application form accordingly.

9.2. Sr. Elite qualification to the Arena at USA Gym Champs

Due to increasing numbers of athletes qualifying to the Senior Elite arena session at USA Gym Champs, USA Gymnastics has asked T&T to consider ways of capping athletes to this session. Options may include:

1. Max number of competitors
2. Qualification score
3. Additional arena sessions prior to the premier session

It was noted that the proposed changes to the 2021-2024 FIG CoP may present other changes and challenges to the current format. We need to be mindful of this and plan for U.S. competitions as we move towards the new quad. Patti and Jacqui will talk to Jeff to discuss potential competition formats using the FIG's proposed "heats".

The committee members will take back the proposed solutions to their committees for consideration and/or proposal of other ideas. Discussion was tabled for the September meeting.

9.3. Club of the year update

Despite a big effort by the Elite Committee, there has been no proposal received for Club of the Year calculation that meets the requirements of being simple to understand, objective, and easy to calculate, within our current structure.

Motion to eliminate the annual awards for Club of the Year and Developmental Club of Year.

- **Motion: Scott**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the R&P.

9.4. Mixed Age Group Synchro Pairs

The Elite Committee recommended to the Program Committee that rule 3.3 in the Elite Code of Points should be changed as follows:

Allowed Pairings

3.3.1 *Both athletes are of the same Elite Division.*

3.3.2 *One athlete is a Junior Elite and the other is an Open Elite. The pair will compete in the Open Elite Division.*

3.3.3 *One athlete is a Junior Elite and the other is a Senior Elite. The pair will compete in the Senior Elite Division.*

3.3.4 *One athlete is a Youth Elite and the other is a Junior Elite. The pair will compete in the Junior Elite Division.*

Motion to change the rule in the Elite Code of Points as above.

- **Motion: Scott**
- **Second: Deanna**
- **Vote: unanimous**

10. JO Committee Items

10.1. JO Mobility

The JO Committee recommended to the Program Committee that JO mobility be managed internally by gyms and coaches, rather than the current system of policing by the JO Chair. The responsibility would be on the gym to ensure their athletes compete at the correct and safe level.

Jacqui will check with USA Gym legal team if this is possible.

Motion that JO mobility up to Level 7->Level 8 be managed internally by gyms and coaches.

- **Motion: Deanna**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: unanimous**

A list of recommended mobility skills will be developed to guide coaches to make good mobility decisions. Once mobility skills are determined, Nuggets of Knowledge videos will be produced to illustrate they are important.

10.2. Qualification Process for USA Gym Champs

The committee discussed the pros and cons of the current qualification system. It was agreed that no changes would be made.

The committee was asked to define what “participate in State & Regionals” means. It was agreed that athletes are only required to participate in one discipline, not all of their disciplines. Saluting will fulfil this requirement.

Jacqui and Patti will update the R&P with this clarification.

10.3. Mobility Score Processes

The Program Committee discussed score processes for mobility meets. It was explained that because some mobility meets were at Elite sessions and others were at JO sessions, the scoring process used had varied throughout the season: some meets used the Elite scoring process (skill-by-skill) and others the total score scoring process. It was confirmed that the total score is unchanged regardless of which process is used.

Motion that for all levels and all meets, the Meet Director can choose to utilize either skill-by-skill or total score scoring processes.

- **Motion: Deanna**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Motion that for mobility purposes Level 10 judging panels must meet Elite panel requirements.

- **Motion: Chelsea**
- **Second: Deanna**
- **Vote: unanimous**

10.4. Time of Flight

It was agreed that ToF should be encouraged – the current strategy of including HD from lower levels is encouraging athletes to jump lower and is not separating the athletes. The committee was asked to consider options to encourage ToF without adding additional judges or ToF machine requirements to lower levels.

10.5. New Quad Routines

Chelsea updated the committee on the JO Committee’s progress on the new quad routines. The committee was offered the opportunity to test the proposed routines and provide feedback.

The proposed changes to the 2021-2024 FIG CoP were discussed, and the JO Committee was asked to consider possible rollout in JO levels, including the proposed Elite format of two optional routines with the best to count.

It was agreed that if there is a representative in attendance, the JO committee will run another round table at Stars & Stripes for community feedback on the new routines.

11. Technical Committee Items

11.1. Leggings

The Technical Committee proposed the following clarification to the attire rules:

Any length of skin-tight leg coverings (not including trampoline pants) of one solid color that matches a color found in the leotard, or black, or skin color may be worn. Leggings that have design patterns, images, words, or symbols larger than a 1” manufacturer’s logo are not acceptable.

Motion to approve the Technical Committee’s proposed clarification.

- **Motion: Deanna**
- **Second: Chelsea**

- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the CoP.

11.2. Athletes Tumbling at the Same Time in Different Directions

The Technical Committee proposed on the following clarification to the tumbling rules:

For training, warmup and competition, a tumbling pass must begin by performing the first element on the track traveling towards the landing zone. A tumbling pass that begins by performing the first element traveling towards the run-up end of the track will be interrupted and will receive a score of 0.0 for the pass.

Motion to approve the Technical Committee's proposed clarification.

- **Motion: Deanna**
- **Second: Scott**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the CoP with this clarification

11.3. Judges Pay scale

The Technical Committee recommended the following increased pay scale:

For all sanctioned competitions judges must be paid the following rates for HD, ToF, execution, difficulty and Chair of the Panel:

- *FIG judges: \$25*
- *Cat 1: \$20*

The committee recommended the following new pay scale:

For all sanctioned competitions judges must be paid the following rates for HD and ToF:

- *Cat 3: \$12*
- *Cat 2: \$14*

Deanna and Billie will provide data on potential cost increases based on 2018 Elite for and Region 3 Championships and provide to the committee. The discussion was tabled for the September meeting.

11.4. Equipment

The committee agreed that the rule regarding runup (*Competitors must start their run no further than the designated 33' run-up, otherwise a deduction may be applied for not meeting pass requirements*), should be amended as follows:

Competitors must start their run no further than the designated 33' run-up, otherwise an interruption will be called.

Motion to change the rule in the Code of Points and R&P as above.

- **Motion: Deanna**
- **Second: Alex**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the CoP and R&P.

11.5. Level 9 TUM and DMT Warmup

The committee agreed that Level 9 should receive two touches for all finals in TUM and DMT.

Motion to amend accordingly

- **Motion: Chelsea**

- **Second: Scott**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the CoP.

11.6. Level 9 and 10 SYN Tie-Breaker

It was agreed that the JO SYN tie-breaker rules should match the FIG rules:

In case of a tie, in points at any place in the Qualifying Round, the ranking will be determined by the following criteria:

- *The pair with the higher E score prevails*
- *The pair with the higher S score prevails*
- *The pair with the higher H score prevails*
- *If there is still a tie, the tie will not be broken.*

Motion to change the rule in the JO Code of Points as above.

- **Motion: Scott**
- **Second: Deanna**
- **Vote: unanimous**

11.7. Tumbling Floor

The Technical Committee proposed the clarification that the velcro strip connecting the tumbling floor to the landing zone should be considered half part of the tumbling floor and half part of the landing zone. The committee agreed that competition organizers should draw a ½" black line at the dividing point to make it clear for judges.

Motion that the velcro strip connecting the tumbling floor to the landing zone is considered part of the tumbling floor and part of the landing zone. A line should delineate the tumbling floor from the landing zone.

- **Motion: Alex**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the CoP.

11.8. Junior and Senior Judges Councils

Deanna provided details on how judges are selected for Senior and Junior judges councils, the selections made for the 2019-2020 councils, and the goals of the councils.

12. State Elections

Motion that current Judges and current clubs registered within that State can vote on their respective State Technical Representative (1 vote per judge and 1 vote per club).

- **Motion: Deanna**
- **Second: Scott**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui and Patti will update the R&P.

13. Elite Mobility Bids

The Elite mobility bid form will be updated to show changes from recent meetings, including:

- Required equipment specifications
- Scoring requirements
- Judging panel specifications

14. Rules & Policies and Code of Points updates

The Committee agreed to update the following items in the R&P and / or CoP

- Officially add Selection Committee as an official committee to the organizational structure.
- Add National Coaches to the Elite Committee as ex-officio members
- Clarify role of EC regarding selection procedures, as above.
- The athlete's official coach or gym must enter the athletes in all USA Gym sanctioned events (reasoning: only club administrators have access to register athletes to these competitions).

Motion to amend accordingly

- **Motion: Alex**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui to check with other disciplines as to whether the committee chairs have a vote.

15. T210 Annual Update Course

Beginning October, the T210 is likely to once again be mandatory for coaches and judges. The intent is to have the same course as for the judges, but a different exam (judges will still be required to gain 100% to pass, but coaches will be given the correct answer if they get the question wrong. The expected timeframe is to have this out in October and give coaches until January 1 to take the exam.

16. Other Business

15.1. Programs Council

The Programs council will be meeting at Congress. Scott asked for agenda items and recommendations the Programs Council can bring to the Board, and processes that T&T feels we do well that may translate to other programs.

15.2. EDP

The committee discussed EDP, and whether it is meeting the goals of the program.

15.3. Scoring Details

The committee agreed to review Patti's scoring details document which clarifies requirements at each level. Updates will be made per Program Committee motions made at this meeting. Once changes are approved by the Program Committee, this information will be posted on the website and as a member update.

15.4. Community Feedback

The committee reviewed the round table feedback from the February National Team training camp.

15.5. Task List

The committee reviewed the task list from the September 2018 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.