



## Trampoline and Tumbling Program Committee Meeting

Program Committee Chair	Patti Conner (also interim TC Chair)
Elite Committee Chair	Scott Lineberry (by phone)
Technical Committee Representative	Billie Willis
JO Committee Chair	Chelsea Rainer
Athlete Representative	Alex Renkert
Junior National Trampoline Coach	Steven Gluckstein
National Tumbling Coach	Sergio Galvez
Programs Council	Dian Nissen Ramirez
Program Director	Jacqui Godfrey
Program Manager	Natalie Adams

Meeting called to order by Patti Conner on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

### Program Committee Meeting Agenda

1. **Welcome**

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Appeal process**

There was discussion about the process for inquiries at meets. The current Jury of Inquiry rule is:

*At USA Gymnastics National events, the Jury of Inquiry will consist of:*

- *The Meet Referee*
- *A member from the Elite, Program, J.O. or Technical Committees*
- *A judge with the highest rank*

*At other USA Gymnastics sanctioned events, the Jury of Inquiry will consist of the Meet Referee and the two highest ranked judges free of conflict and not involved in the original call.*

**Motion to amend the R&P to state:**

- **For local / state / regional meets, the Jury of Appeal must include:**
  - **Meet Referee**
  - **A Chair of Judges Panel from a panel that not involved in the original decision**
  - **One other judge with the appropriate rating**

**All members of the Jury of Inquiry must be free of conflict of interest and not involved in the original call.**

- **For national meets, the Jury of Appeal must include three members, one of whom is the Meet Referee, plus two judges from the TC or the Senior Judges Council. All members of the Jury of Inquiry must be free of conflict of interest and not involved in the original call.**
- **Motion: Chelsea**
- **Second: Alex**
- **Vote: unanimous**

Currently slow motion is not allowed for appeals. It was agreed that slow motion would continue to not be used for appeals, in an effort to follow the FIG process.

Currently if the appeal video is not conclusive, the benefit goes to the gymnast.

**Motion that if the appeal video is not conclusive, the original judges' decision stands.**

- **Motion: Chelsea**
- **Second: Alex**
- **Vote: 3-1**

#### **4. Election procedures for TC Chair and TC members**

There was discussion about whether only judges should be electing the Technical Committee, as that committee primarily presides over the judges. Currently the R&P states:

- *Nominations are made by Professional Members in the Program.*
- *The TTC Chair will be elected by T&T professional members (1 vote per member).*
- *Members of the TTC are elected in the last year of the quad in an online vote by the Professional Members of the Program. One vote per member.*

**Motion to amend the R&P to state:**

- **Nominations for TC Chair are made by Professional Members with a current T&T judge's certification.**
- **The TC Chair will be elected by Professional Members with a current T&T judge's certification (1 vote per member).**
- **Motion: Patti**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: unanimous**

**Motion to amend the R&P to state:**

- **Nominations for TC members are made by Professional Members with a current T&T judge's certification.**
- **Members of the TC are elected in the last year of the quad in an online vote by Professional Members with a current T&T judge's certification (1 vote per member).**
- **Motion: Patti**
- **Second: Scott**
- **Vote: unanimous**

#### **5. Equipment**

The new/current FIG spec for matting length past the end decks is 13.1234 feet (400cm). Currently in the US the AAI matting used is 12'.

**Motion to adopt the FIG trampoline matting length and width requirements for Level 8-10, with mats strictly adhered together.**

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

Double Mini Additional Matting

The new/current FIG apparatus norms show a new floor mat (200cm x 100cm x 20cm) on each side of the double-mini.

**Motion to adopt the FIG double-mini trampoline matting requirements for Level 8-10.**

- **Motion: Patti**
- **Second: Chelsea**

- **Vote: unanimous**

Jacqui will contact AAI to advise them of these equipment changes, and the requirement for these to be used at 2018/19 meets.

## 6. **JO & Elite Synchronized Trampoline HD judges**

Currently in the US synchronized trampoline does not include HD, however internationally HD is a score component. It was discussed whether it would be advantageous to follow FIG scoring for synchronized trampoline.

**Motion to add two HD judges to judge JO and Elite synchronized trampoline (one per trampoline).**

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

## 7. **Rule making process**

There was discussion of the importance for the membership feel they have a voice to suggest rule changes, and ways that the Program Committee can help provide that voice. It was decided that the following initiatives would be started:

- Google document added to the website for members to contribute ideas, and those ideas regularly dispersed to the correct committees for discussion
- Opportunity at 2019 Congress for a round table discussion
- T&T tracks to be included at regional congresses

## 8. **Athlete requirement of participation (salute)**

It is agreed in principle that it is unreasonable to expect injured athletes to be in attendance and salute in order to maintain eligibility for National competitions, however in the past before this was a requirement, this was abused by athletes who were not actually injured, as a way of not having to travel to competitions. This is a concern for competition organizers, particularly at Regional level.

The Regional Chairs will be asked to vote on whether athletes should be able to submit medical documentation (rather than attend and salute) in order to maintain eligibility for National competitions. The majority vote will be implemented, and the R&P updated as necessary.

## 9. **T&T Club of the Year**

It was agreed that Club of the Year should be results-based rather than voted upon. There was discussion on how best to measure this. The committee agreed on the following principles:

- Based on clubs' overall results rather than one or two specific results.
- Designed to entice clubs to participate in all T&T disciplines.
- Calculation of the winner should be transparent reasonably non-labor-intensive.

The JO and Elite committees will work together to propose a results-based system of measuring Club of the Year.

Meeting adjourned for the day at 9:00pm.

Meeting called to order the following day at 9:10am.

## 10. **JO Recommendations**

### 10.1. **Competing Where Clubs are Located**

There was discussion on clubs asking to compete at the State or Regionals closest to where their club is located, rather than the State or Region to which they belong. As a general rule

across all disciplines, this is unlikely to be permitted unless there are very unusual circumstances.

10.2. Back Handspring Out of Full Twist

The JO committee has received concerns about safety issues in regard to athletes performing back handspring out of full twist. It was decided that education of coaches is needed more so than a rule change. Jared and Sergio will work together to provide an educational video and written resource of drills and progressions to help coaches teach this combination safely.

10.3. Requirements for Level 9&10 DMT Finals

There have been concerns expressed regarding the possibility of DMT athletes being able to win Level 9 and 10 with extremely easy routines, due to the fact that there are no requirements for Finals. This problem has not actually happened, but it is a possibility. It was decided that the rules would be left as is for the remainder of the cycle and reevaluated at that time.

10.4. T&T HUGS Evaluation

The T&T HUGS Program has now been in place for 1 year. The committee went through the HUGS proposed requirements and recommended changes. It was decided that Patti would approach Jenae Ashbrook (TC representative), Cindy Bickman, Jill Bosack, Mary Beth Chavarro, Bernie Rae, Trinity Van Natta and Becky Weathers to make a HUGS committee and report to the JO Committee. The goal for new rules publication is October 1. The committee will also discuss whether a modified DMT option could be added in future editions. Patti and the TC will discuss incorporating judges' education into existing courses. Jacqui will check how to be included in the Rhythmic Special Olympics website.

**11. Elite Committee**

11.1. Open Elite Division

The Elite Committee proposed keeping the Open Elite division as is, and using qualification criteria to ensure that mobility and national qualifying scores are sufficient to encourage completion of safe routines. The proposal was accepted.

11.2. Elite Qualification Process & Scores

**Motion to accept the Elite Qualification scores presented by the Elite Committee.**

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

11.3. Elite Mobility Process & Scores

**Motion to accept the Elite Mobility scores presented by the Elite Committee.**

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

11.4. New FIG Requirements for YE, JE, OE

The Elite Committee recommended that USA adopts the new FIG youth rules (in newsletter #24) for YE, JE and OE.

**Motion to adopt the new FIG youth rules for YE, JE and OE.**

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

11.5. 11-12 Age Group to WAGC

The Elite Committee recommends that the 11-12 age group no longer be taken to World Age Group Competitions, due to demonstrated logistical and Safe Sport-related challenges with having athletes of that age undertake major travel and competition.

**Motion that starting 2019, USA will send 13-14, 15-16 and 17-21 age groups to the World Age Group Competitions.**

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

11.6. International Competition Requests

Jacqui explained why athletes are not permitted to compete at international competitions when the U.S. national team is competing. This rule is in place across all disciplines.

It was requested that USA Gym look at providing opportunities for top DMT and TUM athletes to self-fund to attend additional World Cups. Jacqui will work with the relevant National Coaches on this.

11.7. Mentoring program

The Elite Committee would like to introduce a coaches mentoring program. There is currently a list of mentor clubs on the USA Gym website at <https://usagym.org/PDFs/T&T/mentorclubs.pdf>. Natalie will provide a list of Gym Champs coaches to the Elite Committee to identify people who are willing to mentor. A list of those people will be added to the website.

11.8. Database/statistics program

The Elite Committee would like to introduce a database/statistics program to track athlete injuries and progress trends and assist with program growth. Scott is working on this program and asked for suggestions of people who may like to help contribute. Neil Gulati was suggested – Scott will follow up on this.

**12. Education**

The Elite Committee has received feedback that more educational opportunities for coaches would be appreciated. It was agreed that video may be a good method to provide such education. The Program and Elite Committees will develop a list of topics to be covered and people to provide 1-3 minute “nuggets of knowledge”. Disclaimers would be included saying that these are merely personal philosophies on a subject. Natalie will speak to Education about the possibility of putting these videos onto You Tube. Lisa Gandy has been involved in this project and may be a person to coordinate it – Scott will approach her and the Elite Committee will provide support. The goal will be 10 short videos to start with.

Patti has created a list of resources that people can reach out to for live sessions at clinics etc. A link will be put up on the website and this will be promoted to the community. Patti will send the link to the Committee for feedback.

**13. Time Frame for Competitions**

It was agreed that it would be helpful to provide a timeframe for invitational, state and Regional championships to provide clarity for the membership.

Currently each region is recommended to host their annual Regional Championships a minimum of 30 days before the USA Gymnastics Championships.

The R&P will be amended to state:

- It is recommended that invitationals not be held in April or May, due to the State and Regional Championship and Elite Challenge season.

- Regional Championships must be held between State Championships and Elite Challenge. Dates must be approved by the Program Director.
- State Championships must be held prior to Regional Championships. Dates must be approved by the Regional Chair.

#### 14. Stars & Stripes

There were discussions about whether Level 8 is best placed at USA Gym Champs or Stars & Stripes. It was clarified that Level 8 will remain with USA Gym Champs.

The committee agreed to retain the current qualification process to Stars & Stripes. The Grand March was well-received and will be repeated, with 2019 to include a theme. The committee agreed that flight awards would be retained in 2019. Medals will be considered if they are cheaper than ribbons.

#### 15. Calendar

Jacqui provided progress on the 2019 calendar, with updates to be released once details are finalized.

#### 16. Selection Procedures

It was agreed that selection procedures continue to be based on objective and ranking-based measures, similar to 2018. Jacqui presented draft selection procedures for World Championships, World Age Group Competitions, Olympic Games and World Cups. The committee will provide feedback on Olympic Games and World Cups in the next week, and provided the following direction on World Championships and World Age Group Competitions:

World Championships:

- Elite Committee to nominate qualification scores by the end of next week, no lower than the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile at the 2018 World Championships. As 2018 WC DMT Head Coach, Chelsea Rainer will assist with the nomination of DMT scores due to the absence of a current National Coach.
- Add a clause in regarding allowing discretionary measures to select a third person to make a team, if only 2 athletes qualify.
- It was noted that due to the limitations of room nights at the Lake Placid OTC, only 2019 National Team members would be assured beds and a meal plan onsite, however others would be provided external accommodation and meal plan options.

World Age Group Competitions:

- Elite Committee to nominate qualification scores by the end of next week, no lower than the 66<sup>th</sup> percentile at the 2018 World Age Group Competitions. As 2018 WC DMT Head Coach, Chelsea Rainer will assist with the nomination of DMT scores due to the absence of a current National Coach.
- The top 8 athletes using the best 2 of 3 competitions should be invited to attend selection camp, to provide a cap on numbers for planning purposes.

#### 17. TC Recommendations

##### 17.1. HD scores

Currently if the HD judge misses a routine, the Chair is required to provide the score. This is not always possible due to the Chair having multiple roles to perform.

**Motion to amend the CoP to state: If the HD judge misses a routine, the Chair will determine one of the following:**

- **Use video, if one is available for review**
- **Allow the athlete a second attempt**
- **The Chair will provide the score**

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

## 17.2. New FIG Tie Breaker Rules

### **Motion to adopt the FIG tie-breaker rules for JO and Elite levels.**

- **Motion: Scott**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: 3-1**

Patti will contact ProScore to advise them of this change and the requirement for this to be used at 2018/19 meets.

## 17.3. Competition Cards

Patti presented draft 2018-19 competition cards for review. Small changes were agreed upon and these will be updated on the website.

## 17.4. Horizontal Displacement

The committee was updated on the new way for HD to be considered by FIG (using center of body mass as the deciding factor). This information will be included in the T210.

## 17.5. New Scoring System

Judges will be reminded that they all need to flash Difficulty scores. Feedback was received on the need to display individual scores at USA Gym Champs and Stars & Stripes. Jacqui will talk to Matt Browne about getting an additional helper to be planned to assist the scoring role.

Dante Hebert joined the meeting as a guest.

## 17.6. Numbers of Judges for JO Levels

There was discussion about the current system for dealing with out-of-range E-scores. Currently the Chair can decide on the final E score, between the two judges' scores. It was proposed that adding an additional E judge would minimize this issue. Jacqui and Patti will look at data and compare how 2 judges vs 3 judges would impact rankings. Depending on the outcome, a final decision will be discussed.

Dante left the meeting.

### **Motion to use a range of 0.3 from the median score for out-of-range scores for Trampoline, when three E judges are utilized and the scoring process uses a total E score rather than skill by skill deductions.**

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

## 17.7. Scoring System

It was agreed that scoring methods be made consistent across all three disciplines. This was the original intention, however there were some inconsistencies identified in the 2018 season.

To calculate E score when using skill by skill deduction to achieve the total score for each E judge, the high and low scores should be dropped for each skill, and the middle deduction multiplied by the appropriate factor. This method is currently used for Trampoline but not for DMT or Tumbling.

To calculate synchro E score, the scores should be based on 4 E judges (2 judges tramp 1 & 2 judges tramp 2). The high and low scores should be dropped, and the middle two scores averaged (total 10 points). This method is currently used for Elite but not for JO Levels.

### **Motion to use the FIG scoring process of dropping the high and low deduction across the three disciplines when utilizing an individual skill scoring program.**

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

**Motion to use the Elite synchro scoring process of dropping the high and low score and averaging the middle two scores.**

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

Patti will contact ProScore to advise them of these changes and the requirement for this to be used at 2018/19 meets.

#### 17.8. Judges Pay Raise

The committee considered whether the judges pay rates be increased. It was decided that this would be left up to the States and Regions to determine.

### 18. Code of Points Updates & Changes

18.1. The Technical Committee presented their recommended changes to the JO Code of Points, and the Committee discussed these.

**Motion to accept changes to the JO Code of Points as presented by the Technical Committee.**

- **Motion: Patti**
- **Second: Alex**
- **Vote: 3-1 (Noted that the vote against was specifically regarding the ability to choose to wear shorts – all other changes were agreed with).**

18.2. The Technical Committee presented their recommended changes to the Elite Code of Points, and the Committee discussed these.

**Motion to accept changes to the Elite Code of Points as presented by the Technical Committee.**

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

### 19. Elite Mobility Panels

Currently Trampoline Elite mobility panels require 2 FIG E judges, and Cat 2 for HD and ToF. It was agreed that to enable mobility competitions to run efficiently, 1 FIG E judge would be required, and HD and ToF judges can be any category.

**Motion to relax the judging requirements for Elite mobility panels, to be effective for the 2018-19 season.**

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

It was agreed that beginning in 2019, applications for mobility competitions will be approved on a 1<sup>st</sup>-come-first-served basis, so long as the required number of judges were available and contracted. Jacqui will create a standard judges contract, and Natalie will create a new mobility meet application form, with both to be posted on the website.

### 20. R&P Changes

The Committee discussed the recommended changes to the R&P.



**Motion to accept changes to Section 1 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 2 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 3 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 4 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 5 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 6 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 7 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 8 of the R&P as presented.**

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

**Motion to accept changes to Section 9 of the R&P as presented.**

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

These changes will be made, and Nuno and Amber will be asked to read through the full R&P as a final editing check.

**21. JO Code of Points**

Natalie presented information on progress with the e-book and hard copy Code of Points. These are on track to be updated and available in the short-term.

**22. Understanding Difficulty project**

Patti presented information on progress with the understanding difficulty course. This will be available for purchase, and viewable online.

Meeting adjourned for the day at 6:30pm.

Meeting called to order the following day at 9:10am.

### 23. Warmup

There was discussion about the current warmup processes. There have been a few issues and some confusion experienced throughout the 2017-18 competition season. The following warmup details were agreed upon:

If a general training or session warm-up is offered and there is no comparable equipment provided in an adjacent facility for warm up, the following flight warm-up will be provided:

	<b>Trampoline – IND</b>	<b>Trampoline – SYN</b>	<b>Tumbling</b>	<b>Double-mini Trampoline</b>
Level 1-4	2 touches	N/A	2 touches	2 touches
Level 5-7	2 touches	N/A	2 touches	2 touches
Level 8	2 touches	N/A	3 touches	3 touches
Level 9-10	2 touches	1 touch	3 touches	3 touches
YE, JR, O, SR	2 touches	2 touches	3 touches	3 touches

If NO general training or session warm-up is offered and there is no comparable equipment provided in an adjacent facility for warm up, the following flight warm-up will be provided:

	<b>Trampoline – IND</b>	<b>Trampoline – SYN</b>	<b>Tumbling</b>	<b>Double-mini Trampoline</b>
Level 1-4	2 touches	N/A	2 touches	2 touches
Level 5-7	2 touches	N/A	2 touches	2 touches
Level 8	3 touches	N/A	4 touches	4 touches
Level 9-10	3 touches	1 touch	4 touches	4 touches
YE, JR, O, SR	3 touches	2 touches	4 touches	4 touches

If a general training or session warm-up is offered and there is comparable equipment provided in an adjacent facility for warm up, the following flight warm-up will be provided:

	<b>Trampoline – IND</b>	<b>Trampoline – SYN</b>	<b>Tumbling</b>	<b>Double-mini Trampoline</b>
YE, JR, O, SR	1 touch	1 touch	2 touches	2 touches

For USA Gymnastics Championships, a session warm-up will be scheduled for all Levels.

Definitions:

- General training: provided in the days prior to competition
- Session warm-up: provided immediately prior to a session of competition (minimum 50 minutes plus minimum 15 minutes stretch time).
- Flight warm-up: provided immediately prior to each flight of competition
- Session: may not be longer than 3 hours, excluding any session warm-up.

**Motion to amend the CoP to show the agreed warmup procedures as above.**

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

**24. T210**

Patti presented the points to be included in the new T210 course. Patti will put the PowerPoint together in the next week, and committee members should also provide any feedback in this time.

Meeting adjourned on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00pm,