

Jr. Olympic Committee Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2007 Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH

The JO Committee met during the lunch break and from 10:30 – 11:40 PM.

I. ROLL CALL

Region 1	Dan Witenstein
Region 2	Laurie Reid
Region 3	Cheryl Jarrett
Region 4	Don Houlton
Region 5	John Geddert
Region 6	Larry Goldsmith
Region 7	Linda Johnson
Region 8	Paul Padron
JOCC	Tom Koll
JO Program Manager	Connie Maloney

II. 20 cm MATS

Currently 20 cm mats are allowed, but not required. At JO Nationals, only Vault uses a 20-cm. mat. A requirement to use 20 cm mats for competition would present an additional shipping cost for meet hosts. No action was taken at this time.

III. Regional All-Star team and meet concept Regions 2, 5, 7 and 8 have sent athletes to foreign countries. Region 7 sent a team to the Cancun Classic in early January of 2007 and asked if any other region would be interested in attending to provide a Regional competition component (separate session) to the Classic. John Geddert encouraged the regions that have not done this yet to organize this type of experience for their athletes. It provides additional incentives and international experiences for many athletes who will never have an opportunity to represent the US on a National Team.

IV. Mandate Scores

Committee discussed the problems experienced by many states due to no mandate scores, however no action was taken. It was recommended that the State Chairmen's workshop provide guidance to those States that need assistance. Many states have initiated programs to provide even first-year athletes an opportunity to be competitive. The chairs of these states are requested to share these procedures.

V. EQUIPMENT CONCERNS

Recommendation to the National office that the R & P reflect the requirement of padding the upright of the vault table and of covering any weights placed on the vault base for stability.

Motion: J. Geddert

Second: D. Witenstein

PASSED

VI. Late arrival of athletes to competitions

Recommendation that, if a gymnast arrives late to a competition due to circumstances out of her control (traffic delay, weather-related), every effort should be made to allow the athlete to compete. She should be provided a safe and effective warm-up without upsetting the flow of the ongoing event. Provided that she has arrived for her designated session/age group, her scores will be valid for all individual and team rankings.

Motion: J. Geddert

Second: L. Goldsmith

PASSED

VII. COMPULSORY EXERCISES

Recommendation to make the following changes in the Compulsory Floor Exercises:

Level 1 FX: Replace the bridge with a crab stand

Level 2 FX: Replace the arch back with a Hinge back

Level 3 FX: Replace the backbend from a stand, kickover with a push up to bridge, kick-over

Motion: C. Jarrett

Second: L. Johnson

PASSED

Revised text and illustrations will be posted on the web site.

VIII. Level 9 East/West Championships

Recommendation that if an athlete who has qualified to East/West Championships as a Regional Team member is injured prior to the competition but is able to compete in 3 or fewer events, the first alternate from that region will replace the injured athlete on the Regional Team and the injured athlete will compete as an individual.

Motion: L. Johnson

Second: P. Padron

PASSED

IX. The committee discussed and selected a JO Coach of the Year. This award will be presented at USA Championships.

XI. JO Nationals

Connie presented an idea to allow more Level 10's a National competitive experience by initiating a Jr. Olympic NIT (National Invitational Tournament) in conjunction with JO Nationals. The committee was receptive to the idea, which would give incentive to the Level 10's who are in the larger regions. Connie will work on some ideas for the number of athletes and the qualification procedures and will send them to the committee.

XII. Review of East/West Team format

The response was predominantly positive in regards to the Regional Team concept. It was decided to maintain the new format and review again after the 2009 event.

XIII. Calendar

Several regions have expressed concern regarding the scheduling of the 2008 Level 9/10 Regionals on April 18-20, the same weekend that Passover begins (April 20). The options currently are to either have the 9/10 Regional meet one week earlier on April 11-13 (4 weeks prior to East/West and 5 weeks prior to JO Nationals) or to have all the regions hold Level 10 Regionals the weekend of April 25-26 (3 wks prior to Nationals).

Note: The decision was made to allow the regions to hold the Level 9/10 Regional meet on the following weekend of April 25-26, with the condition that all results for Level 9 competition be sent immediately to Connie and apparel sizing be sent overnight to GK Elite Sportswear.

Proposed dates for Championship meets:

Event	2008	2009	2010
L. 9/10 State Meets	March 29-30 or April 5-6	March 21-22 or March 28-29	March 20-21 or March 27-28
L. 9/10 Regionals	April 18-20 or April 25-27	April 17-19	April 16-18
L. 10 only Regionals	April 25-27	April 25-26	April 24-25
L. 9 East/West	May 8-11	May 7-10	May 6-9
L. 10 JO Nationals	May 16-18	May 15-17	May 14-16

XIV. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 PM. Next meeting is scheduled to follow the 2008 JO Nationals in Kissimmee, Florida.