

Women's Joint Jr. Olympic and Technical Committee Meeting

May 1, 2006

Courtyard Marriott Hotel

Oklahoma City, Okla.

I. ROLL CALL

J. O and Technical Committee Chairmen Tom Koll and Cheryl Hamilton, respectively, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

	J. O. Comm.	Technical Comm.
Region 1	Dan Witenstein	Julie Bowse
Region 2	Laurie Reid	Linda Mulvihill
Region 3	Cheryl Jarrett	Carole Bunge
Region 4	Don Houlton	Linda Thorberg
Region 5	John Geddert	Char Christensen
Region 6	Larry Goldsmith	Pat Panichas
Region 7	Linda Johnson	Myra Effenbein
Region 8	Paul Padron	Marian Dykes
Asst. Tech. Comm. Chair		Audrey Schweyer
NCAA liaison	Mark Cook	
JO Program Manager	Connie Maloney	
VP of Program	Kathy Kelly	
NAWGJ	Carole Ide	(afternoon)

II. ELITE SPORTSWEAR/GK REPORT

President Sallie Weaver asked for any constructive criticism of the apparel provided to the JO National athletes, and also for any suggestions in regards to the placing of orders at the Regional meets. The committee thanked GK for once again making the athletes feel special by outfitting them with beautiful leotards and warm-up uniforms.

Sallie also asked about the apparel for alternates. The committee requested that we continue the same procedures as we have currently; that is, GK will provide apparel for the first alternate only. First alternates that are present at the competition may pick up the apparel and be with the team on the competition floor. If the first alternate is not present at the competition, GK will use that apparel for any problems with sizing for the competitors and will later send the 1st alternates' full apparel to Connie Maloney at the National office for distribution. Second alternates will not be provided apparel unless an injury to one of the 7 qualifiers causes the first alternate to be added to the meet and the 2nd alternate moves into the first alternate slot. If the 2nd alternate moves into the 1st alternate slot after GK has shipped the apparel to the meet site, they will not be able to supply the apparel, even if this individual attends the meet.

The committee discussed the idea that was previously approved that the regions have the same color scheme for four years. There was discussion on whether a two year time frame would be better. This issue will be brought to the Administrative Committee meeting at National Congress.

III. NCAA report

Mark Cook reported that the collegiate season went well in regards to the judging assignment system. A few concerns regarding the evaluation process included:

- Direct connections on beam
- Concern about athletes performing back tucks instead of layouts
- Considering using lines for distance and direction on vault
- More judges' education for the collegiate program

Mark was informed that the joint committee was going to address some of the same concerns at this meeting

Kathy Kelly asked Mark about the possibility of USA Gymnastics conducting a Future Collegiate Gymnast Showcase on the Friday evening after the JO Nationals training. The JO coaches are requesting that USAG offer this to allow the alternates and other High School Juniors and unsigned Seniors an opportunity to be seen by the collegiate coaches, as well as be present at the JO Nationals to support their teammates. This would also reduce

the travel time for the coaches, as they would not need to travel to another meet on another weekend. It would also allow for more flexibility in travel plans for clubs with high school Juniors and Seniors, since they know how many airline tickets to book, etc., regardless if their gymnasts qualified to Nationals.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Kathy Kelly reported that the National Administrative Committee held an unofficial meeting at JO Nationals since seven of the nine members were present in Oklahoma City. The committee members are preparing for the revisions to the Women's Rules and Policies. The RACC's requested that their annual meeting be conducted at JO Nationals and another at the State Chair Workshop.

V. PRE-ELITE COMMITTEE REPORT

Kathy Kelly reported that the new "Hopes" division has been implemented as a bridge between the Talent Opportunity Program (TOP) and Pre-Elite. Information can be obtained by calling your Regional Pre-elite Committee Chairman or by checking the TOP page on the USAG website (www.usa-gymnastics.org/women/tops/hopes)

VI. RULES & POLICIES

Inappropriate Attire: Reminder that only one pair of stud earrings (one per ear) is allowed. No change to the present rules was recommended at this time.

Page 13 Change wording under II. Gymnast is obligated to: J. Be well groomed in her appearance:

#3. No jewelry, with the exception of one pair of stud earrings (one in each ear).

Page 21, bullet at top of page:

Recommendation to change the wording to: If due to religious reasons or valid extenuating circumstances, a gymnast is unable to compete with her designated age group, she may compete on another day (or in another session) with the approval of the SACC. She will not be eligible for ANY awards. Her score may be used for qualification (if qualification is by score, not placement or percentage) to the next meet or for mobility purposes. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Bunge

Second: L. Thorberg

PASSED

Page 26, D. State Championships, #5

Recommendation to change the wording to include Level 8 for direct entry into the state meet based upon the previous year's Regional score. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: J. Bowse

Second: D. Witenstein

PASSED

Page 44, J. 1.b Inquiry Regulations

Recommendation to add the "flat" (not "up to") specific compositional deductions to the list of items upon which an inquiry can be based. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Jarrett

Second: L. Johnson

PASSED

Page 38, Meet Format & Chart

Recommendation to add the following for Levels 1-3:

Open warm-up of 15-30 minutes.

Maximum of 30 second timed warm-up (the meet format must be published in the meet information)

Considering the ages of the athletes at these levels, it is recommended that the session be no longer than 2½ hours in length, including warm-up time. Effective August 1, 2006:

Motion: P. Padron

Second: M. Dykes

PASSED

GENERAL PROCEDURES & DEDUCTIONS FOR COMPULSORY & OPTIONAL COMPETITION

VII. SIGNALS, VERBAL CUES FOR COMPULSORY AND OPTIONAL COMPETITION

Recommendation that, if the gymnast is competing on the apparatus and the coach instructs her by giving specific information on what to do during the routine (for example – what comes next in the routine or to repeat a missed requirement), the deduction of 0.20 is taken from the average without warning.

Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: M. Dykes

Second: D. Houlton

PASSED

VIII. TIME FRAME FOR CHANGING A SCORE

Recommendation that once the final average score is submitted to the scoring system, it may not be changed unless an inquiry results in a score change. Inquiries must be submitted within 5 minutes of the end of the rotation. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Christensen

Second: L. Reid

PASSED

IX. TIMING OF TOUCH WARM-UPS

JO Code of Points: Page 7, 5a), 3rd bullet -The timer ideally should be a rated official. If not, an official should oversee the timing of touch warm-ups. If the gymnast is preparing for a skill or a dismount when time is called, she may continue to finish the skill and/or dismount without penalty. If a gymnast fails to leave the apparatus after "time" has been called, the Chief judge must warn the gymnast by announcing "Time exceeded". If the gymnast remains on the apparatus, the Chief Judge deducts 0.20 from the average score.

For JO Nationals, the format for warm-ups will be addressed at the coaches meeting. No warm-ups are allowed between competitors on Floor Exercise.

X. SCORE REVIEW AT SECTIONAL AND STATE MEETS

Recommendation that if, after completion of the last event, an athlete's AA score is 0.10 or less than the qualifying score to the State (or Regional) Championships, the coach may submit an inquiry for the gymnast's lowest scoring event (i.e., the coach may inquire on the first event score at the end of the competition) in order that the athlete be considered for qualification purposes. Any change of score is official and would be included in the official results.

This process does not apply

- **for mobility purposes, or**
- **if qualification to the state or regional meet is by percentage or designated number per age group.**

Motion: L. Johnson

Second: M. Elfenbein

PASSED

A member requested a roll call vote:

In favor: A. Schweyer, J. Bowse, D. Witenstein, L. Mulvihill, L. Reid, L. Thorberg, D. Houlton, C. Christensen, P. Panichas, M. Elfenbein, L. Johnson, M. Dykes, P. Padron

Opposed: T. Koll, C. Bunge, C. Jarrett, L. Goldsmith

XI. UNEVEN BARS FALL TIME FOR COMPULSORY & OPTIONAL COMPETITION

Recommendation to increase the fall time on bars to 45 seconds. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: P. Padron

Second: M. Dykes

PASSED

XII. WARM-UPS ON FLOOR EXERCISE

Depending upon the specific format used for the competition, there are a variety of ways to conduct the floor exercise warm-ups (either timed or touch warm-ups). In situations in which the athletes warm-up between routines, there may be times, especially with compulsory competition, that there is not adequate time "between" routines to allow for adequate warm-up. The committee requested that a statement be added to the *Rules and Policies* which recommends that if the coach feels that the athletes have not had adequate warm-up time between routines, he/she can request of the Chief Judge to either have a short block of time for a squad or partial squad of gymnasts to warm-up, or for the judges to slow down to allow for up to 30 second between exercises, especially for Levels 4 and below.

COMPULSORY CONCERNS

XIII. JUDGES FEE SCALE FOR LEVELS 1-3 COMPETITIONS

Recommendation that the hourly judging fee for a professional member who is not a rated official and is assigned to judge a sanctioned Level 1-3 competition may be negotiated by the meet director. The negotiated fee may not exceed the hourly rate for a Level 5/6 judge. If the State Administrative Committee organizes a statewide Level 1-3 competitive program, the State Administrative committee may designate an hourly rate for a non-rated professional member to maintain consistency. Effective August 1, 2006

Motion: C. Jarrett

Second: L. Goldsmith

PASSED

XIV. LEVEL 4 VAULT

Recommendation to allow an unfolded panel mat to be placed on top of the uppermost surface of the mat stack/resi-pit surface if necessary to provide a more stable landing surface. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: J. Geddert

Second: C. Christensen

PASSED

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XV. COMPULSORY BARS

Level 4 Bars - Front hip circle to immediate small cast

Clarification: If the gymnast finishes in a position that will not allow her to cast immediately, the 0.30 deduction for failure to execute a small cast immediately after front hips circle is applied. The gymnast is not required to perform the small cast at this point since she has already lost the opportunity to perform the cast immediately. If the gymnast does perform the cast, there is no deduction for extra swing.

Levels 1-4 Bars - Pullover Mount:

Recommendation to apply a 0.30 deduction for supplementary support if the gymnast pulls up to the bar and rests the chin on the top of the bar prior to pulling the hips over the bar. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Christensen

Second: M. Dykes

PASSED

Level 4 Bars: Clarification of the deduction for Springboard on unauthorized surface after the mount 0.30

Level 4 must remove the mounting apparatus (board or mat) immediately after the jump to glide.

Level 1-5 Back Hip Circle:

Recommendation for Levels 1-5 Bars to change the deduction for "failure to maintain hip or upper thigh contact on bar throughout back hip circle" from flat 0.20 to "Up to 0.20". Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Bunge

Second: L. Thorberg

PASSED

XVI. COMPULSORY BEAM

Recommendation to add a ½ (180°) pivot turn following the Scale in the Level 5 beam routine. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: P. Panichas
 Second: L. Goldsmith
 PASSED

Note: Page 99 of the Compulsory book will be revised and posted on the web site, under Women's Program, also under the Judges' page and the JO page.

Compulsory Beam time limit: The committees discussed correspondence requesting that 10 seconds be added to the time limit for the Level 4, 5, and 6 beam routines. The choreographers expressed that once the coaches become more familiar with the desired rhythm of the exercise, the gymnasts will be able to complete the routine within the prescribed time limit. The committee will follow up with a video of a gymnast performing the exercise with proper rhythm and data will be collected regarding the average times for each level. No action was taken at this time.

XVI. COMPULSORY FLOOR EXERCISE

Recommendation to add a 0.30 deduction for a stop between elements in an acro series in a Compulsory Floor Exercise. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Johnson
 Second: D. Houlton
 PASSED

OPTIONAL CONCERNS

XVIII. REGIONAL COMPETITIONS:

The committee discussed problems with regional meets in terms of formats, numbers, etc. Connie emphasized that these meets are under the direction of the RAC and that the meet director must follow the guidelines set forth by the RAC. In order to insure that the meet director understands his or her responsibilities, the RAC should provide the meet director with specific format information in the form of a contract or regional meet handbook. It was stated that Region 8 has used this method in the past and Connie will ask Deb Kornegay to share it with other the regions so they can adapt it to their specific meets.

XIX. GENERAL EXECUTION DEDUCTIONS

Clarification regarding "Failure to land on the feet first" on vault, on UB and BB dismounts, and on acro elements on Beam and Floor:

If the gymnast lands on her hands and soles of feet simultaneously, a deduction of 0.5 for the fall is applied.

- Vault will be scored.
- Value part is awarded.

Recommendation to make the following changes in the *JO Code of Points* for Optional competition. Effective August 1, 2006.

Under "Landing deductions for all elements and vaults":

Add to large faults: "Brushes/touches the landing surface with one or both hands (no support) "Up to 0.30"

Under Very Large Faults on pages 15, 25, 67, 146, and 242: Change the wording to "Fall on mat to knee(s) or hips"

Motion: L. Mulvihill
 Second: L. Goldsmith
 PASSED

XX. ADDITIONS TO JR. OLYMPIC CODE OF POINTS

The committee requested that the following items be added to the *JO Code*:

- Illustrations of jumps/leaps included in the Technique section of the old *FIG Code of Points*
- Embellishments of the descriptions of routine content listed under Composition, as described in the old FIG Code.
- Correct technique of the sissone, switch ring, and Yang Bo leap.
- Description of the difference between a sissone and a split jump.

XXI. ELEMENT VALUES

Recommendation to add the following new elements performed at the 2006 JO Nationals to the Jr. Olympic Code of Points, effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Reid

Second: J. Bowse

PASSED

Event & #	Description	Value
Vault:		
#2.311	Front handspring onto board, front handspring on, salto forward piked off (Garbarino)	9.9
Bars:		
#3.502	Clear hip circle on HB through HS, to reverse hecht in pike position (Piked Hindorff) (Jones)	E
Beam		
2.301	Split jump with a change of legs (beat/entre chat quatre) prior to split position, landing on both feet simultaneously to finish in a kneeling position on one leg (Sweetin), also to a stand on both feet	C
2.505	Switch-side leap with additional $\frac{3}{4}$ turn (Ikoma)	E
7.402	From stand on one leg, swing through front aerial (George)	D
7.410	Flic-flac with $\frac{1}{4}$ twist to side handstand to immediate 1/1 pirouette (must be continuous)-lower to front support (Fortunato), also to optional end position.	D
8.402	From stand on one leg, swing through side salto (George)	D
9.303	Cartwheel with $\frac{1}{4}$ twist with repulsion from hands to a salto backward tucked dismount (Tsukahara tucked dismount) (Lawson)	C

Other element value changes:

Bars:

Recommendation to change the value of #2.403 Back uprise with $\frac{1}{2}$ turn in handstand from D to C #2.303. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: D. Witenstein

Second: M. Dykes

PASSED (11 in favor, 7 opposed)

Recommendation to change the value of #3.507 Weiler kip to handstand with 1/1 turn after handstand (Healey) from E to D (#3.407) to remain consistent with the policy that the Healey turn does not raise the value of the core element. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: D. Witenstein

Second: C. Bunge

PASSED

Recommendation to lower the value of #5.408-Jaeger from LB to HB (D) to "C" – new #5.305. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Bunge

Second: C. Christensen

PASSED

Recommendation to raise the value of a #4.204 (long swing forward with $\frac{1}{2}$ turn and flight over LB to hang on LB) to a "C" whenever it is performed immediately following a D or E release element. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Reid

Second: C. Jarrett

PASSED

Beam:

Recommendation to renumber #2.202 split jump to #2.201 so that all split jumps and split leaps are in same line in the JO Code of Points. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Mulvihill

Second: L. Reid
PASSED

Recommendation to raise the value of Beam element #7.303 - Side aerial (C) to D – new #7.403. Effective August 1, 2006.

Note: Because this element is now a D, it will no longer be allowed for Level 8.

Motion: P. Panichas
Second: M. Elfenbein
PASSED

Recommendation to add the following Beam elements:

#3.203 1/1 (360°) turn with heel of free leg forward, at 45° throughout the turn, forward leg extended. = B
#3.202 1/1 (360°) turn on one leg, thigh of free leg backward upward at 45° throughout the turn = B
Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: A. Schweyer
Second: L. Reid
PASSED

Floor Exercise:

Recommendation to change value of Floor Exercise element #6.101 - Salto forward tucked with ½ twist (A) to B - new #6.201. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: C. Jarrett
Second: D. Houlton
PASSED

XXII. GENERAL EXECUTION

Myra Elfenbein presented visual examples of degrees of arm and leg bend and requested that the committee clarify the application of the up to 0.30 deduction for bent arms/legs.

Guidelines for recognizing the degree of arm or leg bend:

- 90° or more bend receives the maximum deduction of 0.30.
- Any one element may receive no more than 0.30 for bent leg(s) and no more than 0.30 for bent arm(s).

Recommendation that the “up to 0.30” deduction for insufficient height of salto elements apply to salto elements (from feet to feet) on floor and beam, and also to salto dismounts on bars and beam. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: P. Padron
Second: C. Christensen
PASSED (10 in favor, 8 opposed)

Note: The following changes will be made to the *JO Code of Points*:

- Bars, Page 65, G. Insufficient Amplitude of Uneven Bar Elements up to 0.20
Add bullet:
Insufficient amplitude of salto dismounts **up to 0.30**
- Beam, Page 146, C. Large Faults, #4.
Insufficient height of salto elements **(including dismounts)** up to 0.30

XXIII. CONNECTION AND DIFFICULTY ADDITIVE VALUE

Discussion was held about increasing the amount of deduction necessary before a D/ E value or connection value is negated. No action was taken at this time.

XXIV. LEVEL 9 BONUS

Discussion was held regarding Level 9 receiving additive value (Difficulty Value and Connection Value) for D dance elements. No action was taken at this time.

XXV. TOUCH WARM-UP FOR OPTIONAL VAULT

The committees discussed the problem of vault competition running slow due to the allowance of three touch-

warm-up vaults. The committees did not take any action for change at this time, but reminded coaches that the touch warm-ups are not required to be in competition order, and that coaches are encouraged to work together to safely expedite the touch warm-up period.

XXVI. OPTIONAL VAULT: EVALUATION OF PIKE AND LAYOUT YURCHENKOS (OR TSUKAHARAS)

The committees discussed whether the difference in value of a layout and pike Tsukahara/Yurchenko vaults was great enough. No changes were made for the next season.

XXVII. DISMOUNT REGULATIONS ON BARS & BEAM

JO Code of Points, Page 49, B. Bar Dismounts,

#3 Change to: If a gymnast performs a dismount element without a hecht or salto (move "dismount element of no value" to #4.

#4 now reads "If the gymnast performs a dismount of no value or makes no attempt to perform a dismount."

JO Code of Points, Page 131. 2. b. change to Deduct 0.30 for no dismount

Example: If the gymnast jumps off the end of the beam after performing a Round-off, but does not fall and does not remount the beam to perform the dismount element, deduct 0.30 for no dismount plus 0.50 for missing the dismount Special Requirement (do not take 0.50 for a fall).

XXVIII. LEVEL 7 CHANGES

Beam and Floor:

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~~Recommendation to allow "C" dance elements to count as "B" elements and to be eligible for special requirements.~~

~~Motion: A. Schweyer~~

~~Second: L. Johnson~~

DEFEATED

Beam:

Recommendation to allow Level 7's to perform #2.302 - Straddle jump with 180° split on Beam to receive "B" value part. It may also fulfill the Leap/jump 180° special requirement. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Johnson

Second: M. Elfenbein

PASSED

Floor:

Recommendation to allow Level 7's to perform #2.301 – Double (2/1) turn on one foot on Floor Exercise to receive "B" value part credit. It may also fulfill the minimum of 360° turn on one foot special requirement. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Johnson

Second: M. Elfenbein

PASSED

XXIX. LEVEL 8 BAR CLARIFICATIONS

If a Level 8 performs #7.310 (pike sole circle on LB, release and counter movement forward in flight to hang on HB), it cannot count for two Special Requirements. The routine must contain two elements (same or different) with minimum of B value: One B must be an element from Groups 3, 6, or 7 and the other B must be either a flight element or an element with a turn of 180° or more.

If a Level 8 performs a clear hip circle (B), then performs another clear hip with a half turn that turns prior to 20° of vertical, the requirement of two B elements (one flight or turn, the other from Groups 3, 6 or 7) has been fulfilled.

XXX. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ON BARS

Recommendation to change the wording of the dismount Special Requirement for Levels 8-10 to "salto/hecht dismount". Effective August 1, 2006

Motion: D. Houlton

Second: L. Thorberg

PASSED

The committee discussed the possibility of changing the Level 9 Bar Special Requirement of two (2) Bar changes; however, no change was made at this time.

XXXI. OPTIONAL BEAM

Recommendation to delete the Level 8-10 Beam Special Requirement of a Dance series and change it to "a leap or jump requiring a 180° cross or side split"

- must start and finish on the beam
- may be performed isolated or in a series.

Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Johnson

Second: L. Mulvihill

PASSED

Recommendation to add a 0.20 compositional deduction on Beam (Levels 8-10) for lack of a dance series with a minimum of two dance elements from groups 1, 2 or 3. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: L. Johnson

Second: L. Mulvihill

PASSED

Clarification of the Beam Dismounts #9.209, 9.309, 9.409 and 9.509: Gainer back saltos off the end of the beam. The technique is to perform these elements in a straight forward direction, with the salto performed like an "inward" dive in which the salto "flips" backward toward the beam.

Recommendation to add the following to the specific execution deductions for Beam, page 143: Up to 0.30 for directional error on all gainer dismounts off the end of the beam. Effective August 1, 2006.

Motion: M. Dykes

Second: L. Reid

PASSED

Beam Mounts: Discussion was held regarding the prevalent use of simple mounts at Level 9 and 10. No action was taken at this time.

Level 8 Beam acro series Special Requirement clarification: The non-flight element may be from the roll category (group 6). Example: Free forward roll to back handspring.

JO Code of Points - page 134: Change of wording

F.1. Considerations for awarding value part credit when a fall occurs: Value Part credit is awarded if the gymnast completes the element by landing/making contact with the foot/feet on the top of the beam.

XXXII. OPTIONAL BEAM AND FLOOR

Beam and Floor Compositional Deductions - Clarification of Lack of variety in choice of elements on page 142 and 238:

Overuse of same shape deduction will be applied only if there are:

- More than two elements with a wolf and/or tuck position with or without turn = 0.10
- More than two straddle jumps with or without turn = 0.10

XXXIII. FLOOR EXERCISE

Recommendation to make the following change, on Page 234 of the JO Code of Points, Special Requirement #1. Effective August 1, 2006.

B . #1 One Acrobatic series with two (2) saltos OR two (2) directly connected saltos. Saltos may be the same or different.

Examples:

- Punch front layout with 1/1 twist (C), immediate front layout (B)
- Front tuck step-out, Round-off, flic-flac, 2/1 twist

Motion: D. Witenstein

Second: J. Bowse

PASSED

Timing on Optional Floor

The committee discussed the timing of floor routines. No change was recommended at this time; however, coaches are advised to keep all floor music to maximum of 1:25 in order to avoid problems with audio systems that play slower.

Joint committee meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.