



**JOINT MEETING
JUNIOR OLYMPIC & TECHNICAL COMMITTEES
Fort Worth, TX.
May 9, 2016**

I. Meeting was called to order by Tom Koll (NJOCC) and Cheryl Hamilton (NTCC) at 8:30 am.

Roll Call:	<u>Technical Committee</u>	<u>JO Committee</u>
Region 1	Neela Nelson	Shane McIntyre
Region 2	Linda Mulvihill	Laurie Reid
Region 3	Carole Bunge (absent)	Mark Folger
Region 4	Linda Thorberg	Bryon Hough
Region 5	Char Christensen	Kittia Carpenter
Region 6	Pat Panichas	Larry Goldsmith
Region 7	Myra Efenbein	Linda Johnson
Region 8	Marian Dykes	Brad Harris
NACC	Cori Rizzo	
NXCC	Claudia Kretschmer	
JO Program Director	Annie Heffernon	
JO Technical Director	Connie Maloney	
SR VP – Women’s Program	Rhonda Faehn	
VP of Member Services	Cheryl Jarrett	
Guest – NCAA Coaches Rep	Sam Morreale	
Guest- NAWGJ President	Evelyn Chandler	
Guest- GK Elite representative	Wendy Martin	

On behalf of both committees, Tom Koll welcomed the committee members and introduced the officers, staff, and guests.

II. GK Elite Sportswear report – Wendy Martin expressed that GK continues to grow and is honored to be working with USA Gymnastics. She discussed the passion and commitment of their staff to the sport and to USA Gymnastics. As always, USA Gymnastics is very appreciative of the four million dollar in-product donation from GK to the JO Program. The support and quality product that GK Elite Sportswear continues to provide and has provided for so many years is appreciated.

III. NCAA Coaches report – Sam Morreale thanked USA Gymnastics for addressing the on-going spring scheduling concerns and for encouraging JO events to be placed in conjunction with NCAA Championships. The support from local JO events helped boost attendance at NCAA Championships, making for an exceptional event.

IV. NAWGJ report – NAWGJ President, Evelyn Chandler, distributed a report to the committees. Total NAWGJ membership has increased for the fifth year in a row, with active membership totaling 2184. The increase from 2015 to 2016 is the largest increase in nine years. Having a common renewal date for all membership requirements has assisted in having minimal errors in assigning correctly certified judges to USA Gymnastics sanctioned meets. A new NAWGJ National Education Director position will be filled in July. One of the main tasks for this individual will be to oversee the development of educational projects and acquire approval for all technical information.

V. Xcel Report – Claudia Kretschmer updated the committees on the progress of the Xcel National program. Participant numbers continue to grow. There are approximately 34,936 Xcel athlete members, with the biggest growth in Regions 1 and 4. An Xcel Flip Book and a How to Start an Xcel Program booklet have been created and are available through USA Gymnastics. The Xcel Committee continues to maintain the original philosophy of inclusion that provides competitive opportunities for athletes of all abilities.

VI. Member Services Report – Cheryl Jarrett reported that the Junior Olympic Program continues to grow. The 2016-2017 season for registration opens the first week in June, 2016. USA Gymnastics has created a new meet reservation system. Clubs and Meet Directors are encouraged to enter USA Gymnastics sanctioned competitions through this system to ensure all athletes and coaches are verified and current. The Member Club Legislative Advocacy Program (MCLA) program was established to raise local awareness of the gymnastics industry and the important economic and social impact that gymnastics businesses have on communities around the country.



If members have or receive calls/e-mails from concerned business owners about legislative concerns in your state/region please visit the MCLA website at <http://usagym.org/pages/memclub/resources/mcla.html>.

VII. Administrative Committee Report - Cori Rizzo reviewed agenda items discussed at the AC meeting on Thursday. A Women's Program officers' reception will be held at National Congress in San Jose, CA in conjunction with the annual State Chair Workshop. Service awards will be presented at this time.

VIII. Women's Program Report - Rhonda Faehn thanked the committees for their leadership in the JO Program and for their passion surrounding the growth and longevity of the sport. She reported on the 2015 accomplishments of the Women's US National Team and that the team is looking forward to the 2016 Olympics in Rio.

IX. NEW ELEMENTS SUBMITTED AT 2016 JO NATIONALS

It was clarified that only new skills, receiving "C" credit or higher, performed by gymnasts at Junior Olympic Nationals would be added to the *JO Code of Points*, and named after the gymnast who first performed it.

- A. Vault:
 - 1. $\frac{1}{4}$ (90°) on - $\frac{3}{4}$ (270°) off - front salto tucked with 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ twist: #3.508 - Carey - awarded a 10.0 + .1 Start Value
- B. Beam:
 - 1. $\frac{3}{1}$ turn in tuck stand on one leg, free leg in forward horizontal, placing of free leg at end of turn: #3.506 - George "E"
 - 2. $\frac{2}{1}$ or $\frac{2}{2}$ turn in tuck stand on one leg, free leg in forward horizontal, rising to finish turn in stand: #3.406 variation - Swartzentruber "D"
 - 3. Salto forward tucked, take off from one leg to land on one knee and one foot simultaneously: #8.401 variation - Hawthorne "D"
 - 4. Free aerial round-off, from stand on one leg, swing free leg through backward, landing on both legs: #7.403 variation - Burgess "D"
 - 5. Salto backward tucked with step-out and a $\frac{1}{4}$ (90°) turn to land in side stand: #8.303 variation - DeVries "C"
- C. No new elements were submitted on Bars. New elements were submitted on Floor but were not performed successfully.
- D. Recommendation to add new elements listed above to the *JO Code of Points*, effective August 1, 2016.
Motion: Myra Elfenbein
Second: Linda Johnson
Passed Unanimously

X. GENERAL

- A. A proposal was brought forward to allow a 10.1 Start Value to encourage the performance of more "D" and "E" skills. The Committees did not take any action at this time.
- B. A new Meet Format was presented and accepted. Modified Traditional #2 - One Vault, one set of bars, two balance beams, and one floor exercise mat in the competition gym. No warm-up gym. Timed warm-ups immediately preceding competition on each event with continuous rotations. The judges move from the "A" beam to the "B" beam for competition.
- C. Clarification: Amend p. 77, D.1. of the *R&P* to the following: The **highest** level the athlete competes in a sanctioned competition after the "declaration" date designates her level for the remainder of the current season.
- D. Clarification - Page 89, H.4.b. of the *R&P* - remove the words "mount trainer".
- E. Clarification - Page 16, B.9.d. of the *R&P* - Tennis shoes are NOT considered gymnastics footwear. If the athlete wears tennis shoes while competing, a 0.20 deduction for inappropriate attire will be applied.
- F. The Committees discussed avoiding having compulsory and optional re-certification during the same year. Recommendation to extend the current optional cycle to 2018. In 2018, all optional (Levels 6-10) judges will be required to re-test. A National/USA Brevet course will be conducted in 2018. New compulsories will be presented in 2021.
Motion: Marian Dykes
Second: Shane McIntyre
Passed Unanimously



- G. Regarding video review at State Championships and above, add the following example to the *R&P*, page 106, H.5.a. and to the *JO Code of Points*, page 26, E.2.c. Examples: 3) To verify if the gymnast grasps or touches the bar with one or two hands before falling on a release element.
- H. Discussion regarding additional opportunities to award connection value bonus for Level 9. No action was taken at this time.

XI. VAULT

- A. Recommendation to amend page 90, B.1.c. of the *R&P*: Athletic tape, Velcro strips or small chalk marks may be placed **on** the vault runway, provided that such markings are removed no later than the end of the rotation. Maximum width of Velcro strip or athletic tape is 5 cm (2"), **maximum length is 3 feet.**
Motion: Laurie Reid
Second: Char Christensen
Passed Unanimously
- B. This applies to Compulsory (Levels 1-5) and Optional Vault (Levels 6-10). If the athlete comes to a rest or support on top of the vault apparatus (table or mat stack), it is considered a void vault and will receive a zero.
Recommendation to amend page 30, II.B.1. and II.B.2. of the *JO Code of Points*: 1. A balk (a running approach that does not result in **the athlete coming to a rest or support on top of the vault apparatus (table or mat stack)**) is considered an attempt. 2. If the gymnast either stops mid-run, runs off the runway, or makes contact with the hand placement mat, safety zone mat, board, or vaulting table without **coming to a rest or support on top of the vault apparatus (table or mat stack)**, it is considered a balk and counts as one of the three approaches to complete one or two vaults.
Motion: Linda Mulvihill
Second: Bryon Hough
Passed Unanimously
- C. Recommendation to amend page 30, II.A.4. and page 32, F.6.b. of the *JO Code of Points* for Level 8 Vault: Effective August 1, 2016, Delete the following: "*Exception, If a Level 8 gymnast, attempts/performs a second vault, the score for the second vault is the final score, regardless of the result.*" and "*A Level 8 gymnast may attempt one or two vaults. If a second vault (same or different) is attempted/performed, the score for the second vault is the FINAL score, regardless of the result.*"
Motion: Linda Johnson
Second: Kittia Carpenter
Passed Unanimously
- D. Recommendation that for Level 8 only, Vaults 1.106 ($\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ (90° - 180°)) turn on - repulsion off and 4.101 (round-off, flic-flac on - repulsion off) be awarded a 9.0 Start Value.
Motion: Laurie Reid
Second: Kittia Carpenter
In Favor: 10
Opposed: 2
Abstained: 3
Passed
- E. A proposal was presented to the Committees, outlining a progressive Vault curriculum for Levels 1-7. The recommendation is to review the proposal, make any necessary changes and/or updates, and prepare for limited implementation into the Junior Olympic Program August 1, 2018.
Motion: Mark Folger
Second: Kittia Carpenter
In Favor: 14
Opposed: 1
Passed
- F. If a gymnast falls on her first vault attempt and an injury is being assessed, she will be allowed a maximum of **one minute** after the completion of the judgment to leave the landing area. If the gymnast remains in the landing area for more than one minute after the judgment is complete, a second vault will not be allowed. **In this instance, the Chief judge will monitor the time.** Recommendation to add the following to page 7, I.13. and page 33, F.14. of the *JO Code of Points*: Terminates an exercise if after a fall, the gymnast exceeds the allotted fall time. Vault (1 minute after the judgment is complete), Uneven Bars (45 seconds) and Beam (30 seconds).



Motion: Linda Thorberg
Second: Larry Goldsmith
Passed Unanimously

XII. UNEVEN BARS

A. Add the following elements to *the JO Code of Points*: page 132:

1. Clear pike circle backward arriving in a clear pike support position "B", #7.213.
2. Clear pike circle backward, disengage legs prior to a clear support at or above horizontal "C", #7.313.
If the element is performed within 20° of vertical, award "D" value (#7.413).

Motion: Linda Johnson
Second: Neela Nelson
Passed Unanimously

- B. Clarification: At all USA Gymnastics sanctioned events, a spotting block or folded mat that is used for spotting purposes between the bars may remain in place as long as the coach continues to utilize it during the routine.
- C. Recommendation to change Level 9 Uneven Bar Special Requirement number 3 on page 74 of the *JO Code of Points* to the following: A second (different) flight element (minimum "C" – excluding dismount), OR one element with LA turn of 180° or more (minimum of "B" – excluding the mount and/or dismount).

Motion: Brad Harris
Second: Linda Thorberg
In Favor: 12
Opposed: 3
Passed

- D. Recommendation to add the following to skill 4.201 on page 111 of the *JO Code of Points*: Handstand on high bar, swing down between bars, swing forward with a ½ (180°) turn above high bar height within 21° - 44° of vertical – "B".

Motion: Pat Panichas
Second: Char Christensen
Passed Unanimously

XIII. BALANCE BEAM

A. Add the following examples to page 164, D. of the *JO Code of Points*:

Level 8 Beam Acro Not up to the Competitive Level – up to 0.20 deduction

Example 1:

The Level 8 routine contains 1 "B" acro flight element in series and a single A Dismount. The athlete would receive 0.20 deduction.

Example 2:

The Level 8 routine contains a 2-B-acro flight series plus an additional acro on the beam, with a 2-element Dismount or a single B dismount. The athlete would receive no deduction.

B. Add the following to page 164, IV.F. of the *JO Code of Points*:

Connections with Tempo deductions up to .20 for dance and mixed, and counter series:

- Arms land after first element in place to take off for second element with immediate take off for second element (legs in plié and are not pumping) -0.0
- Arms and body still moving but swing between elements (legs moving, but not straightening) – possible tempo deduction – 0.05-0.10
- Body position alters and arms swing between elements – bigger deduction for body posture and tempo 0.15-0.20

C. Recommendation for Level 6 Balance Beam ONLY: A completed balance beam routine that includes all Special Requirements, contains all required Value Parts, and has a 10.0 Start Value, and is less than 30 seconds receives a 0.50 deduction, not the 2.00 deduction for short exercise.

Motion: Marian Dykes
Second: Brad Harris
In Favor: 10
Opposed: 5
Passed



- D. Clarification: Compulsory Balance Beam - If a gymnast falls between two jumps that are supposed to be connected, the "continuity between jumps" deduction (up to .20) is applied in addition to the fall deduction (0.50) unless after the fall, the gymnast repeats and connects the two skills.
- E. Clarification – *JO Code of Points*, page 162, III.A.1. applies to backward acro flight series AND sideward to backward acro flight series.

XIV. FLOOR EXERCISE

- A. Clarification: Compulsory Floor Exercise – If a compulsory (Level 3,4,5) gymnast does not connect tumbling elements as designated, the 0.30 deduction for each stop between elements in an acro (tumbling) series is applied. Do not apply the up to 0.20 lack of acceleration deduction when the 0.30 stop between elements deduction is taken.
- B. Clarification to page 231, IV.D. of the *JO Code of Points*: Performing skills outside the boundary applies to optional (Levels 6-10) ONLY.
- C. Clarification: Regarding the Lack of Variety of Acro Elements (up to 0.10) – this DOES NOT apply to Floor Exercise.

The next meeting is scheduled to follow the 2017 JO National Championships.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.