



**Women's Program
Technical Committee -Meeting**
Des Moines, IA
May 18-19, 2015

I. Roll Call: Chairman Cheryl Hamilton called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Region 1	Neela Nelson
Region 2	Linda Mulvihill
Region 3	Carole Bunge
Region 4	Linda Thorberg
Region 5	Char Christensen
Region 6	Pat Panichas
Region 7	Myra Elfenbein
Region 8	Marian Dykes
JO Technical Director	Connie Maloney
Guest – Xcel Chairman	Claudia Kretschmer (Mon. only)
Guest – NACC	Cori Rizzo (Mon. only)

II. Xcel Concerns

Cheryl Hamilton expressed the concerns of the technical committee members and other judges who find it difficult to judge the Xcel program due to its departure from some principles of evaluation used by the Jr. Olympic program.

a. Xcel Vault

~~Recommendation, in conjunction with the Xcel Committee, for the Gold, Platinum and Diamond divisions of the Xcel Program, to apply the up to 1.00 deduction for angle of repulsion to all non-salto vaults that go over the table and are intended to land on the feet.~~

Motion: Carole Bunge

Second: Linda Thorberg

In Favor: 6

Opposed: 10

Defeated

b. Xcel Bars:

Technical Committee supports the following Xcel proposal for Value-part requirement for a cast at the Gold Division: A cast must achieve a minimum of 45° below horizontal to be awarded an "A" Value Part.

c. Order matters principles on Floor Exercise. Clarification- An element can receive Value-part credit up to two times, in chronological order, provided it has a different entrance and/or exit. The Technical Committee encourages the Xcel Committee to maintain the basic principles of the JO Program to reduce confusion.

d. Recommendation to the Xcel Committee to require a minimum of a Level 7/8 judges' rating to be eligible to judge the Platinum and Diamond divisions. If there is a lack of qualified judges, the assignor must contact the Regional Technical Committee Chair for permission to assign a lower rated judge, if necessary.

Motion: L. Thorberg

Second: C. Bunge

PASSED

The Xcel Committee also passed this recommendation at their May 20 meeting.



- e. Xcel Composition: The Technical Committee recommends that the Xcel program should continue to have no compositional deductions.

III. General Concerns

- a. Reminder of procedures for Floor Exercise music approval: If the RTCC receives an email requesting confirmation that the proposed musical accompaniment does not contain lyrics/words, the RTCCs must forward the email to Cheryl Hamilton, Connie Maloney and Annie Heffernon, who will then send the coach the decision on an official approval form (with a copy to the RTCC). The form is to be created by the National office. Clarification: the intent of the rule is that music should not include lyrics; not necessarily a single word used as a rhythmical sound.
- b. Clarification regarding affiliation of judges: If a judge goes to a club to critique or coach on an approximately once a **month** basis, he/she is considered affiliated with that club.

IV. Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Concerns:

- a. USA Brevet and National Course Eligibility: Clarification that elected USA Gymnastics and NAWGJ officers (State, Regional, National) can receive full credit for the 12 required hours of volunteering from their service as a chairperson of a State, Regional, or National Committee/Board.
- b. For annual CPE, if the up to 4 volunteer hours are needed to fulfill the total number of annual CPE hours, the judge must earn these by either volunteering at a judging-related activity (for example as an auxiliary judge at a gymnastics competition) or at a USA Gymnastics congress or clinic.
- c. Beginning in August 2015, CPE clinic hours may no longer be earned by attending the Women's P&G Championships (or Olympic Trials) that are held in conjunction with National Congress. All Clinic Hours must be earned by attending a live course (or up to half of the required number of clinic hours can be earned by online courses or live webinars.)

V. JUDGING COMPENSATION PACKAGE

Recommendation to the National office for consideration of the following changes/additions to the Judges Compensation Package:

- a. Review hourly fees and adjust accordingly based on the Consumer Price Index (as passed and approved in the November, 2013 minutes). *Note from National Office: According to the CPI, no adjustments to the fees are necessary at this time.*
- b. Break time
 1. Readjust the Break time chart on page 42 of the *Rules & Policies* to reflect the reality of modified Capital Cup meets. Connie and Annie will adjust the chart and publish in the *2015-16 Rules and Policies*.
 2. If the minimum break time as stated on page 42 of the *Rules and Policies* (minimum of 30 minutes after 3½-4 hrs. and 45 minutes after 7 hrs.) is not provided to the judges, they are to be paid from the scheduled march-in time to the end of the entire competition.
- c. At local meets to which judges will drive, whenever there is an early morning report time and/or a late finish time, it is recommended that the meet director provide the option for the judges to stay at a hotel in order to provide the judge with adequate rest time before the next day's competition. Consider the distance and /or weather conditions.



- d. Clarification: In addition to mileage from a judge's home to the meet site (or hotel), mileage for travel to and from hotel to venue can also be included in the total RT mileage, but must be documented with Map Quest.
- e. The Technical Committee requests that the National office investigate the legal ramifications of requiring carpooling and make any necessary adjustments to page 38 in the Rules and Policies, I. B. 8.
- f. Add to *R&P* on page 38. "If a judge is driven to the airport rather than parking his/her car at the airport, the mileage minus 30 miles RT may be reimbursed for each RT, provided the mileage does not exceed the cost of the airport parking."
- g. Daily fee for East/West and JO Nationals, beginning 2016. The TC requested that the National Office establish a new, higher daily rate to reflect the change in the number of sessions per day at JO Nationals. This will simplify the calculating of the fees and give the Meet director definite idea of the expenses.

Reminder to judges: It is inappropriate for a judge to provide their family with meals in (or from) the judges' hospitality room.

VI. Sanction Violations:

The Technical Committee suggested that the Member Services department consider a new procedure for reporting sanction violations other than indicating them on the sanction report form.

VII. Base Score DVDs

The committee will review the scores before the 2015-16 season begins and make any necessary changes/additions.

VIII. The next meeting of the Technical Committee is scheduled for November 13-15, 2015 in Indianapolis.

Meeting adjourned on Tuesday, May 19 at 9:00 pm.