

Women's Program
Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
November 4-6, 2011
Revised 12/8/11

I. Roll Call: Chairman Cheryl Hamilton called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM on November 4th.

Region 1	Neela Nelson
Region 2	Linda Mulvihill
Region 3	Carole Bunge
Region 4	Linda Thorberg
Region 5	Char Christensen
Region 6	Pat Panichas - arrived late on 11/4
Region 7	Myra Elfenbein
Region 8	Marian Dykes
Asst. Tech. Comm. Chair	Audrey Schweyer
JO Program Director	Connie Maloney
Managing Dir. Of Athlete & Coaching Programs	Kim Riley - Friday only

II. 2013 USA BREVET AND NATIONAL JUDGES' COURSES

The committee discussed the possibility of conducting courses online with exams being administered at national testing centers. Cheryl informed the committee that she has been in touch with various companies that provide nationwide testing sites. Hopefully the coursework can be presented online and the eligible participants could then take the exam, within a pre-determined time frame, in their local area. Cheryl, two other TC members and Connie Maloney met with a representative from a company located in Carmel, Indiana. The rep explained that his company can provide from 500-800 testing sites across the country and that most individuals would be required to travel no more than 60-100 miles. Cheryl will continue investigating several other companies so the national office can then make a decision based on cost-effectiveness and capabilities of the company.

Some of the considerations for materials to be included in the online Course work:

1. Review of new changes in the optional Jr. Olympic program.
2. A workbook with routines scripted in symbols to determine Start Values, as well as other study materials.
3. Videos of routines for practice judging (with scripts and scores).
4. Practice multiple choice tests

2013 *JO Code of Points* to be available for purchase by April 1, 2013.

Registration fee for the Courses will include the cost of a *JO Code of Points*, the Online Course materials and the first testing for both the Written and Practical exam.

Providing an online course should significantly reduce the total cost to the participants by not requiring air transportation, as well as several days of lodging and meals.

Testing Procedures:

1. Testing time frame (dates) will be the same for Brevet and Nationals. Dates to be determined but most likely- early to mid-July.
2. Results (Pass/Fail) to be given at the completion of the exam.
3. If the individual fails one or both parts, they can either take the exam part(s) one more time at a testing center (at an additional expense and within a designated time frame-approximately 30 days), or if their score is at a pre-determined level, they can accept a lower rating.
4. If a current National-rated judge doesn't wish to test for National, they would have to test at Level 10.

Considerations for creating the Practical exam: include the Start Value as part of the evaluation process.

III. WTC SYMPOSIUMS:

1. WTC Symposiums will be conducted at the 2013 JO Compulsory Workshops (first two weekends in June 2013) and are available to all judges and coaches wishing to learn the new Optional rules.
2. After the Symposiums have concluded, the TC requested the Symposium PowerPoint be posted on the USA Gymnastics website, as well as some of the practice judging routines.

3. CPE clinic credit will be given for both the Brevet/National online course work and WTC Symposium.

IV. ONLINE BEGINNER OPTIONAL JUDGING COURSES

Linda Thorberg, Myra Elfenbein and Linda Mulvihill spear-headed the first online Judging course, which is a one-hour Beginner Optional Bars course. Linda Mulvihill provided the original footage, Myra produced the video, the entire committee evaluated the elements, and Linda Thorberg came to the office to do the voice over.

The course is listed as J311 - Level 7/8 Skill Evaluation - Uneven Bars

Pro members will register and pay on the USA Gymnastics website, access the Course site and will receive one (1) CPE clinic credit. Projected start date: January 2012.

The next online project is Level 7/8 Skill Evaluation -Beam: 1-hour course for Beam Acro (Tumbling). The goal is to have the video ready for the Technical Committee to evaluate by January 15.

V. VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS FOR USA BREVET AND NATIONAL COURSES

Clarification of the required volunteer credits - volunteering at a State or above meet does not necessarily mean acting in an auxiliary judge position during the competition. Any volunteer job prior to or during the meet/event that helps the event to function, such as helping with registration, data entry, etc. will count.

The hours earned for volunteering used toward the National/Brevet Course can also be used to fulfill the annual CPE credits (maximum of 4 credits) for that accreditation year.

VI. 2012 NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONGRESSES

WTC Core Courses for 2012 Congress Presentations were determined. The theme will be Practice Judging: Level 7/8 Bars; Level 9/10 Bars; Level 7/8 Beam; Level 9/10 Beam; Level 7/8 Floor and Level 9/10 Floor, plus the JO Update. A Practice Judge session for Compulsory handspring vaults is also being considered.

VII. 2005-2013 COMPULSORY CLARIFICATIONS

- a. Beam and Floor WEIGHT-TRANSFER TURNS: If one of the acceptable turn techniques (listed in the Glossary) is not used, apply a 0.10 deduction for changing a small part.
- b. Level 4 Bars: If the front hip circle is finished with bent arms (up to 0.3) and immediately performs the small cast (starting with arms bent), since it considered one element, a maximum of 0.30 can be applied for the bent arms.

VIII. ELIGIBILITY TO JUDGE AT LEVELS 1-4 AND XCEL (formerly known as PREP Optional)

The Technical Committee requested that the National Administrative Committee review in the R & P, page 30 (c. at top of page), and to clarify which levels can be judged by a Pro/Jr. Pro and Introductory coach members.

Clarification by the National Office:

Professional or Jr. Professional Coach members are eligible to judge at Level 1-4 and Excel LOCAL competitions, unless the State Committee has established additional criteria for State organized meets.

Introductory Coach members are eligible to judge Levels 1-3 and Excel LOCAL competitions, unless the State Committee has established additional criteria for State organized meets.

IX. AFFILIATION OF JUDGES

The committee discussed a possible conflict in the R & P regarding affiliation of officials at competitions which are allowed to have Member Coaches acting as officials. The WTC requests that the Women's Program Committee designate jurisdiction for the Xcel program in the Operating Code so that areas of concern and conflict can be addressed by the appropriate committee(s).

X. NEW ELEMENTS FOR THE JR. OLYMPIC OPTIONAL PROGRAM

The committee requested that Connie create illustrations for all new elements from the 2009-2011 JO Nationals and post these on the USA Gymnastics website by December 15th so they can be added to the *JO Code of Points*.

XI. JO OPTIONAL PROGRAM SURVEY

Linda Thorberg questioned whether the JO Committee had plans to publish a survey for input on new Optional rules prior to the May 2012 Joint JOC/TC meeting.

Note: The JO Committee has already begun working on such a survey.

XII. CPE CLARIFICATIONS

When attending congresses/symposiums with multiple tracks, the following may be used to fulfill CPE clinic credit for judges:

All Judging and Coaching sessions, plus certain Sport Science topics. All CPE-eligible sessions will be designated by the use of an asterisk in the Congress Guides. Due to the logistics of the Regional Congresses, Connie Maloney will be responsible for designating the eligible sessions and will, if time allows, confer with the RTCC. Cheryl Hamilton will review the National Congress schedule to designate those sessions that are eligible for CPE credit.

XIII. 2011 Technique Project

The final evaluations were completed by the committee members and Connie will finalize the script and have it available for purchase through the USA Gymnastics Technical Materials store in January of 2012.

XIV. *JO Code of Points* Appendix Items

Connie reported that the following items have been updated and will be posted online by December 1st:

Level 7/8 Vault chart

Optional Requirement Chart

Judges' Cheat sheet

Symbol charts for Bars, Beam and floor

Judging sheet for Level 9/10

XV. The remainder of the meeting was spent on the preparation of the 2012 Congress Practice Judging scripts.

XVI. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm. Next meeting will be held in Hampton, VA on May 14-15th following the Jr. Olympic National Championships.