

**Women's Technical Committee Meeting**  
**Nov. 8-11, 2018**

I. Roll Call

National Technical Committee Chair Cheryl Hamilton called the meeting to order 5:50 pm on Thursday, November 8, 2018.

Present:

Region 1	Gigi Iavarone
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
WJOTD	Connie Maloney
WJOPD	Annie Heffernon (Fri. morning only)

- II. Cheryl welcomed Gigi Iavarone, the newly elected RTCC from Region 1 and thanked Neela Nelson for her long-time contributions to the committee. She also thanked the following individuals for providing video footage for 2019 Base Score videos and 2018/19 Congress presentations: Kittia Carpenter, Myra Elfenbein, Brad Harris, Tom Koll, Shane McIntyre, Neela Nelson, Jamie Winkler, and Elaine Wulf.

III. General / Rules and Policies

A. Injury Petition Form

A new form for petitioning purposes to Regional Championships will be developed by Pat Panichas and Marian Dykes, specifically to validate that a gymnast, after starting to compete on her 4<sup>th</sup> event, is injured and is unable to complete that last event at the State Championships.

The form is to include signatures of the Chief Judge of the gymnast's last event, the Meet Referee, and the coach of the injured gymnast. This form should be submitted along with the completed regular injury petition form.

The Committee requested that the reference in the *Rules and Policies* to this procedure on page 109, H. 3. C. 2) and 3) be moved to page 84, as a new 11. d. and renumber the remaining items to e. f. and g. This procedure belongs under Petitions to Regionals, not Inquiries.

B. CPE-compliant judge list distribution - *Rules and Policies*, page 38, 7. d.

The Committee recommends to the National Administrative Committee to include the RTCC in the list of people who receive the CPE-compliant judges report from the State CPE Coordinator.

C. Apparatus / Matting

The committee recommends that the National Office make the following updates to *Rules and Policies* for Chapter 8, Apparatus Requirements

Page 91: I. E. Level 1 and 2 meets must follow the same standards used at Level 3, add "**except on Vault (see compulsory book)**"

Page 93: Add f. Level 6 / 7 apparatus and mat stack description

Page 94: D. 1. b. 3) Change Levels 6-10 to Levels **8-10**  
D.1. c. Change Levels 6-10 to Levels **8-10**

- IV. 2018 USA Brevet/National Course  
The Committee reviewed the successful National and USA Brevet courses and certification procedures and discussed possible improvements for the next cycle.

The National and USA Brevet Course Eligibility form for 2022 is updated and is available on the USA Gymnastics website at: [https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/judge\\_courseeligform.html](https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/judge_courseeligform.html)

The USA Brevet/National Online Course was updated and re-titled as USA Gymnastics University-School of Judging Course J501 Level 10 Judges' Course is now available at <https://usagym.org/pages/education/courses/J501/>

V. *JO Code of Points* Corrections

The National office will make the following corrections and post replacement pages on the website under Women: Rules: JO Optionals at: <https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/jooptionals.html>

Nov. 28, 2018: Beam element section:

Page BB-63 #3.209 and 3.309 add (s) to hand (leg can be held with one or both hands)

Page BB-78: #7.106 change illustration to a push up to bridge, kickover backward. Currently illustration is same as Valdez #7.206

The Committee requested that Annie and / or Connie notify all Women's Regional Committee members prior to posting updates or replacement pages on the website for the *Compulsory book*, *JO Code* or *Xcel Code*. It was requested that the date of revision be indicated on the replacement pages. In addition, it was requested that the Meet Referee's list of items to review at the judges' meeting be updated with a list of sanction violations to be reported by the MR on the Sanction Report Form and posted on the website at <http://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/Judges/meetingagenda.pdf>

VI. Judging Policies and Judges' Compensation Package Concerns

- A. ~~The Committee recommends that effective immediately the testing of 16-17 yr. old individuals for Level 4/5 and/or 7/8 be discontinued in light of the new Safe Sport travel policies and the fact that judges under 18 years of age cannot legally sign contracts. Any currently rated judges who are Junior Professional members will be allowed to continue judging.~~

*This recommendation was not approved by the USA Gymnastics' National Office. Allowing Junior Professional members to certify as judges is applicable to all disciplines. USA Gymnastics will continue to allow 16-17 year old Junior Pro members to become rated officials in all disciplines. It was recommended that a statement be added to the information on becoming a Women's Artistic Gymnastics judge that there will be restrictions for the Junior Pro members, such as no assignments to meets that require overnight accommodations, carpooling allowed only if with two or more adult members, and judging contracts must be co-signed by parent or legal guardian. Junior Professional members must follow all current Safe Sport policies.*

- B. The Technical Committee recommended that the National Office make the following changes in wording to the Judges' Compensation Package in the *Rules and Policies*:

pg. 44, II.A.2:

For meets with **3 or more** sessions PER DAY, judges are to be provided a **MINIMUM** of two 30-minute break times. **Meals are to be provided during breaks, when appropriate as determined by the Meet Referee**, regardless of the number of sessions per day.

pg. 44, II.A.4. The maximum amount of unpaid break time is 60 minutes (30 minutes for 2-session meets), including the required 30-minute breaks for lunch and/or dinner.

pg. 44, II.A.5. The daily number of paid hours is calculated by subtracting the required break time per day (minimum 30 minutes for two-session meets and maximum of 60 minutes for meets with more than two sessions).

Note: Page 46 Judges' Fee chart was recently corrected:

Level 9	8 hrs. judging	\$208.00
Level 4/5 + 6/7/8	6.5 hrs. judging	\$143.00

VII. The Committee developed a list of sanction violations that need to be reported by the Meet Referee on the sanction form. This list will be distributed to the RTCCs and made available on State, Regional and National websites.

VIII. Xcel Judging

A. Online Judging Quiz

An Xcel judges' self-quiz for the 2019 season will be posted online by the end of 2018 under Xcel: Overview and Judges: Technical updates [https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/xcel/quiz\\_121118.pdf](https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/xcel/quiz_121118.pdf)

B. Xcel Judging Ratings

**Recommendation to develop an Xcel only judges' rating system by January 2020 for the purpose of providing another entry level of judging and to encourage previously-rated JO judges to continue servicing the gymnastics community.**

Motion: M. Dykes

Second: M. Elfenbein

PASSED

**1. Bronze, Silver, Gold rating**

Requirements for new judges or retired JO Compulsory Judges:

- Complete an Online Xcel judges' course
- Score a minimum of 80% on an online open-book multiple-choice exam on general information and all events for Bronze, Silver and Gold divisions

Once a Bronze/Silver/Gold rating is attained, the new Xcel only judge must practice judge with a JO Optional-rated judge in person at a meet for a minimum of 2 sessions (min. of 32 routines per session-rotating to all 4 events in reverse Olympic order - FX, BB, UB, V). A Professional Membership is required to be on the field of play.

The committee discussed the use of virtual practice judging. No action taken at this time. This topic will be re-visited for future consideration.

**2. Xcel All divisions rating**

Eligibility: Retired JO Optional judges or any Xcel B/S/G rated judges who have passed the JO Level 7/8 exams.

Required to take an online open-book self-test on all 5 divisions, emphasizing rule changes for the current cycle.

Once a judge completes the self-test, he/she is eligible to judge all Xcel divisions.

C. Xcel Only Judge Uniform

For the first two years of judging with an Xcel only rating, navy blue pants/skirt and white top would be acceptable. After that timeframe, a navy-blue suit would be required.

D. Suggested pay scale:

	Hourly fee
New Xcel only - Bronze/Silver/Gold judge	\$16.00
Previously held a JO Compulsory only rating	\$18.00
Previously held a Level 7/8 rating	\$20.00
Previously held a Level 9 rating	\$22.00
Previously held a Level 10, National or Brevet rating	\$25.00

IX. Questions and Answers

The committee reviewed a number of questions which were presented by the gymnastics community. These topics will be discussed and finalized at the Joint JO and Technical Committee meeting in May, but for the purposes of giving direction for the 2019 winter/spring season, these questions and answers will be posted on the Regional websites - Technical page.

Any additional questions should be submitted to your respective Regional Technical Committee Chair, who will share them with the other RTCCs for inclusion on the Regional websites.

X. Ideas for Congress core sessions were discussed. The committee will be working on these projects throughout the year. The following topics were considered:

- Evaluating Level 6/7 Vault
- Level 3-5 Bars – comparing/evaluating major elements
- Bar Bonus connections
- Optional Vaulting
- Beam: Concentration pauses, connection of series and direction of choreography
- Practice Judging certain events “Putting it all together on \_\_\_\_\_”
- Applying the “General throughout the routine” deductions on Beam and Floor

XI. The remainder of the meeting was spent evaluating routines for 2019-2022 JO Optional and Xcel Base Scores.

XII. Meeting adjourned on Sunday at 3:00 pm.

XIII. Next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2019 following JO Nationals (Level 10) in Indianapolis.