



JOINT XCEL/TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Marriott Phoenix Chandler – Chandler, AZ

Meeting was called to order by National Xcel and Technical Committee Chairs at 4:00 pm.

Roll Call:

Xcel Committee	Technical Committee	Region
Jill Preston	Gigi Iavarone	Region 1
Dianne Palmer	Jeanine Henneford	Region 2
Louise Janecky	Marilyn Blilie (via Zoom)	Region 3
Megan Bankole	Linda Thorberg	Region 4
Nancy Gibson	Sue Kane	Region 5
Gail Caspare	Pat Panichas	Region 6
Jen Skorski (via Zoom)	Jane Caruso	Region 7
Pam Kitchen	Evelyn Chandler	Region 8
Claudia Kretschmer	Cheryl Hamilton	Committee Chair

USA Gymnastics Staff	
Connie Maloney	Women's Development Program Technical Director
Christy Naik	Women's Development Program Director
Heather Ould	Women's Xcel Program Manager
Nichole Otterson	Women's Development Program Technical Coordinator

Unless otherwise noted, the following clarifications and recommendations for change are effective August 1, 2022.

- BARS** - Recommendation to allow New / Updated Elements:
 - Basket Swing – “A” VP – Open to all Divisions
 - Add a stretched variation for the existing ¾ back circle dismount. (Current element is limited to Silver Division only)
 - Jump to Squat on Mount – “A” VP – Limited to Silver, Gold, Diamond, Platinum

Motion: Linda Thorberg (R4-TC)

Second: Nancy Gibson (R5 – XC)

PASSED

- BARS** – Recommendation to revise Two-part Mount Clarification:
 - Clarification: Only two-part mount skills are allowed. If a 3rd mounting skill is performed it will not receive VP credit and will receive execution deductions.
 - Clarification: If two glide swings are performed (without feet touching between glides) it will only count as one (1) element.

Motion: Jane Caruso (R7-TC)

Second: Gail Caspare (R6 – XC)

PASSED

- BARS** – Recommendation to revise Rules & Policies and applicable text within the Code of Points to specify combination of matting allowed for low bar mounts only (Bronze/Silver/Gold Division).
 - R&P Chapter 6 – I.H.4.a. For Bronze, Silver and Gold divisions: any combination of manufactured mats, skill cushions or padded spotting/skill blocks may be used for mounting purposes **on the low bar**.

- Code of Points: Any combination of competition landing mats, skill cushions and panel mats may be used to facilitate the mount **on the low bar**.

Motion: Gigi Iavarone (R1-TC)
 Second: Megan Bankole (R4-XC)
 PASSED

4. **BEAM** – Recommendation to allow a 10° Variance from Vertical on Handstands with a flat .10 deduction for handstands within 1-10° from vertical.

Motion: Dianne Palmer (R2-XC)
 Second: Evelyn Chandler (R8-TC)
 PASSED

5. **FLOOR** – Recommendation to add Backward Roll to push-up shape as a variation to the existing Backward Roll element (Group 4 Rolls -#4.102) on floor which is open to all Divisions.

Motion: Pam Kitchen (R8-XC)
 Second: Jeanine Henneford (R2-TC)
 PASSED

6. **ALL EVENTS** – Recommendation to revise Code of Point with the following deductions/clarifications.

- Vault: Bronze Vault 1 B – Delete the “Failure to use levering action into the handstand” deduction
- Bars: Modify the Bar Element Leg Swing Backward to allow Leg Swing Forward or Backward.
- Beam Hold Requirement: Modify the hold requirement for handstands on beam that a hold is not required for “A” handstand elements. Any “B” handstand element or higher would require a 2-second hold if specified for the element within the Table of Elements.
- Floor: Elements/Pass Considered the Same – Insert “Flight” – In the following instance, elements listed under the same number will be considered the same: 1. **Flight**/Salto with 2-foot landing or step-out.
- Incorrect Attire: Return the Incorrect Attire deduction to 0.20.
- Beam/Floor: Modify Artistry language to match the Development Program
- Beam: Insufficient Variation in Rhythm and Tempo – Add “CONSIDER: Insufficient variation in rhythm/tempo in non-VP movements; - Lack of fluid connection / series of disconnected elements or movements”
- Floor: Add Deduction – Failure to show synchronization of music with ending pose – 0.10.

Motion: Louise Janecky (R3)
 Second: Jen Skorski (R7)
 PASSED

7. **ALL EVENTS** – Recommendation to allow Video Review at Xcel State Meets and above if a missing Special Requirement is reflected in a lower Start Value, after a written inquiry has been submitted.

Motion: Jill Preston (R1-XC)
 Second: Jane Caruso (R7-TC)
 FOR – 7 / AGAINST – 7 / ABSTAIN – 2: The vote resulted in a Tie
 The motion then went to NTCC & NXCC for Tie Breaker – FOR-1 / AGAINST-1
 The motion will advance to the Women’s Program Committee for a vote.

8. **XCEL JUDGING GUIDELINES** - Recommendation to require a minimum Level 9 Rating for Xcel Sapphire Pilot

Division. (This will be Reflected within the formal rules document for the Sapphire Pilot Program).

Motion: Megan Bankole (R4-XC)

Second: Sue Kane (R5-TC)

PASSED

DISCUSSION

The committee discussed the following topics, no action taken:

1. Judges Courses: Discussion related to updating of the Judges Course/Exam and Online Quiz. The plan will be to update existing course items first. Also discussed the development of new additional course materials for Platinum/Diamond.
2. Base Score Video: The Xcel committee is requesting a new Base Score Video from the Technical Committee. No formal timeline has been determined at this time. Fall 2022 was discussed as possible timing.
3. Sapphire Pilot Program:
 - a. Discussion of vault values, no action taken. The committees will reassess after the pilot year.

Recommendation to adjourn at 5:39 pm.