



WOMEN'S XCEL COMMITTEE MEETING

Via ZOOM

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Meeting was called to order by Claudia Kretschmer (NXCC) at 12:05 PM on Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

Roll Call:

NXCC	Claudia Kretschmer	Christy Naik – JOPD
Region 1	Jill Preston	Connie Maloney – JOTD
Region 2	Dianne Palmer	Annie Heffernon – VP
Region 3	Louise Janecky	Cheryl Hamilton – NTCC
Region 4	Megan Robinson Bankole	Tom Koll – NJOCC
Region 5	Nancy Gibson	Cori Rizzo - NACC
Region 6	Gail Caspare	
Region 7	Jane Caruso	
Region 8	Elaine Wulf	

1. Claudia welcomed the committee and guests and thanked them for their commitment to USA Gymnastics and the Xcel Program.
2. Annie Heffernon – VP Women's Program
Annie thanked the committee for all they are doing to keep their communities going during this time and throughout the year.
3. Tom Koll – Women's Program Committee Chair, National JO Committee Chair
Tom provided a summary of items discussed and motions passed at the JO Committee meeting that took place on Monday, April 27, 2020.
4. Cheryl Hamilton – National Technical Committee Chair
Cheryl and Tom provided a summary from items discussed and motions passed at the Joint JO/TC meeting that took place on Saturday, May 2, 2020.
5. Connie Maloney – JO Technical Director
Connie reported on the status of the updates to the *Xcel Code of Points*, as well as the Xcel Online Judges Course.
6. The Women's Program Service Award was discussed. Claudia asked for input from the Regional Xcel Chairs. Please send suggestions to Christy Naik at cnaik@usagym.org.
7. Claudia reminded the committee of the philosophy of the Xcel program and how it has evolved since its inception. It was agreed that the program is used differently from region to region; therefore, the word "affordable" may no longer be applicable, as listed on the USA Gymnastics website. The committee requested that the Xcel Program Overview on the website be adjusted to match the wording in the *Women's Program Rules and Policies* be adjusted to match.

All of the following clarifications and recommendations for change are effective August 1, 2020, unless otherwise stated.



Women's Program Rules and Policies (R&P)

8. **R&P** Chapter 5, page 35.II.A.2.c.2) – Committee discussed the use of one-judge panels for the 2020-21 season and will bring their concerns to the upcoming Joint Xcel/Technical Committee meeting. The Regional and/or National Xcel Chair must approve any deviations to the existing *Women's Program Rules and Policies*.
9. **R&P** Chapter 6, page 49.E – remove 1.-4., revise 5.: Recommendation to remove the requirement that a JO Level 10 gymnast must petition to enter the Xcel program at the Diamond Division. If a JO athlete wishes to enter the Xcel Program at a level below the allowable Division, a “reason for change” letter is still required.
Motion: Gail Caspare
Second: Nancy Gibson
Passed
10. **R&P** Chapter 5, page 45.III.B and Chapter 6, page 51.C.4. add bullet: Recommendation to add:
 - For all Divisions, 1-judge panels are allowed for mobility purposes.Motion: Dianne Palmer
Second: Elaine Wulf
Passed
11. **R&P** Chapter 6, page 50.II. A. 6. a.: Update statement to match page 45.III.A.1.:
 - a. A Level 7/8 rating is required for Platinum and Diamond Divisions.
12. **R&P** Chapter 7, page 65: Update chart:
Update Traditional and Modified Traditional Xcel Only numbers for Diamond, Platinum only from 56 to 64; update reference page on Non-Traditional and Modified Non-Traditional (Capitol Cup) from page 72 to reflect page 63.

Xcel Code of Points (XCOP)

13. **XCOP** Judges – 8.III.D.1: Delete 1. – Inquiries under state meets are not allowed.
14. **XCOP** Bars – 4.I.A.: Recommendation to add new #1 and renumber accordingly:
 1. If an element is performed that cannot be found in the Xcel Bar Skill Chart or in the *Xcel Code of Points*, the Judge may award comparable Value-Part credit if they can recognize the “root” element.
15. Mat Regulations for Mounting Apparatus: Recommendation to make the below changes:
 - a. **XCOP** Apparatus – 2.II.C.2.d. and Apparatus – 3.III.E.2.d.: Change wording to read:
d. For all Divisions, a Mount trainer/mount mat MAY be placed on an 8-inch skill cushion. A springboard may NOT be placed on an 8-inch skill cushion.
 - b. **XCOP** Apparatus – 2.II.C.3.b. and Apparatus – 3.III.E.3.b.: Change wording to read:
b. A Mount trainer/mount mat, folded panel mat or padded spotting/skill block MAY be placed on top of the Competition Landing Mats (CLMs) and skill cushions used for the purpose of mounting.
 - A springboard MAY be used on any combination of Competition Landing mats, sting mats or 4-inch skill cushions (throw mat), but a springboard is NOT allowed directly on an 8-inch skill cushion.



- c. **R&P** Chapter 6, page 55.I.H.4.d. and I.H.5.b.: Revise wording of Springboard/Mounting Specifications to be consistent with above *Xcel Code* changes.

Motion: Elaine Wulf

Second: Jane Caruso

Passed

- 16. Discussion** regarding changing Special Requirements for the different Divisions on Uneven Bars. Committee will review casting Special Requirements and angle deductions for the future, but no changes will be made at this time.
- 17. Discussion** on the addition of a Division above Diamond with fewer difficulty restrictions and/or a separate Division within Diamond that would accommodate JO Level 9/10 gymnasts who want to transition to the Xcel program. A subcommittee was created to research the need and the potential criteria for a new Division to possibly be included in the *Xcel Code* in 2022.
- 18. Discussion** on the possibility of adding a Yurchenko vault timer to the Platinum Division Vault Chart. Committee will continue to review the pros and cons associated with allowing this Vault, but no changes will be made at this time.
- 19. Discussion** regarding athletes competing only one vault, with 2 allowable approaches. The committee agreed to Table this item until next year, when they will be considering possible changes for the *2022 Xcel Code of Points*.

Meeting Adjourned 4:25 PM, Tuesday, May 5, 2020.