

Texas USA Gymnastics
State Committee Meeting
November 14, 2004
Houston, Texas

Members Present:

Juergen Achtermann – State Chair
Diane Callison – Administrative Assistant
Larry McDonough – North Coaches Education Chair
Deana Parish – South Coaches Education
Cindy Pearson– North Judges Education ~ proxy
Pat Ethredge – South Judges Education
Scott Crouse- North Competition Chair
Lisa England – South Competition Chair
Scott Taylor – District 2 Representative
Martin Parsley – District 3 Representative
Carol Robuck – District 4 Representative
Oni Twilley – District 5 Representative
Barbara Hughes – District 6 Representative
Leslie Patterson - Judges Representative

Members Absent:

Al Gamboa – District 1 Representative
Marilyn Blilie – North Judges Education

Meeting Called to Order: 5:03 pm

Topic: Minutes from last meeting:

Motion: Barbara Hughes

Accept Minutes from Last meeting as read.

Second: Carol Robuck

Vote: **Passed** Unanimous

Topic: Compulsory Updates

The SAC discussed general and specific concerns about entry from inaccuracies and errors. Many entry forms are being submitted without clarification of either achievement or placement levels, many are hand written and age groups are not listed, only an age.

Since the website has an interactive Official Entry Form posted on it, there is no reason for entry forms to be hand written. At District Championships, North, South, and State Championships, clubs can bring a pre-typed entry form and strike through any athletes that do not qualify to move on to the next championship meet.

- Texas USAG will continue to require that ALL entry forms MUST be typed.
- Information MUST be complete and accurate, including age group.
- State meet packets will no longer include a blank entry form.

Motion: Oni Twilley

The Administrative Assistant will send a letter to meet directors concerning these issues and reminding them that they must require clubs to submit accurate and complete entry forms that are types. Meet Directors MUST notify any club of an incorrect entry form, and should not accept these forms. The meet director MUST also notify the appropriate competition chair of any infractions.

Second: Pat Ethredge

Vote: **Passed** Unanimous

Topic: Entry Form Inaccuracies

Numerous Meet Directors had difficulties with entry forms that did not indicate if Level 5 or 6 athletes are being entered as Achievement or Placement.

Motion: Scott Taylor

Entry Forms MUST indicate if an athlete is 5A, 5P, 6A or 6P.

Second: Barbara

Vote: **Passed** Unanimous

Topic: Age Groups

The SAC discussed the problem of setting up squads when one club has several age groups in the same session.

The Administrative Assistant will add an explanation of age groups & how to place them into squads with the meet director packets sent out prior to the season.

Topic: State Championship Alternate System.

A discussion concerning how to notify the general body of how the alternates are selected for state. Scott Crouse is writing a format explanation.

Topic: Number of Athletes allowed at State Championships

The SAC discussed the number of athletes that are allowed at the compulsory state championship meets. The discussion continued and included an in depth discussion concerning the compulsory competition format used in Texas.

Motion: Scott Crouse

The State of Texas will use the following Competition Format beginning August 2005:

- The culminating meet for **Level 4, 5 & 6 Achievement** will be District Championships.
- The culminating meet for **Level 5 Placement** will be North or South Championships. (*These Championships meets will now be known as the State Championships for level 5*).
- The culminating meet for **Level 6 Placement** will be a stat meet that includes clubs from all areas of the state.

Second: Carol Robuck

Vote: **Passed** Abstained: Lisa England, Barbara Hughes

Topic: North vs. South Team competition at State Championships

The Committee discussed the competition of the North against the South at State Championships.

Motion: Carol Robuck

Eliminate North vs. South Team Competition at state championships beginning January 1, 2005.

Second: Oni Twilley

Vote: **Passed** Unanimous

Topic: Web Site Update

Leslie Patterson & Martin Parsley shared that we are trying to secure the Domain name for our website.

- We will begin selling advertisement space on the website to offset the cost of maintaining the website.
- The Mission statement was added to the website.
- Meet Directors of state meets should send their schedules to the Admin. Assistant and these schedules will be posted on the website as a service to the gymnastics community. Contact Diane Callison for more info.
- All Texas USAG sponsored meet directors can send their results to the administrative assistant in an acceptable format (CSV or Proscore transfer file) and they will be posted on the website. This will allow clubs to download and print results directly from the website.

Topic: Meet site Bids

The Committee voted to award the final outstanding Optional meet.

The Optional meet February 5-6, 2005 was awarded to Lonestar. The meet will be held at TWU. Please mark your calendars.

Topic: Compulsory Workshops

The SAC discussed the locations of the Compulsory workshops around the nation. Please see the National, Regional and Texas websites for locations.

Topic: State Leotards

Juergen updated the SC on the situation on the leotards used at state championships. With the increase in the number of athletes competing at state championships, GK is having difficulty filling our orders in the short amount of time we give them. The Committee will look further at this problem when they set the Fall Schedule at the Spring SAC meeting.

Topic: Level 8 Yurchenko Vaults

The Committee wants to remind all coaches that the Yurchenko is not allowed for Level 8 athletes until January 2006, not this upcoming season!! This will be posted on the website.

Topic: Tour Of Champions

Juergen updated the committee on the tour and how the efforts of Carol Robuck and himself solved the conflict of athletes living in District 4 that had purchased tickets for the Tour, but were not able to attend because of the conflict of the Level 5 state meet schedule. The National Office worked with our representative and all athletes that had already purchased tickets will now be able to attend.

Topic: Judges Affiliation

A survey was circulated at the state meet to get feedback from the coaches if they support Affiliated judges serving on a 2-judge panel at state championships. Out of 49 responses, 44 said that they would not want affiliated judges serving, 5 said that it would be ok.

Motion: Pat Ethredge

That Texas USAG recommends that affiliated judges not be assigned as either a chief or event judge at a state championship on 2 judge panels.

Second: Larry McDonough

Vote: **Passed** Abstain: Lisa England

Topic: Recognition of people within our sport

Juergen spoke concerning his desire to recognize the people within our state that have given to our sport but have gone unrecognized.

He would like to begin a Life Service Award that would be presented at our Awards Ceremony each year.

Motion: Barbara Hughes

Create a Texas USAG Life Service Award.

Second: Oni Twilley

If you know someone that might deserve this award, please submit it to Juergen.

Vote: **Passed** Unanimous

Topic: Professionalism

The SAC discussed the ethics involved in coaching athletes and would like the education chairs to address professional behavior, including proper dress code of shoes, shorts and tops.

Topic: Professionalism – Filed complaints

There has been an increase in the number of complaints received by Juergen. Unless the complaint is an illegal act, in order for him or the national office to take any action the complaints must have:

- A legible signature of the person filing the complaint
- More than one person must file a complaint concerning the person and event

ALL complaints of illegal behavior **MUST** be filed with the National Office

Topic: Recruiting

The SAC discussed the problem of parents recruiting athletes to clubs. Although the hands of the committee are tied, the SAC recognizes that this is an ongoing problem. Club owners and coaches are a key to curbing this action. If a club owner would call the club that the athlete is leaving and discuss the situation within the 2 clubs involved, this would help send a signal to the parents that clubs are friendly competitors, that they communicate with each other and want to work these situations out together.

Topic: Awards

The SAC voted last year to require medals at all state sponsored meets. This will continue as voted. Any clubs wishing to use a different award, such as a trophy may do so, IN ADDITION to the required medals.

Topic: Motion to Adjourn

Motion: Lisa England

Second: Scott Crouse

Vote: **Passed** Unanimous