



**Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee**  
**August 7-9, 2019 \* Kansas City, MO**  
**Meeting Minutes**

*Aug 7 @ 4:00pm commenced*

Attendance: Carisa Laughon, Acrobatics Program Committee Chair  
Ronda Francis, National Elite Committee Chair  
Sarah Thomas, National JO Committee Chair  
Holly King, National Technical Committee Chair  
Jessica Renteria, Acrobatics Athlete Rep  
Jennifer Banowsky, Interim Acrobatics Program Director  
Amy White, Acrobatics Program Coordinator

**1. Welcome**

Carisa welcomed the committee members to the meeting. Discussed program staffing and coordination in this interim period. Jennifer, Amy, and other office staff, including Stefanie Korepin, were thanked for their efforts during the transition period.

**2. 2019-2020 Events Calendar Announcements and Updates**

The Program Committee discussed the following events for the 2019-2020 season. Formal directives will be published as details are finalized.

October 12-14, 2019, Greensboro, NC - Future Stars Training Camp (based on team attendance, may be available "Open Camp" slots). Clinicians were discussed and invitations being extended.

November 1-4, 2019 - National Team Training Camp. Discussed locations and availability, equipment needs and clinicians.

November 22-24, 2019, Monterey, MEX – PAGU Championships. Invitations will be extended to assigned National Team Members only.

Jan 27-Feb 3, Bristol, GBR – King Edmund BIAC. Invitations will be extended to assigned national team members only.

Last weekend of March 2020 - World Team Trials. Discussed possible locations and judging assignments. Selection procedures will be available at least 45 days prior to World Team Trials.

April 16-19, 2020, Las Vegas, NV – open to all JO and international track athletes. PC discussed the date proximity to State Championships and other events on the calendar. JO level pair/groups must follow the R&P by attending their respective state meet. Per the R&P, there is an exception for international track pair/groups attending state and regional championships. The Program Committee approves using scores from the Vegas Acro Cup as a regional or national qualifying score if needed.

May 20-26, 2020, Geneva, SUI - World Age Group Competition

May 29-31, 2020, Geneva, SUI - World Championships

June (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week) 2020 – USA Gymnastics Championships (nationals registration deadline May 18, 2020)

*\*Brian Kincher, Acrobatics Athlete Rep, joined meeting*

Jessica and Brian shared information from the Athlete's Council meeting and updated the Program Committee on upcoming initiatives and changes.

*Meeting adjourned 9:00pm*

*Meeting resumed Aug 8 at 9:30am*

Attendance: Carisa Laughon, Acrobatics Program Committee Chair  
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Holly King, National Technical Committee Chair  
Jessica Renteria, Acrobatics Athlete Rep  
Jennifer Banowsky, Interim Acrobatics Program Director

### **3. National Elite Committee Updates:**

Ronda presented proposals, updates and feedback from the National Elite Committee.

- National Team petition process to move age group levels:  
Effective immediately, implement a petition process to consider and allow for national team pair/groups to move to a different national team. This could allow for movement to a higher or lower level. There must be a demonstrated reason for the change, a spot must be available on the requested national team, and movement must benefit both the athletes and Team USA. Petitions are evaluated by the selection committee, with notification to the Acrobatics Program Committee and final approval from the USA Gymnastics Executive Office.  
Motion: Ronda  
Second: Jessica  
Unanimous
- Flexibility on the International Competition Track:  
Beginning with the 2020 season, pair/groups competing on the International Competition Track are permitted to move up or down levels at their discretion, without any restrictions. Pair/groups must meet qualification scores/requirements for USA Gymnastics Championships at the level they wish to compete. Additionally, FIG regulations apply, once a pair/group competes at the senior level at a FIG sanctioned event, movement to a lower level is no longer permitted.  
Motion: Sarah  
Second: Ronda  
Unanimous
- Motion to implement the Bonus System starting in the 2020 season for all competitions. The bonus system was on a trial/review basis this past season and will now be implemented into the scoring system for JE 12-18, JE 13-19, and senior elite. The bonus is +0.5 per qualified element, up to +1.5 total, per exercise. The full bonus system and eligible skills will be published in an erratum.  
Motion: Ronda

Second: Holly  
Unanimous

- 12-18 Competition at USA Gymnastics: The NEC recommends having finals for 12-18 categories or awarding more places at USA Gymnastics Championships. The Program Committee will move forward to make a proposal for this change.
- Beginning with the 2021 season, age group 11-16 level will no longer be a level on the international track, following the FIG's anticipated plans to eliminate 11-16 from the World Age Group Competition program. Club teams may continue to participate at this level in club international competition. With this change, the Program Committee hopes to encourage stronger athlete develop through the JO pipeline, especially at levels 9 and 10, before pair/group enter the international track. The Age Group 11-16 level will be available through the 2020 season, including at 2020 USA Gymnastics Championships. An Age Group 11-16 National Team will NOT be selected from the 2020 USA Gymnastics Championships.

Motion: Ronda  
Second: Jessica  
Unanimous

#### **4. Rules & Policies Updates:**

- Motion to change age groups defined in the R&P for all JO levels to the following: If 8 or more competitors in a category (level and event), the competitors must be divided into two (or more) equal groups of less than 8. Competitors are assigned to groups based on the age of the oldest athlete in the pair/group. This is minimum requirement, however at local, state, and regional competitions, meet directors have discretion to use more divisions per category.

Motion: Sarah  
Second: Holly  
Unanimous

- For all international club meet requests, pair/groups are not required to submit videos for approval, only notification of travel is required. Forms must be submitted 6 weeks in advance. Clubs may choose to take a judge or pay the required fine for no judge, per the competition directives. Contact the National Technical Committee Chair to coordinate judges.

Motion: Ronda  
Second: Sarah  
unanimous

- JO pair/groups are permitted to compete at club competitions hosted in the Pan American Gymnastics Union countries. Notification of travel must be given to the Program Committee Chair at least 6 weeks prior to travel via the International Club Form available in the R&P Appendix.

Motion: Sarah  
Second: Holly  
Unanimous

#### **5. Tariff Sheets:**

Acro Companion – Mandated for the 2021 competition season. Highly encouraged to start using for the 2020 season. Can be used for level 9 and up.

Motion: Ronda  
Second: Holly  
Unanimous

#### **6. Future Calendar**

The Program Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of hosting two national team selection competitions annually. PC asked for further consideration from the NEC. Topic was tabled until the next meeting for, with decisions made for the 2020-2021 season. Also potentially look at adding a second national team camp in the spring for the off year of worlds.

## **7. Apparel**

PC discussed current apparel status for national teams and options for fan apparel.

## **8. National Technical Committee Updates**

Holly presented proposals, updates and feedback from the National Technical Committee.

- Amend exam policies regarding National and National Superior Exams to state the NTCC must administer the National and National Superior exams at least once annually.  
Motion: Holly  
Second: Carisa  
Unanimous \* Jessica was not present

Program Committee approved canceling the National Judges Course this year since it is the final year of quad with very few rules changes or new information to cover. Instead, judges are required to attend a regional judges course to be eligible to judge in 2020. A National Judges Workshop for regional clinicians and regional technical chairs will take place in conjunction with the National Team Camp. This is a working meeting to develop judges education, review FIG rule changes, capture videos, and work with coaches. The NTCC will announce when the national and national superior upgrade exams will be given.

*Meeting concluded at 8:30pm*

*Meeting resumed Aug 9 at 9:30a*

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## **9. JO Committee Updates**

Sarah presented proposals, updates and feedback from the National JO Committee.

- Move to adjust maximum difficulty for Level 10 to Balance - v55 and Dynamic - v45. Minimum difficulty for JE 12-18 is adjusted to Balance - v55 and Dynamic - v45.  
Motion: Sarah  
Second: Ronda  
Unanimous
- Move to allow lyrics at Level 7. Level 8 and above lyric and music rules remain the same.  
Motion: Ronda  
Second: Jessica  
unanimous

- The NJOC proposals for 2021 JO Code changes for the 2021 cycle have been approved. Carisa will work with Sarah to develop the new book

*\*\* Stefanie Korepin, USA Gymnastics Interim Chief of Staff, joined the meeting*

Stefanie was able to provide direction and information on selection procedures, conflict of interest, and office updates.

**\*\*Stefanie left meeting**

## **10.Upcoming International Assignments**

The Program Committee verified the Selection Committee's pair/group assignments, as well as, approved delegation assignments for upcoming international events as listed below.

### 2019 PAGU Championships

Head of Delegation:	Jennifer Banowsky
Judges:	Carisa Laughon, Holly King
Junior/Senior Delegation:	13-19WP Borcharding, Nolting 13-19MXP Blough, Breen 13-19MXP Gruendler, Massa 13-19WG Jennings, Prevost, Watts 13-19WG Chang, Gladkova, Martin Sr. WP Davis, Rosilier Sr. MP McDougall, Felix Sr. WG Chang, VonderHaar, VonderHaar
Coaches:	Youri Vorobiev (head coach) Laurie Borcharding Cameron Jones Daniil Kostovetskiy Vladimir Vladev
Team Manager:	Amy White
Age Group 1 & 2 Delegation:	11-16WP DeSantis, Morgan 11-16WP Andrews, Jenson 11-16WP Smith, Till 11-16MXP Stoker, Wood 11-16MXP Castro, Rivera 11-16WG Gustella, Gul, Oselska 11-16WG Kampmann, Lacy, Shadrack 11-16WG Kozelsky, Martinez, Patel 12-18WP Davis, McDonald 12-18MXP Powell, Wang 12-18WG Glick, Sousa, Sousa 12-18WG Anderson, Grigsby, Smith 12-18MG Chang, Freed, Lacy, Shields
Coaches:	Vladimir Vladev (head coach) Gawain Dupree Michael Hassey Youri Vorobiev Yulia Rodina Elena Arakelyan Cameron Jones Katelyn Beckett
Team Managers:	Robin Stevens

Dylan Maurer

2020 King Edmund Bristol International Acro Cup (BIAC)

Age Group Delegation: 11-16WP Lopez-Torres, Snyder  
11-16WG Calo, Wilson, Wright  
12-18WP Arthur, Katsov  
12-18MXP Coleman, Ivey  
12-18WG Freed, Kicza, Tutberidze  
12-18WG Bakman, Nguyen, Nguyen  
Senior Delegation: WG Dubbels, Petty, Rosilier  
Coaches: Alayna Davis (head coach)  
Slavik Kosakovskyy  
Simon Tutberidze  
Team Manager: Mindi Katsov  
Head of Delegation: Sarah Thomas  
Judges: Holly King  
Ronda Francis

**11.National Coaching Staff**

Discussed National Coaching staff roles and made recommendations to the Interim Program Director for next year's contract.

*\*Bernadette Barron, USA Gymnastics CFO, joined the meeting*

Bernadette provided an update on the financial standing of USA Gymnastics and budgeting process for 2020.

*\*Bernadette left the meeting*

*Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm*

Respectfully submitted by,  
Carisa Laughon, Acrobatics Program Committee Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Slavik Kosakovskyy", written diagonally across the page.