



**Program Committee Minutes
Face-to-Face Meeting
April 28 – 29, 2007
Indianapolis, IN**

I. Roll Call

Linda Ocmand – NPCC
Jennifer Hess – NTCC
Selena Peco – NJOCC
Ivaylo Katsov – NECC – absent
Michael Rodrigues – NAR
Tonya Case – VC (non-voting) – joined by conference call
Tom Housley – PM (non-voting)

II. 4 Year Plan

Program Committee met at the USA Gymnastics National Office in Indianapolis, IN to discuss goals and objectives for the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program in the United States over the next 4 years. PC felt it was essential to set clear-cut goals with quantitative measures in order to efficiently and effectively achieve the overall program goal of Program Development.

III. Program Committee recommends the following Program Development goals by December 2009:

Judges – 25 total new judges
(Region 1, 3, 4, 7 – 20 judges)
(Region 2, 5 – 5 judges)
Introductory Athlete Memberships – 200 additional
Clubs – 5 additional
Coaches – 25 additional
Athletes – 300 additional
Total Membership = 1650 (30% growth)

Motion: LO

Second: SP

PASSED

IV. Program Development Task Force

A new Program Development initiative, individuals within each region will be invited by the Program Committee to help promote the sport of Acro. The PDTF helps to educate new coaches and clubs within their regions with educational materials created by the Acrobatic Gymnastics program by proactively approaching pre-existing dance and gymnastics clubs. PC recommends the following individuals based on past and current success within their own regions to be invited as members of the Program Development Task Force. Proactively approach potential clubs

- i. Region 1 – Pam Meier / Nancy Davis
- ii. Region 2 – Lee Hatfield
- iii. Region 3 – Brandi Lewis / Selena Peco / Lorna Spellman
- iv. Region 4 – Ronda Francis / Dawn Mortiz
- v. Region 5 – Angela Layne / Illya Demyanyuk
- vi. Region 7 - Sharise Beavers / LeeAnn Lenhart
- vii. Region 8 – Jennifer Hess

Linda Ocmand, National Program Committee Chair will provide leadership and direction to this group. A meeting will be scheduled for the PDC to meet at the 2007 J.O. National Championships.

Motion: LO

Second: MR

PASSED

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V. Acro Pre-team Program

The Acro Pre-team Program, a new Program Development initiative, will help new Acro clubs start-up more easily while current Acro clubs can use the program to potentially create a feeder program for their competitive Acro teams. The Pre-Team package will include pictograms, educational pictures, week-to-week lesson plans, program guidelines, marketing initiatives, and a DVD Companion video. The project is tentatively scheduled to roll-out Fall 2007. With the vision, enthusiasm, and current success of Aerial Tumbling and Acrobatics, ATA is leading the design of the Pre-team Program. The pre-team program will be implemented to increase total number of introductory athlete memberships within the Acro program and help achieve Program Development goal of 200 new introductory athletes by December 2009.

PC recommends focus of high priority to be placed on the construction of a Pre-Team Program over the month of May and June 2007.

Motion: LO

Second: SP

PASSED

VI. Freedom Cup

a. Recommendations for Freedom Cup Delegation Officials:

- i. Head Of Delegation – Ronda Francis
- ii. Head Coach – Ivaylo Katsov
- iii. Head Coach – Selena Peco
- iv. Assistant Coach (Junior/Senior) – Resi Buell-Size
- v. Assistant Coach (Age Group) – Nancy Davis
- vi. Team Manager (Junior/Senior) – Sharise Beavers
- vii. Team Manager (Age Group) - Linda Meier

Motion: LO

Second: MR

PASSED

SP, IK abstained on decisions related to personal assignments

b. All USA athletes and coaches attending Freedom Cup will function within the delegation structure and work together as a team. All are required to stay at the host hotel and USA Gymnastics will make room assignments for the delegation. This is the case regardless if the athlete is competing for the USA or their club team. This is a unique opportunity to bring together coaches and athletes from across the country and provide them with the experience of participating in international competition as well as being part of an official delegation.

c. Awards

- i. Seniors – All-around award based on final combined exercise.
- ii. Juniors – All-around award based on final combined exercise.
- iii. AGC – all-around award based on final exercise (pair/groups have choice of competing balance or dynamic exercise).
- iv. Maximum 12 pair/groups per age group per event can qualify for finals. No restrictions per club team or country.

VII. 2007 Regional Congresses

Presentations are being created to present at each Regional Congress. The decision was made to begin to increase awareness in each region and to standardize the information being communicated across the country.

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VIII. 2007 National Team / JONT Training Camp

A training camp is tentatively scheduled for October or November. This will be a joint camp for the Senior National Team, Junior National Team and JO National Team.

IX. 2008 Acro Event Schedule

PC discussed the 2008 Acro Event Schedule. 2008 year is an Olympic Year and will also include the Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships. Two (2) tentative plans were discussed in order to best prepare U.S. athletes for the upcoming competition season based on the dates of the Acro World Championships. The final plan is dependant on the timing of the 2008 Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships.

X. 2008 Super Clinic

A motion was called for the 2008 Super Clinic to increase focus on educating coaches and judges on a national-level. Emphasis of the Super Clinic is for the education of judges and coaches. Much value gained when judges from around the country meet together to discuss the issues and learn together. The Super Clinic is scheduled to move in the direction of conducting education at high level for Regional and National judges. Local level judges will be handled within regions. In order to better educate all Acro judges and increase the time spent together on a national level, the focus of the Super Clinic will be for experienced judges, 2nd year local and above. The increased focus on education is to continue efforts towards Program Development and to achieve membership goals by December 2009. (Pending budget approval).

Motion: LO

Second: JH

Passed

XI. 2008 Regional Athlete Clinics

PC discussed ideas on the implementation of Regional Athlete Clinics in order to continue the development of the athlete pipeline of our Junior Olympic National Team athletes, increase grassroots development, and to continue educating Acro coaches within each region.

Tom briefly shared ideas on a Junior Olympic National Team Coordinator whose partial role would be to serve as lead clinician for the Regional Athlete Clinics. The JONTC will help to standardize training amongst athletes and coaches to help ensure the most success during international competitions as well as increase coaches education on training styles, conditioning, and peaking.

In conjunction with the Regional Athlete Clinics, an opportunity to host an AcroBasics course may also be available to aid new clubs and coaches starting up an Acro program. The implementation of Regional Athlete Clinic and Acrobasic courses held in conjunction would help to make strides to achieving Program Development goals and continue the development of the athlete pipeline.

Recommendation - A meeting is to be scheduled at the 2007 J.O. National Championships to discuss options and to further develop these clinics with the Regional Administrative Chairs. (Pending budget approval).

Motion: IK

Second: LO

Passed

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XII. 2008 Regional Judges Clinics

To achieve the goal of increasing the total number of judges within the Acro program, PC recommends Regional Judges Clinics to be held within each region before the start of each competition season. The focus will be placed on new and/or local Acro judges. (Pending budget approval).

Motion: LO

Second: JH

Passed

XIII. 2008 National Championships

In 2008, the Acrobatic Gymnastics National Championships will crown the national champions for both Junior Olympic athletes (Levels 5 – 10) and the Junior and Senior Elite athletes. Additionally, depending on the date and location of the 2008 Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships and also due to the separation of Visa Championships due to the Olympic Trials in 2008, PC encourages all elite coaches to potentially prepare for the 2008 National Team Trials to be held earlier in the 2008 season. National Team Trials serves as the qualifying meet for all elite nationals to compete at the 2008 National Championships. As the dates for the 2008 World Championships are announced, additional details will be provided to all elite coaches.

Recommendation for 2008 Acrobatic Gymnastics National Championships to crown both Junior Olympic and Elite National Champions.

Motion: IK

Second: SP

Passed

XIV. 2009 Super Clinic (International Judges Course)

Discussions were held to potentially hosting an International Judges Course in conjunction with the 2009 Super Clinic. Details are yet to be confirmed and are dependant on the Brevet Judge's Course.

XV. May (05-14-07) Technical Update

PC revised the May Technical Update. A motion was called to post the revised May Technical Update, on the Acro website, upon completion.

Motion : LO

Second: JH

PASSED

XVI. Compulsory Music

PC discussed the possibility of offering compulsory music for Level 4. Music would be created solely for USA Gymnastics and the Acrobatic Gymnastics program and used for all Level 4 events. Music would be event specific. Plans are being made to include compulsory music in the near future.

XVII. Level Mobility – Eligibility Report Form

Linda Ocmand made a motion to require all coaches to fill out the Skills Testing Eligibility Report and submit to the National Office for approval prior to Skills Testing, The motion called to verify athlete eligibility prior to the start of Skills Testing and to ensure all athletes are meeting eligibility status per the *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*. The Eligibility Form must be in-hand to the Program Director ten (10) days prior to the Skills Testing and must be approved before skill testing is facilitated.

Motion: LO

Second: SP

Passed

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XVIII. Level Mobility – Competition Experience

A motion was called for all Tariff Sheets and Mobility Report Form to be sent to the Meet Referee before Tariff Sheet deadlines prior to the start of any competition.

Motion: SP

Second: LO

Passed

XIX. How-to-Book

PC re-visited the “How to Start an Acrobatic Gymnastics Program” book and made red-pen revisions. The “How-to-Book” is tentatively scheduled to be published July 2007 in time for distribution at the 2007 National Congress.

XX. Janet Von Barga Award

In honor of long-time Acrobatic Gymnastics International rated judge, Janet Von Barga, a motion was called to create an award on behalf of all Acro judges. The Janet Von Barga award will be presented to a judge each year at the National Championships that has gone up and beyond the call of duty.

Motion: LO

Second: JH

Passed

XXI. Program Committee Infrastructure

- a. Recommendation – Michael Rodrigues opens the lines of communication with elite athletes, including JONT athletes, provide international reminders, receive feedback on training, etc...
- b. Recommendation – Jennifer Hess opens lines of communication with U.S. judges, help organize and facilitate Super Clinic and Regional Judges Clinics, and continue educating all judges in the United States in order to achieve Program Development goal of 25 new judges.
- c. Recommendation – Selena Peco is to continue focusing on JO program, JONT athletes, and develop new program development initiatives to achieve Program Development goal of 25 new coaches. Selena will help (in conjunction with Linda Ocmand and the PDC) to market Regional Athlete Clinics, market AcroBasics courses held in conjunction with Regional Athlete Clinics, and reach out to the RAC for Level 6 and 7 video footage for new coaching videos.
- d. Recommendation - Ivaylo Katsov opens lines of communication with elite coaches to aid in the development of elite athletes. PC is recommending Ivaylo to take more of a leadership position with National Team / JONT training camp, lead coaches and athletes at Regional camps, and help to continue to develop Team USA.
- e. Recommendation - Linda Ocmand is to chair the Program Development Committee (PDC) meeting held at the 2007 J.O. National Championships. The PDC meeting is to help develop and direct key people within each region to actively get clubs involved with the sport of Acro.

Approved by Steve Penny, USA Gymnastics President

09/18/2007