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National Technical Committee MEETING MINUTES

Palm Springs , CA
July 25, 2004

1. ROLL CALL

Kari Duncan – Region 1
Stacy Montes – Region 2
Diane Dougall – Region 3
Jennifer Hess – Region 4
Michelle Caviness – Region 5
Janet Von Bargen – Region 7
Tonya Case-Patterson – FIG Representative
Carisa Laughon – SAPD

2. OLD MINUTES

Minutes from the August 7 2003 Technical Committee meeting were reviewed and approved.

3. REGIONAL REPORTS

Each member on the Committee gave either a written or verbal report on the past year in their regions.

Some of the Regions reported problems concerning conflict between judges and coaches, and judges' behavior during competitions. Another concern was judges not showing up for their assignments or backing out at the last minute without a valid reason. The Regional Tech Chairs were concerned with the correct procedure in handling these problems. Because of this, each member of the committee was given a copy of the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics to read and begin a process of having a code for Sports Acrobatics judges. There was also a question about how long would a judge be considered affiliated after they were no longer involved with a club.

4. MEET REFEREE REPORTS

Meet Referee Reports will now be sent to the Regional Technical Chairs and the Judges' Coordinators. The Regional Technical Chair in conjunction with the Regional Judges' Coordinator will be required to send a report of each judge's record in their region to the National Technical Chair at the end of the competition season.

5. JUDGES' EDUCATION

In addition to the required annual judge's clinic, a proposal was submitted to require judges to have a minimum of 4 hours of gym observation by July 31 of each season. This could be done at a Super Clinic, Regional Athlete Clinic, International Competition, or at an approved gym. This cannot be done at a gym the judge is affiliated with. If the 4 hours are not completed by July 31, the judge will not be allowed to judge the following season until the 4 hours are completed. A tracking system would either be done by an active status card or form sent to the National Technical Chair by July 31. This proposal was passed

unanimously.

There will be a Judges Super Clinic for judges and coaches in January. Regional rated and above judges are strongly encouraged to attend. All Regional judges' clinics must be set up through the Regional Technical Chair.

6. DIAGRAM FORMS

Because of problems with diagrams, a proposal was submitted to have 3 copies of diagrams turned into the Meet Referee by the designated meet deadline. In addition, coaches must mail (express delivery) or hand deliver a copy of revised diagrams and or late diagrams to the Meet Referee, the Arbiter, and the Difficulty Judge by 4:00 pm , 2 days before the beginning of any competition for the event. Faxed and emailed diagrams will not be accepted. This proposal passed unanimously.

7. JUDGES' PAY

A Proposal was submitted to increase the judges' pay.

Judge's Rating Hourly Fee

Local \$13.00 (increase of \$1)

State \$16.00 (increase of \$2)

Regional \$18.00 (increase of \$2)

National \$22.00 (increase of \$4)

National Superior \$24.00 (increase of \$4)

International \$27.00 (increase of \$5)

The Committee feels that the Arbiter and Difficulty Judge should be paid \$50.00 per day in addition to their hourly fees for Level 9 and above, \$25.00 for Level 8, and \$10.00 for Level 7 and below. Meet Referees receive an additional \$75.00 per meet day. If a judge is both a Meet Referee and Difficulty Judge, he/she would receive the higher compensation. NOT BOTH. There is a two-hour minimum guarantee for each competition day. All judges are paid according to their USAG rating for the hours they are required to be at the meet site. This includes any meetings that the judges are required to attend. Evening sessions are considered another day when applying arbiter and difficulty fees. This proposal was passed unanimously.

Each region will set their own policy for paying judges for mileage.

One suggestion was made that new judge's test fee should include the price of the rule book. Hopefully this would attract new judges.

8. Appeals Process

A brief discussion was held concerning the Appeals Process. Since the meeting was before the National competition, most members had not used the new process. The committee members were asked their opinion on whether a coach filing an appeal against another team should remain part of the appeals process or no longer be allowed. The members strongly agreed it should remain as part of the Appeals Process.

9. 2005 National Championships Meet Referee

The Technical Committee recommended Jola Jones for the 2005 National Meet Referee and Linda Ocmant for Assistant Meet Referee. This proposal was passed unanimously.

10. Next Meeting

There was discussion about the next meeting. Some members were interested in meeting at Team Trials.

Minutes approved by USA Gymnastics President, Robert Colarossi on December 1, 2004.

