

**IEC Meeting
October 10
Lake Placid, NY 8:00pm**

Roll Call:

Natasha Klimouk
Olga Kutuzova
Lucy Kerzernman
Natalya Kiriyenko
Tatyana Itkina (RPC coaches' rep: non-voting)
Jessica Howard-absent

Caroline Hunt: Program Director (non-voting)

- Caroline welcomed Tatyana to this committee and explained that she is the link between this committee and the RPC. She shares/clarifies with the RPC the vision of the IEC.
- Caroline asked Natasha and Olga to offer any feedback from Worlds: both coaches agree that consistency and quality are the most important and Lisa and Julie both gained in these areas based on their season of training camps(quality) and international competitions (consistency). Both coaches felt our plan for the year was effective (even without the desired end) and recommend we continue to compete often and increase our knowledge through international training camps. They also agreed that sending the same few judges must continue since the consistency was helpful in sustaining relationships.
- We identified that in 2009 there will be 2 major events: World Championships and Jr. Pan American Games, which we believe will serve as qualification to the Youth Olympic Games. All agreed that 2008 should be spent preparing for these 2 major events. We attempted to focus the 2008 plan with this goal in mind.
- Injuries at Championships: The IEC briefly discussed this issue at Championships but revisited it here. The coaches discussed the need, for the country's sake, of protecting our high-level athletes who may sustain an injury at the Visa Championships.
 - **Recommendation**: A gymnast ranked in the top 3 of the existing National Team who becomes injured at Championships will be named as an unranked member of the National Team who can participate in any NT training camps and compete at the Rhythmic Challenge. Any gymnast 4-8 from the NT who sustains an injury will be invited to any National Team camps and Challenge, but will not be named a National Team member.
 - **Recommendation**: In order to examine the best field of juniors at Challenge, invite any junior #9-12 from Championships who will still be a junior in 08.
- Pacific Alliance: Discussion was held about our goals for this event: win team gold! The format has changed for 2008. 3 seniors and 3 juniors make up the team,

- 5 gymnasts are presented for each event, and the best 4 scores per event count for the team. Thus, the group of coaches and PA judges will need to sit down at the PA camp after the Team is named to select the best 5 routines per event at that point in time. The 6th member can compete for individual all-around.
- There was lengthy discuss about selecting the team. Coaches agreed that, with all 4 World individuals continuing, we have experienced seniors contending, depending on their physical condition/readiness at Challenge.
 - **Recommendation:** The top 3 ranked seniors from 08 Challenge will be named to the PA team; gymnast 4 will be named alternate and also will be assigned to the Derugina Cup in Kiev. All 4 gymnasts will attend the PA Camp directly preceding the competition and will participate in the Control Competition there. If a gymnast is deemed out of shape at that time by the Athlete Selection Committee, the alternate will be called up.
 - There was more discussion about juniors, who are much less experienced. Natalya pointed out that the best 3 juniors at the end of March might not be the strongest in competition in February. In addition, all agreed we have a solid set of at least 6 juniors.
 - **Recommendation:** Invite the top 6 ranked juniors from 08 Challenge to the PA Camp. Name the top 3 juniors from the camp's Control Competition to the Team. (*Note: the PA camp is the same week at the Kiev World Cup, which we will attend** This will cause a slight complication for the senior PA alternate)
 - **Recommendation:** For the Competitive order for each event, the PA coaches, judges, and athlete rep will meet together at the conclusion of the final camp practice to determine collectively the best competitive order of gymnasts for each event.
 - **Judges Recommendations for Pacific Alliance:** IEC will recommend when they review all PA event information.

Recommended 2008 Plan

- *Competitions:*
 - Moscow: send 1 senior to GP and possibly 1 to tournament. Last year, this competition was assigned before Challenge based on the Championships ranking.
 - After Pacific Alliance, send seniors ranked 1-4 from Challenge based on recommendations from Athlete Selection Committee to the following: Portimao WC/Slovenia WC; Bourgas GP/Corbeil WC; Holon GP; Deventer GP. Gymnasts remaining in Europe for more than a week should try to stay over for shorter camps in Moscow. ASC will also recommend competitions for juniors 1-4; juniors 5-8 may also represent their club at own expense.

- *Camps:*
 - June: If possible, send 09 worlds/'10 Games candidates to Croatia to train with RUS (approx 6 gymnassts)
 - August: National Team training camp followed by Squad in LP (guest coach) **technique and conditioning**
 - October: 09 World candidates (5) and Jr Pan Am candidates (5) intensive training camp--2 weeks-**technique, conditioning and routine work/evaluation/improvement**

GROUP: 2010 Youth Games

- Group will be a part of this event. Lengthy discussion was held over creating a realistic plan that would put forth our best gymnasts for the 09 Jr. Pan Ams as a group team. The committee revisited Natalya's suggestion from last year:
 - **Recommendations:** Create a compulsory national FIG group routine with best candidates.
 - Teach the routine in clubs (include 09 candidates with club members, from any birth year) in order for those candidates to be practicing the routine regularly. Have the clubs compete/exhibition to give candidates competitive practice.
 - Bring all practicing candidates together (WHEN?) and select group. Train together before 09 Jr Pan Am. Create training plan for '10 Games upon qualification.

Procedures for Major Team Events: The IEC recommends that the frequent-traveling international judges give their input/be involved with creating procedures for team composition. The IEC Chairwoman should also be part of creating these selection procedures.

The only remaining item is for the IEC to elect its new Chairwoman and ASC. Due to exhaustion, we decided to complete this later.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45pm

An email call for nominations was followed by a vote. The following are the election results: November 6, 2007:

IEC Chairwoman: *Natasha Klimouk*

Coach to the Athlete Selection Committee: *Lucy Kerznerman*

2008 ASC: Chairwoman (Klimouk); IEC Coach (Kerznerman); Athlete (Howard)

Calls on 11/20 to IEC coaches indicate they would prefer Level 4,5,6 Championship be held after the Visa Championships to accommodate athlete preparation.