



Trampoline & Tumbling Program Committee Meeting

Program Committee Chair	Patti Conner	Voting
Elite Committees Chair	Chelsea Rainer	Voting
Technical Committees Chair	Deanna Hanford	Voting
Development Committees Chair	Nuno Merino	Voting
Athlete Selection Representative	Michael Devine	Voting
Athlete Support Representative	Alex Renkert	Voting
General Athlete Representative	Nicole Ahsinger	Non-voting
General Athlete Representative	Kayttie Nakamura	Non-voting
T&T Program Director	Jacqui Godfrey	Non-voting
T&T Program Manager	Sydney Carlson	Guest

Meeting called to order by Patti Conner at 12:00pm CDT on Sunday June 26, 2022.

Program Committee Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome

All attendees were asked to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest based on a review of the agenda.

No conflicts of interest were brought forward by those present.

It was noted that many changes agreed upon at this meeting would be formally motioned and voted upon during the August meeting R&P review.

2. Elite Challenge

2.1. Request to add level 10's to all session trainings

The committee discussed this suggestion. It was confirmed that Elite Challenge uses a competition format option available in the CoP, and how changing the CoP could affect not just Elite Challenge but also invitationals. There is also pressure to not extend competition past the middle of the day, to eliminate another night's accommodation.

It was agreed that the rules would not be changed, but Patti confirmed that as the Meet Director she would make her best effort to add this so long as it could fit within the available competition timeframe.

2.2. Synchronized competition

It was agreed that Synchro competition would continue to be included for a combined IE/SE division. This would take the form of Qualification only; best of two routines. Athletes in this division will receive a session warm-up, the length of which will be dependent on the number of entries.

3. Judge Panels

The committee was asked to revisit judges panel size and rating requirements, due to difficulties experienced throughout the country in filling panels the past season.

It was agreed that for all levels and through to Regional Championship level:

- Panels will require a minimum of 2 E judges
- There must be at least one Cat 2 E judge, and the remainder of the E panel can be filled with Cat 3 judges.

Motion that for all levels and through to Regional Championship level:

- **Panels will require a minimum of 2 E judges**
- **There must be at least one Cat 2 E judge**

- **Motion: Nuno**
- **Second: Chelsea**
- **Vote: 5 for / 1 against**

4. R&P Changes / Clarifications

4.1. Elite petitions to USA Gymnastics Championships

The current Elite R&P clause states:

"The petition must state the specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibits the athlete from participating in the competitive process."

The committee discussed the example where an athlete petitions due to an injury causing substandard performance and therefore not achieving the score. It was agreed that the wording should be tightened up to exclude the option to petition when an athlete had attempted to compete but not been able to make a qualifying routine:

"The petition must state the specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibits the athlete from competing in the qualifying event(s) (A salute is not considered competing for this purpose, however a substandard performance is considered competing)."

The current Elite R&P clause states:

"Athletes who competed as Youth Elite last year can petition into Junior Elite if they have aged out of Youth Elite. Athletes who competed as Junior Elite last year can petition into Intermediate Elite if they have aged out of Junior Elite."

The committee discussed whether this principle should also apply for previous Level 10s moving into Elite. It was agreed that petitions should be available for any athletes who have aged into a new level, however a video verification of adequately performed routines would be required with the petition. Petitions would not be accepted if athletes have needed to use the mobility process to move into their new level:

"The following athletes will be eligible to petition to USA Gymnastics Championships:

- *Athletes who competed in the same level in the same discipline at the previous USA Gymnastics Championships*
- *Athletes who competed in a lower level in the same discipline at the previous USA Gymnastics Championships, but aged into their current level (for example, Level 10-Open, YE 13-14 to JE; JE to IE). In this case, a video verification must be included with the petition, showing proficiency at the new level. Athletes who competed in a lower level in the same discipline at the previous USA Gymnastics Championships, where mobility is required to compete in their current level (for example, Level 10-Elite; IE to SE). are not eligible to petition to USA Gymnastics Championships."*

The current Development R&P clause states does not contain a deadline for application. It was agreed to add the following sentence, to match the Elite R&P:

"The petition must be submitted electronically to the Program Director prior to the entry deadline."

It was also agreed to add the following verbiage to both R&Ps:

"Petitions received after the entry deadline will be rejected. Athletes may not enter USA Gymnastics Championships until the petition is accepted (please allow up to 5 business days). Entry to USA Gymnastics Championships will be at the price point and conditions applicable when the entry is accepted."

5. **JumpStart Testing**

Feedback was received that obtaining the sanction for JumpStart testing can result in a financial loss for smaller States.

The committee discussed various options for eliminating or minimizing the cost of JumpStart testing:

- Having the tester travel to each gym rather than a centralized testing (this will only work where there are very few clubs wishing to participate)
- Running an in-gym testing (this will only work where there is only one club wishing to participate)
- Running in conjunction with an invitational or Championship event (so long as all equipment is available)

It was agreed that these options will be covered in the annual State & Region Chairs training.

6. **Annual Awards**

6.1. Sportsperson of the Year

With the addition of Intermediate Elite, the committee discussed whether which athletes should be eligible to be Sportsperson of the Year, and which athletes should be eligible to vote for Sportsperson of the Year.

Motion that:

- **Athletes competing as Senior Elite in the preceding season are eligible to be Sportsperson of the Year.**
- **All Elite athletes are eligible to vote for Sportsperson of the Year.**
- **Motion: Alex**
- **Second: Nuno**
- **Vote: unanimous**

6.2. Coach of the Year

It was discussed that it is very difficult for coaches who do not coach multiple disciplines to earn the Overall Coach of the Year award. The Committee agreed that it would be more representative to discontinue the Overall Coach of the Year, and instead award the Trampoline, Tumbling and Double Mini Coach of the Year awards during the premier session.

Motion to discontinue the Overall Coach of the Year, and award the Trampoline, Tumbling and Double Mini Coach of the Year awards in its place during the premier session at USA Gymnastics Championships.

- **Motion: Alex**
- **Second: Nuno**
- **Vote: unanimous**

7. **T&T Annual Calendars**

Jacqui presented the draft 2023 and 2024 calendars for discussion. The 2023 calendar will be published in the coming days. It was noted the FIG calendar has not yet been received, and several events are yet to be confirmed.

8. **USA Gymnastics Championships**

8.1. Entry cost

Feedback was received that the entry cost for USA Gymnastics Championships is too high. This feedback will be passed on to USA Gymnastic Events.

8.2. Schedule Feedback

Suggestions were made regarding the following:

- Setting YE and JE award ceremonies that do not conflict with Elite Training. This was

noted.

- Level 9 and 10 session warm up was too large. It was agreed to try to divide the 9-10-Open session to try to limit the number of competitors in the session warm up.
- Would it be preferable to run Elite Synchro Qualification and Finals on the same day? The feeling was that it would be preferred by coaches and athletes to run both Qualification and Finals on the same day.
- Suggestion to remove session training and add back a 15 minute flight warm up. The committee looked at some scenarios using current numbers and unfortunately this would add too much time to the schedule.

8.3. Premier session

It was noted that numbers have grown considerably over the past few years. The committee agreed in principle that a qualification system should be put in place. The following ideas were discussed, with the committee in favor:

- Premier session qualification to be open to IE and SE athletes. Non-qualifying athletes would compete in the afternoon session.
- Places would be available to Senior National Team members, plus the top scorers from the first two selection events of the season
- Consideration be given to a scenario where there are only a few athletes remaining after the qualifications are set.
- Consideration be given to the process for replacing scratches onsite.

Jacqui will present a proposal for discussion at the August meeting.

9. Qualification to National Championships

The committee discussed the process to qualify to USA Gymnastics Championships and Stars & Stripes. It was agreed that the Regional Champion in each division should qualify to National Championships in addition to the qualification score process.

Nuno agreed to provide a proposal for discussion at the August meeting.

10. Tie Breakers

The large number of ties being produced in compulsory levels were noted, and solutions discussed to break the ties. Nuno presented the discussion from the Development Committees meeting.

Motion to break ties as follows:

- **Trampoline Level 1-7: highest individual judge's E score; after that tied.**
- **Tumbling Level 1-7: highest E score of the second routine; then highest individual judge's E score of the second routine; then highest individual judge's E score of the first routine; after that tied.**
- **Double mini Level 1-7: highest E score of the second routine; then highest individual judge's E score of the second routine; then highest individual judge's E score of the first routine; after that tied.**
- **Motion: Nuno**
- **Second: Deanna**
- **Vote: unanimous**

11. Technical Committee Recommendations

11.1. Inquiries

The TC has been using the new inquiry process for a season. The TC recommended that the Jury of Appeal be provided with basic information on what an inquiry is about: which skill and what type of deduction.

It was agreed that inquiries should include the following information:

- Routine (1 or 2)

- Level
- Skill (e.g. skill 8)
- Type of deduction (e.g. landing/penalty)

11.2. Leader Level Judges

Deanna presented the proposed document from the TC. This was approved.
The new verbiage will be included in the 2022-2023 [R&P](#).

11.3. Judges Requirements for Active Status

Deanna presented the proposed document from the TC. This was approved.
The new verbiage will be included in the 2022-2023 [R&P](#).

11.4. Judges Certifications

Deanna presented the proposed document from the TC. This was approved.
The new verbiage will be included in the 2022-2023 [R&P](#).

11.5. FIG assignments

The PC acknowledged that the selections made for the upcoming World Championships were correct per the selection procedures, however the Technical Committee was requested to consider whether the TC representation at Worlds should perhaps be every odd year (thus including the first year of the quad where rules are changing, and last year of the quad where new rule are being planned), rather than every year, or that Senior Council members could be added to that group.

12. **Tumbling Landing Matting**

The Tumbling community provided a request for a landing area topper. It was noted that there were a concerning number of injuries in Des Moines, and also that the supplier confirmed that the specification area within FIG regulations.

The committee agreed in principle that a padded topper would be desirable for all National events. Chelsea was asked to provide a proposal with additional specifics, including density, size etc., that is requested, and Jacqui will provide this to equipment suppliers. The committee requested Taryn provide some data on injuries from Gym Champs to guide their decision making.

13. **Elite Committee Recommendations**

13.1. Elite Mobility process

Chelsea presented a proposal from the Elite Committee for a new elite mobility process based on a combination of competition routines and required mobility skills, drills and sequences. The committee agreed in principle with the proposal submitted. It was agreed to undertake the following communication, feedback and implementation process:

- A draft document be published and feedback sought, especially from judges and elite coaches.
- Thought be given to how the skills will be judged.
- The final proposal be presented at the August meeting.
- Live zooms be programmed, the first from Stars & Stripes.
- A period of overlap be planned, where both the old and new systems would be accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.