

## **Program Committee Meeting**

Program Committee Chair Elite Committees Chair Technical Committees Chair Development Committees Chair Athlete Selection Representative T&T Program Director USAG Programs Council T&T Committee

- Patti Conner Chelsea Rainer Deanna Hanford Nuno Merino Michael Devine Jacqui Godfrey Scott Lineberry Laurie Cavarretta
- Voting Voting Voting Voting (via e-mail) Non-voting Guest Guest observer

Meeting called to order by Patti Conner at 10:00am EST on Friday November 25, 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.

- It was agreed that all committee members have conflicts of interest as a result of being athletes, coaches, judges and/or club owners and/or receiving compensation at times from the T&T program. Except in the case of items bulleted above, the individuals and committee share the view that members are able to act impartially and for the benefit of the program, and recusal is not necessitated for any other items.
- No other specific Cols were declared.

Patti reiterated the importance of confidentiality with regards to the discussion and details of the incident, except as published in official minutes.

#### 2. Tumble Tech Elite Mobility Meet

Following the Tumble Tech Elite Mobility Meet, it was discovered that some athletes had been allowed a second attempt at completing their passes to achieve an elite mobility score. After an investigation, it was shown that the Meet Director, after advisement by the Meet Referee and another FIG judge, allowed several athletes to have additional attempts at competing. Athletes were invited to pay a second entry fee to the Meet Director (not through the USAG meet reservations system), in order to be judged again. Official results were altered to only show the second attempt. Accounts differ as to which athletes, and how many athletes, were a part of this incident. Opinions from those involved also differ in whether they thought the athletes were paying to try again, paying to enter the same meet again, or paying as part of a new unsanctioned meet. None of these options combined with the submitted results are allowable under the USAG rules.

The committee unanimously shared their disappointment at this situation, which defies several rules across the CoP, R&P, T&T Judges Council document and USAG Code of Ethical Conduct.

The committee discussed and agreed upon repercussions for each individual involved in the situation, based on the R&P and under the PC jurisdiction. It was noted that there are additional repercussions under the TC jurisdiction that will be decided upon by that committee.

The minutes contained herein are intended for publication, with a more comprehensive version including specific investigations and findings to be filed confidentially.

## Meet Director

Motion to fine the Tumble Tech Meet Director \$100 for a sanction violation.

- Motion: Deanna
- Second: Nuno
- Unanimous

## Meet Referee and FIG leader

Motion to fine the Tumble Tech Meet Referee and one FIG judge involved \$100 each for sanction violations.

- Motion: Deanna
- Second: Chelsea
- Unanimous

In addition, the committee agreed to recommend to the Technical Committee to remove these two officials from the Junior and Senior Judges Councils respectively.

In addition, the committee recommends that whenever these two officials are assigned as Meet Directors or Meet Referees throughout 2023, that they be supervised by a member of their state or regional committee approved by the Program Committee. It is the responsibility of these officials to make the organization(s) hiring them aware of this restriction.

### Active Judges

Motion to fine active judges \$100 each for sanction violations, except those included below ("other active judges").

- Motion: Chelsea
- Second: Nuno
- Unanimous

In addition to the above penalties, the PC recommends that letters of reprimand be sent by the TC to all judges fined, stating the reasons why the decisions were incorrect, reiterating the responsibilities of all judges to implement the CoP, disappointment at the decisions taken and the responses to the incident, the ramifications to the event and athletes, and a warning about additional offenses.

#### Other Active Judges

It was agreed that some judges should be held less responsible, due to one or more factors:

- Differential of age, rating and/or experience
- Power imbalance due to being a current athlete

The PC recommends written or verbal educational follow-up by the TC for this group, providing information on why this is a problem and techniques to use in the future. The PC requested that any letters be approved by the PC and Program Director prior to sending.

## Tumble Tech Meet Elite Mobility status

The TC Chair attempted to recreate the original scores using the submitted judges sheets. Unfortunately, there were many missing and inconclusive scores and data and it was agreed that a cohesive and reputable set of results is not possible. It was agreed that the meet could retain eligibility status as this is unaffected.

# Motion to remove elite mobility status for the Tumble Tech meet, based on incomplete and unverifiable results.

- Motion: Chelsea
- Second: Nuno
- Unanimous

It was agreed that the Program Director would draft a letter to Tumble Tech stating the reasons why the decisions were incorrect, reiterating the responsibilities of all meets to implement the CoP, disappointment at the decisions taken and the responses to the incident, the ramifications to the event and athletes, and a warning about additional offenses.

#### Meet Host

The committee agreed that consideration should be given to athletes who entered the Tumble Tech meet in good faith to achieve elite mobility. It was agreed that the event host should be highly encouraged to provide full refunds for athletes who were unable to achieve elite mobility for reasons addressed at the meeting, and this recommendation be included in the letter to Tumble Tech.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Meeting reconvened at 12:30pm EST on Thursday December 8, 2022.

#### 3. Tumbling Gym Champs Qualification Scores (13-14/ Jr Male)

There appears to be an error on the Junior Male Gym Champs Qualification Scores in the R&P. The Elite Committee recommended correcting the score for Junior males to 41.1.

#### Motion to correct the Gym Champs Qualification Score for Junior Males in the R&P to 41.1

- Motion: Patti
- Second: Nuno
- Vote: unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.