

Region 2 Board Meeting, WSU, April 14, 2011

In Attendance:

RACC	Meg Doxtator	
RTCC	Linda Mulvihill	
RJOCC	Laurie Reid	
SACC	Martha Dunn	Alaska
SACC	Pam Zak	Hawaii
SACC	Lizzie Dolan	Montana
SACC	Phil Sappington	Oregon
	Kim Thomson for Patti Gable,	Washington
	Brandon Paine for Marian DeWane,	Idaho
NAWGJ Liaison:	Ann Heppner	

Absent: Marian DeWane; Patti Gable.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Meg Doxtator.

1. The motion was made to approve the previous minutes (9/17/2010) with the provision that the item about judges' lack of professionalism at the level 8 team meet be stricken from the record. No one could remember any complaint about a lack of professionalism at the team meet.

First: PamZak

Second: Martha Dunn

Approved with the deletion of the item above.

2. Discussion of what type of financial report is due the membership for each state. Feedback regarding USAG finance system.

The consensus was that one financial report per year was due to the membership with income and expenses reduced to major categories. The key factor is being transparent with membership. A fiscal year from July 1 to June 30 was recommended for two reasons: 1) concurrent with election cycle and 2) activity tends to be less in the summer.

Ann Heppner mentioned that one problem she had in receiving the team entry fees from the USAG-national checking system is that checks did not have the state noted on them and so she could not tell who was paying. Meg will take that back to the National Office.

3. Regional Team Fees: Encourage clubs to pay. Martha Dunn mentioned that she thought that many Alaskan clubs did not pay because the fees were too high given the number of gymnasts at a club. Linda Mulvihill noted that three gymnasts were needed to comprise a "team", so gyms with only one optional gymnast would not be liable for the regional "team" fee. Meg Doxtator specified that she was most concerned with gyms that had level 10 gymnasts, as they received the most benefits from the regional office.

4. Rules and Policies: Linda Mulvihill said that the petition form needed to be added to the checklist of requirements for the Level 10 Nationals or the Level 9 Westerns. The group recommended that links to forms be provided on the USAG website.

5. Apparel and Clinic for Level 10 Nationals: Laurie will set up one stop for sweat suits and one stop for leotards, as well as a paperwork stop and a cheer/team building stop. Phil Sappington and Brandon Paine agreed to help coaches fill in paperwork regarding bar settings. Additionally, one judge from each panel plus Linda Mulvihill are to be available to provide advice to coaches who wanted input on improving their athlete's performance. Martha Dunn was to help sell T-shirts to parents and Lisa Boylan would be doing hotel reservations.

Laurie Reid stated that emphasis would be placed on competing, not just going for the experience and fun.

6. Fall Clinics: Four fall clinics were announced as well as the Hi-Tech camp.

East Clinic	MISMO/Montana	October 8-9, 2011
North Clinic	Emerald City/ WA	November 12-13, 2011
South Clinic	Metro/OR	November 12-13, 2011
West Clinic	HITS/Hawaii	January 8, 2011

(This will be a four hour clinic to be conducted in conjunction with a meet.)

Hi-Tech Clinic OGA/OR November 5-6, 2011

First preference will be given to gymnasts who qualified for level 10 Nationals or level 9 Westerns before it is opened to other gymnasts & lower level gymnasts.

7. SACC Workshop: All states indicated that they would be going to the SACC workshop in Orlando, FL in early June.

8. Regional Championships: There was a long discussion about judges selection for Regionals and ways to ensure that the best judges were at this competition. Meg made a request to see what feedback was obtained after the 2011 meet to see if coaches still had concerns regarding the judging. Board members were requested to be attentive to complaints and to determine whether the problem was widespread or not.

9. JO Update: Laurie Reid advised that the 2013 compulsories were written and that the JO committee was working on determining deductions. The music for the floor exercises was still in the process of being written. Filming for the new compulsories would begin this fall.

Laurie also requested that nominations for coach of the year be submitted after Regionals.

10. RTC Update: Linda Mulvihill advised that the technical committee would be meeting in May. She noted that Region 2 currently has no Elite athletes and that Region 2 participation in the TOPS program was less this year than last. She observed that this reduction in numbers may be due to the expense associated with the TOPS program. She advised that the age for TOPS testing

had been reduced to 8 years old this year and would be further reduced to 7 years old next year.

Linda requested that each state submit a list of their judge-candidates for the 2012 Regional Meet by September 1, 2011 along with background information on each judge. Attendance at either Hi-Tech camp or Region 2 Congress is mandatory for judges working at the 2012 Regional meet.

11. NAWGJ Update: Ann Heppner reported that a number of Region 2 clubs supported NAWGJ by attending the National Judges' Cup in Phoenix. She noted that state judging directors had been pro-active in providing clinics for their members. She also advised about changes in the executive board of NAWGJ and the formation of a constitutional committee.

12. State Reports:

Alaska – Martha inquired if other states had problems with coaches making videos of gymnasts other than their own. She mentioned that this question had been raised within the state but that her board had decided that there was no way to police this activity. The group consensus was that it would be polite to request permission from the gymnast's coach, but that each coach should handle problems individually (i.e., by requesting that the meet director stop the activity if it is a problem).

Hawaii – No issues, all is good.

Idaho – Idaho had an issue where a gym moved their building to Washington but kept their mailing address in Idaho to attend the Idaho State Meet. Brandon Paine advised that Marian DeWane was dealing with the national office on this question and that the determination of which state meet a gymnast should attend may be dependent on her home address – that is, a club team would have to go to the state meet in the state where the club is located but a gymnast could compete as an individual in the state where she resides. There was a general discussion of the geography involved and how the state meet of another state could often be closer than the state meet of the home state of a club.

Montana – Lizzie Dolan advised that she is working to increase educational opportunities for her membership.

Oregon – Phil advised that he was working to improve communication among his membership and advised the board on the advantage of using SKYPE and Facebook to have a board meeting that is private and will have a record of conversation made from the meeting.

Washington – Nothing to report.

13. Regional Bids: 2012 Regional Meet on April 13, 14, & 15 will be hosted by OGA in Beaverton, OR. Level 10 nationals in 2012 will be the weekend of May 10th and level 9 Westerns will be the weekend of May 4th. The call for bids for 2013 Regionals will be put up on the web site shortly.

14. International Trip: Meg advised that due to the earthquake in Japan that the international trip to Japan had been cancelled and would be replaced by a trip to Guatemala over Memorial Day weekend. The overall top 10 level 10's from the 2011 Regional Meet would be invited to go and each gymnast would receive \$500.00 to help defray the expense of the trip.

The next meeting will be at Region 2 Congress on Friday, September 9, 2011 in Everett, WA.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Dunn