USA-Gymnastics

Region 2 Committee Meeting

April 12, 2018

Tacoma, Washington

In attendance:

RACC Marian DeWane

RTCC Linda Mulvihill

RJOCC Ivan Alexov

RXCC Dianne Palmer

SACC AK Martha Dunn

SACC HI Pam Zak

SACC ID Mark Kindelspire

SACC MT Josh Burnham

SACC OR Molly Gill

SACC WA Sandy Flores

Guests NAWGJAnn Heppner and Denise Green

Guests JO Clinic Subcommittee: Kelly Durbin, Dan Alch, Drew Grow. (Joe Rapp and Brent Phelps absent)

The meeting was called to order at 6:oo pm by Marian DeWane.

1. Ann Heppner introduced Denise Green as the new Regional Judging Director. We congratulated Ann on her election to Vice President of NAWGJ and wished her well.

2. Camp Discussion: Marian advised that the camps had brought in $54,000 in revenue. Between expenses and apparel the net gain was about $1,000 – or approximately break-even. Ivan brought in some higher-level clinicians that were a success. Ivan’s subcommittee has some ideas that could be implemented in the 2019-2020 season.

Ivan reported attendance of 102 at South Camp, 92 at Inland Camp, 72 at North Camp, and 116 at High Tech Camp. The feedback he received about the clinicians brought in from outside of Region 2 was positive.

The proposal for 2018-2019 competitive season is to retain the same format as used in previous years with three camps and High Tech. Dates are as follows:

October 13 – 14, 2018 – South Camp at Omega Gymnastics

October 20 – 21, 2018 – Inland Camp at Dynamic in Spokane

October 27 – 28, 2018 – North Camp at Auburn Gymnastics

November 17 – 18, 2018 – High Tech camp at Metropolitan Gymnastics.

The date for High Tech Camp came under immediate discussion, as it is bad for Oregon and Hawaii. This date is under review and a new date may be proposed.

Ivan proposed some changes to restructure the training camps based on his subcommittee’s recommendations. He turned the floor over to Kelly Durbin to present the proposal. She said that the subcommittee wanted to find a way to bring the spirit and camaraderie that can be found within Region 5 to Region 2. Specific proposals included:

A. Make High Tech Camp more exclusive

B. Have more National Staff work at High Tech Camp.

C. Select only the best Region 2 coaches to help at High Tech Camp.

The subcommittee realizes that expenses is a consideration but do not want to undercut the quality of the clinicians. Their proposal would be to charge more for the three more inclusive camps (South, Inland, North) and then reduce the cost for High Tech Camp. Level 9 & 10 gymnasts would have to qualify to attend High Tech Camp with a cap of about 70 gymnasts. Super camps, while more inclusive, would still focus on the most competitive gymnasts, even down to the compulsory levels.

A question was raised about whether or not earlier camps, especially High Tech might be feasible. Drew Grow replied that this would be preferable.

The question was raised about what would happen if High Tech camp was restricted to Level 9 & 10 Western/National qualifiers. In 2017 there were 92 Level 9’s who qualified to Westerns and 47 Level 10’s who qualified to Nationals.

The Subcommittee wanted to include State Camps in their planning but realize that those are out of their jurisdiction. They discussed possibly having a set curriculum for states to use that focus on a few specifics. Additionally, if gymnasts are to be evaluated for eligibility to High Tech Camp, the gymnast would have to be evaluated by someone other than their state’s subcommittee member.

*Discussion included: timing for initiating the new-format clinics and desirable location along the I-5 corridor for High Tech Camp.*

3. Regional Report – Marian Dewane:

A. Budget Approximately $64,000 in the Regional account. Marian reported that there is no more information about either John Hewitt’s retirement from USA-Gymnastics or the new invoice/payment system.

B. Confirmation that Level 5’s and 6’s have mobility back and forth without petition *whether or not they have competed at a state meet at either level.*

C. Nonpayment of bills (entry fees): The R and P states an athlete is not officially entered in a meet until fees are paid. Do a gyms scores count if they bounce checks? This would affect qualifying to State Meets. This has been submitted as an agenda item discussued at the National Administrative Committee meeting in May.

D. Future Regional Congresses will be combined with local sports agencies and the Region may not be able to select the location. Region 2 can still earn money through auction proceeds, but will obtain a share of the profits if there are any.

4. Technical Committee Report: Linda Mulvihil

A. The new Code of Points is being printed.

B. Training materials will be out on April 13, 2018 and the Code will be out in May, so judges can start studying.

C. Regional Congresses will have a number of sessions regarding the new rules.

D. There are a number of judges who are coming to Region 2 Congress this year for testing but are not registering for the actual Congress.

5. Regional Judging Report: Ann Heppner

A. Ann stated that there is confusion as to who should notifiy judges whether or not they have been selected to judge the Regional Meet. Her opinion was that since the state committee makes the selection that the State Chairman should make the notifications. The names of the selected judges should be recorded in the minutes for the meeting in which they were selected. The Regional Judging Director then sends out the contract.

B. When check requests to NAWGJ Region 2 are made for entry fees to the Level 8 All Star meet, they should be noted as entry fees, not donations.

C. Ann suggested that having a joint regional committee meeting/State Judging Director meeting would benefit all parties. It was suggested that this might be possible at High Tech Camp.

6. XCEL Clinic Report: Dianne Palmer

A. XCEL Clinics broke even

B. There are 600 more XCEL athletes than last year. Much of the growth came from growth in Washington State when the Rec/Op program was disbanded. The Washington State XCEL meet had over 1100 athletes.

c. XCEL coaches tend to be newer and are often not experienced in meet protocol. Dianne asked that gyms with more experienced coaches to mentor the newer coaches at meets.

7. Administrative Report: Marian Dewane

A. Marian asked State Chairs to send out reminders about dress code before state meets.

B. Proposal to add levels 6 & 7 (or just 7) to the Regional Meet and/or adding a Regional XCEL meet. Comments:

*Discussion included several states giving the opinions of their Professional Members as well as other discussion about how to aid the finances for the gym hosting the Regional Meet.*

**Motion: To include Level 7 in the Regional Meet: Martha Dunn**

**Second: Dianne Palmer**

**Vote: 3 in favor, 6 opposed, motion defeated.**

A Level 7 Regional Invitational will be retained.

C. Regional meet management:

1. Sandy brought up having a qualifying score Level 8’s. Marian – This year no qualifying score last year as the meet host was guaranteed four sessions of Level 8’s.

**Motion: to retain the percentage of a percentage selection plus a minimum of score of 34.0 for Level 8’s to qualify with each state being guaranteed a minimum of eight athletes regardless of their AA score at State Meet: Sandy Flores**

**Second: Mark Kindelspire**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Sandy brought up having the states pay their judges’ transportation to Regional Meet or for USA-Gymnastics to pay for the transportation. This would be helpful in reducing the expense of hosting the meet. No action taken. State chairmen need to discuss this with their membership.

8. Proposal for an XCEL Regional Meet: Survey results presented by Dianne indicate interest in having an XCEL competition on a Regional Level.

A. 50% of respondents said they would attend a Regional Invitational.

B. 73% of respondents would like to have a Regional Championship. This primarily was for levels Gold and up-there was less support for the lower divisions.

C. The survey results also presented responses about how XCEL gymnasts should be qualified to a Regional Competition. These included a percentage of a percentage, a qualifying score, and allowing all XCEL athletes to participate if they choose to do so.

*Discussion included the fact that the surveys go to all Pro Members but it is the gym owners who make the decision about participation. Additional comments as to the underlying philosophy of the XCEL program – when does it become too close in structure to the Junior Olympic Program?*

**Motion by Dianne Palmer to accept the proposal by Patti Gable to host a Regional XCEL competition.**

**Second: Molly Gill**

**Vote: 1 for, 9 against, Motion Defeated.**

9. Discussion regarding a proposed Regional XCEL Invitational to be held in Boise: Dianne Palmer

**Motion by Sandy Flores not to have any Region 2-sponsored post season competition for XCEL athletes.**

**Second: Josh Burnham**

**Motion passed with one abstention**

Comment: Any party can host an invitational without it being called the Regional Invitation. It could be called a Northwest Invitational.

10. 2020 Regional Meet bids: Pocatello, ID from Performance Plus Events and Honolulu, HI from HITS. The bid from Performance Plus Events expressed being a backup bid to Hawaii. Interest was expressed in the bid from Hawaii but the bid package was incomplete due to a missing facility commitment signature.

**Motion from Martha Dunn to request additional data from the proposed Hawaiian host:**

**Second: Molly Gill**

**Approved Unanimously**

11. State Reports:

A. Alaska – XCEL competitors were included in the state meet for the first time. At this point only ten participated but we hope this increases in the future. The state is discussing whether or not to go from two seasons (with a fall State Meet) to a single season with only one state meet for all levels.

B. Hawaii: Hawaii is limited by a lack of judges, but they do hope to host Regionals.

C. Idaho: The All-Star clinic in June will offer a parent track with Toby Stark. They also have sports psychologist Paige Roberts. All clubs who had qualfiers are invited to the clinic, which has open enrollment for levels 9 & 10 but is selective for lower levels. There is also a developmental group for strong gymnasts at Levels 4 & 5. Clinic is structured with lectures in morning and practical hand’s on training with athletes in afternoon.

D. Oregon: Set a qualifying score for state at all levels of 33.0. The participation in their fall State Meet is declining and the fall host did not make a profit. Sixty-one percent of survey respondents were in favor of one state meet. Any changes made will for the 2019-2020 competitive season.

E. Montana: They have no fall season. Competition starts for all in December. They had issues with their state meet draw and too many coaches on the floor at state meet.

F: Washington: An election is in process for State Chairman.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.