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National Junior Olympic Committee MEETING MINUTES

National JO Committee
July 31, 2004 – Palm Springs, CA

1. ROLL CALL

Ron Osoria, Region 1
 Lee Hatfield, Region 2
 Selena Peco, Region 3
 Linda Porter, Region 4
 Illya Demyanyuk, Region 5
 Resi Buell-Size, Region 7
 Linda Ocmand, NTCC
 Jola Jones, PC Chair (non-voting)
 Carisa Laughon, SAPD (non-voting)
 Nancy Davis, invited guest

2. FEEDBACK ON THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM CHANGES

The committee discussed this year's new program changes and agreed that the program was changed for the better, to continue to challenge and develop athletes for elite and international competition, while providing ample opportunities for athletes to advance through the levels in the United States. Feedback for continued improvements in the program was provided, including bridging gaps in continuity between levels 7 through 10 and differentiating levels 9 and 10 by modifying special requirements for those levels.

3. 2004-05 PROGRAM CHANGES

LEVEL 8

- Difficulty Requirements

Recommendation to adjust the difficulty maximum and allowance to the following:

	Balance		Tempo	
	Maximum	Allowance	Maximum	Allowance
Women's Pair	35	45	30	40
Men's Pair	35	45	30	40
Mixed Pair	35	45	30	40
Women's Group	50	60	40	50
Men's Group	50	60	40	50

Difficulty scores will be out of a 10.0, following the new FIG scoring procedures. The maximum difficulty value listed above will equal a 10.0. A scale will be developed for difficulty scores below the maximum.

Maximum difficulty scores and maximum element difficulty values will be reviewed again upon receipt of the 2005-2008 FIG Tables of Difficulty.

Motion: LP
Second: RB
Passed - unanimous

- Mixed Pair Balance – row #1, box #1 , the option listed below will also be allowed as a compulsory element:

Toe lift 180° twist to low foot to hand on bent arms of base (3") = V 1+1

- Non-rated compulsory elements: non-rated SAWAGG compulsory elements will receive US ratings and remain in place, non-rated old USAG level 8 elements will be replaced.
- MX and MP balance row 3, #1 - change to cartwheel up to low handstand
- Trio balance row 1, #8 - change to page 87, row #1, last box
- Trio balance row 3, #3 - change to page 89 row #2, 1 st skill in second box
- Trio balance row 4, #1 – change to static pyramid (straddle) from row 4, #2
- Men's 4 balance row 1 - no change since all skills in row 1 are V0
- Individual Elements
- All balance category individual elements must have a 2" hold.
- The current individual element list will be adjusted to remove pirouettes from the balance category and ensure that each element is list only in one category.
- The individual elements must be three separate skills. They may be performed in a series, but they cannot overlap. For example, flic to splits, then splits hold may not count as two separate elements. But you may perform flic to splits, then splits press to handstand as an agility followed by a balance.
- Level 8 compulsory element clarifications
- Women's Pair Balance: row #4 - only the third element may be done with the complete support of the knee prior to going to splits. If this is done in elements 1, 2, 4, 5, or 6 the element is not given difficulty value, but the row is given credit. It is not a special requirement violation.
- Women's Pair Tempo: row #2, #4 may be performed in tuck, pike, or layout (*** only pike and layout positions are SAWAGG*)
- Mixed Pair Balance: row #2, #6 must be performed first to low then moving into the high handstand as one motion, but the low position must be included in the motion.
- Optional group pyramids can be transitional

Motion: SP
Second: RB
Passed - Unanimous

LEVEL 9

- Difficulty Requirements

Recommendation to adjust the difficulty minimum, maximum and allowance to the following:

	Balance			Tempo		
	Minimum	Maximum	Allowance	Minimum	Maximum	Allowance
Women's Pair	35	70	75	30	60	65
Men's Pair	35	70	75	30	60	65
Mixed Pair	35	70	75	30	60	65
Women's Group	50	85	90	40	70	75
Men's Group	50	85	90	40	70	75

Motion: RB
 Second: SP
 Passed - Unanimous

- Special Requirements
- Recommendation to remove the special requirement of a dismount in the exercise for pairs and groups.

Motion: ID
 Second: SP
 Passed - Unanimous

- Recommendation to increase the maximum value of an element in the tempo exercise to V12 for pairs and groups. (This recommendation will be reviewed upon receipt of the 2005-08 FIG Tables of Difficulty.)

Motion: ID
 Second: LP
 Passed – Unanimous

- Recommendation to modify the special requirement of a 360° twist for pairs and groups to the following:

Pairs: "Must demonstrate forward, backward, and twisting rotations. Saltos are to be a minimum of 4/4 and twist within a minimum 4/4 salto is to be a minimum of 180°."

Groups: "Must demonstrate forward, backward, and twisting rotations. Saltos are to be a minimum of 4/4 and twist within a minimum ¾ salto is to be 360°."

Motion: SP
 Second: RB
 Passed – Unanimous

**Clarification – for the above special requirement, one back, one front, and one twisting skill must be performed. One element cannot fulfill multiple special requirements, three separate skills must be performed. An Arabian is considered a front salto.

- Recommendation to reduce the required number of handstands to be performed by the top on a pyramid from two to one for groups only. A middle working as a top cannot fulfill this requirement.

Motion: LP
 Second: ID
 Passed – Unanimous

- Forbidden Elements
- All SAWAGG forbidden elements are also forbidden for level 9.
- Both bases must be on the floor for tempo skills.

Motion: SP
 Second: RB
 Passed – Unanimous

LEVEL 10

- Difficulty Requirements

Recommendation to adjust the difficulty minimum to the following:

	Balance Minimum	Tempo Minimum
Women's Pair	70	60
Men's Pair	70	60
Mixed Pair	70	60
Women's Group	85	70
Men's Group	85	70

Motion: SP
Second: LP
Passed – Unanimous

- Special Requirements
- Recommendation to increase the required transition value of the top to V4 for pairs and groups.

Motion: LP
Second: RB
Passed – Unanimous

- Recommendation to add the special requirement of a mount of minimum V4 for pairs.

Motion: ID
Second: LP
Passed – Unanimous

- Recommendation to remove the special requirement of a dismount for pairs and groups.

Motion: ID
Second: SP
Passed – Unanimous

- Forbidden Elements
- All SAWAGG forbidden elements are also forbidden for level 10.
- Both bases must be on the floor for tempo skills.

Motion: SP
Second: RB
Passed – Unanimous

QUALIFICATION FROM LEVEL 9 TO LEVEL 10

In an effort to allow pair/groups to begin preparing for next season, it is acceptable to host local competitions for qualification from level 9 to level 10 or level 10 to elite during the fall months. These competitions must be sanctioned USAG events in order for the scores to count towards qualification, therefore, all competition rules identified in the Rules and Policies and Specifications book must be followed, including sanctioning the event through USAG, running the competition with a certified Meet Director, and including certified judges who are paid according to the set scale. All competition report forms, competition results, and athlete taxes are due to the appropriate individuals at the conclusion of the meet. Current USA Gymnastics Sports Acrobatics and FIG rules will be used until new rules are put into effect.

4. FALL ATHLETE CLINIC

The National JO Clinic is in support of an athlete super clinic to be held this fall. The clinic will focus on the athletes. Coaches are encouraged to attend with their athletes to work with and learn from the clinic's clinicians. A level qualification competition is planned to be held in conjunction with the clinic.

5. NEW SPECIFICATIONS BOOK

A new Specifications book will be available this season for purchase. The new book will contain all updated and changed information since the publication of the last book in September 2002. This year's changes will also be included. Additionally, the modified requirements for the 2004-05 season will be available in a document on the USAG website.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next National JO Committee meeting will be scheduled in conjunction with the fall athlete clinic.

Minutes approved by USA Gymnastics President, Robert Colarossi on December 1, 2004.