

Joint Jr. Olympic/Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Sept. 6-7, 2008

I. Roll Call: Chairmen Tom Koll & Cheryl Hamilton called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Sept. 6th.

Region 1	Neela Nelson	Dan Witenstein
Region 2	Linda Mulvihill	Laurie Reid
Region 3	Carole Bunge	Cheryl Jarrett
Region 4	Linda Thorberg	Don Houlton
Region 5	Char Christensen	John Geddert
Region 6	Pat Panichas (arrived 9:00 pm)	Larry Goldsmith
Region 7	Myra Elfenbein	Linda Johnson
Region 8	Marian Dykes	Brad Harris
Asst. Tech. Comm. Chair	Audrey Schweyer	
JO Program Director	Connie Maloney	
NCAA Liaisons	Mark Cook	Mike Lorenzen

II. ALTERNATIVE WARM-UP PROCEDURES

Recommendation to allow (and include in the 2009-10 R & P) the following timed warm-up procedures for Beam: For competitions using the Modified Traditional format, the first three gymnasts warm-up on beam, then athlete #1 competes. Then the 4th gymnast warm-ups while the judges evaluate the first gymnast. After each subsequent routine, the next gymnast in rotation order will warm up.

Motion: D. Witenstein

Second: C. Jarrett

PASSED unanimously

III. VAULT DEDUCTIONS FOR LEVELS 1-3

Additional deductions were established for these levels and will be posted on the USA Gymnastics website by the end of September. They will be effective immediately.

IV. VAULT CLARIFICATIONS FOR LEVELS 5, 6 & 7

The Angle of repulsion is determined by the angle created from the hands, through the shoulders, and hips. If the body is arched or piked, a deduction for incorrect body position would be applied in addition to the angle, if deficient. Also, the trajectory should be considered.

V. BARS CLARIFICATION FOR FLIGHT ELEMENTS OVER LB:

In the performance of a flight element over the low bar, once the hands have made contact with the bar, the element is considered complete. If the feet make contact with the mat after the catch occurs, the deduction is considered to be on the next element (usually a glide).

If the flight element to LB finishes with the hands grasping the bar and the feet contacting the mat simultaneously, the deduction for contacting the mat will be applied to the flight element, not to the glide.

VI. PHILOSOPHY OF THE JR. OLYMPIC PROGRAM for the 2009-2013 CYCLE

Considering the overall decline in numbers of optional athletes throughout the country and in an attempt to return to the original linear structure of the JO Program, the JO Committee reevaluated the philosophy of the overall competitive structure. The philosophy is to provide a linear structure of the competitive levels in which each level prepares gymnasts for future endeavors.

- A. Developmental Levels
 - Level 1-Beginner Developmental
 - Level 2-Intermediate Developmental
 - Level 3-Advanced Developmental Level
- B. Competitive Compulsory Levels
 - Level 4 - Beginner
 - Level 5 - Intermediate
 - Level 6 - Advanced

- C. Competitive Optional Levels
Level 7 – Beginner
Level 8 - Beginner/Intermediate
Level 9 – Intermediate/Advanced
Level 10 – Advanced

The following explains the specific philosophy for each of the optional levels:

Level 7: This Beginner Optional level is the introduction to the construction of optional routines, using skills and sequences.

- Restricted difficulty
- No compositional requirements
- Emphasis on basic optional skills performed with excellent execution & artistry
- Preparing for future endeavors \
- 10 Start Value

Level 8: The Beginner/Intermediate Optional level is the continuation of Optional routine development.

- Restricted difficulty
- No Opportunity to earn bonus – Start value is 10.0
- Use of compositional requirements
- Emphasis on execution & artistry
- Preparing for future endeavors

Level 9: The Intermediate/Advanced Optional level is a continuation of routine development, using a higher proficiency of technical mastery.

- Restricted difficulty
- Opportunity to earn bonus through connections- Start Value is 9.7
- Use of compositional requirements
- Emphasis on execution & artistry
- Preparing for future endeavors

Level 10:

The Advanced Optional level is the pinnacle of the Jr. Olympic Program, emphasizing the technical mastery of skill and art.

- Unrestricted difficulty
- Opportunity to earn bonus through skills & connections – Start Value is 9.5
- Use of compositional requirements
- Emphasis on execution & artistry
- Preparing for future endeavors

VII. 2009-2013 JO CODE OF POINTS PREPARATION

The committees split up into event groups with 2 JO and 2 TC members each and then presented the proposals to the entire group for the 2009-13 cycle.

Recommendation to approve the proposed JO Code of Points changes for the 2009-2013 cycle.

Motion: L. Reid

Second: L. Thorberg

PASSED

VIII. TIMELINE FOR THE DISCLOSING OF THE NEW RULES/PROCEDURES:

October 13, 2008 - The basic information (Difficulty requirements & restrictions, Special Requirements, & element value changes) will be posted on the USA Gymnastics website as of October 13, 2008 and published in the November/December 2008 *Technique*.

April 1, 2009 - Final Optional Requirement chart, Cheat Sheet, Symbol Charts and Vault Value charts will be posted on the web site and published in the May *Technique*.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM on Sunday, September 7th.