

USAG New York State Committee Conference Call #3
Oct 11, 2020

The meeting was called to order by State Chair Larry Goldsmith at 7:00pm

Roll Call

Present:

Mary Bakke Spadaro

Bill Borges

Gail Caspare

Barry Coss

Dana Marion (absent)

Al Drozdowski

Gary Gregory

Dan Hassoun

Sharon Sparling

Val Stoughton

Steve Swider (absent)

Robin Thomas Harper (absent)

Jamie Winkler

The board has decided on a State Refund Policy which needs to be used for all local and qualifying meets. Due to the ever-changing environment and concerns for COVID 19, this protects the participating clubs and gives the meet director guidelines as to what to do in the event of a cancellation of the meet.

The policy is attached here:

Click here: [NYS Refund Policy](#)

Due to the impact of Covid 19, the **regional board** has **removed the cap** on 'in house' meet entry fees. This waiver is in effect for the 2020-2021 season.

Click here: [Regional Waiver](#)

The **state board** voted to **decrease the head tax** that is paid to NY Gymnastics for each NY gymnast competing in a **state qualifier** from

\$5 per athlete to \$4 per athlete. This is in effect for the 2020-2021 competitive season.

The topic of food for the judges and coaches at the State Championships was discussed. The judges will be receiving boxed lunches or per diem if they choose to bring their own food to the competition. The board feels that it is too expensive to provide boxed lunches for all of the coaches. The coaches must prepare to bring their own food to the state championships. Bottled water may be provided.

There are new USAG guidelines as relates to **medical coverage** as it relates to all USAG sanctioned competitions. See the attached link. Click Here: [New Medical Policy Region 6](#)

Judges:

The board voted that all **judging assignments** for the 2021 State Meets would remain the same.

Motion: Bill Borges

Second: Jamie Winkler

Passed unanimously

All judges were recused for this vote.

The state board read and reviewed two letters sent to the state chair from Rita Heisler concerning the assignment of Upstate officials to the state championships. Due to the fact that all state meets sites and state meet assignments will remain the same as last year, no changes were made. However, the board will review the letters next year when new assignments are made.

Meet Director Considerations for Judges Safety at Meets-

NAWGJ has a list of suggestions from the judges to facilitate their safety, as well as, others that they interact with at meets. Pat Panichas, our RTC, would like all meet directors to fill out this form, or one similar to it and send it to the meet assignor to allow it to go out to the officials who will be judging the meet. This will allow the

judges to know ahead of time what the meet directors plan is for the safety precautions at the meet. It is also suggested to list any teams who may be attending from any 'hot spot' area.

Click here: [NAWGJ Considerations](#)

Virtual Sanctions:

USAG will be issuing virtual sanctions sometime during this month. They will also be sending out a 'playbook' which will help in setting up the virtual competitions and help with the rules of this type of competition.

In person meets will always be the ideal way of competition, but this may be an alternative plan for the immediate future.

The state discussed and voted on allowing virtual competitions to be used for qualifications.

The NY Board **will allow** the use of virtual meets (live streaming as described in the playbook) **for qualification** to the state championships for 2020-2021 only.

Virtual competitions may be used for qualification to state championships, however, the meet directors are **not required** to allow virtual competitions **at their live meets**.

Motion: Jamie Winkler

Second: Gail Caspare

Yes: 6

No: 2

Abstain: 2

Passed

USA Gymnastics -

There is a restructuring and rebuilding going on at USA Gymnastics. The Executive Leadership Team has been reaching out to the Regional and State Chairs to listen to all of the concerns that the membership may have. They are working hard to ensure that there are solutions to the problems that have existed in the past. USA Gymnastics oversees the rules and policies of the sport, is the main provider of educational resources in the sport (National and Regional Congresses, the Compulsory Workshops). It

provides sanctions and insurance for competitions and it is currently working on providing health insurance for coaches and club owners. They are also working on redesigning their website to make it more user friendly. Their main focus continues to be the athletes, but USAG also wants to be of assistance to the club owner and coaches.

Our next state board meeting is Sunday, Nov 22nd at 7:00 PM