



# NYSTATE



FEBRUARY 2021

Dear Members,

During the current times that we live in, it is normal to hope that everything would continue to be the same in our world. It is not. This is not to say that it won't change back in the future, but for now we need to appreciate the opportunities that we are given and to work together to make these opportunities a success.

Your NY state board has worked tirelessly to organize a state meet schedule that works within the confines of the requirements of NY State and also try to keep everyone as safe as possible, while trying to have a state meet experience for the athletes. We have met every month for the past seven months and also held a virtual competition in December.

There were three choices for states: 'Live', virtual, or no state meets at all this year. This last option was the least favorable option.

The board discussed virtual meets at length. Virtual meets have benefits, but also many potential problems. The judging aspect is not the same and during the recent survey that I put out, the membership decidedly stated that they were not in favor of virtual meets. After many months of discussion and planning, the board decided to go with live meets.

**10 Regional Councils**

<b>Western New York:</b>	Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara
<b>Finger Lakes:</b>	Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates
<b>Southern Tier:</b>	Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Delaware, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins
<b>Central New York:</b>	Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego
<b>Mohawk Valley:</b>	Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, Schoharie
<b>North Country:</b>	Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence
<b>Capital Region:</b>	Albany, Columbia, Greene, Saratoga, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Warren, Washington
<b>Mid-Hudson:</b>	Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester
<b>New York City:</b>	Bronx, Kings, New York, Richmond, Queens
<b>Long Island:</b>	Nassau, Suffolk

The NY State Requirements-

NYS requires that competition only take place within each region, or in a region that touches (contiguous -sharing a common border or touching another region). This makes it very difficult to have a state championship.

The board has decided on having 4 separate locations for the Level 9/10, Level 7/8 and XCEL State meets. They are:

- 1) Upstate: Fingerlakes -held at Bright Raven Gymnastics
- 2) Mid state: Mohawk Valley- held at Valley Gymnastics
- 3) Downstate: Mid-Hudson - held at Galaxy Gymnastics
- 4) Long Island- being held at New Image Gymnastics

Each level will all be held on their respective date at all four location.

Ex: Level 9/10 States -March 19-21 will be held at Bright Raven, Valley, Galaxy and New Image. Depending on which region you are in will determine the site that you compete at.

In an effort to keep the judges safe and not require them to travel all across the state, the upstate judges will judge the Fingerlakes and Mohawk Valley regions and the downstate judges will judge the Mid-Hudson and Long Island regions. All of our state meet officials have been judging for a very long time. I know that we have always had both upstate and downstate representation of officials at most of our state championships, but please trust that the judges are professionals and that this is the safest choice for all. The judges will zoom with the state chair and the meet referee of the meet during the week before to review videos, discuss consistency and compositional deductions to make sure that all of the athletes are being judged by the same standards.

The dates for the state meets are:

March 19-21 : Level 9/10

April 9-11 : Level 7/8

April 16-18 : XCEL (Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond) - this is a new date and later than in previous years. It keeps the XCEL gymnasts in the gym longer and there is not such a long break between states and regionals.

The dates for Level 2,3,4,5,6,Xcel Bronze will be released at a later date. Hopefully, conditions will change in the world and if not, we can have several invitationals for these levels.

We are very lucky in the sport of gymnastics. Many 'youth sports' are not even competing and gymnastics has been having competitions. Having a state championship experience during this time is an opportunity for the children. We as a state need to appreciate these opportunities and work together to make our state championships a success for our athletes.

Safety, social distancing and other Covid protocols are extremely important. They allow us to remain open and the children to continue to participate in the sport that they love.

Old business -

--Motion made by Gary Gregory for the 2021 season, to extend the declaration date to March 8, 2021.

Second by Barry Coss  
Motion passed

Dates of the Regional Championships-

2021 Level 9/10 Regional Championships

April 23-25 - Mass Mutual Center, Springfield, MA

2021 Level 7/8 Regional Championships

May 1-2 -- Mass Mutual Center, Springfield, MA

2021 XCEL Regional Championships

May 15-16 or May 22-23 TBD

The region is planning on a 'live' Regional championships, but is preparing for a virtual Regional championships.

I wish everyone a successful year and to stay safe and healthy.

Larry Goldsmith

NY State Chair