



# **NOVEMBER 2020**

Dear Members,

As I write this newsletter, there are many questions that everyone is asking concerning the competitive season. It seems that COVID is having a second flair up throughout the state. Gymnastics meets have been scheduled and so far, few have been cancelled. What will happen remains to be seen. I have reached out to the state legislators for clarification of the policies concerning traveling and competitions. When I hear back from them, I will send out the information immediately. The NYS Board has a Zoom meeting scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 29th. The main topic to be discussed are the state championships and how they can be run safely and efficiently. Alternative dates and sites will be discussed, so that we have a plan for any scenario. I will send out another newsletter with any information from our meeting.

In this newsletter you will find many rules and new regulations concerning hosting meets. Please review them carefully.

I am sending out the results of the NY State Meet survey to the membership after the return deadline on Nov. 16th. Your opinion is important to me and you can feel free to call me at any time.

I want to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. This is a time to be grateful, even in these uncertain times. At the end of the day, all that matters is that your loved ones are well, you've done your best and that you're thankful for all you have.

Sincerely, Larry Goldsmith NYS Gymnastics

## New Name for JO Program

INDIANAPOLIS, October 21, 2020 – USA Gymnastics today announced that "USA Gymnastics Development Program" will be the new name for the development program formerly known as the Junior Olympic program.

USA Gymnastics made the decision to change the program name following increased restrictions around the use of the title 'Junior Olympic' earlier this year. No substantive programming changes will accompany the change in name.

"USA Gymnastics remains committed to supporting athletes of all levels across all disciplines as they strive to reach their goals in and out of the gym," said Stefanie Korepin, Chief Programs Officer. "Under the USA Gymnastics Development Program, we will continue to provide the same top-tier competitive structure and programming initiatives that our community members have come to expect, while looking for new ways to innovate and adapt, as we explore opportunities to improve the gymnastics experience for all participants."

This summer, USA Gymnastics issued a crowdsourcing request to the gymnastics community and received hundreds of suggestions for renaming the program. Though the organization held a public vote in August and announced a winning submission, concerns about the name's acronym ultimately led USA Gymnastics to opt instead for another popular submission, the USA Gymnastics Development Program.

# Changes in R & P

#### Check out the easy access to the 2020-2021 Rules and Policies

**Review the Rules & Policies:** Updates are made each season to rules & policies. Meet Directors should take the time review these, to ensure they are aware of any changes. <u>Click</u> <u>Here - 2020 - 2021 Rules and Policies</u>

A USA Gymnastics sanctioned event **CANNOT** be run concurrently in the same session with a non-USA Gymnastics sanctioned event. All USA Gymnastics sessions must be concluded prior to the start of any non-USA Gymnastics sessions.

USA Gymnastics athlete mobility and/or qualification *(if applicable by state)* can only be **achieved** by participating in a USA Gymnastics sanctioned event.

**Professional Photography and Medical Services at a Meet:** <u>Click here</u> to view the USA Gymnastics sanctioned event policy regarding professional photography and medical services at a meet.

**USA Gymnastics Members Must Report:** The USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy mandates that all members follow state and federal laws governing reporting child abuse. All members 18 years-of-age or older are subject to USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy and required to report all instances of possible child abuse or neglect to law enforcement and state child protection services. <u>Click here</u> for questions related to filing a report.

#### Vault:

1. The athlete run will NOT be scored for virtual AND in-person events for the 2020-2021 competition season.

2. This will affect the following deductions for the below level(s): -Development Program (DP) Level 1: Only Up to 0.30 – Failure to maintain horizontal speed

- DP Levels 2 and 3: Both Up to 0.30 – Failure to maintain horizontal speed AND Up to 0.30 – Insufficient acceleration during the run

#### **IRS Mileage - Officials**

In an effort to be more cohesive across disciplines, the Women's Program has updated the mileage reimbursement for judges to directly reflect that of the current IRS rate. Any IRS mileage rate changes are announced in December of each year and will be posted on the USA Gymnastics website, with the new rate effective in January. For the remainder of 2020, the mileage rate for judges is \$.575/mile.

## **Meet Reservation**

As a reminder, Meet Reservation is a **requirement for all** USA Gymnastics sanctioned events. Meet Reservations has a variety of enhancements this season. Enhancements are listed below and included in the step-by-step instructions.

#### 2020/2021 Meet Reservation Enhancements

• Meet Directors and Sanction Administrators are now able to mark separate levels and disciplines as full.

Judges can now be entered and stored through the event detail page.

• Meet Referees now have the ability to submit a Meet Referee Report with, or separate from, the Sanction Report forms. Meet Director must add Meet Referee to Meet Reservations. Guidelines to add are here - Meet Referee Online Reporting Form

<u>Click Here - Meet Reservations - How To Guide</u> <u>Click Here - Social Distancing Flyers for your gym</u> <u>Click Here - Return to Competition Guidelines</u>

As in person competitions are taking place, there have been questions about whose job it is to follow the local and state guidelines for hosting competitions. Please see below for wording created for this purpose:

USA Gymnastics has stated that a Meet Director may conduct a live sanctioned event, provided that the event is conducted in compliance with local and state government guidelines and laws. It is the Meet Director's responsibility to stay informed on local regulations and ensure that they are conducting the sanctioned event accordingly. USA Gymnastics will contact the Meet Director directly should we be notified or become aware that a sanctioned event is potentially being conducted against local guidelines.

Please note: if the Meet Referee feels so inclined as to adding any concerns to the Sanction Report Form or to the new online Meet Referee reporting tool, that is up to them. Ultimately, if a USAG member enters a competition and feels it is not doing what is required pertaining to local COVID protocols, the Meet Director should be consulted first to allow them the opportunity to remedy the situation before a complaint is filed.

# NYS and Region 6 Sanction Reporting Policies

The following is the information regarding reporting sanction information for a competition in NYS and Region 6 Gymnastics

New York State Reporting-

Please email Sanction Report (page 1 only) to Igoldny2@gmail.com

Meet directors are not required to send results, coaches sign in sheet, or judges sign in sheet.

Please send the \$4.00 head tax per New York athlete for a state qualifier to:

Larry Goldsmith 41 Brook Ct. East Amherst, NY 14051

Check payable to: USAG/NY

Region 6 Reporting -

USA Gymnastics Region 6 Policies

USA Gymnastics sanctioned meets: Meet director is responsible for sending a copy of the Sanction Report Form and \$1/ gymnast Competition Fee to the Regional Chairman. Report and fee should be received with in 72 hours of the competition.

Please send requested information to :

Kathy Ostberg 365 Spring St Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Check payable to: USA Gymnastics Region 6