



It is with a heavy heart that we must tell you that Paul Spadaro, the former NY State Chairman, has passed away.

Paul was the State Chair from 1980 to 2012 – thirty-two years of service to the gymnasts and coaches of NY State Gymnastics.

He was the face of NYS Gymnastics and dedicated his life to the sport. Paul had a very large impact on the lives and careers of many of the coaches, judges and athletes.

Our hearts go out to his wife Mary and his daughter Alexa.

NYS Gymnastics thanks him for his many years of dedication.

We know his memory will live on in all of us whose lives he touched.

Dear Members,

As you can see, our former State Chairman and life-long friend to many, Paul Spadaro, has passed away this week. He was a respected and well known figure in the gymnastics community. It is difficult to lose someone who dedicated so much to NY as the State Chairman for 32 years. Paul will be missed by many in the gymnastics community.

Two of our beloved and experienced coaches passed away recently as well - Torey Hirsch (Greater Buffalo Gymnastics) and Ed Konopa (BK Gymnastics). Please see their obituary below. The gymnastics community is like a family and it is always sad to lose someone who gave so much and that we cared about.

We will soon be starting the competitive season and I wanted to review the requirements for hosting a meet. There is a great deal of information in this newsletter - please look it over.

Sincerely,

Larry Goldsmith

NYS Chairman

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### **State Qualifier Meets -**

If you are requesting a **State Qualifier competition**, you must fill out the request form on the USAGNY website and send it to Larry Goldsmith. At the end of the competition you must send the sanction to USAG (information is below).

**You must send \$3.00 (NYS Head Tax) per NYS gymnast to:**

Larry Goldsmith

41 Brook Court

East Amherst, NY 14051

Regional Head Tax - required for all competitions

As noted in the August 1, 2024 **Regional Administrative Committee Meeting minutes**, some adjustments have been made regarding the Head Tax that is to be sent to the Region after every sanctioned event. Last season there was a lot of chasing clubs down for their Head Tax - which took much more time and energy than I planned for with this policy being in place for so long.

**The \$2.00 per gymnast Head Tax is paid to USA Gymnastics Region 6 at the conclusion of your competition - please note - this includes mobility meets, in-gym meets, as well as invitationals.**

**The Regional Head Tax is sent to:**

Michele Archer

RACC

287 Ashby Rd.

PO Box 294

Ashburnham, MA 01430

**\*\*\* The \$2.00 per gymnast competition fee will be capped at \$1500.00. This discounted fee is only available when meet directors submit the appropriate fees and paperwork within 72 hours of the competition**

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**USA GYMNASSTIC NATIONAL/EASTERN COMPETITION SITES**

Development Level 10 Nationals - Salt Lake City, Utah

Eastern Level 9 Nationals - Battle Creek, Michigan

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**FEBRUARY 17TH - DECLARATION DATE - This is a new date!**

includes XCEL and Levels 6-10

Athletes may not drop back a level after this date

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**Graduating Seniors - New Way to Order their Plaque**

If you have a graduating senior this year -

Go to the NY Website

Go to events

Go to state championships

There is a dark red bar in the middle of the page that says 'If you have a graduating senior, click here to order a plaque. Please remember to do this so that your athlete can be honored with a senior plaque at her state championship meet.'

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**The 2025 NY State Meet Schedule is:**

**Level 6-10 – March 21-23**

**Utica University - Nexus Center – Valley Gymnastics**

**XCEL G/P/D/Sapphire/Level 5 – April 4-6**

**Golisano Athletic Center (Nazareth College) – RGA**

**XCEL B/S – May 2-4**

**Canisius University (Buffalo, NY) – Niagara Gymnastics**

**Upstate Level 2-4 – May 9-11**

**The On Center (Syracuse, NY) – CNY Gymnastics**

**Downstate Level 2-4 – May 9-11**

**LIU Pratt Rec. Facility (Long Island, NY) – New Image**

**Regional Championships**

**Level 9/10 Regional Championships - April 9-11 (Wed thru Fri)**

**Level 6/7/8 Regionals - April 25-27**

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## **Qualifying Scores to State Championships**

Level 2- 30.00

Level 3 - 32.00

Level 4 - 32.00

Level 5 - 32.00

Level 6 - 33.00

Level 7 - 33.00

Level 8 - 32.00

Level 9 - 32.00

Level 10 - 32.00

XCEL Bronze - 32.00 \*

XCEL Silver - 32.00 \*

XCEL Gold - 32.00 \*

XCEL Platinum - 32.00 \*

XCEL Diamond - 32.00 \*

XCEL Sapphire - 32.00 \*

**\*new qualifying score**

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## **SANCTION INFORMATION**

**2024-2025 USA Gymnastics Sanction Form Updates:** The USA Gymnastics sanction forms, located in the sanction forms packet, have been updated for the 2024-2025 membership season. Please note the updates below:

- Meet Directors and Sanction Administrators will see a [new sign-in sheet for Medical personnel](#) at your USA Gymnastics sanctioned event. This form is required to be completed and returned, with the rest of your forms, at the conclusion of your event. *Please note that there is a required field for sanctioned events that do not require medical personnel.*
- Additionally at the conclusion of each sanctioned event, Meet Referees are required to sign the Sanction Report Form located in the Event Director's sanction forms packet. If a Meet Referee would like to submit information regarding the event, separate from the Sanction Report Form, they are now able to submit this information online. Click here for our [Meet Referee How-To Guide](#), or view our [Meet Referee webinar](#) for instructions to access this reporting tool.

**USA Gymnastics Meet Director Webinars:** USAG Member Services has recorded webinars available to assist in educating Meet Directors on the procedures of hosting USAG sanctioned events. View the recorded webinars below:

- [Medical Requirements for USAG Sanctioned Meets](#): Chief of Athlete Health and Wellness Kim Kranz reviewed the rules and procedures of sanctioned event medical coverage, addressed common questions and provided suggestions to respond to and prepare for challenging situations while providing medical coverage at a sanctioned event.
- [Appendix D: Professional Photography, Video and Medical Personnel Requirements at Sanctioned Events](#)
- [Medical Personnel Requirement FAQ](#)
- [USAG Sanctioned Event Procedures for Meet Directors & Sanction Administrators](#): We reviewed sanctioned event procedures including how to use the Meet Reservation system, the required Safety and Response protocol and steps to close your sanction at the conclusion of your event.

#### **NEW - STEPS TO CLOSE YOUR SANCTION**

USA Gymnastics has a new feature available to Meet Directors that will greatly simplify your steps to close your sanctioned event. Meet Directors and Sanction Administrators

are able to upload the required sanction forms directly to the USA Gymnastics website, rather than emailing or mailing your forms.

[Click here](#) for instructions on how to use this new feature!

Helpful uploading tips:

- Acceptable upload file formats are PDF, JPF or PNG.
- There is a 5MB file size limit on each upload.
- [Scanning tips for various devices.](#)

USAG Member Services is here to help. Contact [sanctions@usagym.org](mailto:sanctions@usagym.org) or 800-345-4719 for assistance.

## **SANCTION RESOURCES**

**Materials to Conduct a Safety and Response-Compliant Event:**

- [Event Director Guidelines](#)
- [Quick-Reference Safety and Response for Event Directors FAQ](#)
- [Safety and Response for Event Directors Webinar](#)
- [Safety and Response for Event Directors Webinar Q&A](#)
- [USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Policy Scripts for Announcers at Sanctioned Events](#)
- [Permanently Ineligible Member and Suspended/Restricted Member List Signage](#)
- [List of Personnel Categories with Regular Contact and Authority over Minor Athletes](#)

In order to maintain event compliance, the materials listed in this section must be incorporated into all USA Gymnastics sanctioned events.

- [Safety and Response Event Staff Letter](#)



- [USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Bathroom/Changing Area Signage](#)
- [USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Reporting Signage](#)
- [USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Event Checklist and Response Event Checklist](#)

**USA Gymnastics Sanctioned Event Toolkit:** The [Sanctioned Event Toolkit](#) provides event directors a number of resources to use for their events including signage and materials to conduct a Safety and Response compliant event.

### **Torey Hirsch/Ed Konopka Obituaries**

The gymnastics community lost two of the most experienced, well loved coaches recently.

Torey Hirsch (Greater Buffalo Gymnastics) and Ed Konopa (BK Gymnastics) recently passed away. Please read a tribute to their life below.



[Click Here for Torey Hirsch's Obituary](#)



[Click Here for Ed Konopa's Obituary](#)