

**Minutes of the
Region 8 Committee Meeting Agenda
10:00 AM
December 15, 2015
The Westin Atlanta Airport**

Chairperson Deb Kornegay (RACC) called the meeting to order at 10:04.

Members present:

Debby Kornegay – RACC	Michelle Pomerantz – GA
Marian Dykes – RTCC	Shelley Swanson – LA 10:10
Brad Harris – RJOCC	Nancy Lay – MS
Elaine Wulf – RXCC	Jennie Adams – NC
Otis Reeves - AL	Joanne Child – SC
Toni Rand – FL	Larry Corrigan – TN 11:15

Deb K appointed Jennie Adams as secretary for the meeting.

Regional Committee Concerns:

- State Chairs verified an [Address List](#) for the Region 8 Web Page and Emergency List.
- Thank you notes from gymnasts who traveled on the All Star Regional trip were read by the Committee members.
- Deb provided an updated copy of the [USA Gymnastics Operating Code for the Women’s Program](#). She reminded SACC’s that all meeting agendas and minutes should be sent to Deb as well as any correspondence with the whole state. Each state should have an annual state meeting as well as a posting of its financial report. She also reminded SACC’s that state meet entry fees above the Nationally approved amount (\$65 – Xcel and Compulsory, \$75 Optionals 6-10) need RACC approval.
- [Region 8 Charity](#) - Deb asked that the St Jude’s logo be visible and promoted on all Level 6, 7 & 8 Regional Meet information. In an effort to increase the amount to be donated to St Jude’s, she suggested ways to promote the cause (explain gold ribbon on leotard, ask vendors to donate percentage of sales, ask host gym to make a donation, place logo in program informing spectators of the charity, pass a collection basket at the Awards ceremonies, offer a competition for total donations from each of the states). She will provide a jpeg of the logo.
- [Hall of Fame](#) gift selection – Marian D provided images of Phil Savage photos of gymnasts in motion. Deb asked that the State Chairs vote on the best-liked image to be used as part of the gift given to Hall of Fame recipients. The image selected was #1, an image of a gymnasts rising from the vaulting table.
- [Planner update](#) – Deb reminded SACC’s that the closing date for Regional entries will be at midnight on the Monday after each state meet. Congress in San Jose will be in July 2016 and the State Chair workshop will be on the Monday after Congress.
- [Region 8 Rules and Regulations](#) – Deb referred to the copy provided in the meeting packet and asked that it be kept close at hand when at meets to help with questions. The document is a compilation of motions from all past Region 8 Committee meetings. Deb suggested that some of the motions are out-dated and the Committee should review and update the document each 5 years.
- [Regional Financial Report](#) – Deb stated that she was working with the National office to verify the amounts in the Regional Account.
- [Level 9/10 Regional Update](#) – Deb reported that the contracts for hotel facilities were due in November. Some of the Florida Sports Commission personnel have changed, but she believes that all will be fine. It was requested that the meet needs a bit more pomp and circumstance in its presentations.
- [Level 6/7/8 Regionals Update](#) – Deb reported that the hotel and arena contracts are in hand for the Asheville meet. She has not received the contracts for equipment or scoring yet.
- [Xcel Regionals Update](#) – Deb reported that all contracts are in place. Deb also presented the approved Xcel Regional medal ribbon. The new medal ribbon will be used for Level 6-10 Regionals beginning in 2017.

- **Regional Congress Speakers** – Deb stated that Dec. 15 was the deadline for names of proposed speakers to have been submitted to the National office. Additional names may be suggested later. Tom Koll and Rob Travers names were suggested.
- **Regional Congress 2015 Financial Report** –The 2015 Region 8 Congress netted \$17,182.09 to the regional account from the National office. Our membership responded and the Congress was full in New Orleans.
- **Region 8 Hall of Fame nominations and vote** – The categories for nominees are as follows:
 - History/Builder/Contributor
 - Coach
 - Athlete
 - Service/Administrator
 - Judge

Brad H requested that each nominee be associated with the category that he/she would represent. He suggested the addition of a category (Lifetime Achievement) be considered with contributions to the sport over a long span of time. No action was taken. Names of the nominees were read and each candidate’s contributions were discussed. A vote by secret ballot occurred. In order for a candidate to be elected to the Hall of Fame at least 75% of the votes cast were needed.

Newly Elected Hall of Fame members – Gene Alexin, John Macready, and John Roethlisberger

- **2016 and 2017 Training Camps** –

Motion – Toni R moved to accept the 2016 Training Camp bids presented from

Tampa Bay Turners	Level 6/7/8 TC	July 22-24 (Lv 6’s qualified to Regionals)
Bryan Raschilla – U of AL	National TC	September 16-18 (different)
Orlando Metro	Level 8,9,10 TC	Sept 30 – Oct 2

2nd Michelle P Passed unanimously.

Dates for 2017 Region 8 Training Camps were set as follows:

Level 6/7/8 TC	July 21-23 (Lv 6’s must have qualified to Regionals)
National TC	September 8-10 (with flexibility to home football games)
Level 8,9,10 TC	October 6-8

- **Bids for 2017 Regional Competitions** – Deb commented on how fortunate the Region was to have so many good sites and meet directors to consider for Regional Competition in 2017. The following bids were received:

○ Level 9/10	Alabama Starz	Mike Holdefer	AL
	GAA	Jon Aardema	GA
	Kidsport	Sarah Myers	NC
	Planet	Joanne Novikov	AL
○ Level 6/7/8	Tampa Bay Turners	Brad Harris	FL
	Foothills	Constance Snyder	NC
	Planet	Joanne Novikov	AL
	Rockdale	Drew Davis	GA
○ Xcel	Alabama Starz	Mike Holdefer	AL
	Destination Meets	Debbie Wood	FL
	Foothills	Constance Snyder	NC
	Planet	Joanne Novikov	AL
	Thomas	Sally Thomas	SC

- Brad Harris left the room. Lengthy discussion followed.

Motion Toni R moved to accept the 2017 Level 9/10 bid from Kidsport in NC

2nd Elaine W Passed unanimously

Motion Brad H moved to accept the 2017 Level 6/7/8 bid from Planet in AL.

2nd Toni Passed unanimously

Motion Elaine W moved to accept the 2017 Xcel bid from Thomas in SC.

2nd Shelly W Passed unanimously.

- [Regional Congress 2016](#) - Region 8 Congress will be in Charlotte, NC on the June 17th weekend. Deb reported that the National office was pleased with the enthusiasm of the State Basket project. They are asking for more innovative ways to involve the Congress attendees. In an effort to create more revenue from non-auction formats, Joanne Child and Jennie Adams volunteered to help create some sort of state vs. state competition throughout the Congress.
- Lunch Break at 11:57 – 12:15 Worked through lunch.
- [Regional and National judges](#) – Marian Dykes reported that in the time since Regional contracts had been sent out (early Summer) 4 or 5 judges have requested removal from Regional meets. Xcel was especially difficult to reassign.

Motion Marian D moved that beginning with 2017 Regional contracts, if a judge submits Regional availability, receives an assignment and declines the contract, the judge will not receive any Regional Assignments for the next competitive year. Judges need to inform the RTCC and RJD of any change in availability prior to Region 8 Congress to avoid this penalty.

2nd Elaine W Passed unanimously.

The Region 8 Committee reminds judges that the RTCC and RJD need to be informed of any change in their availability as soon as possible. If a judge is not assigned to a Regional meet, please inform the RTCC and RJD if their availability changes.

Motion Nancy L moved to issue alternate contracts for all Regional competitions.

2nd Jennie A Passed unanimously.

- [Volunteers for Level 9/10 Regionals](#) – Deb requested that 5 or 6 State Chairs or assigned volunteers are needed after each session. The process would be more efficient if the same people were used through the whole weekend.
- [Regional Championships 2018 date set](#)

Level 9/10's	April 13-15
Levels 6/7/8	April 20-22
Xcel	April 26-29
- [Coaches Meals at Regional Competitions](#) – Deb reminded Meet Directors that coaches should be informed of the meal/food format in the pre meet packet. (6-18-15) *Due to the expense of food in outside facilities and the fact that coaches receive per diem from their gym, no meals will be provided to coaches at Regional competitions. Meet Directors may provide, but are not required to provide, vouchers for meals or a green room with snacks.*
- [All Star Trip Information](#) – Deb posed the question, “Should coaches be required to attend the All Star trip with their athletes?” Brad reported that if questionable behavior were to occur on the trip, the gymnast’s coach would be informed immediately. If the gymnast were to qualify a second time, Brad would remind the coach of the first concern. If there were an issue from gymnasts from the same gym in subsequent trips, their coaches would be asked to attend.
- [Training Camp Registration fees](#) -
Motion Brad moved to increase the Levels 6/7/8 and Levels 8,9,10 Training Camp fees from \$130 to \$140. National Training Camp fee shall remain \$130.
- **2nd Jennie Passed unanimously**
- [Training Camp entry form](#) – Deb included an updated entry form in the meeting packet. At college coaches’ request the graduation year was added to the form. College coaches would also like to see the graduation year reflected in a visible way at the National Training Camp – Tyvek bands with 5 colors for each high school year and one for committed? Other ideas are requested.

Regional JO Program Concerns

- [National Qualifier Apparel update](#) – Deb informed the group that the National office has not decided about colors yet. The Committee suggested that all gymnasts be provided the same color leotard.
- [Club of the Year](#) – Deb reminded the SACC’s that each state’s Club of the Year will be recognized at the Levels 9/10 Regionals.

State Chairman Concerns

- **Upcoming State Chair elections** – Deb asked “Who would be running for SACC in 2016?” All notified that they would be running except Nancy Lay from MS. If a SACC is not planning to run in 2016, they should make their state aware of this so that others can plan accordingly.
- **Operating Code** – Deb reminded that parts of the OC needed special attention each year. She needed confirmation that each state was holding State Committee meetings, that annual Financial Statements were being published, that State Meet entry fees were not exceeding the R & P (RACC’s approval needed), and that all State Committee member Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest forms were current and in the RACC’s files.
- **Regional Competition fees** –

Motion	Toni R	moved to lower the Regional Competition fee paid by each state from \$1.50 to \$1.00 per USA Gymnastics register athlete.
2nd	Shelley W	Passed unanimously
- **Regional Petition Forms** – Deb reminded the SAAC’s that all Petition forms are due on the Wednesday after State meet and should be electronically sent to Marian Dykes RTCC, Deb Kornegay RACC, and Brad Harris RJOCC. The forms may be sent earlier. Xcel Petition forms should be sent to Marian, Deb and Elaine RXCC. Levels 6, 7 and 8 Regionals do not accept petitions.
- **Level 6, 7 & 8 Alternate Forms** – Deb told the SACC’s that the Alternate Forms may be used but were not required.
- **State Meet Reporting Process** – Deb referred to the Report Procedure page included in the meeting packet. She would like to have the whole process totally electronic this year. It would be helpful to highlight your state team. It would also be helpful to notate the gymnasts who have indicated that they will not be attending. She would also like to have the results emailed in Excel with no spaces before names, DOB or teams. Deb instructed the SACC’s to email to her by **March 15th** the numbers of Xcel Bronze and Silvers at 35.50 AA and Gold, Platinum and Diamonds at 35.00 AA, Level 6’s at 32.00 AA, Level 7’s at 32.00 AA, Level 8’s at 32.00AA and 34.00 AA, Level 9’s at 34.50 AA and Level 10’s at 34.00 AA. She has asked the Level 9 & 10 Regional Meet Directors to plan to have judges arrive on Thursday by noon in case of more flexible scheduling needs.

Reports

- **RTCC** – Marian Dykes reported that her Committee had an October working meeting. Their goal is to make no rule changes unless something is just not clear. Most of the discussions will be in the minutes in Technique. Some of the SACC’s had questions:
 - Otis R asked about the removal of the back spring in the AAI board to help lighter gymnasts. Marian stated that to allow the removal was not in R & P yet.
 - Nancy L hoped that the Level 1 and 2 gymnasts would be required to compete only one vault.
 - Michelle P asked that the warm up times for Platinum and 6 and 7 be reduced to just 1 minute and Level 8’s reduced to 1.5 minutes.

SACC’s requested above questions be taken to the appropriate National Committee for consideration.

- **RJOCC** – Brad reported that the 2016 All Star Trip would be to New York City with training at NYC Elite.
 - There will be a fund raising Golf Tournament in Charlotte at the Region 8 Congress on Sunday. He asked that each state sponsor a hole. Kenny Morphis is helping with arrangements.
 - Brad asked that each SACC talk to membership coaches about their thoughts on changing the Level 7 vault to a timer drill for score. There is a national discussion about such a change. He would like to have a clear support message from coaches in Region 8 as to whether this would be an acceptable change. He especially wants to hear from the clubs who do not always win the State Meets.

Break at 2:05-2:16

- **RXCC** – During Elaine Wulf’s presentation Brad H asked a question about Coach ethics in the field of play toward athletes, peer coaches and official. (Talking critically and loudly behind the judges, speaking unprofessionally to athletes, etc.) R & P, p. 17 has procedures, but he would like to have a more immediate response. The system in place has verbal warning, documentation on sanction report, and possible withdrawal of credentials. These responses may not be used as often as needed. He proposed a more immediate behavioral report form. Further discussion needed. No Action taken.
- **Next Meeting** – Deb informed the Committee that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, June 16th at 9:00 am at the Hilton Charlotte University Place, the site of the 2016 Region 8 Congress.

12-15-15 minutes of Region 8 Committee

- **National Congress** – San Jose California is the site of the 2016 Congress and Olympic Trials. A Business forum will be held on Thursday, July 7th. State Chairs are invited to attend the BF at no charge. Congress runs from Friday, July 8th through Sunday July 10th. The Women’s Olympic Trials will be on Friday and Sunday nights. The State Chairpersons’ Workshop will be on Monday, July 11th.
- **Other Business** –
- Otis R asked if other coaches observed a loss of business by the fact that the new JO Compulsories had lost a level of competition. Some discussion followed. No resolution.
- Deb reminded SACC’s that when a company from a different state runs a competition in your state, the competition fee for that meet must still be paid to the meet’s home-state account.
- Jennie suggested that meet directors be reminded to check that entered gymnasts will be the minimum age for their level/division by the date of that competition.
- Deb also updated the group on Mary Lou and Robert Dillard’s situation with Robert’s cancer treatments in New York.

Motion to adjourn 2:43 Region 8 Tim Rand Fund meeting followed for 5 minutes.

Respectfully submitted Jennie Kennel Adams