



# USA GYMNASTICS TEXAS RULES & POLICIES 2018-2019

Revised 9-1-2018  
Wayne Thompson



# Texas Rules and Policies

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**TEXAS AGE GROUPS 2018-2019**

**Level 4**

D1	D2
6	6
7	7-8
8	9
9	10
10	11+
11+	

**Level 5**

D1	D2
7	7-8
8	9-10
9	11+
10	
11	
12+	

**Level 6**

<b>D1</b>	<b>D2</b>
8	8+
9	
10	
11	
12+	

**Level 7**

<b>D1</b>	<b>D2</b>
10	10+
11	
12+	

**JO**

**Level 8**

12  
13 State Only  
14-15 State Only

**JE TS**

**Level 8**

11-12

**JO**

**Level 9**

13  
14

**JE TS**

**Level 9**

13  
14

<b><u>JO</u></b>	<b><u>JE TS</u></b>
<b>Level 10</b>	<b>Level 10</b>
15	15
16	16
17	17
18-19	18-19

<b><u>JD1</u></b>	<b><u>JD2</u></b>
12-14	12-14
15-19	15-19

**Team Awards** - State Chair and Meet Director may divide or combine Age Group Team Awards based on optimizing number of Teams eligible for awards and to fit within a single session

- **Level 4 Super Team** - 3 scores count; All Age Groups Combined
- **Level 5 Super Team** - 3 scores count; All Age Groups Combined
- **Level 6 Super Team** - 3 scores count; All Age Groups Combined

**Level 7**  
**All Ages Combined**

**Level 8**  
**All Ages Combined**

**Level 9 JO**  
**All Ages Combined**

**Level 9 JE**  
**All Ages Combined**

**Level 10 JO**  
**All Ages Combined**

**Level 10 JE**  
**All Ages Combined**

# STATE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wayne Thompson	State Chair	<a href="mailto:txstatechair@gulfgymnastics.com">txstatechair@gulfgymnastics.com</a>	Mobile: (832) 425-0357
Jim McKinney	TGJA President	<a href="mailto:jimmac2426@sbcglobal.net">jimmac2426@sbcglobal.net</a>	Mobile: (325) 668-3020
Sergei Pakanich	JE Coaches' Rep Jr. Coaches Rep.-MPC	<a href="mailto:pakanich@yahoo.com">pakanich@yahoo.com</a>	Mobile: (972) 712-9642
Bill Foster	JO Coaches' Rep	<a href="mailto:mpcbillfoster@aol.com">mpcbillfoster@aol.com</a>	Mobile: (713) 515-9635
Tom Meadows	Jr. Nat'l Coaching Staff	<a href="mailto:tom@cypressacademy.com">tom@cypressacademy.com</a>	Mobile: (832) 722-8970
Marc Yancey	State Meet Coordinator Jr. Nat'l Coaching Staff	<a href="mailto:mlyancey@sbcglobal.net">mlyancey@sbcglobal.net</a>	Mobile: (512) 913-4481
Brian Smith	GAT Liaison	<a href="mailto:gilderon@msn.com">gilderon@msn.com</a>	Mobile: (817) 312-2344

## STATE COMMITTEE

Wayne Thompson	State Chair	<a href="mailto:txstatechair@gulfgymnastics.com">txstatechair@gulfgymnastics.com</a>	Mobile: (832) 425-0357
Jerit Pogue	Secretary	<a href="mailto:gymmantx75@yahoo.com">gymmantx75@yahoo.com</a>	Mobile: (281) 639-2206
Marc Yancey	Meet Coordinator/R&P	<a href="mailto:mlyancey@sbcglobal.net">mlyancey@sbcglobal.net</a>	Mobile: (512) 913-4481
Mark Burnett	Education/Clinic Director	<a href="mailto:markbthree@yahoo.com">markbthree@yahoo.com</a>	Mobile: (940) 765-2756
Courtney Hughes	Communications/Registrar-North	<a href="mailto:courtneyrhughes@gmail.com">courtneyrhughes@gmail.com</a>	Mobile: (972) 489-5567
Justin James	Asst. Registrar-South	<a href="mailto:jwjames10@gmail.com">jwjames10@gmail.com</a>	Mobile: (979) 255-1321

## COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Kevin Muenz	State Chairman Emeritus	<a href="mailto:kgmuenz@garlandisd.net">kgmuenz@garlandisd.net</a>	Mobile: (214) 457-6429
Jim McKinney	TGJA Liaison	<a href="mailto:jimmac2426@sbcglobal.net">jimmac2426@sbcglobal.net</a>	Mobile: (325) 668-3020
JT Fletcher	THSGCA Liaison	<a href="mailto:jt.fletcher@bryanisd.com">jt.fletcher@bryanisd.com</a>	Mobile: (979) 777-2849
Brian Smith	GAT Liaison	<a href="mailto:gilderon@msn.com">gilderon@msn.com</a>	Mobile: (817) 312-2344
Jerit Pogue	Region 3 Chair	<a href="mailto:gymmantx75@yahoo.com">gymmantx75@yahoo.com</a>	Mobile: (281) 639-2206
Bo Morris	Region 3 Chair Emeritus	<a href="mailto:region3men@gmail.com">region3men@gmail.com</a>	Mobile: (317) 828-9369
Gil Elsass	Region 3 Chair Emeritus	<a href="mailto:gilgym@aol.com">gilgym@aol.com</a>	Mobile: (512) 431-8996

## General Information

### USA Gymnastics Professional Membership

To participate at any USA Gymnastics sanctioned event or meeting a coach must have a men's professional membership, a background check, and a current safety certification. **All coaches must have taken and passed the "Fundamentals of Gymnastics Course in USAG University.** Applications for membership and instructions for taking the national safety certification course and the Fundamentals of Gymnastics Course can be found online at [www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org). All gymnasts must be registered with the USAG to participate at any sanctioned event.

### National Rules and Policies

USA Gymnastics is the governing organization for our sport and follows the National Men's Rules and Policies document. This document can be downloaded from the USA Gymnastics website. It is the responsibility of every coach to be familiar with and abide by these policies. The National Men's Program Rules and Policies can be downloaded from the National USAG website at [http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/rules\\_policies.html](http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/rules_policies.html).

### Region 3 Rules and Policies

USA Gymnastics has divided the country into 9 regions. Texas is a member of Region 3. The other states in Region 3 are: Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, and Kansas. The Region 3 board consisting of the 6 State Chairmen and Regional Chairman will determine all rules and policies for the region. The Region 3 Rules and Policies can be downloaded from the regional website at <https://www.region3men.org/rules-policies>. It is extremely important for all coaches in the region to be up to date and knowledgeable with these policies.

### Texas Rules and Policies

Texas rules and policies are developed by the coaches of Texas and the Texas State Chairman at the Texas Summer Coaches Business Meeting. The Texas Rules and Policies is not intended to replace the National Men's Program Rules and Policies, but in some cases will over rule the National R & P as is allowed. It is very important that all coaches and meet directors become familiar with the Texas R & P and its differences from the National R & P. The Texas R & P can be downloaded from the Region 3 website or the Texas state website at [www.texasmensgymnastics.com](http://www.texasmensgymnastics.com)

### Texas Club Registration and Receiving Information

In order to receive important State and Regional information all clubs must be registered with the State Chairman. Club registration is obtained and updated each year from State Meet entry forms and the Texas Summer Coaches Business Meeting. **New and existing clubs must fill out a registration form and send it to the State Registrar every year. That form and contact info is available at: [Texas Club Registration Form](#).** A directory containing information on current Texas clubs and coaches will be posted at the Texas website. It is important to have a current email address in

your registration information. All information will be dispersed via email.

### **Chain of Command within the Gymnastics Community**

As in any professional organization or business, the Gymnastics community has a chain of command that should be followed when asking questions or seeking assistance with any issue. This chain starts with the gymnast and his parents and ends with the USAG Men's Program Director. It is important that coaches capture their spot in this chain and become a liaison for their parents and athletes. Coaches must not allow parents to take their concerns and problems directly to the top. As coaches, we must accept our professionalism and become a mouth piece for the parents and gymnasts in their time of need. At no time should parents be allowed to approach the judging community. The proper chain of command is as follows: Gymnast/Parent→Personal Coach→Meet Director/Judge/State Chairman→Regional Director→Men's JO National Program Director→Men's National Program Director. It is imperative that this process be followed and the chain of command be respected.

### **Annual Judging, Coaching and Service Awards**

#### **Kevin Mazeika High Performance Program Award**

As approved by the Texas Men's Coaches at their 2012 Summer Business Meeting in Austin, Texas, the Kevin Mazeika High Performance Program Award will be presented annually to the entire coaching staff of the Level 4-5 North, and South and Level 6-10 Club Programs whose teams perform at the highest level in both All Around placement and Team placement in each of the age groups totaled together. The Award will be presented to the Club Program Coaches whose athletes and teams tally the most points at their State Meet based on the approved Club Ranking Points System as set by the State Executive Committee. Technical Sequence scores will not be included in the process.

The Award will be presented to the winning club programs at the Annual Coaches Summer Business Meeting and at the Gymnastics Association of Texas Awards Banquet.

There is no limit to the number of times a Club Program may win this Award. **This Award shall be considered the highest Award for Coaching presented to a Club Coaching Staff in Texas.**

#### **Judge of the Year Award**

The Judge of the year Award will be presented annually to the TGJA Judge selected by the Texas Coaches for commendation for their outstanding contribution to the State Program, its athletes and coaches. Nominations will be requested by the State Communications Directors each year and submitted to State Committee Secretary. The Committee shall present the final slate of nominations to the coaches for their vote by written Ballot at the Level 6-10 State Championships. The Award will be presented at those Championships. There is no limit to the number of times a Judge may receive this award.

#### **Senior Athlete Awards**

Special awards will be presented to all graduating high school seniors in the men's program. The Senior Award Application with instructions can be found at: [Senior Awards Application](#). The Senior Award application must be submitted 3 weeks prior to the State Meet. The award will be presented at the Level 10 session of the State Meet.

#### **Bill Foster Service Award**



As approved by the Texas Men's Coaches at their 2012 Summer Business Meeting in Austin, Texas, the Bill Foster Service Award will be presented to a Texas Men's Program Coach or Administrator who has demonstrated consistent and high levels of service on behalf of, and leadership in the Men's Jr. Olympic Program of Texas. **This Award shall be considered the highest Award for Service presented to a coach in Texas.**

Consistent with the model of service and leadership displayed for decades by the Award's namesake, Bill Foster, the recipient of this award will have shown unselfish commitment of his or her energies, time and resources to the ongoing development of the Men's Program in Texas through his or her educational efforts for fellow coaches, organization and running of outstanding Championship competitions, clinics and workshops, lectures and articles on technical and program building strategies, and creative and influential vision for the future of the Program as a whole. These contributions may have been made over the entire career of a nominee, or, in extraordinary situations, may have been performed in the course of a single exemplary year of service to the state.

Nominations for this award may be made throughout the year by any registered member of the Men's Program in Texas by submitting the name of the nomination and a brief rationale or vita to the State Committee Secretary. The State Chairman and his Executive Committee may add to those nominations names of their own and will then determine a final list of nominees deserving of the award. These finalists will be offered to the State Coaches for their consideration and final vote by Google Form two weeks before the Level 6-10 State Championships. The winner as selected by a simple majority of the coaches and shall be awarded the Bill Foster Service Award on the during the Level 10 session of the Level 6-10 State Championships.

Additionally, the State Chairman will prepare a commemorative plaque or similar award and present it to the Award Recipient at the Level 6-10 State Championships and/or at the Gymnastics Association of Texas Awards Banquet.

The Bill Foster Award may, on rare occasion when the Executive Committee deems that circumstance warrants it, be presented to more than one recipient in a single year. Further, the Award shall be presented only in years when the Executive Committee determines that the nominations submitted are deserving of the award in keeping with the honor it bestows. Should the Committee feel that there are no deserving nominations then the award will not be presented, and the names submitted for nomination will be eligible for re-nomination the following year.

While there is no limit to the number of times a person may be nominated for this award, no person may receive this award more than once. The inaugural year Award Recipient was Bill Foster. Effective June 2012, all Texas Men's Coaches and Program Administrators (current or past) are eligible for this award.

The executive Committee may revise the nomination and voting procedure as well as the time and places of the presentations of this award at will, by a majority vote.

## **Texas USA Gymnastics Committee Positions**

### **Elected Positions**

#### **Texas State Chairman**

##### **Election**

The State Chairman shall serve a two-year term and will be elected every odd year. There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms they may serve. To be eligible a person must be a professional member, safety certified and properly credentialed by USAG University and reside in the state of Texas. The professional members within each state shall nominate and elect the State Chairman. Texas will elect their chairman at the summer coach's business meeting. All voters must be current men's professional members with a valid safety certification. **Each professional member is allowed one vote and no proxy/absentee votes will be allowed.** The vote shall be done by ballot and counted by at least two registered coaches: one a member of the State Committee, and one from the general membership.

#### **Duties of the State Chairman (In addition to the National R&P)**

1. Maintain an updated list of all gymnasts and clubs in the state.
2. Maintain an open line of communication between their office and both the Regional and National offices. The State Chairman shall actively gather information regarding men's gymnastics in their state throughout the year.
3. Conduct the USA–Gymnastics State Meet and insure that all official rules and regulations are met. Provide meet results to the Regional Chairman and regional meet director and financial reports to the National Office.
4. Conduct the annual State Clinic. The Texas State Clinic may be a separate event OR may coincide with the Gymnastics Association of Texas convention. Coordinate with the GAT organization to schedule lecturers and clinicians. The specific content of the clinic shall correspond with the gymnastics priorities in the state.
5. Identify, list, and submit all Gymnastics Association of Texas men's award candidates to the GAT liaison.
6. Decide state matters in concurrence with the Regional Director. Develop policies and procedures governing activities and events in the state.
7. Plan and conduct the Summer Coaches Business Meeting.
8. Structure and appoint the State Committee and subcommittees as necessary to assist him in organizing, managing and administering the state.
9. Attend the Regional Championships and the State Chairman's Regional Meeting.
10. Relay Regional and National Information to USAG professional members.
11. Approve and submit petitions to the Regional Championships.
12. Maintain an open line of communication with the local judging association.
13. Assign judges for the state meets
14. Organize and conduct the Future Stars Program as necessary.
15. Open and maintain a state USAG bank account.
16. Handle all of the State account finances with the help of the State Bookkeeper.

17. Attend the National Congress.
18. Appoint a secretary to keep minutes at all official meetings.
19. Oversee the updating and maintenance of the Texas Rules and Policies document.
20. Post and update the State competition calendar.
21. Insure that the Texas website is updated.
22. Be a permanent board member of the Sims Scholarship Fund.

## **State Bookkeeper**

### **Elections/Requirements**

The State Bookkeeper must be a professional member; safety certified and properly credentialed by USAG University and reside in the state of Texas. The State Bookkeeper will serve a two-year term and be elected by secret ballot after the election of the State Chairman at the summer coach's business meeting in odd numbered years. The procedures for electing the State Chairman will be used when electing the State Bookkeeper.

### **State Bookkeepers Duties**

Balance the checkbook and send up-dated balance to the State Chairman.

Cross-reference deposits and withdraws with sanctioned events and reports.

Prepare a detailed financial report twice annually to be submitted to the State Chairman. One report shall be for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> thru May 31<sup>st</sup> each year. This report is due to the State Chair no later than the scheduled day of the Annual Summer Business Meeting. The second report shall be for the period of June 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup> each year. This report is due to the State Chair no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

Prepare a yearly folder to include: all bank statements, receipts, and year-end report.

**The fiscal year for the State is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> yearly.**

### **State Chairman Duties as they relate to the State Bookkeeper**

By way of the work of the State Bookkeeper, it is the State Chairman's job to provide a yearly financial report of the State's bank activity. Concise record must be kept and made available to include: monthly bank statements, deposit and withdraw statements, copies of sanctioned meet forms, receipts for purchased goods, travel vouchers, and check ledger. The yearly report will be made at the summer business meeting or the GAT convention.

## **Appointed Positions on State Committee**

The State Chairman will form committees and positions to help in the operation of state activities. The State Chairman will make all appointments/removals with the input of the Executive Committee. All appointed positions will have a one (1) year term (beginning and ending at the Summer Business Meeting each year) with no limit as to the number of consecutive terms. The State Chair should endeavor to have the appointed positions on the State Committee filled no

later than the GAT Convention each year.

## **Executive Committee**

The executive committee will advise and assist the State Chairman in all matters pertaining to the state. They must maintain good communication with other clubs in their respective areas and regularly communicate with the State Chairman. They must attend the Summer Coaches Business Meeting if possible. The state executive committee members must be actively involved in all aspects of state affairs. Presently, in addition to the State Chairman, there are 4 executive member positions. The State Chairman has the right to expand or limit the number of Executive Committee Members at will.

## **State Registrar**

The State Registrar is responsible for collecting the Texas Club Registration form and fees annually and providing that information to the Communications Facilitators on a continuous basis for the purpose of updating the State database. The Registrar will report to the State Chair and State Meet Coordinator which clubs are registered and paid in full. The Registrar will communicate to the State Meet Directors the list of clubs registered and eligible to compete in the State Championships yearly.

## **State Meet Coordinator (Levels 4, 5, 6-Elite and State Technical Sequence Competitions/Workshops)**

The State Meet Coordinator will oversee all aspects of the State Meets. Each State Meet Director will report to the State Meet Coordinator and have all aspects of their planning for each of the State Meets approved. The state Meet Coordinator will insure that all State Meet guidelines as provided in the State Rules and Policies are followed and will report directly to the State Chairman with updates on the progress and planning of each of the State Meets. He will assist the State Meet Directors as needed with the running of the events and will be responsible for making recommendations to the State Chairman for changes in the rules, guidelines and policies governing the State Meets.

When the State Committee schedules a Technical Sequence Competition or Workshop the State Meet Coordinator will serve as the Event Director and work to secure the site and Host for the event.

## **State Education and Clinic Director**

Responsible for the design, development and ongoing implementation of coaches' education initiatives with regard to technical issues, skill development, state clinics, preferred state clinicians, videos, and lecture handout materials for both compulsory and optional levels of gymnastics. He will coordinate the work of the State Apparatus Leaders and will assist in the dissemination and interpretation of updates and revisions to the USAG National Programs, Judging and National Coaching Staff technical newsletters, and FIG revisions and interpretations to the Code of Points.

He will recruit Apparatus Leaders, coaches and technicians to author articles on various skills, technical information, sports medicine, psychology, etc. for the State Website. He will develop an annual list of preferred topics and lecturers for the GAT Convention which can serve as the state clinic. He will work with the State Chairman to finalize this list and work with the GAT Convention Clinic recruiter to secure and schedule those for the convention.

As State Clinic Director, he will develop a plan to create and hold a State Clinic/s for coaches and athletes to be held separate from the GAT Convention Clinic. He will present this plan to the State Committee for approval and scheduling

and upon approval of the event, serve as the Clinic Director.

### **Secretary**

The Secretary is responsible for maintaining written records for all official meetings and events in the state and recording all voting results and policy discussions and decisions made at the Summer Coaches Business Meetings. The Secretary must have a clear working knowledge of all the activities and functions of the men's gymnastics program in the state. The Secretary must maintain an open line of communications with the State Chairman and all elected and appointed members of the State Committee. The Secretary will be responsible for receiving the nominations for the Judge of the Year and Bill Foster Awards and submitting them to the State Executive Committee for consideration. Additionally, the Secretary will inform the Gymnastics Association of Texas Awards Coordinator of athletes and coaches who should receive GAT Awards yearly.

### **State Rules and Policies Editor**

The job of the Rules and Policies Editor is to maintain an updated working copy of the State Rules and Policies which reflects any and all rules and guidelines which are currently in effect. He is responsible directly to the State Chairman and will insure that the correct and revised (as necessary) copy of the document is available to all coaches by way of the State Website. He will insure that all State Policies are in concert with the National Rules and Policies except where the State is permitted to set guidelines that supersede them. He will make an annual report on the changes recommended for the State Rules and Policies at the Summer Coaches Business Meeting. He will furnish the Communications Directors and the State Webmaster with all edits and revisions to the document for posting on the website and for important News flashes by email, and social media through the Communications Directors.

### **Webmaster**

The Webmaster is responsible for maintaining the website. He is responsible directly to the State Chairman. He must maintain open communications with all members of the State Committee and as expeditiously as possible, update all information and educational materials supplied him by the committee.

### **State Apparatus Leaders**

They will serve as experts on their assigned apparatus and be the primary source of reliable interpretation of all rules, judging trends, routines, and technical updates for their assigned apparatus. They will serve as the first point of contact for coaches with questions regarding a skill, rule or routine on a particular apparatus. As requested by the State Education Director they will be responsible for the design, development and ongoing implementation of coaches' educational materials, videos, lectures with regard to technical issues, skill development, and related coaching and performance issues for both compulsory and optional levels of gymnastics on their assigned apparatus. They will assist the State Education/Clinic Director in the dissemination and interpretation of updates and revisions to the USAG National Programs, Judging and National Coaching Staff technical newsletters, and FIG revisions and interpretations to the Code of Points.

### **Communications Facilitators (North and South)**

The Communications Facilitators will provide for a streamlined, multifaceted and technologically current flow of information to and from the State Chairman, his State Committee and coaches. In cooperation with the State Registrar they must update and maintain the club and coach address/e-mail database, and distribute information to coaches in the

state. The Communications Facilitators will also create all forms used for entries, applications, registration, meet bids, etc. as well as assist the State Secretary conduct the annual Bill Foster and Judge of the Year Award nominations & elections at the State Championships.

### **Liaison Positions**

Liaison positions are appointed or approved by the State Chairman and are designated as needed for persons authorized to represent significant organizations related to the sport. Their function is to serve as a direct means of communication between the State Chairman and the governing bodies of these organizations. They also function as advisors to the State Chairman regarding policies and guidelines affected by their organizations which will have impact on the Texas Gymnastics Community.

### **TGJA LIAISON**

Selected by the TGJA President or Governing Board. The TGJA Liaison will assist the State Chair as requested in the selection of Judges for the State Championships.

### **THSGCA LIAISON**

The THSGCA Liaison will advise the State Chair and his Committee of rules updates and High School Meet Schedules as well as provide the Committee with any information or suggestion which would further develop the High School Program in the State and foster a cooperative relationship between the Club and High School Programs.

### **REGION 3 COMMITTEE LIAISON/S**

They will be the Current Region 3 Chair and/or a Committee member. The Region 3 Committee Liaison/s will advise the State Chair and his Committee of important Region 3 news, rules changes and schedules related to Championship Meets, Future Stars Testing, Regional Clinics and Developmental Team Camps. They will also work with the Committee to further the cooperative relationship that Texas has with the other states in the Region.

### **GAT CONVENTION LIAISON**

The GAT Convention Liaison will find speakers for the men's portion of the GAT convention and or the State Clinic. At this time the GAT convention serves as the State Clinic. It is their responsibility to receive and forward to the GAT Convention Education Director the list of topics and lecturers developed by the State Education Coordinators, contact the appropriate GAT representatives for proper procedure and protocol and make all necessary contacts and travel arrangements with the speakers.

## **Official State Meetings/Clinics**

### **Summer Coaches Business Meeting**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Summer Coaches Business Meeting is to discuss and vote on all matters pertaining to the state for the upcoming year. It is highly recommended all clubs be represented at this meeting. Club Registration is accepted at this meeting.

### **Date and Site**

The meeting will take place every year in June, preferably the week prior to or after Father's Day. The meeting will be scheduled for a Saturday at a site determined by the State Chairman. Information on the meeting will be placed at the website. Advance information will be made available by the last State Meet of the year.

### **Quorum / Rules of Order**

A Quorum shall be defined as the total number of clubs in attendance at the Summer Coaches Business Meeting without regard to that number's percentage of the total clubs in the State.

In all other cases beyond that described above, Roberts Rules of Order will be used to govern the proceedings.

### **Agenda**

The business agenda to be acted upon at this meeting will include:

Election of State Chairman and Bookkeeper in odd numbered years

Appointments of positions by State Chairman annually

Annual Kevin Mazeika High Performance Program Award Presentation

State, Regional and National Reports

High School Report

Judging Reports and Updates

Sims Report and Update

State Calendar of events to include: Invitational dates, State Meet dates, Clinics

GAT updates

State Meet Bids and Selection

Texas Rules and Policies updates/changes

State Financial Report

New business

### **Voting Issues not pertaining to selection of State Meets**

To be eligible to vote a coach must be a current men's professional member with a current safety certification and proper USAG University Credentials. Voting can be accomplished by a show of hands or by secret ballot. A simple majority is

all that is necessary for all voting issues. No proxy votes will be allowed; a coach must be present to vote.

### **Voting for State Meets**

The voting procedures for selection of the State Meets are the same as other voting issues with the following exception: **Only one vote per USA-Gymnastics club will be given and that club must have competed athletes at one of the last State Meets or is planning on competing athletes at the next State Meet.**

### **State Clinics and GAT Convention Clinic**

The State Clinic Director, will develop a plan to create and hold a State Clinic/s for coaches and athletes to be held separate from the GAT Convention Clinic. He will present this plan to the State Committee for approval and scheduling and upon approval of the event, serve as the Clinic Director.

The State Clinic can be hosted in conjunction with the Gymnastics Association of Texas convention. The State Chairman and a GAT liaison will assist the GAT officials with securing lecturers for topics important to the men's gymnastics community. The State Education Director will recommend Lecturers and topics to the State Chairman and we strongly encourage all men's professional members to fully support and attend this function. Information on the GAT convention can be found at [www.gatx.org](http://www.gatx.org).

### **Future Stars Competition**

Future Stars program information can be found at the USAG website. At this time, state Future Star testing will be held in conjunction with the Regional Future Star testing and will be run by the Regional Chairman. Specific regional information can be found at the Region 3 website.



# COMPETITION RULES IN TEXAS

## Texas State Meets

All coaches interested in bidding on and hosting one of the Texas State Meets must read, understand and follow all the rules outlined in Section 2 and Section 3 of the Texas Men's Rules and Policies. This includes their being current and properly USAG University Certified Professional Members affiliated with a USAG Member Club or Affiliated Organization per USAG Event Sanction Requirements.

## Texas Invitational and State Meets

### Applications

To host a gymnastics meet in Texas a club or individual must apply for a sanction from the USA Gymnastics office. Forms and fee information are available at the USAG website. In addition, the State Chairman must be given notification of the meet using the **Texas Invitational Meet form available in the forms section of the State Website**. It is strongly suggested that persons interested in hosting meets in Texas attend and post their meet information at the Summer Coaches Business Meeting.

### Rules and Guidelines

Meet directors must be knowledgeable and follow all rules pertaining to running men's competitions using the National Men's Rules and Policies and the Texas Men's Rules and Policies as a guide. The National R&P can be found at: [http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/rules\\_policies.html](http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/rules_policies.html)

In many areas including matters of entry fee, awards, and competition format an invitational can charge what they want, award how they want and run the meet to best fit their needs. In addition, with the exception of the athlete age requirement rules (6 year old on day of the meet rule) age groups can also be modified. It is strongly suggested that meets run in Texas follow our State Meet age groups.

Equipment specifications and matting requirements as outlined in the National R&P cannot be changed. Those requirements can be found in the USAG Men's Jr. Olympic 2013-16 Program Handbook.

### Meet Taxes

**State Tax** – The USA Gymnastics organization has empowered all states to charge a \$1.00 per athlete meet tax to help cover state operating costs. Beginning in 1989 this tax has been assessed to all sanctioned men's competitions with the exception of Regional and National competitions. Entry fees that are refunded are not subject to the tax.

Meet taxes must be postmarked within 14 days of the meet or are subject to a \$50 late fee. Clubs that do not pay their taxes or late fees will not be allowed to send their athletes to the Texas State Meet. Checks should be made out to: **“Texas State Account”** and mailed to the Texas State Chairman. A payment form can be found in the Texas Forms pages on the Texas Website at: Texas Meet Report Form .

**Sims Donation** – The Sims Scholarship Foundation was created in 1988 to serve two purposes. First, to honor Mike Sims, an outstanding Texas gymnast murdered while acting as a good Samaritan, and second, to provide Texas gymnasts with academic scholarships for college. To provide funding, the Texas coaches of the USA-Gymnastics men’s program mandated a one dollar head tax be collected from all athletes at any Texas men’s sanctioned event where an entry fee is charged. Money is sent to the Treasurer of the Sims Scholarship Foundation Checks should be made out to: “**Sims Scholarship Fund**” and sent to the Sims Foundation Treasurer. The Sims Foundation payment form is available here and in the “Forms” Section of the State Website at [www.texasgyminfo.org](http://www.texasgyminfo.org).

#### **Level 4-5 North/South State Championships Sims Donation**

In 1994 the Texas Coaches voted to approve the proposal that the North and South State Meets combined would contribute a flat \$2000.00 to the Scholarship Foundation. The amount each meet would pay would be equal to the percentage of the total participants in both meets that competed in each of the meets. For example if the North meet had 46% of the total athletes in both meets, that meet would pay 46% of the total \$2000.00 tax and the South Meet would pay 52%. That percentage will vary each year. The State Chairman will record the number of participants from each meet and inform the meet directors of the %age of the \$2000.00 tax their meet owes.

#### **National Gymnastics Foundation Tax**

In August of 1999, the Junior Olympic Program Committee (JOPC) mandated that a one dollar head tax, for each participant at any men’s sanctioned event where a fee is charged, be collected and sent to the National Gymnastics Foundation in order to aide in the funding of the Men’s Scholastic Scholarship Program. These funds are required to be returned with the USA Gymnastics Sanction Report Form within 24 hours of the sanctioned competition or event to the USAG National Office. A payment form is included in the USAG Sanction Rand Report documents online for each sanctioned meet.

#### **Sanction Reports / Meet Results**

A completed copy of the meet sanction must be mailed to the State Chairman, Regional Chairman and National office within 48 hours of the meet.

Failure to send the sanction will incur a \$50-\$200 late fee or fine from USA Gymnastics Member Services.

#### **Officials**

Judges must be secured through the Texas Gymnastics Judges Association assigning director. An application for officials must be filled out and sent to the assigning director with a \$20 fee made out to: “TGJA”. The application can be found at the TGJA website: [www.tgja.org](http://www.tgja.org). For State Meets, judges are selected and approved by the State Chairman.

#### **Athlete Age Requirement**

For all aspects of the men’s program, a gymnast’s age is determined as of May 31st in the year of the Championship meet. **A GYMNAST MAY NOT AGE JUMP.**

**A 5yr old athlete may not compete in any meet until the date he actually turns 6 years old.**

**In Texas, for an athlete to become eligible for the State Meet he must compete in one sanctioned meet prior to the State Meet. If he cannot meet that requirement he will not be eligible for the State Meet.**

## **Entry and Maximum Gate Fees**

2019 Level 4-7 North/South Athlete entry fee: **\$90.00 per athlete**

2019 Athlete entry fee: **\$100.00 for JD or JO Competitor**

**\$125.00 for JE Competitor**

Team fee: **No Team Fee**

Gate fee (per session): \$15 - Adult, \$8 – Child/Senior Citizens Child 5 and under free

An all day pass: \$20-Adult, \$12- Child/Senior Citizens Child 5 and under free

## **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS COMPULSORY (LEVEL4-7) AND OPTIONAL (LEVEL 8-10) AWARDS GUIDELINES**

### **➤ Level 4-7 Individual and All Around Awards**

It is highly recommended that the State Award system be used at all Invitational Competitions for the Level 4-5 athletes as follows: (Exec. Comm. 2016)

**Level 4 and 5 Awards will be given in single year Age Groups.** The State Chair and meet director have the discretion to combine these Age Groups based on the numbers of entries in the meet.

**Level 6-7 Awards will be given in the approved age groups for Texas.** The State Chair and meet director have the discretion to divide or combine these Age Groups based on the numbers of entries in the meet. Please refer to the Age Group Table on page 6 of this document for the approved Age Groups for all Levels (Level 4-10).

**For each Individual Event, each Age Group will be Awarded 1st -6th place.** Ties (including 1st and 2nd place) will be awarded duplicate medals and the next place will be skipped. All ties for 6th place will all be awarded duplicate medals.

**In the All Around, each Age Group will be Awarded 1st -10th place.** Ties (including 1st and 2nd place) will be awarded duplicate medals and the next place will be skipped. All ties for 10th place will all be awarded duplicate medals.

### **➤ Level 8-10 Individual and All Around Awards**

**Level 8-10 Awards will be given in the approved age groups for Texas.** The State Chair and meet director have the discretion to divide or combine these Age Groups based on the numbers of entries in the meet. Please refer to the Age Group Table on page 6 of this document for the approved Age Groups for all Levels (Level 4-10).

**For each Individual Event, each Age Group will be Awarded 1st -3rd place.** Ties (including 1st and 2nd place) will be awarded duplicate medals and the next place will be skipped. All ties for 3th place will all be awarded duplicate medals.

**In the All Around, each Age Group will be Awarded 1st 6th place.** Ties (including 1st and 2nd place) will be awarded duplicate medals and the next place will be skipped. All ties for 16th place will all be awarded duplicate medals.

➤ **Team Awards**

Team awards are to be given for each state recognized age group and level where there are at least three full teams.

At least 50% of the teams in each group will receive awards and ties will receive awards.

Team awards are based on the top 3 scores from each event.

At the State Meet, a team will be recognized by meeting all of the following criteria:

- a. Geographic workout location
- b. Defined by the USAG Club #
- c. Team mailing address
- d. The majority of the team training is at one geographic training location

➤ **Senior Awards**

Special awards will be presented to all graduating high school seniors in the men's program. The Senior Award Application with instructions can be found in the appendices section. The Senior Award application must be submitted 3 weeks prior to the State Meet. The award will be presented at the Level 10 session of the State Meet. That Application form may be found at: [Senior Awards Application](#).

➤ **Regional Qualifiers**

All coaches that have athletes that qualify to the Regional Meet must turn in their entries and any petitions and accompanying documentation to the State Chairman before the end of the State Meet. Entries must be filled out completely and include the correct payment. [Regional Entry Procedures](#)

➤ **Injury Petition to Regional**

The coach of a petitioning gymnast should first contact their State Chairman. Petition forms can be downloaded from the Region 3 website and must be submitted to the State Chair with a physician's statement and past meet results. The Form is found at: <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Men/Rules/Rules%20and%20Policies/injury-petition.pdf> . The petition is due prior to or at the State Meet. Petitioning athletes are required to pay the regional entry fee and coaches should include these athletes on their Regional entry form with the words "Petition Pending by their name. Gymnasts should show from previous scores the ability to easily beat the Regional qualifying score by at least 2.0 points. The State Chairman will contact the Regional Chairman for final approval. Once approved, the State Chairman will contact the individual coaches with the decision.

**QUALIFYING PROCEDURE TO STATE MEET**

A gymnast must compete in at least one sanctioned meet prior to the State Meet, in the age group and at the level they desire to compete at the State Meet. Once State is reached there is no changing. The last possible date to qualify is three weeks prior to the State Meet. The State Chairman must approve exceptions to the qualifying procedures.

### **Petitions to the State Meet**

At this time there are no petitions, injury related or other, allowed for entrance to the State Meet. A gymnast must have competed once prior to the State Meet at the level they desire to compete in order to qualify.

### **Coaches Dress Code**

Coaches should always be professionally dressed. It is our obligation as professionals to look, act and dress the part. The following dress code will be enforced at State, Regional, and Nationals and is highly recommended for all State sanctioned Invitationals. Please help our sport look professional.

Closed toe shoes (no sandals)

Slacks, Warm-up Pants, Hemmed Shorts (no denim or cargo shorts)

Collared Shirts

No Hats

Violators will be asked to leave the competition floor.

### **Athlete Dress Code**

All athletes must compete in long solid colored gymnastics pants, socks and or gymnastics shoes, and gymnastics competition jersey on Pommel Horse, Rings, P-Bars and High Bar. The FIG “dark pants” rule is NOT in effect.

On Floor Exercise and Vault the gymnast may compete in shorts with or without footwear or as he would for the other events. However, if he wears long pants he must have footwear on.

Gymnasts may not compete with body piercings or tongue studs. Tattoos should be covered where visible.

Gymnasts may not compete with jewelry to include rings, chains, anklets, decorative wristbands or watches.

Gymnasts are required to wear a shirt at all times during warm ups and competition.

Gymnasts are required to be in full uniform for awards.

**Failure to comply with the above rules will result in a .3 deduction taken from the gymnasts score one time during competition.**

### **Level 8, 9 and 10 Open Stretch Rules**

**Gymnasts competing in the Level 8, 9, and 10 Sessions may use the equipment during the open stretch period for pre-meet strength/swings, apparatus familiarization. Light tumbling may be performed on the Floor Exercise Mat**

**as long as athletes wishing to stretch on the floor have room to do so. No grips may be worn by the athletes on rings or Horizontal Bar during this period.**

### **State Meet Information**

Preliminary meet information will be available by the GAT convention and placed on the Region 3 and Texas websites. This information should include site location, hotel accommodations, meet dates, equipment, and contact information.

Final information will be available 10 weeks prior to the State Meet and will be posted at the Region 3 and State websites to be downloaded by coaches. This information will also be e-mailed to all coaches and clubs using the e-mail address from the official Texas Club address list. The meet director is not required to mail State Meet information to the clubs.

The final competition schedule will not be available until after all entries have been received (3 weeks before the meet).

### **Entry Forms**

**The USAG Member Services Meet Reservation System must be used to submit all entries to State Championship Meets. All revisions to the entry must also be made using the Reservation system. This reserves your athlete a spot in the meet and verifies that they are an current athlete registered with USA Gymnastics. You must still send the meet director an Official State Meet Entry Form along with your entry check by the posted deadline to be officially entered in the meet.**

All hard copy entry forms to the State Meet must be typed and checked by the coach for accuracy. The official State Entry Form found in the "Forms" section of the state website. Improperly filled out, or incomplete entries will be returned to the coach and may incur late fees.

**Athletes must be listed on the entry in order by Compulsory Level and Division (i.e. 41 or 42; 61 or 62, etc.) or Optional Level and Division ( JD, JO or JE), and within each division must be listed in order by Level, and within each Level by age group from youngest to oldest.**

### **Entry Due Date**

**Clubs should provide USA Gymnastics Meet Reservations to the Meet Director by Feb. 1st. Hard Copy entries should be on the Official State Meet Entry Form. All entries must be post marked 30 days before the State Meet. Entries will not be accepted that are not typed or on the official State Meet Entry Form. **Late entries must be approved by the State Chairman and will incur a \$25 per athlete penalty. Those teams that fail to pay the late fee will be ineligible to compete at the State Meet.****

### **Refunds for Scratched Entries**

Entered athletes may be scratched from the meet with no penalty up until the entry deadline. Scratches due to injury which are received in writing or by email from the entry deadline until two weeks prior to the meet will be refunded but charged a \$10.00 administrative fee. There will be no refunds for any scratches after two weeks prior to the meet.

### **Foreign Athletes**

A foreign athlete may compete in Sanctioned meets, J.O. State, Regional, and Nationals and receive placing, ranking and awards like a US citizen only if the awards are duplicated. They may not displace any US citizen from being on any team.

## **BIDDING ON THE STATE MEET**

The Texas State Meet is the primary showcase of our State Program. It is the last State function of the year and a highlight for parents and athletes. We have a long tradition of running great competitions that do not tax the athlete, coach, officials, or parents. It is very important that individuals planning on bidding on this meet have experience in hosting meets and a desire to run the meet at the level we are used to. Additionally, because of the importance of maintaining a high level of quality for this event the State Chairman will appoint a State Meet Coordinator. The State Meet Coordinator will oversee all aspects of the State Meets. Each State Meet Director will report to the State Meet Coordinator and have all aspects of their planning for each of the State Meets approved. The State Meet Coordinator will insure that all State Meet guidelines as provided in the State Rules and Policies are followed and will report directly to the State Chairman with updates on the progress and planning of each of the State Meets. He will assist the State Meet Directors as needed with the running of the events and will be responsible for making recommendations to the State Chairman for changes in the rules, guidelines and policies governing the State Meets.

### **General Information**

Any individual can bid for the State Meet as long as they are a men's professional member and safety certified.

The Texas Men's Program will use the USAG National Rules and Policies for running the meet unless the Texas Men's Rules and Policies supersede it. Meet Directors and coaches must be knowledgeable in all of these rules and be equipped to handle all requirements. . The National R&P can be found at:

[http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/rules\\_policies.html](http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/rules_policies.html)

Meet Directors must follow the Texas State Outline for the State Meet. The State Meet Coordinator will work closely with the host gym to assure a quality meet. **Strict adherence must be followed or the State Chairman has the choice to re-award the meet. Additionally, if there is a change in Meet Director, Host Club, Meet Location, or Meet Date, the State Chairman has the ability to select a new bid.**

There will be no limit on the number of State Meets in a row a club may host; however, the same club may not host both State Meets in the same year.

### **The Bid Process**

The site and date of the State Meet will be decided at the Texas Men's Summer Business Meeting. State meets bids will be awarded up to two years ahead of the Meet Date if bids are presented in accordance with the State guidelines.

All interested individuals must submit a written bid on or before the summer meeting. In addition, all bids must be completed in full on the official State Meet Bid Form. This form is found in the "Forms" section of the State Website at: [Level 4 - 7 North/South State Bid Form - Optional State Bid Form](#). Incomplete bids will not be accepted.

Beginning in 2019, the Sims Scholarship committee will alternately host the Michael Sims North or South State Championships on odd numbered years beginning with the North.

Persons wishing to bid on the State Meet should notify the State Chairman by email of their intention prior to sending their bid. One copy of the bid is to be given to the State Meet Coordinator and two copies of the bid are to be given to the State Chairman prior to the bid presentation, one copy will be posted for all members to review and the other copy will be for the State Chairman's records.

Each person will be given a set time to present their bid to the coaches at the meeting.

### **The Voting Process**

The vote to decide the host of the State Meet will be done by secret/closed ballot on a form generated by the State Chairman or State Meet Coordinator.

The State Chairman or a neutral party appointed by the State Chairman will count the vote.

There will be no proxy/absentee voting for the State Meet, you must be present to vote.

To vote, a coach must be a USAG professional member with a current safety certification and proper USAG University credentials, and represent a men's team that has competed in the past State Meet or is planning on registering athletes and competing in the upcoming year. **One vote per club is allowed.**

### **Competition Format**

There are many factors to consider when choosing the competition format for the State Meet. The Meet Director, State Chairman and State Meet Coordinator will determine the best competition format after evaluating all the options. The following are requirements we have established for the meet:

Each session should not exceed 100 athletes. (72 is recommended)

A separate awards area is preferred.

Six events must be run simultaneously with awards following immediately after.

Each session must have adequate time for stretch, coaches meeting, warm-up, and competition.

The competition day will follow the start and end times prescribed in the National R&P book.

## **HOSTING A STATE MEET**

Clubs submit a USA Gymnastics Meet Reservation to the Meet Director at least 6-7 weeks prior to the State Meet. All revisions to the Reservation must also be submitted through the Reservation system. Additionally, a hard copy entry should be mailed with the full entry fee check on the Official Meet Entry Form. All entries must be post marked 30 days before the State Meet. Entries will not be accepted that are not typed or on the official State Meet Entry Form. Late entries must be approved by the State Chairman and will incur a \$25 per athlete penalty. Those teams that fail to pay the



late fee will be ineligible to compete at the State Meet.

**Refunds for Scratched Entries**

Entered athletes may be scratched from the meet with no penalty up until the entry deadline. Scratches due to injury which are received in writing or by email from the entry deadline until two weeks prior to the meet will be refunded but charged a \$10.00 administrative fee. There will be no refunds for any scratches after two weeks prior to the meet.

A formal Coaches and Judges Technical Packet containing all pertinent information regarding the meet shall be emailed to the coaches and Judges no later than 3 weeks prior to the Meet. The official State Meet Technical Packet Template should be used to create this document each year. That template is found in the “Forms” section of the State Website. The Technical Packet must be approved by the State Meet Coordinator prior to its distribution through the State Communications Directors via email.

At the coaches meeting the following items must be addressed; march-in procedure, event rotations, team rotation, gym rules, score card procedure, awards ceremony, emergency plans and any other information needed to aid in the running of the meet. The head of officials should also be given time to address the coaches with procedure related to the judges.

Athletes who cannot attend competition at their scheduled competition time may petition the meet director to allow the athlete to compete in another session for exhibition purposes only. Their exhibition scores MAY NOT be used to qualify to Regionals (June 2009).

**\*\*Entry and Maximum Gate Fees**

**2019 Level 4-7 North/South Athlete entry fee: \$90.00 per athlete**

**2019 Athlete entry fee: \$100.00 for JD or JO Competitor**

**\$125.00 for JE Competitor**

**Team fee: No Team Fee**

**Gate fee (per session): \$15 - Adult, \$8 – Child/Senior Citizens Child 5 and under free**

**An all day pass: \$20-Adult, \$12- Child/Senior Citizens Child 5 and under free**

\*\*Note: The primary function of the Gate Fees is to offset the expense of the facility and the equipment. In the event that these expenses are relatively low (i.e. a High School, Club or City owned facility/equipment with a substantially reduced rental rate or free use), the State Chair has the authority to lower the Gate Fee for the meet dependent on the facility and/or equipment cost to the host of the event. However, the Gate fees will in no case be set lower than the Level 4-5 State Gate

**Level 8, 9 and 10 Open Stretch Rules**

**Gymnasts competing in the Level 8, 9, and 10 Sessions may use the equipment during the open stretch period for pre-meet strength/swings, apparatus familiarization. Light tumbling may be performed on the Floor Exercise Mat as long as athletes wishing to stretch on the floor have room to do so. No grips may be worn by the athletes on rings or Horizontal Bar during this period.**

## **Meet Site**

The meet site should have adequate seating, parking, floor and ceiling space, and restrooms to safely accommodate spectators, gymnasts, judges and coaches.

There should be a minimum of four times the seating available as there are gymnasts in any one session. (i.e. 72 gymnasts = seating for 288 spectators)

A minimum of one gym is required.

## **Equipment**

The type of equipment and mats used is up to the Meet Director; however, it must be in safe working order and listed when making the bid.

The USAG Men's R&P will be the official document for all mat and equipment specifications.

A minimum of one piece of equipment is required. Two sets of parallel bars are recommended. Should a session have Level 7 or Level 8 athletes combined with any other Level, two Pommel Horses will be required; one with pommels, and one without.

An adjustable Ring Frame is preferred but not required

Weight plates must be used for the vaulting table.

Ample matting must be available for mounting, dismounting or raising the event surface.

It is recommended to have a backup plan in case of equipment failure.

## **Meet Date**

The Texas State Championships should be held 2-4 weeks prior to the Regional Meet and must cover at least a 2-day period. If approved the competition may be 3-days. The date for the event is voted on at the Summer Business Meeting up to two years prior to the event. The State Chairman may make changes in the date if there are scheduling conflicts.

## **State Meet Structure and Procedures**

The structure and procedures for the State Meet are determined by the decisions of the State Chair and the State Executive Committee. Additionally, some actionable items presented and passed by vote at the Annual Summer Coaches Business Meeting can affect the various rules, entry fees, number of awards, etc from year to year. The State Chair retains the right to make final determinations regarding the format and structure as well as the entry fees and awards as needed based on the final number of entries and/or significant or unforeseen factors that may arise prior to the event. The Meet Director will be consulted on any such decisions but will be bound by the decisions of the State Chair and Executive Committee.

## **Information Distribution**

Preliminary meet information must be available at the GAT convention and placed on the Texas state website. Information must include meet site, area hotels, meet date, tentative schedule and format, equipment, contact numbers and or websites for coaches to get additional information.

The Texas State Registered Clubs email address database will serve as the official list of eligible clubs for entry purposes and all information will be distributed through the State Communications Directors. This data base will be updated as new clubs are registered with the State Chairman and can be downloaded for use.

Final meet information must be approved by the State Meet Coordinator before it is posted or sent out. The meet information must include the following:

Meet Title, Date, Site, Host, Meet Director with contact numbers, Website or e-mail contacts, Hotel information, Entry fee and who to make checks to, Entry form and rules, Entry form deadline and penalties, Return mailing address, Competition format, Age groups, Team age groups, Equipment, Awards information, Admission cost, Video policy, T-shirt cost, Program Cost, Hospitality information, Coaches and Athletes dress code, Senior Award information, and a very tentative competition schedule. We recommend a separate handout for parents to include information on costs, location, hotels, concessions, t-shirt ordering, program well-wisher ads and map.

**This information is due to the State Meet Coordinator and State Chairman at least 6 weeks before the State Meet.**

The final competition schedule will not be available until all the entries are received, but should be posted no later than three weeks prior to the start date for the Meet.

After approval by the State Chairman and State Meet Coordinator, the State Meet information must be posted at the State website and sent out via e-mails. **This must be posted and sent out no later than 3 weeks prior to the State Meet.**

## **Scoring System**

A proven, reliable computer-scoring program is required.

Scores must be flashed after each routine and all results must be posted on the Meet Website within 2 hours after each session.

A back up plan must be available in case of computer, power, or program failure.

State Meet results must be posted on the State and Regional website immediately following the competition.

Pro Score is currently recommended for use at the State Meet.

Alpha/Numeric Flashers are currently preferred but not required.

## **Medical Trainer and Emergency Action Plan**

The State Meet must have a trainer in attendance for all sessions. In addition, an emergency action plan should be developed in cases of medical or other emergencies.

## **Program**

A program is required at the State Meet. The program should include meet information, welcome letters from the meet Host and State Chairman; gymnasts score sheets, teams competing, names of officials and any other information useful for the parents and public.

## **Judges**

Judges are chosen as a joint effort between the State Chairman and the State Judging Director. The Texas Gymnastics Judges Association president or liaison will comprise a list of candidates and alternates for the State Meet and forward that list to the State Chairman for approval. The State Chairman and Executive Committee will review the list and make recommendations for selection. The final selection of the State Meet Judges will be made by the State Chairman. Selection for the Head Judges and Technical Sequence Judges will be completed by January 1<sup>st</sup> each year or one week after Regional judges are determined. Remaining judge selections for the State Meet must be finalized by February 14<sup>th</sup> of each year.

To judge the State Meet a candidate must be in good standing with the State, Region and National program. They must be a men's professional member of the USAG and safety certified. They must be at least Nationally and J.O. certified. They must have judged at least 4 USAG J.O. meets prior to the State Meet.

## **Judging Panels and State Judging Subsidy for 2<sup>nd</sup> Panel for Optionals and TS**

For the Texas State Championships, a flat fee will be negotiated by the State Chairman and the TGJA President based on the number of sessions each judge judges and the size of the meets. For the North/South State Meets, the current compulsory rate will be used. A one judge panel will be used to judge the Level 6-7 sessions of competition. A two judge panel will be used to judge the Level 8-10 and Technical Sequence sessions.. To assist the meet host, the Texas State Account will allocate \$100 per judge to be paid to the meet host on or before the first day of the Texas State Championships. Outside organizations (such as the TGJA) may also contribute to the payment of the judges. The meet host is required to provide hotel accommodations or travel expenses for the second set of judges. The meet host is required to provide meals for the second set of judges during the competition.

The State Meet Coordinator, the Judging Liaison and the Meet Director will coordinate all travel, accommodations, scheduling and payment for the judges.

## **End of Meet Procedures**

The State Chairman will need the following items immediately following the meet:

1. Copy of all participating Teams entries or an Excel Spreadsheet with all their club and personal contact information (phone numbers, addresses, club #, etc), or copies of all entry forms.
2. Signed copy of Sanction
3. State Tax Check

4. Break down of competitors by Division, level and age

### **Financial Report**

A financial report of the State Meet must be presented to the State Chairman and State Meet Coordinator no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The Financial Statement will be made available to the State Coaches at the Summer Coaches Business Meeting.

**The Financial Report should include at least the following:**

#### **Revenue**

Admissions/Programs

Concessions

Sponsors/Donations

Athlete Entry Fees

Team Entry Fees

T-Shirt Sales

**Total Revenue**

#### **Expenses**

Facility Rental

Equipment Rental

Medals

Team Awards Athletes/Judges/Coaches

Gifts (if any) Judges Fees, Mileage, Per

Diem

Hotel Rooms Judges and Staff

Hospitality for Judges/Coaches

Decorations

Athletic Trainer and Supplies

Concession Cost

T-Shirt Cost

Printing Cost

Meet Staff

Sanction Fee

USAG Meet Tax Sims

Meet Tax State Meet

Tax

Scoring System Rental

Miscellaneous Supplies

**Total Expenses**

**Total Profit/Loss**

**Posting Meet Results**

Meet results must be posted online within 24 hours of the completion of the competition. There is no requirement to provide printed copies of the results at the competition.

## Texas All-Star Program

**Purpose:** Identify and reward talented Level 5 athletes ages 7, 8 age groups. Provide a vehicle for coaches' education and athlete development at an early competitive level.

### **Program: Texas Level 5 All-Star Camp(s)**

**Who:** Top 24 athletes Lv. 5 (ages 7, 8, and 9 age groups) from each of the Level 5 North and South State Championships for a total of 48 athletes.

**What:** Texas All-Star Camp is designed to assist coaches and talented athletes in developing and maintaining a productive developmental path, and assist coaches with updated information, techniques, training plans, etc. Introduction to Future Stars Program will be the focus of this camp.

**When:** Camp Date TBD; most likely immediately following the Jr. Olympic National Championships in May or early June

**Where:** Camp Sites TBD. Gymnasts attend one of the two camps offered: **Effective in 2015, North All-Stars will attend the camp in the North, while South All-Stars will attend the Camp in the South.** Both Camps will be staffed by members of the State Coaching Staff as chosen by the State Education and Camp Director.

### **Camp sites and dates will be announced prior to the Compulsory State Championships**

**Cost:** Athletes will be charged **\$50 each**. This fee will help cover designated coaches expenses, gym expenses etc. Athletes will receive a specially designed T-Shirt designating them a Level 5 All-Star. This shirt will be made available ONLY to athletes selected and participating in the Camp!

**Selection and Requirements:** Following the end of awards at each of the State Meets for each of the age groups eligible for the camps, eligible athletes, their coaches, and parents will meet with a member of the State Coaching Staff. There they will receive information sheets and registration forms for the camp. The coach and parents of the athlete must inform the State Coaching Staff member of their intention to participate in the camp within one week of the State Championship. Each athlete must have coach representing respective programs in attendance at the camp. Should an athlete decline the opportunity to attend the camp, the next highest ranked athlete based on All-Around score in their respective age group will be invited to replace him at the camp. No athlete ranked below 10<sup>th</sup> in the All Around in the age group will be invited to participate. Should there be spots available with no athlete in an age group 10<sup>th</sup> or above able to participate, the slot can be filled from the other age group provided no one lower than 10<sup>th</sup> is invited.

This camp is designed for coaches' education, just as much for athlete development. There will be 2 work-outs at 2.5 hours each, with 1 hour break. Athlete's parents will be responsible for all travel, meal and rooming (if necessary) expenses for their athlete. The intent is for the camp site to be within driving distance so that hotel stays are not necessary.

**State Coaching Staff:** Coaches will be considered for the State Coaching Staff based on their availability to assist coaches and talented athletes in developing and maintaining a productive developmental path, and assist coaches with

updated information, techniques, training plans, etc. Their familiarity with the National Future Stars Program and their past participation in the National Future Stars Championships is also a consideration. Staff members will serve for a two year term with no limit to the number of terms they may serve. As much as possible, equal representation of the North and South districts of the State will be the goal in selecting the staff.

**Responsibilities:** The members of the State Coaching Staff will assist the State Education Director as requested with educational lectures, video presentations, workshops and/or camps designed to assist the coaches and athletes of the State in developing and maintaining a productive developmental path, and assist coaches with updated information, techniques, training plans, etc. This could include articles and presentations for the State and Regional Camps, GAT lectures, and the State Website.

Their primary responsibility will be to conduct the annual Level 5 All Star Camps in coordination with the State Educational Director. Coaches from the North will conduct the South Camp and coaches from the South will conduct the North camp. Expenses and an honorarium will be paid to the State Staff members for organizing and conducting these camps by the Texas State Committee.

**Selection Process:** The State Education Committee, comprised of the Education and Camp Director, the Regional Team Coordinator, and the State Apparatus Leaders, will annually determine a pool of candidates for selection as staff members. Results of the Mazeika High Performance Program Award points ranking, availability and willingness to serve, organizational and speaking ability, involvement in the Future Stars Program including the National Future Stars Championships, as well as overall technical knowledge and experience will be considered in naming candidates to the pool.

From this pool, 4 coaches will be selected to serve as the State Coaching Staff by a vote of the State Education Committee and with the final approval of the State Chairman. The term of service on the staff will be two years. In 2013-14 4 coaches will be selected to serve for a two-year term. In 2014-15, 4 additional coaches will be selected to serve a two-year term. This will allow for ½ the Staff to be up for election each year thereafter.

**Vacancies:** Should a vacancy occur on the State Staff, the State Education Director will have the ability to name a replacement coach from the pool of candidates that was considered during the year of the vacancy to serve on the staff for the remainder of the unfulfilled term, with the approval of the State Chair.