

GIRLS GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, October 5, 2011

Members Present:

John Cunningham, Plymouth
Barry Hobrla, Lowell (MIAAA)
Dan Hutcheson, Howell
Stacey Keim, Sturgis
Courtney Law, Grosse Pointe
Rick Schmidt, Holt

Members Absent:

Bob Dowd, Troy
Brenda McDonald, Grand Rapids
Kendra Sharp, Jackson

Staff Members Present:

Kathy Vrugink Westdorp (Recorder)

GENERAL REVIEW AND PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

The 2011 Gymnastics Committee met at the Michigan High School Athletic Association to review its responsibilities as a standing sports committee; review prior Representative Council action; examine current MHSAA gymnastics policy; determine Regional qualifying scores; and draw for 2012 Gymnastics Team Finals order.

STATUS OF THE SPORT

Committee members viewed a list of the schools which offer gymnastics as well as the number of teams which are currently competing. Members of the committee also viewed a list of the cooperative programs that presently exist in gymnastics between schools. Presently there are 72 schools which offer gymnastics and a total of 51 gymnastics teams. In 2010-11, there were 73 schools which offered gymnastics and a total of 53 teams. There are currently 18 approved cooperative programs in gymnastics. Throughout the United States, 18,749 girls and 1518 high schools participated in girls gymnastics during the 2009-10 season.

Committee members expressed some concern about diminishing programs in girls gymnastics and the inability to find qualified coaches who are able to understand very specialized safety issues. There was a consensus that the promotion of gymnastics within the school had much to do with the coach. Although the number of teams and competitors has remained fairly consistent throughout the last few years, it continues to be reiterated that current gymnastics competitors, new gymnastics coaches and new judges be mentored to increase the pool of coaches and judges in the sport. Due to the philosophical divide that currently exists between school gymnastics and club gymnastics, it was also suggested that high school programs and club programs work collaboratively to promote gymnastics in the high schools. The Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association will work with clubs to promote high school gymnastics. Overall, the members of the Gymnastics Committee indicated that there was an increase in the number of gymnasts on their teams over the last few years with the average size of a team being 12 gymnasts.

2011-12 GYMNASTICS SEASON

Gymnastics tournament information was reviewed with the committee. Monday, October 3, 2011 is the starting date for tryouts and practice and the first competition date is Saturday, November 19, 2011. The opt-out due date is Friday, February 24, 2012 at 4 p.m. Regional tournament sites on March 3, 2012 will be Rockford HS, Haslett HS, Canton-Plymouth HS and Troy Athens High School. The 2012 MHSAA Gymnastics Finals Tournament will be held at Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills High School with the 2012 tournament scheduled for March 9 and 10. The 2013 and 2014 tournaments are scheduled for Troy Athens; the 2015 and 2016 tournaments at Plymouth Canton; the 2017 and 2018 scheduled for Rockford; and the 2019 and 2020 tournaments again scheduled at Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills High School.

RULES BOOK AND RULES MEETING INFORMATION

Information was provided regarding the 2010-12 Girls Gymnastics Rules Book which included a re-codification of the girls gymnastics rules. The majority of the rule changes reflect the ongoing process of keeping with current trends and terminology of the sport and recognizing a variety of elements to better reflect today's high school gymnasts and their performances. The Girls Gymnastics Rules Book features new illustrations which depict more realistic figures to allow for a better understanding of the elements.

In addition, online gymnastics rules meetings will be posted starting Monday, October 17 through Thursday, December 15, 2011. Head coaches are required to attend or take an online rules meeting (during the dates indicated) or they may not coach in the MHSAA Gymnastics Tournament. To qualify to officiate in the MHSAA Tournament, judges must attend or take an online rules meeting (during the dates

indicated) and submit a schedule to the MHSAA. For those individuals who prefer to attend a face-to-face rules meeting, there are two available: 6 p.m. on Monday, November 14 at the MHSAA or 8 a.m. on Saturday, December 3 at Haslett HS (in conjunction with the MHS GCJA Judges Cup).

OUT-OF-SEASON COACHING CLARIFICATIONS

Committee members reviewed out-of-season and summer coaching controls. Information regarding the three (or four) player period, preseason down time and summer competition limits was also discussed. In addition, the MHSAA Handbook Supplement and Teaching Tool (Issue 7 – An Updated Eligibility Summary) was reviewed by Committee members.

2011-12 PARTICIPATING SCHOOL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION AND TOURNAMENT MANAGER'S MATERIALS

Both the PSTI and Tournament Manager's Materials were reviewed by the Committee and special notice was given to starting time and schedule for the Team Competition on Friday, March 9, 2012. Check-in will be at 12 noon and competition is scheduled to start at 2:00 p.m. On Saturday, March 10, Division 2 will compete at 12 noon and Division 1 will compete at 3:30 p.m. Further discussion included the emphasis that a finals tournament qualifier cannot be replaced if that individual declines the opportunity or cannot for any reason compete at the Gymnastics Finals Tournament. Also, gymnasts who are entered into the MHSAA Team Finals must have participated in the MHSAA Regional Tournament or have previously achieved the four regional individual qualifying scores.

DIVISION 1 AND DIVISION 2 DECLARATION

Committee members discussed the current process to determine Division 1 and Division 2 status in gymnastics and agreed that there were two separate issues when coaches determined Divisional status. The first matter involves gymnasts who are scoring 36 and above all-around scores and are qualified to compete at Division 1 but, have not necessarily competed in USAG 8/9 or above (as in the listed criteria) and therefore are competing in Division 2. The other issue identified was Division 2 gymnasts who are competing in the Division 1 Regional Tournament so they could qualify (due to less competitors at the Division 1 level) for the Finals Individual Meet. The Committee thoroughly discussed both issues and recommends that, although there would be no change in policy, that coaches make conscientious and principled decisions when placing gymnasts at their respective levels of competition.

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL QUALIFYING SCORES

The 2006 through 2011 team and individual qualifying scores for regional entry were reviewed. The 2011 regional participation information and scoring distribution for events at each site was received and discussed in order to assist the committee's charge to establish 2011-12 qualifying scores. In addition, all-around scoring at each Regional was also perused. The committee reviewed the 2011 summary of regional scoring and determined that the 2012 Regional qualifying scores would remain the same in all events except in bars where the qualifying score was changed from 7.0 to 6.8 due to the recent changes in the 2010-12 Girls Gymnastics Rules Book which include event requirements of a superior release/flight element; longitudinal twist/turn element of at least 180 degrees; at least two elements on each bar; a kip; an element that achieves or passes through vertical in a stretched position; and a superior dismount. The team scores would remain the same as has been for the last three years. The scores are as follows:

Vault – 7.9 Bars – 6.8 Beam – 7.5 Floor Exercise – 8.0 Team – 120

Verification of gymnasts qualifying scores must be signed by the coach and athletic director and the four dates on which the gymnast met or bettered the qualifying score must also be provided for each competitor for each event.

GYMNASTICS FINALS

The Gymnastics Committee reviewed and confirmed the 2012 Regional and Finals schedule. Committee members verbalized the tasks, equipment and procedures that are necessary to conduct an efficient meet and participated in a draw for order of competition at the 2012 Finals. First, second and third place teams at each Regional were assigned a number by blind draw. The number the team received determined the order of competition on vault, bars, beam and floor exercise. The 2012 Finals Gymnastics Draw for both a 13 and 12 team rotation is on mhsaa.com and attached to these meeting minutes.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

There were no recommendations to the MHSAA Representative Council.

2012 MHSAA GYMNASTICS FINALS ROTATION DRAW

TEAM FINALS - FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2012

GRAND RAPIDS KENOWA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

If 13 teams qualify:

ROTATION	WARM-UP	VAULT	BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	COMPETE
1	1:40 p.m.	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 1 st	Extra Qual.	2:00 p.m.
2	2:00 p.m.	Reg. 3 – 1 st	Reg. 4 – 1 st	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 1 st	2:20 p.m.
3	2:20 p.m.	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	2:40 p.m.
4	2:40 p.m.	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 1 st	3:00 p.m.
5	3:00 p.m.	Extra Qual.	Reg. 3 – 1 st	Reg. 4 – 1 st	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	3:20 p.m.
6	3:20 p.m.	Reg. 2 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	3:40 p.m.
7	3:40 p.m.	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	4:00 p.m.
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8	4:40 p.m.	Reg. 1 – 1 st	Extra Qual.	Reg. 3 – 1 st	Reg. 4 – 1 st	5:00 p.m.
9	5:00 p.m.	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	5:20 p.m.
10	5:20 p.m.	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	5:40 p.m.
11	5:40 p.m.	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 1 st	Extra Qual.	Reg. 3 – 1 st	6:00 p.m.
12	6:00 p.m.	Reg. 4 – 1 st	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	6:20 p.m.
13	6:20 p.m.	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	6:40 p.m.

If 12 teams qualify:

ROTATION	WARM-UP	VAULT	BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	COMPETE
1	1:40 p.m.	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 1 st	2:00 p.m.
2	2:00 p.m.	Reg. 4 – 1 st	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	2:20 p.m.
3	2:20 p.m.	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	2:40 p.m.
4	2:40 p.m.	Reg. 3 – 1 st	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 1 st	3:00 p.m.
5	3:00 p.m.	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 1 st	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 1 st	3:20 p.m.
6	3:20 p.m.	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	3:40 p.m.
-----BREAK-----						
7	4:20 p.m.	Reg. 1 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 1 st	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	4:40 p.m.
8	4:40 p.m.	Reg. 2 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 1 st	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	5:00 p.m.
9	5:00 p.m.	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	5:20 p.m.
10	5:20 p.m.	Reg. 4 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 1 st	Reg. 1 – 2 nd	5:40 p.m.
11	5:40 p.m.	Reg. 2 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 1 st	Reg. 3 – 2 nd	Reg. 4 – 1 st	6:00 p.m.
12	6:00 p.m.	Reg. 4 – 3 rd	Reg. 2 – 2 nd	Reg. 1 – 3 rd	Reg. 3 – 3 rd	6:20 p.m.