



JOTD – USAG Region One Championship Report

Reno, NV - April 3-6 , 2008 – Meet Directors: Roger Baldwin / Tim Klempnauer

Prepared By: Paul Tickenoff – Region 1 JOTD (Meet referee)

1. Meet Referee (non-judge) was present for all (11) sessions, with 98 clubs and 674 gymnasts participating.
2. Start-Score values were posted during each of the (11) sessions held. It was agreed upon that GPA would not be reflected in the Optionql (SV) start score, allowing each judge the freedom to apply GPA per their final score, with score adjustments made based upon the score range.
3. Coaches technical meetings: Given limited time between sessions the meet referee spoke only at selected sessions, mostly at the first session of each day, or as needed when concerns and conflicts arose. Apart from personal interaction, technical and inquiry procedures were made available at the head-scoring table.
4. Score Inquiry forms were required only for optional sessions, with exceptions allowed for a verbal inquiry. However, during all compulsory sessions, coaches were allowed to present a verbal SV inquiry.

	Thur – 4/3			Fri – 4/4			Sat – 4/5			Sun – 4/6			'08	'07	'06
Session(s)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11	10	10	
Level	6	9/10	10	7	9	8	5/6	7-10	5	5	5	L5-10	L4-10	L5-10	
# of Gymnast	72	66	74	71	62	71	71	6x36	60	71	78	674	703	579	
Written-Inquiry	0	10	5	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	21	19	49	
Verbal-Inquiry	8	4	3	12	2	3	8	2	1	0	0	43	32	49	
Technical quest.	6	9	2	5	1	2	4	0	1	0	0	30	26	51	
Score Adjust.	1	3	1	4	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	15	10	40	
JO National Champ. Qualifiers:				L9	10a	10b	Inquiries as % of all routines					1.49%	.972%	2.82%	
Allotment / & 5,4,3 Score qualifiers				42	25	39	Score Adjust as % of all routines					.351%	.237%	1.15%	
Total Region 1 JO Nat'l Qualifiers	106 + 1 Level 10 approved petition (127 – '07) + 1 SR Individual event qualifier														
Inquiry / Score Adj	FX = 8/1		PH = 11/2		SR = 21/4		V = 6/2		PB = 8/2		HB = 10/4		Totals: 64/15		

Note: Judging panels were comprised of a regionally balanced group of (6) non-coach/judges and (20) coach/judge officials representing all five states within Region One, with a range of 1 to 20+ years experience, as a national or brevet rated official. Of the past six years, I found this event to be the most exhausting in regard to inquiries and emotionally charged coaches. Most of which revolved around the compulsory sessions. Unfortunately, the majority of conflicts tended to come from the same handful of coaches, who evidently find it difficult to control their emotions on or off the floor, and as a result I am now rethinking the use of applying a score deduction or calling for the removal of such coaches from the competition floor, who consistently show a lack of self control and constraint..

As in years past, most all inquiries into optional SV's were due to a .1 or .2 difference from what the coach expected were due mostly to 'A" value skills, improperly constructed routines, or pre-competition inquiry forms completed incorrectly. However, in many cases the start value was reduced to benefit the gymnast due to a technical error. Ex: V hold verses Manna or B & C Stutz or back toss; kips and swings into strength parts on SR's. It also became apparent that the .1, .3, .5, .8 deduction table facilitated score range discrepancies between judging officials, but in most cases the discrepancy was quickly resolved. I believe this will continue to be a problem, because the current table doesn't allow for adequate separation in general or technical execution errors.

5. Score analysis reports, for the top ten Level 9, 10a and 10b gymnasts were prepared by the head judge on each event, and made available to coaches upon request at the Regional Clinic, where most all primary judges were present: FX – Michelle Telega / Karen Muschinske; PH – Tom Kutz; SR – Barry Pruett (JONAL) / Tony Tang; V – Tim Black; PB – Rob Kjar; HB – Nat Hammond (JONAL); Judges Clinic Coordinator – Paul Tickenoff
6. With the exception of the PH handstand dismount rules, and an increase in score inquiries, there were no major rule issues, as most were discussed in the pre event technical meeting prior to competition. However, there was definitely an increase in heated disfavor over the final scores, relative to execution, but in spite of this, I believe the judging panels were about the best the Region One Championship event has ever had.