

All Around News

REGIONAL

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Thanks to everyone who helped make the elite clinic and competition held in Orlando in December a great success. We had 24 athletes participate in the clinic and 14 athletes in the competition. I want to thank **Jeff Wood** from *Orlando Metro* and his staff for their use of their facility. I also want to thank **Jeff Wood** and **Tammy Biggs** for their time and knowledge that they gave to everyone at the clinic. Everyone appreciated their hard work. And I want to thank the **15 Brevet judges** who volunteered their time to judge the meet and to assist with all aspects of the clinic. It was great to have everyone working together and involved in the training and judging of all the athletes.

There are a few things that I would like to clarify. If you are involved in the elite program, please take the time to read your information and stay informed. There have been some changes in the program and the season is very early this year due to the Olympics so please read your information. And it is advisable that you enter the Elite National qualifiers and the regional meets that we have set up to qualify as these are the only opportunities that are available to qualify!

- 1 – There will **NOT** be a regional elite qualifier in May. **The last qualifier for the May Classic/Challenge is April 16-17 in Tampa, Florida.** If you wish to host a qualifier for the Challenge competition ONLY, you need to pick a date, contact both **Marian Dykes** and **Toni Rand**, set up and pay for the competition and we need to have at least 30 days notice. The last date that this meet will be allowed is May 1 & 2nd, so please plan accordingly.
- 2 – An athlete is **NOT** considered an elite athlete until they enter and compete at least one event at a Classic meet. If you have a JO athlete that is attempting to qualify as an Elite, until they enter and compete in a Classic they are **NOT** considered an elite and they may enter both JO and elite qualifiers without jeopardizing their JO status. Attending Challenge does **NOT** make the athlete an elite athlete.
- 3 – Scores from any of the National qualifiers or from the regional meets that you attend may be used to enter the May classic/challenge even if you attend JO Nationals (provided you did not qualify and compete at the March Classic)
- 4 – Athletes may attempt to achieve the TESTING/Compulsory score as many times as they want. Even if an athlete does not have the testing score to qualify to Classic or Challenge they may enter and compete in an optional elite qualifier. You may compete in any order. The athletes will bank their scores and may continue to try to achieve the qualifying scores that they need for challenge or classic. The only restriction is that athletes attempting to go to Elite Classic must achieve the optional score in a National qualifier or in the designated regional qualifier. Athletes may compete the testing as many times as they want and if they are only trying to go to Challenge, they may attend as many optional meets as they want to achieve the Challenge score.
- 5 – The region will designate the **Charleston Cup Classic** held on **February 27-29, 2004** as an additional Classic/Challenge regional qualifier for any athlete that may need it. We will have a February 1st deadline date to enter this competition and you must send in entry fee with entry form to **Deb Kornegay** with copy to **Toni Rand** by this date in order for the meet to be held. If no athletes are entered by **February 1st**, the competition will be cancelled. Athletes may qualify to Classic from this meet.

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6 – At the end of each season (the May classic), if your athlete does not compete in the Classic meet, they will need to achieve both the testing and the optional scores again next year in order to attend either the Challenge or the Classic meet. Your scores are only good for this season.

I hope that these clarifications will help you to understand the system better. I had a lot of questions about these items at the clinic and I just want to make sure that everyone understands how the system works. If you have any questions, please email me at AmTwist@aol.com, or fax me your questions at 954-755-1750. Please leave me an email address or fax number that I can respond to. I prefer to have both questions and answers in writing so that there is no confusion and I have a record of my response.

Elite Results

3 Region 8 Gymnasts Compete in USA vs Japan Meet



Shayla Worley
Orlando Metro



Kassi Price
Orlando Metro



Grace Taylor
Aiken Gymnastics

January 11, 2004 the USA defeated Japan 146.225 to 131.900 in a dual competition held at the Women's National Team Training Center in Houston. Three of the eight members of the USA team were from Region 8. They were **Shayla Worley** and **Kassi Price** from Orlando Metro and **Grace Taylor** from Aiken Gymnastics.

Kassi Price won the All Around with a 36.950 and Vault (9.375), **Shayla Worley** won Bars (9.425) and Beam (9.450) and **Grace Taylor** placed second on Beam (9.225) and fourth All Around (34.800).

Congratulations to our Region 8 gymnasts!

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DEADLINE: May 21, 2004