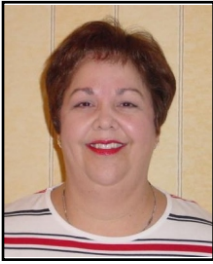


All Around News



MARIAN DYKES
RTCC

TECH
NOTES
ICAL

4651 Buford Highway
Atlanta, GA 30341
Work 770-451-6910
Fax 770-457-0943
Home 404-325-3745
Cell 404-408-6699

The Region 8 USAG Committee will continue to make regional assignments in the summer. The USAG Region 8 Committee at their summer meeting made assignments for both 2006 regional championships. These assignments can be found in the minutes in this newsletter as well as on my web page. If you are a judge interested in being considered for a regional meet, please read the article in this newsletter regarding fulfilling the criteria for a regional assignment. While no judge is guaranteed an assignment, meeting all of the criteria year after year is noticed.

In gym experience cards for regionals 2006 have already been sent. These cards were sent to all Level 10 and higher judges that submit a regional availability for 2006. These cards can be completed using in gym experiences from June 1, 2005 - June 1, 2006. This June 1 due date is a date received. Please be sure you meet this firm deadline. Any Level 10 or higher judge must complete this card to be eligible for consideration by the Region 8 Board for assignment to a regional meet in 2007. If you did not receive a card, you may print one from my web site or contact Marian Dykes.

Availability forms for Regional Championships are in this newsletter. You will not receive an individual mailing. Completed forms must be returned to Marian Dykes and received by June 1, 2006.

Your USAG Region 8 Board will make recommendations from Region 8 for Level 10 J.O. Nationals and Level 9 J.O. Easterns. If a judge does not satisfy the current elite active-status requirements as well as work at one of the Region 8 training camps, they will drop to the bottom of the rotation for Level 10 Nationals and Level 9 Easterns and will therefore be ineligible for the year.

Clarifications for the 2005-06 season include the following:

- ◆ Compulsory athletes must follow current mobility rules.
- ◆ Optional Levels 8, 9 & 10 are allowed to drop back one level without petitioning during the first year of the new cycle.
- ◆ For modified traditional format meets at Level 7-10, the timed warm-up period is now based on 2:00 minutes per gymnast.
- ◆ Meet Directors of all sanctioned events must allow entry to replacement athletes without any additional fee, provided that the replacement athlete is in the same session, age division and level.
- ◆ All age divisions may use the beam at any height within a minimum of 100 cm and maximum of 125 cm.
- ◆ An additional 8" mat may be used for Level 4 bar mounts to accommodate the size of the athlete.

All judges are required to recertify in 2005. In June of 2005, new compulsory routines as well as new Optional rules for the new cycle were introduced. While the past Compulsory rating is valid through December 31, 2005 all judges will be required to re-certify for the new Compulsories (for the 2006-2013 cycle) by passing a written exam. Optional judges will also be required to recertify by passing an exam.

All Around News

Do you want to judge regionals?

Your Region 8 Board is committed to having the best-prepared judges at all regional competitions. In order to be eligible to judge a Region 8 Regional Meet in 2007, a judge must satisfy the criteria listed in the Rules and Policies and the regional criteria listed below. For all regional meets in 2007, the Region 8 USAG Board will again require each judge to have in gym experience and attend an approved regional or national clinic.

Complete and return an in gym card.

1. In order to be eligible to judge a regional meet in 2007 in Region 8, a judge must have in gym experience. A judge must complete at least 9 hours of in gym experience between 6/2/05 and 6/1/06.
 - ◆ Each experience must be a minimum of 2 hours. The level of gymnasts must be equal to or greater than the level of meet the judge wishes to be considered for. (i.e. Level 10 regionals = in gym experience with Level 10 or elite, Level 9 regionals = in gym experience with Level 9, 10 or elite, etc.) Training sessions at a meet may not be used.
 - ◆ A maximum of 3 hours may be completed in a college setting.
 - ◆ A maximum of 3 hours may be from a Regional or National JO or Elite Training Camp. (A training camp may only count for either in gym experience or clinic experience not both.)
 - ◆ This experience must be an interactive experience; it is not sufficient to sit in the stands and watch workout. Judges must call ahead to schedule gym time. The judge's activities should be under the supervision of the gym's coach.
 - ◆ The judge should keep in mind that the gym club you are visiting is a business. The judge should remain professional and cordial at all times.

Attend an approved clinic.

2. In order to be considered to judge Level 10, 9 or 8 Regionals a judge must have attended at least one regional or national clinic from the following list: USA Gymnastics National Congress, National Technical Workshop, NAWGJ Symposium, Region 8 Congress/Optional Update/NAWGJ Symposium, Level 9/10 Training Camp, Level 8/9 Training Camp satisfies the requirement for Level 8 and 9 Regionals only. If a judge wishes to have any other clinics(s) considered, the judge must submit their request in writing to Marian Dykes for approval by the Region 8 USAG Committee. Please list the date, site, instructors and what this experience afforded you.

A card may be downloaded from the Region 8 website or obtained from Marian Dykes. This card is used to complete documenting this in gym experience. Marian Dykes must receive completed cards by June 1, 2006. The judge will receive confirmation via e-mail (or in writing if they do not have e-mail) within ten days of receipt. If a judge does not receive a confirmation of receipt, they should contact Marian Dykes immediately. Please note that if a state has an in gym experience requirement, it is each judge's responsibility to make a copy of this card and submit it directly to their state.

Complete your availability form.

3. Availability forms for Regional Championships will be in the Fall 2005 and Winter 2006 newsletter as well as online. Marian Dykes must receive completed forms (with a copy to Sheila Ragle) by June 1, 2006.

The Region 8 Committee reviews the list of all of the information submitted by all judges each year. Judges are encouraged to submit all of the required paperwork each year. In order for the USAG Region 8 Committee to select a judge for a regional assignment, all of the criteria must be met.