

SC USA Gymnastics State Administration Committee (SAC) Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY, June 19, 2024 2:00 PM
ZOOM MEETING

Roll Call

	Present
Mendi Knisley - SAC Chair	X
Dana Browy - Communication	X (joined 2:18 pm)
Sue Dolinar - NAWGJ Representative	X
David Gale - Secretary	X
Pat Faulkner - Compulsory Clinic Coordinator	X
Sabina Jokulus - Technical / Education Resource	X
Abby Reid - TOPS Representative	X (joined 2:18 pm)
Tim Rule - Xcel Member at Large	X
Anna Sexton - Apparel	X
Amanda Sewold - Xcel Clinic Coordinator	X
Joey Smith - Webmaster/Athlete Tracking	
Val Snow - Optional Clinic Coordinator	X
Tricha Tapio - Awards	X
Karimah Thorne - Development Member at Large	X (joined 2:18 pm)

Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm

SC SACC reminds us that the SC SAC operates in compliance with all USA Gymnastics policies including the Confidentiality Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy. Please disclose any conflict of interests with regard to any matter on the agenda. If at any time during our discussions or decision-making process, should a member feel there may be a conflict of interest, you have an ongoing duty to raise immediately.

Additional reminder that all SC SAC correspondence should be copied to the SC SACC.

Congrats to Val Snow and her family on the birth of her child

Presentation of State Championship Financials

Mendi presented the Financial Statements of the three State Championships, noting that all three were profitable, with the Compulsory State Championship not as profitable as the other two due to lower number of athletes competing.

Discussion of Delinquent Payments to State Championships

Mendi recused herself at 2:04 pm.

David presented that there was one club who had registered after the deadline in usagym.org, but had not made the payment (both entry fee and late fee) in MeetMaker. On the day of the State Championship, the club made the payment in MeetMaker via ACH. The athletes competed. Subsequent to the State Championship, MeetMaker notified the Meet Director that the payment had not gone through due to insufficient funds. State Chair and MeetMaker have both reached out to Club multiple times to rectify the missing payment to no avail.

Val made a motion for the SAC to reimburse the State Championship Host Club for the funds. In addition, the SAC should potentially pursue all actions to collect the money from the delinquent club, such as an attorney letter, small claims court, etc, as well as, removing the club from the 'Clubs in Good Standing List'.

Anna seconded the motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Abby, Karimah, and Dana joined the meeting at 2:18 pm.

There was additional discussion regarding potentially updating some procedures to try to prevent this type of situation from occurring again, although no motions or votes were taken.

The State Championship Meet Director's packet will have a reminder that the Meet Director should inform the State Chair of any missing payments prior to the start of the State Championship.

Mendi returned to the meeting at 2:38 pm.

Discussion of 2025 Designation Date

Dana made a motion to make Monday, February 24, 2025 the Designation Date.

Karimah seconded the motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of Qualifying Scores for 2025 State Championship

David made a motion for the qualifying scores for the 2025 State Championships to remain the same as the prior year, as follows:

- Levels 1 & 2 - Must participate in at least one USA Gymnastics Qualifying Competition prior to State Championships.
- Levels 3-10, All Levels of Xcel – 32.00
- Event Specialists – 8.50 for Levels 6-10, Xcel Platinum, Diamond & Sapphire

Pat seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of 2025 State Championship Entry Fees

Pat made a motion for the 2025 State Championship Entry Fees to remain the same as the prior year, as follows:

- Levels 1-5, XCEL Bronze, Silver & Gold – \$85
- Levels 6-8, XCEL Platinum, Diamond & Sapphire - \$95
- Levels 8-10 - \$105
- Event Specialist – Same entry fee as Level competing

Tim seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

The entry fees at the above amounts have been approved by USA Gymnastics.

Discussion of 2024-2025 Competition Fees

Sue made a motion to keep the Competition Fees paid to the State the same as they were last year:

- Invitionals - \$2 per athlete, \$2,500 maximum
- Compulsory State Championship - \$2.50 per athlete
- Xcel Levels at State Championships - \$5.00 per athlete
- Optional Levels at State Championships - No competition fee

Dana seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of 2025 State Championship Awards

As a reminder, these were the 2024 State Championship Awards Policies

Percentage of Medals awarded:

- 50% Placement Medals for Events (Note: 50%+1 was actually used)
- 100% Placement Medals in the AA

Team Awards:

- 6 Team places for 1-15 Teams
- 10 Team places for 15+ teams

Age Groups:

- Level 1 & 2 - Actual birth dates will be used to determine equal age groups with no more than 15 in an age group and no more than a TWO year age span beginning at the youngest age.
- All other Levels - Actual birth dates will be used to determine equal age groups with no more than 15 in an age group and no more than a THREE year age span beginning at the youngest age.

For State Championships, the age groups will be randomized in their assignment to sessions for any level that has more than 2 sessions, excluding Regional Qualifier levels that qualify based on a score (vs a percentage of athletes), and to keep the maximum number of athletes in each age division at 15, but allow overages to 16 or 17 for extenuating circumstances with approval by State Chair. Age groups will be randomized among sessions, except for younger Bronze & Silver Age Groups will not be assigned to sessions ending after 8:00 pm.

NO TIES WILL BE BROKEN AT State Championship FOR INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND OR TEAM AWARDS.

David made a motion to clarify the percentage of medals awarded for individual events to be 50%+1, and that ties would NOT be broken for the last place of individual events.

Pat seconded the Motion.

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of number of judges on each event panel at 2025 State Championships

Sue made a motion for the number of Judges at the 2025 State Championships to remain the same as the prior year, as follows:

- Levels 6 -10 – 4 judges per panel
- All other Levels - 2 judges per panel

Sabina seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of 2025 State Championship Judge Eligibility Criteria

Sue presented the 2025 USA Gymnastics SC State Championship Criteria for judges, highlighting the changes from 2024. The proposed 2025 Criteria is shown in Appendix A

Abby made a motion to accept the 2025 State Championship Judge Eligibility Criteria as shown in Appendix A

Pat seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of 2025 State Championship Judge Travel Guidelines

Sue presented the 2025 USA Gymnastics Judges Guidelines for SC State Championship Criteria, as presented in Appendix B. These are based on the USA Gymnastics Judging Compensation. One item, which South Carolina differs from USA Gymnastics, is the requirement for applicable judges to have their own hotel rooms at State Championships.

Sue made a motion to accept the 2025 State Championship Judges guidelines as presented in Appendix B, including the requirement of judges having single hotel rooms at State Championships.

Pat seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of Subcommittee being formed to prepare judges for State and Regional Championships

Mendi presented details of a subcommittee being formed to research issues, gather suggestions, provide information and opportunities to prepare judges for State and Regional Championships. Sue, Karimah, Dana, and Pat offered to be part of the subcommittee.

No Motion nor Vote is required at this time.

Discussion of South Carolina Training Camps

Pat and Amanda presented information on the SC Compulsory and Xcel Bronze, Silver, Gold Training Camp.

Abby made a motion to accept the Compulsory and Xcel Bronze, Silver, and Gold Training Camp information as presented

Karimah seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Val presented information on the SC Optional, Xcel Platinum, Diamond, Sapphire Training Camp.

Val made a motion to accept the Optional, Xcel Platinum, Diamond, Sapphire Training Camp information as presented.

Pat seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Sabina left the meeting at 3:38 pm.

Discussion of State Championship Bid Forms

Mendi presented the information for the State Championship Meet Bid forms. Changes from 2024 include the NAWGJ Assignor Fee is now \$5, and the Meet Host pays \$3 per athlete for the athlete gift

Abby made a motion to accept the State Championship Bid Form as presented

Tim seconded the Motion

Motion PASSED unanimously

Discussion of Dates for 2025 Congress and Awards Ceremony

Mendi presented information regarding the dates for the 2025 Congress and Awards Ceremony. More research and discussions need to be had, so discussion tabled until a future meeting.

No Motion nor Vote is required at this time.

Dates for 2025 SC State Meeting

The Annual State Meeting will be held on August 25, 2025 at 4:00 pm via Zoom.

Next SC SAC Meeting

The next SC SAC meetings will be held July 31, 2025 at 2:00 pm, and August 21, 2025 at Noon, both via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 pm.

Appendix A

2025 SC USA Gymnastics Criteria for Selection of Judges for State Championship Criteria

The SC USA Gymnastics Committee reviewed and approved the criteria for judges to be eligible to judge SC State Championships at the SC USA Gymnastics Committee meeting on June 19, 2024.

The policy is as follows:

The SC USA Gymnastics State Administrative Committee (SC SAC) must approve the slate of judges for all State Championships. Regardless of the State Championship structure (for example 2 or 4 judge panels), the following is the criteria for the selection process.

1. Fulfillment of Volunteer Requirements - In an effort to further their preparation and to ensure SC Judges are adequately prepared to judge SC athletes at State Championships, judges are required to volunteer at a State Training Camp for at least one day/session (4-6 hours), every other year and are highly encouraged to attend Regional Training Camps and Regional / National Congresses. Exceptions to this requirement would be considered on an individual basis by the SC SAC from a petition sent to the SC SACC.
2. Consideration for Regional Assignments
3. Rating and Experience
4. When all the above is relatively equal, then location, affiliation and membership to the SC NAWGJ Board and SC SAC will be considered

Volunteer Opportunities to Meet Requirement for State Championship Eligibility:

- 2023 SC Optional Training Camp including the High Performance Training Day
- 2024 SC Compulsory & Xcel Training Camp
- 2024 SC Optional Training Camp including the High Performance Training Day

Judges Moving into South Carolina

When a judge (no matter their rating - 4/5 through Brevet) moves to the state, they will go to the bottom of the rotation for that year's State Championships. They will be considered to judge the State Championships on an as needed basis within the first year and then be included in the selection based on their availability after the first year.

Clarifications for Assigning Judges to the State Championship:

1. If for any reason, a judge is unable to obtain the correct rating to judge the Level(s) at the State Championship you are contracted and assigned, the judge will be replaced.
2. If for any reason, there are not four unaffiliated judges to be Chief Judges, the next unaffiliated judge in rank order will be used.

3. The SC SAC preference is to use judges that are available for the entire meet. When this is not possible, the SC SAC's preference is to split the meet among SC judges rather than to contract out of state.

Judge Selection Process for State Championships:

The SC USA Gymnastics State Administrative Committee will ask the SC NAWGJ Assignor to collect availability for the SC judges who would like to be considered to judge the SC State Championships to be submitted by October 9th. The slates of judges for the SC State Championships will be created based on the submitted availability. The slate should be obtained by collecting a form from each judge that includes availability, levels willing to judge and affiliations for each State Championship. The criteria for selecting judges for State Championships and procedures should be included on this form to communicate clearly to the judges all the procedures & information the SC SAC follows to select judges to judge the SC State Championships.

The NAWGJ State Judging Director (NAWGJ SJD) and the Assignor will present a slate of judges available to judge State Championships to be discussed and to select the judges to judge each State Championship on October 16th at SC SAC meeting. The slate is presented to the SC SAC including the availability, ranking, and affiliation of each judge for each State Championship. Only the NAWGJ SJD, Assignor, and SC USA Gymnastics Chairman may see the slates prior to presenting them to the SC SAC. If for any reason after the slates of judges have been presented to the SC SAC on October 16th, all judge slots are not filled, the SC NAWGJ Assignor will send communication to all SC judges to inquire if anyone's availability has changed. If needed, availability from out of state judges in surrounding states will be collected by the SJD/Assignor of those states. The SC SAC will then meet again to consider all options to fill the judge spots for the SC State Championships.

The SC USA Gymnastics Chairman and the NAWGJ SJD will select the Meet Referees to be submitted to the Committee except for the Level 1-5 State Championship. For the Level 1-5 a rotation will be created based on rank order. If the judge selected is not available to judge the meet, then they will drop to the bottom of the rotation list. Any Level 10, National, or Brevet rated judge will be eligible to be a Meet Referee for the State Championships. Only the NAWGJ SJD, Assignor, and SC USA Gymnastics Chairman may see the slates and the selected Meet Referees prior to presenting them to the SC SAC.

The SC USA Gymnastics Chairman and Meet Referee will work together to assign the Chief Judges and the event assignments. State Championship event assignments are sent to judges after the Regional event assignments have been sent. The SC USA Gymnastics Committee Chairman will assign a replacement judge if within one week prior to the State Championship without a SC SAC vote in the event that a judge is no longer able to judge one of the SC State Championships. The Chairman will make the replacement assignment by determining what is best for the meet and from the available judges. Other factors such as proximity, ranking, etc. may be considered; yet will not dictate the decision.

After being selected to judge a State Championship at an October Committee meeting, a judge must be sent a contract by the NAWGJ SJD or Assignor by November 1st for all State Championships. The judge must return the contract within 30 days of receipt. If a judge accepts and signs a contract for the State Championship and then pulls off the meet after January 15th for all State Championships, then they will be placed at the bottom of the rotation list for the same State Championship the following year regardless of rank order. The only exceptions will be deaths in the family or illness that requires a doctor visit.

Appendix B

South Carolina USA Gymnastics Judges Travel Guidelines For State Championships

All judges should be familiar with Chapter 5 in the USA Gymnastic Rules and policy concerning the Judges compensation package. Below are clarifications to important questions that may occur for travel and meals for judges at the SC State Championships.

REPORT TIME: Judges must report to the judge's room or meet referee within 5 minutes of the stated report time. Report time may be shorter than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled march in time, only if indicated by the meet referee and communicated directly to all judges at the State Championship.

MILEAGE: All drivers will be paid the standard IRS rate for the entire round-trip mileage including solo drivers. If a judge decides to car pool, no rider's fees will be paid. If overnight lodging is not required or provided for a judge, mileage will be paid for every day that the judge drives to the competition.

If lodging is provided and a judge elects to drive each day, round-trip mileage will only be paid for ONE day unless the round-trip mileage would be less expensive than the cost of lodging. The judge must determine if they will be driving each day or need a hotel room, with the approval of the meet director and meet referee, no later than 4 weeks prior to the competition.

Verification of mileage is required – printed or electronic verification will be accepted provided the judge can show that the mileage is from home (not a business).

If a meet site or hotel charges for parking, the State Championship Host must pay all judges' parking fees.

MEALS: The meet director may provide per diem or provide meals at the meet site

If a meet director provides a meal at the site, a judge cannot receive per diem even if they bring their own food or do not eat the provided meal.

Local judges or judges that do not stay in a hotel room the night prior to the meet will not receive per diem for breakfast or breakfast at the site. Judges should eat at home before they leave for the competition.

If dinner is not provided at the meet site or a box meal is not provided at end of competition, judges will receive per diem if they will not arrive home by 7:00pm

Only Judges who live 150 miles (shortest route) or more from the meet site & are staying at the hotel the night before the competition will receive per diem for dinner if not provided at site.

HOTELS/LODGING: Hotel rooms will be provided to judges who require overnight lodging prior to or during the competition.

Meet Director guidelines for providing hotel rooms to judges for State Championships. The Meet Director must provide single rooms to judges that require a hotel room for all State Championships.

If a judge needs to change arrival day or cancel a hotel room, the judge must contact the assigner & meet host a minimum of 12 hours of check-in or possibly be charged for the cost of the room.

Judges should NOT contact the hotel directly.

Judges who prefer to share a room must contact the meet referee no later than 4 weeks prior to the start of the competition.

Criteria for meet host to provide hotel room to judges:

1. Judges who live 41 miles or more from the meet site will receive a hotel room. Judges who elect to not stay at the hotel provided by the State Championship Host must inform the meet referee at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the competition.
2. Judges who live 40 miles or less based on shortest route to the meet site will not be provided with a hotel room – **with the following exceptions:**
 - a. If the competition report time is 8:00 am on a WEEKDAY, a judge who lives 30-40 miles from the site may request a room for one night based on potential traffic issues that would make their drive time over one hour.
 - b. If a competition is scheduled to end at 9:30pm or later with the next day report time at 8:00am judges may request a hotel room for that night if they live 20 miles or more from the meet site and the drive time to their home will be over 35 minutes.
3. The judge must request the room to the meet referee no later than 4 weeks prior to the competition.
4. If a competition report time is later than 8:00am, hotel requirements for the night prior to the competition may be adjusted based on report time and mileage to the site.

HOTEL ROOMS NIGHT AFTER COMPETITION ENDS: Judges who live 100 miles or more from the meet site may request a hotel room if the competition is scheduled to finish 9:30pm or later with approval of assigner, meet director and meet referee.

The State Championship Host may elect to move the judge to a different hotel and does not need to provide a single room.

Additionally, the judge will receive per diem for Breakfast (only breakfast) if not provided at the hotel.

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Any Judge who has obvious symptoms of illness (uncontrollable cough, fever etc.) should not come to the competition. Judges who become ill at the competition may be asked to go home for the safety of the judge and those around her/him. All judges must assess their own risk and be responsible to protect themselves from illness.

MEET REFEREES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ADJUST ANY OF THESE RULES.

If there is an underlying condition that may require an adjustment, the meet referee must discuss with the meet director and SC State Chairman for approval.