

Region 6 and 7 Reorganization Meeting #8 (Two parts)

Thursday, January 4, 2024 Part #1: Meeting called to order at 9:31pm

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 Part #2: Meeting called to order at 9:33pm

Members: Craig Thibaudeau (R6 Chair), Bob Lundy (R7 Chair, MD Chair), Dan Young (VT Chair), Tom Greet (CT Chair), Danilo Gattei (RI Chair), Darren Morace (MA Chair), Misha Kustin (NJ Chair), Joe Zullo (ME Chair), Mike Ouellette (NH Chair), Karl Jaanimagi (NY Chair), Jeffrey Zack (PA Chair)

Members present: Craig, Bob, Tom, Darren, Misha, Karl, Mike

Members NOT present: Jeff Z, Joe Z, Danilo G.

Region 6 Eastern

* Meeting notes are included from across the two parts of Meeting #8

* These are all notes from discussions. No decisions have been made, only proposals.

Members discussed the Proposed Regional Team Structure

Senior Regional Team (focus will be on elite development and ETC competition- based on numbers we had last year, combined)

- 30 Level 10 athletes
- 20 Level 9 athletes

Junior Regional Team (new concept with a focus on development)

- 15 Level 8 athletes
- 10 Level 6 JE athletes

Discussion Points:

Mischa shared concern about running separate events for the two teams with it not being financially feasible to run events for a smaller team of 25 athletes. Bob shared that we are building from the ground up, so there will be growing pains and as we get more information/data we can make changes. We need to look at the ages of the kids on each team and make sure venues can accommodate.

Members discussed the selection of the Proposed Regional Senior and Junior Teams

Step #1- Region 6 and Region 7 must have final numbers of athletes registered in each level by March 1, 2024 (Level 8, 9, and 10). We won't know Level 6 JE numbers because we don't have that level yet.

Step #2- Determine the percentage of allotments that will go to each region for the senior and junior regional teams. For example, if Region 7 has 60% of the total number of combined Level 10's on March 1st, then they will have 60% of the allotment for senior regional team (60% of 30 = 18 spots to region 7). Do the same thing for Level 9 and Level 8.

Step#3- Hold respective regional championships.

Step #4- At regional championships, name the Top 2 or 3 Level 10 (each age division), Top 2 or 3 Level 9, and Top 2 or 3 Level 8 onto the Regional Team at Regional Championships (from region 6 and region 7)

Step#5- Hold respective eastern and national championships

Step #5- Combine and then rank athletes from each region (separately) based on their all-around scores from regional championships and from Day 1 at either Easterns or dev. Nationals.

Step #6- Choices to consider

1. All-around focus: After all athletes have been ranked, fill the allotment spots with all-around rankings.
2. All-around and event specialist focus: Name the Top 50% from each regions allotment onto the senior regional team for level 10 and 9 based on all-around rankings (e.g., Region 7 has 18 spots, so they would automatically fill 9 of them with the all-around rankings). Name the Top 50% from each regions allotment onto the junior regional team for level 8 based on all-around rankings. The rest of the spots get filled using a point-system for how athletes are ranked across events.

Discussion Points:

Make sure we are not inviting graduating seniors to the regional teams. We will have a better idea about scores from each region, and therefore rankings, after we hold 2024 regional championships.

Members discussed the possible Regional Team Events as part of the qualification procedure for ETC

- Summer training camp July 11th – 14th at Springfield College (Senior regional team- 50 guys)
- Look into a separate event (2 days?) for the junior regional team- maybe add two days to the senior regional team camp or find another date to have the junior guys attend.
- 6-skill sequence: Invitational in November or December 2024 (like Region 6 did in 2023)- coaches select one December invitational to attend and athletes will be evaluated based on their top 6 counted skills following FIG rules.
- Selection camp at Penn State in November or December (like Region 7 did in 2023)- athletes receive points at this camp based on routine performances.
- Full routine competition in January. Coaches can select an invitational to attend in January and video all routines. Routines will be evaluated by the same group of judges for all athletes.
- Adapt the spreadsheet from Region that evaluated athlete rankings across regional team events by both individual events and all-around.

Discussion Points:

Having the 6-skill sequence and camp in December would be a tight deadline. Maybe we could do a separate session at West Poen Open for the remaining guys on the team. Do we want to whittle the team down throughout the process or keep it open to all throughout? Maybe switch the order of the selection camp and 6-skill sequence. We could look into holding our own meet for January, but there are few weekends available and it would require another travel weekend. Members want to use FIG scoring to be consistent with ETC. Members considered a formal petition process for athletes injured or late

peak. How do we keep the junior team engaged if we do not have events beyond the one summer camp experience.

Craig made a proposal that the next step is for Bob (Region 7) and Craig (Region 6) to work together on a proposal for regional team selection based on members discussions. Craig made a proposal to include current elite team reps from Region 7 (Mike Onuska, Roger Pinho) and current JNCS reps from Region 6 (Debbie Naka, Lorenzo Macaluso). A draft would be created and sent to members ahead of the next meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 9:30pm**

Thursday, January 4, 2024 Part #1: Meeting adjourned at 10:46pm

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 Part #2: Meeting adjourned at 10:33pm

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Thibaudeau

Region 6 Chairman