9/10 REGIONAL COMPETITION ACTION PLAN – v.1.030221

Over the past few months, the Region 7 Administrative Committee has been actively working on multiple competition options for the Level 9 and 10 2021 Regional Championships. In this document you will find the most up to date information we have developed for the different options we are considering for the competition structure. Throughout our bimonthly discussions, we have remained focused on 2 main goals as our action plan leading us forward. These goals are:

- To provide the safest environment possible, while monitoring the most current safety recommendations throughout the entire region, for the athletes to qualify to their national level competitions. This includes: COVID related safety, as well as the "normal" safety measures (including but not limited to the facility, equipment, etc).
- To create as even a playing field as possible, while providing the athletes the best opportunity to qualify to Easterns and DP Nationals AND to mirror those national level competitions as safely and best we can.

Please read the entire document - starting with these very few important notes:

- Please understand this is preliminary information. This is subject to change dependent upon changes within the region due to the pandemic.
- I will be posting an update 1x per week to our website (under "updates and news" on the home page https://www.region7usagym.com/home), on our region 7 Facebook page, and via communication to your State Chair for distribution even if there is NO CHANGE.
- Although currently we feel we can use Option 1, we plan to make a final announcement of which option we are going with no later than March 17, 2021.
- Registration will be via Meetmaker. Registration will be open later this week. Please watch
 the website and Facebook pages for notification when it is ready to go. PLEASE PAY
 ATTENTION to the FULL Meetmaker instructions. It is IMPERATIVE we have accurate
 information entered in ALL fields of Meetmaker. Registration will CLOSE March 28, 2021
 at 11:59pm.
- If you have questions on qualification to regionals: Please follow the link here to the Dec. 11, 2020 minutes explaining the qualification requirements for this year only. https://www.region7usagym.com/minutes
- If you have any questions please email me directly at JBortz7rac@gmail.com

Option 1: Single location – In an outside facility, 2 full sets of equipment.

**Based on the information collected across the region, this is likely the option we will use.

Dates for Level 9: April 16-18, 2021

Dates for Level 10: April 18 – 19, 2021 **DATE CHANGE **

*IMPORTANT: This is a CHANGE back to the original weekend.

Venue: The Miller Center

120 Hardwood Drive Lewisburg, Pa 17937

Option 1 (cont.)

Host(s): Region 7 & Dynamats Gymnastics.

Equipment: Mancino Mats (full list of equipment will be provided with meet packet)

Detailed COVID protocols will be provided in advance, updated where necessary, and expected to be followed including (but not limited to):

- o Participant(s) will be responsible for knowing the guidelines of the state they are entering and returning to. Region 7, The Miller Center or Dynamats will not be responsible for your understanding and follow through of this information.
- COVID screening upon entering the building. For example, but not limited to: Temperature check, hand sanitizing upon entry, and answering COVID specific questions (per the Miller Center's guidelines).
- Restrictions to number of coaches allowed on the competition floor per session.
- o Restrictions to live spectators will be in place.
- o Live Streaming will be available for purchase details to follow.
- We will be emptying the competition arena of all athletes, coaches, and spectators for cleaning between each session.
- Please note: This is just a brief description of the detailed protocols we are working on. All protocols will also be posted on the website, Facebook page, and distributed via the State Chair distribution lists as well as provided in the meet packet. Please be vigilant in watching for the information in the next few weeks.

Option 2: Split weekends: Pod locations – IN GYM locations.

Between 2-6 "pods" will be hosts, judges all virtual.

**This option will be chosen should travel be prohibited or additional shutdowns occur across any part of the region.

*We have established in gym "pod" locations across multiple states in the region. Exact pod locations will be published, with athlete/club assignments, for each location when/if this option is chosen.

Dates for Level 9: April 16-18, 2021

Dates for Level 10: April 24-25, 2021 **PLEASE PAY ATTENTION HERE**

• Detailed COVID protocols will be provided in advance, updated where necessary, and expected to be followed (preliminary info listed above). Individual clubs may also have additional COVID protocols that will be published as well.

Option 3: Split weekends – FULLY VIRTUAL

**This option will be chosen should there be another full shut down, or if the Eastern or National competitions are switched to virtual or cancelled.

Dates for Level 9: April 16-18, 2021

*This competition would still be run by age division with each athlete/club coming in virtually at their assigned age group time. This could be either a pod location (multiple gyms coming together in one gym in their own state) OR their own home gym. This exact format will be determined upon need.

Dates for Level 10: April 24-25, 2021 **PLEASE PAY ATTENTION HERE**

*This competition would still be run by age division with each athlete/club coming in virtually at their assigned age group time. This could be either a pod location (multiple gyms coming together in one gym in their own state) OR their own home gym. This exact format will be determined upon need.

As a follow up and to reiterate our action plan: We will continue to work to:

- o provide the safest environment possible, while monitoring the most current safety recommendations throughout the entire region, for the athletes to qualify to their national level competitions. This includes: COVID related safety, as well as the "normal" safety measures (including but not limited to the facility, equipment, etc).
- create as even a playing field as possible, while providing the athletes the best opportunity to qualify to Easterns/DP Nationals AND to mirror those National level competitions as best we can.

We will continue to work to:

- o actively plan for ALL 3 options, by staying up to date on all moving parts of the pandemic for each State in our region and by confirming the culminating competition status.
- o update the website, Facebook page, and State Chair communication weekly with any changes or a simple statement of "No changes at this time".
- o make a final decision no later than March 17, 2021.

Finally, as we head into a culminating season of a most challenging year for all of us, I would like you to know how hard the Region 7 Committee has worked at creating action plans and competition options for the ever changing world we are living in. While it may seem as though this information is coming out late, we assure you we are trying to be as transparent as possible to keep everyone informed, while avoiding as many changes as possible. As we finalize our plans knowing whatever option we choose may not be comfortable for everyone involved, we assure you our final decision will have the safety and best interest of the athletes, coaches, judges, gym owners and parents in mind. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to do our best!

Region 7 Strong!

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