

**2007-2008 Constitution of the
Great Lakes YMCA Zone Gymnastics Committee**

Bylaws

I. Purpose

To promote gymnastics for girls in the Great Lakes Zone of the Midwest field for all age groups and skill levels as set by the committee.

To administer and enforce all rules and regulations for conducting competitive gymnastics, and to promote the National YMCA Progressive Gymnastics Program in the Great Lakes Zone jurisdiction.

To adhere to THE RULES THAT GOVERN YMCA COMPETITIVE SPORTS and GUIDELINES FOR YMCA COMPETITIVE TEAMS.

II. Sports Philosophy

To promote instructional and competitive gymnastics programs at local YMCA's where young people from an early age can have the opportunity to learn and participate in the sport of gymnastics. We recognize the importance of youth participation in athletic activities and as a committee will strive to provide helpful leadership and direction for the development of wholesome and fun gymnastics education and competitive events.

YMCA gymnastics programming should include instruction for overall coordination, strength, and fitness in a framework that also teaches the value of social interaction, teamwork, and self-discipline. We endorse an approach to gymnastics which stresses positive physical, psychological, moral, and spiritual growth. Therefore, the committee believes that the following values should be an integral part of the structure of each YMCA's gymnastics curriculum, instructional and competitive.

- * Enhancement of individual self confidence and self respect
- * Development of a moral and spiritual approach for daily living based upon each individual's own faith
- * Growth as a responsible member of family and community
- * Appreciation of the gift of physical fitness and mental well being and the importance of maintaining these conditions
- * Recognition of the worth of all persons, working towards interracial and inter group understanding
- * Development of leadership capabilities and use of these qualities in a responsible way in group and community situations
- * The recognition of the importance of participation, good sportsmanship, and self improvement over winning or losing

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III. **Policy for coaches' behavior**

Jurisdiction of this policy will include Membership and Program Networks YMCA League Meets, YMCA Invitational Meets, Network Championship (District) Meets, and the Zone Meet.

Unacceptable coach behavior can be defined as:

1. Inappropriate remarks, behavior, gestures or harassment towards the meet director or persons involved in the running of the competition
2. Inappropriate remarks, behavior, gestures or harassment towards any judge, including the meet referee
3. Inappropriate remarks, behavior, gestures or harassment towards other coaches, gymnasts, or spectators
4. Failure to follow the rules of the competition including warm-up and competition as established by the host team or meet director
5. Misuse of the meet equipment, mats, or facility

The concern or report involving inappropriate coach behavior should be sent in writing to the Zone Committee Secretary. This report should be factual and include the address and phone number of the person sending the report. The report should state the name of the coach, the YMCA that the coach represents, the details of the incident, factual comments from other parties involved in or witnessing the incident, and the date and time of the incident. This statement will be reviewed by the committee and the coach named in the report will be notified of the nature of the complaint. If the complaint is determined to be serious, needing immediate attention or if 3 or more complaints are received involving the same person, a meeting with the involved parties will be set up by the Zone Committee. The Executive Director of the YMCA that the coach represents will also be notified and given the details of the complaint. The Zone Committee and the involved parties will work out a reasonable resolution concerning the complaint if the complaint is verified. A written report on this meeting and resolution will be done by the Zone Secretary and made available to involved parties. If necessary a coach may be placed on probation for the remainder of the season. During a probation period, the coach will be expected to follow YMCA values and policies. If more verified inappropriate behavior is reported, the Zone Committee may decide on further action.

It is the responsibility of the Zone Committee and the administration of member YMCA's to see that the principles of good sportsmanship are implemented by all YMCA coaches.

IV. **Member YMCA's**

Membership and Program Networks to include YMCA's from Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, Western Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. YMCA's not previously under the jurisdiction of the Zone Committee under the former Cluster format may petition to join. Membership requires paying dues for all level competitive participants and following of the Zone Bylaws, Rules and Policies, and Appendix information.

Currently there are 4 Networks:

Northwest Ohio; Southwest Ohio; Northeast Ohio; and Southeast Ohio.

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V. Zone Committee Construction

A. Chairperson

Appointed by the YMCA of the USA Membership and Program Consultant responsible for Program Services. Is responsible for chairing Zone meetings, coordinating and/or supervising information disbursement, fee collection, Zone Clinics and the Zone Meet. Works with the Secretary/Treasurer to prepare agendas, information handouts, and meeting minutes.

The term of office is for one year beginning in September and may be continued for additional terms.

B. Secretary/Treasurer

Appointed by the YMCA of the USA Membership and Program Consultant responsible for Program Services. Is responsible for attending the Zone meetings, taking minutes at the Zone meetings, preparing Zone mailings, and is in charge of fee collection, form collection and records. Presents minutes and treasurer's report at each meeting.

The term of office is for one year beginning in September and may be continued for additional terms.

C. Network Representatives

Number of representatives:

Each Network may have 2 to 3 representatives to the Zone Committee. Networks with 5 or fewer teams must have at least 1 representative and may have 2 representatives. Networks with 6 or fewer teams should have at least 2 representatives but may have 3 representatives. Networks with 7 or more teams should try to have 3 representatives on the Zone Committee.

Approval information:

1. All representatives must first be approved by the Executive Director of the YMCA they represent
2. The representative must be a professional staff member or coach at the YMCA.
3. After receiving Executive Director approval, they must submit a written letter to the Zone Committee with the following information:

Name, YMCA address, YMCA phone number, YMCA fax number if available, home address, home phone number, e-mail address if available. This letter should also include a brief paragraph describing gymnastics background and involvement with the YMCA. Lastly the Executive Director should sign and date this letter.

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4. Upon receipt of the letter the Zone Committee will vote on approval. The person seeking to be a representative to the Zone Committee will be notified of the results of the vote following the meeting. This person may attend the Zone meeting prior to approval but does not have a vote until approved.
5. **Attendance** - Network representatives are expected to attend all Zone meetings.
 - a. Failure to have at least one representative from a Network at 2 of the 3 meetings, starting with the May meeting, will result in that Network's teams being ineligible to attend the Zone Meet which follows the January meeting.
 - b. The Secretary will contact Network member teams if their Network representative is failing to attend the Zone meetings.
6. **Voting** - Network representatives and Zone Committee officers have one vote on any official action to be decided upon by the Zone Committee.

7. **Representative duties**

Duties are listed in 3 main areas. When 3 representatives are available, each can assume an area of responsibility. If there are less than 3 representatives from a Network they can decide amongst themselves how to distribute the duties to best serve the member teams of the Network.

a. **Information gathering from participating Network teams**

- (1) by December 1st send the names, addresses, phone numbers, coach names, and a professional YMCA contact person name for each participating Y to the Zone Secretary. Also a completed roster for each team should be sent with the Zone fees included. The reporting forms are included at the end of the Constitution. (roster form and address form)
- (2) Any additions or deletions, address changes, etc., should be reported at the January meeting.
- (3) Should provide copies of the roster forms and address forms to all Network teams and updates when they occur.

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b. **Information disbursement following Zone meetings**

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- (1) Responsible to distribute Zone minutes and other information to all participating Network teams. This includes providing a current Zone Constitution, Zone forms and Zone Meet Guidelines. This information should be given to the listed coach and to the YMCA professional contact person. Method of disbursement can be done personally, by mailing procedures, by a Network gymnastics committee meeting, or other procedures.

- (2) Should be a resource person for other YMCA programs in the Network.

c. **Network liaison to the Zone meetings**

- (1) Responsible to bring any Network concerns to the attention of the Zone Committee. These matters should be business that falls under the jurisdiction of the Zone Committee, not Network gymnastics business.
- (2) Responsible to set up and implement a system to track scores of Network teams' meets. A list of Zone Meet qualifiers from Network member teams must be sent to meet director of Zone Meet by set deadlines. Also a list of gymnasts who mandated to advance to the next level for the new season should be available to all Network member teams in early fall before the start of the new competitive season.
- (3) Should work closely with Network meet score tracker if there is a person in that position in the Network.

D. **Non voting members**

1. Zone Meet Director (as approved at the fall meeting upon awarding of the Zone Meet bid)

2. Membership and Program Consultant for the YMCA of the USA

3. Visiting coaches, YMCA staff, etc.

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VI. Zone Committee meetings

- A. All committee meetings will be held open for the purpose of discussion. Only approved Zone Committee officers and Network representatives will be allowed to vote official action.
- B. At least 3 meetings will be held annually; one in September, January, and May. At each meeting, the date, time, and place of the meeting will be set for the next meeting. (Currently the meetings are being held at the Bucyrus YMCA) Other Committee meetings can be called by the Chairperson. A conference call can be used to substitute for a regular meeting or for an extra meeting.
- C. All voting members will be sent a meeting notice at least two weeks in advance of all meetings.
- D. In the event of bad weather on the day of a meeting, the Zone Chairperson and the Secretary will decide by 6:30am whether to have a meeting or to reschedule. Call Bucyrus Y at 419-562-6218 by 7:00am if you think there is a possibility that the meeting will be cancelled.

VIII. Amendments to the Zone Constitution - making changes

- A. Changes in the Bylaws can be proposed and voted on at any meeting.
- B. Changes in the Rules and Policies can be proposed and voted on at any meeting.
- C. It is recommended that any major bylaw or rule and policy changes be discussed at the meeting and a vote taken at the following meeting.
- D. A quorum must be present to vote on proposed changes in both the Bylaws and Rules and Policies. A quorum is defined as follows: An official representative from at least 3 of the 4 Networks must be present to vote.
- E. Each representative and board member present gets one vote.

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XIV. **Violations** that lead to team/Association disqualification (from RULES THAT GOVERN YMCA COMPETITIVE SPORTS)

The Zone Committee includes these policies and will make necessary revisions if these policies are changed in the future and affect YMCA gymnastics competition in our Zone.

Violations

Section 1. Violations which may lead to disqualification of an Association.

The Field Committee for an event (in our case, the Gymnastics Zone Committee) responsible for the competitive activity in which an Association is participating may disqualify that Association for:

- a. failure to enforce and maintain "Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports"
- b. being a party to or condoning violations which disqualify an amateur under these rules.
- c. being suspended by the National Board for failure to meet requirements for recognition as a member Association.
- d. misconduct or poor sportsmanship by athletes, coaches, or other local Association officials preceding, during, or after the competition.

Section 2. Violations which may result in a fine and or disqualification of an athlete from representing a YMCA in sports competition.

- a. exhibiting un-sportsman-like conduct.
- b. competing under an assumed name.
- c. misrepresenting facts regarding eligibility or performance.
- d. fraudulent placement of gymnasts in wrong levels and/or age groups.
- e. involved in substance abuse.
- f. failure to be a YMCA member (90 days prior to the Zone Meet)

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Protests

- Section 1. *Protests affecting the eligibility of any individual or Association must be made writing and may be made within 30 days of the conclusion of the event.*
- Section 2. *Protests shall be considered by the Zone Committee*
- Section 3. *A protested gymnast may be permitted to compete under protest. (this is while the protest is being reviewed by the Zone Committee and before a decision is made on whether to disqualify a gymnast or not)*
- Section 4. *The Zone Committee shall have the power to reject any entry from the Zone Meet.*
- Section 5. *Upon receipt of protests by reasonable proof the Zone Committee, upon recommendation of the National Committee, may declare the Association concerned not eligible for formal competition in gymnastics until a thorough investigation is made and a final decision is rendered.*
- Section 6. *The Zone Committee shall render judgment regarding further eligibility at that competitive level in gymnastics. The Zone Committee can decide, based on the protest and subsequent investigation, to disqualify an individual. The amount of time of disqualification and other restrictions or penalties will determined on a case to case basis. The Zone Committee deals with the Zone Meet, A Network Committee deals with the Network level. However, when an Association or individual is rule ineligible and/or disqualified, this decision shall be reported to the Gymnastics committees at other levels. These committees are authorized to support the eligibility ruling if they so choose.*
- Section 7. *Awards or trophies acquired by individuals or Associations under conditions for which they are subsequently disqualified shall be returned.*

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Reinstatements

Section 1. *Reinstatement of Associations*

any Association which has been disqualified may apply for reinstatement by writing to the Committee who issued the disqualification, stating the r reason for the application.

Section 2. *Reinstatement of an individual*

- a. applications for reinstatement must be approved and signed by the Chairperson of the committee related to program and the Executive Director of Association of which applicant is member in good standing.
- b. the committee who issued the disqualification shall decide upon reinstatement.
- c. the athlete is ineligible to compete until the application for reinstatement has been decided.
- d. if the application is rejected, the athlete may apply for reinstatement again subject to the policy developed by the committee.

Rules and Policies

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- I. Participation fees, Participation number forms, team roster forms, and YMCA address forms** (these forms are in appendix section of Constitution).
- A. These forms and fees should be collected for each team in the Network Neighborhood and sent to the Secretary/Treasurer in one packet with one check for the total amount.
 - 1. This includes Level 4 gymnasts through Level 9 gymnasts.
 - B. Every gymnast shall pay a \$3.00 fee to the Committee by December 1st of the competitive season. These fees are used to conduct all business associated with the gymnastics program. A late fee of \$2.00 will be added for participation fees received after December 1st through January 31st. This late fee only applies to gymnasts on the original team roster, not gymnasts who join the team program after December 1st.
 - 1. Only one check for the total fees of all participants for each team in the Network Neighborhood should be sent. This check should be made payable to the Great Lakes Zone Gymnastics Treasury.
 - C. Participation forms
 - 1. One participation form for each Network Neighborhood must be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer by December 1st. Each team should be listed with the number of participants in each level and each age group marked. This form should show the total number of participants for the Network Neighborhood in each level and age group. Submission of this form is the responsibility of the Network's representatives to the Zone Committee.
 - D. Roster forms
 - 1. Each team must complete the roster form completely with each gymnast listed. This form must be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer by December 1st.
 - E. Teams who fail to submit their participation information, rosters, and fees by January 31st are ineligible to compete in the Zone Meet for that competitive season.
 - 1. Incorrect forms will be returned and a penalty fee of \$2 per gymnast will be charged.
 - F. Any gymnasts added after December 1st and up to March 1st may be added to team rosters. The \$3 participation fee will be charged up to March 1st. After March 1st a \$2 late fee will be assessed.

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II. Team Eligibility

- A. All YMCA's entering competition in the Zone must be a member in good standing with the YMCA of the USA and must adhere to THE RULES THAT GOVERN YMCA COMPETITIVE SPORTS, follow Guidelines for YMCA Competitive Teams, and the Sports' Philosophy of the Zone Committee.
1. It is also required that each team has at least one USAG Safety Certified coach that works with the team program.
 2. For a team to be eligible to compete in the Zone Meet, there must be at least one USAG Safety Certified coach at the meet. A copy of the Certification form should be included with the Zone Meet entry form.
 - a. A new team or a team who loses their Safety Certified Coach has a one year grace period to get a new coach USAG Safety Certified.

III. Individual Eligibility

A. For YMCA dual and league competition

1. Zone membership is required for all team members, level 4 through 9.

B. For formal YMCA closed competition

1. Gymnast must be a YMCA member in good standing for at least **30** days before competing in a meet representing the YMCA.

C. For the Network Neighborhood Championship Meet (formerly called a Cluster or District or Divisional Championship Meet). Starting in 2004 this meet will be called the **District** Meet.

1. The gymnast must have competed in **two** gymnastics meets representing her YMCA. These two meets must be a closed YMCA competition in Network Neighborhoods where there is a YMCA league or schedule.
 - a. Exceptions to this two closed meet rule would be if the Network has its own rules for eligibility for this meet or if there is no opportunity to compete with other YMCAs
2. Dual, triple, and invitational meets are considered a single meet.
3. The **30** day YMCA membership rule also applies.

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D. For the Zone Championship

1. Must be a YMCA member in good standing for at least **90** days prior to the date of the Zone Meet. This must be a full privilege, annual membership. In

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Metropolitan YMCAs the gymnast must designate the YMCA for which she will be competing.

2. Gymnast must achieve the Zone qualifying score in at least **two** organized gymnastics meets involving two or more teams, judged by rated officials of the correct level for the level being judged. These meets must be in the current season and one must be a closed YMCA meet.
 - a. The District Meet can be used for a qualifying score but cannot be used as one of the two required meets.
3. The individual gymnast's team must have sent in official roster form and paid the \$3 Zone fee by December 1st or by January 31st and have paid the additional \$2 penalty fee for late submission.
 - a. If a gymnast is added to the team late, after the original roster is submitted, she must meet the **two** meet qualifying score rule, the one meet being a closed YMCA meet, and she must meet the **90** day membership rule. (a gymnast added after January 31st cannot compete in the Zone Meet because she does not meet the 90 day rule; the Zone Meet is usually held in April. In some cases the Level 5 Zone Meet may be held in March)
 - b. **If the gymnast meets the 90 day membership requirement but there are not enough closed YMCA meets remaining on the schedule, that gymnast would not be able to compete in the Zone Meet.**
4. **Illness or Injury Waiver for the Zone Meet**
 - a. The Zone Committee host may consider petitions to compete in the Zone Meet in cases where illness or injury has prevented a gymnast from obtaining a 2nd qualifying score.

Medical verification of illness or injury will be required as will all meet scores prior to the illness or injury. Waiver request and support documents should be sent to the Zone Committee Chairperson and a written decision will be sent to the petitioner within two weeks.
5. Gymnast must be a member of a team who has at least one USAG Safety Certified Coach at the Zone Meet.
6. Gymnast must be a USAG level 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9
 - a. A gymnast must compete in the same level and same age group as she competed in the District Meet.
 - b. Level 4 does not have a Zone Meet at this time (9/07).

Rules and Policies

7. **Network Zone Meet Qualifying Score tracking**
 - a. Each Network should have a score tracker or system to develop a list of

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gymnasts from that Network that have achieved the two qualifying scores. This list should be sent to the Zone Meet host to verify entries.

E. National YMCA Gymnastics Championships

1. A gymnast's YMCA membership shall be at least 90 days prior to the date of the competition.
2. Gymnast shall have represented her YMCA in formal competition during the current season where opportunity existed.
3. Qualifying score and level divisions are determined by the National YMCA Competitive Gymnastics Committee.

IV. Age Groups

- A. Age group is determined by age on December 1st of current season.
 1. Cadet 6 to 8 yr. olds and 9 & 10 yr. olds
 2. Prep 11 & 12 years
 3. Junior 13 & 14 years
 4. Senior 15 years & up
- B. Level 9 does not have a cadet age group for competition. Any gymnast from 6 - 12 years old as of December 1st competes as a prep.
- C. A gymnast may compete in her age group only in the Zone Meet
 1. A Network Neighborhood may establish variations on the age groups for Network meets.

V. Competitive Levels

- A. The Committee decides which USAG levels to be used.
 1. Level 4 Not eligible for the Zone Meet at this time; sometimes eligible for Nationals
 2. Level 5 Eligible for the Zone Meet; eligible for Nationals
 3. Level 6 Eligible for the Zone Meet; eligible for Nationals
 4. Level 7 Eligible for the Zone Meet; eligible for Nationals
 5. Level 8 Eligible for the Zone Meet; eligible for Nationals
 6. Level 9 Eligible for the Zone Meet; eligible for Nationals
- B. Individual Network Neighborhoods can decide to add other levels for competition in their Network such as Level 2, 3, 10

Rules and Policies

C. Rules in regards to changing levels in a single season or next season

1. Minimum & Mandate Scores

The Zone has established score standards to assist coaches in placing gymnasts in correct levels and to determine advancement to higher levels.

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A minimum and mandate score system has been developed.

- a. Gymnast must achieve at least 2 minimum scores to advance to the next level.
- b. A coach may move a gymnast up a level during the season if she achieves at least two minimum scores or wait until the next season.
- c. A gymnast who achieves at least 2 mandate scores, must advance to the next level at the next competitive season.
- d. The Zone Committee reviews and revises these scores as needed.
- e. The minimum and mandate scores for each level are listed in the appendix of the constitution.
- f. A petition process is available to waiver the minimum and/or mandate guidelines (see petition procedures)

2. **Changing to other levels during the season**

Once a gymnast competes, inside or outside the YMCA system, in any level, she cannot, in the same season compete in a lower level unless her coaches petitions and receives permission from the Zone Committee. For example a gymnast may not compete as a Level 9 in a USAG meet, then compete as a Level 8 in a YMCA meet.

High school exception

There is an exception to this rule of not being allowed to compete a level and then compete down a lower level in the same season. In those states in which the high school gymnastics program has only optional level competition, a YMCA level 5 or 6 gymnast may compete at the optional level for the high school program and then return to her YMCA level after the end of the high school season.

Note: High school AA scores cannot be used for minimum, mandate, or Zone qualifying scores, but high school scores could be used for a National qualifying score for Level 8.

National exception

There may also be an exception to going from higher to lower levels in the same season in regards to the National YMCA Gymnastics Championship. The National Level guidelines do not always correspond with the levels in our Zone.

To skip a level or move up a level without achieving the 2 minimum scores or to waiver mandating to the next level, the coach must petition the Zone Committee for permission

Rules and Policies

3. **Petition procedures**

- a. Coach must use petition form from the appendix
- b. All petitions for the upcoming season must be sent to the Chairperson or

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Secretary/Treasurer of the Zone Committee for review by the committee at the Spring or Fall meetings. Level decisions must be made before the start of the competitive season.

- c. The petition form should include the following information:
 - * gymnast's level from last season
 - * state level change request (example - from Level 6 to 7 or to stay level 5, etc.)
 - * reasons for request with supporting documentation (doctor's reports, season scores, parent letter, etc.)
- d. A written decision will be sent out within two weeks of meeting.
- e. Network teams will be also notified of petition decisions.

D. **Gymnasts joining team program from other teams or coming from another area**

It is up to the coach's discretion to place a new team member in the correct level.

Gymnasts joining team programs from another YMCA program or private club program during the off season may be placed at the level the new team deems appropriate.

Gymnasts who join a team from **another YMCA program during the competitive** season (October through April) must compete at the same level she competed at her former YMCA. Also a gymnast who comes from another YMCA program during the season must follow the policy concerning transfers that is in the **Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports**. This policy states that the gymnast must have written consent from the Y he/she previously represented. Membership must be transferred before the gymnast may compete at the new Y. Once the gymnast transfers, he/she cannot transfer back and compete for the YMCA he/she previously represented for one year from the date of the original transfer.

E. **Quadrennium changes in USAG Jr. Olympic routines and optional level requirements/judging**

Each quadrennium, when the USAG JO Committee makes significant changes in the compulsory routines or technical requirements, coaches will have the discretion to place their gymnasts in the appropriate level. Minimum and mandate scores from the previous season will not be applicable.

VI. **Definition of a team by levels** (to be used for overall team scoring)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. Level 4, 5, & 6 | 5 gymnasts representing any age group |
| B. Level 7,8,9 | 3 gymnasts representing any age group |

VII. **Definition of a team by age group** (to be used for age group team scoring)

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- A. Level 4, 5 & 6 minimum of 3 gymnasts
- B. Level 7, 8, 9 minimum of 2 gymnasts

VIII. Entry Fees

- A. **District meets** - each Network Neighborhood can decide how much and how to charge entry fees for their District meets.

- 1. The method of handling surplus or deficits (if any) is determined by each Network.

- B. Charging entry fees at dual YMCA meets is not recommended

- C. **Zone Meet**

- 1. Entry fees should cover all basic expenses incurred by the host team (such as facility fees, equipment fees, judges' fees & lodging, coaches' & judges' food, mailing, decorations, office supplies, administrative costs)
 - 2. Amount of entry fee must be approved by the Zone Committee
 - 3. Surplus or deficits (if any) will be the responsibility of the host team
 - 4. Profits from concessions, pro-shop, programs, raffles, & admissions go to the host YMCA
 - 5. Entry fees are not refundable unless exception is made by host team after all bills have been paid
 - 6. Entry fees are paid directly to the host YMCA

IX. Awards

- A. Y League meets - the type of awards, number of places awarded, age group breakdowns, team awards, etc. can be decided by host team in dual meets, or should follow Network guidelines if specified. Guidelines for District Meet awards should be determined by the Network.
- B. The Committee recommends that all ties be honored.
- C. Awards for the Zone Meet must follow details as stated in the Zone Meet Guidelines.

X. Equipment and matting

All equipment and matting should meet USAG safety standards and specifications.

XI. Attire

Gymnast attire should follow USAG guidelines.

Appendix

All-around Minimum, All-around Mandate, All-around Qualifying Scores

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Minimum scores were established to provide a guideline for coaches for gymnast advancement to a higher level and to prevent coaches from indiscriminately advancing their gymnast's level.

Mandate scores were established to prevent a coach from holding a gymnast back in the same level and not advancing her as merited by her ability. However the Zone Committee recognizes that there may be an individual situation in which a gymnast that has met the mandate scores may not be ready to advance. There also may some situations when a gymnast has not received minimum scores but is ready to advance. To handle these situations the coach may follow the petition process.

The qualifying scores are set to determine qualification to the Zone meet.

“Minimum, Mandate, and Qualifying scores must be achieved twice in an organized gymnastics meet involving two or more teams and judged by rated officials. These meets must be in the current season and one meet must be a closed YMCA meet.”

Minimum, mandate, and qualifying scores apply only to the next competitive season. These standards are reviewed annually by the Zone Committee. The Committee may determine that these score standards be retroactive or, in some cases, waived. These decisions are usually made at the Winter or Spring meeting. Network representatives will immediately inform all Network teams of any changes. **Chart below is correct for 2006-07 season.** Note that level 4 has been added to the chart. The 32.00 with at least an 8.0 on each event must be in the same meet for Level 4.

Level	Minimum Score	Mandate Score	Zone Qualifying Score
Level 4	30.00 2 x	32.00 (2x) 8.0 min./ each event	
Level 5	31.00 2 x	34.00 2x	27.0 2x
Level 6	31.00 2 x	33.00 2x	27.00 2x
Level 7	31.00 2x	34.00 2x	28.00 2x
Level 8	32.00 2x	35.00 2x	28.00 2x
Level 9			27.00 2x

Appendix

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Standardization of equipment

Follow USAG Rules and Policies as to equipment regulations and equipment settings for different age groups.

All Zone teams must have the vault table for competition.

The following information is a guideline for equipment heights.

The high and low bar may be adjusted at any height to fit the individual gymnast. The bars must remain in the safety allowances identified by the manufacturer of the apparatus.

At beam, the younger age groups can use higher settings but the older age groups cannot use lower setting.

Cadets may put the beam as low as 100 cm but may set it at higher settings,
Preps & juniors may set the beam as low as 110 cm but may set it at higher settings.
Seniors may set the beam at 120 cm or 125 cm.

The vault table may be set at any height, regardless of age division. However it cannot go lower than 100 cm. or higher than 125 cm.

Refer to the USAG Women's Program, Rules and Policies book for information on required and allowable matting.

Network Neighborhood Meet (District Meet) guidelines

1. Each Network will be responsible for their own meet.
2. Entry fees will be determined by the meet host or as determined by the Network gymnastics committee.
3. Awards
 - a. individual awards - ribbons, 1st through 12th places in all events
 - b. Ties will be honored
 - c. Team awards can be determined by the Network Gymnastics Committee

Appendix

Zone Meet information

1. The Zone Committee will review bids at the fall meeting
 - a. the bid should be submitted on the bid form included in appendix.

**2007-2008 Constitution of the
Great Lakes YMCA Zone Gymnastics Committee**

- b. this form should be mailed to the Zone Chairperson by September 1st.
(In circumstances when the Zone Chairperson is also submitting a bid for the Zone Meet, the bid should be sent to another officer on the board)
 - c. anyone making a bid should attend the September meeting and make a presentation regarding the bid.
 - d. person presenting the bid should be prepared to answer questions regarding the bid.
 - e. a vote will be taken after all bids are reviewed and the person who is awarded the bid will be informed at the end of the meeting.
 - f. if the person submitting a bid is on the Zone Committee, he/she will not be allowed to vote.
2. A supervisory committee can be formed to assist Zone Meet host
3. The Zone Meet Guidelines should be followed in planning and conducting the Zone Meet.
Any deviation from the Zone Constitution and/or Zone Meet Guidelines must be submitted and approved by the Zone Committee. Any requests for deviations must be brought to the Zone Committee before the January meeting. Any change that is approved must be clearly stated in all pre-meet mailings. One exception – any changes dealing with awards and age group divisions can be submitted up to 4 weeks after the January meeting date.
4. The meet host must use the USAG Women's Program Rules & Policies to follow policies regarding meet format, set up of start times, session times, number of judgments, apparatus regulations, etc.
5. At the spring or fall meeting, the Zone Committee will decide the date for the next year's Zone Meet and the meet cut off date for meet results for the Zone Meet.
6. Score Master or Pro Score computer programs are recommended for meet tabulation.
7. A spring floor is required for the Zone Meet.
8. A pre-meet tentative budget should be presented with the bid form in September, can be revised and presented at the January meeting and the final budget should be provided to the Zone Committee at the May meeting.