

## **INSURANCE -**

Most coaches were not aware that TAAF Gymnastics has not had the proper insurance coverage for our meets, meet directors, coaches and athletes. This was of great concern to me and as explained in the June meeting, I made a concentrated effort to work with the state office and it has come down to the wire with the insurance company but we finally have a solution - at least for this next season. I do not have to tell you the importance of being covered for liability and accidents at our competitions. We were able to get a policy for this year but it was not cheap. It is at an additional cost of \$3.10 per athlete entered in any meet. This policy covers TAAF, coaches, all meet personnel and volunteers, spectators and also has an accidental injury policy for each athlete. We did not have a way to add this to the entry fee for the athletes as many have already entered and paid for their meets. The only way the council and I and the TAAF state office could see as a reasonable and relatively easy fix for now would be to increase the gate fee for adults to \$10 and leave the child fee the same at \$5. Outside meets held with rental equipment and facility rental may increase to a max of \$15 if it is necessary. These fees, frankly, are much more in line and still under what other sports charge for their events. That is not to say that we must follow suit but we have not raised our gate fees for as long as I can remember. When we have our June meeting we will re visit this situation. I have wrestled with and agonized over this for quite some time now and I do believe this is the best we can do in the short term. NOTE: we have two invitationals where TAAF athletes have been allowed to participate but according to our rules and our entry fees, however, that cannot also encompass the gate fee because in these larger meets with multiple equipment set ups the costs are very different as well as the facility costing so much more. TAAF clubs always have the right to decline to enter those meets once the gate fee has been announced. All gate fee must be made known to prospective participants in pre meet information.

## **BACKGROUND CHECKS**

It is still going to be a requirement for ALL coaches for ALL TAAF sports. Here is the gymnastics clarification:

1. If you have a current USAG membership that has a background check that expires in 2020 you are cleared to participate in TAAF for this current season. This is the "grandfather" year exception. In August of 2020 you will get another USAG background check that will be good until 2022 but you will be required to get a TAAF background check after August 1, 2021. From that point on any USAG coach will have a USAG background check and a TAAF background check on the in between year. USAG coaches MUST send a copy of your current USAG card to BOTH [taafscoremaster@gmail.com](mailto:taafscoremaster@gmail.com) and [taafgymnastics@gmail.com](mailto:taafgymnastics@gmail.com). We will then submit your name as "cleared" to the TAAF state office and you will be added to the list.
2. If you are a TAAF only coach you will need to take care of your background check through the TAAF website during the month of December or at least one week in advance of your meet where you expect to be allowed onto the floor. I have been told that the TAAF website will be ready with this application information any day. □

## **MEET DIRECTORS**

Please change your meet info sheets to reflect the change in the gate from \$7 to \$10 for adults. If you send that flyer change to Ginger at [gsteger@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:gsteger@suddenlinkmail.com) she will replace what you already have on the website. You will be billed, based on your entries, for the \$3 per athlete for our standard head tax and an additional \$3.10 per athlete for the insurance for a total of \$6.10 per entry. The gate fee should easily cover this additional cost while still keeping the children and seniors price the same at \$5.

### **ERROR IN OPERATING CODE AND TAAF RULES**

There was an unusual typo in the main TAAF rules on the divisions breakdown section which has been corrected. In the operating code the gold and platinum divisions had a small error which I will correct and replace on the website. Please take the time to read that code as there are items you need to know and others you may need to be reminded about!

### **RANKING SCORES**

Remember that all athletes who are NEW to a LEVEL or to TAAF this year must have a ranking score if they are in Placement (levels 3,4,5,6,7,XS,XG,XP). The Scoremaster would prefer that you send the ranking scores using an excel spreadsheet or the attached csv file format that I have included here. Send this form to [taafscoremaster@gmail.com](mailto:taafscoremaster@gmail.com).

Keep checking the website for background check information and I will send another e mail as soon as I have been informed that it is ready to go. The checks, they say, are completed very expediently.

Thank you for supporting TAAF Gymnastics,  
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