

January 29, 2020

Hello Coaches!

The season is now in full swing and the coaches background checks are live on the tyaaf website and are completed in a day or less - very good and much much faster than USAG! Our score master is compiling a list of those who have submitted USAG cards as proof of background check clearance and the TAAF office will be sending us a list of who has been cleared through them. We will then merge the files to present a verification/cleared file to each meet director begging with meet weekend FEB. 8-9. It is IMPERATIVE that you make sure that if you plan to attend that meet or any thereafter that you get the background check taken care of. I am going to request of Mark Lord, our executive director, if it is permissible to post a list of "cleared" coaches on our website so that you may check to be sure your coaches are good to go. If you are a USAG cleared coach you must send your card to our TAAF score master at taafscoremaster@gmail.com so that he can add you to the cleared list.

It is also important that you keep me updated on e mail address changes. My communications with you rely on a current e mail address to be effective. I will be asking the TAAF state office to keep a running and dated communications list of all items I have sent out so that all can check and be sure they did not miss anything. This will be in effect with this communication.

Thank you for your patience in this initial background check requirement and administrative delay. Insurances and validations - gotta have them but hate having them!!!

Jan

February 10, 2020

Coaches and gym owners,

We had our first meet weekend with background check verification and it was not perfect but for the greatest part, it worked. There were a few coaches who were not on the list and we are rectifying that immediately this week and they will be taking care of it. Please take this seriously and get it done right now. It is \$10 - nearly a trip to a fast food place! It takes less than three days. Inexpensive AND easy!

Now, just like USAG, **you will get a confirmation of your clearance and I am recommending that you either bring a copy of your USAG card or your TAAF clearance with you to show at sign in just in case a clerical error eliminated you from the list. Again, this is easy - slip it in your wallet and leave it there for the season.**

Meet directors will be receiving wrist bands from me for their meets and will hand you a wrist band when you check in and sign the coaches sheet. MEET DIRECTORS will send me a copy of the signed coaches sheet as a requirement of their meet reporting. I have also asked the scoremaster to place a score reporting template on our website so you can use this to turn in your scores OR if you are using proscore, follow his instructions as to how to export your meet data in a form that he can use efficiently for our score tracking. I will leave the mechanics of that process to him. I will need the meet directors to check our website for the proper procedures. I hope this will be up on our site for this weekend's meets.

COACHES - please be sure to use the resources on our website. All meet schedules, results, policies, documents and any important communications will be there. Although it is convenient to receive email reminders from me, I do not have any way to keep up with email address changes and during the course of the season there are always at least a few. Please check our page regularly as that remains the best method of communication.

JUDGES SHORTAGE is a serious problem this season and as a result we will have meets where we can only find one judge per event. I have asked the state judging director to communicate to all the judges and reiterate that TAAF athletes do not need inflated scores, they need realistic scores and that inflated scores are a strong detriment to the program. We will get through this season and then I have already spoken to the USAG people and to other entities who use the judging pool for their meets. We need to work together to make a Schedule that works for all groups. Coordination is going to be required. I am also encouraging you all to introduce the concept of judging to your older athletes 16 and up and even to your coaches. We could use judges who have had some experience in the sport and it is a great opportunity for the younger athletes to build a skill they can profit from later while enjoying a continuation of their love for the sport and an opportunity for coaches to enhance their coaching preparation by getting a handle of the judging aspect of the sport! WE NEED YOU!!!

Take care, be safe, and enjoy the season!

Jan

I will have a council meeting sometime in March to plan our summer meeting agenda and banquet. If you have any concerns that you would like addressed feel free to communicate those to me or to any of the council members.



March 13, 2020

Dear TAAF Coaches,

I am very sad and disappointed to inform you that the TAAF State office has decided that we must cancel all March competitions at this time and will be **re-scheduling** two of the three state meets **initially**. USAG has cancelled ALL sanctioned competitions through to March 31. All agree that some of these event decisions are based partly on a knee jerk reaction to the rest of the athletic events and community but in the best interest of our TAAF organization it seems the most prudent and responsible decision to make based on both personal responsibility as well as liability. Mark Lord and our state organization has only the best interest of all the athletes and all the sports in their sights and it was the most reasonable call given the current climate. We live in Texas and the weather here will indeed get warmer and that may help in the containment and arrest of the increase in virus cases but nonetheless, the future is not ours to predict with absolute certainty. We are going to make an effort to preserve our state meets but on re scheduled dates with the exception of the 4-8/XG,XP,XD on the last weekend of April which may barely fall under the radar of risk. If that radar changes then that meet will move as well.

So far the state schedule will be:

Level 4-8 and XG/P/D - April 25-26 - at Whitney

Level 1/2/XB - May 2/3 - at Trevino's

Level 3p / XS - May 16/17 - at Irving

*****IF we need to move Level 4-8 and Xcel G/P/D then it would be helpful on May 9/10**

***** YOU SHOULD ENTER ALL MEETS YOU INTEND TO ENTER RIGHT NOW. Any clubs already entered but unable to accommodate the new date should contact the meet director immediately for a refund.**

*****Any athlete who relied on any of the cancelled March qualifiers in order to qualify for state will be petitioned into state without question.**

****** In the event that any of the state meets are at a participation level below what is necessary to make the meet viable then the TAAF program will reserve the right to cancel that meet outright in order to protect the meet host from financial loss. In that case, of course, all meet fees will be refunded.**

***** Our athlete banquet must also be postponed (if possible). The TAAF State office will be looking into re scheduling for Saturday June 14 or 20 or even Sunday afternoon June 15 or 21. Obviously, if the state meets are cancelled then the banquet is cancelled as well.**

We are not alone. Many other entities have had to suffer similar cancellations,disappointment and financial loss. We cannot control these cards we have been dealt but perhaps we can be creative and clever in how we play them.

please plan on the meeting lasting from 10-1. Our budget is limited so we will have some snacks and drinks for you but the five course meal will have to wait until next year's meeting...!

I will be sending you a meeting agenda after our council ZOOM meeting.

Take care, keep on pushing forward. We are strong and we will come back even stronger!

Jan



March 20, 2020

Coaches and athletes,

The advisory council had a conference call last night after I spoke with the TAAF executive director concerning the fate of the state competitions. Since last night the TAAF office has already given a directive that no competitions are to be held in April and that could likely be extended through May and Texas Governor announced that effective at 12 midnight ALL Texas schools, gyms, bars are to close. Restaurants are take out only. If gyms are required to close the athletes cannot train for state meets and there are only so many times we can kick a can down the road and then, at what risk. In my small town of Whitney we just had our first case this morning. After extensive discussions and weighing all the risks and benefits it is in the best interest of TAAF, our athletes and communities that we cancel our state meets this year. Our meets draw large spectatorship and from all parts of the state. It may be very unwise to risk that exposure until this virus is much more contained and under control. Since we truly have no idea how long this could take we needed to make a decision so we could all move on and regroup. This is a disappointing end to a season and we are aware that some of the athletes may be quite saddened about this but if we teach them nothing else in our sport we should be helping them to accept a failure and disappointments and to be resilient. It is now also our turn to accept that same advice. For my gym we will plan a fun celebration of the season with parents and friends to perhaps show season's routines and perhaps some of the "new" skills now being worked on for next season! How we present this to our children will play a big part in how they accept it and turn a disappointment into a different opportunity that will be fun!

The entire country and world are suffering and most of us may never be fully aware of the extremes of the hardships of many. We can hope that our athlete families can weather this storm financially and provide for their families until the fog lifts. Our gymnastics schools are in uncharted territory as many are small to medium sized schools with fewer students and often limited resources but still have monthly bills and teachers to pay. Other larger schools have staggering monthly loads in rent or mortgage and payroll and are seeking loans to stay afloat. We need to help each other. Club owners are frightened of losing their businesses.

Council member Brad Turner shared this information for those in need of an SBA loan: "They first have to fill out this economic worksheet. It's just one page and not very difficult. I think this just gets the ball rolling and shows them who needs help. It's a start. We all have to work together, so I'll do my best to share info as I find it. Good Luck!!" Brad
<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/#1584551794550-8cefdca0-1039>

No one has a crystal ball to know how long this may last. I told the council last night that is this all miraculously goes away in three weeks and we are in the clear I will not for a moment regret the decisions to halt the season. I will instead be on my knees thankful that the beast is dead. However long this lasts or it takes to be extinguished, in the interim, we need to stand together and help each other. Many of you are already a member of a number of facebook gymnastics groups and have been sharing your stories and asking for guidance. Many have been sharing helpful ideas for your schools - ways to keep your students engaged in something for home - anything to keep moving forward toward the day when our schools are in full swing again. Other clubs may need help on negotiating lease/rent/mortgage payments on their gyms. Some of you may have insights and personal experiences you can share. Dallas Gust of 10.0 Gymnastics in Fort Worth shared the links of many of the sites he signs onto. Here is that info:

Club owner/manager Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GymnasticsClubOwnersAndManagers/?ref=share>

The Gymnastics Marketing Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GymnasticsClubOwnersAndManagers/?ref=share>

Coaches Skill & Drills

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/653391321411900/?ref=share>

All Things Gymnastics

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/200213680917076/?ref=share>

US Gymnastics Club Owners Association

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/266731783916435/?ref=share>

Master of Sport

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/320992155236348/?ref=share>

Preschool Gymnastics

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/preschoolgymnasticscoaches/?ref=share>

3rd Level Consulting

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3rdLevelConsultingOnlineForum/?ref=share>

There are likely more and if so then share with our gym family. As of today we are planning our yearly meeting on FRIDAY, JUNE 5 at 10 a.m. AT TREVINO'S Gymnastics in Lancaster. That date will be fluid and I will keep you informed if it has to change. We will be working on a calendar for next season. There are several changes that we will need to make and I would like to be able to already have a blank meet schedule in place after I coordinate with the USAG and invitationals already scheduled so that we have a better chance of getting the needed judges by trying to avoid large conflicts in dates. We will also likely need to go back to Friday night and Sunday night sessions simply because of the logistics. I will try to iron out some items in advance of the meeting so we can spend a lot more time listening to the needs of the clubs and seeing what we can all do to help each other.

A club owner called today for some insight into what to do with teams - can we re work teams so only to have groups of no more than 10 in gym at a time, etc. I did not have a clear answer. I will make my personal decisions first on the mandates of my state and county and I will also follow the lead of the local school but it will be literally one day at a time. You all may want to look to your communities as well. In the meantime I will be taking some of the fabulous ideas on the facebook groups pages and will use this time to plan plan plan for summer ideas for profit centers and preparation to bring back the students with enthusiasm and fresh ideas! It is hard not to worry but we need to be reminded - we are gymnastics people. Many of us were athletes ourselves and as coaches and teachers we KNOW how to work hard. So we will keep our heads

- Jennifer Anderson, Liberty Gymnastics, jennifer@libertygymnasticsacademy.com
- Sharon Peck, Classic Gymnastics. gymclassic@aol.com
- Rich Trevino, Trevino's Gymnastics. Rtrev826@aol.com
- Brad Turner, Best Gymnastics. bturner@bestgymnastics.com
- Nick Chaimson, Irving Gymnastics, dreamn20@hotmail.com

5. It is now time for Advisory Council Nominations and Elections. The election will be held after the general state meeting and before September 1, 2020. Please send your nominations to me this email address. be sure you have checked with your nominee to be sure they will accept the nomination first. Nominees with then be asked to submit a brief application indicating why they would like to serve on the council. All active TAAF clubs will be allowed one vote per club for council selections. The votes will be via survey monkey.

That is all I have for right now. Please stay encouraged and strong. Remember you are not alone. Remember we have all those great kids to look forward to working with again. Remember that you are gymnastics coaches, special and totally awesome.

Respectfully,
Jan



May 8, 2020

Hello Coaches,

I hope you are surviving as best you can. A few of you have contacted me to see if I have any news about how the state is proceeding. I am sad to say that I do not have any more information than most of you. It is both crazy and alarming at what you encounter on facebook and the news. Put them together and you just want to have another glass of wine....

However, I light of all that we do NOT know, we can be sure that one day this will be behind us and we will all have learned from it. That education may change what we do in the future and some of that knowledge will likely bring new and better methods for dealing with just about everything. For now, we have no choice but to wait and pray.

Even in the throes of all of this uncertainty, I still need to motivate myself to take care of TAAF business. So here are some business clean ups as well as items that are in our future.

1. Meet directors who hosted meets and received invoices for head tax and insurance payment please be sure you have paid your fees or have communicated in writing to me and copied the state office if you have not been able to do so. We need to close out the year.
2. March cancelled meets should have all sent their refunds out. If you have not received your refund please send me and email and copy the state office. Those meet directors have been contacted and know that TAAF will assist them with any non consumable pre meet expenses since their meets were canceled only one and two weeks in advance. To date I have only heard from two of those meet directors but I will reach out to them again. Thank you to all the state meets hosts for promptly returning all the entry fees. It was such a disappointment for all the qualifying meets and the state meets to give up them up as most clubs rely on them in a financially significant way, but we have to keep in mind that we also had over 2000 disappointed athletes as well, so prayers for all and thanks to all for being so unselfish and understanding. The refunds we sent mattered to all those families and I am certain they were grateful.
3. We will NOT be having our regular state meeting in June. In order to keep as much of the continuity of processes and schedules I am exploring a virtual conference call format. Many have used Zoom but I have been told there may be security issues so I am going to ask the state office if we can purchase a Go To Meeting annual which will accommodate 150 participants at a time. I would like to get a virtual meeting scheduled for mid June because that will hopefully allow us to be back in the gym for at least a couple of weeks before we try to meet. We will be stressed enough trying to open so I thought mid June may be best after we have acclimated a bit. Of course, all plans are soft if we have new news about protocols, but I will let you know.
4. The Advisory Council will have a virtual meeting later in May to set a meeting agenda. They will welcome any suggestions you may have for discussion topics and concerns. Please contact them ASAP. They would be pleased to hear from you. Your council members are:

down to plow through and work work work and we will also keep our heads and spirits up so we can see where our help is needed and reach out to those who need it.

"YOU CAN DO THIS. DO NOT BE AFRAID OF FAILING. DO NOT RETREAT FOR FEAR OF DISAPPOINTMENT. PUSH THROUGH AND TRY AGAIN. BE STRONG. LOOK TO YOUR TEAMMATES FOR SUPPORT. CHEER THEM ON."

Does this sound familiar? *We tell our athletes this all the time...*

I admire you all. Please share any ideas you may have on our TAAF facebook page. I will ask Jennifer from Liberty to share that facebook page with you and how to become a member if you are not already. Please email me or call me (254-221-2177) if you have a question or just need to talk.

Sincerely,

Jan



June 19, 2020

Hello Coaches!

It has been a very tough three months for us all but it is finally time to get together to get our season lined up. The TAAF office has approved a meeting in July so we are scheduling FRIDAY JULY 17 at 10:00 a.m. at Trevino's Gymnastics in Lancaster. The state office will require on site social distancing and that is easily accomplished at Trevino's. We will also offer a ZOOM opportunity for those who are not comfortable attending in person. Once I get the details from the state office I will forward all instructions to you.

Remember, ALL communications will also be posted on our webpage on TAAF.com

LAST CALL for nominations to the advisory council. Nomination window closes at midnight on Thursday June 25.

The council will meet prior to this meeting and will have a schedule roughed in working with the invitationals and the USAG schedule as we know it right now. We also have a presentation from Zach Francis, ACRO & TUMBLING coach at World Champions Centre in Spring, TX. Three days ago NCAA added this discipline for all NCAA colleges and universities. They are considering petitioning TAAF to add them under our gymnastics umbrella to create new programs and add to the opportunities for our kids and our clubs. This could be an exciting opportunity!

We also have to review our rules and our operating code for any changes. The council will dive into this at our meeting and will present any proposed legislation. **IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE REVIEWED YOU SHOULD CONTACT ONE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS OR ME DIRECTLY AND OUTLINE YOUR REQUEST/CONCERN/SUGGESTION BEFORE JULY 1.**

It has also been suggested to have the meet director required meeting be via a ZOOM format. I think this is a great idea so the council will discuss the logistics of that new format. For the present time

however, we remain well below any other program in the country and with the COVID aftermath the state program has been dealt a major blow so this is a remedy that should help considerably. As a reminder, there has not been a fee increase in a decade.

The meet schedule should be done by August 15th or sooner and I will email and post on our webpage. Make sure to check that site often. All of my communications will also be posted there.

Until next time,

Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:11 AM
To: adrian@austingymnasticsclub.com; crusaderym@gmail.com; 10.0 Gymnastics; Achievers Gymnastics; Acrotex Burnet-Cary Rygaard; Acrotex Gymnastics -Patricia Montalvo; Acrotex-Cedar Park; AERO Gymnastics; All Stars Unlimited; Amy Postel; Artemov Gymnastics; ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; ASI-Allen; ASI-Arlington; ASI-Cypress; ASI-Firewheel; ASI-Keller; ASI-Lake Highlands; ASI-Mesquite; ASI-Plano West; ASI-Rockwall; ASI-Woodlands; Awesome Athletics; Bannon's Gymnastics; Basel Gymnastics-Kristen Basel; BCS-JT Fletcher Jr; Beamers Gymnastics; Best Gymnastics; BGBC Meet Director; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Brad Turner; Canyon Creek Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Concho Valley Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; CrossTimber Gymnastics; Dallas School of Gymnastics-Brittani Tillis; Denise Lambert; Denton Gymnastics; Eagles Wings; East Texas Gymnastics; East Texas Twisters-Mineola; Elevate Gymnastics; Elite Gymnastics of Tyler; Empire Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Extreme-Bonnie Kirby; Fitness Athletic Center; Flipnastics; Flips-Rebecca Anderson; g4forceathletics; GymKix; Gymn Star Gymnastics; Gymnastics Plus; Gymtricks Gymnastics; Heather Williamson; HEB Gymnastics; Highland Lakes - R Brent Vaughter; Houston Elite Gymnastics; Houston Gym Academy; larove Elite Gymnastics - Edouard larov; Ignite; Impact Athletic; Infinite Bounds-mandy miller; Infinty Athletics; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Jischkegymnastics@gmail.com; Joshua Sumrall; KCG-Karrie Clanton; Legacy Gymnastics Academy; Liberty Gymnastics; Liberty Gymnastics; Lou Russell; Marybeth Dulock; Metroplex Gymnastics; Moxie Gymnastics; Nova Gymnastics; Olympo Gymnastics; Outlaw Athletics; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Platinum Gymnastics; Prosper Gymnastics; Richardson Gymnastics; Rita's Gym; San Antonio Gym Academy; Shooting Stars-Kat Robertson; Showcase Gymnastics; Sokol Dallas; Spirals Gymnastics; Stars Gymnastics; stephanie@gymkix.com; T 3 Elite Gymnastics; TAAG; TCC Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; Texas Dreams - Maria Froemming; Texas Dynasty; Texas East Gymnastics; Texas Elite Gymnastics; Texas Tumblers; TGTC; The Gymnastics Zone; The Rock; Trevinos Gymnastics; Trevinos-Rich; Troy & Ann Brown; Troy and Ann Brown; United Elite; Waxahachie Gymnastics; Winkids; World of Gymnastics; Zenith Elite Gymnastics

Cc: Ginger Koehn; Jan Eyman; Nick Chaimson
Subject: TAAF ANNUAL MEETING ZOOM OPTION

Hello Coaches!

Our annual TAAF meeting is this Friday at 10:00 a.m. at Trevino's in Lancaster. For those of you who cannot attend in person we are offering this ZOOM option for a maximum of 100 participants.

YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE and receive a confirmation email which will give you your log in information for that day. There will be some items that will require a vote of the membership and we may be able to handle that live and also on ZOOM but we will see if that option will work on the fly. Here is the invitation:

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Jul 17, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91012020000>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

I will also ask Ginger Koehn, our TAAF executive assistant, to post this on our webpage. I will also e mail AND post an agenda for the meeting and I hope to get that to you Wednesday evening. The council meets again tomorrow to finalize our topics for discussion.

If you choose to be there in person we will be the only event in the gym and we will ask that you have masks. All will be seated according to social distancing recommendations.

THERE WILL BE NO MEET DIRECTOR MEETING this time. We will have a ZOOM meeting with all meet directors who have been awarded a competition sometime in August on a day and time compatible with everyone's schedule and once all of our policies have been solidified.

If you have any questions please email me. If you have any colleagues who are thinking about TAAF as an option for this season please inform them about the meeting and invite them to attend.

Thanks everyone and looking forward to seeing you (in one form or another!) on Friday.

Jan



July 31, 2020

Hello Coaches!

Just a couple of items:

1. I currently have meet bids from the following clubs:

Trevino's

Irving

ASI Lakewood

ASI Woodlands

WinKids

Classic

Excite

BIDS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN AUG. 10 and that is RECEIVED BY. Available dates and the bid form are posted on our webpage. Send the electronic bid to me and the hard copy with the \$150 check to the state office.

REMINDER that those clubs whose meets were cancelled last season will automatically be awarded a meet this season but I must have your bid form with choice of date (s).

2. Two acro & tumbling clinics will be held in August - one at World Champion and one at Trevino's. They will be sending a flyer and registration information shortly. This is a great chance for new clubs to get educated on this new level under our TAAF gymnastics program.

3. So that you all can get financial information to your parents, the main legislative change that we voted on in our general meeting was to raise the meet entry fee by \$10 for each level AND to eliminate the team fee - all teams will be entered into team automatically. IN ADDITION, the state office informed me that they will propose a membership increase of \$5 for each athlete. This is a 100% increase,

I will also post this notice on our webpage and will ask an administrator of our facebook page to post there as well. March meets will need to refund all entries. I know you all are operating in your own facilities and do not have to rent equipment so that is a blessing. Hopefully you can return any awards purchased or save for next year. Again, I am so very sorry for this directive from our state office but their decisions are based on the good of the entire sports program and we are not the only sport in this directive. I have a really tiny gym of 100 students so I appreciate the need for supplemental income from hosted gym meets. My own gym's state meet is at risk as well. It will be a blow but frankly, we promote that we teach our children the lessons in failure and the push for the will to succeed. We are all doing that right now. Our highest level athletes in the country are at risk of losing the meet they have yearned for for perhaps a career - the meet that is the culmination of a child's life dedicated to our sport. In those terms, our disappointment pales in comparison. Let us pray for those who have been infected or are ill. Keep yourself healthy by practicing good hygiene habits and continue to rejoice that we are involved in the greatest sport in the world.

If you need to talk I am available at 254-221-2177.

Warmest regards,
Jan



August 17, 2020

Hello Coaches!

Could it possibly get any hotter in Texas! Ugh - we are melting! However, we are still alive and our gyms may be down in numbers but we are up in enthusiasm and the hope for a better tomorrow and we will get there because we are one strong sport and as for Texas, we all know that there is none better. Stand strong and look forward to a season!

Here is the meet schedule. All bidders received a meet. We have a couple of new invitationals that have added TAAF to their meet and they are in the Houston and San Antonio areas and I am happy for that increase in participation and offering. We do have, however, a lack of south meets in the second half of the season! Please not all the OPEN dates and if possible, either bid, if you have not already done so OR, bid AGAIN on a second meet. First come first served and your geographic location will be considered.

ALSO, please remember the upcoming Acro & tumbling clinic at both World Champion (our newest member) and Trevinos. This is an opportunity to learn about this emerging program. Think back - we never knew that Xcel would get this huge but some of us saw the writing on the wall. I personally am jumping in on this as I, just like xcel, see this as an emerging level that fills the need of another profit center for your gym and a better or perhaps only fit, for some of your athletes who are bottoming out or may be needing a different experience. Let's not lose those kids. A huge plus is that so many smaller colleges are opting into A&T and offering hefty financial aid packages and - in D2 and D1 - partial to full scholarships. I know many of us are stressed and a little overwhelmed with worry and school start up and all but you know you can double time it and get this done as well. Don't ignore it because it is new and seems foreign or hard. Since when does that affect the gymnastics industry and especially in Texas? If you have any questions please direct them to Zach Francis at World Champion in Spring. He is super enthusiastic and ready to rally!

I will be presenting our rules changes to the state cavalcade in Sept. and shortly after will publish the official rules document on line. Be sure to keep our website on your radar because all communications will appear there as well as via e mail. We have published the minutes from the general meeting at Trevino's - be sure to read through if your were not in attendance. We will work on a more condensed

and informative operating code just for gymnastics and will post that on line as soon as our rules are confirmed and the code is written and proofed.

Call me or email me with questions and/or concerns. Best time to call is weekdays 8-12 or evenings after 8 p.m.

Keep moving forward...

Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 9:19 AM
To: adrian@austingymnasticsclub.com; crusaderym@gmail.com; 10.0 Gymnastics; Achievers Gymnastics; Acrotex Burnet-Cary Rygaard; Acrotex Gymnastics -Patricia Montalvo; Acrotex-Cedar Park; AERO Gymnastics; All Stars Unlimited; Amy Postel; Artemov Gymnastics; ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; ASI-Allen; ASI-Arlington; ASI-Cypress; ASI-Firewheel; ASI-Keller; ASI-Lake Highlands; ASI-Mesquite; ASI-Plano West; ASI-Rockwall; ASI-Woodlands; Awesome Athletics; Bannon's Gymnastics; Basel Gymnastics-Kristen Basel; Beamers Gymnastics; Best Gymnastics; BGBC Meet Director; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Brad Turner; Canyon Creek Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Concho Valley Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; CrossTimber Gymnastics; Dallas School of Gymnastics-Brittani Tillis; Denise Anderson; Denise Lambert; Denton Gymnastics; Eagles Wings; East Texas Gymnastics; East Texas Twisters-Mineola; Elevate Gymnastics; Elite Gymnastics of Tyler; Empire Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Extreme-Bonnie Kirby; Fitness Athletic Center; Flipnastics; Flips-Rebecca Anderson; g4forceathletics; GymKix; Gymn Star Gymnastics; Gymnastics Plus; Gymtricks Gymnastics; Heather Schnelzer; Heather Williamson; HEB Gymnastics; Highland Lakes - R Brent Vaughter; Houston Elite Gymnastics; Houston Gym Academy; larove Elite Gymnastics - Edouard larov; Ignite; Impact Athletic; Infinite Bounds-mandy miller; Infinty Athletics; Irma Tregoub; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Jima Richie King; Jischkegymnastics@gmail.com; Joshua Sumrall; KCG-Karrie Clanton; Legacy Gymnastics Academy; Liberty Gymnastics; Liberty Gymnastics; Lou Russell; Marybeth Dulock; Metroplex Gymnastics; Moxie Gymnastics; Nova Gymnastics; Olympo Gymnastics; Outlaw Athletics; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Platinum Gymnastics; Prosper Gymnastics; Richardson Gymnastics; Rita's Gym; San Antonio Gym Academy; Shooting Stars-Kat Robertson; Showcase Gymnastics; Sokol Dallas; Spirals Gymnastics; Stars Gymnastics; stephanie@gymkix.com; T 3 Elite Gymnastics; TAAG; TCC Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; Texas Dreams - Maria Froemming; Texas Dynasty; Texas East Gymnastics; Texas Elite Gymnastics; Texas Tumblers; TGTC; The Gymnastics Zone; The Rock; Traci Green; Trevinos Gymnastics; Trevinos-Rich; Troy & Ann Brown; Troy and Ann Brown; United Elite; Veronica McCann; Waxahachie Gymnastics; Winkids; World of Gymnastics; Zac Francis; Zenith Elite Gymnastics
Cc: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Acro and Tumbling Update

Coaches,

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THIS SUNDAY NIGHT AT 6:00 PM.

Even if you are not planning on giving this a try this season I encourage you to listen in so that you are aware of the potential direction and scope of the program. There are also important documents and written rules AND videos on the GOOGLE DRIVE and the link is shared below as well. Just click on the link and the shared drive

will open. You will then need to DOWNLOAD all of it to your desktop to be able to view it at that time or anytime in the future as access only lasts for 30 days I believe.

See you at the ZOOM meeting on Sunday?

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I will be hosting a live talk through all of the content on November 8th at 6:00 PM please use the link to access.

Topic: TAAF Acrobatics & Tumbling

Time: Nov 8, 2020 06:00 PM tz.US/Central

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or

Android: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1496121710?pwd=bGcwaE5BTmdWRmxhWG0yWS9JMGJnUT09>

Password: 771061

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I can't wait to talk with you all on the 8th!

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Zachary Francis

World Champions Centre

Recreational Program Director

Acrobatics & Tumbling Team Director
Office (281) 292-6284

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FROM PATRICK BIRON:

I'd be open to Biron's acting as a host facility for more south meets if other directors are willing to run the meets.

Biron's would simply serve as the rental space, with all equipment, first aid, and general facility maintenance (janitorial), and that's it. Essentially like renting a convention space, but we already have all the equipment.

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About our space:

60k square feet

350+ parking spaces

2 full size spring floors

2 additional enclosed / separated side spring floors for awards or warmup

3 classroom / multipurpose rooms for coaches, judges, etc.

4 anchored uneven bars

Individual bronze and silver vaults, plus 2 gold+ vaults.

2 separate competitive beams

About 15,000 sq ft of spectator space to ensure social distancing.

I have gym photos I will share if any of you are interested.

Patrick

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:28 PM
To: ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; Best Gymnastics; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; East Texas Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Richardson Gymnastics; Showcase Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; The Rock; Tracy Green; Trevinos-Rich; Winkids; Birons Gymnastics
Cc: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Getting Ready

Hello Meet Directors!

Lori, our Scoremaster, is now up and running and will be sharing an up-to-date csv file with you EVERY WEEK. The pdf will be available on our web page but this csv file must be used by you when entering athletes into your meet. In this way the names and the athlete numbers will be accurate every week. The athletes have not all been registered and not all have had their ranking as they have until January 1. Some athletes will be late and have been given special exceptions due to illness and/or injury.

I am regularly reminding the coaches to get their background checks done and the state office will be posting a pdf of CLEARED coaches each week so the day before your meet you will need to download the latest cleared list and use it as a sign in sheet which will have to be sent in with results. It will be a good service to the clubs to keep a tab on the coaches who signed up to be present at your meet so you may alert any clubs who have a coach listed who is not cleared. Your meet will receive wristbands to give each coach who is able to sign in from that list. I am going to try to get those to be mailed from the state office but if not I will send them to you myself.

We would like to have one more ZOOM meeting so that she can familiarize you with the system as, in addition to pulling your data from her spreadsheet, you will also have a specific way to report the results of your meet so that she will accept them. I know it will be slightly different but once we get the season going and finish I think you will find that it wasn't so bad and I do believe that our accounting and accuracy of divisions year to year will be greatly improved. I know we are getting into the holiday season but I am hoping that you all can give me an idea of how many of you are free on the following days:

Monday December 21 - 8 p.m.
Sunday Dec. 27 - 6 p.m.
Monday Dec. 28 - 8 p.m.

Please let me know if you can make any or all of those dates (we only need one!). We will record the session but if you have questions and need to talk through some COVID protocol and other procedures it will be best to be in person. As soon as I hear from you all I will set up the ZOOM meeting.

Thanks all,
Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:25 PM
To:
Subject: INFO and CONTACTS CLEAN UP
Attachments: Affiliates 12-9.xlsx; 2021 EXCEL RANKING REPORT FORM.numbers

Hello Coaches!

Most of you will receive this e mail twice. That is because I have received the most updated list of registered clubs, which I have attached, and some of you are not on that latest list yet. If your club is not registered and paid you cannot register athletes. If you have not done one or either of these please do so right away. I will update my coaches list once I get any bounce back emails and will consolidate the lists. The Parks and rec programs (Boerne, Richardson and Plano) are not affiliates so not on this list.

If you are having technical problems registering your athletes I regret that I am not the person to help you. You need to contact Ginger at:
gstegeer@suddenlinkmail.com
and she will troubleshoot with the web folks if the problem is on their end or take a look at what you have tried to do and help you through it.

For those who are ranking athletes in their gyms via zoom or in person you will need to transpose the scores onto the XCEL csv file that I am also attaching. This will require you to look up your ATHLETE COMPETITION NUMBER that has been assigned to you by our scoremaster. THIS IS DIFFERENT from the nine digit TAAF registration number that you paid on line. **These registered athletes and their numbers are available on our webpage and will be updated weekly.** Fill out the csv file I have attached and send that file to the scoremaster at
taafscoremaster@gmail.com

This is the only format that scores will be accepted for the entire season. Meet Directors who use proscore will be able to download their results to a csv file and email with the clerical work all done. If you participated in a ranking meet but the meet director did not have your competition number then your athlete will be highlighted in RED on the webpage file meaning they are still not legal to compete until that red lighting is removed. Meet Directors are directed to that document for weekly updating so that you do not accept/enter an athlete into your meet until they are cleared. Meet Directors will be invited to another ZOOM meeting if they need help with the data prep for meet scores reporting and also to discuss whatever the current situation may be for our meets with respect to COVID protocols. I will be in touch with that ZOOM invitation which I am hoping to schedule between Christmas and New Years.

MEETS ARE FILLING up. I do not think we will be in trouble not offering enough spots but even for the invitationals please do not wait too long to get your entry in. Biles Invitational is full at over 2000 athletes. Several regular meets are full (see our webpage). Metroplex still has some space but do not wait much longer as the space reserved for TAAF may need to be used for USAG. Again, we have plenty of meets offered I think but if you want the convenience of geography then do not wait much longer.

MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR BACKGROUND CHECKS DONE. It is fairly quick - usually within three days, but don't wait until the last minute. You will NOT be allowed on the floor without one. A reminder that helper coaches under the age of 18 do not need a background check but will be required to sign in listed their date of birth.

I will be in touch with another update before Christmas as I see how the data is shaping up. Remember to check the webpage regularly. All e mails I send are posted there as well.

Thanks all,
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350+ parking spaces

2 full size spring floors

2 additional enclosed / separated side spring floors for awards or warmup

3 classroom / multipurpose rooms for coaches, judges, etc.

4 anchored uneven bars

Individual bronze and silver vaults, plus 2 gold+ vaults.

2 separate competitive beams

About 15,000 sq ft of spectator space to ensure social distancing.

I have gym photos I will share if any of you are interested.

Patrick

January 29, 2020

Hello Coaches!

The season is now in full swing and the coaches background checks are live on the tyaaf website and are completed in a day or less - very good and much much faster than USAG! Our score master is compiling a list of those who have submitted USAG cards as proof of background check clearance and the TAAF office will be sending us a list of who has been cleared through them. We will then merge the files to present a verification/cleared file to each meet director begging with meet weekend FEB. 8-9. It is IMPERATIVE that you make sure that if you plan to attend that meet or any thereafter that you get the background check taken care of. I am going to request of Mark Lord, our executive director, if it is permissible to post a list of "cleared" coaches on our website so that you may check to be sure your coaches are good to go. If you are a USAG cleared coach you must send your card to our TAAF score master at taafscoremaster@gmail.com so that he can add you to the cleared list.

It is also important that you keep me updated on e mail address changes. My communications with you rely on a current e mail address to be effective. I will be asking the TAAF state office to keep a running and dated communications list of all items I have sent out so that all can check and be sure they did not miss anything. This will be in effect with this communication.

Thank you for your patience in this initial background check requirement and administrative delay. Insurances and validations - gotta have them but hate having them!!!

Jan

February 10, 2020

Coaches and gym owners,

We had our first meet weekend with background check verification and it was not perfect but for the greatest part, it worked. There were a few coaches who were not on the list and we are rectifying that immediately this week and they will be taking care of it. Please take this seriously and get it done right now. It is \$10 - nearly a trip to a fast food place! It takes less than three days. Inexpensive AND easy!

Now, just like USAG, **you will get a confirmation of your clearance and I am recommending that you either bring a copy of your USAG card or your TAAF clearance with you to show at sign in just in case a clerical error eliminated you from the list. Again, this is easy - slip it in your wallet and leave it there for the season.**

Meet directors will be receiving wrist bands from me for their meets and will hand you a wrist band when you check in and sign the coaches sheet. MEET DIRECTORS will send me a copy of the signed coaches sheet as a requirement of their meet reporting. I have also asked the scoremaster to place a score reporting template on our website so you can use this to turn in your scores OR if you are using proscore, follow his instructions as to how to export your meet data in a form that he can use efficiently for our score tracking. I will leave the mechanics of that process to him. I will need the meet directors to check our website for the proper procedures. I hope this will be up on our site for this weekend's meets.

COACHES - please be sure to use the resources on our website. All meet schedules, results, policies, documents and any important communications will be there. Although it is convenient to receive email reminders from me, I do not have any way to keep up with email address changes and during the course of the season there are always at least a few. Please check our page regularly as that remains the best method of communication.

JUDGES SHORTAGE is a serious problem this season and as a result we will have meets where we can only find one judge per event. I have asked the state judging director to communicate to all the judges and reiterate that TAAF athletes do not need inflated scores, they need realistic scores and that inflated scores are a strong detriment to the program. We will get through this season and then I have already spoken to the USAG people and to other entities who use the judging pool for their meets. We need to work together to make a Schedule that works for all groups. Coordination is going to be required. I am also encouraging you all to introduce the concept of judging to your older athletes 16 and up and even to your coaches. We could use judges who have had some experience in the sport and it is a great opportunity for the younger athletes to build a skill they can profit from later while enjoying a continuation of their love for the sport and an opportunity for coaches to enhance their coaching preparation by getting a handle of the judging aspect of the sport! WE NEED YOU!!!

Take care, be safe, and enjoy the season!

Jan

I will have a council meeting sometime in March to plan our summer meeting agenda and banquet. If you have any concerns that you would like addressed feel free to communicate those to me or to any of the council members.



March 13, 2020

Dear TAAF Coaches,

I am very sad and disappointed to inform you that the TAAF State office has decided that we must cancel all March competitions at this time and will be **re-scheduling** two of the three state meets **initially**. USAG has cancelled ALL sanctioned competitions through to March 31. All agree that some of these event decisions are based partly on a knee jerk reaction to the rest of the athletic events and community but in the best interest of our TAAF organization it seems the most prudent and responsible decision to make based on both personal responsibility as well as liability. Mark Lord and our state organization has only the best interest of all the athletes and all the sports in their sights and it was the most reasonable call given the current climate. We live in Texas and the weather here will indeed get warmer and that may help in the containment and arrest of the increase in virus cases but nonetheless, the future is not ours to predict with absolute certainty. We are going to make an effort to preserve our state meets but on re scheduled dates with the exception of the 4-8/XG,XP,XD on the last weekend of April which may barely fall under the radar of risk. If that radar changes then that meet will move as well.

So far the state schedule will be:

Level 4-8 and XG/P/D - April 25-26 - at Whitney

Level 1/2/XB - May 2/3 - at Trevino's

Level 3p / XS - May 16/17 - at Irving

*****IF we need to move Level 4-8 and Xcel G/P/D then it would be helpful on May 9/10**

***** YOU SHOULD ENTER ALL MEETS YOU INTEND TO ENTER RIGHT NOW. Any clubs already entered but unable to accommodate the new date should contact the meet director immediately for a refund.**

*****Any athlete who relied on any of the cancelled March qualifiers in order to qualify for state will be petitioned into state without question.**

****** In the event that any of the state meets are at a participation level below what is necessary to make the meet viable then the TAAF program will reserve the right to cancel that meet outright in order to protect the meet host from financial loss. In that case, of course, all meet fees will be refunded.**

***** Our athlete banquet must also be postponed (if possible). The TAAF State office will be looking into re scheduling for Saturday June 14 or 20 or even Sunday afternoon June 15 or 21. Obviously, if the state meets are cancelled then the banquet is cancelled as well.**

We are not alone. Many other entities have had to suffer similar cancellations,disappointment and financial loss. We cannot control these cards we have been dealt but perhaps we can be creative and clever in how we play them.

please plan on the meeting lasting from 10-1. Our budget is limited so we will have some snacks and drinks for you but the five course meal will have to wait until next year's meeting...!

I will be sending you a meeting agenda after our council ZOOM meeting.

Take care, keep on pushing forward. We are strong and we will come back even stronger!

Jan



March 20, 2020

Coaches and athletes,

The advisory council had a conference call last night after I spoke with the TAAF executive director concerning the fate of the state competitions. Since last night the TAAF office has already given a directive that no competitions are to be held in April and that could likely be extended through May and Texas Governor announced that effective at 12 midnight ALL Texas schools, gyms, bars are to close. Restaurants are take out only. If gyms are required to close the athletes cannot train for state meets and there are only so many times we can kick a can down the road and then, at what risk. In my small town of Whitney we just had our first case this morning. After extensive discussions and weighing all the risks and benefits it is in the best interest of TAAF, our athletes and communities that we cancel our state meets this year. Our meets draw large spectatorship and from all parts of the state. It may be very unwise to risk that exposure until this virus is much more contained and under control. Since we truly have no idea how long this could take we needed to make a decision so we could all move on and regroup. This is a disappointing end to a season and we are aware that some of the athletes may be quite saddened about this but if we teach them nothing else in our sport we should be helping them to accept a failure and disappointments and to be resilient. It is now also our turn to accept that same advice. For my gym we will plan a fun celebration of the season with parents and friends to perhaps show season's routines and perhaps some of the "new" skills now being worked on for next season! How we present this to our children will play a big part in how they accept it and turn a disappointment into a different opportunity that will be fun!

The entire country and world are suffering and most of us may never be fully aware of the extremes of the hardships of many. We can hope that our athlete families can weather this storm financially and provide for their families until the fog lifts. Our gymnastics schools are in uncharted territory as many are small to medium sized schools with fewer students and often limited resources but still have monthly bills and teachers to pay. Other larger schools have staggering monthly loads in rent or mortgage and payroll and are seeking loans to stay afloat. We need to help each other. Club owners are frightened of losing their businesses.

Council member Brad Turner shared this information for those in need of an SBA loan: "They first have to fill out this economic worksheet. It's just one page and not very difficult. I think this just gets the ball rolling and shows them who needs help. It's a start. We all have to work together, so I'll do my best to share info as I find it. Good Luck!!" Brad
<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/#1584551794550-8cefdca0-1039>

No one has a crystal ball to know how long this may last. I told the council last night that is this all miraculously goes away in three weeks and we are in the clear I will not for a moment regret the decisions to halt the season. I will instead be on my knees thankful that the beast is dead. However long this lasts or it takes to be extinguished, in the interim, we need to stand together and help each other. Many of you are already a member of a number of facebook gymnastics groups and have been sharing your stories and asking for guidance. Many have been sharing helpful ideas for your schools - ways to keep your students engaged in something for home - anything to keep moving forward toward the day when our schools are in full swing again. Other clubs may need help on negotiating lease/rent/mortgage payments on their gyms. Some of you may have insights and personal experiences you can share. Dallas Gust of 10.0 Gymnastics in Fort Worth shared the links of many of the sites he signs onto. Here is that info:

Club owner/manager Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GymnasticsClubOwnersAndManagers/?ref=share>

The Gymnastics Marketing Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GymnasticsClubOwnersAndManagers/?ref=share>

Coaches Skill & Drills

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/653391321411900/?ref=share>

All Things Gymnastics

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/200213680917076/?ref=share>

US Gymnastics Club Owners Association

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/266731783916435/?ref=share>

Master of Sport

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/320992155236348/?ref=share>

Preschool Gymnastics

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/preschoolgymnasticscoaches/?ref=share>

3rd Level Consulting

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3rdLevelConsultingOnlineForum/?ref=share>

There are likely more and if so then share with our gym family. As of today we are planning our yearly meeting on FRIDAY, JUNE 5 at 10 a.m. AT TREVINO'S Gymnastics in Lancaster. That date will be fluid and I will keep you informed if it has to change. We will be working on a calendar for next season. There are several changes that we will need to make and I would like to be able to already have a blank meet schedule in place after I coordinate with the USAG and invitationals already scheduled so that we have a better chance of getting the needed judges by trying to avoid large conflicts in dates. We will also likely need to go back to Friday night and Sunday night sessions simply because of the logistics. I will try to iron out some items in advance of the meeting so we can spend a lot more time listening to the needs of the clubs and seeing what we can all do to help each other.

A club owner called today for some insight into what to do with teams - can we re work teams so only to have groups of no more than 10 in gym at a time, etc. I did not have a clear answer. I will make my personal decisions first on the mandates of my state and county and I will also follow the lead of the local school but it will be literally one day at a time. You all may want to look to your communities as well. In the meantime I will be taking some of the fabulous ideas on the facebook groups pages and will use this time to plan plan plan for summer ideas for profit centers and preparation to bring back the students with enthusiasm and fresh ideas! It is hard not to worry but we need to be reminded - we are gymnastics people. Many of us were athletes ourselves and as coaches and teachers we KNOW how to work hard. So we will keep our heads

- Jennifer Anderson, Liberty Gymnastics, jennifer@libertygymnasticsacademy.com
- Sharon Peck, Classic Gymnastics. gymclassic@aol.com
- Rich Trevino, Trevino's Gymnastics. Rtrev826@aol.com
- Brad Turner, Best Gymnastics. bturner@bestgymnastics.com
- Nick Chaimson, Irving Gymnastics, dreamn20@hotmail.com

5. It is now time for Advisory Council Nominations and Elections. The election will be held after the general state meeting and before September 1, 2020. Please send your nominations to me this email address. be sure you have checked with your nominee to be sure they will accept the nomination first. Nominees will then be asked to submit a brief application indicating why they would like to serve on the council. All active TAAF clubs will be allowed one vote per club for council selections. The votes will be via survey monkey.

That is all I have for right now. Please stay encouraged and strong. Remember you are not alone. Remember we have all those great kids to look forward to working with again. Remember that you are gymnastics coaches, special and totally awesome.

Respectfully,
Jan



May 8, 2020

Hello Coaches,

I hope you are surviving as best you can. A few of you have contacted me to see if I have any news about how the state is proceeding. I am sad to say that I do not have any more information than most of you. It is both crazy and alarming at what you encounter on facebook and the news. Put them together and you just want to have another glass of wine....

However, I light of all that we do NOT know, we can be sure that one day this will be behind us and we will all have learned from it. That education may change what we do in the future and some of that knowledge will likely bring new and better methods for dealing with just about everything. For now, we have no choice but to wait and pray.

Even in the throes of all of this uncertainty, I still need to motivate myself to take care of TAAF business. So here are some business clean ups as well as items that are in our future.

1. Meet directors who hosted meets and received invoices for head tax and insurance payment please be sure you have paid your fees or have communicated in writing to me and copied the state office if you have not been able to do so. We need to close out the year.
2. March cancelled meets should have all sent their refunds out. If you have not received your refund please send me and email and copy the state office. Those meet directors have been contacted and know that TAAF will assist them with any non consumable pre meet expenses since their meets were canceled only one and two weeks in advance. To date I have only heard from two of those meet directors but I will reach out to them again. Thank you to all the state meets hosts for promptly returning all the entry fees. It was such a disappointment for all the qualifying meets and the state meets to give up them up as most clubs rely on them in a financially significant way, but we have to keep in mind that we also had over 2000 disappointed athletes as well, so prayers for all and thanks to all for being so unselfish and understanding. The refunds we sent mattered to all those families and I am certain they were grateful.
3. We will NOT be having our regular state meeting in June. In order to keep as much of the continuity of processes and schedules I am exploring a virtual conference call format. Many have used Zoom but I have been told there may be security issues so I am going to ask the state office if we can purchase a Go To Meeting annual which will accommodate 150 participants at a time. I would like to get a virtual meeting scheduled for mid June because that will hopefully allow us to be back in the gym for at least a couple of weeks before we try to meet. We will be stressed enough trying to open so I thought mid June may be best after we have acclimated a bit. Of course, all plans are soft if we have new news about protocols, but I will let you know.
4. The Advisory Council will have a virtual meeting later in May to set a meeting agenda. They will welcome any suggestions you may have for discussion topics and concerns. Please contact them ASAP. They would be pleased to hear from you. Your council members are:

down to plow through and work work work and we will also keep our heads and spirits up so we can see where our help is needed and reach out to those who need it.

"YOU CAN DO THIS. DO NOT BE AFRAID OF FAILING. DO NOT RETREAT FOR FEAR OF DISAPPOINTMENT. PUSH THROUGH AND TRY AGAIN. BE STRONG. LOOK TO YOUR TEAMMATES FOR SUPPORT. CHEER THEM ON."

Does this sound familiar? *We tell our athletes this all the time...*

I admire you all. Please share any ideas you may have on our TAAF facebook page. I will ask Jennifer from Liberty to share that facebook page with you and how to become a member if you are not already. Please email me or call me (254-221-2177) if you have a question or just need to talk.

Sincerely,

Jan



June 19, 2020

Hello Coaches!

It has been a very tough three months for us all but it is finally time to get together to get our season lined up. The TAAF office has approved a meeting in July so we are scheduling FRIDAY JULY 17 at 10:00 a.m. at Trevino's Gymnastics in Lancaster. The state office will require on site social distancing and that is easily accomplished at Trevino's. We will also offer a ZOOM opportunity for those who are not comfortable attending in person. Once I get the details from the state office I will forward all instructions to you.

Remember, ALL communications will also be posted on our webpage on TAAF.com

LAST CALL for nominations to the advisory council. Nomination window closes at midnight on Thursday June 25.

The council will meet prior to this meeting and will have a schedule roughed in working with the invitationals and the USAG schedule as we know it right now. We also have a presentation from Zach Francis, ACRO & TUMBLING coach at World Champions Centre in Spring, TX. Three days ago NCAA added this discipline for all NCAA colleges and universities. They are considering petitioning TAAF to add them under our gymnastics umbrella to create new programs and add to the opportunities for our kids and our clubs. This could be an exciting opportunity!

We also have to review our rules and our operating code for any changes. The council will dive into this at our meeting and will present any proposed legislation. **IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE REVIEWED YOU SHOULD CONTACT ONE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS OR ME DIRECTLY AND OUTLINE YOUR REQUEST/CONCERN/SUGGESTION BEFORE JULY 1.**

It has also been suggested to have the meet director required meeting be via a ZOOM format. I think this is a great idea so the council will discuss the logistics of that new format. For the present time

however, we remain well below any other program in the country and with the COVID aftermath the state program has been dealt a major blow so this is a remedy that should help considerably. As a reminder, there has not been a fee increase in a decade.

The meet schedule should be done by August 15th or sooner and I will email and post on our webpage. Make sure to check that site often. All of my communications will also be posted there.

Until next time,

Jan

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

I will also ask Ginger Koehn, our TAAF executive assistant, to post this on our webpage. I will also e mail AND post an agenda for the meeting and I hope to get that to you Wednesday evening. The council meets again tomorrow to finalize our topics for discussion.

If you choose to be there in person we will be the only event in the gym and we will ask that you have masks. All will be seated according to social distancing recommendations.

THERE WILL BE NO MEET DIRECTOR MEETING this time. We will have a ZOOM meeting with all meet directors who have been awarded a competition sometime in August on a day and time compatible with everyone's schedule and once all of our policies have been solidified.

If you have any questions please email me. If you have any colleagues who are thinking about TAAF as an option for this season please inform them about the meeting and invite them to attend.

Thanks everyone and looking forward to seeing you (in one form or another!) on Friday.

Jan



July 31, 2020

Hello Coaches!

Just a couple of items:

1. I currently have meet bids from the following clubs:

Trevino's

Irving

ASI Lakewood

ASI Woodlands

WinKids

Classic

Excite

BIDS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN AUG. 10 and that is RECEIVED BY. Available dates and the bid form are posted on our webpage. Send the electronic bid to me and the hard copy with the \$150 check to the state office.

REMINDER that those clubs whose meets were cancelled last season will automatically be awarded a meet this season but I must have your bid form with choice of date (s).

2. Two acro & tumbling clinics will be held in August - one at World Champion and one at Trevino's. They will be sending a flyer and registration information shortly. This is a great chance for new clubs to get educated on this new level under our TAAF gymnastics program.

3. So that you all can get financial information to your parents, the main legislative change that we voted on in our general meeting was to raise the meet entry fee by \$10 for each level AND to eliminate the team fee - all teams will be entered into team automatically. IN ADDITION, the state office informed me that they will propose a membership increase of \$5 for each athlete. This is a 100% increase,

I will also post this notice on our webpage and will ask an administrator of our facebook page to post there as well. March meets will need to refund all entries. I know you all are operating in your own facilities and do not have to rent equipment so that is a blessing. Hopefully you can return any awards purchased or save for next year. Again, I am so very sorry for this directive from our state office but their decisions are based on the good of the entire sports program and we are not the only sport in this directive. I have a really tiny gym of 100 students so I appreciate the need for supplemental income from hosted gym meets. My own gym's state meet is at risk as well. It will be a blow but frankly, we promote that we teach our children the lessons in failure and the push for the will to succeed. We are all doing that right now. Our highest level athletes in the country are at risk of losing the meet they have yearned for for perhaps a career - the meet that is the culmination of a child's life dedicated to our sport. In those terms, our disappointment pales in comparison. Let us pray for those who have been infected or are ill. Keep yourself healthy by practicing good hygiene habits and continue to rejoice that we are involved in the greatest sport in the world.

If you need to talk I am available at 254-221-2177.

Warmest regards,
Jan



August 17, 2020

Hello Coaches!

Could it possibly get any hotter in Texas! Ugh - we are melting! However, we are still alive and our gyms may be down in numbers but we are up in enthusiasm and the hope for a better tomorrow and we will get there because we are one strong sport and as for Texas, we all know that there is none better. Stand strong and look forward to a season!

Here is the meet schedule. All bidders received a meet. We have a couple of new invitationals that have added TAAF to their meet and they are in the Houston and San Antonio areas and I am happy for that increase in participation and offering. We do have, however, a lack of south meets in the second half of the season! Please not all the OPEN dates and if possible, either bid, if you have not already done so OR, bid AGAIN on a second meet. First come first served and your geographic location will be considered.

ALSO, please remember the upcoming Acro & tumbling clinic at both World Champion (our newest member) and Trevinos. This is an opportunity to learn about this emerging program. Think back - we never knew that Xcel would get this huge but some of us saw the writing on the wall. I personally am jumping in on this as I, just like xcel, see this as an emerging level that fills the need of another profit center for your gym and a better or perhaps only fit, for some of your athletes who are bottoming out or may be needing a different experience. Let's not lose those kids. A huge plus is that so many smaller colleges are opting into A&T and offering hefty financial aid packages and - in D2 and D1 - partial to full scholarships. I know many of us are stressed and a little overwhelmed with worry and school start up and all but you know you can double time it and get this done as well. Don't ignore it because it is new and seems foreign or hard. Since when does that affect the gymnastics industry and especially in Texas? If you have any questions please direct them to Zach Francis at World Champion in Spring. He is super enthusiastic and ready to rally!

I will be presenting our rules changes to the state cavalcade in Sept. and shortly after will publish the official rules document on line. Be sure to keep our website on your radar because all communications will appear there as well as via e mail. We have published the minutes from the general meeting at Trevino's - be sure to read through if your were not in attendance. We will work on a more condensed

and informative operating code just for gymnastics and will post that on line as soon as our rules are confirmed and the code is written and proofed.

Call me or email me with questions and/or concerns. Best time to call is weekdays 8-12 or evenings after 8 p.m.

Keep moving forward...

Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:28 PM
To: ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; Best Gymnastics; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; East Texas Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Richardson Gymnastics; Showcase Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; The Rock; Tracy Green; Trevinos-Rich; Winkids; Birons Gymnastics
Cc: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Getting Ready

Hello Meet Directors!

Lori, our Scoremaster, is now up and running and will be sharing an up-to-date csv file with you EVERY WEEK. The pdf will be available on our web page but this csv file must be used by you when entering athletes into your meet. In this way the names and the athlete numbers will be accurate every week. The athletes have not all been registered and not all have had their ranking as they have until January 1. Some athletes will be late and have been given special exceptions due to illness and/or injury.

I am regularly reminding the coaches to get their background checks done and the state office will be posting a pdf of CLEARED coaches each week so the day before your meet you will need to download the latest cleared list and use it as a sign in sheet which will have to be sent in with results. It will be a good service to the clubs to keep a tab on the coaches who signed up to be present at your meet so you may alert any clubs who have a coach listed who is not cleared. Your meet will receive wristbands to give each coach who is able to sign in from that list. I am going to try to get those to be mailed from the state office but if not I will send them to you myself.

We would like to have one more ZOOM meeting so that she can familiarize you with the system as, in addition to pulling your data from her spreadsheet, you will also have a specific way to report the results of your meet so that she will accept them. I know it will be slightly different but once we get the season going and finish I think you will find that it wasn't so bad and I do believe that our accounting and accuracy of divisions year to year will be greatly improved. I know we are getting into the holiday season but I am hoping that you all can give me an idea of how many of you are free on the following days:

Monday December 21 - 8 p.m.
Sunday Dec. 27 - 6 p.m.
Monday Dec. 28 - 8 p.m.

Please let me know if you can make any or all of those dates (we only need one!). We will record the session but if you have questions and need to talk through some COVID protocol and other procedures it will be best to be in person. As soon as I hear from you all I will set up the ZOOM meeting.

Thanks all,
Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:25 PM
To:
Subject: INFO and CONTACTS CLEAN UP
Attachments: Affiliates 12-9.xlsx; 2021 EXCEL RANKING REPORT FORM.numbers

Hello Coaches!

Most of you will receive this e mail twice. That is because I have received the most updated list of registered clubs, which I have attached, and some of you are not on that latest list yet. If your club is not registered and paid you cannot register athletes. If you have not done one or either of these please do so right away. I will update my coaches list once I get any bounce back emails and will consolidate the lists. The Parks and rec programs (Boerne, Richardson and Plano) are not affiliates so not on this list.

If you are having technical problems registering your athletes I regret that I am not the person to help you. You need to contact Ginger at:
gstegeer@suddenlinkmail.com
and she will troubleshoot with the web folks if the problem is on their end or take a look at what you have tried to do and help you through it.

For those who are ranking athletes in their gyms via zoom or in person you will need to transpose the scores onto the XCEL csv file that I am also attaching. This will require you to look up your ATHLETE COMPETITION NUMBER that has been assigned to you by our scoremaster. THIS IS DIFFERENT from the nine digit TAAF registration number that you paid on line. **These registered athletes and their numbers are available on our webpage and will be updated weekly.** Fill out the csv file I have attached and send that file to the scoremaster at
taafscoremaster@gmail.com

This is the only format that scores will be accepted for the entire season. Meet Directors who use proscore will be able to download their results to a csv file and email with the clerical work all done. If you participated in a ranking meet but the meet director did not have your competition number then your athlete will be highlighted in RED on the webpage file meaning they are still not legal to compete until that red lighting is removed. Meet Directors are directed to that document for weekly updating so that you do not accept/enter an athlete into your meet until they are cleared. Meet Directors will be invited to another ZOOM meeting if they need help with the data prep for meet scores reporting and also to discuss whatever the current situation may be for our meets with respect to COVID protocols. I will be in touch with that ZOOM invitation which I am hoping to schedule between Christmas and New Years.

MEETS ARE FILLING up. I do not think we will be in trouble not offering enough spots but even for the invitationals please do not wait too long to get your entry in. Biles Invitational is full at over 2000 athletes. Several regular meets are full (see our webpage). Metroplex still has some space but do not wait much longer as the space reserved for TAAF may need to be used for USAG. Again, we have plenty of meets offered I think but if you want the convenience of geography then do not wait much longer.

MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR BACKGROUND CHECKS DONE. It is fairly quick - usually within three days, but don't wait until the last minute. You will NOT be allowed on the floor without one. A reminder that helper coaches under the age of 18 do not need a background check but will be required to sign in listed their date of birth.

I will be in touch with another update before Christmas as I see how the data is shaping up. Remember to check the webpage regularly. All e mails I send are posted there as well.

Thanks all,
Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Fwd: Saturday State Meeting
Attachments: TAAF Coach-Judge Workshop 2021 Flyer.pdf; 2021 June Summer Mtg Agenda.pdf; 2022 PROPOSED TAAF Meet Schedule.pdf

Hi all!

I hope you had a nice Memorial Day weekend (in between the rain drops???!).

This Saturday is our state meeting at TREVINO'S at 10:30. I do not anticipate the meeting lasting more than two hours. We will NOT follow with a meet director meeting - that will happen after the bids are awarded and will be in two parts - day and time to be determined.

Attached are:

- 1. Meeting Agenda**
- 2. Proposed Meet Schedule**
- 3. Clinic Flyer**
- 4. Link for a survey monkey meet evaluation for the entire season**
- 5. Invitation to meeting on ZOOM**

Please look over all the documents and BE SURE to take the survey. It is important and we need the data before awarding next season's meets.

We will offer the meeting on ZOOM but since we have fortunately departed from nearly all of the COVID protocols I encourage you to attend if at all possible. We have some important items on the agenda and if you want to be heard you will have to attend or contact a council member in advance to represent you. The council emails are listed in the cc section of this email. They are there to represent you so please reach out to them. If you have an item that you would like to see on the agenda you should contact me or one of the council. The

ZOOM will have to be "listen in" only and we will have someone attempt to monitor the chat with questions if we can reasonably do so.

I am available Wednesday and Thursday all day if you want to discuss any items. Friday I am helping at Championships and out of pocket. email or call 254-221-2177. This organization is powered by all of us and your input helps us get better and better each season. As always, thanks and hope to see many of you on Saturday!

Jan

- SURVEY MONKEY MEET EVALUATIONS: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2NYYDNM>

- Jan Eyman is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: TAAF Summer Meeting

Time: Jun 5, 2021 10:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83605834988?pwd=YXZuUFRhdEF3MWZPcXphV245LzRPdz09>

Meeting ID: 836 0583 4988

Passcode: 082851

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83605834988#,,,,*082851# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,83605834988#,,,,*082851# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 836 0583 4988

Passcode: 082851

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kun5OqnFp>

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 9:19 AM
To: adrian@austingymnasticsclub.com; crusaderym@gmail.com; 10.0 Gymnastics; Achievers Gymnastics; Acrotex Burnet-Cary Rygaard; Acrotex Gymnastics -Patricia Montalvo; Acrotex-Cedar Park; AERO Gymnastics; All Stars Unlimited; Amy Postel; Artemov Gymnastics; ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; ASI-Allen; ASI-Arlington; ASI-Cypress; ASI-Firewheel; ASI-Keller; ASI-Lake Highlands; ASI-Mesquite; ASI-Plano West; ASI-Rockwall; ASI-Woodlands; Awesome Athletics; Bannon's Gymnastics; Basel Gymnastics-Kristen Basel; Beamers Gymnastics; Best Gymnastics; BGBC Meet Director; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Brad Turner; Canyon Creek Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Concho Valley Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; CrossTimber Gymnastics; Dallas School of Gymnastics-Brittani Tillis; Denise Anderson; Denise Lambert; Denton Gymnastics; Eagles Wings; East Texas Gymnastics; East Texas Twisters-Mineola; Elevate Gymnastics; Elite Gymnastics of Tyler; Empire Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Extreme-Bonnie Kirby; Fitness Athletic Center; Flipnastics; Flips-Rebecca Anderson; g4forceathletics; GymKix; Gymn Star Gymnastics; Gymnastics Plus; Gymtricks Gymnastics; Heather Schnelzer; Heather Williamson; HEB Gymnastics; Highland Lakes - R Brent Vaughter; Houston Elite Gymnastics; Houston Gym Academy; larove Elite Gymnastics - Edouard larov; Ignite; Impact Athletic; Infinite Bounds-mandy miller; Infinty Athletics; Irma Tregoub; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Jima Richie King; Jischkegymnastics@gmail.com; Joshua Sumrall; KCG-Karrie Clanton; Legacy Gymnastics Academy; Liberty Gymnastics; Liberty Gymnastics; Lou Russell; Marybeth Dulock; Metroplex Gymnastics; Moxie Gymnastics; Nova Gymnastics; Olympo Gymnastics; Outlaw Athletics; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Platinum Gymnastics; Prosper Gymnastics; Richardson Gymnastics; Rita's Gym; San Antonio Gym Academy; Shooting Stars-Kat Robertson; Showcase Gymnastics; Sokol Dallas; Spirals Gymnastics; Stars Gymnastics; stephanie@gymkix.com; T 3 Elite Gymnastics; TAAG; TCC Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; Texas Dreams - Maria Froemming; Texas Dynasty; Texas East Gymnastics; Texas Elite Gymnastics; Texas Tumblers; TGTC; The Gymnastics Zone; The Rock; Traci Green; Trevinos Gymnastics; Trevinos-Rich; Troy & Ann Brown; Troy and Ann Brown; United Elite; Veronica McCann; Waxahachie Gymnastics; Winkids; World of Gymnastics; Zac Francis; Zenith Elite Gymnastics
Cc: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Acro and Tumbling Update

Coaches,

Zach Francis from World Champion has been working very hard to create our TAAF rules for this new "level" that we have added to our ranks. We realize that this is very new and that we will be literally getting our feet wet this first season but 4,7,15 clubs - it does not matter. We start somewhere and see how it goes. Keep in mind that the purpose of this addition is to provide more and greater opportunities for our student athletes and to also help the clubs in creating another track and potential profit center and follow a lead from more and more colleges and universities that have added this sport to their NCAA line up. Below is the information from Zach with a link to a ZOOM meeting scheduled for:

THIS SUNDAY NIGHT AT 6:00 PM.

Even if you are not planning on giving this a try this season I encourage you to listen in so that you are aware of the potential direction and scope of the program. There are also important documents and written rules AND videos on the GOOGLE DRIVE and the link is shared below as well. Just click on the link and the shared drive

will open. You will then need to DOWNLOAD all of it to your desktop to be able to view it at that time or anytime in the future as access only lasts for 30 days I believe.

See you at the ZOOM meeting on Sunday?

Jan

Greetings TAAF clubs! I am pleased to announce the Rules & Policies for the 2021 Acrobatics & Tumbling season are ready and accessible to all clubs. Everything is online in [Google Drive](#) and free to use. The Drive is separated into the main area which has the R&P, General structure of teams, and routine content requirements. Then we have 4 folders with the compulsory count sheets, event submission forms, meet director forms, and skill videos. The content should be enough to help any club get started and any specific requests for video content will then be recorded and posted to that folder as well.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PxWNJ9VkB7hugYTmJZFXIOXjP4XFjUn?usp=sharing>

I will be hosting a live talk through all of the content on November 8th at 6:00 PM please use the link to access.

Topic: TAAF Acrobatics & Tumbling

Time: Nov 8, 2020 06:00 PM tz.US/Central

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or

Android: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1496121710?pwd=bGcwaE5BTmdWRmxhWG0yWS9JMGJnUT09>

Password: 771061

Currently, we have a few meets on the schedule.

- January 16th (Saturday) at World Champions Centre - Spring, TX
- February 6th (Saturday) at Showcase Gymnastics - Katy, TX
- April 24th/25th Texas Championship & Followup clinic for coaches and athletes. Most likely 2 days, pending on the number of clubs could be a one-day event.

If your club is going to have a team and is interested in hosting a competition this year keep that in mind and let me know so I can help your club get things together and prepped.

A few things to remember about this initial year for A&T competition with TAAF.

- Flexibility with athlete ages during the competition, for instance, we have an 8 year age gap - there is grace this year for an expanded age gap.
- My primary goal for the season is more teams developing programs, so if there is a hurdle you are facing as a gym to get a program started please communicate and I will be able to help with accommodating or clarifying rules for this season.

I can't wait to talk with you all on the 8th!

--

Zachary Francis

World Champions Centre

Recreational Program Director

Acrobatics & Tumbling Team Director
Office (281) 292-6284

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 9:56 AM
To: adrian@austingymnasticsclub.com; crusaderym@gmail.com; 10.0 Gymnastics; Achievers Gymnastics; Acrotex Burnet-Cary Rygaard; Acrotex Gymnastics -Patricia Montalvo; Acrotex-Cedar Park; AERO Gymnastics; All Stars Unlimited; Amy Postel; Artemov Gymnastics; ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; ASI-Allen; ASI-Arlington; ASI-Cypress; ASI-Firewheel; ASI-Keller; ASI-Lake Highlands; ASI-Mesquite; ASI-Plano West; ASI-Rockwall; ASI-Woodlands; Awesome Athletics; Bannon's Gymnastics; Basel Gymnastics-Kristen Basel; Beamers Gymnastics; Best Gymnastics; BGBC Meet Director; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Brad Turner; Canyon Creek Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Concho Valley Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; CrossTimber Gymnastics; Dallas School of Gymnastics-Brittani Tillis; Denise Anderson; Denise Lambert; Denton Gymnastics; Eagles Wings; East Texas Gymnastics; East Texas Twisters-Mineola; Elevate Gymnastics; Elite Gymnastics of Tyler; Empire Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Extreme-Bonnie Kirby; Fitness Athletic Center; Flipnastics; Flips-Rebecca Anderson; g4forceathletics; GymKix; Gymn Star Gymnastics; Gymnastics Plus; Gymtricks Gymnastics; Heather Schnelzer; Heather Williamson; HEB Gymnastics; Highland Lakes - R Brent Vaughter; Houston Elite Gymnastics; Houston Gym Academy; larove Elite Gymnastics - Edouard larov; Ignite; Impact Athletic; Infinite Bounds-mandy miller; Infinty Athletics; Irma Tregoub; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Jima Richie King; Jischkegymnastics@gmail.com; Joshua Sumrall; KCG-Karrie Clanton; Legacy Gymnastics Academy; Liberty Gymnastics; Liberty Gymnastics; Lou Russell; Marybeth Dulock; Metroplex Gymnastics; Moxie Gymnastics; Nova Gymnastics; Olympo Gymnastics; Outlaw Athletics; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Platinum Gymnastics; Prosper Gymnastics; Richardson Gymnastics; Rita's Gym; San Antonio Gym Academy; Shooting Stars-Kat Robertson; Showcase Gymnastics; Sokol Dallas; Spirals Gymnastics; Stars Gymnastics; stephanie@gymkix.com; T 3 Elite Gymnastics; TAAG; TCC Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; Texas Dreams - Maria Froemming; Texas Dynasty; Texas East Gymnastics; Texas Elite Gymnastics; Texas Tumblers; TGTC; The Gymnastics Zone; The Rock; Traci Green; Trevinos Gymnastics; Trevinos-Rich; Troy & Ann Brown; Troy and Ann Brown; United Elite; Veronica McCann; Waxahachie Gymnastics; Winkids; World of Gymnastics; Zac Francis; Zenith Elite Gymnastics
Cc: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Clarifications and Reminders

Hello Coaches,

1. Please register your club as an affiliate member and register your athletes right away. The sooner we have our numbers the better we can prepare for the season to make sure we have meet space for everyone.
2. On the meet entry form there is a space for **CLUB NUMBER**. You may ignore that for now. You will be assigned a club number by the start of the season and that will be another way for us to organize and account for your athletes and data.
3. Remember **RANKING**. If you wish to enter the meets early so as to be sure to secure a space you are encouraged to do so. If you have not yet had a ranking in your gym or are going to a ranking meet please list that information on the entry so that the meet directors will know when to expect the divisions but you **MUST**, however, **note the LEVEL. MEET DIRECTORS** - please allow clubs to enter with only a level until Jan. 1 which is the deadline for ranking. **COACHES** - remember that you do NOT have to have your athletes ranked for this season unless they are moving up a level or are new to the program. Only placement athletes need a

division (3,4,5,6,7,XS,XG,XP). Please contact me if you do not understand the procedure and make sure you follow the directions and fill out the entry form completely. There may also be other procedures required by the meet director so please pay close attention to their requirements.

4. **COVID MEET PROCEDURES** are being reviewed right now with the Council and then will be submitted to the STATE OFFICE for their approval. Some of the Meet Directors have already noted their particular safeguards and any Meet Director may go above and beyond the State of Texas mandates or that of TAAF, as long as they comply with the basics which we will publish as soon as we can.

5. Patrick Biron, Biron's Gymnastics, contacted me with a generous offer to open his gym to any club who wishes to **host a meet in the Southeast area** but who does not have a facility that is appropriate. This is an opportunity for any club to come forward - even if it is a north club. The Biron's parent club could potentially be the on site workforce and earn some money for their organization. Rich Trevino offered the same to my club years ago when we had a conflict for a qualifying meet and we needed a space or give up the meet. I will never forget his generosity, then and still.. Please read Patrick's message below and get back to him if this interests you. I thought it was a very generous offer. TAAF - we are good people....

FROM PATRICK BIRON:

I'd be open to Biron's acting as a host facility for more south meets if other directors are willing to run the meets.

Biron's would simply serve as the rental space, with all equipment, first aid, and general facility maintenance (janitorial), and that's it. Essentially like renting a convention space, but we already have all the equipment.

I think the easiest way to do it to protect the hosting gyms from financial risk would be to charge a rental fee per athlete. So whether 100 kids or 400 sign up, the host gym isn't worried about a minimum for the rental fee, allowing us to make sure we have as many meets as possible for our kids, and also allowing them to spread out sessions if need be.

About our space:

60k square feet

350+ parking spaces

2 full size spring floors

2 additional enclosed / separated side spring floors for awards or warmup

3 classroom / multipurpose rooms for coaches, judges, etc.

4 anchored uneven bars

Individual bronze and silver vaults, plus 2 gold+ vaults.

2 separate competitive beams

About 15,000 sq ft of spectator space to ensure social distancing.

I have gym photos I will share if any of you are interested.

Patrick

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:28 PM
To: ASI Gymnastics-Isis Pochciol; Best Gymnastics; Birons Gymnastics; Boerne Gymnastics; Classic Gymnastics; Corinth Gymnastics; East Texas Gymnastics; Excite Gym; Irving Gymnastics-Shelly Patrick; Plano Aerobats - Vickie Hamrick; Richardson Gymnastics; Showcase Gymnastics; Texas Best Gymnastics; The Rock; Tracy Green; Trevinos-Rich; Winkids; Birons Gymnastics
Cc: Ginger Koehn
Subject: Getting Ready

Hello Meet Directors!

Lori, our Scoremaster, is now up and running and will be sharing an up-to-date csv file with you EVERY WEEK. The pdf will be available on our web page but this csv file must be used by you when entering athletes into your meet. In this way the names and the athlete numbers will be accurate every week. The athletes have not all been registered and not all have had their ranking as they have until January 1. Some athletes will be late and have been given special exceptions due to illness and/or injury.

I am regularly reminding the coaches to get their background checks done and the state office will be posting a pdf of CLEARED coaches each week so the day before your meet you will need to download the latest cleared list and use it as a sign in sheet which will have to be sent in with results. It will be a good service to the clubs to keep a tab on the coaches who signed up to be present at your meet so you may alert any clubs who have a coach listed who is not cleared. Your meet will receive wristbands to give each coach who is able to sign in from that list. I am going to try to get those to be mailed from the state office but if not I will send them to you myself.

We would like to have one more ZOOM meeting so that she can familiarize you with the system as, in addition to pulling your data from her spreadsheet, you will also have a specific way to report the results of your meet so that she will accept them. I know it will be slightly different but once we get the season going and finish I think you will find that it wasn't so bad and I do believe that our accounting and accuracy of divisions year to year will be greatly improved. I know we are getting into the holiday season but I am hoping that you all can give me an idea of how many of you are free on the following days:

Monday December 21 - 8 p.m.
Sunday Dec. 27 - 6 p.m.
Monday Dec. 28 - 8 p.m.

Please let me know if you can make any or all of those dates (we only need one!). We will record the session but if you have questions and need to talk through some COVID protocol and other procedures it will be best to be in person. As soon as I hear from you all I will set up the ZOOM meeting.

Thanks all,
Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:25 PM
To:
Subject: INFO and CONTACTS CLEAN UP
Attachments: Affiliates 12-9.xlsx; 2021 EXCEL RANKING REPORT FORM.numbers

Hello Coaches!

Most of you will receive this e mail twice. That is because I have received the most updated list of registered clubs, which I have attached, and some of you are not on that latest list yet. If your club is not registered and paid you cannot register athletes. If you have not done one or either of these please do so right away. I will update my coaches list once I get any bounce back emails and will consolidate the lists. The Parks and rec programs (Boerne, Richardson and Plano) are not affiliates so not on this list.

If you are having technical problems registering your athletes I regret that I am not the person to help you. You need to contact Ginger at:
gsteger@suddenlinkmail.com
and she will troubleshoot with the web folks if the problem is on their end or take a look at what you have tried to do and help you through it.

For those who are ranking athletes in their gyms via zoom or in person you will need to transpose the scores onto the XCEL csv file that I am also attaching. This will require you to look up your ATHLETE COMPETITION NUMBER that has been assigned to you by our scoremaster. THIS IS DIFFERENT from the nine digit TAAF registration number that you paid on line. **These registered athletes and their numbers are available on our webpage and will be updated weekly.** Fill out the csv file I have attached and send that file to the scoremaster at
taafscoremaster@gmail.com

This is the only format that scores will be accepted for the entire season. Meet Directors who use proscore will be able to download their results to a csv file and email with the clerical work all done. If you participated in a ranking meet but the meet director did not have your competition number then your athlete will be highlighted in RED on the webpage file meaning they are still not legal to compete until that red lighting is removed. Meet Directors are directed to that document for weekly updating so that you do not accept/enter an athlete into your meet until they are cleared. Meet Directors will be invited to another ZOOM meeting if they need help with the data prep for meet scores reporting and also to discuss whatever the current situation may be for our meets with respect to COVID protocols. I will be in touch with that ZOOM invitation which I am hoping to schedule between Christmas and New Years.

MEETS ARE FILLING up. I do not think we will be in trouble not offering enough spots but even for the invitationals please do not wait too long to get your entry in. Biles Invitational is full at over 2000 athletes. Several regular meets are full (see our webpage). Metroplex still has some space but do not wait much longer as the space reserved for TAAF may need to be used for USAG. Again, we have plenty of meets offered I think but if you want the convenience of geography then do not wait much longer.

MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR BACKGROUND CHECKS DONE. It is fairly quick - usually within three days, but don't wait until the last minute. You will NOT be allowed on the floor without one. A reminder that helper coaches under the age of 18 do not need a background check but will be required to sign in listed their date of birth.

I will be in touch with another update before Christmas as I see how the data is shaping up. Remember to check the webpage regularly. All e mails I send are posted there as well.

Thanks all,
Jan

Ginger Koehn

From: Jan Eyman <taafgymnastics@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:48 PM
To: season updates - important and full of information

Hello Coaches and Club Owners,

I am using a different email list in the hopes that I will not miss any of you. This email list is taken directly from your registration at the start of the season with TAAF. If you have a coach who is not listed and needs the info, please pass it on to them.

1. We had a council meeting last week and after careful discussion and in consultation with Mark Lord, TAAF executive director, it was determined that having a banquet this year was very risky. There were several factors working against us. First and obvious is COVID and the uncertainty still exists. Next, there is the guarantee that we must provide the vendor in terms of numbers and that could differ significantly from any prior year, again due to the uncertainty and the wariness of parents to attend. As I shared with you last summer, we did not have a banquet because we did not have a state meet and though the funds were paid into the account, TAAF was very much in need of any resource it could get in order to keep operations going - it got that tenuous. This year we have again collected monies for this event and so I approached Mark Lord with a suggestion and recommendation that we spend a reasonable portion of that money for a statewide clinic in August for the purpose of educating coaches for the new compulsories and to also work on xcel and optional needs, changes etc. This clinic will be provided **free of charge to any TAAF coach who currently has a background check processed as an active coach for this season.** I am going to work hard to secure the best clinicians we can get so that we have the chance to learn from the best. USAG coaches will be welcome to attend but they will pay a fee in order to attend. The exact date is being discussed but it will be in August before public school begins and will likely be held at Trevinos as a central location that is large enough to accommodate us all. In addition, it is also my hope that we can offer an athlete camp for the girls! This will be for a fee but that fee will be able to be reduced according to the funds available. All in all, this could be quite a boost for our coaches and kiddos to start off a new cycle!

2. Since we will not have the banquet but still wish to highlight our champions on each event and all around, the council is researching what can be done as a recognition gift to be given to the athlete at the respective state meet. This will acknowledge every champion, not just those who would have been able to attend the banquet!
3. These last two seasons have been a trial for many clubs and gymnasts and because we are committed to making sure these athletes have every reasonable chance to attend their state meet we have made the following allowances:
 - a. Athletes who attended meets where they were missing an all around score will be allowed to use our "dummy" score method to achieve an all around score, thereby allowed as one of the three counting meets. This score will be used in her season average for the purpose of determining sub divisions for the state meet.
 - b. The midpoint rule has been a challenge for some clubs who had either COVID restrictions for all or part of their teams or had difficulty finding space in some of the meets later in the season. As a result, any three meets at any point in the season will qualify the athlete to state meets - this season only, unless in the future the rule is amended. This is a COVID special exception response allowing athletes every available opportunity to participate in their state meets.
4. Many petitions have been granted when supported by physician's statements, for either COVID related issues or injury. If you have submitted a petition but have not had a response you need to contact me right away. I had many situations to consider and it is clearly possible that I may have missed you.
5. The latest list of "qualified" athletes has been given to the state office for posting on our website. It is imperative that you check that list before you enter your state meets to be sure that all your athletes have a green light and if any are in question, that you contact me right away. Please send your inquiries to both me and to the scoremaster at: taafscoremaster@gmail.com
6. LAST (for now!) - the meet directors of the state meets need to plan for their numbers and tentative session arrangements. We also need to confirm that we have the appropriate number of awards. I am asking that if you know that you are NOT - repeat NOT planning on attending any of the state meets that you advise the meet director of that meet this week if possible. If you only have one or two not attending that is not an issue but if an entire team is passing on state meets this year we would appreciate that information. Please notify:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| Level 1,2,XB - | Rich Trevino | RTrevino826@aol.com |
| Level 3, XS - | Shelly Patrick | irvinggymnastics@hotmail.com |
| Level 4-8, XG,Xp,XD, OO - | Jan Eyman | gymtricks@windstream.net |

Well, that is all for now! Two more meet weekends to go! We have been so lucky to have a season and a good one at that. Give thanks!

Jan

Cc: Subject: update and reminders

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 8:11 PM

Hello Coaches,

I wanted to speak to a few items going forward for now.

1. For those who may not be aware, USAG has changed the "run" deduction rule for XB, L1, L2 and for the remainder of the season the run will NOT be judged. The total deductions for run speed and acceleration is .6 so you will notice a bit of an increase in scores as a result of this change and it will NOT be due to the judges just being extra happy that day!

2. VERY IMPORTANT that we follow COVID protocols for each meet we attend. The protocols may be different but nearly all counties require face coverings and distancing. This is why our meets should have far fewer athletes per session and far fewer spectators unless those spectators can be adequately spaced apart. In speaking with our TAAF executive director today, he highlighted that of all the TAAF winter sports programs, Gymnastics is the ONLY one with a full competition schedule and that is because we are following guidelines. WE CANNOT MESS THIS UP PEOPLE. I know that there will always be some who do not believe in the efficacy of masks or other protocols but that is not our decision. If we want to have a season for our kids we must comply. I spent ten hours each day in a mask at my last meet as I was directing. I hated it - but I did it. Our TAAF insurance, much like USAG insurance, will not provide litigation protection for us if we are not in compliance. MEET DIRECTORS do NOT treat this lightly. It sometimes takes courage to enforce the rules. Do the right thing. MASK UP! Coaches - please alert your parents about compliance rules. Their actions reflect on your gyms and on our entire program.

3. For your information - live streaming on the floor of a competition is against safe sport rules and although we, as TAAF coaches, are not required to have taken the safe sport course (yet) since the standards of care in this regard have been established, it sets an unspoken precedent that we may be liable to follow. A coach should be focused on their athletes and even though it is a great thing to show parents who could not attend, it needs to be done outside the field of play (the competition area.)

4. I want to thank Sharon from Classic Gymnastics for her years of service on the council. She has resigned her position and we will be working on how we organize the council from this point forward. This was a very tough year for us all and your council works extremely hard with meetings and special tasks to bring you the best information possible and works to make our organization the best that it can be. If you have an interest in becoming a part of our group please watch for information on upcoming policies and elections.

5. Finally, the season is well underway and we are always interested in how it is going for you. Let me or a council member know - yay or nay - so we can address whatever we can to help our TAAF organization grow, not in number, but in quality.

Keep the faith and continued good luck with the season,
Jan