

Region 6 and 7 Reorganization Meeting #3

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Meeting called to order: 9:35

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

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

Members NOT present: Joe Zullo, Jeff Zack

Meeting Agenda and Minutes

1. Review/clarification of the nomination process for regional chair (answers in red from Jason Woodnick)
 - a. Where do individuals send nominations for regional chair? Do those within region 6 send them to me and those within region 7 send them to Bob and then we send them to you? Or, do individuals send them directly to USA Gymnastics? **Individuals send their bios directly to USAG (Lisa & me) between Jan. 29-Feb. 12th. We will distribute the list of candidates to the States within the Region.**
 - b. How will the voting process work? Will USA Gymnastics be helping to create a voting process since it will be across two regions? Or, is there another plan for how regions can hold the vote when they will be in different locations for regional championships this year. **We will set it up through our system and voting members will be sent a link to vote.**
 - c. Will the voting be 'one member club one vote' from across both regions? **Regional Chair positions are elected by majority vote of the State Chairs within their respective region at the Regional Championships. This is listed in the MDPC Charter.**
2. Review of the duties and responsibilities as outlined in Rules & Policies
 - Bob reviewed the rules & policies as outlined in the USAG manual.
 - Those outlined are the minimum requirements for regional chair.
 - Running regional championships and an annual regional clinic are the specific event requirements (future stars might no longer be a standalone regional event- TBD).
3. Discussion of the qualities that we look for in a regional chair
 - Group discussion about qualities we are looking for in a regional director. Bob included a list of qualities on the document sent out prior to the meeting.
 - For contact lists, Dan suggested setting up a mailchimp account (e-mail marketing platform). Constant Contact is used by many state directors and regional chairs. Usually this only gets to the gym and coaches do not always receive so you must manually add e-mail contacts of coaches.
 - Bob said make sure that the regional website is up to date. Group discussion about ways to send out information (website, e-mail contacts, text folks), but ultimately people have to act on the information that is out there.

4. (Added agenda item) Voting

- Based on the feedback from Jason, the group discussed the nomination and voting process.
- Tom brought up the idea of having interviews via zoom once people have offered their names for nomination. Is this possible? Craig will reach out to Jason and Lisa to see if there is a process that we can go through already allowed or if we can create one that works for the region.
- Tom added that we can't eliminate anyone who wants to put their name in, but we can have zoom calls to allow us to be informed voters when that time comes.
- The group discussed sending out a letter by the end of next week to the respective Region 6 and Region 7 communities to see if there are people interested in putting their names in for regional chair. Craig will work on editing the document that Bob started for rules & responsibilities and qualities for regional chair- a brief note will be included to introduce the opening of the position and timeline for submission.
- The letter will be sent out after hearing from Jason Woodnick on the allowed protocol and after the editing of the document.

5. Update (unofficial) on committee structure for regions and states

- Craig provided an update on the working group (Craig Thibaudeau, Kevin Chope, Kevin White) that is tasked with looking at state and regional committee structures. The chair position and treasurer positions are mandatory per USA Gymnastics as will be athlete representation. Other positions can be created (e.g., technical director, elite team chair, etc.). If they are allowed as voting members of the board, then that will impact the athlete representation on the committees (which is mandated by the athlete's council to be one third of any standing committee). There will be an inclusion of criteria for small states (e.g., ones that have a small number of athletes/coaches and what to do in those cases). More to be determined and sent to the MDPC for consideration.

6. New Business

- None stated

Meeting adjourned at 10:37pm

Next Meeting of the Chairs was set for **Thursday, November 9th at 9:30pm**

Respectfully submitted by,

Craig Thibaudeau