



# Women's Program Assembly Meeting Minutes June 26, 2016 11:30am-2:30pm North Edmonton Gymnastics Club

## Attendance:

B. Gyorfi – WAG Coordinator

K. Biberdorf – AGF Board

N. Bulgarelli – WPC Chairperson

A. Pelletier – WPC Westerns Rep

K. Baksh – WPC Aspiration Rep

S. Wilson – WJC Chairperson

B. Spencer – Judge

A. McVittie – Judge

T. Larson - Airdrie

S. Floyd – Altadore

J. Stuckenberg – Brazeau

C. Casey – CGC

J. Drukarsh - Canmore

K. Cloman – CCGC

B. Onishenko – Champions

N. Wassef – Champions

T. Smart – Explosion

K. Beresnak – Glenmore

J. Dunford – Grande Prairie

S. Stacey – Gymtastics

H. Luttrell – Horizon

N. Luttrell – Norfort

Y. Hauglustaine – Norfort

T. Frith – NEGC

V. Samide – NEGC

N. Johnson – Ortona

D. Critchley – Pegasus

O. Serban - Salto

M. Darroch – Spruce Grove

C. Dickenson-Lee – Spruce Grove

C. Foster – Stampede City

N. Gafuik – U of C

K. Barry – Wetaskiwin

T. Cook - Wetaskiwin

## 1. Call to Order at 11:35am

### 1.1. Introductions:

1.1.1. WPC members: Niki Bulgarelli, Anita Pelletier, Kim Baksh, Sheri Wilson, Jeremy Mosier, Karen Haverstock, Courtney Ewaschuk

1.1.2. WJC members: Sheri Wilson, Brady Spencer, Aislinn McVittie, Deanna Critchley, Judy Howard-Holmes

1.1.3. PSC members: Ovidiu Serban, Nikki Johnson, Kristi Cloman, Ashley Sportun

1.1.4. ASC: Tracey Frith, Tianna Larson, Katie Castle

1.1.5. JEX Members: Kenda London, Candice Shannon, Kiera Schrader-Balson

1.1.6. Board Member: Katie Biberdorf

### 1.2. Identify all voting delegates

- 23 voting delegates; 13 for majority

### 1.3. Appoint two scrutineers

**MOTION: To appoint Nadia Wassef and Sheri Wilson as scrutineers.**

**North Edmonton/Airdrie  
All in favour/Carried**

### 1.4. Call for agenda items under New Business

### 1.5. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION: To approve the agenda.**

**Horizon/Salto  
All in favour/Carried**

### 1.6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Oct 2015)

**MOTION: To approve the previous meeting minutes.**

**Pegasus/Champions  
All in favour/Carried**

## 2. Reports

### 2.1. WPC Chairperson –N. Bulgarelli

- Short report acknowledging a very successful year with the JO system implementation and highlighting Team Alberta accomplishments

### 2.2. WJC Chairperson – S. Wilson

- Report on Judges' Education courses in past year, acknowledging the judges system changes coming in next year. The Provincial system changes will be following GCG clarifications so it is

expected to be approved and communicated in October. Judges courses will be arranged after that

### **3. Business Arising From Previous Meeting**

#### 3.1. Calendar of events 2016-2017

##### 3.1.1. AGF AGM

- Will be held the same weekend as Fall Congress October 15<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 12:00pm

##### 3.1.2. Fall Congress

- October 13-16, 2016
- Presenters confirmed and will be circulated

##### 3.1.3. Elite Canada (screening and EC)

- Topic was discussed at the May WPA meeting.
- If no screening will be required by GCG, Alberta will not require it
- To date no official dates have been confirmed

##### 3.1.4. Northern Zones

- From previous discussions with WPC and AGF the suggestions is to be held with an invitational meet
- Salto has expressed interest in hosting
- AGF has started to create new hosting guidelines for hosting a sanctioned event in conjunction with an invitational meet
- Tentative dates of March 3-5<sup>th</sup> or March 24-25<sup>th</sup>
- Discussion that March 3-5<sup>th</sup> would be too early for Zones
- Reviewed awards for Zones
- Suggestion from some of the participating clubs and organizing committee for all athletes to get Invitational awards and only do All-Around awards for Provincial qualifications
- Discussion on cost of the competitions if reducing AGF awards.
- JO 4's would still receive AGF and Invitational awards because it is equivalent to their Provincials
- There was discussion on how the athletes should be awarded for their performance even if it means the awards take a long time
- A suggestion was made that the invitational awards should be done first and then those athletes may leave and the Zones athletes stay for their next set of awards

**MOTION: To approve having two sets of awards; Invitational awards first, followed by Zones awards**

**Pegasus/Horizon**

**18 in favour/5 abstentions/ Carried**

##### 3.1.5. Southern Zones – Trials to Westerns

- UCIC has expressed interest in hosting it again
- Tentative dates of March 17-19<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with UCIC

##### 3.1.6. Provincials

- Tentative dates of April 6-9<sup>th</sup> intention is to host it back in Fort McMurray.

##### 3.1.7. Western Canadian Championships

- April 26-29 in Brandon, Manitoba

##### 3.1.8. Canadians

- May 23-28<sup>th</sup> in Montreal
- Discussion at GCG WPA about reducing number of athletes attending. Voted at the GCG WPA for (Voted to reduce numbers to 5 + 1 for all levels)
- Discussion on Format and possibility to have the All-Around competition on first day and apparatus finals on second day; to be reviewed by the Technical Committee
- The levels to attend Canadians is still under review by GCG Technical committee; JO 9's may not be at Canadians next year, a younger age category of level 10 may be added in place of JO 9
- Athletes will be in hotels, no food plan provided

### 3.1.9. Canada Winter Games 2019

- February 14-22 Red Deer
- A CWG's committee was formed at the May WPA
- Committee members are: Michel Arsenault, Cody Casey, Judy Howard-Holmes, and a National Judge Representative. It is the subcommittee's responsibility to create a plan on how to apply and allocate funding and selection criteria for the funded events and to report to the WPC
- At the GCG meeting, the Technical changes were accepted for JO 10 levels with JO 10 rules

### 3.2. JO Program

#### 3.2.1 JO vs. CJO

- At GCG WPA, Ontario's motion of going to straight JO was not accepted
- The consensus was to have more time to think about it and discuss it at the Provincial level. The overall recommendation was to wait one more year and then vote on it in 2018 after the USA program review
- Discussion about Alberta's position
- Consensus that Alberta needs to follow what GCG is doing; Alberta should still do CJO if that is what GCG is following
- This could depend if JO 9's attend Canadians or not
- At the GCG WPA, the possibility was discussed that Westerns and Eastern may combine and it would become Canadians for the JO 9's in the future

**MOTION: Alberta follow the rules that will be used by GCG at Canadians (CJO).**

**Brady Spencer/U of C**

**21 in favour/1 against/1 abstention/Carried**

#### 3.2.2 JO 1-3

- Included within the WAG Program
- JO Levels 1 to 3 are compulsory routines with set choreography and music. They allow gymnasts to develop good and strong basics and can be used as a club non-competitive and achievement-oriented program or as an introduction to competition in part of the Pre competitive program.
- Clubs that prefer to use the JO levels 1-2 as an introduction to competition will be able to register their athletes in developmental categories and can participate in invitational meets.
- WPC's suggestions on JO 1-3:
  - o JO 1-2 would not be ranked; they would get Gold, Silver or Bronze ribbons
  - o JO 3 and up would be ranked
- The WJC Has decided that the Judges would have to take a JO 1-5 course to be able to judge compulsories
- WPC developmental representative will work with AGF on supporting the program so input and ideas are welcome from clubs.
- Suggestion that JO 3 should be included into zones: All compulsories (JO 3-5) go to Zones, but not Provincials
- The Optional levels (JO 6-7) need to attend Zones to qualify for Provincials
- JO 8-10 attend for Provincials without qualification.
- Having only Optional at Provincials makes it easier on a judging perspective as only one set of judges are needed.
- Consensus that JO 1-2 should be judged but still a fun meet; no rankings of the athletes rather than (Gold, Silver, Bronze) achievement ribbons will be presented.
- At some competitions, athletes were told they would not be ranked, but their scores showed up on Sportszsoft. Sportszsoft is not able to turn off scores for one competition.
- Suggestion to just use a manual system, judges attach ribbon right on the certificate

**Action: For the WAG Coordinator to discuss how to align JO 1-2 achievement categories with the Sportszsoft scoring system; How to display only Gold, Silver or Bronze level to the public results rather than AA scores.**

**MOTION: Categories JO 3, JO 4 and JO 5 attend to Zones only, as sanctioned event (not to Provincials); JO 6, JO 7 attended to Zones to qualify for Provincials; JO 8, JO 9 and JO 10 can attend to Provincials without qualification.**

**Pegasus/Norfort  
21 in Favour/2 against/Carried**

3.2.3. Mobility Scores

- Discussion if Alberta should follow JO rules on mobility scores
- Once a gymnast has competed at a sanctioned event, she may not drop back a level
- If a gymnast does not qualify for Provincials, she may petition to drop back a level at the beginning of the next competitive season
- Once an athlete competes at Provincials, she is not allowed to drop back
- Suggestion not to use mobility scores until more clarification from GCG will be communicated regarding utilizing JO vs CJO

**MOTION: Not to implement the mobility scores yet rather wait until GCG clarifies the rules.**

**Capital City/Champions  
21 in favour/2 abstentions/Carried**

3.3. Developmental registration category:

- Pre-Competitive Coaching Clinics (JO 1-3 and LEAP)
- Discussion about renaming Aspiration program to Developmental program and hosting clinics together for all developmental programs. Fall congress includes a sessions for JO 1-3. Discussion about coaches clinics / would hosting it together be beneficial.
- Suggestion that JO 3 should be in the Provincial level because they attend Zones
- JO 3 may not be training as much so it can be kept as it is right now
- Discussion on the Women's Program Structure Chart
- JO 9's should be separated into National and Provincial levels depending on ages
- If GCG decided JO 9 does not go to Canadians then the Chart would need to be modified

**MOTION: To add JO 9 into the Provincial Stream depending on age categories as well as add JO 3 into the Provincial Stream; can be modified once GCG makes their decisions on whether JO 9 attends Canadians.**

**U of C/Grande Prairie  
23 in favour/Carried**

3.4. Coaching Mentorship Program

- Review of last year success; coaches utilized most of the funds available
- Ashley Sportun ( Canmore Illusions) and Chantelle Altares (Norfort) will be attending to China training camp and were asked to do a presentation on their experience
- China trip will be to 3 different gyms, the Provincial gym allows coaches to take video
- Each applicant receives up to \$2000 for the year
- Applications for next year; Jamie Rae Dunford (Grande Prairie Gymnastics) and Kryssie Barry (Wetaskiwin) are accepted into the program

3.5. WAG Program Budget

- Last year Budget is looking in good alignment with the actuals
- Review Funding categories for Westerns and Canadians. Right now the funding criteria is based on Categories and not athletes' participation. Four athletes did not receive any funding this year since their category was not funded for Westerns but they did not go to Canadians.
- After discussions from some coaches and AGF the suggestion is to make the funding criteria based on athletes' attendance. If the athletes did not qualify to Canadians, they would be included in the Westerns cost share
- The majority of clubs agree that if an athlete makes the team to Westerns and they do not qualify for Canadians, they still should not receive funding
- There is a difference between representing Alberta as a JO 10 athlete at Westerns vs. Canadians.
- WPA thinks it should be kept the same as it has been

#### 4. New Business

##### 4.1. GCG AGM

- Review of GCG meeting
- GCG fee increase from \$6 to \$8

##### 4.2. WPTH review

**MOTION: To add into the handbook: Canadians Training Camp is mandatory for all athletes, including alternates**

- Discussion that it has always been understood that it is mandatory for all athletes to go
- High Performance should not be mandatory

**AMENDED MOTION: Canadians Training Camp is mandatory for all JO athletes, including alternates (funding will be provided for all athletes).**

- Table motion until October meeting

**Action: To review budget and see if individual coaches would be funded for the Canadians Training Camp.**

**Discussion: To add a template of the Canadians Training Camp Plan into the handbook**

- Not necessary to be in the handbook but can be added to the team manual

**MOTION: Change the name Aspiration to Developmental in the WPTH handbook.**

**Champions/Norfort  
All in favour/Carried**

- Discussion on medical petition process; this year Women's program had an appeal on the PSC decision
- Discussion on if an appeals process is even necessary; is this an AGF decision or a GCG decision

**Action: For the WPC coordinator to request the Board to review a general appeal process.**

**Action completed: There is detailed Appeals Policy in place which is applied for all programs. It can be found in the Board Manual Section 5: AGF Policies and Procedures 25.0**

- If necessary additional discussion on appeals to occur at October WPA

**Discussion: if a team coach should be able to coach more than one team at Westerns or Canadians**

- At Westerns, training was really hard with having team coaches split between teams
- Financially it is better to share team coaches
- If a coach is coaching more than one team, coaches should be better at scheduling team training

**MOTION: A team coach can only coach one team per competition.**

**Norfort/  
Not carried**

- WPA would still like the option of having one coach be a team coach in more than one team if it does not conflict with schedule
- Handbook will be reviewed and revised by the October WPA

##### 4.3. Review of qualifications to Provincials

- Last year it was 60% of athletes in JO 5-7 attending Provincials
- Discussion on if more athletes can qualify since JO 5 will not be attending Provincials
- Discussion on the percentage as well as a minimum number of athletes
- There were way more JO 6 athletes than JO 7 athletes at Provincials
- Age categories were based on registrations from previous competitions
- Discussion on changing the percentage to 65%
- Issues with the 60%, it was a harder competition for the age categories and levels that had fewer athletes attending
- In the States, there is a qualifying all-around score to attend (States) Provincials; this makes Provincials too hard to plan and could be many athletes to accommodate

**MOTION: To increase to 65% of athletes qualify for Provincials in JO 6 and JO 7.**

**Champions/North Edmonton  
17 in favour/6 abstentions/Carried**

##### 4.4. Format for sanctioned competitions

- At sanctioned events in the States, there is a random draw (no athlete cards)
- Continuous rotation (creating Flight one and Flight two with 4 groups each for Modified Capitol Cup format, drop by one -two-three within their group)
- Athlete cards make it difficult for the judges and floor music

- Athletes cards can be used at Invitational meets but not sanctioned events
- Random draw has been fixed in Sportszsoft
- When combining Zones with a sanctioned event, the host club must follow AGF sanctioned rules

**MOTION: For sanctioned events use random draw according to JO rules; no athlete cards will be allowed.**

**Pegasus/Norfort  
22 in favour/1 against/Carried**

- Discussion on march-in; athletes check in at their first event. Suggestion for athletes to check in with the timer to make sure all athletes are present to start to warm-up. (Athletes check in with judges at first event then with continuous rotations after their warm-up is complete)
- Judges need to be aware of scratches

**MOTION: For athletes to check in with the judges at their first event prior to warm-up; after their first event, athletes check in with timer before warm-up and then check in with judges prior to competition on each event.**

**Norfort/Horizon  
22 in favour/1 abstention/Carried**

#### 4.5. Formation of WPC and sub-committees

- From previous discussions with coaches there was a suggestion to make a max number of members per club on each committee.
- Governance implication: AGF Board of Directors would need to review it.
- Discussion on ethics: committee members should represent their portfolio rather than their clubs. If women's program want to have equal representation, then more people encouraged to volunteer to be on the committees.
- It was decided that it is not necessary to be reviewed

#### 4.6. Gala awards

- Review the WPC recommendation regarding the modifications on Gala awards format:
- Change in the way the awards will be announced at the Gala (not the awards given out). Each athlete will only be announced and invited to the stage once, but will still receive all of their awards
- The Athlete of the Year would still be separate
- WAG Judges' awards will be presented with the Judges' presentation from all the Programs.
- Suggestion that all Provincial Champions attend Provincials; not just the top score in each level.
- It would be difficult because of the large number of provincial champions across all programs.
- AGF is trying to balance the percentage of awards given out between the programs. Problem would be the huge number of athletes attending at the Gala. Suggestion to reduce number of guest's athletes can bring
- Consensus that it would be hard to limit guests attending the Gala

**MOTION: For the AGF Board to review the awards given out for Provincial Champions; WPA would like all Provincial Champions to be invited to attend the awards Gala.**

**Champions/Horizon  
15 in favour/8 abstentions/Carried**

## 5. Elections

**(Niki turned the meeting lead to Bogi)**

### 5.1. Chairperson (2 year term)

- 5.1.1. Thank you to the current Chairperson and two outgoing committee members for their hard work and contributions
- 5.1.2. Nominations received by deadline: Cody Casey, Brady Spencer, and Niki Bulgarelli.
  - Each nominee had a chance to speak to the WPA

**MOTION: To conduct a closed ballot election.**

**Airdrie/North Edmonton  
All in favour/Carried**

**MOTION: To acclaim Brady Spencer as WPC Chairperson for a 2 year term.**

**Norfort/Grande Prairie**

**MOTION: To destroy the ballots.**

Norfort/Pegasus

5.2. Zones/Provincials Representative (2 year term)

5.2.1. Nominations from the floor

**MOTION: To accept Nominations from the floor.**

Champions/Brady Spencer

- Heather Luttrell nominated Nancy Luttrell; Nancy Luttrell accepted
- Kristi Cloman nominated Kim Baksh; Kim Baksh accepted
- Each nominee had a chance to speak to the WPA

**MOTION: To close nominations from the floor.**

Ortona/Pegasus

**MOTION: To conduct a closed ballot election.**

Pegasus/Glenmore

**MOTION: To acclaim Nancy Luttrell as the Zones/Provincials Representative for a 2 year term.**

Salto/Horizon

**MOTION: To destroy ballots.**

Ortona/Brady Spencer

5.3. Compulsories/ Developmental Representative (2 year term)

5.3.1. Nomination received by deadline: Jonathan Bredewout.

**MOTION: To acclaim Jonathan Bredewout as the Compulsories/ Developmental representative for a 2 year term.**

Capital City/Champions

5.4. Three members of Aspiration/ Developmental Sub Committee (1 year term)

5.4.1. Nominations from the floor

**MOTION: To open nominations from the floor.**

Brady Spencer/Horizon

- Kristi Cloman nominated Cody Casey; Cody Casey accepted
- Heather Luttrell nominated Tianna Larson; Tianna Larson accepted
- Aislinn McVittie nominated Jo Stuckenberg; Jo Stuckenberg accepted

**MOTION: To close nominations from the floor.**

Pegasus/Glenmore

**MOTION: To acclaim Cody Casey, Tianna Larson, and Jo Stuckenberg as members at large on the Developmental Sub-Committee for a 1 year term.**

Pegasus/Champions

5.5. Four members of Petition Sub Committee (1 year term)

5.5.1 Nominations received by deadline: Ovidiu Serban and Valerie Oudin.

5.5.2. Nominations from the floor for two positions.

**MOTION: To open nominations from the floor.**

Capital City/Champions

- Carolyn Foster nominated Niki Bulgarelli; Niki Bulgarelli accepted
- Nancy Luttrell nominated Yves Hauglustaine; Yves Hauglustaine accepted
- Berrie Onishenko nominated Cody Casey; Cody Casey accepted
- Brady Spencer nominated Sheri Wilson; Sheri Wilson accepted

**MOTION: To close nominations from the floor.**

Pegasus/Champions

- Anita Pelltier is appointed as scrutineer because of conflict of interest with Sheri Wilson

**MOTION: To conduct a closed ballot election.**

Pegasus/Brady Spencer

**MOTION: To acclaim Ovidiu Serban, Valerie Oudin, Sheri Wilson, and Yves Hauglustaine to the Petition sub-committee for a 1 year term.**

Pegasus/U of C

**MOTION: To destroy ballots.**

Grande Prairie/Kristi Cloman

**6. Adjournment at 2:29pm**  
**MOTION: To adjourn.**

**Spruce Grove/Champions**  
**All in favour/Carried**