

FALL ISSUE

OCTOBER 2012

NEWSLETTER



As the Thanksgiving Holiday approaches,
more than ever our thoughts turn gratefully
to those who have made
our progress possible.

And in the spirit we say, simply, but sincerely



*Thank You and Best Wishes
for a Happy Thanksgiving!*



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me to become the new USTA President. I am so grateful for your trust and support and this amazing opportunity. Each of you are the backbone of our organization and I look forward to stepping in to this position and growing with the USTA. Your voice matters and as always you can contact the national office as well as myself at debbie41272@gmail.com with your questions and/or concerns. Good luck this 2012-2013 season!



Debbie Barber



There is a correction to the 2012-13 USTA National Calendar which has been posted on the web page, usta1.org.

The February 2, 2013, Tennessee competition will be hosted by

Mary Richardson, Columbia Athletics, in Columbia, Tennessee.

I would like to thank the USTA for selecting me as the winner of the George Nissen Memorial Award. USTA is such a wonderful organization, and Patti is such a positive role model. With the leadership of Patti, USTA is one of the top organizations in T&T. I am so honored for receiving the award and that the USTA Congress chose me. USTA has been such a positive experience through all my years of T&T. I have been fortunate to win many awards during my high school years, but winning the George Nissen Memorial Award definitely ranks at the very top of my list. Thanks again for this great honor.

Cory Barnes,
Canton YMCA Tumbling Tornadoes

To the USTA & NTJC -

Thank you for my scholarship I received at Nationals. I was so surprised. The scholarship will help me take an added class and have a few different choices I would not have been able to make. Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for recognizing me.

Analyse Ratkowski

WANTED

→ 4 Sections of Rod Floor

Ken Hamm, Maple City Tumblers
#309-221-6875

→ Used Double-Mini Trampoline

Deena Moore
deena@deenos.com

CONGRATULATIONS

Mike "Spanky" VanSpankeren, Gymnastics Etc, on his recent wedding!

Abby (Buchanan) Bacon, NTJC Judge, and her husband on the arrival of their son, Owen Ross!

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Dana Johnson, USTA Technical Vice President, whose father passed away recently.

The USTA National Team traveled to West Palm Beach and Orlando, Florida in August for their annual trip and clinic.

The USTA would like to thank all of the USTA Coaches and Natalia (former Cirque' du Soleil athlete & coach) who did a great job!

Also, thanks to Gymnastics Revolution for hosting the National Team clinic and work-outs.

National Team & Coach Thank You's:

Patti - Thank you for taking us on this trip. I know it had to be a lot of work to organize it and I thought you did a good job. Watching the Cirque show was so much fun, I'd love to watch one again sometime. I just wanted to say thank you for making this a trip I'll remember forever.
Brittni Thompson

☺

Thanks Patti, for providing us with the rides to and from the airport. Thanks also for providing the great time. My athletes had a good time too. The kids were so good and polite. It made me proud to be one of their clinicians.

Terry Wight

☺

Patti,

Just wanted to let you know I thought this was a great trip! As my first experience at a national team trip, I found the kids to be respectful, fun and easy to work with! I was surprised I even enjoyed chaperoning! :) Derrick and I truly had a great time! Thanks for all your help on the transportation to and from the airport and setting everything up!

Holly

☺

A special thanks to you and all of the other coaches etc. for taking great care of the kids on the trip. Katie and her team members had a fabulous time and we appreciate it very much.
Karen & Katie Sepe

Patti - Thank you for your generosity and contributions for a memorable U.S.T.A. National Team trip to West Palm Beach and Orlando Florida. As an athlete, I enjoyed the opportunity to enhance my trampoline and double mini skills with outstanding coaches. The memories of the trip to the beach, downtown Disney, and to see Cirque du Soleil La Nouba will last a lifetime. Thank you Patti for everything you did as I would not have had this opportunity without you.

Again, many thanks.
Sincerely, Karis Kovacs

☺



Hi Patti

I figure that all too often you get emails grumping, complaining, or questioning something. I just thought we wanted to let you know that this is Eliza's 5th year in competition and we get more and more excited for each new season to begin. Thank you to all of the USTA for making this great opportunity available for our daughter.

Eliza and Amy Herdes



PLEASE check your team membership information on the web. Be sure all the blanks are filled in. The email line contains a message to change it. If your email is not correct, you will not receive automatic emails.

2012 U.S.T.A. -Congress - Secretary's Report
September 30, 2012 - Rockford, Illinois

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Welcome to all of our members to the 2012. Thanks to all of our wonderful clinicians, demonstrators, judges, coaches, safety committee, ethics committee, technical committee, judging committee, and the executive board. We appreciate your support throughout our season, and look forward to the new season.
3. Introduction of Executive Board : followed; Debbie Moser, President, Patti Lingenfelter, Executive Director, Paula Grigsby, Vice-President, Dana Johnson, Technical Vice-President, Linda Billiet, Technical Chair, Gloria Herring, Ethics Chair, and Debbie Barber, Recording Secretary.
4. Agenda: Motion to move the election of officers to 11:30. The motion was seconded and the change in the agenda was noted, so a motion carried to approve the revised agenda._
5. Secretary's Report: It was noted that the secretary's report was on file at the national office, and reported in the newsletter and can be found on line as well. It was open to the floor for any questions, a motion to accept the minutes and the motion was approved.
6. Treasurer's Report: was provided for each member in attendance and was open to the floor for any questions and/or comments regarding the report. It was also noted that the report is also on file at the national office. Motion was made and approved to accept the treasurers' report.
7. **2012 USTA National Championships**: Hosted by the Kris' Power Tumbling, in Madison, WI. There were 126 teams in attendance, with 2,300 athletes. The ticket sales indicated 3,500 spectators for the event and generated 24 million dollars worth of revenue for the city of Madison, Wisconsin.
8. **2013 USTA National Championships**: June 18-22, 2013 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida hosted by the Executive Board. Hotel information was again provided and words of encouragement were given about location in regards to meet site proximity. All information will be available on the USTA website. There are some discussions of moving the day of syncro trampoline to a different day than what is listed in the tentative schedule. Additional conversations are being explored to have an Open House-Reception in lieu of bringing back a mini-congress during this event.
9. **2013 USTA National Congress**: Waterfront Convention Center, Bettendorf, IA-September 27-29, 2013.
10. Safety Committee Report:
 - Safety certification is required and is valid for 4 years. Safety Certification is available online.
 - Thanked the safety committee for their work.
11. Ethics Committee Report:
 - Communication and Solicitation between clubs and athletes.
 - Social Media Monitoring
 - Thanked the ethics committee for their work and being available whenever needed.
12. NTJC Committee Report: Thanked the NTJC Committee. Service Gifts were recognized for the judges that had 5, 15, and 20 years of service with USTA.
13. Roll Call was given at this time with 50 voting members present at the meeting.
14. Technical Committee Report: 6 Committee Members will be filled this year. If interested you must submit a resume by November 1, 2012 to Linda Billiet.
15. Proposals: Thanked the committee members for their work and dedication. At this time Linda Billiet reminded the body of the rules for proposal discussion and led the body into each of the 2012 proposals. Upon conclusion of all the technical proposals, Linda Billiet was thanked in leading us in a good discussion. All proposals passed will be included in the newsletter and handbook.
16. Election of Officers: Nominations went to the national office. Debbie Barber and Debbie Moser were both nominated for President, and Debbie Barber won the election for President. Linda Billiet, Technical Chair, was appointed by acclamation. Debbie Barber and Diane Peden were both nominated for Recording Secretary. Due to the presidential election, Diane Peden was appointed by acclamation.

17. AAU 2012 Junior Olympics: was held in Houston, Texas.
18. 2013 AAU & SOT Team Trials: Any team (at least one paid coach and athlete) that attended the 2012 AAU Junior Olympics is eligible to try out. AAU Stars of Tomorrow is members Beginner - Novice (open age division-top one female and top one male is selected) AAU National Team is members Intermediate-Advanced (open age division-top three females, top one male is selected). If placed on team, members will sign a contract that they will compete at the next two AAU Junior Olympic Games. This meet will be held at Noblesville, Indiana. February 16-17, 2013
19. AAU 2013 Junior Olympics: will be held in Detroit, Michigan at the Cobo Center (downtown), July 25-28, 2013.
20. Silent Auction Results: Winning bidders were recognized and each claimed their prizes.
21. Old Business: None
22. New Business:
 - Discussion was held to combine the region of Missouri and Southern Illinois. This discussion led to a motion to approve, and the motion carried, and was approved.
23. Adjournment: 12:00 p.m.

Submitted By: Recording Secretary, Debbie Barber

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2012 USTA Rules Changes

GENERAL

1. All sanctioned competitions **MUST** use a standard (universal) entry form which will be created by the USTA National Office. Clubs will email or mail this form to the meet director. Payment will be determined by meet director. Option to be started immediately.
2. Trampoline spotters must have an AAU Membership (Insurance) Pending AAU compliance. **TABLED UNTIL NEXT CONGRESS**
3. Remove the following rule, "All judges' scores within 0.9 pt. will be flashed and posted without discussion or modification."
4. If a meet director intentionally violates safety rules (including AAU and USTA numbers) when hosting a meet, they will not be allowed to sanction a meet the following year.
5. At Invitationals, a video other than the meet director's designated video can be used **if** the meet director's designated video does not record the pass or if there is not a meet director's video. In this situation only, the meet director has the option to review the first video tape available to use by the Arbitration Jury. If no video is available, the judges' decision stands and the protest fee will be kept. **NOTE: Previously, this rule applied to State, Nationals, & Team Trials only.**
6. **Stretch-out Mats at Competition: If a competitor is doing skills at or above their level on the stretch out mats, 3 coaches/judges would have to sign a complaint with the competitors name/age/level competing/ &team and turn it into the National Office after the meet to then be dealt with for the welfare and fairness of the competitor as well as fairness to all to make sure it is investigated & reviewed before a mandate is decided.**
7. **PROTEST: Arbitration juries may view the pass in slow motion.**
8. **Beginning with the 2013-14 Season, increase athlete memberships to \$15 and drop the \$3 surcharge for credit card payments.**
9. **Coach Attire - No hats will be allowed on the competition floor.**

EQUIPMENT

10. All meets have a white center line down the middle of the rod floor. This line is also to be numbered from the landing zone back to the start in one foot increments.

11. Novice - Elite: Tumbling surface will consist of carpet bonded foam with an underlayment of foam. The 2 layers should be a minimum of 3 inches thick and must be at least 6' x 84' rod floor. The 33' x 3' wide run-up will be flat/level with the rod floor. The wood run-up platform will be covered with vault carpet cover. Can have the option to have the rod floor extended out to a total of 117' with the 84' starting point marked. Recommended for Invitationals. Required for State, Nationals, & Team Trials. CLARIFICATION: If an athlete starts their pass BEFORE the marked 84' floor (in the run-up zone), the pass will be terminated resulting in a "0" score. There is no deduction for starting anywhere within the 84' floor.

12. Throw in mats required at all meets.

NATIONALS

13. Change the way the Over-All Advanced Team Award is calculated. Currently points are awarded for every place that an Advanced athlete places in the top 10. I do not think we should be giving points for a 10th place finish. I propose that we change it to top 5 places in each event

14. Sub-Advanced Tumbling at Nationals, there be a Superior Judge and a Difficulty Judge.

NTJC

15. Raise the hourly rate to \$15 - starting with the 2012-2013 season.

NATIONAL TEAM

16. Once an athlete qualifies for the USTA National Team, they must remain on the team which they competed for the during the team trials for the next 2 years UNLESS they appeal through the USTA Executive Board to change clubs.

17. National Team members are required to attend a minimum of 1 training camp per term during the course of their 2-year term as a team member.

GENERAL TUMBLING

18. A bobble step will results in 0.5 pt. deduction and termination (when applicable).

BEGINNERS

19. During the execution of a straddle roll, if the athlete's torso is not in the middle of the mat and their foot extends over the side of the mat with their heel off will result in a termination. Deduction: 0.9 pts.

SUB-ADVANCED

20. Each pass must consist of a minimum of two (2) somis and no more than four (4). (This replaces the level requirement of one pass with two somis.)

ADVANCED

21. For National Competitions, an 8.0 preliminary difficulty cap for the Advanced Level of competition and a 6.0 difficulty cap for finals.

22. At the Advanced level, whips may be repeated if/when finishing a completed pass with a 720 degree twist and/or rotation.

ADV/ELITE

23. Everyone that goes to finals will receive an award (i.e. 10th place ties advance to finals, but place 11th - will receive an award).

24. All advanced and elite aesthetic scores have to be within 1.0, not just the middle scores

ELITE

25. In addition to attaining the minimum difficulty and placing in the top 10, athletes must complete the compulsory pass in order to advance to finals.

26. Change the Elite Compulsory to Round-off, ff, whip, whip, full, whip, ff, back straight. This will help athletes learn to stretch and work in and out of whips. It will encourage setting and help them get ready for double backs

COLLEGIATE

27. Collegiate athlete must compete at the advanced level (with advanced requirements) in their event prior to Nationals.

HOUSEKEEPING

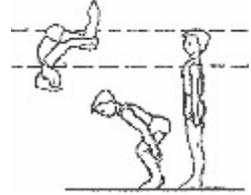
1. Page 13, Article VI. Last paragraph, strike the second line "HOSTING USTA COMPETITIONS" because it takes 10 members to be able to host a meet.

2. TU-p40 - #16 – Note: Will result in A termination, loss of skill, and a mandate to...."

The latest U.S.T.A. Clarifications

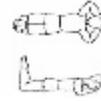
OCTOBER 2012

TUMBLING: The picture (left) is shown in the USTA Handbook with the notation that it does not meet the USTA shoulder height requirement which would result in a 0.3 major deduction; however, it DOES MEET the USTA shoulder height requirement.



TRAMPOLINE: What is the correct head position on a front drop?

ANS: The head should be neutral (facing down toward the trampoline bed).



DOUBLE-MINI: To give a clearer, proportionate idea of the double-mini landing mat deviation & distance deductions, refer to this picture. The standard landing zone is 6'x12'.

D-MINI	-1'-	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5
	-1'-	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	-0.4
	-2'-	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.3
	-1'-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4
	-1'-	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5
	- 4' -	- 3' -	- 3' -	- 2' -	

SEPTEMBER 2012

TUMBLING: With the new tumbling specifications, what deduction - if any, for beginning the pass in the marked run-up zone and/or not beginning the pass at the very beginning of the marked 84' tumbling zone?

ANS: Starting in the marked run-up zone will result in a termination (“”) score. The pass may start anywhere in the marked 84' tumbling zone.

The clarifications are continually being updated and posted on the USTA Web Page where you can print a full set of clarifications!



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A COMMITTEE?

USTA Technical Board - Two year term. You must be willing to be at the USTA Technical Committee Meeting which is held on the Friday before the USTA Congress each year and have access to your email on a daily basis for clarifications. If you are interested in being considered for one of the six positions, submit your resume' to: ustalinda@verizon.net NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 10, 2012.

USTA Safety Board - You must be willing to attend the Safety Committee Meeting held on Saturday during the USTA Congress. You must also be willing to participate in the responsibilities assigned by the Technical Chair. If you are interested in serving on the Safety Committee, contact Linda Billiet at ustalinda@verizon.net NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 10, 2012.

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2012 NTJC RULE CHANGES



1. Judges who do not room with another judge does not get reimbursed for ½ or the motel unless there is an odd number of judges (or men vs women).
2. Each judge must have their own bed (no pull-out sofa-beds) unless they waive that right.
3. Raise the hourly rate to \$15.
4. Develop a committee to create a point system to track judges continuing education and experience
5. Do not use seniority to determine who judges state, team trial and nationals.
6. Omit equal representation @ nationals for judges.
7. Develop a new criteria for re-certification.

THE JUDGES' SURVEY for the 2013 USTA National Championships will be posted on the USTA web page after January 1, 2013. If you want to judge Nationals, you must complete the form and return it to the USTA National Office by the deadline. Surveys will NOT be mailed.

CONGRATULATIONS NTJC SERVICE YEAR PIN RECIPIENTS

5 YEARS: Adam Garrett (SI), Colleen Kovacs (NI), Casey Marsh (IA)

10 YEARS: Penny Alexander (KY), Chris Allen (NI), David Quint (IA)

15 YEARS: Jerri Ann Bumphrey (NI), Pam Hemminghaus (SI), John Truelove (IN)

20 YEARS: Shelly Steiner (KY), Jeannette Waggoner (KY)

25 YEARS: Laurie Marselle (NI)

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the 2012 USTA National Congress. Again, we have received so many positive responses!

THANK YOU to our clinicians who did a GREAT job!

THANK YOU to the athletes who demonstrated for us!

If you have any suggestions or ideas for next year's Congress, please let us know!
