Texas Gymnastics Conference Constitution

Article 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be the "Texas Gymnastics Conference", herein referred to as TGC.

Article 2: Purpose and Objectives

1. To unify and coordinate the efforts of all people interested in furthering college club gymnastics.
2. To coordinate competition scheduling among conference members, including college and open athletes.
3. The establishment of an annually contested conference championship.

Article 3: Definitions

1) College Athlete - Any full-time or part-time student over the age of eighteen attending a post-high school educational institution.
2) Open Athlete - Anyone over the age of eighteen who does not meet the definition of a college athlete.
3) College Team - Any group of college athletes of the same gender that attend a single educational institution.
4) Open Team - Any group that meets one of the following definitions:
    a. A group of open athletes competing together.
    b. A mixed group of college athletes and open athletes approved by the TGC Board.
5) Club - The combined membership of a single educational institution that is either in the state of Texas (or outside of the state of Texas as approved by a majority of current Clubs) or a group of open athletes as designated by the TGC board based on geographic region.
    a. An active club must have at least one competitor the previous competition year and three competitors in the upcoming year.
6) Single Educational Institution – Individuals attend a single educational institution if they share the same campus, same application process, or have a letter of approval from that institution's Department of Recreational Sports.
7) Annual Meeting - A meeting shall be held once a year to discuss the state of the conference and member clubs. See Article 5c below for details regarding the structure of the Annual Meeting.

Article 4: Privileges

1) Privilege to Compete - Any college athlete or open athlete is eligible to compete at TGC competitions. If an individual does not meet either of these criteria, it is at the discretion of the Board and the Meet Host whether that individual is eligible to compete.
2) Privilege to Place as an Individual - College athletes are eligible to place individually in a division with other college athletes. This will be known as the "Collegiate Division". Subdivisions (for example Excel Silver, Excel Platinum, Excel Diamond, and Level 9) can be established at the discretion of the Meet Host. Open athletes and other individuals eligible to compete as determined by the TGC Board and the Meet Host are eligible to place individually in their own division. This will be known as the "Open Division". Subdivisions (for example Excel Silver, Excel

Platinum, Excel Diamond, and Level 9) can be established at the discretion of the Meet Host. Cross-gender competitors are eligible to place as individuals in the Open Division.

3) Privilege to Place as a Team: College teams are eligible to place in the Collegiate Division team competition. Open teams are eligible to place in the Open Division team competition.
4) Privilege to Vote: Each TGC club will receive one vote on each TGC issue. A representative for that club must be present at the Annual Meeting to vote.
5) Privilege to use TGC resources, including but not limited to promotion through social media and other outlets, TGC registration and scoring, and meet hosting assistance.

Article 5: Organizational Structure

1) Board of Directors
    a) The Board of Directors shall be composed of five voting positions (President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and two Directors) plus an Executive Director.
    b) Responsibilities of the Board Members
        i) The President shall be responsible for: Presiding over all meetings. Calling special meetings of the Board and/or Clubs whenever necessary.
        ii) The Vice President shall be responsible for: In the absence of the President, taking his or her place and performing his or her duties. Working closely with the President to assist in the smooth running of conference meetings.
        iii) The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for: The recording of meeting proceedings and their distribution to conference members. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for all conference funds and shall submit a detailed report to members of the TGC. If the Board expects to deviate from the annual budget by an amount greater than $500, it is the Treasurer's responsibility to propose an updated budget to the Clubs that can be approved via video conference or online poll by majority vote.
        iv) The Directors shall be responsible for assisting the Board.
        v) The Executive Director shall be responsible for: Assisting with the operations of the TGC as directed by the other members of the Board of Directors. While this is an elected position of the TGC, the intention is for this person to be a senior coach, judge, official, or mentor to the TGC to help provide continuity and efficiency in its operations and functions.
    c) Structure of Annual Meeting
        i) An agenda will be distributed by the President to the Clubs in advance of the Annual Meeting.
        ii) The Annual Meeting shall at a minimum consist of:
            (1) Approval of previous meeting minutes
            (2) Discussion and vote of meet schedule
            (3) Discussion and vote on rule changes
            (4) Discussion and vote on the annual budget
            (5) Election of the Board of Directors
    d) Election of the Board
        i) The Board Members shall be nominated by the Club representatives and elected by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting. Each Club will receive one vote for each position.
        ii) In the event of a tie, the election will be decided by the outgoing Board of Directors.

iii) Officers shall serve from their date of election through the following Annual Meeting. If for any reason an officer does not serve out his or her term of office, an individual that is elected to the position via a video conference or online poll by a majority vote shall replace him or her.

2) Clubs
    a) Responsibilities
        i) Fill out the annual survey
        ii) Send a representative to the Annual Meeting
        iii) Pay TGC membership fees
        iv) Represent the TGC in a manner that does not cause harm to the organization
    b) Penalty for failure to fulfill responsibilities
        i) May result in revocation of privileges of the Club or individual athlete at the discretion of the Board of Directors

Article 6: Meets

1) Meet Bidding Process
    a) Prior to the Annual Meeting, Clubs interested in hosting a meet during the upcoming competitive season must submit a meet bid. Information pertaining to the meet-bidding process can be found in Appendix A.
2) Meet Selection (Annual Meeting)
    a) The meet schedule will be voted on and approved by the Clubs at the Annual Meeting. The conference championship meet will be selected first, followed by an open discussion of other meets.
3) Responsibilities of the Meet Host
    a) Immediately following confirmation of the meet schedule, the Meet Host should request judges. If the host fails to request judges at least eight weeks prior to the competition, the TGC has the right to revoke the privilege to use TGC resources for that competition. If judges have not been assigned four weeks prior to the competition, it is the responsibility of the Meet Host to follow up with the assigner. After judges have been assigned, it is the responsibility of the Meet Host to contact the assigned judges with information about the competition. See Appendix B for guidance related to requesting and obtaining judges for TGC competitions.
    b) The Meet Host must contact teams four weeks prior to the competition concerning the meet organization (including specific competitor limitations that will be imposed). Any exceptions or modifications to these rules may be permitted with the agreement of all teams concerned. If the Meet Host fails to contact teams at least four weeks prior to the competition, late fees will be waived for that competition.
    c) The meet host must meet with the TGC board to discuss meet logistics at least four weeks prior to the competition.
        i) Meet rotation schedule must be approved by the TGC board.
    d) For a detailed list of Meet Host responsibilities, see Appendix B.
4) Responsibilities of Event Attendees
    a) It is the responsibility of the Club or individual open athlete to register on time and pay event fees.
        i) Three weeks prior to the meet date, a $10 per attendee late fee will be imposed. One week prior to the event, registration is closed, and additional entries will only be allowed at the discretion of the event Host and TGC board.

ii) Refund cutoff is four weeks before the competition date. Any athletes registered at that time must be paid for and cannot be removed from the roster.
iii) For all TGC meets except Conference Championships, there will be an entry fee of $15.00 per individual competitor and an additional $15.00 per team. Participants' on-time rosters are due three weeks prior to the competition, and meet fees will be charged based on participants' final rosters at the time of the final registration deadline, plus any changes approved by the meet host and TGC board after the deadline."
iv) For the Conference Championships, $20.00 per individual competitor will be charged by the host school. An additional $20.00 per team will be charged for those Clubs entering the team competition. All entry fees will be paid to the event Host unless otherwise directed by the event Director. The TGC will charge an additional $10 per gymnast based on the rosters at the time of finalization.
v) If after the registration deadline, an individual open athlete or member(s) of a Club are no longer able to compete, it is the responsibility of the individual open athlete or Club to contact the event Host.
vi) An athlete may be added or substituted in the team registration after the registration deadline at the discretion of the event Host and TGC Board.
vii) An athlete can't be removed after the late deadline without the approval of the TGC board.
viii) All payments may incur a transaction processing fee.

b) All teams must follow the order of events as designated by the event Host
c) It is the responsibility of event attendees to assist with tear-down after the competition.
d) At the discretion of the Meet Host, registration may be denied for Clubs or individuals for failing to meet the above responsibilities, including outstanding fees.

Article 7: Competition Rules

1) Competition Structure
    a) Requirements for all meets:
        i) All meets must have 4 women's judges per women's session and 3 men's judges per men's session unless an exemption is approved by the TGC board.
    b) Conference Championships will offer competitions for each of the divisions and levels listed below. All other TGC meets will have several competitions offered as outlined in their meet bid. Each competition will be defined by:
        i) Division: Open or Collegiate
        ii) Level of difficulty and discipline: Meets must select from the following:
            (1) Xcel Silver
            (2) Xcel Platinum
            (3) Xcel Diamond
            (4) Modified USAG Level 9 Women's
            (5) USAG Level 7 Men's with NAIGC level 7 additional skills list
            (6) USAG Level 9 Men's
            (7) Modified GYMACT Men's
            (8) See Technical and competition rules in this article for modifications
        iii) Registration Limitations:
            (1) A Collegiate Club or an Open Team can register six athletes to compete per event in all levels being offered.

(2) Each club may only register one team per level.

iv) Equipment and safety specifications, as well as Judge certification requirements, are inherited from the respective governing rulebooks (e.g. USAG Level 8, USAG Level 9, GYMACT). Eligibility rules such as age limits or maximum years of eligibility are not applicable.

2) Eligibility and Awards
   a) Team:
      i) College Teams are eligible to place in the Collegiate Division team competition.
      ii) Open Teams are eligible to place in the Open Division team competition.
      iii) An event score will consist of the top three scores per team.
      iv) All registered teams are eligible for team awards, as long as at least three competitors mount each apparatus.
   b) Individual:
      i) College Athletes are eligible for event and all-around (AA) awards in the Collegiate Division.
      ii) Open Athletes are eligible for event and AA awards in the Open Division Competition.
      iii) A competitor must mount an apparatus to be eligible for an award for that apparatus.
      iv) A competitor must mount all apparatus to be eligible for an AA award.
   c) Tie-breaking Procedure
      i) Individual events will be determined by the highest AA. If AA is tied, then by the next highest event, and so on.
      ii) AA will be determined by the highest individual event score. In the event that is tied, the second highest, and so on.
      iii) Team will be determined by the highest total score on a single team event. If that is tied then the second highest team-event score and so on.
   d) Award Logistics:
      i) The Meet Host is not expected to have extra awards on hand. The format for announcing awards will follow “Tied for third, receiving fourth”.
      ii) The Meet Host shall be required to provide physical meet awards for all places awarded, including team and individual awards. All “awards” must be physical in a form that can presented to teams or individuals at the time of the meet.
      iii) Physical awards shall be given for each discipline, division, and level offered at the competition according to the following guidelines:
         (1) Individual Awards:
            (a) If there are less than or equal to three competitors eligible for an award on a given event or AA, the Meet Host has the discretion to determine how many individuals to award.
            (b) If there are greater than three but less than six competitors eligible for an award on a given event or AA, the Meet Host will award the top 50% of the eligible competitors.
            (c) If there are greater than or equal to six competitors eligible for an award on a given event or AA the Meet Host will award at least the top three, but not more than 50% of the eligible competitors.

(2) Team Awards:
    (a) If there are less than or equal to three teams eligible for an award, the Meet Host has the discretion to determine how many teams to award, but must at least award the top team.
    (b) If there are more than three teams eligible for an award, the Meet Host will award the top three teams. All awarded teams and athletes should receive a physical award if offered.

3) Men's Technical Rules and Competition Rules
    a) There will be a division governed by USAG level 7 rules plus the additional skills allowed by the NAIGC.
    b) There will be a division governed by USAG level 9 rules with no modifications.
    c) There will be a division governed by GYMACT rules with no modifications.
4) Women's Technical Rules and Competition Rules
    a) There will be a division governed by Xcel Silver rules with no modifications.
    b) There will be a division governed by Xcel Platinum rules with no modifications.
    c) There will be a division governed by Xcel Diamond rules with no modifications.
    d) There will be a division governed by USAG Level 9 rules with no penalties for D and E Skill Value. Connective Value and Skill Value will be eligible for bonus. There are no "up-to-level" composition deductions.
5) Judge's Compensation
    a) Men's judges shall be paid at the standard industry rate, plus an additional $20/hr for every half hour a session exceeds 4 hours in length.

Article 8: Amendments

1) This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of active Clubs at the Annual Meeting or via video conference or online poll by majority vote.

Appendix A

1) Meet Bidding Process
    a) Clubs will receive a meet bidding form via the TGC Club Reps listserv at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting.
    b) Clubs must complete and submit the bidding form at least one week prior to the Annual Meeting.
    c) Responses will be reviewed by the TGC Board and shared with other Clubs via the TGC Club Officers' Google Drive.
2) Meet Bidding Form Content
    a) Name of Club
    b) Date and approximate time of proposed competition
    c) Name and address of competition location
    d) Whether or not the Club is bidding for Conference Championships
    e) Number of sessions
    f) Meet format (Tradition or Modified Capital Cup)
    g) Appeal to have a higher meet fee: amount and justification (if needed)
    h) Disciplines, levels, and division offerings
    i) Award offerings
    j) Participant and number restrictions (if needed)
    k) Instances where equipment deviates from USAG/FIG Specifications

Appendix B

1) Meet Host Responsibilities to Judges
    a) Men's judges may be obtained by contacting the State Judging Director
        - ❏ Meet Host must contact the assigned judges at least two weeks prior to the competition. Meet Host must distribute information concerning the time, location, level of competition, and expected number of competitors to judges.
        - ❏ Meet Host must verify if lodging for judges is needed.
            - ❏ Meet Host must arrange for lodging if needed.
        - ❏ Meet Host must provide parking for judges at the event.
            - ❏ Meet Host must reimburse judges if there is a cost associated with parking.
        - ❏ If more than one session is scheduled, Meet Host must provide either a meal for the judges, or must provide compensation in lieu of a meal (see USAG Judges' Contract for amount)
        - ❏ Meet Host must provide a private area away from competitors should be provided for judges before the competition and in between sessions if applicable
        - ❏ Meet Host must provide payment in a timely matter.
        - ❏ If meet attendance is lower than expected, Meet Host must contact assigned judges at least <u>two weeks</u> prior to the competition to cancel the request. Once judges are on site, the host must pay the time requested in the contract.
    b) Women's judges may be attained by completing the request form found here: https://gymjas.com/tx/meetinfoform.php.
        - ❏ Meet Host must complete payment of the judge request ($5 per judge) for the request to be processed.
        - ❏ Meet Host must contact the assigned judges at least two weeks prior to the competition. The Host must distribute information concerning the time, location, level of competition, and expected number of competitors. The Host must verify if lodging for judges is needed.
        - ❏ Meet Host must verify if lodging for judges is needed.
            - ❏ Meet Host must arrange for lodging if needed.
        - ❏ Meet Host must provide parking for judges at the event.
            - ❏ Meet Host must reimburse judges if there is a cost associated with parking.
        - ❏ If more than one session is scheduled, Meet Host must provide either a meal for the judges, or must provide compensation in lieu of a meal (see USAG Judges' Contract for amount)
        - ❏ Meet Host must provide a private area away from competitors should be provided for judges before the competition and in between sessions if applicable.
        - ❏ Meet Host must provide payment in a timely matter.
        - ❏ If meet attendance is lower than expected, the Host must contact assigned judges at least <u>two weeks</u> prior to the competition to cancel the request. Once judges are on site, the host must pay the time requested in the contract.

2) Other Requirements of the Meet Host
    - ❏ Host is responsible for providing a scoring system
        - ❏ If the Meet Host is planning to use TGC resources to provide a scoring system, they must contact the TGC Board four weeks prior to the meet.
    - ❏ If there is a women's competition, Meet Host should provide an adequate stereo system with Auxiliary or Bluetooth on the day of the competition.
    - ❏ Host is responsible for providing individual and team awards as described in Article 7 of the Constitution.
    - ❏ Meet Host is responsible for properly separating spectators from the competition floor.
    - ❏ Meet Host is required to have a Meet Director to make announcements, keep the competition running efficiently and on time, be in contact with judges, etc.
    - ❏ Meet Host is required to supply several volunteers (TBD by Meet Host) to keep the competition running efficiently.
    - ❏ Assign at least one dedicated person each session to monitor teams and ensure athletes are rotating at the correct times to keep the meet running efficiently