



RG SPORT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE	25 November 2007
VENUE	GSNZ Offices
ATTENDEES	Jane Pow (Chair), Carolyn Barrett, Dana McDiarmid, Keita McGowan, Germaine Tang (for part of meeting), Margaret Woolf,
MINUTE TAKER	Jane Pow
APOLOGIES	Tracey Redhead (Co-opted member)

DISCUSSION	Declaration of conflicts of interest arising from agenda items
None.	
DISCUSSION	Review actions/adopt minutes from previous meeting
None.	
DISCUSSION	Introductions and Terms of Operation
<p>Each member of the Committee briefly introduced herself to the other members.</p> <p>Jane set some guidelines for the terms of operation of the committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed discussions are to remain confidential between committee members and not discussed with third parties, unless specifically agreed. • Each committee member is to be given the opportunity to speak openly with respect from all other members. • Any disagreements between committee members must be set aside at the conclusion of each meeting. 	

- Each member of the committee is to act in the best interests of every gymnast, club, coach and official in the country without any bias towards a particular club or individual.

Jane advised members that GSNZ would like them to sign a commitment letter, along the lines of the letters signed by Board members.

Actions Required:

Jane to prepare letters for signature by members.

DISCUSSION

Tours for 2008

It was explained that in 2008 GSNZ will organise two (2) HP tours for all codes (HP defined as finals, top 16 or at least top 50% finish). Any tours over this level will only be approved if they are critical to world rankings and HP results. This decision has been made in response to feedback from GymSports members to address problems in service delivery. Setting the tours early and in consideration of the resource available to service the tours, means that they can be managed effectively and that a high level of customer service is provided to GSNZ members.

On that basis, it was agreed that consideration should be given to gymnasts attending overseas competitions but that the tour must be organised and funded by their club. In cases where competitions are only open to gymnasts representing their country (as opposed to a club) they would be allowed to compete for New Zealand but the tour organising/funding would remain the responsibility of the gymnast and her club. It was acknowledged that there may be gymnasts from more than one club wishing to compete at a particular competition, in which case clubs could pool their resources.

It was agreed that a list of tours and events would be put together for use by the Clubs. It was noted that any gymnast wishing to travel overseas (whether for a club or NZ) must have the tour sanctioned by GSNZ. The request for sanctioning must go through the SDC for prior approval. Only the SDC Chair can submit tours to the GSNZ CEO for sanctioning. In the case of a higher number of gymnasts wishing to compete than the invitation allowed, a ranking system would be used.

DISCUSSION

Australian Nationals

The Committee agreed that a tour to Australian Nationals should be organised in 2008, subject to confirmation that New Zealand will be invited to send a team. It was noted that Gymsports New Zealand do not have the resources to organise or fund this tour so it would be fully self funded by gymnasts, coaches and officials, and would be organised by the SDC and the Team Manager.

A trial would be organised over the weekend of 12/13 April 2007 in Christchurch. Selections would be made for:

- A team of up to 4 Level 7 gymnasts
- A team of up to 4 Level 8 gymnasts
- A team of up to 4 Level 9 gymnasts
- A team of up to 4 Level 10 gymnasts
- Stage 3 gymnasts (the selection of stage 3 gymnasts would depend on the number of chaperones available)

- Stage 4 gymnasts
- Junior International gymnasts
- Senior International gymnasts

Qualifying marks would be determined prior to the trial. The format of the trial (whether one or two days) would depend on the number of gymnasts trialling.

Coaches with gymnasts wishing to trial should purchase a copy of the Australian RG Code. It was believed that this is available from GSNZ.

Prior to the trial a memo would be sent out requesting nominations for:

- Manager
- Coaches (at least 2)
- Judges (at least 2)
- Chaperones (at least 2)

Position descriptions for the above positions would be drafted and included with the memo.

Actions Required:

Jane to liaise with GSNZ regarding invitation from Gymnastics Australia

Jane to determine whether GSNZ have Australian Code for sale

Jane to book Olympia

Carolyn to draft selection memo

Dana to draft nominations memo

Jane to liaise with Dana regarding position descriptions

DISCUSSION

Stages and International Grades

Until the HP Advisory Group is selected and its 10 year plan prepared, there is some uncertainty as to the role of the RG SDC in selecting high performance gymnasts and developing pathways. However, it was acknowledged that decisions needed to be taken for the 2008 competition year.

It was therefore decided for the 2008 competition year to make selections of Stages 3 and 4, and Junior and Senior International gymnasts to form a "National Squad". Selections would be made as follows:

Stage 3 – letter of application (as for 2007). No cap on numbers.

Stage 4 – maximum of 10 gymnasts. Selection by trial

Junior International – maximum of 8 gymnasts. Selection by trial

Senior International – maximum of 4 gymnasts. Selection by trial. Pass mark of 40 to be achieved over 4 routines.

A memo would be sent to clubs detailing the selection criteria and setting the trial date for 12/13 April in Christchurch (to be held in conjunction with the trial for Australian Nationals).

It was noted that some gymnasts may be selected with a proviso that they are not to travel overseas for New Zealand.

GSNZ's policy is that gymnasts representing NZ wearing the silver fern should not compete unless they have shown at a competition that they are likely to achieve a place in the top 16 or a finals berth.

Actions Required:

Carolyn to draft selection criteria memo

Dana to prepare list of tours and events (including group competitions)

Committee to email details to Dana of any tours they are aware of

DISCUSSION**High Performance Memo**

The draft HP memo prepared by Cath was discussed. Minor changes were agreed for submission to GSNZ.

DISCUSSION**Nationals 2008**

Discussion took place as to whether a trial should be held for Pacific Alliance. In view of GSNZ's strategy relating to their likely achievement (stated above) and the fact that other overseas competitions were believed more suitable for the current gymnasts, it was agreed that no trial would be held. The committee were however disappointed to note that MAG were holding a trial for gymnasts who had not shown the required standard of achievement.

DISCUSSION**Nationals 2008**

Marie Stechman's email was discussed. The following was agreed:

- No Level 4 team event to be held
- Level 4 numbers to remain restricted to approximately 25 but selections to be based on a selection mark which would be set using results from 2007 competitions. No cap on numbers from each province.
- Level 5 and 6 numbers to be restricted to approximately 25. Selections to be based on a selection mark which would be set using results from 2007 competitions.
- selection marks to be set for all other grades in line with 2007.
- Apparatus finals to remain large the same. However, Junior International final to be open to Stage 4 gymnasts. For both Junior and Senior finals, the gymnasts scoring the top 8 marks would go through, with 2 S4 gymnasts being eligible for the JI final, and 2 L10 gymnasts being eligible for the SI final. (It was noted that it was not practical to include L9 in the JI final due to the possible disparity of ages.)

Actions Required:

Carolyn to email results from 2007 to committee for consideration.

Selection marks to be determined prior to commencement of 2008 competition season.

Jane to respond to Marie Stechman's email.

DISCUSSION**RG Code Handbook 2008**

It was agreed that the RG Code Handbook 2008 should be distributed as soon as possible. This would be largely in the same format as in 2007. Carolyn agreed to review the handbook.

Actions Required:

Carolyn to review 2007 handbook.

DISCUSSION	Participatory Programmes
<p>The importance of promoting well structured RG programmes into the wider community was noted. Margaret tabled the Primary and Intermediate Schools programme which she had drafted, and also the Incentive Awards Programme. It was agreed that both these programmes were necessary in order to promote the code. There was however uncertainty as to GSNZ's manipulative skills programme – what age group it catered for, whether it was in any way similar to the primary schools or incentive awards programmes, and when it would be released. Margaret offered her support in upskilling the GSOs in the programmes so that they would be in a position to promote them within their territories.</p> <p>It was agreed that Keita would ascertain the status of the manipulative skills programme with Nicky Donaldson and also what support GSNZ are able to give in promoting programmes into primary and intermediate skills.</p> <p>The Committee also noted its uncertainty regarding the future role of the Participation Advisory Group.</p> <p>Actions Required: <i>Keita to talk to Nicky Donaldson re Manipulative Skills/Primary and Intermediate Skills programme.</i></p>	
DISCUSSION	Future Priorities
<p>Priorities for the future were tabled as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Acknowledgement of volunteersCoach and Judge Education (to include upskilling re the use of D&A sheets)CommunicationGroup ProgrammesFunding	