



To: Men's Gymnastics Community
From: Dusty Ritter, National Junior Olympic Program Coordinator
Date: September 12, 2018

RE: 2016-2020 Age Group Competition Program Rules Update #6

The Junior Olympic Program Committee (JOPC) met September 6-8, 2018 and made the following changes:

1. Age determination for Level 4

An athlete who meets the requirement of being 6 years old on the age determination date of May 31, 2019, may compete Level 4. (example: an athlete who is 5 years old in September 2018, but turns 6 years old on or prior to May 31, 2019 may compete for the entire 2018-2019 season as a Level 4)

2. Competition Apparel Clarification

Athletes must wear competitive apparel (as defined in the age group competition program manual) on the field of play (competition area) once competition has begun. This means that it is permissible for the athlete to train or warm up without a t-shirt or competition top in a separate warm up hall. It is also permissible for the athlete to train or warm up without a t-shirt or competition top in the field of play until competition begins. Once competition begins, competitive apparel must be worn in the field of play. Competition apparel must also be worn during the warmup period in the modified capital cup format once competition begins since this format does not use a separate warm up hall.

3. Format Changes for the 2019 Junior Olympic National Championships.

A synopsis of the changes for the 2019 Junior Olympic National Championships are as follows:

- There will be no Opening Ceremonies
 - Academic All-American Awards will be presented at the respective Regional Championships
 - Service Awards will be presented throughout the JO Nationals competition.
- The total number of Level 10 (JO & JE) athletes qualified through the allotment system will be increased from to 362 (2018) to 504 (2019).
- Level 9 Junior Olympic Division athletes will have one session of optional competition on Thursday, May 2.
- Level 8 Junior Olympic Division athletes will have one session of optional competition on Sunday, May 5.
- Regional Team Competition for the Junior Olympic Division will be conducted in Session 3 on Thursday, May 3.
- The general schedule for the 2019 Junior Olympic National Championships is included on the next page.

- All other aspects of the Junior National Championships remain the same as 2018.
- The regional allotment numbers and qualification document for the 2019 Junior Olympic National Championships will be released no later than March 31, 2019.

Basic Schedule – 2019 JO National Championships (subject to change)

Wednesday, May 1

- **Official training in competition gym, assigned by Region for Levels 9 & 10:** final schedule TBD
- **Technical meeting for coaches:** TBD

Thursday, May 2

- **1st session Level 9 JO – optional routines**
 - Level 9 in the Junior Olympic Division will compete 1 day.
 - Individual Event and All Around awards determined
- **2nd session Level 8 & 9 JE – optional routines**
- **3rd session Level 10 JE – optional routines**

Friday, May 3

- **1st session Level 10 JO – Qualification to Finals**
- **2nd session Level 10 JO – Qualification to Finals**
- **3rd session Level 10 JO – Qualification to Finals & Regional Team Competition**
 - The regional teams will consist of the top 5 Level 10 Jr. (15 & 16 year old combined) and top 5 Level 10 Sr. (17 & 18 year old combined) athletes.
 - Competition format will be top 3 scores one each event will count for team score.
 - Additional information regarding JO Division regional team competition will be included in the allotment and qualification document.

Saturday, May 4

- **Official training in competition gym for Level 8:** final schedule TBD
- **1st session Level 8 & 9 JE – Technical Sequence competition**
 - Individual Event and All Around awards determined
 - Junior National Team announced
- **2nd session Level 10 JE – Technical Sequence competition**
 - Individual Event and All Around awards determined.
 - U.S. Championships qualifiers announced

Sunday

- **1st session Level 8 JO – *optional routines**
 - Level 8 in the Junior Olympic Division will compete 1 day.
 - Individual Event and All Around awards determined
- **2nd session Level 10 JO – All Around & Individual Event Finals**
 - Individual Event and All Around awards determined