

July 9, 2010

Dear members of Vermont USAG:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Vermont gymnastics judges. We want you to know that we are having fun watching and judging your gymnasts. We feel very fortunate to be judging in this close state, where we all care about this great sport.

We would like to have more involvement in planning the Green Mountain Cup. Since the facility at UVM closed, the GMC has been held at a rented gym space with rented equipment, at great cost. This past year, because of financial and scheduling issues, it was held at a Vermont gym. We propose the GMC meet be held in a local gym every year. The set-up time would be significantly reduced because most of the equipment is already on site. It would also be financially successful.

The Judges' share of the GMC proceeds fund several essential judging activities. Activities such as our State Judging Director's attendance at required trainings, and the purchase of required J.O. optional and compulsory books for judges, and payment of our NAWGJ dues. (All judges still have significant personal expenses such as their uniforms, USAG dues/fees and travel to clinics and the GMC, all of which are borne individually and not from the GMC proceeds.) The low proceeds received from recent years was causing a significant financial problem for the Vermont Judges, so much so that we discussed whether we could "afford" to continue to donate our time to a meet that provided us with so little financial return. For two years, there was even a "supplemental meet" at which some judges again donated time in order to have the judging association receive a portion of the meet's proceeds to satisfy our basic financial needs. For most judges, however, donating time to yet another meet is simply not practical given our schedules (all of us work outside of gymnastics), and not desirable, given our donation of time to the GMC.

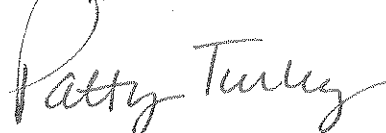
This year, the improved proceeds from the GMC highlight how financially successful this meet can be, similar to the funds we received when the GMC was at UVM.

We recognize that it would be ideal for the GMC to be held in a neutral site, but it is more important to hold the *State Meet* in a neutral site. A successful GMC makes that possible. GMC could rotate to those gyms that can logistically handle the weekend's event. The host gym should receive some remuneration, but it would be far less expensive than a neutral site with rented equipment. We could consider rotating the meet from the north to the south, every other year. A southern GMC might bring more participation from teams in souther NE or NY. If the GMC rotates between south and north, the neutral-sited State Meet could also rotate, opposite the GMC.

We are also interested in adding an unsanctioned Level 1-3 session to the GMC which could increase participation and exposure, if entries for the other sessions are low.

This letter is not meant to criticize past meets. Jill does an extraordinary job and needs more assistance! We want to help. Does a committee usually work on each meet? If so, can a judge be on that committee? We'd also welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal in more detail. Thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Turley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".