

IHSGGCA Minutes 11/27/2020

Attendance: Judy Harwood, Terry Theobald, Robin Straus, Kim Estoque, Bill Stone, Kim Estoque, Betty Axelson McClelland, Carlos Fuentes, Kristyn Campos, Alicia Rafferty, Hilary Calson, Kori Kronenberger, Jessica Bugajsky, Josh Levin, Elizabeth White, Hilary Carlson, Bob Todd, Jeff Wronkowitz,

- I. Call to Order: 8:00 PM

- II. Opening Reminders:
 - A. The start of the season and the subsequent pause has offered the opportunity to work in a virtual platform. The association has also seen an increase in monthly meetings.
 - B. The next meeting will be on Dec. 18th.

- III. IHSGGCA Special Appreciation
 - A. Judy Harwood announced the IHSGGCA Special Recognition for Bob Todd for his service to the IHSGGCA and high school gymnastics.
 - B. Mr. Todd has participated as a gymnast and an active member of the association and has remained involved in gymnastics even during retirement.

- IV. Virtual Practices
 - A. Judy introduced that ideas that were discussed during the executive board meeting of ideas for virtual practices.
 - B. Kristyn Campos shared a working document of virtual practice ideas for IHSGGCA coaches.
 1. This list will be shared with current members of the IHSGGCA
 2. The Downers Grove team had conditioning for at home workouts and modified conditioning for injuries.
 3. It also includes ideas for team building activities and ice-breakers.
 4. Challenges are also a way to start team workouts.
 5. Scavenger hunts and virtual team dinners are also a great option.
 6. Alumni talks can also share their experiences and continue to motivate athletes.
 7. Watching routines can help gymnasts get a better understanding of technique and judging. This may also develop efficacy for judging in the future.
 8. Athletes can also learn to read scoresheets.

9. Gymnasts can also do a drill or technique internet search to bring into the gym.
10. Kristyn and Carlos invited coaches to add to this document.
11. Some schools are negotiating a special agreement about coaching stipends. Some school districts have created an MOU that only internal coaches will be paid stipends this year. The above list is a great way to justify our coaching stipends this year.
12. Carlos added that this can be a great opportunity to develop assistant coaches. Podcasts, articles and Youtube videos are a great idea
13. Judy Harwood offered her assistance with athletes understanding the judging aspect of the sport. Discussion will continue about routine availability already on video.

V. Virtual Meets

- A. Josh Levin presented on a virtual meet platform. Virtual Stars has been using this medium for the last 4 years. They have used both pre-recorded and are now pursuing live virtual meets.
- B. Josh Levin and Robert shared some details about his program for pre-recorded and live contests.
- C. They are currently working with GymAct, a collegiate group, using live competition, judging and scoring. Virtual Stars have also worked with pre-recorded JO competitors.
- D. All-inclusive (judges payments, awards, etc.) pre recorded meets cost \$10 per routine. A live meet with expenses paid by the schools coast approximately \$2 per routine.
- E. Virtual Stars does have a need for IHSA Girls' Judges.
- F. Carlos added that schools could use a blend of virtual and live judging and this is an option that can still be explored. This would allow athletes to be judged by the same officials on a specific event.
- G. Virtual meets will have some constraints including recorded angles.
- H. Tracie Henry has approved Virtual Stars as a platform for meets however, IHSA judges will still need to be available.
- I. The Virtual Stars platform can also specify judge availability for specific events.
- J. A question was brought up regarding judges seeing the actual live routine. A school can still have a live stream of the school routines while also sending specific uploaded routines to the VirtualStars judges. Apple and Android devices also have timestamp technology available to insure live routines.

VI. Updates from the IHSA or Athletic Directors:

- A. There are two meetings approaching; Dec. 2nd and Dec. 14th
- B. There was clarification on some of the metrics for returning to activity (Tier Mitigation).
- C. Discussion from the judges clinic led members to believe that more information would follow the Dec. 14th meeting.
- D. Some issues of concern are potential start dates, the number of practices before competition, and the concern with finals interrupting the start of the competition season. In addition, a delayed start may shuffle the winter, spring and summer IHSA seasons which can also pose an issue with facility availability.

V. Final Reminders & Questions:

- A. Tracie Henry will be invited to the next Association meeting.
- B. Nominations for awards are due the week of regionals (date TBD).
- C. At this point, the senior meet is still running at this point in time. There may be an open division for athletes that missed out on the senior meet last year.
- D. The association is looking into switching banks for IHSGGCA accounts.

VI. Meeting Adjourned

- A. This is a member meeting so make sure to complete this year's registration.
- B. The next board meeting is Dec. 18th.