



GYMNASTICS ONTARIO

Gymnastics Ontario

Technical Rules and Regulations

**Section C:
General Competition Information**

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General Competition Information

The GO Meet Directors Course and Manual are resources available for Meet Directors, which provide the most extensive and up-to-date information on the successful running of a competition.

1) Event Sanctioning / Scheduling

- i) Any clubs wishing to host an Interclub, Provincial, National or International competition/event in Ontario must submit a sanction request to Gymnastics Ontario. Sanction requests are not required for GO competitions/events such as: qualifiers, selection meets, training camps and Provincial Championships.
- ii) Sanction requests are required for all Invitational competitions.
- iii) **ALL sanction request forms must be received at the GO office by November 1st for the current competitive season.**
- iv) A non-refundable sanction fee (as follows) must accompany all requests: \$50 per day of competition
- v) GCG Sanctions: International competitions/events must also be sanctioned by GCG. All invitations to foreign athletes, clubs and countries for such events must be approved by GO before they are forwarded to GCG. These competitions/events can be requested on the same form as the Ontario Sanction requests (Forms Section). This form must be completed and sent to the GO office accompanied by the GCG sanction fee made payable to Gymnastics Canada.
- vi) The Sanction must be approved before the Meet Information Package can be sent out by the club.
- vii) Sanction must be granted before a competition is posted on the GO website.
- viii) All sanctioned competitions should indicate “GO Sanctioned” on their Call-to-Meet.
- ix) Breaking Sanctions: If GO sanctioned competition rules have been broken, the Program Committee will investigate the matter and appropriate consequences could be applied, which may include a monetary fine.

Meet Entry Fees – Athletes

COMPETITION	REGISTRATION FEE	LATE FEE
Invitational Competitions	Determined by the Host Club	Determined by the Host Club
Qualifying Meets	Set by each discipline	Set by each discipline
Selection Meets	Set by each discipline	Set by each discipline
Ontario Championships/ Elite Ontario	Set by each discipline	Set by each discipline

2) Meet Schedule / Qualifying Meets

- i) Selection of hosts is done by the Program Committee through a bid process.
- ii) The purpose of these competitions is to provide an opportunity for Provincial Level athletes to achieve the standard necessary to compete at the Ontario Championships.
- iii) The schedule and athlete draw are completed by the Program Manager and or Program Committee. (as applicable in each discipline)

3) Meet Schedule / Selection Meets, Ontario Championships, Elite Ontario

- i) The schedule for all Selection competitions, Ontario Championships and or Elite Ontario Championships will be set by the Program Manager and or Program Committee. (as applicable by discipline)

4) Meet Schedule / Invitational Competitions

- i) All scheduling and competitive orders are the responsibility of the host club.

5) Responsibilities at Sanctioned Competitions

- i) The FIG Code of Points / Handbook, GCG Technical Rules and Regulations, G.O. rules, regulations, policies and guidelines regulate the role, responsibilities and the level of authority of G.O. staff; meet directors, coaches and judges at a competition. On site, it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that the competitive environment and the equipment comply with G.O. standards and specifications and that all participants abide by the rules and regulations.
- ii) The Competition Chief Judge (CCJ/JR) and Meet Director conduct a review of equipment prior to the start of the competition. It is recommended that any concerns be communicated to all coaches at the meeting prior to the start of warm-up.
- iii) During warm-up or competition, any safety and/or equipment issue should be reported to and addressed by the Meet Director and G.O. authorities (G.O. staff or designate and/or CCJ/JR). If the issue cannot be resolved by the Meet Director, and applicable G.O. authority, then the matter must be addressed and resolved by a Competition Risk Management Panel consisting of 3 members that include: 1) CCJ/JR, 2) G.O. authority, and 3) one other individual (a coach or judge identified by the CCJ/JR in conjunction with G.O. authority if present). If a G.O. authority is not available then a replacement member will be selected in the order listed as follows:

WAG

- 1) Program Chair
- 2) Judging Subcommittee Chair
- 3) National Coaching Chair
- 4) Level 5-9 Coaching Chair
- 5) Level 2-5 Coaching Chair
- 6) Member, Program Committee
- 7) Highest Ranking Judge

MAG/RG/TNT

- 1) Program Chair
- 2) Nat'l/Prov'l Judging Member, Program Committee
- 3) National Coaching Member, Program Committee
- 4) Provincial Coaching Member, Program Committee
- 5) Member, Program Committee
- 6) Highest Ranking Judge

The Risk Management Panel can consult with other parties as they deem necessary in order to make the appropriate decision.

5.1) **Responsibilities at GO Competitions**

The Host Club (Head Coach/Meet Director) has the responsibility to ensure that a safe and adequate competitive environment is provided for the participants. It is recommended that the equipment and competition layout be provided to the GO Program Manager for review and approval. The use of a standard equipment check list is recommended. GO is to be contacted in any case where a proposed Host is unable to provide a competitive environment in accordance with the existing GO equipment standards, specifications and safety guidelines.

5.2) **Responsibilities at Club Invitational**

The Host Club / Organizing Committee (Head Coach/Meet Director) has the responsibility to ensure that a safe and adequate competitive environment is provided for the participants. GO is to be contacted in any case where a Host Club is unable to provide a competitive environment in accordance with the existing GO equipment standards & specifications and safety guidelines.

6) **Judges**

- i) All GO Sanctioned invitational events must use **GO sanctioned judges ONLY**. Minimum requirements are dictated in each discipline and must be adhered to. Failure to meet these standards for competition will be reported in the Judges Competition Report and reported to the Program Manager and Technical Director. Appropriate steps will be taken before awarding sanction for the meet in the following season.
- ii) The Judging Program Assistant / Judging Committee / Judging Coordinator will assign a minimum number of judges per panel (as per each discipline). The maximum number will be assigned when available, for all GO Program Meets.
- iii) Honorarium and Travel Reimbursements will be determined according to GO policy.

6.1) **Assignments for Invitational Events**

- i) All judging panels for Invitational and Interclub competitions are the responsibility of the host club unless previously agreed upon by the host and GO.
- ii) For all Invitational competitions a minimum standard of judges must be met.
- iii) Honorarium and Travel Reimbursements will be determined according to GO policy

7) **Awards / All GO Competitions**

- i) The order of presentation will be events in Olympic order, then all-around.
- ii) Out of Province athletes are eligible to receive awards but do not bump Ontario athletes. Duplicate awards are presented.
- iii) See discipline specific section for additional information regarding awards.

8) **Music**

- i) For all Gymnastics Ontario program competitions a CD player must be available for floor routine music.
- ii) For all Gymnastics Ontario sanctioned competitions (Invitational Meets) the music capability (CD mandatory) must be indicated on the Call-to-Meet.
- iii) Each gymnast must have one (1) CD that must be marked with name, club and the length of music.

9) **Medical**

Accident Procedures

- i) In the event of an injury, it is the Meet Directors responsibility, in consultation with the Head Coach of the injured athlete, to complete a GO accident report form (Forms Section).
- ii) The completed form must be submitted to Gymnastics Ontario immediately following the completion of the competition.
- iii) The coach of the injured athlete must receive a copy of the completed form. An additional copy should be kept on file at the host club.

Blood on the Equipment

- iv) A disinfecting kit is required to be on-site at every competition as a precautionary measure in the event that an athlete's blood comes in contact with the competitive equipment.
- v) Additional Medical Requirements are outlined in Section D: Safety Guidelines.

10) Ontario Winter Games

- i) The Ontario Winter Games are scheduled to take place every two years. The Games are a project of the Ministry of Health Promotion and delivered through the Sport Alliance of Ontario.
- ii) The Ontario Winter Games is a team competition only.
- iii) Athlete selection criteria are established by each Program Committee.
- iv) Team awards will be presented to the top three (3) teams. Individual and all-around awards will not be presented.
- v) Funding criteria will be circulated upon receipt from the Ministry.

11) Canada Winter Games (Men's and Women's Artistic Only)

- i) This meet is held every four years.
- ii) Trials and preparation activities will take place prior to the Games. The host(s) for these events will be selected by the Program Committee.
- iii) The Canada Winter Games team of 7 gymnasts will be determined as outlined in the year of competition.
- iv) The CWG competition requirements are determined by GCG and are available on the GO, GCG and Canada Games websites.

12) Ontario Championships

- i) There will be an Ontario Championship for all categories each year.
- ii) All registration forms and fees are sent to the Program Manager/ Host (as applicable).
- iii) Athletes from outside of Ontario may participate in Elite Ontario and the Ontario Championships with the approval of Gymnastics Ontario. Such athletes are eligible to receive awards but do not bump Ontario athletes. Duplicate awards are presented.

13) Eastern Canadian Championships

- i) The Eastern Canadian Championships will include teams from the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI and Newfoundland and Labrador.
- ii) Each Province can enter a specific number of gymnasts per age group as determined at the GCG Easterns meeting for all levels.
- iii) All delegates (gymnasts, coaches and judges) must be registered with Gymnastics Canada and their Provincial/Territorial federations.
- iv) All team coaches must be certified minimum Level II NCCP for Provincial Stream categories and Level III for National Stream Categories.
- v) Ontario athletes will be selected based on the criteria set out by the Program Committee each year.
- vi) Coaches will be selected to accompany the team based on the G.O. policy for Coaches Selection.
- vii) Trip details (e.g. leotard purchase and cost-sharing for the trip, etc.) will be circulated with the initial meet information.
- viii) To qualify for a Team, athletes must compete on all events at the selection meet. Petitions will not be accepted.

14) General Information for Team Ontario Selection

Ties

- i) In the case of a tie for any team selection, the final team position will be determined by the total score of the best three (3) events.
- ii) If a tie still exists, the total score of the best two (2) events will be used.
- iii) If a tie still exists, the score of the highest event will be used.

Athlete Verification

- iv) All Ontario athletes selected to represent Ontario must go through a verification process to remain eligible for participation in the event for which they were chosen.
- v) Verification will take place using one of the following formats (to be determined by the Program Committee) within 14 days of their designated trip. Each team member will be responsible to submit a completed verification form (Forms Section) to the GO office no less than 3 business days prior to their scheduled departure.
- vi) One or two members of the PC or PC appointed officials will conduct a verification screening at the official team training camp.

- vii) One or two members of the PC or PC appointed officials will conduct a verification screening in the gymnasium of each individual. There is no honorarium payable to those individuals conducting the verification; however, mileage and/or meal expenses must be paid by the club.
- viii) If an athlete is participating in back to back travel opportunities, competitive performance at the first event will serve for verification of eligibility for the second.
- ix) If a gymnast has competed within 14 days of a GO tour or other designated travel opportunity, her performance at said competition may serve for verification purposes.
- x) When a formal evaluation cannot be completed due to time constraints, the personal coach of the traveling gymnast will be responsible for completing and signing the verification form (Forms Section), confirming the gymnast's status and ability to compete at the appropriate level.
- xi) The verification will consist of the evaluation of a full competitive routine on each event for each athlete. The use of extra mats, soft landings and spotting is acceptable. PC (Program Committee) members and appointed officials will make recommendations to the PC regarding the athletes' status. Any athlete not deemed 'competition ready' will be replaced by the first alternate by the PC.

15) Petition Policy for Provincial Qualifiers (WAG) & Ontario Championships (ALL)

i) **Purpose**

This policy sets out Gymnastics Ontario's petition procedures governing all disciplines relating to requests for exemption when a gymnast cannot attend the required number of Ontario Championship qualifying events as set out in each discipline's regulations.

ii) **Petition to Attend Ontario Championships**

A petition is a formal written request submitted by the club and or coach of the athlete to the specific discipline's Technical Committee, through the Program Manager at Gymnastics Ontario, for the exemption of established rule(s), regulation(s) or procedure. A petition is intended to provide an opportunity to account for extraordinary circumstances and to ensure that established rules, regulations and procedures do not compromise the athlete's opportunity to participate at Ontario Championships.

If a gymnast was unable to compete at a required qualifier as defined in the discipline specific appendix to this policy, because of medical, travel or extraordinary circumstances as described in "Section C: 15) Item iii)" of

this policy, the gymnast will be deemed eligible to petition to compete at Ontario Championships if the following criteria are met:

- a) Provincial level gymnasts must achieve the qualifying score and or rank to attend Ontario Championships for their discipline's level and category at a qualifying meet they attended as specified in the discipline specific appendix to this policy, and
- b) They must submit the required documentation and meet the required timelines as outlined in Section C: 15) Item iv), v) vi) and vii) of this policy.

iii) **Grounds for Exemptions / Petitions**

Not every reason is grounds for an exemption. Petitions for exemptions may only be requested if the gymnast was unable to participate in mandatory events or competitions due to the following;

- a) Medical Exemption; injury, illness or other medical circumstance, or
- b) Gymnastics Competitive Commitments; travel, or
- c) Extraordinary Circumstances.

iv) **Petition Submission**

The Board of Directors of Gymnastics Ontario has delegated the authority relating to petitions under this Policy to the specific discipline's Program Manager and/or Program Committee.

Gymnasts who wish to request an exemption will submit a written formal petition signed by their club or coach to the respective Gymnastics Ontario Program Manager which includes the following;

- a) Notice of their intention to request a petition and or exception within seven (7) days of having knowledge of the reasons for petition and or exception. Individuals must use the Petition Application form. The form is located on the Gymnastics Ontario website on the Forms homepage.
- b) Contact information of the gymnast, including their discipline, category and level, coach's name and their applicable club.
- c) An explanation and or detailed reasons for the petition and or exception.
- d) Incomplete and late petitions will not be accepted or processed.
- e) All evidence that supports the reasons for the petition and/or exception, including but not limited to Section C: 15) items v), vi) or vii).

v) **Medical Petition** (injury, illness or other medical circumstance)

Submit a standardized medical form which must be completed and signed by a medical practitioner verifying that the gymnast was not able to compete for medical reasons.

vi) **Gymnastics Competitive Commitments**

Submit a letter describing the gymnastics competitive commitment which must be completed and signed by the head coach of the athlete's club. Criteria for this petition is only that the gymnast was unable to compete at a qualifying meet due to participation at an out-of-province gymnastics competition where they are selected by Gymnastics Ontario or Gymnastics Canada as a member of a team representing Ontario or Canada in the discipline for which they are submitting the petition.

vii) **Extraordinary Circumstances**

Extraordinary circumstances include circumstances other than medical or travel as identified above and may include, but not limited to, family related death, religious or other extraordinary circumstances. A formal letter of explanation from the head coach of the athlete's club, with a supporting letter from a parent if relevant, with supporting documentation from the club must be additionally submitted.

viii) **Fit to Compete Form**

- a) If an athlete's petition was granted due to medical exception the 'Fit to Compete' form must be completed prior to their return to competition. The form is located on the Gymnastics Ontario website on the Forms homepage.
- b) The 'Fit to Compete' form must be completed and signed by a medical practitioner.
- c) 'Fit to Compete' forms must be received by the Program Manager a minimum of 7 days prior to the date of the petitioned competition; forms received after this due date will result in the gymnast's name being withdrawn from the competition.

ix) **Screening of Petition and or Exemption Request**

Petitions due to medical, travel or extraordinary circumstances will be reviewed and approved by the relevant Program Manager and or Program Committee. To ensure consistency in all decision making across all disciplines, all decisions relating to petitions will be reviewed by the Technical Director, in consultation with the Program Managers at a staff meeting.

Within ten (10) days, the specific Program Committee and or Program Manager, upon the approval of the Technical Director, will issue its written decision, with reasons. The specific Program Committee and or Program Manager may decide to;

- a) Reject the petition request, or;
- b) Assign another qualifying competition to the gymnast (if applicable to discipline), or;
- c) Approve the petition and select the gymnast as an additional entry to Ontario Championships. No gymnasts will be displaced from Ontario Championships.

Where a gymnast violates Gymnastics Ontario's Policies and Procedures or provides fraudulent misrepresentations, the specific Program Committee will have the discretion to remove the gymnast from the Ontario Championships, provided the gymnast is given an opportunity to be heard, and to replace the gymnast with another suitable candidate (if applicable to discipline).

x) **Appeals**

Any appeal against a decision of the specific Program Committee can be made in accordance with the Gymnastics Ontario's Appeal Policy.

Petition Policy Appendix – Discipline Specific

xi) **Women's Artistic Gymnastics**

Make-up Qualifier; If a required WAG qualifying event is missed due to medical, travel, or extraordinary circumstances as outlined in Section C: 15) Item iii);

- a) Gymnastics Ontario will use its best efforts to provide the gymnast with an alternate qualifying competition providing an alternate qualifying meet is available.
- b) Gymnasts unable to attend a 3rd qualifier are eligible to attend Ontario Championships with their scores averaged for the two qualifiers they attended.
- c) Gymnasts must submit the required documentation and meet the required timelines as outlined in Section C: 15) Item iv), v) vi) and vii).

Ontario Championships; If a WAG gymnast can only compete at one qualifier because of medical, travel or extraordinary circumstances as described in Section C: 15) Item iii), the gymnast will be deemed eligible to

petition to compete at Ontario Championships if the following criteria are met:

- d) Provincial level gymnasts must achieve the qualifying score and or rank to attend Ontario Championships for their discipline's level and category at the one qualifying meet they attended, and;
- e) The gymnast's score will be weighted equal to two meets where only one meet has been completed, and;
- f) The gymnast must submit the required documentation and meet the required timelines as outlined in Section C: 15) Item iv), v) vi) and vii).

xii) **Men's Artistic Gymnastics**

- a) If a MAG gymnast can only compete at one qualifier because of medical, travel or extraordinary circumstances as described in Section C: 15) Item iii), they must submit the required documentation and meet the required timelines as outlined in Section C: 15) Item iv), v) vi) and vii).

xiii) **Trampoline & Tumbling**

- a) T & T petitions for Elite Ontario Championships (National categories only), are to be submitted within seven (7) days from the last Ontario Cup for the athlete's specific competitive event.
- b) T & T petitions for Ontario Championships (Provincial categories only), are to be submitted within seven (7) days from the last Ontario Cup for the athlete's specific competitive event.
- c) T & T petitions for Canadian Championships are to be submitted within seven (7) days after Elite Ontario Championships.
- d) The T & T Technical Committee will not approve a petition for an athlete who has not competed at an Ontario Cup within the current competitive season with the exception of Senior National Team members who are currently ranked, and have achieved the national team standard on the GCG most current ranking list; petitions shall be considered provided they have followed the requirements in Section C: 15) Item iii).
- e) The T & T Technical Committee shall only review petitions when the required qualifying score has been met from the 'Qualifying Round' for any T & T petition for a Provincial and or National athlete; scores attained in the 'Finals Round' shall not be considered, with the exception of DMT.
- f) An athlete will not lose their eligibility for funding if s/he is unable to attend Elite Ontario Championships (re: Section XII – Canadian

Championships 1. d) of the T & T Technical Rules & Regulations) because of participation at a World Cup or GCG sanctioned event.

g) Scores from Elite Canada will only be considered for petition purposes.

xiv) **Rhythmic Gymnastics**

Achievement of Qualifying Rank

- a) For a category with 8 or more athletes registered, the qualifying score will be a score from the Qualifier she competed in equivalent to the score obtained by the last athlete who placed in the top 60% at the same Qualifier in her category. (example, if the petitioning athlete competes only at Q2 in a category with 10 gymnasts registered, she must achieve a score equivalent to the athlete ranked 6th AA, or higher, and;
- b) For a category with 7 or less athletes registered, she must compete all routines appropriate to her level at one of the qualifying competitions.
- c) First Year Athletes; for gymnasts in the 1st year of competition, the gymnast must qualify in the top 4 All Around in her category if 8 or more registered in that category, or placed 1st or 2nd if 7 or less competitors registered in her category.
- d) As of 2011 Group Events are open, therefore they do not require a petition.