



## GENERAL GYMNASTICS DEVELOPMENT MINUTES

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021, 10.30AM

### 1. Welcome & Introduction.

#### Apologies

Suzanne Shaw – Barnsley Premier, Kate Storr – Grimsby, Charlotte Barker – Aireborough, Kayleigh Horne – Ecco, Alison Hickling – Allegro, Heather Clough – Stocksbridge, Gemma Powell – Graves

#### In Attendance

Helen Monks – Rothwell, Lisa Davis – NLGACC, Kirstie Whittles – Phoenix, Rachel Revell – Brumby, Paul Foster – Astre, Evie Lane – Eclipse, Gemma Mitson – Utopia, Tracy Ashton – Ashton, Peter Brooke – Goole, Christine Bowker – Greenhead, Cara & Josie Beatson – SIV Stars.

### 2. Update for GG Members on YGA Board

Progress was being made with several YGA Ltd documents. As and when they are ready for GG committee discussion, they will be brought to the meeting.

### 3. Website Update – Committee Executive Email Addresses

In action and running well

### 4. Education & Development Update (Evie Lane)

- Some Clubs are not yet back in their venues. Would it be possible to share training venues with other clubs for just a few hours a week until everything is fully open? Some clubs have already offered, but Evie will send out email other clubs in the region asking if they would be happy to share their facilities on a temporary basis.

- There is some discussion over different interpretations of the criteria. Suggested holding workshops to go through everything to make sure everyone is working on the same page.
- Due to having many months away from the gym and not being able to support when clubs did eventually get back to the gym, some coaches may feel slightly rusty and not as confident with the spotting and supporting skills, a workshop could be held to go over elements, progressions, and spotting techniques.
- Could a GG Channel be created and linked to the YGGA website with videos of skills, showing set up drills through to final skill?
- **All suggestions to be considered and brought to the next meeting for clubs to discuss**

## 5. 2021 Competitions Criteria

### Boys Competition Criteria Approval

- Criteria has been through several drafts & re-drafts. The majority of skills are covered in the GG qualification and some skills require an MA add on or MA qualification to teach. This will be fed into the handbook and it will be made as obvious as possible. Ultimately it is the coaches responsibility to only teach skills that they are qualified to teach and if in doubt they should check with BG.
- Lisa will speak to British Gymnastics about a caveat on the competition entry process to check that qualification level matches skills.
- Some clubs did not feel able to contribute to approval of criteria having little or no knowledge of the mens skill set.
- It was suggested that there needs to be some communication between GG and the new MA Technical Committee. This has already been offered in the form of support from our Executive Officers. CB advised that MA are hoping to get some lower / entry level Men's competitions going at some point.

### Parallel Bars Criteria

- It was advised that the Level 1 MA qualification teaches salto dismounts.
- We have been assured by MA coaches that all moves that have been included in the criteria are on the MA L1 qualification.
- Safety is paramount & we would expect that clubs wouldn't teach skills that are outside their coaches' qualification. (LD)

**High Bar** – No Clarification requested

**Rings** – Salto Dismount, Dislocation, Inlocation – requests to check further on these skills qualification requirements.

**Pommel** – No Clarification requested

Vote taken on approval of skills suggested for Boys criteria.

**Vote – 8 passed / 1 abstain / 1 against**

**Criteria approved and passed by committee**

- One (PF) club still very concerned with the the skills put forward as in their opinion, some skills appear to be higher than MA level 1.
- It was suggested that as long as the guidance on skills and caveat are included, it should be OK. It's not up to us to police what qualifications the coaches have. (GM)

- The old GG L2 qualification from years ago covered multiple disciplines. Could put together some guidance and reference it back to BG. Could lead to CPD and furthering coaches' qualification. (HM)
- By highlighting which skills come under a GG qualification and which skills need MA qualifications as best as we can (considering different ages of qualifications cover different skills). This should discourage coaches from teaching outside their level of qualification before it reaches competition. However, we can only advise the clubs, but it is ultimately the clubs' responsibility to ensure that the skills their coaches are teaching are appropriate to their level of qualification. (LD)

#### Girls Competition Criteria – **Beam**

- The points already discussed regarding skills and qualification levels of the coaches applies to the girls beam criteria. Hopefully there is enough variation in the skills in the criteria that a good routine can be created without going outside coaching qualifications. The use of matting underneath the beam will be used to “lower” the height of the beam accordingly depending on the category. Some WA gymnasts or are using GG as a pathway into WA so some WA skills seem appropriate to have in the categories. (LD)
- The GG skills seem to be more difficult than the new WA criteria. (CB)
- Gymnasts may not be strong enough to compete all 4 pieces, which is fine for the GG competitions, they may compete only 3 pieces if they wish. This is not possible for WA. WA must compete all 4 pieces. (GM)
- GG have gymnasts that work hard on the skills they can do and produce some stunning routines and powerful vaults that are as good as anything you'd see at any regional level competition. (LD)
- The amount of matting should reduce the risk of injury if they fall off and the criteria is inclusive for all. (HM)
- Has it been considered to have 3 PC Floor, Vault & Beam competitions? Bars were not included in the 60's so we could revert back to that format? (CB)
- The criteria suggestions have been compiled following requests from our clubs for a four piece competition. It has been discussed to offer gymnasts the option of selecting from Bar & Beam as add ons (to floor and vault) or they can compete on all four pieces. They may have some gymnasts that are not particularly artistic but are very strong, so bars would be a good option for them. (LD)
- We have gymnasts who love bars and can execute bars skills but wouldn't qualify for WA and it isn't fair to exclude them from competitions by requiring that they compete apparatus that they aren't strong on. (HM)
- Some clubs are already working towards the new criteria. It is inclusive and the skills cover a wide range of abilities. (JB)
- WA is not a possibility for us at the moment, but GG is an excellent development pathway until we reach the point where we are able to enter WA competitions. (JB)

#### Skills

- Why is bridge in Cat. 5? (PF) Clubs asked for it to be included. (LD) We included skills that could be worked towards should gymnasts never really progress past the level they are currently competing at. (GM)

- What is the mini handstand? (RR) Could put something in the judging criteria to cover this, angle of split would determine which variation of the skill it is, and gymnast would be credited the skill accordingly. (HM)
- Is there some clarification on what the skills are? Could there be videos of what the end skill should be? (TA) We will consider this at Exec (LD)

Vote taken on approval of beam skills suggested for Girls criteria.

**Vote results Approval –8 Abstain – 2 Against – 0**

**Criteria approved and passed by committee**

Additional discussions about competitions

- Are the 2019 Floor & Vault criteria still the same (PF ) – It was confirmed the F & V criteria has not changed (LD)
- Will the Judging be the same as WA? Or are there different judging criteria for GG? (CB) The Exec. Committee will pull together the Judging criteria and communicate with BG regarding the GG Judging Criteria. There are WA Judges that attend the GG comps, and currently they work to the GG Judging guidelines. It is expected that the judging of 4 PC will have some cross over with WA. There are already judging courses for floor & vault. (LD)
- TeamGym – L6 & 5 are aimed at GG, and sometimes the competitions vary depending on what equipment the host venue has available. (PB)
- There wasn't the interest in it in this region previously and we had to travel outside of Yorkshire to attend comps. (KW)
- The BoC are looking to set up committees for other disciplines within the region. They have supported the Rhythmic Gymnastics and helped set up the new Technical Committee for MA. The next one they will be looking at is TeamGym. (CB)

#### 6. Hosting of GG Competition Events

- There is the possibility of adding a West venue if demand requires
- Aireborough, Eclipse & Dronfield had offered to host events pre-covid and lockdown and would be happy to offer their facilities to host upcoming events.
- Benefits of Hosting
  - It supports the region.
  - The host Club is entitled to up £1000.00 of takings on the door, anything over this must be given back into the GG kitty. Any money made on refreshments, raffle or any other fund raising goes 100% to the host club.
- Lisa will send out email giving clubs in the region the opportunity to host GG Events and clubs welcome to approach GG to offer their venue if they would like to get involved.

#### 7. Disability – Competition Route Update

- No further update (PD & CB).
- Entry level criteria are confirmed as included in WA. (CB)
- LD to investigate any further and update the disability pathway (LD)
- Date of Next Meeting
- Proposed date 18/07/2021.