North of England Trampoline Technical Committee

Committee Meeting 2021-09-16

Present: ARe, JRe, NCo, TCl, JTu, JYo, BPe, KTr, GOt  
Apologies: SWi

Minutes of last meeting - unanimously approved

Chairperson’s Report

As clubs went into and out of lockdown there have been no competitions for over 18 months. Nothing happened this year. This was reported verbally to NEGA AGM.

ARe has tried to determine which clubs are open/closed. Most clubs resumed training however not sure about High Voltage. No one present had any more information.

Treasurer’s Report

Kit refunds all processed. We received some complaints from parents who had turned down a refund and chose to wait for regional kit when things reopened. Due to the length of time COVID has impacted us for, the executive decided to refund all payments rather than supply kit.

Tscore has been renewed at £360 for 3 years. Medals need to be ordered – this has been approved but seeking updated costings. We should have enough medals for 1-2 more competitions.

The competition today went well however there were only approximately 20 participants. We need to be careful at future competitions with larger entries as we are responsible for taking suitable COVID precautions. ARe will email all clubs to request approximate numbers of entries anticipated for the practice competition on 7th November to aid in planning.

November club & regional practice competition will be held 7th November as the primary date. If numbers are too high for the competition to be held safely there is the potential to overflow on the evening of 6th Nov (compete as late as 8pm) or during the day on 21st Nov.

New structure next year – combining categories and out of age?

After lengthy debate about which age groups to run and which categories to combine (for economic reasons) the committee reached the conclusion that:

* All categories listed on the national TC structure will run including club levels, regional levels and disabilities categories.
* Wherever there is an upper age limit at any level we will run an out of age category with no upper limit.
* An out of age category will be added to all regional levels allowing age 7 and above in the year of competition to compete.
* As we anticipate an increase in the number of participants at club level, we will keep all levels of the club competition split (rather than combining club1 & club2 together as we have done in the past). As competitors will repeat the same compulsory routine twice, we will combine the male and female categories at club level.
* *Following the meeting it was raised that we have previously allowed participants who are 6 in the year of competition to be involved in the event. ARe sought further clarification on the updated age and competitive levels that BG permits. The guidance was found in the safeguarding policy and the executive decided to add a display event for children age 6 in the year of competition. This event will be exclusively for those turning 6 in the year of competition (older participants to enter as mainstream category). Each child will perform a 10 bounce routine. They will not be marked. No difficulty will be awarded. No places will be awarded. All participants will receive a participation medal.*

The question of COVID precautions was raised. The TC, as the organiser, has a responsibility to keep participants, spectators, coaches and judges as safe as possible. The venue also has a duty of care to anyone present. When seeking guidance we will consider competitions as large indoor gatherings.

The committee was unanimous in the view that competitions should be kept combined as they have been in the past and we should seek to make them feel as “normal” as possible whilst keeping people safe. It was felt that the primary risk came from spectators. If entries are large it may be necessary to spread the competition over a greater time period or multiple days to maintain a manageable number of spectators. All competitions in the 2021-2022 season should therefore have a primary date and potential overflow date published. We will determine whether it is necessary to use this once entries are in.

To avoid being charged for an overflow date that is not necessary we will need venues to permit free of charge cancellation when 4 weeks notice is provided on the overflow date. This may mean entries close further in advance of the competition than we have done in the past.

Competitions for 2021-22 will run early Feb (qualifier), early March (qualifier) and early April (final).

The region now has more flexibility to determine who will represent the region at the championships.

It was agreed that we would use the recommended execution scores as the minimum performance required to qualify. The first and second placed gymnasts who meet the requirement at the regional finals (April) will represent the region. If those participants can’t attend, we will proceed down the rank as determined at the regional finals. If both places in any category are not claimed at the regional finals, then clubs may apply for the squad director to consider performances from that competition season which have met the requirement. For example, if there were only 2 competitors in a category and one of those participants achieved the minimum performance score in February but was injured for the final there would be a vacant space on the team. The second place on the team may be allocated, at the request of the coach, on the basis of their performance in February.

Participants must pass the range and conditioning routine in order to represent the region.

The R&C routine will be assessed once per club in either February or March. If unsuccessful participants may be re-assessed at the finals in April. If the competitor does not compete in February/March when their club is allowed to have R&C assessed, they will not be given another opportunity to do so until the final.

It is possible that R&C will be needed at the final as the 4th tie break. If this is the case, both competitors must be re-assessed, consecutively, by the same panel, at the finals and the score will be used to break the tie. If, for any reason, a competitor fails to perform the R&C routine in this instance they will be provided a DNS and the other competitor will prevail.

Next meeting will be after Nov 7th comp and will be used to consider bids and agree dates & venues.

12:50 KTr and BPe left.

The regional schools will have provisional bids for January. Due to the conflict caused by previous years’ schools competitions we will require permission and recognition that NETTC is running it and we must be satisfied with the entry procedures. This must come from NESGA and from the school’s trampoline secretary. JRe does not wish to be involved in organising the competition. Cost increase to £10 per individual entry. Set up and down of the school’s competition regularly falls to the same volunteers who are no longer willing to continue. Clubs will be asked to supply staff (voluntary or paid) for set up and pack away that they may invoice for the services of those staff provided they are reasonable as determined by the executive.