



President's Update – January, 2024

To All NGJA Members,

The 2024 season is now underway with the USA Gymnastics Jr. Development and NCAA competitions in full swing. This will be a very busy year culminating in the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Below is a summary of each program and upcoming events:

1. NGJA Business

- a. Following a USAG regional restructuring, the NGJA will need to consider a realignment in its structure. Information will be shared in the next few weeks on the steps necessary to accomplish this task.
- b. 2024 is an election year for the NGJA. A full communication of the election process will be provided so everyone can prepare for this quadrennial event.
- c. As President, I am assigning Nate Dotson, Paul Evatt and Andy Zembower as designated election officials in accordance with the NGJA By-laws. This team will manage the election process. If you have any questions, please contact them directly at dotsonna@gmail.com, evattp@gmail.com, azembower@gmail.com.

Special Comment: All voting information will come from the NGJA.org website. Please make sure your profile is up to date. Double check your email and home address and all spellings!

2. **NCAA program** – the NCAA program is now underway and you can see results at roadtonationals.com
 - a. **NCAA Rules Modification document** - the 2023-2024 NCAA Rules Modification document has been published at ngja.com. Please make sure have reviewed this document before you officiate and NCAA competition. See NCAA preparation reminders on the next page of this newsletter.
3. **USAG Men's program** – with a little over 6 months until the Paris Olympic Games, here are the key events heading into the summer:
 - a. Winter Cup is scheduled for February 22-25, 2024, in Louisville, KY. Good luck to all the athletes, coaches and judges participating in this event.
 - b. USA Championships will be held in Fort Worth, TX, June 29 – July 2, 2024.
 - c. USA Olympic Trials will be held in Minneapolis, MN, July 26 – 30, 2024.
4. **FIG Updates** – the FIG has not finalized plans for the next quadrennium. Here is latest information we have:
 - a. The MTC will meet this spring to finalize the new COP.
 - b. Tentatively, it appears the FIG will go back to “in-person” Continental courses in 2025. On-line testing does not appear to be in the FIG's plans at this time.



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5. **Congratulations** – Congratulations to the NCAA Challenge winners!!!
- a. **1st place – Sticks are Amazing** – Chris Muenz, Kevin Muenz, Justin Muenz, Cameron Sweeny
 - b. **2nd place – Catemaven 2.0** – Juan Mora, Kenys Lucerna, Jenyelberth Herrera, Jorge Sandoval, Henderson Herera
 - c. **3rd place – Working Dogs** – Don Osborn, Andrew Sweeten, Arthur Thomas, Jacob Wade, Russ Young
 - d. **4th Place tie– The K-Team** – Tom Kutz, Num Kutz, Charlie Karza, Michael Ashe, Sho Nakamori
 - e. **4th Place tie – Don't Look Down** – Dave Johnson, Thomas Britton, Randy Gentile, Kent Itai, Quintin Peter

I wish each of you and your families a healthy and prosperous new year!

Mike Juszczuk

NGJA President

NCAA Preparation Reminders – If you are judging an NCAA competition, please make sure to review the following items:

1. The NCAA Rules Modification Document at NGJA.org - <https://www.ngja.org/ncaa-news/2019-20-ncaa-rules-modification-document.html>
2. The NCAA Supplemental Mat update - <https://www.ngja.org/ncaa/ncaa-main-page.html>

Below is a high level summary of the NCAA rules modification document.

- **Stick bonus** – this is the most common item I hear about from the coaches. Make sure to review these rules before each competition!
- All judges should review the official score sheet at the end of an event or competition.
- **Only head judges** are required to sign the score sheet at the conclusion of a competition. Your signature indicates you have checked the scores for accuracy.
- There is NO “0” vault or “dark pants” rule in NCAA competition.
- Make sure to review substitution (lineup changes) and injury rules.
- Compression sleeves **are permitted** to be worn by participants during the competition. The sleeve should cover the joint but not extend more than ½ way up or down the appendage.
- Review the broken handgrip rule.
- Ring height in the Rules Modifications document is incorrect. The **correct Ring height is 290cm** not 280cm. This will also come out in the Rules Interpretations document.
- Matting requirements – this is the second most overlooked and often abused rule and can determine the outcome of a competition.
 - If an additional sting mat is used on Vault, the competing team must mark the landing zone and align it properly on the base mats. Failure to do so is a 1.0 deduction.
- Teams are not required to provide “pre-comp” forms. Also, “pre-comp” forms don’t always reflect the routines performed.