

COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE MEETING

September 10, 2003

Chaired by Judy McGowan

Meeting was called to order by welcoming all and taking roll of committee members.

On the agenda we had five (5) action items and two (2) additional items, which were presented and discussed by all in attendance.

A suggestion from the National Coaches, presented by Sue Nesbitt, which could be a short-term fix for all items was:

1. Move Junior Nationals from the beginning of April to the end of May.
2. Move Senior Nationals to the end of March

A straw vote was taken to the concept of these suggestions and met with no negative response with the exception about eligibility for Senior from Juniors.

Each of the items that were discussed are listed below with suggestions to execute.

Item #2: Do our development programs feed into the higher level of competition?

Suggestion of the free combination routine could do to assist in this area.

Item #3: Do the coaches in your area use programs such as SNAAP to develop athletes?

Reviewed program with group at large and discussed how Canada's development program works. Overall consensus is that we need to market available programs better.

Item #4: Do any of our rules hamper the coaches' ability to develop their athletes?

- The length of the season makes it difficult to be properly prepared for each meet and too many levels of competition.
- Penalize teams with less athletes. Requested to be discussed by the Rules Committee to remove bonus points on team routines. When FINA rules apply, refer to FINA rules (with notification in meet information packets).
- Remove trios from Senior Open or have trios for all age athletes with no technical routine required so that we keep an opening for International outlook.

Item #5: Would the Free Team Combo be an appropriate event for meets other than US Open?

Yes, looked at Novice and or Intermediate levels. Participants were asked to get further input from Zones.

Item #7: Skill based competitions.

1. The need to focus more on figures. Figure meets within own club or association each month.
2. Figures different than figures in the routines (slow vs. fast).
3. Make figures an event like the routines are.

Items #1: How can US Synchro's competitive structure be revised to bridge the gap between the 13 year olds when entering the Junior Program, and also when they enter the 14-15 Age Group Program?

See Item #7.

Items #6: Intermediate Level: A/B Levels; End of season event.

Regional, Zone or National?

Action Item: Beginning in the year 2005 6, the date of US Senior Nationals Championships will precede the US Junior Nationals Championships. PASSED AS AMENDED

Report accepted with the action item passing as amended in the BOG on September 14, 2003