



AAU GYMNASTICS EVENT CONSIDERATIONS

FOR EVENT HOSTS, MEET DIRECTORS AND CLUBS DURING COVID RECOVERY

Each Meet Director and host club is responsible for implementing a meet format that will be in compliance with any local, city, county and state mandates and or recommendations as well as CDC guidelines to promote safety and wellbeing of athletes, spectators, coaches and volunteers. These are only recommendations and suggestions, not official mandates from any authorized agency or organization. We would like to clarify while it is intended for this information to be helpful as meet directors consider hosting an event and helpful for clubs to choose wisely their events, it is not intended to encourage meet directors or clubs to host or participate in a licensed event if local COVID-19 guidelines cannot be followed.

Possible Format: Do not be afraid to be creative.

2 events at a time – can possibly run all of one team and then the other – many options for bringing teams in graduated reporting times

- 1 judge per event
- Taking temps before entering
- Mask required for spectators as dictated by local, city, county, and state requirements
- Only 24 athletes per session
- 2 spectators per athlete allowed to attend or as many that can be allowed by adequate social distancing space as required by local, county state, CDC guidelines.
- Spectator being required to bring their own chair for small inhouse events and sitting in designated team areas first with family members second which might negate the need to constantly disinfect seating accommodations.
- Enter and exit different locations
- Awards being mailed out rather than having designated awards area which will require distancing and sanitation

Recommendations for Meet Directors and Clubs

- Publish your meet format prior to the event, making sure that participants, coaches, and their families know and understand the expectations and procedures of implementation of the meet.
- Limit gymnasts in each session and limit spectators- follow state recommendations on distancing guidelines. You must figure plan how many people you can sit in your facility while distancing and base the number of athletes on this.
- Screen and evaluate everyone entering the building when required.
- Post signs saying those individuals who have symptoms of Covid-19 should not enter.

- Masks for coaches, athletes, spectators, and volunteers – optional or required depending on current mandates of your area.
- Have hand sanitizer available on each event so gymnasts can use it before and after touching equipment.
- Try to keep teams separate – allow block touch on vault and floor so if there is more than 1 team in a squad, they can remain separate
- Sanitize mats between sessions
- Do not have unnecessary people on the floor or in the facility. (i.e. children of meet staff)
- Use different entrances and exits so that people attending different sessions are not in contact with each other.
- Leave time between sessions to allow attendees from one session to leave before the next arrive. You can also hold people outside until you are ready to allow admittance.
- Coaches and athletes must bring their own water bottles. No water fountains or stations.
- Consider having athletes bring personal chalk bags.
- Discourage coaches hospitality in lieu provide sealed snack bags and drinks for coaches.
- Consider meals for judges to be to be grab and go individually prepared and boxes/bagged options from local businesses. Notify judges of what will be provided prior to the event so that they can plan to pack a meal if they prefer.
- Concessions: control lines and only provide sealed snacks and drinks.
- Schedule out of town teams so they can drive the same day and do not need a hotel room
- Have on hand, extra individual chalk, masks, and other supplies that might be needed to keep rules consistent.
- Provide hand sanitizing stations for spectators

Awards:

- Limit interaction during awards, one suggestion is to have athletes sit in lines on the floor like they do at NCAA meets. The athlete can stand for recognition and coaches can pick up and distribute awards.
- Distribute awards to coaches and have them distribute at their facility
- Because of the circumstances, purchasing awards prior to the event might not be cost effective, therefore possibly consider purchase of awards after event and mail directly to each club so they can distribute them appropriately.

Judges:

- Judges tables are more than 6' apart – provide hand sanitizing products at each judges table
- An individual timer is not required to time warmups. The total time per number of athletes in a squad will be available. The floor manager be in charge and will work with coaches to ensure every athlete has adequate warm up time. We encourage coaches to work together to minimize equipment changes between routines or during warmups.
- Routines will not be timed therefore eliminating personnel to time and eliminating overtime deduction at all levels per AAU National Rules and Policies.
- Consider meals for judges to be to be grab and go individually prepared and boxes/bagged options from local businesses. Notify judges of what will be provided prior to the event so that they can plan to pack a meal if they prefer. Communicate what equipment they will have access to for their meals such as a microwave, frig, paper supplies, disposable eating utensils, etc. Providing a judges Per Diem for meals is also an option and inform them so they can bring their own meals.

Alternative Viewing Options – AAU Licensed Events

- All Alternative Options should include proper AAU Licensing and requirements
- Additional seating possibly outside facility at overhead doors or other available area
- Live streaming of events -
 - a. Facebook Live
 - b. Streaming Service
 - c. Periscope
 - d. You Tube
- AAU is not under Safe Sport policies therefore requirements and procedures dictating Live Streaming may differ from SafeSport. See page 47 L “[Waiver/Release/Authorization to Use Likeness, Names, Voice and Words in the Codebook](#). For AAU sessions in this situation, notification prior to the event would be mandatory so parents have the option to allow their child to compete or not in this scenario. On entry packet state by entering this event you understand that there will be live streaming of the event.

Information To Be Included on Meet Flyer For Licensing and Distribution to Membership

Information recommended to be included on meet flyer so that clubs will have adequate information allowing them specific information to decide or not if the meet meets the criteria as established by their gym expectations, rules, and policies. It is important to provide information necessary for a clubs, coaches, families, and participants to feel safe at all events.

- Meet Directors publish all meet procedures for implementing chosen meet format on flyer and pre meet info including any live streaming or event which might include but not limited to
 - Date, Location, Entry Fee, Team Fee
 - Contact information of meet host and link to web site if applicable where meet information can be found
 - Number of spectators per athlete may enter with spectator fee if applicable
 - Spectator seating accommodations – if they are to bring their own chairs
 - Mask Requirements if applicable
 - Refund policy due to cancellation of the event due to any unusual and unforeseen circumstances due to Covid activity or abnormal circumstances
 - Any specific information such as each athlete needs to bring their own water bottle and chalk
 - One or two judge panels and judge affiliation NAWGJ or other