



**2009 WOMEN'S JR. OLYMPIC
NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT (JO-NIT)
Held in conjunction with the Jr. Olympic National Championships**

To: All Level 10 Regional Qualifiers

I want to wish all of you a safe and successful Regional competition and to let you know of the qualification procedures for the 2nd Annual JO-NIT competition held in conjunction with JO Nationals.

If you finish in the 8th or 9th All Around position in your region, you are designated as 1st or 2nd alternate to JO Nationals. Many alternates travel to the competition in case one of the top seven qualifiers becomes ill or injured before the meet begins. The 1st and 2nd alternate position also qualifies you to compete in the 2nd annual JO-NIT competition. This guarantees 16 of the 24 spots per age group at the JO-NIT.

Some regions will be able to qualify even more than two athletes to the NIT, based on a percentage of all Level 10's competing in all 8 regions, so if you are in a large region, more than two athletes will qualify. This percentage will be determined after all petitions to the NIT have been processed and the information will be posted on national, regional and state websites after April 6th. There will be a maximum of eight (8) additional athletes per age division including petitions.

We ask that you and your coaches discuss this possibility and be ready to declare if you will attend the NIT **PRIOR** to the Regional competition for your age division. This will allow the meet host to announce the definite qualifiers at the meet, rather than having to call for alternates at a later date. If you do register for the JO-NIT but then are called to replace an injured athlete from your region, your NIT entry fee will be transferred to the JO Nationals.

Here is some basic information about the JO-NIT to help with your decision. By the way, if you are in high school and are interested in being recruited to compete in the collegiate program, the 2009 JO-NIT was very well attended by the collegiate coaches.

Dates: May 8 Training Day 8:00 – 10:30 am
May 9 Competition Day
(4 sessions: Sr. A/B 8:55; Jr. C/D 12:10; Sr. C/D 3:10; Jr. A/B 6:40)

Site: Dallas Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin, Dallas, TX 75202

Who qualifies?

Gymnasts ranked 8th and 9th All-Around in each of the 8 age divisions at the Level 10 Regional Championships qualify (provided they achieve a minimum AA of 34.00), plus any Regional Individual Event champions who did not qualify to JO Nationals or the JO-NIT in the AA will qualify on that event.

After the number of accepted petitioned athletes is determined, the remaining slots (maximum of 64) and any slots not filled by a region will be filled by other regions based on a percentage of percentage from Regional Championships.



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How do I enter the JO-NIT?

Athletes ranked 8th and 9th at Regionals will be placed on the JO Nationals entry list as 1st and 2nd alternate. No entry fee is paid to the JO Nationals meet host. If you (or any other additional qualifiers from your region) wish to enter the JO-NIT competition, you must indicate that at the Regional meet and your club must **enter you online as a club entry NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, APRIL 15th**. The entry fee is the same as JO Nationals - \$100. If you are called in to compete in JO Nationals, your entry fee will be automatically forwarded to the JO Nationals Meet host, Metroplex Gymnastics.

The link to the JO-NIT club registration is:

<http://www2.usa-gymnastics.org/membership/club-group-processing.html>

DEADLINE: Thursday, April 15th.

Alternates for the JO-NIT: The next two athletes in each region (#10-11, unless the region has more qualifiers due to the percentage) are named as alternates to the JO-NIT. If any of the JO-NIT qualifiers declines or needs to replace a JO National qualifier, we will call upon the next athlete in line to compete at the JO-NIT.

Questions??

**Contact Connie Maloney, Women's JO Program Director, at 317/829-5628 or
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