

ANNUAL CLUB SURVEY 2009 RESULTS

Q1

Club Name

Cheer Tumblenfly	Mercedes	Star Skills
College Park	My Playgym	Stellar Gymsports
Exmouth	Narrogin	Swan Districts
Flipside	NDGC x 2	T.J's Gymsports
Hedland	NRG x 2	Tom Price
High Flyers	Peel Dynamic	Vital Gymnastics
Jednorog	Rainbow Gym	WAIS (Assoc)
Jungle Gym	Ritmico	Warnbro YMCA
KA Gymsports	Roleystone	West Coast x 2
Katanning	Southside x 2	Western Cheer
Karratha	Southern Star	Wongan
Kununurra	Spirit Gymsports	
Lake Grace	Star-Mites	

From a total of 50 clubs 36 responded and 1 associate club responded from a total of 10 associates. This is a 72% response from clubs. Four clubs had two people complete the survey.

Q2

Position at Club

Response	Number	Percent
Owner	15	26%
Administrator	13	23%
President	6	10%
Head Coach	14	25%
Other Please Specify	8	14%

Other

Coach x 2
 Club Manager x 2
 Committee Member x 4

The responses were fairly evenly distributed across the categories of Owner (26%), Administrator/Club Manager (26%), President/Committee Member (18%) and Head Coach/Coach (28%).

Q3

How long have you been involved in the club?

Response	Number	Percent
1-5 years	22	55%
6-10 years	9	22%
11-15 years	3	7%
16-20years	4	10%
21+years	2	5%

The majority of respondents (55%) have been involved with the club for 5 years or less. 22% of the respondents for 6-10yrs and 22% for more than 11 years.

Q4 How long have you been involved in gymnastics?

Response	Number	Percent
1-5 years	10	25%
6-10 years	9	22%
11-15 years	4	10%
16-20years	5	12%
21+years	12	30%

The respondents involvement in gymnastics is fairly evenly distributed with 25% involved for 5 years or less, 22% between 6 and 10 years, 22% between 11 and 20 years and 30% with over 21 years involved in gymnastics.

Q5 Did you find the 2009 Calendar useful?

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	34	82%
No	4	9%
Unsure	3	7%

Comments

Colour coding is good idea x 2
 Sometimes difficult to understand / read x 5

The majority of respondents (82%) found the 2009 Calendar useful with the colour coding considered a useful addition. There were a number of comments regarding the calendar being difficult to read and understand especially if you don't know the correct event name. The calendar also doesn't reflect any changes made after the calendar is produced.

Action

Events on multiple days have been 'lined up' better for 2010 Calendar

Q6 Do you receive the weekly GWA Bulletin via email?

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	39	97%
No	1	2%
Unsure	0	0 %

Comments

I used to, but for some reason it stopped. i now just visit the gwa website for anything i need to know
 Very useful and great prompt to follow up other gymnastics matters
 receive 2 copies to my email address - would just prefer 1
 We have it sent to both computers, I only need it sent to me jennifer.pollard@bigpond.com not to the other one pollard.family@bigpond.com
 In country last year and did not have internet

Almost all respondents (97%) receive the GWA Bulletin via email. One of the comments made said '*Very useful and great prompt to follow up other gymnastics matters*'.

One comment said it is no longer received and two comments regarding receiving multiple copies.

Actions

Email sent to respondent on how to sign up for enews via the website
 Database updated so that email should only go to one email address

Q7

How often do you visit the GWA website?

Response	Number	Percent
Daily	9	21%
Weekly	15	36%
Fortnightly	4	9%
Monthly	13	31%

Comments

More often during competition season
 Format looks great, professional, easy to navigate
 not easy to negotiate

The GWA website is visited weekly by 36% of respondents and 21% daily.
 The remainder visit the website at least once a month.

Q8

What sections do you find most useful on the GWA website?

Response	Number	Percent
Latest News	24	22%
Events & Results	20	18%
Policies & Forms	25	23%
Education	23	21%
Gymsports	14	12%
Other Please Specify	2	1%

Comments

Great to have minutes available to keep informed
 All sections
 equipment for sale
 bulletin

The respondents reported the most useful sections on the website as Policies & Forms (23%), Latest News (22%) and Education (21%).

Q9

How many Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander participants do you have in your club?

Response	Number	Percent
None	15	39%
1-2	11	29%
3-4	9	24%
5-9	2	6%
10+	1	2%

Comments

Interest has been shown within the community
 None really -A few have 1 aboriginal parent though
 Nil, but migrants are growing

Fifteen clubs (39%) do not have Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander participants.

The majority of clubs (53%) have between one and four participants with only three clubs recording more than 5 participants.

Actions

There is an opportunity for GWA and clubs to include more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants. This will be included in the GWA GymAbility / Inclusion Action Plan and the role of the GWA Inclusion Officer in 2010.

Q10

How many Special Needs/Disabled participants do you have in your club?

Response	Number	Percent
None	14	34%
1-2	14	34%
3-4	4	10%
5-9	4	10%
10-20	4	10%
21-30	0	0%
30+	1	2%

Over two thirds of clubs (68%) have between zero and two participants with special needs. Only 12% of clubs have more than 10 members with a disability.

Actions

There is an opportunity for GWA and clubs to include more Special Needs/Disabled participants. This will be included in the GWA GymAbility / Inclusion Action Plan and the role of the GWA Inclusion Officer in 2010.

Q11

Do you have any feedback regarding the Judging Requirements/Fining System for 2009?

Comments

We found it very difficult during 2009 to field enough judges for each event because of the way the gymnasts were grouped with different levels in the same competition. (WG) Especially if the competitions were held on Saturday mornings.

Not in support of fining clubs as per the current method Judging requirements are way too difficult for even an above average intelligent parent to understand, making recruiting very hard on the clubs.

I find it very difficult and the system does not allow or consider larger clubs that do multiple disciplines. We have had issues with courses been cancelled because of the lack of enrolments, judges withdraw because of the amount of work required, stresses put on them by other judges etc. It is making us reconsider who and how many we enter into GWA events.

The system needs to be more clearly set out for people to understand. Last year there was a lot of confusion with different people's interpretation of the requirements, especially in WG, when it came to double panels and also when a particular level was split into multiple sessions. Some clubs were adding the number of gymnasts they had in both sides of the comp together (during a double panel comp), whilst other clubs were treating them as two completely separate events (as I believe they should be). Which is right?

Not really involved as a country club. Can be difficult to provide a Judge if we only send a coach/judge with one or so gymnasts. Particularly if sessions close to what we are competing in are not area's that the judge is experience/qualified to Judge in.

Club paid for all our accreditation of judges for 2009 and still could not meet the requirements set out in 2009. Some Clubs are too small, judges are hard to find and keep. Other clubs judge for missing judges but charge as well.

As a country club that has no judges and no prospect for judges or new coaches in the near future, the requirements for comps is very difficult.

We were always doing our best to provide judges by the due date but 3 working days was a very short period - particularly if some admin staff were part time.

Needs more flexibility for RG. As different Levels can be group together at a competition depending on entry numbers it has the potential to make it difficult to provide the correct number of judges.

At first I thought the fining system was harsh, but it seems to work and clubs are making an effort to avoid being fined which means a good judge commitment and support at competitions. I like the idea of clubs helping each other out.

Summary

The majority of comments received were not in support of the current judging requirements and fining system. Some of the difficulties to be addressed include;

- Grouping of athletes and levels, especially on Saturday mornings (WG)
- Difficult to recruit parents as the requirements are overwhelming
- Larger clubs operating multiple disciplines
- Courses cancelled due to lack of numbers
- Confusion regarding requirements eg double panels and multiple sessions
- Regional Club requirements difficult
- Judges hard to retain
- Three working days too short
- RG levels grouped together makes providing judges difficult

Actions

In 2010 GWA has implemented the following;

- Try to allocate athletes to assist clubs in meeting judging requirements.
- Clarified judging requirements further
- Updated Regional Club requirements to assist country clubs
- Increased the time from 3 days to 5 days to submit judges

Q12

How could we improve the Judging Requirements/Fining System for 2010?

Comments

More reminders for when registrations for comps are due via email even one the wk before would be sufficient

Judges need to be adequately compensated for their time. The requirements are becoming so difficult from a judging point of view that it is very hard to find parents who are willing to commit the time required to sit courses, keep up to date and in touch with all the changes, and attend competitions.

Reward clubs for doing the right thing - Stop fining clubs for minor oversights and mistakes Fine only those clubs who continually not support the system
Increase the number of gymnasts to reflect the team size i.e. one judge per team (six gymnasts)

Allocate number a judges per club according to the affiliated members

I think that it needs to be written down on the form what clubs will be required to supply during double panel and multiple session competitions (states only, as it is both team and individual and the same judges are needed for all sessions). Examples should be supplied so that there is

no confusion or chance of interpreting the requirements wrong.

Take control of all judges and pay them. Put the extra costs onto the competitions.

The fact that you only now require 1 judge for less than 10 athletes helps and I realise we are not alone but financially killing small clubs with fines will only make them pull the pin altogether.

Much happy to see that it is now 5 days. It is going to be extremely difficult for us this year with supply upper level judges as we do have some retiring.

I think the current system needs to stay in place until a better system can be worked out and implemented.

A list of who is prepared to do it for 2010

Find a way to reward clubs who provide judges for clubs they have no athletes in or those who provide more judges than necessary.

Credit points system. Flexibility in RG if 2 levels are combined in one session taking the number of judges to gymnasts ratio over what our club can provide.
More revision nights before competition (about 1 every 2 months)

Point system. If a club supplies more judges than needed at a competition gets a certain amount of points and will not need to supply a judge for a competition that they can not find a judge for

If a club offers volunteers eg. floor manager this should be taken into consideration when that club hasn't got enough judges

Recommendations

- Review Judge reimbursements
- Reward system for clubs – doing the right thing, supply judges when no athletes, supplying additional judges, supplying other volunteers

Q13

Do you have any feedback regarding the GWA Go for 2 & 5 State Championships held in 2009?

Comments

State Championships for us are a bit of a non-event. We believe State Championships should only be for the top gymnasts in each level. When everyone gets to compete the event loses a lot of the prestige we associate with a State Championship. Running MG and WG at the events makes the events and especially the presentations last way too long.

Well run event 2009 Would try to not start comps so early if possible Rotate who has to compete during school hours Coaches may have to coach all day, it would be nice to have a place they can eat lunch and have a coffee, they do not have the time to wait in line at the canteen.

Generally a good event

Concerning the club championships: the level 1 WG session went for too long for the little kids. Unreasonable to expect 6 year olds to have an attention span that long. Perhaps actual age groups could be held at different times?

Both Championships were run well. Was good not to have MG gymnasts in the same sessions!

We didn't have any major problems with State's this year. The biggest issues were with the Level 1B sessions being held during the day on Friday. I understand that because of the large number of entries that a daytime session was inevitable, but perhaps a higher level could have been chosen instead of level 1. No matter what you do, there will always be someone who complains, but i think that a parent of a Level 3 gymnast might be less likely to raise a fuss, as they are generally not new to the sport (or to States) and are probably more committed to gym comps than your average level 1!

Finishing competitions on time or early was a bonus.

Unfortunately having events on the week day stopped judges and volunteers to be able to participate. Work and school. Generally the two week event was well received by our club.

Having the comp during work hours makes it hard for some people to attend or help out.

Again very hard on small clubs when the kids in one level are split up stretches coach resources, lots of complaints about the cost from parents.

It was well organised and run.

Too much has happened since then but overall we felt it was better run in 2009

This event seemed to run smoothly with the organisation of GWA and volunteers.

Items from acro was good entertainment.

Only feedback is please don't separate athletes from the same club into separate groups because then we have to provide more coaches than we have available.

Did not like the fact that RG was spread over 2 weekends in September. June states was good.

Event ran good very noisy as the judges were next to the speakers

Found a little disappointing that they did not get a lot of stuff to put in goodie bags the club was doing from the sponsors but understands why a lot wasn't given out

To get the program out as soon as possible

Q14

How could we improve the GWA Go for 2 & 5 State Championships in 2010?

Comments

Less gymnasts. Shorter, sharper events.

Reduce session sizes for younger gymnasts.

More sports interaction, ie displays of different disciplines at each of the competitions

I believe the State Championships needs to have a bit more....what's the word....fanfare? Something to create a bit more atmosphere and make it a special day for all involved, not just those who walk away with medals. The show bags and shakers were a great feature when we had them years ago. The displays during the sessions were very popular with the kids and parents this year, so perhaps we could have more of those as well. The atmosphere at the WG Judges Invitational in 2009 was wonderful this year, with all the balloons, decorations, spot prizes and raffles.

Would prefer not to use pin-on numbers.

I'm guessing with Level 6 WG and all MG being at a different time it might be able to run in the two weekends only. Getting judges in worktime is not possible.

Children would like to keep their number as a memento

There is always room for improvement and this can only be achieved through experience.

Make it more festive and run prize questions when things are a bit stale or running behind while adding up scores so people don't get frustrated. A bit of comedy over the microphone!!!

Have a spectator season pass for entry fees.

Less parent volunteer as it causes too much drama behind the scenes

Not to run RG over 2 weekends

Everything was good last year

Hold the club levels over 2 weekends eg. levels 1 to 3 and then levels 4 to 10 they will be busier this year because of no state levels

Like the way 2009 was run but was a little bit long as tramp was over 2 weekends

More displays from other gym sports during the competition so that people who don't have much to do with other aspects of gymnastics can see what the other sports are about

Actions / Recommendations

- Create more atmosphere with balloons, displays, spot prizes etc
 - Offer Day Pass
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General Feedback

Another year only more paper work!!! More things to go wrong!!!

Other state run competitions where volunteers ran the event were problematic with various areas. Scoring (wrong results & reports coming out) due to inexperience of volunteers in this area. Music & sound system was also hard to operate. Floor managers were also confused as to how to run the event. This created a less than professional image for GWA. Need a "think tank" to improve this area.

I thought all GWA events were run well.

I have found everybody to be fantastic in assisting me in the setup of the new club.

I know things cost a fair bit with running of things, but can you please please keep these to a minimum, I was shocked to find out that now we even get charged for holding a workshop in our clubs if we want it to be sanctioned, if you want people to sanction their workshops to keep an eye on quality control. why not have the workshops fee free for clubs, the reason for my comment is that I cannot charge my coaches if I want them to come to a workshop I've organised.

Many thanks to GymWA staff for all the hard work.

This was my first year as President of our club and I found the information available on the website to be very informative and helpful. Thanks

The one concern that keeps popping up is the cost. Affiliation is high and even though parents realise the cost of equipment some can't see the value in \$16 per apparatus for less than one minutes use at competition and then have to volunteer their time as well. I think the extra time to get comp details out is great as we all have to organise accommodation etc, an extra week is good.

There is not much help for Clubs in the outback

Encourage more social events through clubs for all. We are suppose to be a community all loving or enjoying the same sport!

Find website very useful for information.

Didn't like paying the late fees for 2 competitions they did not get there entries in on time. Believes that it should be capped as small clubs struggle to pay the amount for entering the children late.

Only been involved a short time but courses attended where good

Like the way how tramp is now split into winter and spring. Would like if the new judges could sit behind the judges in a competition before having to judge one