

SUBPART C — JUNIOR DIVING PROGRAM

Article 20 — Structure: General

120.1 Structure of Junior Diving.

(a) **Program Goals.** USA Diving conducts a Junior diving program to provide a developmental diving and physical fitness program for the youth of the United States and to teach them the fundamentals of the sport of diving and the benefits of participation in athletic competitions.

(b) **Organization.** The USA Diving Junior diving program is conducted at nine levels of competition. These levels of competition are:

- (1) International competition,
- (2) Junior National Championships,
- (3) Age Group National Championships,
- (4) Spring East/West National Championships,
- (5) Summer Zone Championships,
- (6) Spring and Summer Regional Championships,
- (7) Association meets,
- (8) Club-sponsored Invitational meets, and
- (9) Future Champions meets.

(c) **Governance.** The control of these various levels is vested to Local Diving Associations, Committees, and other groups as established by the General Assembly of USA Diving in its *Code*.

(d) **International Competition.** The Committee for Competitive Excellence has been established to have the responsibility of overseeing international competitions and exhibitions for Junior divers.

(e) **National Competition.** The Junior Section, under the leadership of the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, has been established to have the responsibility of overseeing competition within the United States, especially with relationship to the Regional, the East/West Spring Junior National Championships, the Summer Zone Championships, the Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships.

(f) **National Championships.** The Junior National Championships and the Age Group National Championships have been established to give Junior divers who have developed their diving skills to a very high level the opportunity to perform their skills in competition against other divers from throughout the country. Direction for this competition has been vested with the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee. These meets must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. (See Article 26.)

(g) **Summer Zone Championships.** The Summer Zone Championships have been established to provide competition for the highly skilled diver in five large areas of the United States called **Zones**. These championships are used as a selection method for

entering the Junior National Championships and the **Age Group National Championships** and are under the direction of the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee. These meets must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. (See Article 25.)

(h) **East/West Spring Junior National Championships.** The East/West Spring Junior National Championships have been established to provide competition for the highly skilled diver in two large areas of the United States called "East" and "West." These championships are under the direction of the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee. These meets must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. (See Article 25.)

(i) **Regional Championships.** The Regional Championships have been established to provide competition for the skilled diver in 10 small areas of the United States called Regions. These championships are used as a selection method for entering the East/West Spring Junior National Championships and the Summer Zone Championships. They are organized and conducted by the Regional Committee under the direction of the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee. These meets must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. (See Article 24.)

(j) **Association Competition.** Each Local Diving Committee is responsible for the conduct and/or supervision of Junior Diving in its Local Diving Association. These meets must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. (See Article 23.)

(k) **Invitational Meets.** Invitational meets may be set up by Club Members and must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. Invitational meets may be combined with other meets as long as each controlling organization carries out its responsibilities for the conduct or control of its individual portion of the competition. (See Article 27.)

(l) **Future Champions Competition.** Future Champions meets may be set up by Club Members and must be sanctioned by the USA Diving National Office. Future Champions meets may be combined with Invitational meets. (See Article 28.)

120.2 About Competition.

(a) All rules and regulations as outlined in previous Articles shall apply to Junior Diving except as noted in these Articles. Articles or sections specifically pertaining to Senior Diving or Masters Diving shall not apply unless indicated.

(b) (1) Springboard competition may be conducted in each of the following age groups for both Boys and Girls: 9 & Under, 10/11, 11 & under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 13 & under, 14/15 (FINA Group B), 16-18 (FINA Group A), 16/17, and 18/19.

(2) Platform competition may be conducted in each of the following age groups for both Boys and Girls: 11 & Under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 13 & Under, 14/15 (FINA Group B), 16-18 (FINA Group A), 16/17, and 18/19.

(c) (1) At the Spring and Summer Regional Championships, the East/West Spring Junior National Championships, the Summer Zone Championships, the Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships the competition will be conducted in the following age groups: 11 & Under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 14/15 (FINA Group B), and 16-18 (FINA Group A). (See Articles 24, 25, and 26.)

(2) The Junior Regional Championship meet directors, at their discretion, may hold 9 & Under springboard events.

(d) Throughout the year a diver must dive in his or her FINA-defined age group (i.e. their age on Dec. 31 of that year). A diver may continue to dive as a 16-18 year-old until he or she has celebrated his or her 19th birthday.

(e) At all meets, including the Junior National Championships, platform, 1- and/or 3-meter events may be run simultaneously. Three concurrent events may be run if pool configuration allows.

(f) A diver may elect to take a zero on any dive, without prejudice, and remain in the contest. In Regional Championships, the East/West Spring National Championships, the Summer Zone Championships, the Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships any diver who has a total score of zero (fails a dive and/or elects to take zeros) on two or more dives may not advance.

(g) The meet director or meet referee has the authority to eliminate any dive if, in the meet director's or meet referee's opinion, circumstances exist which might place the diver in any danger.

(h) In the event that a diver has qualified in the preliminary or semifinal session and then is injured and officially declared by the referee and/or meet physician as unable to continue in Junior events, the next-placed diver will move into the semifinals or finals.

(i) Subject to matters arising under Article 64 (amateur eligibility), a contest shall be considered complete and the results final for all purposes one hour following the completion of the days events. Matters timely protested to the meet director or event referee, within one hour following the completion of the days events, are excepted. In Future Champions meets, greater latitude in application of this rule may be permitted up to a period of 24 hours following the completion of the last day's events.

(j) (1) Proper forms for bidding for East/West Spring National Championships, Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and Junior National Championships may be obtained from the National office:

Before October 1, 2008

USA Diving
Pan American Plaza Building
201 S. Capitol, Suite 430
Indianapolis, IN 46225

After October 1, 2008

USA Diving
Suite 800
132 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 237-5252; fax (317) 237-5257

(2) The East/West Spring National Championships, Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and Junior National Championships shall be awarded by the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE.

Article 21 – Entries and Fees

121.1 Fees and Entry Forms.

(a) (1) The entry fee to be charged for each event entered at the Age Group National Championships, the Junior National Championships, the East and West Spring National Championships, the Summer Zone Championships, or the Regional Championships shall be established by the Board of Directors after recommendation by the Finance and Audit Committee.

(2) Divers who qualify for the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships at a Summer Zone Championships are automatically entered into these National Championships but must pay an additional entry fee for each event upon registering for the Age Group National Championships or the Junior National Championships.

(3) Divers who qualify for the East/West Spring National Championships or the Summer Zone Championships at a Regional Championships are automatically entered into the East, West, or Zone Championships as determined by the Region in which they qualify (See 125.3). Divers must pay an entry fee for each event upon registering for the East, West, or Zone Championships.

(4) Entry fees for all other meets will be established by the meet director listed on the meet information material.

(b) Entry Procedures.

(1) Entries, including entry fees, for the Age Group National Championships, Junior National Championships, East/West Spring National Championships, Summer Zone Championships, or Regional Championships, must be submitted online by 6 AM (local meet time) 48 hours before 6 AM the first day of competition. No paper entries will be accepted.

(2) In the event a diver does not register online prior to the established deadline, the diver may still enter the meet on deck by paying a penalty fee which shall be established by the Board of Directors after recommendation by the Finance and Audit Committee.

(3) This penalty fee is to be paid in addition to the regular entry fee for each event entered.

(4) Entry deadline for any other diving competition is at the discretion of the meet director for that competition and shall be so specified on the entry form.

(5) Diving sheets submitted after the drawing for the diving order shall be considered late entries. The diver may still compete by

paying a fine established by the Board of Directors and, at the discretion of the meet director, dive first in the diving order.

(6) One hundred per cent of these penalty fees and fines shall be distributed to the meet sponsors. Enforcement of this rule is the responsibility of the meet director.

(c) Meet information and entry forms for the Age Group National Championships, Junior National Championships, East/West Spring National Championships, Summer Zone Championships, or Regional Championships will be distributed by the National Office at least 90 days prior to the meet.

(d) Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a fine of \$100 per day. No further sanctions will be issued to the host until the fine is paid.

(e) Meet results are due within 24 hours after conclusion of the meet to the National Office and Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, via email. All results of USA Diving sanctioned meets are to be distributed only to the National Office for publication.

121.2 Diving Sheet Procedures.

(a) (1) Each competitor at the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships must deposit in a designated entry box at pool side by 12 noon on the day prior to the competition a complete and final list of the dives the competitor plans to perform in the contest. These dives are to be listed on an official form as distributed by the meet director and either filled out by the diver in pen or computer-generated and signed by the diver.

(2) For Junior Regionals, East/West Spring Nationals, and Summer Zone Championships, the dive sheet deposit deadline should be 6:00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled start of the event and noon on subsequent days.

(b) Each competitor in all diving competitions is entirely responsible for the correctness of the statements on the list.

(c) This final list of dives must be signed by the competitor. The signed portion of the score sheet shall be considered the competitors official list of dives.

(d) When dive sheets are entered online the diver must verify and certify with their signature that the diving list is accurate. The diver may change the dives on the list up to the time specified for the dropping of dive lists without penalty and after that time up to three hours prior to the start of the event with a penalty as prescribed elsewhere in these rules. Failure to verify and certify that the list submitted online is accurate will be verification in itself that the dives on the list are those that the diver wishes to perform.

(e) In all diving meets other than the Age Group National Championships, Junior National Championships, East/West Spring National Championships, Summer Zone Championships, or Regional Championships, the meet directors, at their own discretion, may

arrange for a time different from that stated above for turning in the diving list for the convenience of meet procedure and/or the meet secretary. The deadline should not be less than one hour before the particular event and in all cases this information must be clearly stated on the entry information form.

(f) No changes are allowed to the dive sheets after three hours prior to the scheduled start of the event.

(g) The meet director or designee shall check the designated entry box at noon (6:00 p.m. for Regional Championships, East/West National Championships, and Zone Championships) to determine that all diving lists have been submitted. A grace period of 30 minutes will be given for entered divers to turn in completed diving sheets.

(h) Any time after 12:30 p.m. (6:30 p.m. for Regional Championships, East/West Spring National Championships, and Summer Zone Championships) the drawing for dive order may be made.

(i) Diving sheets submitted after the sheet deadline will be considered late. The diver may still compete by paying a \$15 fine and, at the discretion of the meet director, dive first in the diving order. The fee should be made payable to the meet director of host club.

(j) A diving list score form listing dives and signed by the competitor may be mailed by certified mail (return receipt as proof) to the meet director who will deposit it into the designated entry box if the mailing meets with the deadline requirements.

121.3 Correction of Dive Sheets. The meet director shall have someone available during all days of the **Age Group National Championships** and the Junior National Championships to allow the divers the opportunity to check and/or change their diving sheets up to three hours prior to the scheduled start of their events. A \$15 fee will be imposed for changing the sheet after submission deadline but before the three-hour deadline has passed.

Article 22 – Competition Requirements

122.1 Order of Dives. The order of dives to be performed by all divers in a contest is determined by the age group and the height of the board or platform. The dives will be done in the order specified in 122.2.

122.2 Springboard Competition.

(a) **9 & Under Boys and Girls (five dives).** The contest shall consist of three voluntary dives from different groups with a total degree of difficulty not more than 5.0 on 1-meter and not more than 5.4 on 3-meter followed by two optional dives from different groups.

(b) **11 & Under Boys and Girls (six dives).** For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers will perform three voluntaries from different

groups with a total degree of difficulty not more than 5.0 on one meter and not more than 5.4 on three meter, followed by three optional dives from different groups.

(c) **12/13 (FINA Group C) or 13 & Under Boys and Girls (seven dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers will perform four voluntaries from different groups with a total degree of difficulty not more than 7.2 on one meter and not more than 7.6 on three meter, followed by three optional dives from different groups.

(d) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Boys (nine dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a total degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for 1-meter and 9.5 for 3-meter, and four optional dives, from different groups.

(e) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Girls (eight dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a total degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for 1-meter and 9.5 for 3-meter, and three optional dives, from different groups.

(f) **16-18 (FINA Group A) Girls (nine dives)**. For 1- and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a total degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for 1-meter and 9.5 for 3-meter, and four optional dives from four groups without limit.

(g) **16-18 (FINA Group A) Boys (10 dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a total degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for 1-meter and 9.5 for 3-meter, and five optional dives from five groups without limit.

122.3 Platform.

(a) **11 & Under Boys and Girls (five dives on 5-meter only)**. Divers shall perform three voluntary dives from different groups with a total degree of difficulty not to exceed 5.4, and two optional dives from different groups. **The minimum degree of difficulty for optionals in Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and Junior National Championships shall be determined by the Junior Rules Subcommittee.**

(b) **12/13 (FINA Group C) or 13 & Under Boys and Girls (seven dives on 5- or 7.5-meter only)**. Divers shall perform four voluntary dives from different groups with total degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6 and three optional dives from different groups. The minimum degree of difficulty for optionals in the Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships shall be 6.4.

(c) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Boys (eight dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter)**. Divers shall perform four voluntary dives with total degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6 and four optional dives from different

groups without limit. At least five different groups must be used in the competition. The minimum degree of difficulty for optionals in the Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships shall be 9.6.

(d) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Girls (seven dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter).** Divers shall perform four voluntary dives with total degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6 and three optional dives from different groups without limit. At least five different groups must be used in the competition. The minimum degree of difficulty for optionals in the Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships shall be 7.2.

(e) **16-18 (FINA Group A) Girls (eight dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter).** Divers shall perform four voluntary dives from different groups with a total maximum degree of difficulty of 7.6, followed by four optional dives from different groups without limit. At least five different dive groups must be used in the competition. The minimum degree of difficulty for optionals in the Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships shall be 9.6.

(f) **16-18 (FINA Group A) Boys (nine dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter).** Divers shall perform four voluntary dives from different groups with a total maximum degree of difficulty of 7.6, followed by five optional dives from different groups without limit. All six dive groups must be used in the competition. The minimum degree of difficulty for optionals in the Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and the Junior National Championships shall be 12.6.

122.4 Choice of Dives. The optional dives may be from the same groups as the required dives or the voluntary dives.

122.5 Competition Requirement for Synchronized 3-Meter and Platform Events.

(a) A synchronized diving competition may be held at Invitational, Association, and Regional meets and involves two divers diving simultaneously from the springboards or platforms. The competition is predicated on how well the pairs synchronize their performance and on how well each performs the dives individually. In the 3-meter and platform events a team is composed of only two divers with no substitutes. The synchronized events are open to any age-group diver and members of a team may be from different age groups but are to be of the same sex.

(b) Synchronized competition format:

(1) This competition shall comprise rounds of dives: two rounds of dives with an assigned degree of difficulty of 2.0 for each dive regardless of formula and three rounds of dives without limit of degree

of difficulty. The five dives must be selected from at least three different groups.

(2) No dive number may be repeated in later rounds.

(3) The proper degree of difficulty will be used for each pair of dives without limit of degree of difficulty (optional dives).

(4) In the platform competition, divers may choose to perform their dives from any level of the platform, provided that both divers perform the dives from the same level of the platform.

Article 23 – Association Structure and Competition

123.1 Structure. Each Local Diving Association should conduct a closed Association Junior Championships. These meets may be combined with Invitational meets, including Senior and Masters events, within the Association or with another Association Championships. The Association Championships shall be open to all USA Diving Competitive Blue and Competitive Gold registered athletes of the Association and may include Future Champions events (not Limited Athlete).

123.2 Competition Requirements. The competition requirements for each age group shall be as outlined in Article 22.

Article 24 – Regional Structure and Competition

124.1 Regional Championships. The Regional Committee in each of the 10 Junior Diving Regions shall organize and conduct a Spring and a Summer Regional Championships. These meets shall be open to all USA Diving Competitive Gold registered athletes.

124.2 Summer Regional Championships.

(a) Regional Championships shall be conducted in each of the 10 Junior Diving Regions simultaneously at least two weekends prior to the Junior Summer Zone Championships. The dates for the Junior Regional Championships for two calendar years following that years Annual Meeting will be set during the Annual Meeting.

(b) Divers may compete in the Regional Championships of their choice.

(c) A platform event is optional since there is no qualification required for a Summer Zone platform event.

(d) Awards

(1) Medals will be awarded to the top 12 finishers in each of the events at the Summer Regional Championships.

(2) Team awards will be given for the Summer Regional Championships. Points shall be awarded to the top 12 places in each event as follows: 15-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-4-3-2-1. In the event of a tie, the points allocated to the tied place shall be added to those allocated to the next place or places, the sum divided by the number of divers

who have tied, and that amount added to the team score for each team.

(e) (1) The top **fifteen (15)** finishers in a springboard event who are U.S. citizens shall be eligible in that event only to compete at a Summer Zone Championships.

(2) Notwithstanding (e)(1) above, only divers who compete a full list are eligible to advance to a Summer Zone Championships. **Any diver who has a total score of zero (fails a dive and/or elects to take zeros) on two or more dives may not advance to a Summer Zone Championships.**

(f) Whenever possible, 1- and 3-meter **and/or platform** events may be run simultaneously.

(g) Divers who are 11 & Under and wish to **be considered for international trips selected from the Junior National Championships for competitions which have 11 and Under events** must dive in the 11 & Under events at the Regional Championships to advance to the Summer Zone Championships and the Junior National Championships.

(h) The competition requirements with regard to the number of dives to be performed are as set forth in Article 22.

(i) Meet directors should not make cuts at Regional Championships. However, if the projected finish time of the meet runs past dark in outdoor pools or unreasonably late into the evening, or if an unusual delay prevents timely completion of the meet, meet directors may impose cuts in the 16-18 events according to the following procedure:

(1) If there are more than 40 divers in an event, optional dives will be performed first, followed by voluntaries.

(2) After completion of the optional rounds, a cut to 24 divers will be made.

(3) There shall be no cuts in 11 & Under, 12-13, and 14-15 events.

(j) **Divers must compete in the Summer Zone Championships determined by the Regional Championships at which they qualified. To Clarify; athletes competing in Regions I and II qualify for Zone A, Regions III and IV qualify for Zone B, Regions V and VI qualify for Zone C, Regions VII and VIII qualify for Zone D, and Regions IX and X qualify for Zone E.**

124.3 Spring Regional Championships.

(a) Each Region shall conduct an open Spring Regional Championships during March or April for the purpose of qualifying for the East or West Spring Junior National Championships.

(b) Competition requirements with regard to the number of dives to be performed are as set forth in Article 22.

(c) Platform events are optional since there will be no platform events at the East or West Spring Junior National Championships.

(d) **Awards**

(1) Medals will be awarded to the top 12 finishers in each of the events at the Spring Regional Championships.

(2) Team awards will be given for the Spring Regional Championships. Points shall be awarded to the top 12 places in each event as follows: 15-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-4-3-2-1. In the event of a tie, the points allocated to the tied place shall be added to those allocated to the next place or places, the sum divided by the number of divers who have tied, and that amount added to the team score for each team.

(e) (1) The top six 11 & U, the top six 12/13, the top six 14/15, and the top six 16-18 finishers in a springboard event and who are U.S. citizens shall be eligible to compete in that event only at the East or West Spring Junior National Championships.

(2) Notwithstanding (e)(1) above, only divers who compete a full list are eligible to advance to an East or West Spring National Championships. **Any diver who has a total score of zero (fails a dive and/or elects to take zeros) on two or more dives may not advance** to an East or West Spring National Championships.

(f) There shall be no pre-qualified divers for the East or West Spring National Junior Championships.

(g) Athletes competing in Regions I, II, III, IV, and VII (as defined in Article 24, Section 124.7) at the Spring Regional Championships and qualifying for the East/West Spring Junior National Championships shall compete in the East Spring Junior National Championships. Athletes competing in Regions V, VI, VIII, IX, and X (as defined in Article 24 Section 124.7) at the Spring Regional Championships and qualifying for the East/West Spring Junior National Championships shall compete in the West Spring Junior National Championships.

(h) Divers may compete in only one age group per event.

(i) Meet directors should not make cuts at Regional Championships. However, if the projected finish time of the meet runs past dark in outdoor pools or unreasonably late into the evening, or if an unusual delay prevents timely completion of the meet, meet directors may impose cuts in the 16-18 events according to the following procedure:

(1) If there are more than 40 divers in an event, optional dives will be performed first, followed by voluntaries.

(2) After completion of the optional rounds, a cut to 24 divers will be made.

(3) There shall be no cuts in 11 & Under, 12-13, and 14-15 events.

(j) Whenever possible, 1- and 3-meter **springboard and/or platform** events may be run simultaneously.

(k) Divers may compete in the Regional Championship meet of their choice.

124.4 Site Selection.

A Regional meeting will be held during both the Spring and Summer Regional Championships. The site for the Regional Championships in two years will be chosen and reported to the National Office at completion of the meet. The Regional Chair or his or her designee will have minutes of the meeting taken which shall be submitted with the official meet results to the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, and the National Office. The bid procedure will be as stipulated below:

(a) The opportunity to host the meet will be offered first to the association within the region that has not hosted a Regional Championships for the longest period of time.

(b) The opportunity to host the meet will be offered to other associations in a succeeding order matching the length of time since they have hosted a regional meet, with the host of the current year's Regional Championships being the last offered a chance to host.

(c) The host site will be the first site which indicates a willingness to host and also receives affirmative votes from a majority of the coaches present from that region.

(d) Bids will go to the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE for East and West Spring National Championships, Summer Zone Championships, Age Group National Championships, and Junior National Championships.

124.5 Judge Selection.

(a) Judges may be selected either by a blind draw, a sign-up sheet, endorsement of a list prepared in advance by the meet director or the director's designee, or by requiring potential judges enter online with the designated meet management system. Insofar as possible, the pool of available judges shall be distributed so as to provide relatively equal geographic representation of the athletes and must be designated by team names or by coach name if diver is unattached.

(b) A Junior judge certification test will be administered immediately prior to or during the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships. Judges certification will be renewable every four years.

(c) Certification shall not be required in order to serve on a judging panel.

124.6 Referees.

(a) All events at the Regional Championships shall have three referees.

(b) A head referee, who must be Safety Certified and who may be on the judging panel.

(c) Two assistant referees, one of whom shall be on the judging panel and who shall be seated on the opposite side of the pool from the head referee when appropriate. This assistant referee will be responsible for indicating to the head referee by a raised hand that a

diver has failed a dive. When the head referee concurs with this assistant referee's judgment then a failed dive shall be declared.

(d) The second assistant referee, who shall be the announcer, shall notify the head referee of all observed errors.

(e) The dive shall be performed after the signal is given by the referee; such signal shall be given only after the referee has checked the indicator board or the computer printout. When the signal is given by the referee, the diver shall proceed to the starting position for his or her dive.

(f) For all takeoffs starting in a stationary position at the end of the springboard or platform in which the diver is performing a back, reverse, inward, or armstand takeoff, the diver shall wait until a signal is given by the referee to advance to the end of the board.

(g) An audible signal device shall not be used during simultaneous events.

124.7 Regional Alignment. The following Local Diving Associations comprise the 10 Junior Diving Regions.

Region I: Connecticut, New England, New Jersey

Region II: Lake Erie, Northern New York, Pennsylvania, Southern New York

Region III: Carolinas, Potomac Valley, Southern Virginia

Region IV: Indiana, Ohio, Michigan

Region V: Illinois, Iowa, Missouri Valley, Wisconsin

Region VI: Minnesota, Nebraska/Dakotas, Rocky Mountain

Region VII: Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Southeastern

Region VIII: Arkansas, Gulf, Northwest Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, Southern

Region IX: Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Southern Pacific

Region X: Alaska, Central California, Montana, Northern California, Oregon, Washington, Utah/Idaho

124.8 Future Alignment. At the beginning of each Olympic Quadrennial, the Regional demographic data should be reviewed and the Regions realigned if necessary. This realignment would establish the Junior Regions for that quadrennium.

Article 25 — Zone Structure and Summer Zone Championships Competition

125.1 Summer Zone Championships Schedule. Summer Zone Championships shall be conducted simultaneously at least two weekends prior to the earlier of the Age Group National Championships or the Junior National Championships.

125.2 Site Selection. The bidding and the awarding of these meets shall be consistent with the procedures established for Senior

events (See Article 11). The dates and sites of the five Summer Zone Championships, with back-up sites, for two calendar years following that year's will go to the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE.

125.3 Choice of competitive venue.

(a) Divers must compete in the Summer Zone Championships determined by the Regional Championships in which they qualified.

(b) Divers competing in Regions I and II qualify for Zone A, Regions III and IV qualify for Zone B, Regions V and VI qualify for Zone C, Regions VII and VIII qualify for Zone D, and Regions IX and X qualify for Zone E.

125.4 Awards.

(a) Medals will be awarded to the top 12 finishers in each of the event at the Summer Zone Championships.

(b) Team awards will be given for the Summer Zone Championships. Points shall be awarded to the top 12 places in each event as follows: 15-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-4-3-2-1. In the event of a tie, the points allocated to the tied place shall be added to those allocated to the next place or places, the sum divided by the number of divers who have tied, and that amount added to the team score for each team.

125.5 Simultaneous Events. Whenever possible, platform, 1-and/or 3-meter events may be run simultaneously. Three concurrent events may be run if the pool configuration allows.

125.6 Judge Selection. Judge selection shall take place at the coaches' meeting prior to the first day's events. Judges may be selected by a blind draw, a sign-up sheet, endorsement of a list prepared in advance by the meet director or the director's designee, or by requiring potential judges to enter online with the designated meet management system. Insofar as possible, the pool of available judges shall be utilized so as to provide relatively equal geographic representation of the athletes. Judges must be designated by team names or by the diver's name if the diver is unattached.

125.7 Zone Alignment. The following Local Diving Associations comprise the five Junior zones for the 2004-2008 quadrennium:

Zone A: Connecticut, Lake Erie, New England, New Jersey, Northern New York, Pennsylvania, Southern New York

Zone B: Carolinas, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Potomac Valley, Southern Virginia

Zone C: Central, Iowa, Missouri Valley, Minnesota, Nebraska/Dakotas, Rocky Mountain, Wisconsin

Zone D: Arkansas, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Oklahoma, Northwest Texas, South Texas, Southeastern, Southern

Zone E: Alaska, Arizona, Central California, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Northern California, Oregon, Southern Pacific, Utah/Idaho, Washington

125.8 Eligibility Requirements for the Summer Zone Championships. Any diver who is a citizen of the United States and who meets one of the following standards for an event is eligible to compete in the Summer Zone Championships.

(a) The top fifteen (15) finishers in a springboard event in a Regional Championships and who are U.S. citizens shall be eligible to compete in that event only at the Summer Zone Championships, provided the diver has competed a full list of dives. Any diver who has a total score of zero (fails a dive and/or elects to take zeros) on two or more dives may not advance.

(b) Should one of the fifteen (15) qualifiers from the Regional Championships be unable to participate in a Summer Zone Championships, the Regional Championships Director shall designate the next finalist in order of finish in that event to complete the fifteen (15) qualifiers for that event. Only divers down to the eighteenth (18th) place will be considered.

Note: In the event of a tie for fifteenth (15th) place, sixteen (16) divers may advance to a Summer Zone Championships, but only if all sixteen (16) choose to compete. Finalists finishing below fifteenth (15th) place may only be designated as Summer Zone Championships qualifiers to make up the full complement of fifteen (15) qualifiers allocated to a Regional Championships.

(c) Any diver who is a U.S. citizen may submit an entry to dive in the platform event at the Summer Zone Championships. A diver who competes in a Regional Championships is only eligible to compete in the Summer Zone Championships determined by the Regional Championships in which the diver participated. In other words, divers competing in Regions I and II qualify for Zone A, Regions III and IV qualify for Zone B, Regions V and VI qualify for Zone C, Regions VII and VIII qualify for Zone D, and Regions IX and X qualify for Zone E. This restriction applies even if a diver fails to qualify for springboard competition from the Regional Championships to a Summer Zone Championships.

(d) *Alaska.* One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Alaska, may compete without attending a Regional Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair no less than 30 days prior to the Summer Zone Championships.

(e) *Hawaii*. One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Hawaii, may compete without attending a Regional Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair no less than 30 days prior to the Summer Zone Championships.

125.9 Competition Requirements for Summer Zone Championships.

(a) The competition requirements with regard to the number of dives to be performed in each event are as set forth in Article 22.

(b) In all springboard and platform events at the Summer Zone Championships all divers shall do their entire list of dives without cuts.

(c) For platform events, the minimum total degrees of difficulty for optional dives shall be:

- (1) 6.4 for 12/13,
- (2) 9.6 for 14/15 Boys, at least five different groups must be used,
- (3) 7.2 for 14/15 Girls, at least five different group must be used,
- (4) 9.6 for 16-18 Girls, at least five different groups must be used,
- (5) 12.5 for 16-18 Boys, all six groups must be used.

Article 26 – Age Group & Junior National Championships

126.1 National Championships during the Summer Season.

(a) Annually there shall be held a **USA Diving Age Group National Championships** and a **USA Diving Junior National Championships**.

(b) Any organization wishing to host a summer Championships shall refer to Article 11 and shall submit its bid in writing to the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, at or before the Annual Meeting two years prior to the meet, accompanied by a completed "Application For USA Diving National Event" form. After the site has been awarded, the sponsor or host will submit a deposit of \$25.00 to USA Diving.

(c) Awarding of the Championships' sites, with back-up sites, and the dates of these Championships shall be made the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE.

(d) The **Age Group National Championships** and the **Junior National Championships** shall be awarded by the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE based upon the bids presented to the Junior Diving Committee as provided in 126.1(b). Bids shall be considered in the order of Zones not having hosted the Junior Championships for the longest period of time. Consideration may be given to the geographic proximity of the USA Diving Summer National Championships. However, the primary consideration shall be to assure that the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships are held at an

acceptable facility in each of the Zones on a reasonably frequent and equal basis.

(e) Eligibility Requirements for Junior National Championships.

Any diver who is a U.S. citizen and meets one of the following standards for an event is eligible to compete in the **Age Group National Championships** or the **Junior National Championships**.

(1) From each Summer **Zone** Championships, the top six (6) divers in each event shall qualify for the preliminaries of the Junior National Championships in that event only.

(2) From each Summer **Zone** Championships, divers in places seven (7) through twelve (12) in each event shall qualify for the preliminaries of the **Age Group National Championships** in that event only.

(3) Should one of the qualifiers in places one through six from the Summer **Zone** Championships be unable to participate in the Junior National Championships, there shall be no advancement by the next placing diver.

(4) Should one of the qualifiers in places seven through twelve (12) from the Summer **Zone** Championships be unable to participate in the **Age Group** National Championships, the Meet Director of that Summer **Zone** Championships shall contact the next finalist in order of finish in that event to complete the six (6) qualifiers for that event. No diver who finishes below 16th place shall be considered.

(5) A diver who finishes in the top six (6) in an event at a Summer **Zone** Championships may elect to dive in the **Age Group National Championships** instead of the **Junior National Championships** in that event.

(6) (i) *Alaska*. One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Alaska, may compete in the preliminaries of the **Age Group National Championships** or the **Junior National Championships** without attending a Summer **Zone** Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair no less than 30 days prior to the National Championships.

(ii) *Hawaii*. One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Hawaii, may compete in the preliminaries of the **Age Group National Championships** or the **Junior National Championships** without attending a Summer **Zone** Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair no less than 30 days prior to the National Championships.

(f) Competition Requirements for Age Group and Junior National Championships.

(1) The competition requirements with regard to the number of dives to be performed in each event are as set forth in Article 22.

(2) The top twelve divers from the preliminary session will participate in a final competition performing only dives without limit. The scores of the dives with limit from the preliminary session will be carried forward and added to the scores in the final competition to determine the top twelve rankings. Divers finishing lower than twelfth place will be ranked by their preliminary scores.

(g) **Order of Events.** The order of events for the USA Diving Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships shall be determined by the meet director, the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, and the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair.

(h) **Awards**

(1) Medals will be awarded to the top 12 finishers in each of the events at both of the summer National Championships.

(2) **Team Scoring.**

(i) Team awards will be given for the team that scores the most points at the Age Group National Championships.

(ii) Team awards will be given for the girls' team, the boys' team, and the combined team that score the most points at the Junior National Championships.

(iii) A team award will be given to the team that scores the most points by combining the points scored at the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships.

(iv) Points shall be awarded to the top 12 places in each event as follows: 15-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-4-3-2-1. In the event of a tie, the points allocated to the tied place shall be added to those allocated to the next place or places, the sum divided by the number of divers who have tied, and that amount added to the score for each team.

(i) **Junior National Team.**

(1) Each year a Junior National Team will be named that will consist of any diver who is selected for a senior international team, the Junior World Team, or the Junior Pan-Am Team.

(2) Each year a Junior National All Star Team will be named that will consist of all divers who finish in the top six in any event at the Junior National Championships.

(3) This rule shall not apply to the East and West Spring National Championships or the Age Group National Championships.

(4) Participation in Junior National Team training programs (or combined training programs with the Senior National Team) is governed by eligibility criteria adopted by the Committee for Competitive Excellence.

(j) **Judge Selection.**

(1) The method of selection of judges at the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships shall be determined by the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, and may

require potential judges to enter online with a designated meet management system.

(2) Judging panels for the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships shall be selected from the same zone alignment prescribed in 125.7.

(3) (i) **Judging Panels for the Preliminary Events.**

(A) In the Preliminaries there shall be two panels of five judges. Each panel shall have one judge from each of the five Zones as shown in the following table.

Event	Panel A	Panel B
Event # 1	ABCDE	ABCDE
Event # 2	ABCDE	ABCDE
Event # 3	ABCDE	ABCDE
...and so on through all events		

(B) Calculations for scores with five judges shall be computed by deleting one high and one low award, then multiplying the sum of the remaining three awards by the Degree of Difficulty.

(ii) One alternate per judging zone will be drawn for each event.

(iii) The Zone Judging Chairs, or their designees, will be prepared to provide at least three judges and one alternate per event and shall submit the name of a contact for that Zone to be present at the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships. Each Zone Judging Chair shall find and submit at least three names of neutral judges to judge the finals of each event.

(iv) No two judges shall be from the same Association in an event. (See 125.7)

(v) **Judging panels for finals events.**

(A) The judging panel for the finals shall consist of a single panel of seven judges who judged the preliminaries for that event. If not enough judges from the preliminary event's panels are available to serve on the panel for an event's final, then judges shall be selected from outside the preliminary event's panels. Judges representation by Zones shall be selected according to the below table. If a Zone does not have an entry in an event then the duplicate (repeat) Zone judges shall be replaced by judges from Zones which have no diver in the contest.

First Event	ABCDEAB
Second Event	CDEABCD
Third Event	EABCDEA

Fourth Event	BCDEABC
Fifth Event	DEABCDE
Sixth Event	ABCDEAB
...and so on through all events	

(B) Calculations will be the same as for all other events with seven judges; delete the two high and two low awards, then multiply the sum of the remaining three awards by the degree of difficulty.

(C) No two judges in an event shall be from the same Association. (See 125.7)

(vi) Other interested parties desiring to judge shall at their convenience contact the Judging Chair from their Zone.

(4) The Zone Meet Director shall serve as the Zone Judging Chair.

(5) *Judging Panel Rotations.* At the Age Group National Championships and the Junior National Championships there shall be a referee in charge of each panel, and two panels of five judges each of which shall rotate according to the following schedule in the Preliminary rounds.

(i) In the Boys' and Girls' 11 & Under Platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, and 5

Panel B: rounds 3, 4

(ii) In the Boys' and Girls' 11 & Under Springboard contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, and 6

Panel B: rounds 3, 4, 5

(iii) In the Boys' and Girls' 12-13 Springboard, the Girls' 14-15 platform and the Boys' and Girls' 12-13 platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, and 5, 6

Panel B: rounds 3, 4, and 7

In the unlikely event that the optionals must be performed first in a seven- dive contest, the panel rotation shall be the same.

(iv) In the Girls' 14-15 springboard and the Boys' 14-15 and Girls' 16-18 platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2 and 5, 6

Panel B: rounds 3, 4, and 7, 8

In the unlikely event that the optionals must be performed first in an eight- dive contest, the panel rotation shall be the same.

(v) In the Boys' 14-15 and the Girls' 16-18 springboard contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, 3, and 6, 7

Panel B: rounds 4, 5, and 8, 9

In the unlikely event that the optionals must be performed first in a nine- dive springboard contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

Panel A: 1, 2, and 5, 6, 7

Panel B: 3, 4, and 8, 9

(vi) In Boys' 16-18 springboard contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, 3, and 7, 8

Panel B: rounds 4, 5, 6, and 9, 10

In the unlikely event that the optionals must be performed first in a ten- dive springboard contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

Panel A: 1, 2, 3 and 6, 7

Panel B: 4, 5 and 8, 9, 10

(vii) In the Boys' 16-18 platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2 and 5, 6, 7

Panel B: rounds 3, 4 and 8, 9

In the unlikely event that the optionals must be performed first in a nine- dive platform contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

Panel A: 1, 2, 3, and 6, 7

Panel B: 4, 5, and 8, 9

(6) Parents, spouses, or siblings will not be permitted to judge or be a referee in an event in which an offspring, spouse, or sibling competes. Two members of the same family will not be permitted to judge and/or be a referee on the same panel. The announcer/third referee shall be exempt from this provision.

(k) Only athletes entered in the meet may use the diving boards or platforms for workout during scheduled practice times, including open workout times, at the Age Group National Championships or the Junior National Championships; except that a U.S. diver qualified for an upcoming senior national or international meet may be allocated workout time or allowed to participate in open warmups provided a designated coach for the athlete is present, at such time as the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, in consultation with the Chair of the Senior Diving Committee, may deem appropriate. Such workouts must not interfere with practice times. The Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, or a designated agent, will enforce this policy.

126.2 East and West Junior National Championships during the Spring Season.

(a) Annually, there shall be an East and a West Spring Junior National Championships held no later than the first weekend in May.

(b) The East and West Spring Junior National Championships shall consist of springboard events only. There shall be no platform events.

(c) Anyone wishing to host the East or the West Spring Junior National Championships shall submit a bid as set forth in 126.1(b). The

sites of these meets shall be awarded by the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE.

(d) Awarding of the East and the West Spring Junior National Championships shall be conducted as set forth in 126.1(c).

(e) The East and the West Spring Junior National Championships shall be awarded as set forth in 126.1(d) by the Junior Diving Committee of the CCE.

(f) Competition requirements with regard to the number of dives to be performed are set forth in Article 22. In all events, the divers shall do their full list of dives in each contest.

(g) **Awards**

(1) Medals will be awarded to the top 12 finishers in each of the events at the Spring East and West National Championships.

(2) Team awards will be given for the Spring East and West National Championships. Points shall be awarded to the top 12 places in each event as follows: 15-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-4-3-2-1. In the event of a tie, the points allocated to the tied place shall be added to those allocated to the next place or places, the sum divided by the number of divers who have tied, and that amount added to the team score for each team.

(h) (1) The top six 11&Under, the top six 12/13 (FINA Group C), the top six 14/15 (FINA Group B), and the top six 16-18 (FINA Group A) finishers in a springboard event in the Spring Regional Junior Championships who are U.S. citizens shall be qualified in that event only for the East and West Spring Junior National Championships.

(2) Notwithstanding (h)(1) above, only divers who compete a full list are eligible to advance to an East or West Junior National Championships. **Any diver who has a total score of zero (fails a dive and/or elects to take zeros) on two or more dives may not advance.**

(i) Should one of the qualifiers from a Spring Regional Junior Championships be unable to participate in the East or West Spring Junior National Championships, the Meet Director of that Spring Regional Junior Championships shall contact the next eligible competitor in order of finish in that event. No diver who finishes below twelfth place shall be eligible.

(j) There shall be no pre-qualified divers for the East or West Spring Junior National Championships.

(k) Athletes competing in Regions I, II, III, IV, and VII, as defined in Article 24, shall compete in the East Junior National Championships. Athletes competing in Regions V, VI, VIII, IX, and X, as defined in Article 24, shall compete in the West Junior National Championships. Athletes competing in Regions I, II, III, IV, and VII may not compete in the West Championships and athletes competing in Regions V, VI, VIII, IX, and X may not compete in the East Championships.

(l) The 1- and 3-meter events shall be run simultaneously at the East and West Spring Junior National Championships.

(m) Order of Events. The order of events for the East and West Spring Junior National Championships shall be as follows:

(1) Odd-Numbered Years

Friday

11 & Under Girls' 3M and 11 & Under Boys' 1M. Finals Only.

12/13 Girls' 3M and 12/13 Boys' 1M. Finals Only.

Saturday:

11 & Under Boys' 3M and 11 & Under Girls' 1M. Finals Only.

12/13 Boys' 3M and 12/13 Girls' 1M. Finals Only.

14/15 Boys' 3M and 14/15 Girls' 1M. Finals Only.

16-18 Boys' 3M and 16-18 Girls' 1M. Finals Only .

Sunday:

14/15 Girls' 3M and 14/15 Boys' 1M. Finals Only.

16-18 Girls' 3M and 16-18 Boys' 1M. Finals Only.

(2) In even-numbered years, reverse the boys and girls events.

(n) Judge selection shall follow the procedure similar to that outlined in 126.1(j), but using Regions instead of Zones, Judging Panel rotations shall be as outlined in 126.1(j)(5).

(o) Only athletes entered in the meet may use the diving boards or platforms for workout during scheduled practice times, including open workout times, at the East or West Spring Junior National Championships; except that a U.S. athlete qualified for an upcoming national or international meet may be allocated workout time or allowed to participate in open warmups provided a designated coach for the athlete is present, at such time as the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, in consultation with the Chair of the Senior Diving Committee, may deem appropriate. Such workouts must not interfere with practice times. The Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, or a designated agent, will enforce this policy.

(p) (1) Alaska. One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Alaska, may compete in the preliminaries of the East/West Spring Junior National Championships without attending a Spring Regional Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Diving Rules Subcommittee Chair no less than 30 days prior to the East/West Spring Junior National Championships.

(2) Hawaii. One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Hawaii, may compete in the preliminaries of the East/West Spring Junior National Championships without attending a Spring Regional Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Diving Rules Subcommittee Chair no less than 30 days prior to the East/West Spring Junior National Championships.

126.3 Referees.

(a) All events at Junior National Championships and their qualifying meets shall have three referees.

(b) A head referee, who must be Safety Certified and who may be on the judging panel.

(c) Two assistant referees, one of whom shall be on the judging panel and who shall be seated on the opposite side of the pool from the head referee when appropriate. This assistant referee will be responsible for indicating to the head referee by a raised hand that a diver has failed a dive. When the head referee concurs with this assistant referee's judgment then a failed dive shall be declared.

(d) The second assistant referee, who shall be the announcer, shall notify the head referee of all observed errors.

(e) The dive shall be performed after the signal is given by the referee. Such signal shall be given only after the referee has checked the indicator board or the computer printout. When the signal is given by the referee, the diver shall proceed to the starting position for his or her dive.

(f) For all takeoffs starting in a stationary position at the end of the springboard or platform in which the diver is performing a back, reverse, inward, or armstand takeoff, the diver shall wait until a signal is given by the referee before advancing to the end of the board.

(g) An audible signal device shall not be used during simultaneous events.

Article 27 – Other Junior Competition

127.1 Invitational Meets.

(a) Local meets may be modified to accommodate local conditions, preferences, limited facilities and personnel.

(b) Invitational meets must be sanctioned by USA Diving as outlined in Article 61.

(c) Eligibility for participation is open to all USA Diving registered athletes, except Limited Athlete registered athletes, in accordance with Part II, Subpart A, Article 40, Section 240.1 (a); Subpart B, Article 60, Sections 360.1 to 360.4; and Subpart C of the Code of USA Diving.

(d) It is recommended that invitational meets be conducted under the Rules governing Junior Diving.

(e) In Invitational Junior Meets, fees to be charged and any differences in the rules (such as age grouping, the events, the number of dives to be performed by each age group, the diving order, or the number of finalists), must be clearly stated on the entry blanks.

(f) Athletes registered as Competitive Blue and Competitive Gold have the choice to dive at the Future Champions, Junior, Senior, or Masters competitive level in all sanction meets, as long as they meet the age range, and any other competition requirements, listed for an event.

