

TEXAS AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

GYMNASTICS

STATE GYMNASTICS MEET

Levels 4-9, Xcel Gold, Platinum, Diamond, & Sapphire – Irving Gymnastics – April 26-27

Level 3 & Xcel Silver- Gymtricks – May 3-4

Level 1, Level 2 & Xcel Bronze– Texas Best – May 10-11

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PLEASE READ ALL RULES –THERE ARE IMPORTANT ARTICLES PERTAINING TO AGE DETERMINATION DATES, REGISTRATION DEADLINE DATES AND FEES.

The following rules and regulations apply to all sports and all participants must meet these requirements. Unless a rule specifically names an exception for one of the divisions (member city, independent, affiliate, etc.), the following Sports General Regulations pertain to all teams and participants. See the specific sports sections for any special regulations that may exist.

ARTICLE 14

GYMNASTICS

14.1 TEAM REGISTRATION

- .01 T.A.A.F. Member City: Team registration is due by January 1, through the T.A.A.F. website.
- .02 AFFILIATE MEMBER: Private gymnastics clubs that are not sponsored by a park and recreation department may compete by joining T.A.A.F. as an affiliate member.
 - a) Affiliate member dues are to be paid by January 1 prior to the start of the season.
- .03 T.A.A.F. Metro areas that are classified as T.A.A.F. regions themselves may enter more than one team if their gymnastics programs are divided along recreation center lines.
 - b) The state commissioner may approve a combination of recreation center teams in these cities.
- .04 All gymnastic coaches who will be on the floor of any T.A.A.F. sponsored competition will be required to have a background check. The background check can be through any T.A.A.F. office. The renewal year will be September 1 – August 31. T.A.A.F. will require screening every year.

Note: Insurance for gymnastics competitions will be provided at an additional cost to each meet director for each competition and based on the current needs and policy coverages.

14.2 GYMNAST ELIGIBILITY

- .01 All competitors participating in gymnastics competition must be amateurs and registered with the state office. Failure to register a gymnast with T.A.A.F. prior to competition will result in a fine assessed to the gym for each unregistered gymnast.
- .02 A gymnast may compete for only one T.A.A.F. gymnastics club/team per season. If they switch gyms, they will become ineligible immediately. (Exception: Documented parents job transfer after having competed in a regular season T.A.A.F. meet and family moves outside the original Region of participation)
- .03 All gymnasts must have a T.A.A.F. participation number AND AN ATHLETE NUMBER ASSIGNED BY THE SCOREMASTER in order to compete in a T.A.A.F. meet.
- .04 Gymnasts may compete between the ages of four (4) and eighteen (18).
 - a) There will be no age groups used for competition.
 - b) The age of a gymnast is determined by her age as of January 1 of the year she is competing in.
 - c) Minimum Age Requirements:
 - Levels 1 and 2 Gymnast must be at least 4 years old
 - Level 3 Gymnast must be at least 5 years old
 - Levels 4 - 9 Gymnast must be at least 6 years old
 - Xcel Bronze Gymnast must be at least 5 years old
 - Xcel Silver Gymnast must be at least 6 years old
 - Xcel Gold Gymnast must be at least 7 years old
 - Xcel Platinum Gymnast must be at least 8 years old
 - Xcel Diamond Gymnast must be at least 9 years old
 - Xcel Sapphire Gymnast must be at least 9 years old

14.3 LEVELS

- .01 Skill Levels in T.A.A.F. Gymnastics are:
 - a) Level 1 – 2 (Achievement)
 - b) Level 3 – 9 (Placement)
 - c) Xcel Bronze (Achievement)
 - d) Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond and Sapphire (Placement)
 - e) Acro and Tumbling
- .02 A gymnast who competes in another league must compete in T.A.A.F at the same level or higher, or petition the state commissioner for an exception. Note: Other league scores are subject to T.A.A.F. mandate and division rules.
- .03 Once a gymnast competes one meet at a particular level, she may not move down to a lower level.
- .04 A gymnast may compete in more than one level per season, but for placement levels state meet qualifications, the gymnast must have three all around scores at the new level in order in order to be eligible for the state meet.

14.4 DIVISIONS

- .01 Any gymnast competing in a level for the first time must be ranked by submitting an all-around score from a rated judge to the T.A.A.F. Commissioner after November 1 and no later than January 1. This all-around score will determine her division placement for her first meet of the season. This score can be obtained in one of the following ways:
 - a) Using a rated judge in person
 - b) Using a gymnast's highest approved all-around score from the same level with another league
 - c) Competing in any pre season ranking meet
 - d) Competing in a qualifying meet on the state schedule as both their first meet and their ranking meet. Athlete will compete as an achievement athlete but score will count as one of their three meets and be included in their season average and score may count for the team score.** Note: Failure to have a gymnast ranked by the January 1 deadline will result in a late fee of \$25. To avoid the late fee, any gymnast joining a team after the January 1 deadline must request exemption from the January 1 deadline from the T.A.A.F. Commissioner; however, she must still be ranked before her first qualifying meet. Ranking may be done at a ranking meet, an in-gym ranking or a "live" zoom ranking. Ranking results must be sent to Scoremaster in the proper format or scores will be rejected.
- .02 Gymnasts competing in the same level as the previous year must begin in the same or higher division as they ended in the previous year.
- .03 After a gymnast's first meet, her division placement in each subsequent meet is determined by her highest all-around score achieved thus far.
- .04 A gymnast may never move down to a lower division within the same Level, even if she scores within that lower division.
- .05 If a gymnast does not compete on all 4 events in a qualifying meet, the gymnast's division placement for the next qualifying meet will be determined by taking the score from the highest score possible within that division as the "dummy" (placement) score for each event she does not compete. That all around average will count as one of her three required meets for state meet qualification. This dummy score may also affect her divisional placement for the next meet.** Note: This "all-around" score cannot be used as a qualifying score for the T.A.A.F. State Meet.

- .06 Division changes must be communicated to the next meet director no later than 6:00 pm Monday following the meet.
- .07 When the number of gymnasts competing in a division exceeds 24 in a Qualifying Meet, the meet director may break the division into equal or near equal subdivisions, each receiving a complete set of awards according to the individual event and all-around award requirements.
- .08 Levels 1, 2, and Xcel Bronze are achievement only and have no divisions.
- .09 Division Chart:

LEVEL 3P	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5	LEVEL 6	LEVEL 7
DIV 1: 37.000 & UP	DIV 1: 36.000 & UP	DIV 1 36.025 & UP	DIV 1: 36.000 & UP	DIV 1: 35.000 & UP
DIV 2: 36.500 – 36.975	DIV 2: 35.000 – 35.975	DIV 2: 34.525 – 36.000	DIV 2: 34.500 – 35.975	DIV 2: 34.975 & Under
DIV 3: 35.750 – 36.475	DIV 3: 34.000 – 34.975	DIV 3: 32.025 - 34.500	DIV 3: 34.475 & Under	
DIV 4: 35.000 – 35.725	DIV 4: 33.000 – 33.975	DIV 4: 30.525 – 32.000		
DIV 5: 34.000 – 34.975	DIV 5: 32.000 – 32.975	DIV 5: 29.025 – 30.500		
DIV 6: 32.500 – 33.975	DIV 6: 30.500 – 31.975	DIV 6: 29.000 & Under		
DIV 7: 32.475 & Under	DIV 7: 30.475 & Under			
<u>XCEL SILVER</u>	<u>XCEL GOLD</u>	<u>XCEL PLATINUM</u>	<u>XCEL DIAMOND</u>	<u>LEVEL 8</u>
DIV 1: 37.500 & UP	DIV 1: 37.00 & UP	DIV 1: 36.000 & UP	No Divisions	No Divisions
DIV 2: 37.000 – 37.475	DIV 2: 36.000 – 36.975	DIV 2: 35.975 & Under	XCEL SAPPHIRE	LEVEL 9
DIV 3: 36.500 – 36.975	DIV 3: 35.000 – 35.975		No Divisions	No Divisions
DIV 4: 36.000 - 36.475	DIV 4: 34.000 - 34.975			
DIV 5: 35.000 – 35.975	DIV 5: 33.000 – 33.975			
DIV 6: 34.000 – 34.975	DIV 6: 32.000 – 32.975			
DIV 7: 33.975 & Under	DIV 7: 31.975 & Under			
<u>ACROBATICS & TUMBLING</u>				
No Divisions				

- The results of each year’s state meets will be analyzed to determine if any adjustments should be made to the divisional breakdowns. These changes will be voted upon by the membership in the summer general meeting.

14.5 MOBILITY AND MANDATE SCORES

- .01 There is no minimum score to move up to the next level.
- .02 Mandate score: The mandate score for Levels 1-6 and Xcel Bronze through Xcel Platinum is 37.05. Levels 7, 8 and Xcel Diamond have no mandate score.
- .03 If a gymnast achieves this score twice within one T.A.A.F. season (including the State Meet) the gymnast must move to the next level the following season if she is going to compete in T.A.A.F. gymnastics.
- .04 Allow petition to stay in same level due to injury

14.6 QUALIFYING MEET REGULATIONS

- .01 T.A.A.F. gymnastics qualifying schedule will be set by the T.A.A.F. State Commissioner and will be made available by or before August 1.
- .02 T.A.A.F. qualifying meet information will be posted at least thirty (30) days prior to the event.
- .03 Qualifying meet season begins the weekend of the Winter Games during the month of January.
- .04 Technical rules will follow rules and policies that govern NAWGJ officials and all manner of the execution of their duties.
- .05 All level 1-5 and Xcel Bronze and Silver gymnasts will be required to compete all-around. Levels 6,7,8, 9, Xcel Platinum and Diamond may compete as specialists, however, once an athlete declares as a specialist she must remain a specialist for the remainder of that competition season. An athlete may declare as a specialist for one, two or three events. Specialist qualifying meet divisions will be determined by the current score averaging system.
Specialist must have 3 meets in the designated event(s) in order to qualify for state meets. Specialists will only be allowed at levels 6, 7, 8, 9, XP and XD
- .06 Warm-up time limits on all events will follow USA Gymnastics rules except for Levels 1 and 2 BARS, whose time will be increased by 15 seconds. T.A.A.F. warm-up time limits are as follows:

Level	Max Time per Gymnast
1-2 and Xcel Bronze	30 Seconds (45 Seconds on Bars)
3 and Xcel Silver	45 Seconds
4, 5 and Xcel Gold	1 Minute
6, 7, Xcel Platinum	1.5 Minutes
8, 9, Xcel Diamond & Xcel Sapphire	2 Minutes

.07 COACHES DRESS CODE

At Qualifying and State Meets the coaches' dress code is as follows:

- a) Closed toe athletic shoes
- b) Athletic warm-up pants or "Docker-style" pants (NO jeans)
- c) Athletic or tailored shorts that are of a reasonable length (7" inseam) No holes, tears, or short shorts)
- e) Collared shirts, business casual shirts, or T-shirts with gym logo (No spaghetti straps, low-cut tops, or midriff revealing shirts)
- d) No hats or visors

14.7 QUALIFYING MEET ADMISSION FEES

- .01 Maximum admission fees at Qualifying Meets will be as follows:
Qualifying Levels 1-9, Xcel, Acrobatics & Tumbling: Adults \$10 – Kids and Seniors \$5
Note: If a Qualifying Meet is hosted outside the host gym's facility, the host may petition the State Commissioner for an exemption to this rule.

14.8 QUALIFYING MEET INDIVIDUAL EVENT AWARDS

- .01 Minimum Qualifying Meet individual awards for Level 3 Placement and above:
Medals for 1st Place (Gold), 2nd Place (Silver), and 3rd Place (Bronze)
Ribbons for fourth (4th) through fifty percent (50%) or twelfth (12th) place, whichever comes first

.02 Levels 1, 2, and Xcel Bronze awards are based on achievement:

Ribbon	Event Score
Blue	9.00 or above
Red	8.00 - 8.975
White	7.00 - 7.975
Yellow	6.00 - 6.975

14.9 QUALIFYING MEET INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND AWARDS

- .01 Minimum Qualifying Meet individual all-around awards for Level 3 Placement and above
- a) Medals 1st Place (Gold), 2nd Place (Silver), and 3rd Place (Bronze)
 - b) Medals for 4th Place through fifty percent (50%)
 - c) Ribbons for remaining up to one hundred percent (100%)

.02 All-around awards for Levels 1, 2 and Xcel Bronze Achievement up to one hundred percent (100%)

14.10 QUALIFYING MEET TEAM AWARDS

.01 Small and Large Team awards will be presented to the top 50% of teams entered in each of the following levels: Levels 1-4 and Xcel Bronze, Silver and Gold

- A) Small Team 3-6 Gymnasts 3 scores count
- B) Large Team 7+ Gymnasts 5 scores count

One Team award will be presented to the top 50% of teams entered in each of the following levels: Levels 5-9 and Xcel Platinum, Diamond and Sapphire.

- A) One Team 3 or more gymnasts 3 scores count

14.11 QUALIFYING MEET HOST REGULATIONS

.01 Qualifying meet hosts must submit a Qualifying Meet Bid Form to the state commissioner by the designated date published on webpage and on bid form. An acknowledgement of receipt will be sent to the meet host submitting the bid form.

.02 This request must be accompanied by a cashier's check or money order in the amount of one hundred fifty (\$150) dollars. This is a meet guarantee that is non-refundable if the meet is cancelled or not held (except in the case of inclement weather or other natural disaster).

.03 This money will cover tabulation costs upon the successful completion of the meet.

.04 To be eligible to host a Qualifying Meet, the acting meet director must attend the meet director meeting scheduled by the commissioner.

.05 Meet results must be sent to the T.A.A.F. State Office for posting on the T.A.A.F. website no later than 5:00pm on the Monday following the meet.

.06 Meet results should be faxed or sent by the meet host to the scoremaster by 5 p.m. on the Monday following the meet. Failure to have meet results to the scoremaster will result in a \$100.00 fine.

.07 There will be no other qualifying meets to be held the weekend of the T.A.A.F. Winter Games.

.08 Qualifying Meet Hosts will be invoiced for \$3 per entry to the T.A.A.F. State Office to help cover expenses associated with the Annual T.A.A.F. Gymnastics Awards Banquet.

Payment must be received by the due date on the invoice or the meet host will be assessed a late fee for each seven (7) days past the due date on the invoice.

.09 Qualifying Meet Hosts must send a per athlete insurance fee to the state office after completion of the meet and after receiving an invoice from the state office. The exact amount will be determined each year based on the insurance coverage secured. The meet host will be assessed a late fee if the insurance fee is not paid within seven (7) days of the due date on the invoice.

.10 Qualifying meet hosts must submit a proposed competition schedule for approval at least 15 days prior to the meet date.

14.12 STATE MEET REGULATIONS

.01 To be eligible to compete in the T.A.A.F. State Meet, a gymnast must participate in at least three (3) T.A.A.F. Sanctioned Qualifying meets.

.02 At least ONE of the three meets must occur AFTER the season mid point. Clarification: All three (3) meets may also occur after the season midpoint.

.03 The season mid point is March 1

.04 Medical exemptions (petitions to enter the state meet(s)), will be considered with a doctor's note indicating the nature of the injury or illness, the date(s) of treatment, and dates the gymnast was unable to practice and the final release date. This petition must be submitted on the official form located in the operating code and MUST be submitted to the state commissioner NO LATER THAN April 1st. Athletes may enter the state meets but PENDING the petition approval.

.05 Individual and team entries are to be submitted to the gym hosting the state meet by the date determined by the host gym and published in their meet information posted on the T.A.A.F. website.

.06 State Meet entries will be due no sooner than thirty (30) days prior to the event.

.07 T.A.A.F. State Meets will be held in April and May and the specific weekends will be determined by the qualifying meet schedule and the number of weeks in each of the two halves of the season.

.08 The last Qualifying Meet of the season is to be held at least two (2) weeks prior to the State Meet for that level.

.09 Skill levels will be Level 1 Achievement, Level 2 Achievement, Level 3, Level 4, Level 5, Level 6, Level 7, Level 8, Level 9, Xcel Bronze, Xcel Silver, Xcel Gold, Xcel Platinum, Xcel Diamond, and Xcel Sapphire, Acrobatics & Tumbling.

.10 A gymnast will be placed in the State Meet in the same level she competed in during her last Qualifying Meet. She will compete in the division that is representative of her highest all-around score during the Qualifying Meet season.

.11 Any division with more than twenty competing gymnasts will be divided into equal subdivisions of no more than twenty gymnasts with designations of A, B, C, etc. Placement in subdivisions will be determined by averaging the most recent three all around qualification scores closest to their state meet.

14.13 STATE MEET ADMISSION FEES

.01 Maximum admission fees for the State Meet will be as follows:

<u>In-House</u>	<u>Outside Host Gym</u>
Adults \$10	Adults \$15

Kids \$5

Kids \$5

14.14 STATE MEET INDIVIDUAL EVENT AWARDS

- .01 All state awards must be purchased from the official T.A.A.F. Licensed Award Supplier.
- .02 State Meet awards Level 3 Placement and above:
 - a) Medals for 1st Place (Gold), 2nd Place (Silver), and 3rd Place (Bronze)
 - b) Medals (Copper) for fourth (4th) through twelfth (12th) place
- .03 Levels 1, 2, and Xcel Bronze awards are based on achievement:

Ribbon	Event Score
Blue	9.00 or above
Red	8.00 - 8.975
White	7.00 - 7.975
Yellow	6.00 - 6.975

14.15 STATE MEET INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND AWARDS

- .01 All state awards must be purchased from the official T.A.A.F. Licensed Award Supplier.
- .02 Medals for 1st Place (Gold), 2nd Place (Silver), and 3rd Place (Bronze)
- .03 Copper medals for fourth (4th) through one hundred percent (100%) for all Placement Levels.
- .04 Copper medals for 100% in Achievement Levels
- .05 TIES: If an individual tie exists, it will be broken by determining the highest all-around score. If a tie exists in all-around, it will be broken by determining the highest individual score. If the tie exists for a team award, it will be broken by determining the highest event team score. EXCEPTION: NO FIRST PLACE TIES WILL BE BROKEN AS OUR AWARDS BANQUET RECOGNIZES ALL CHAMPION ATHLETES AND TEAM REGARDLESS OF TIES.

14.16 STATE MEET TEAM AWARDS

- .01 Small, Medium and Large Team awards will be presented to the top 50% of teams entered in each of the following levels:
 - Levels 1-4
 - Xcel Bronze, Silver and Gold

- a) Small Team 3-6 Gymnasts 3 scores count
- b) Medium Team 7-10 Gymnasts 5 scores count
- c) Large Team 11+ Gymnasts 7 scores count

One team award will be presented to the top 50% of teams entered in each of the Following levels:

- Level 5-9
- Xcel Platinum, Diamond and Sapphire

- .02 Changes to a team's size designation cannot be made after the State Meet entry deadline.
- .03 If only one team is entered, the meet host must either
 - a) Refund the Team Fee

b) Award the first place team award OR ask the team if they wish to DECLINE to receive a team award as the sole entry in that category.

14.17 STATE MEET ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

- .01 T.A.A.F. State Meet information will be mailed sixty (60) days prior to the event.
- .02 STATE MEET RESULTS: Should be e-mailed to all participating teams within thirty (30) days of the state meet by the meet director
- .03 FINANCIAL REPORTS: The meet director must submit to the state commissioner a complete financial report within two (2) weeks after the state tournament.

14.18 T.A.A.F. GYMNASTICS TRAINING CAMP

- .01 T.A.A.F. Gymnastics training camps and clinics may be organized by the council and membership with the prior approval of the state office and all registration will be handled by the state office.

14.19 T.A.A.F. GYMNASTICS AWARDS BANQUET

- .01 Purpose
 - a) To promote T.A.A.F. Gymnastics and bring attention to the value of participating in T.A.A.F. Gymnastics
 - b) To honor T.A.A.F. Gymnasts
 - c) To honor T.A.A.F. Coaches
- .02 To be held at the conclusion of the T.A.A.F. competitive season
- .03 Banquet logistics will be determined by the T.A.A.F. Advisory Council or its appointees.
- .04 Attendees
 - a) Current year All-around State Champion of each division in all placement levels
 - b) Current year Large and Small State Champion Team members from each level
 - c) Guests of State Champion attendees
 - d) Coaches of State Champion attendees
- .05 Fee
 - a) Free for State Champion attendees
 - b) Fee for guest or coach of state champion attendee will be based upon the actual cost of the banquet meal
 - c) Banquet Registration and payment will be online through the T.A.A.F. website
- .06 Awards Categories

Special awards' categories for athletes, coaches or members will be determined annually by the Advisory Council and published on the gymnastics webpage by January 1 along with an application/nomination form.
- .07 Award Selections
 - a) The T.A.A.F Advisory Council or their appointed Awards Committee will
 - a. Review all application forms to insure that applications are submitted on the proper form and have met the deadline criteria
 - b. Make their selection for each award based on the stated criteria
 - b) The names of the recipients chosen shall remain confidential until announced at the Awards Banquet.
- .08 Awards:
 - a. A specially designed plaque shall be given to each award recipient.

T.A.A.F. Manual of Procedures

ARTICLE 2 GENERAL PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

No player shall be eligible to play in any T.A.A.F. sport unless the player meets all of the following rules:

- 2.1 Must be an amateur in said sport and shall receive no pay to play for any team. An amateur is defined as “one who engages in sport for pleasure and for the physical, mental or social benefits, which he or she derives from that sport and to whom the sport is nothing more than an avocation.”
- 2.2 Any player who has played professional sports shall be ineligible to participate in that sport for one (1) year after his last day as a member of a professional team. This rule shall not conflict with the AABC rules in baseball.

Note: The protesting individual(s) bear the entire burden of proof regarding a player’s participation as a member of a professional team. The T.A.A.F. state commissioner has the final authority to accept or reject the protesting individual(s) proof.

- 2.3 Meets all team qualifications in MOP Article 4.
- 2.4 Does not play under an assumed name.
- 2.5 In order to compete in any T.A.A.F. play, a foreign player must reside in the state of Texas continuously for a minimum period of one (1) year prior to being eligible to play.

Exception: Men’s and women’s fast pitch foreign softball players’ eligibility will be determined by the national governing body of softball. To be eligible to participate in T.A.A.F. softball, a copy of any document required to be on file by the NGB for softball must also be filed with the T.A.A.F. state office. The same filing deadline applies for the NGB and T.A.A.F.

- 2.6 An adult player may play on more than one team within a region, but must choose one team as his/her own prior to T.A.A.F. championship play.
 - .01 No player may be on more than one roster, in a T.A.A.F. division, during T.A.A.F. championship play (region and state tournaments).
 - .02 A player must be on the sports roster by the deadline state in the participant guide.
- 2.7 A player forced to transfer from one region to another by his employer may participate in the new region providing the player has been employed by the firm for at least one (1) full year prior to the transfer and the player remains employed by the same firm.
- 2.8 Individual sport participants must reside in the state of Texas.
- 2.9 The team or individual attempting to qualify for state competition must attempt to qualify through the regional qualifier of the region in which they are registered. No participant in an individual sport or a team in team sports may attempt to qualify through more than one city, region or affiliate. Should any team or individual be discovered in violation of this rule, he/she/they shall be disqualified from that sport for that year.
- 2.10 Any region competition must take place within the established boundaries of the assigned region. If it becomes necessary to host a region competition outside of the designated boundary, prior written consent is required by the region in which the event is being held.
- 2.11 Player identification:

- .01 A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of identification. A driver's license or comparable identification, which includes a current photograph and signature, is acceptable.
 - .02 A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of age when participating in T.A.A.F. sports categorized by age classifications or divisions. A driver's license or copy of a birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics is acceptable.
 - .03 A player failing to provide appropriate proof of age or identifications, when requested by a meet director, tournament director or state commissioner, may be declared ineligible and the team/player subject to disqualification.
- 2.12 All teams must wear like colored, non-duplicated numbered jerseys for regional and state tournaments.
- 2.13 All participants in adult team sports must have attained the age of sixteen (16) prior to the registration date for teams in that sport, unless specific sport regulations provide otherwise.
- 2.14 Age determination for youth sports

Sport	Age Determining Date
Basketball (Boy's & Girl's Winter)	September 1 of current school year
Basketball (Boy's & Girl's Summer)	September 1 of current calendar year
Boxing	Based on age as of the Games of Texas
Cheerleading	September 1 of current year
Flag Football – youth	September 1 of current year
Golf – youth	September 1 of current year
Gymnastics	January 1 of the year of competition
Inline Hockey	September 1 of current year
Kickball – Youth	September 1 of the current school year
Softball – Youth	December 31 of current year
Swimming – Summer	June 1 of current year
Swimming – Winter	Age as of the Winter Games of Texas swim meet
Tennis	Age as of Games of Texas dates
Track and Field	Based on year the athlete was born
Volleyball – Youth	September 1 of current school year

ARTICLE 3 YOUTH SPORTS COACHING REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 All coaches that are participating in regional and state competitions representing TAAF member cities or affiliates must be approved through the TAAF criminal background check process. Only the TAAF certified criminal background check program will be accepted. No other criminal background check programs will be accepted. If a coach fails the TAAF certified criminal background check then they would be deemed ineligible to coach. A member city (under official city accounts only) may submit affidavits
- 3.2 Coaches can be approved through two options:
- 3.2.01 Approved through the TAAF state office background check process
 - 3.2.02 Approved by the TAAF member organization by signing the "TAAF coaches background check affidavit" confirming that checks were completed at the local level. This can be done only by a "member city" under an official city account only by completing the affidavit form.
- 3.3 All coaches must be approved prior to registering for any regional or state competition
- 3.4 Coaches representing swim or track must be approved by June 30th or two weeks prior to competition whichever comes first
- 3.5 TAAF approved coaching status is valid for 1 year. Coaches can re-certify following the process outlined above

3.6 TAAF gymnastic coaches should follow the coaching background rules outlined in the gymnastics sports rules

ARTICLE 5 INDIVIDUAL SPORT REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Individual Sports: Individual sports included participants in boxing, golf, gymnastics, swimming, tennis, and track & field. Individual sport registration will be done online at www.T.A.A.F.com. Individual athletes must register with T.A.AF. prior to the athlete's participation in any T.A.A.F. meet/tournament on a local or regional level.

.01 Deadline for T.A.A.F. Registration is determined by the regional and state tournament dates:

Boxing	Games of Texas Entry Deadline
Golf	Games of Texas Entry Deadline
Gymnastics	January 1
Swimming - Summer	June 15
Tennis	June 15
Track & Field	June 15

.02 The registering city or affiliate shall send a signed individual waiver or a signed individual sports participant waiver to the T.A.A.F. state office.

their they to .03 The determining factor of which city/organization/region an individual will represent in attempt(s) to qualify for state level competition is based on the city/organization/region declare at the time of registering online with T.A.A.F..

- a. This rule is to allow individuals to compete outside of their city of residency due the fact they are participating with another city or organization's program on an ongoing basis.
- b. It is NOT the intent of this rule to allow teams as a whole, to compete in or represent other cities/regions due to the location of the regional meets, changes in individual schedules or other such situations.

5.2 Individual Registration Fees

.01 The participant fee for T.A.A.F. individual sports shall be ten dollars (\$10.00).

- a. A late fee of five dollars (\$5.00) per individual may be charged to any registration after the deadline date.
- b. Regions may add a regional individual sports registration fee of up to \$2.00 per individual.

.02 Unattached Individual Participants: The fee for an unattached participant are twenty dollars (\$20.00) per year. Payment of this fee allows the unattached member to participate in T.A.A.F. individual sport programs and includes the cost of the individual sport fee of \$5.00.

- a. Unattached athlete is a singular registration, thus they are ineligible for team events (i.e. relays). Additionally, unattached athletes do not get all privileges of teams (i.e. coaches passes or other similar team privileges).

.03 Insurance may be purchased for an additional fee. Contact the T.A.A.F. state office for fees and enrollment information.

5.3 Regional Tournament/Meet Registration: Cities, Affiliates and Unattached Participants are required to comply with all requested information and fees as set forth by the Participant Guide regional tournament/meet director.

- .01 Maximum regional meet entry fee for track & field and swimming shall be \$10.00 per competitor, per event.
 - a) In lieu of regional meet entry fees, the region may elect to implement a regional participation fee not to exceed \$20.00 per competitor.
 - b) In the event a region hosts another region's (out of region) regional meet the maximum regional meet entry fee for the (out of region) participants in track and field and swimming shall be \$12.00 per competitor, per event.

.02 Online registration for region meets is mandatory for track and field. Online registration or Hy-Tek Team/Meet Manager is mandatory for swimming.

start .03 The deadline for regional track meet registration is midnight, one (1) week prior to the of the region meet.

5.4 State Tournament Registration: Cities, Affiliates and Unattached Participants should refer to the participant guide and are required to comply with all requested information, fees, etc., as set forth by the tournament director, regional director and state commissioner.

5.5 Individual State Meet/Tournament Entry Fees:

Boxing	\$8.00 per competitor
Golf	\$5.00 per competitor
Gymnastics – Qualifying Achievement Levels 1-2 & Xcel Bronze	\$60.00 per gymnast
Gymnastics – Qualifying Placement Levels 3-9 & Xcel Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond and Open Optional	\$65.00 per gymnast
Gymnastics – Qualifying Late Fee	\$20.00 per gymnast
Gymnastics – Qualifying Meet Team Fee	Included in individual entry
Gymnastics - State Achievement Levels 1-2 & Xcel Bronze	\$75.00 per gymnast
Gymnastics - State Placement Levels 3-9 and Xcel Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond and Sapphire	\$90.00 per gymnast
Gymnastics – State Team Fee	\$25.00 per level
Gymnastics State Late Fee	\$20.00 per gymnast
Swimming	\$10.00 per competitor, per event
Tennis	\$15.00 per competitor, per event
Track & Field	\$10.00 per competitor, per event