

September 1, 2006

Dear Members of MO:

I have been asked many questions about the new State Championships for Level 5 & 6 gymnasts that we added to the fall season. I wanted a chance to answer some of the questions that have come up.

I think the most important thing to remember about this season is that we are trying this for now and if it works out for some clubs then we will keep it. If it doesn't then we may change the format for next year. The main reason that a Fall Season was added for Level 5 & 6 is that for several years there have been clubs asking about having a fall Compulsory season. This gives all clubs in MO a chance to choose between a Fall competitive season for their compulsories and a Spring season.

Which State Championships is the REAL Championships?

Kim: They both are equally important. If you win the Fall State Championships then you are the Fall State Champions. If you win the Spring State Championships then you are the Spring State Champions. There is not one that is bigger or more important than the other.

Can I use this to see where my athletes are?

Kim: Well you could..... but the purpose of a State Championship is to have the gymnasts prepared and ready to compete at the State Level. I am discouraging any clubs from using it just as another meet in the fall. They should view it as a BIG meet for their Compulsory Levels, not as just another competition.

Can we compete in both State Championships?

Kim: You can. However, it was designed to give clubs another option for training Fall verses Spring. Most clubs only need one State Championships for any given level, so you could just choose one. But no one will stop you if you would like to compete in both.

How about for Mobility?

Kim: That is another great thing about holding a Fall & Spring State Meet. If you would like to move a gymnast up – but want her to have the experience of a State Championships first, then this is a great way to compete Level 5 in the Fall and move up to 6 for the Spring, or Level 4 in the Fall and 5 in the Spring. Provided the mobility score is met and the gymnast qualifies for each Championship this could be a useful tool for some gymnasts.

Is everything about the 2 State Championships the same?

Kim: YES! Except location. Obviously in the fall it will be Level 3 – 6 and in the Spring Level 5 – 10. But other than different levels competing with you the format, awards, gifts etc will all be identical.

If you have any additional questions – feel free to call me at 816-223-2159 or email me at MOSACC@aol.com

Thanks,

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