Dear ISGA Member Schools, 25.09.2018

Thank you so much for your recent patience in the face of ‘no news’ and no up to date entry forms for 2017-2018 ISGA National competitions. We have not been able to secure a 3 day venue for March 5 piece girls’ Nationals and until now we have had no offers at all for this major championship. As our deadline approaches for entries for the year I am writing to inform you of what we do know and what we think will happen for that competition. All entry forms should go online early next week and the deadline **will be extended to October 6th** for our original September 30th entries. Please pay your entry money for all competitions as soon as possible and try to meet our new deadline.

2piece Nationals will be held for all boys and girls age groups over 2 days ( 11th and 12th November) at Stamford School, Lincolnshire. We are grateful to Trudy Smith for hosting this competition. This is a stand-alone Championship but also acts as a qualifying competition for teams who did not enter the 5 piece competition last March at Tormead or who entered but failed to gain automatic qualification. Please remember to consult the website for details of eligibility and review the ’RESULTS’ sheets (not past results) to confirm whether or not you have automatic eligibility for March 2018. It will differ for each of your teams. Schools can enter their girls U9 teams in the novice section to perform the 4 piece Challenge Cup Set Floor which contains some modifications but THIS WILL NOT result in qualification for U9 5piece Premier Nationals so make sure you know if you are trying to get your team into the U9 5 piece competition in March, in which case they have to perform the 5 Piece set floor in the 2 Piece Championships.

4 piece Challenge cup for Girls and 4 piece Nationals for boys will be held on 21st January in Cambridge at St Faith’s and it is being hosted by Tim and Linda North. The competition should run on one long day but if numbers dictate then the competition may start on Saturday afternoon (20th January) for some age groups/categories. Please make sure that you have read rules about eligibility. It is especially important to realise that you cannot enter a team into the 4piece and the 5piece in the same age group eg U11, even if you intend to put a different group of gymnasts in each competition. NB- The deadline for entry for this competition is not until November but please send back the **INTENTION to enter form** now so I can make sure we can accommodate all teams who wish to participate.

5 piece Premier Competition in March:

A huge thanks to Tara Oxley at Guildford High who is able to offer 2 days at her school on FRIDAY 9th March and SATURDAY 10th March, (length of day the Sports complex can be used is restricted). This competition is for U9, U15 teams (Friday) and U13, O13 teams( Saturday). For this year only there will be no GROUP SEQUENCE for U9 while we can accommodate group sequence for U13, U15 and O13 age groups. The competition on Saturday will be on a split site with the group sequence taking place a little way up the road at the main school. Thanks to June’s resourceful nature we are in the process of negotiating a venue for the U10 and U11 age groups on Sun 4 March. While this has not been finalised, we hope to be able to confirm this in the next day or two. If so, the competition will run from 8am – 7pm at Kingston Gymnastics Centre in Milton Keynes. The venue boasts tiered seating for 200 as well as 2 sprung floor areas. Please note that gymnasts will warm up and compete group, vol floor and set floor on a sprung floor area. The gym is located amongst coffee shops, restaurants and shops so parking is good and access to all manner of refreshments is easy. Currently we are having to be a bit creative about vault and we may have to leave out set vault this year for those two age groups. I am visiting the gym on 20th October and will be able to confirm whether set vault is in or out after that visit.

I am so sorry to be so last minute but many building works and staff changes in schools have made this event difficult to arrange this year. I think we all took our good fortune at Kent College and Tormead for granted in recent years and I for one am incredibly grateful for the last 6 years which has enabled ISGA to grow and flourish so brilliantly.

Best wishes

Linda North Competition Secretary.