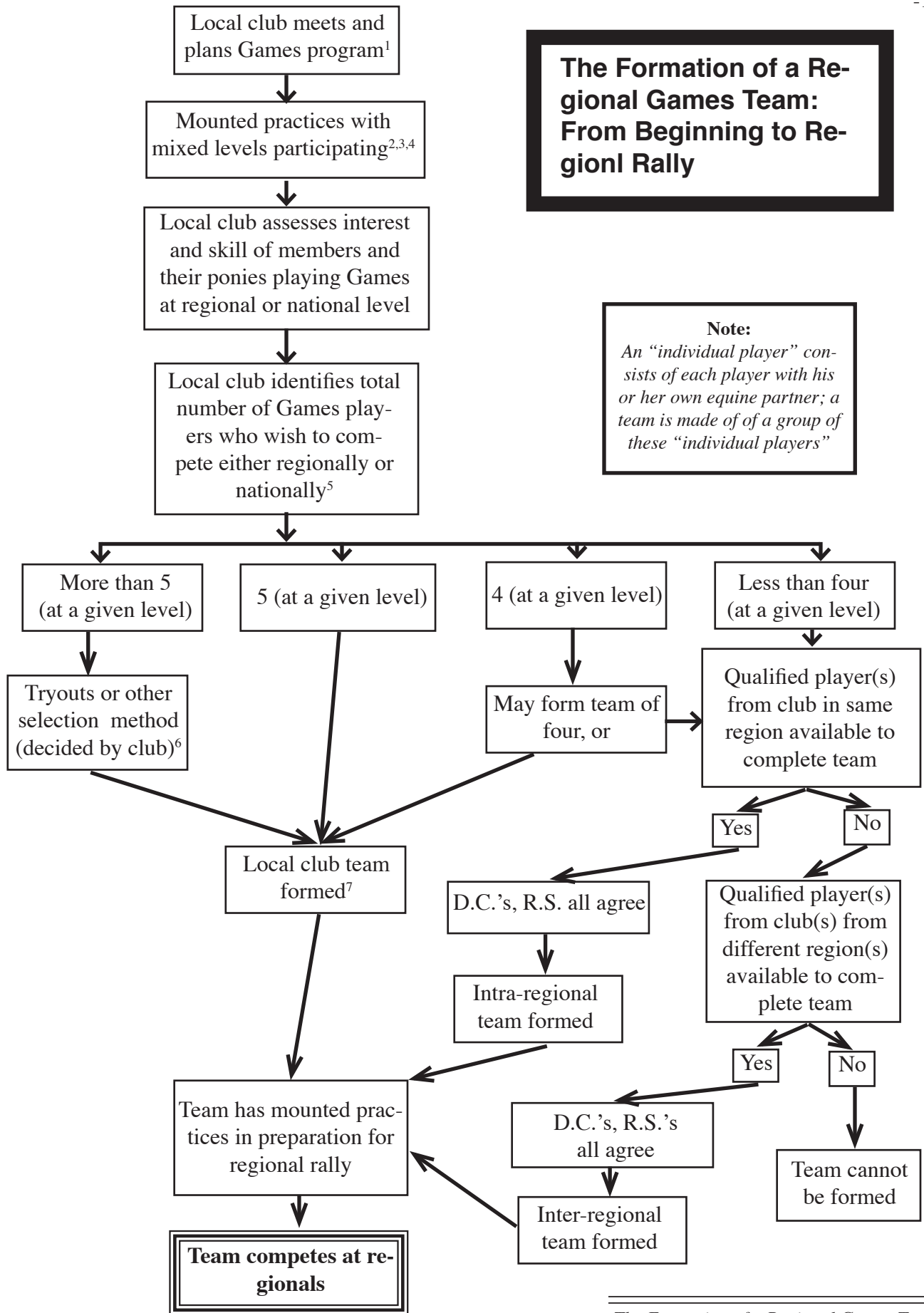
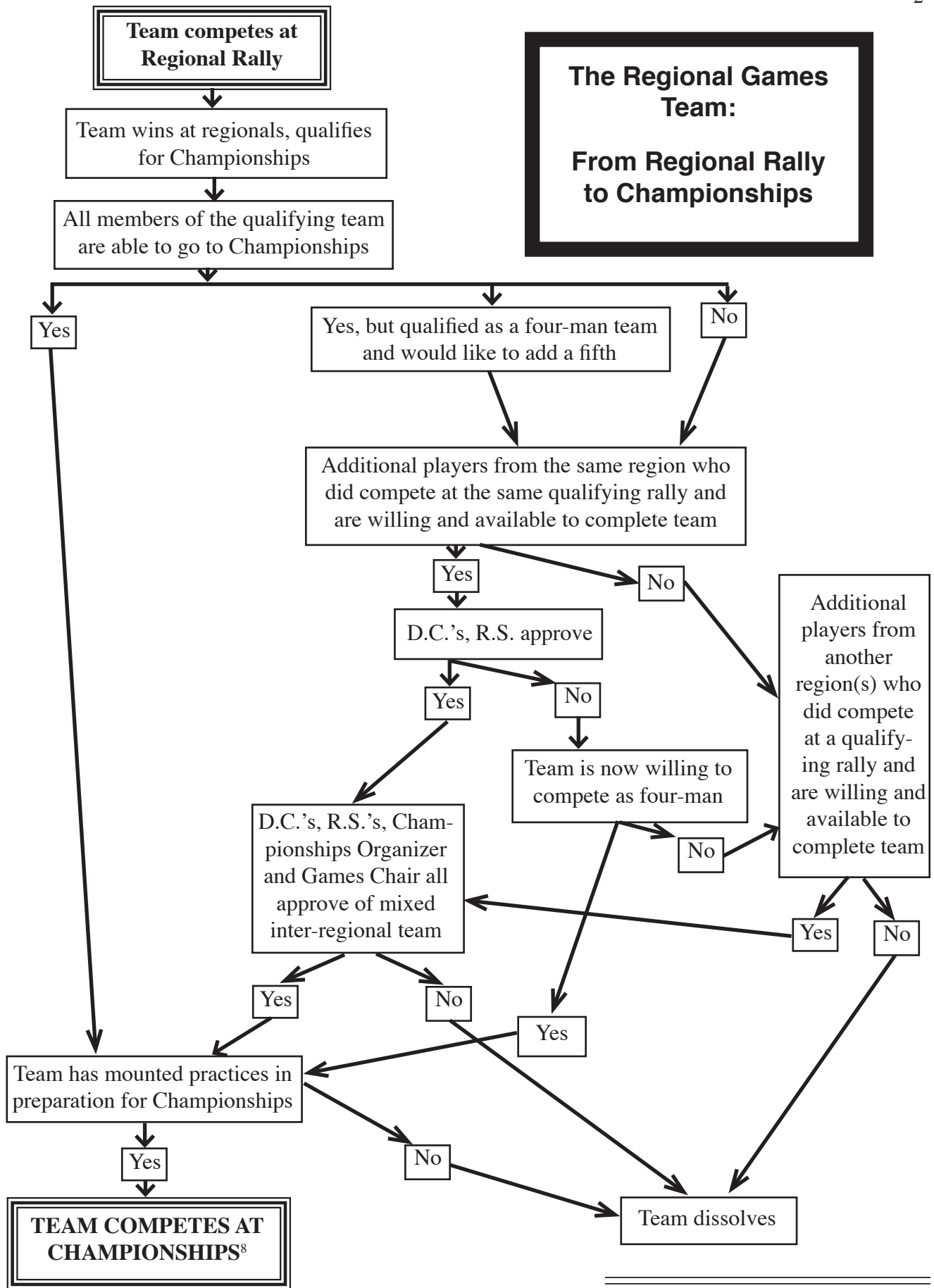


The Formation of a Regional Games Team: From Beginning to Regional Rally



Note:
An "individual player" consists of each player with his or her own equine partner; a team is made of a group of these "individual players"



**The Regional Games Team:
From Regional Rally
to Championships**

The Substitution Rule

The team that won at the regional rally (each rider with his/her qualifying pony) is the team that should compete at Championships. The Games Committee recognizes, however, that circumstances can alter this and will allow substitution under the following circumstances:

Rider Substitution

A substitution of rider may be made in the vent of illness or other legitimate absence (e.g., family vacation, illness or death in family), or the team competed at the regional rally with only four members. In either case, the substituted or additional member must have competed at a regional competition on another team in the same year, and meet all the age and eligibility requirements for the division in which he/she intends to compete.

Pony Substitution

A substitution of a pony is allowed only with a veterinarian's certificate of unsoundness or proof of sale or loss of lease of mount. In addition, there must be proof of safety and fitness for competition [of the proposed substitute]. A safe pony has had a previous satisfactory performance at a regional or national level games competition and has demonstrated a knowledge of games and the ability to maintain its demeanor during the playing of the games. A fit pony is one that has been in regular active work for at least four weeks prior to the Championships and will, therefore, be able to withstand the physical demands of the competition. The following must be complied with in order to activate the substitution rule: (1) For rider substitution a letter signed by the R.S. stating that he/she has verified the reason for the rider's absence, or that the team was a four-member team and that the replacement rider competed in a regional [i.e., qualifying] games rally the same year. (2) For pony substitution, a letter signed by the R.S. stating the reason for the activation of the rule (e.g., lameness), a certification that the pony being substituted has previously successfully performed at a games competition and that it is fit and in regular active work. If the R.S. is unable to make these certifications because of unfamiliarity with the pony, the D.C. may make the certifications, accompanied by a letter from the R.S. that the R.S. is unfamiliar with the pony. In either case, the proper documentation (vet certificate, bill of sale, lease cancellation letter) as well as a current Coggins and owner's consent form for the new pony must be included. (3) Any substitution is subject to final approval at the sole and absolute discretion of the Games Committee Chair. (4) Under no circumstance may a rider or pony be substituted after the official opening of the games.

Check List for Championships Entries in Games¹¹

Regional Games Rally Organizer

The Regional Games Rally Organizer should gather the following information at the conclusion of the Regional Rally and give these items to the Regional Supervisor (as they will all be needed for the Regional Entry for Championships):

- 1. Regional Rally Program, listing team names, levels (Junior, Senior or Advanced) with each player's name, rating, P.C. age, weight, pony name (include name on Coggins also if a pet name is used) and pony height, signed by the Rally T.D. (If changes in the program were made subsequent to printing of the program, the T.D. should note these changes in writing on the official copy of the program and initial them.)
- 2. Regional Rally Scoresheet, signed by the Overall Judge (s) and the T.D.
- 3. Regional Rally T.D. report

Regional Supervisor: Championships Entry Check List for Games

The Regional Supervisor must send in the Regional entries with the following information:

- 1. The Regional Entry, listing the team(s), riders, ponies, and the additional information called for in item #2 below.
- 2. Regional Rally Program, listing team names, levels (Junior, Senior or Advanced) with each player's name, rating, P.C. age, weight, pony name (include name on Coggins also if a pet name is used) and pony height, signed by the Rally T.D. (If changes in the program were made subsequent to printing of the program, the T.D. should note these changes in writing on the official copy of the program and initial them.)
- 3. Regional Rally Scoresheet, signed by the Overall Judge (s) and the T.D.
- 4. Regional Rally T.D. report
- 5. Coggins for each pony
- 6. Any additional information as required in the Gold Book.

Check List for Championships Entries in Games when the Substitution Rule is invoked

The team which qualifies at the Qualifying Regional Rally becomes that Region's entry to the USPC Championships. Any change in team makeup following the Qualifying Rally must be approved by the USPC Games Chair using the following criteria:

Regional Supervisor: Pony Substitution (or Addition) Check List

If there has been an activation of the Pony Substitution rule, the Regional Supervisor must send in the following information with the Region's Official Entry for Championships:

- 1. Letter signed by the R.S. which includes:
 - a. Reason for substitution
 - b. Verify suitability (experience and current fitness of substitute pony).
This verification may be done by the D.C. if the R.S. does not know the pony.)
- 2. Documentation of reason for substitution
 - a. Vet note explaining the withdrawal of the original pony (if due to injury or illness of original qualifying pony), or
 - b. Copy of proof of sale or loss of lease of pony if applicable.
- 3. Coggins for the new pony
- 4. Height of the new pony
- 5. Equine owner release form for the new pony
- 6. Approval by the USPC Games Chair

Regional Supervisor: Rider Substitution (or Addition) Check List

If there has been an activation of the Rider Substitution rule, the Regional Supervisor must send in the following information with the Region's Official Entry for Championships:

- 1. Letter signed by the R.S. stating the reason for activation of the rule (e.g., illness, family conflict, etc.)
- 2. Verification that the proposed substitute (or additional) rider has, fact competed at a qualifying rally in the same year (give rally and region).
- 3. Verification that the proposed substitute (or additional) rider meets all of the age and rating standards for the level at which he/she proposes to compete.
- 4. Approval by the USPC Games Chair

FOOTNOTES

1. USPC Handbook and Rules for Games Competition 2003, ©2003, The United States Pony Clubs, Inc., Lexington, Kentucky, Article 32, p. 38
2. *ibid* Article 35, p. 44
3. *ibid* Article 36, p. 44
4. *ibid* Article 37, p. 44
5. *ibid* Article 38, p. 45
6. *ibid* Article 38, p. 45
7. *ibid* Article 39, p. 45
8. *ibid* Article 40, p. 45
9. *ibid* Article 32, p. 38
10. *ibid* pp. 39-44
11. *ibid* Article 20, pp. 7-8

**On the Formation and Composition
of a
Regional Games Team
for
Regional and National Championships**

**Algorithm
plus
Check Lists
for
Regional Organizers and Regional Supervisors**

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