



AL-NAWGW



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

APRIL 2007

National Judges Cup

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

National Judges Cup	1-3
New Ratings	3
Optional Judges Cup	4
State Congress	4
Carpooling	5
Region 8 Congress	6
Financials	7
Caedmon Kelley	7
Huntsville Clinic	7

2007 National Judges Cup was held in the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, Indiana the first weekend of January. There were 23 sessions with over 1,300 gymnast participating and most times there were three complete gym meets going on at the same time. There were a little over 100 judges who volunteered their time from 34 states. Alabama sent only one judge this year, Mary Ann Wallace. In the past we have sent as many as 4 judges to volunteer for this national meet.

The Level 7 Team competition included 17 teams which is the largest number entered. Placement was:

Texas	188.675
North California	188.050
Louisiana	186.925
Washington	186.675
Oklahoma	184.025
Kansas	182.575
Kentucky	181.625
Pennsylvania	181.500
Alabama	179.875
Missouri	179.550
New Mexico	179.550
Indiana	178.725
Illinois	178.075
Mississippi	177.875
Ohio	175.525

Idaho	170.550
Tennessee	169.475

The following team members represented Alabama and the scores counting for a team score:

Abigail Armbecht – Planet	
Bars	8.15
Beam	8.85
Floor	9.225

Madison Ware – Shoals	
Vault	9.35
Beam	8.55

Whitney Webster – Mountain Brook	
Vault	9.10
Bars	8.80
Beam	8.55
Floor	9.10

Morgan Cook – JFJ	
Vault	9.30
Bars	8.975
Beam	8.50
Floor	9.30

Erin Downey – JFJ	
Vault	9.275
Bars	9.05
Floor	9.225

Sara Gabel Burdette – Mountain Brook	
Vault	9.15
Bars	8.95
Beam	9.175
Floor	9.30

We send a 6 man team and 5 scores count on each event. The value of this expensive meet is to expose our most talented level 7 gymnastic to national level competition. As I look at the participants in this years Optional State Meet I realized that the gymnast who have had the opportunity to be a part of one of the Level 7 teams have progressed through the program and posses the knowledge that helps them in regional and national competitions. The evidence of this program was evident last year when Alabama placed higher in the Level 8 Regional Team competition than in previous years.

Your support and help with this program is a small way to help and support the development of these talented young gymnast.

Mary Ann Wallace

National Judges Cup

Dear Judges,

I would like to share with you my experience at the National Judges Cup Competition this January in Indianapolis. I have attended two other Judges Cups in the past, and this by far was the most exciting and enjoyable.

The venue was superb! The meet was held at the convention part of the Indianapolis RCA Center where we had Congress two years ago. I stayed directly across the street and the hotel had a walkway directly into the competition area. Three gyms were set up, and I believe there were over 100 judges working. The schedule was well prepared, and we were always within minutes of the published awards time. Awards were directly across the hall, so there was no down time in the gym. Food was served for coaches and judges, and the hospitality was wonderful.

Those are the facts, here are my impressions:

We are an incredibly blessed state to have judges work so hard to field a team at this competition. I hope you realize the coaching community understands that your hard work gives six talented athletes the opportunity to compete in a nationally attended prestigious meet at hardly any cost to them. Their entry fee, hotel room, leotard, warm up suit, and one dinner was provided by Alabama NAWGJ. Coaches received a beautiful shirt and jacket, hotel room, and spending money to help defray their expenses. Parents, coaches and athletes were amazed at this!

The team walked in the arena ready to perform, and proud to represent Alabama. A great deal of that emotion was due to the support they had received from YOU! The coaches worked beautifully together, and all of us truly enjoyed the camaraderie and we had fun.

We all try to make sure our athletes have fun at every competition, but as you well know, not every experience is fun for the coaches or the judges. This one was!

The younger three went in the first session and raised the bar for their teammates. The next three came in and took

the challenge to make our finish the highest in Alabama's history of participating in this well attended meet.

Although I must admit I was a bit leery of this meet in the past, I now have changed my mind. I have first hand experience into the positive steps the meet directors have taken to make this meet better each year. I truly believe they have listened to coaches and judges alike, and have taken their suggestions to heart.

I have even taken the judges test, and am now a person who can judge the lowest levels. I did this for a couple of reasons, but I think realizing how hard all of you work to make this happen for our

athletes convinced me there was more I could be doing. So now perhaps I will have the opportunity to help you in any way you need at the Judges Cup meets. For those of you who are fairly new to judging, you will not remember that this is my second go round with judging. Back in the 70's and 80's I hit



the trail almost every weekend to judge across the south and at college meets. Now, I hope to judge now and then when it is possible, but most importantly I hope to help with something I have truly come to believe in-National Judges Cup competition.

Thank you for your efforts in supporting our athletes. I will be sharing this letter (or most of it) with the coaches. Alabama USAG has a lot to be thankful for, and Alabama NAWGJ is on the top of the list!

Sincerely,

Deb Walls
Alabama State Committee Chair



Dear SJD's,

NATIONAL JUDGES CUP: First of all, I wish to thank all of you for your contributions to the National Judges Cup. Whether it was with your time and expertise or your state's support of this event by sending your judges it was greatly appreciated! One of the "perks" of this position is getting to meet our members and without this event it would be extremely difficult. Another very special perk is receiving all the emails from those who participated, letting us know how much they enjoyed the meet, meeting new judges and how they want to come to San Diego next year (get ready to double your budgeted amount- they will be asking, I'm sure!).

We had 1300 competitors and the meet went so well! I think it was one of the most smoothest running meets we have had in recently. Finally, Texas stood on the award stand, dethroning Nor-Cal in the State Team Competition. There were 17 teams in the Level 7 State Team Competition (*where were the other 33?- we need 50*). We did have some exquisite athletes in the meet- very artistic young gymnasts.

We had more RJD's present than ever. Region V especially supported us (with the exception of the host state which was very minimal). Both Connie Maloney and Judy Kemp were actively judging and lent their personal support. They supplied pins for all the judges and also some snack bags. It is sad for the judges in IND that missed such a great opportunity of camaraderie and also the opportunity to practice judge higher levels.

The state of Ohio had the most judges volunteer- 19 and we could not have made it without them. Kentucky and California had the second most and some states sent 3+ judges. We needed everybody we had the last session on Sunday evening. One of the arrangements that made it work so

well was the proximity (the bridge connecting the hotel and arena) to the meet site. Judges could come and go without having to arrange rides.

Many were talking about 2008 in San Diego. Right now the venue planned is smaller than where we were, we will have a difficult time running three gyms at the same time but Patty and Linda will brainstorm and come up with the best arrangement I am sure. It will still be fine.

UNIFORM NEWS: The fit line for the uniform arrived and judges were given the opportunity to try on the new pieces. I have contacted HPI and we are working on getting the information for ordering online. I am hopeful that we can link the company from NAWGJ.org to HPI and that the judges can order directly. The quality seems much better but the sizing is a bit different. The skirt runs a little larger. We have 2 styles of pants to choose from- flex fit and flat front. The jacket is cut less boxy. And this is the only piece we received any negative feedback from (I actually wore the new skirt with my old jacket at the meet on Sunday evening- they blend fine (considering my jacket has been dry cleaned many, many times and is 2 years old). This all takes time, especially when we are volunteers and are judging every weekend too. We are working on the ordering piece and I will notify you as soon as ordering is possible.

Fees: Robin Smith and her committee have a proposal for fee increase. I am trying to schedule a conference call with the NGB in early February so we can proceed on a proposal to USAG. I am just waiting to hear from NGB members so we can proceed.

YEARLY MEETING- We are planning our meeting for San Antonio, June 7 and 8 for the National Governing Board and June 9 and 10 for the SJD Meeting. I am working with two hotels but have not signed

a contract as of today. The hotel with the best rate does not have space for the NGB to meet on Thursday and Friday (the room is too small). I can secure another hotel but the rooms are \$199 plus tax because of its location on the Riverwalk. I know some states have an abundant treasury but all states do not. I need to hear from the RJD's as to their recommendation as to location versus value. Hopefully, this will be resolved soon.

I am also attaching a summary of a conversation held between Connie Maloney, Pat Panichas and myself while we were in Indy. This is in regard to carpooling and we can cover this in more detail at our meeting. I wanted to forward it to you now. Please remember that it is always up to the judge to determine who she may safely carpool with. Connie will put it on the USAG website also. For insurance reasons, the choice must always be the up to the individual. We can suggest who can travel together but beware of mandates that may put you or your assigners in jeopardy.

I trust everyone is having a good judging season and will forward further updates as they develop. For those of you affected by severe weather and cancellations our sympathies to you all. I hope the western states get some good weather soon.

Best Regards,
Carole Ide

New Ratings

CONGRATULATIONS:

Jamie Wallace—Level 9

Debbie Walls—Level 5/6 & 7/8

Kelly Hill—Level 10

The AL USAG Board will ask the SJD the following information for the Judges Criteria for State Meets:

- Years experience
- Availability during the current season (compulsory and optional separate)
- Continuing education experience for year involved
- Affiliation
- Professionalism
- Number of experiences judging during the season at the level of the state meet being contracted
- Geographic location
- Level of certification

List of judges available for the specific state meet

Mary Ann

2006 Optional Judges Cup

Optional Judges Cup was a big success thanks to the generosity of Armory Gymnastics, Benjamin Morrow, Christy Tumlinson, and Missy West. They opened their doors and provided a free facility to the judges to hold this annual event. The other large group to thank are the judges who took the time to spend the weekend during the Christmas Holidays to make this event possible. Without the combination of a facility and judges we would not have this money maker to send the Alabama Level 7 Team to National Judges Cup each year. The judges who participated were Amy Arnts, David Bowles, Annette Burgin, Jarrett Ezell, Tammye Goehring, Sharon Griffin, Kelly Hill, Ashleigh Kelley, Melissa Nevitt, Diane Peeks, Maria Ross, Wendy Seabrook, Janet Skaggs, Phyllis Thompson, Jamie Wallace, and Mary Ann Wallace

Thank you note from Deb Kornegay

Dear Alabama Coaches and Judges,

Thank you so much for the wonderful bag full of great goodies. I have worn the warm socks, used the great scarf with it's pockets and look forward to using the bag, the bubble bath and reading the book. I appreciate being gifted with each one of your friendships over the years. You are an outstanding group of people, who I am honored to represent.

Sincerely,
Debby Kornegay

State Congress

Be sure and mark your calendar for the weekend of May 25th -27th for our State Congress in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. To date we have Brad Harris and Tom Burgdorf as out of state clinicians. Your state committee's plan is to keep costs at minimum so all of us can include our entire staff. Information will be available on our web page by the end of February.

A clinic at home, affordable and for all of our staff. We are also planning our annual banquet on Friday night the 25th of May. This is Memorial weekend, and that means you will have MONDAY off! Thanks, Deb.

Thank you note from Mary Ann

Dear Coaches and Judges,

Thank you for the travel bag and all the goodies in side. I am taking a trip to New York City and all the items will be so handy. Your support and thoughtfulness touch my heart. I am so glad to be a part of Alabama Gymnastics and working with each of you is a bonus.

Mary Ann

Address Book Changes

Wendy Seabrook—Email change rwseabrook@knology.net

Maria Ross—Email Change mariaros76@hotmail.com

CLARIFICATIONS IN REGARDS TO CARPOOLS FOR JUDGES

January 11, 2007

The following recommendations are a result of discussion between Carole Ide and Pat Panichas representing NAWGJ, along with Connie Maloney, USAG Jr. Olympic Program Manager.

In all situations, the decision to carpool or not should be made based on what is the most economical for the Meet Director. If there are certain situations that cause two or more judges to drive independently when they should/could have carpooled, this needs to be discussed with the assigner (as stated in the R & P) who will then intercede with the Meet Director.

Assigners may indicate on contracts which judges could possibly carpool, based on their location.

- **Situation #1:** Judge #1 smokes. Judge #2 is allergic to smoke and can't carpool in Judge #1's car. Judge #1 wants to be able to smoke going to the meet, even if judge #2 drives. They decide they can't carpool. Who gets mileage? Both judges are willing to drive, but judge #2 is allergic and judge #1 wants to be able to smoke.
ANSWER: Split the mileage. When splitting mileage, each judge calculates their own round-trip mileage, deducts 30 miles, multiplies it by the current mileage fee (\$0.48) and then charges half of that amount.
- **Situation #2:** Judge #1 doesn't get along with judge #2, so they don't carpool. Who gets mileage?
ANSWER: Split the mileage (see #1)
- **Situation #3:** Judge #1 and Judge #2 live 15 miles from a gym. If they both drive, the gym doesn't pay mileage to either of them. If they carpool, the gym pays mileage. What is the correct thing to do?
ANSWER: There is no need to carpool in this situation; however, if two or more judges who each live

15 miles or less from the meet site (and would not be eligible for mileage reimbursement) choose to carpool, mileage will not be paid to the driver.

- **Situation #4:** Judge #1 and Judge #2 usually carpool. Judge #1 has other plans at the end of the meet, and can't make the return trip. Who gets mileage?
ANSWER: Judge 1 should give up the mileage. When personal plans prevent the normal return, it should not cost the other judge or the meet director.
- **Situation #5:** Judge #3 replaces a judge on a meet. When all the judges arrive at a meet, it appears that another judge could have carpooled with judge #3, but didn't know that judge #3 had replaced someone. Who takes mileage?
ANSWER: In this case, Judge #3 and the other judge(s) she could have carpooled with all receive mileage. However, any changes to the assignments should be reported to the assigner, who should then inform the replacement judge of any possible carpooling opportunities. If it is a last-minute replacement, the newly added judge may want to call the meet director to find out who else is judging in order to determine if there is a possibility for carpooling.
- **Situation #6:** Judge #1 loves to drive and has a larger, more comfortable vehicle than the others in same carpool group. If he/she always wants to drive, is this fair?
ANSWER: If the others in that carpool are satisfied that Judge #1 always drives, there is no problem; however, if others would like to drive and Judge #1 is not willing to give up his/her driving "rights", then Judge #1 may want to consider offering a portion of the mileage to the rider(s). Some individuals who always drive make sure that their actual expenses for gas are covered and then split the remaining amount with the rider(s).

- **Situation #7:** Judge #1 and #2 both have older vehicles (with over 100,000 miles each) and they are assigned to a meet 200 miles away (400 mi. RT). Neither wants to drive their own vehicle, so they decide to rent a car. The cost of the car rental and gas is less than the mileage reimbursement of \$.48 per mile. What should they charge the meet director?
ANSWER: They should submit receipts for the gas and the car rental and be reimbursed those costs only. It is unethical to charge mileage (400 x \$.48) and then rent for a lesser amount. The purpose of mileage reimbursement is to cover not only the cost of fuel, but the "wear and tear" on your vehicle. If you are renting a car, you obviously do not have the concerns for "wear and tear."

In order to decide if renting a vehicle will be cheaper, or equal to, being reimbursed for actual mileage, the judge should check on Map Quest to confirm the round-trip mileage; then calculate the cost of the car rental (plus insurance) times the number of days required and the approximate gas.

A judge traveling alone may also decide to rent a car due to a problem with his/her own vehicle. In that case, the judge MUST charge the meet director with the lesser of the two amounts (either mileage or rental/gas costs).



In cooperation with Region 8 presents the

2007 Region 8 Congress

GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE/SITE:

Region 8 June 15 – 17, 2007 Atlanta, GA Renaissance Atlanta Hotel

PURPOSE OF REGIONAL CONGRESSES:

The purpose of regional congress is to provide education to the teachers, coaches, judges and gymnastics business owners of the region. Education and training enable everyone to effectively and professionally serve in the development of the young gymnasts across the country.

REGION 8 EDUCATION:

Over 75 Sessions cover the following areas:

Coaches Education – Sessions covering popular topics for the developmental through elite gymnastics coach. Learn from leaders in the gymnastics community.

Recreational Education – A recreational track covering programs for tots through teens; be the best instructor in your gym!

Business Education – Sessions covering marketing, managing your business, staff retention and more.

Judges Education – Sessions covering compulsory, optional and elite judging criteria, technique and more.

SPEAKERS:

Region 8 Committee

Alison Arnold National Team Sports Psychologist

Tammy Biggs National Coaching Staff

Tom Koll Nat'l Jr. Olympic Committee Chairman

Brant Lutska National Instructor/Recreational Gymnastics

Connie Maloney Women's JO Program Manager

Jeff Metzger Business Education

Tim Rand Former National Team Coach

Gary Warren Women's Program Director/Athlete Development

Registration will begin on February 1, 2007. Online Registration will be available for members and printable forms will be available for all others at www.usa-gymnastics.org

<u>COST</u>	Early Bird (Ends April 1st)	Regular Price (Ends May 31st)	On-site	<u>Full Dinner Banquet</u>
Professional, Jr. Pro & Instructor Members	\$145.00	\$175.00	\$200.00	\$20.00
Other Member Types and Non – Members	\$175.00	\$205.00	\$230.00	\$20.00
Member Clubs	1st – \$145.00 2nd – \$135.00 3rd – \$135.00 4th – \$125.00 5th – \$125.00 6th or more – \$115.00	1st – \$175.00 2nd – \$165.00 3rd – \$165.00 4th – \$155.00 5th – \$155.00 6th or more – \$145.00	N/A	\$20.00/ea

HOUSING:

A block of rooms has been reserved. **Call by May 22, 2007**

National Travel Systems Sports Travel Team

PO Box 93498

Lubbock, TX 79493-3498

Toll Free: 1-888-603-8747; Main Line: 806-794-3135

Fax: 806-687-3815

Email: usagama@takeavacation.com Website: www.wdpltd.com

Single/Double Rate of \$125.00

Any reservations after the cut-off date will be based strictly on availability.

Renaissance Atlanta Hotel - Downtown

590 West Peachtree Street NW

Atlanta, GA 30308

404/881-6000 – local information only

*Please check the USA Gymnastics website – www.usa-gymnastics.org for a detailed schedule and registration information.

*Minimum age for Congress attendees is 16.

NAWGJ FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

EXPENSES

<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Optional Judges Cup</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 15,461.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assigning Fees</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fundraisers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 110.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reimbursements</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL INCOME</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 15,691.00</td> </tr> </table>	Optional Judges Cup	\$ 15,461.00	Assigning Fees	\$ 100.00	Fundraisers	\$ 110.00	Reimbursements	\$ 20.00	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 15,691.00	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Optional Judges Cup</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 9,511.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Postage</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 28.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Supplies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 579.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phone/Internet</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 303.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Promotional Items</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 55.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 280.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 538.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Judges cup</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 5,911.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Board Meeting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 39.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gifts Given</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 330.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Web Site</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 930.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 18,508.24</td> </tr> </table>	Optional Judges Cup	\$ 9,511.85	Postage	\$ 28.35	Operating Supplies	\$ 579.69	Phone/Internet	\$ 303.56	Promotional Items	\$ 55.20	Education	\$ 280.00	Membership	\$ 538.50	National Judges cup	\$ 5,911.04	Board Meeting	\$ 39.77	Gifts Given	\$ 330.28	Web Site	\$ 930.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 18,508.24
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A new Kelley is here! Caedmon Patrick was born at 12:43 on March 7th. He weighed 8 lbs, 1oz. and measured 21 inches. Ashleigh was wonderful and is recovering well. We love you all. -Lance

Update : Hello to all!

Caedmon turned 4 weeks old yesterday and is doing great! We are having a blast and are amazed at the changes that each day brings. We went to the doctor today for his check up, and he weighed 11 pounds! Here are a few pictures of our little hunka-chunk. Hope everyone is doing well. We love you all.

Lance and Ashleigh



Regional Availability and In-Gym Cards—A reminder that your In-Gym Experience Card and Availability From is due to Marian Dykes and Sheila Ragle by June 1st.

ANNUAL TOM KOLL CLINIC—Alabama Judges are welcome to observe the annual Tom Koll clinic at Huntsville Gymnastics June 8 – 10. Camp will begin each day at 9:00 a.m. There will be 6 hours of instruction each day. James Linderholm offers this opportunity to the Alabama judges free of charge if they are willing to help with the camp. If you are interested in using this opportunity for CPE credits please contact Mary Ann Wallace since a sanction will be required if you plan to use for CPE credit. The sanction form and fee must be sent in one month prior to the clinic so make sure to let Mary Ann know your needs before May 5th.