



AL-NAWGJ News Flash

Volume 8, Issue 1

July 2007

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REGION 8 CONGRESS

The notes below were compiled from notes taken by Tammye Goehring, Diane Peeks, Wendy Seabrook, and Mary Ann Wallace. They are UNOFFICIAL but hopefully judges who were unable to attend one or more days of the Congress will benefit from this information.

● Geinger = D – Use any symbol you will be able to recognize but make sure to get the deduction. Leg separation is the most common error. All geingers, jaegers, and delchev end the same with the legs behind them if they have a good body shape. You should be able to see the extension.

● Tkatchev – similar to straddle back. If the gymnast slides over the bar deduction ^ .20 for amplitude. There will be an arch as the body lifts on the outside of the bar

● Jaeger – If on the over shoot the feet hit the bar the hit is considered part of the glide. Once the gymnast starts the downward swing the gymnast is in the next element. If hit is on the glide and there is a bonus connection given unless feet hit when contacting the bar.

● Shaposhnikova – the back should be parallel to the floor when catching the high bar

Cast for level 7 & 8 should be between 21 and 45 degrees.

BAR RELEASES – EXPECTATIONS CONNIE MALONEY

● Releases from high bar to low bar

1. Finish in handstand = C – must be within 20 degrees – look for vertical plane, should be able to see the bar depress when the gymnast lands in handstand.

Bail to handstand = D

handstand to handstand = D

● At level 9 & 10 deduct .10 if cast is below 45 degrees

● Counterswing to handstand on low bar – swing should be at height of high bar for no deduction for amplitude.

● Underswings and clear hip with counter movement to catch high bar – the feet should be shooting up between bars not shooting out away from bars. After turnover the feet should be back toward the low bars. If the gymnast catches with the feet down there will be an amplitude deduction and also deductions for the long hang kip afterwards. Don't miss this deduction.

CONNECTIONS AND POSITIONS ON BEAM AND FLOOR MARIAN DYKES

● Landing positions on the floor determine what value the skill receives

● Some skills just don't connect well. The free leg of the first skill must be the take off leg for the second skill.

● No deduction for overturn of skills

Dates to Remember

● July 24 Deadline for judges availability

(Note: If Meet Directors request specific judges I will send the contracts as soon as I receive all the information. Otherwise contracts will be sent out beginning July 24th. Please keep in mind that some Meet Directors do not request their judges and pay the assigning fee until after this date.

● Aug 1 Deadline for CJC entries.

- The split for the tour jete half can be middle or front to back
- You can tell when a connection is broken by the timing of the connection of the two skills
- Pictures of dance positions will hopefully be on the USAG web site by fall to help the judges with identification and body shaping
- A turn ends when any of the following occurs:
 - heel goes down
 - body stops
 - lose control
- The front leg of a switch leg leap must be at 45 degrees. If not at 45 degrees devalue to an "A"
- On the pike jump the chest will be down a little
- When the head releases on a ring leap the skills becomes a blind skill therefore the head release is important when awarding the value of the element
- There is a "B" turn with leg held high – 45 -89 degrees on lift and hold

PROFESSIONALISM – ALIGNING COACHES AND JUDGES EXPECTATIONS CONNIE MALONEY

- All gymnastics professionals need to be:
 - Involved for the right reasons. Love of the sport and love of children
 - Going in the same direction – on the right track
 - Striving to make ourselves better everyday
 - Some say they have been teaching 30 years but have they really only taught 1 year 30 times. must stay current.
 - How can I become a better human being? A better judge/coach?
 - By learning form my mistakes. It is okay to make mistakes – just admit it. It is not my way or the highway
 - By being open minded to the ideas of others
 - By taking the time to savor the special moments of working with children. They are going to start doing background checks for the protection of the children.
 - By realizing the impact you have on an athlete's life.
- Responsibilities and Challenges

Keeping up with an ever changing sport!!!

Practice makes perfect (well almost perfect)

- At home—review with DVD's judges training material
- Small group practice judging reviews
- Go to gyms (always call ahead of time)
- Educational Activity
 - Attend state, regional and national clinics
 - Go to coach related sessions as well as those specifically for judges
 - We need to have a better understanding of how and why skills are taught.
- Professional Attire:
 - Clean, neat appearance
 - Well fitting uniform
 - NAWG encourages judges to wear professional uniform
 - Display USAG patch
- Unprofessional Attire:
 - Tennis shoes
 - Shirts too short
- Theme meets are great!
- Sports Knowledge:
 - Confidence results from always staying on top of your game through on going education and checking web sites for updates
 - Be prepared to judge any event, not just your favorite one. Work on weak event and ask yourself to be assigned to force yourself to work harder. Assigners should rotate events.
- Am I an unprofessional judge?
 - Am I a know it all but really doesn't?
 - Am I too proud to look something up if I am unsure?
 - Am I so unprofessional that I have to look up everything?
 - Do I expect others to keep me updated?
 - Do I give unsolicited advice to other judges, coaches, or athletes? (Be careful what you say. Do not tell a child what they are missing, that is the coach's responsibility. You can tell the gymnast about execution.
 - Am I always prepared for the job at hand?
 - Am I confident in flashing my Start Value?

Do I bring all materials with me? Pen, pencil, paper, etc.

Do I fall into the trap of scoring to the average?
Be true to yourself.

- Aspects of being Professional:
 - Personality, Behavior, Demeanor
 - Respectful
 - Stays calm under fire
 - Polite
 - Positive attitude
 - Friendly
 - Unbiased
 - Flexible – can accept unexpected changes
 - Cooperative – willing to compromise
 - On time
 - Pleasant words for the gymnasts
 - Confident without being boastful
 - Be willing to admit your mistakes
 - Remain in your seat by your event
- Unprofessional Behavioral Faults
 - Condescending attitude
 - Impatience with judging partners
 - Acting board or tired
 - Showing bias toward gyms or teams
 - Reporting to the job in less than optimal condition (tired from the night before on the town, hung over, etc)
 - Unflattering remarks about gymnasts, coach or other judges in front of parent workers
 - Complaining/whining/demanding
 - Too chatty on the field of play
 - Doesn't acknowledge the gymnasts presentation at the end of routine
 - Refuses to compromise in a conference – argumentative
 - Using short breaks to do other work or leisure activities – at least be discrete about it
 - Socializing with coaches during meet.
- Conference Etiquette – Chief Judge should do the talking. Panel judge should not take over.
- The Affiliated Judge:

All judges actions are scrutinized but the affiliated judge is under a microscope

Even if the affiliated judge can evaluate fairly with NO BIAS, actions before, during or after the meet can give others a reason to question fairness.

EVALUATING ACRO SKILLS ON FLOOR MARIAN DYKES

- Basic skills can be excellently done
- The round off is one clue to how well the rest of the series will be done
- Look for stretch with an open position on the roundoff
- Watch the body positions on the take off of a layout salto. A slight hollow position should be present not a pike of decent
- If toes lead on a salto it is usually a pike
- The double front salto, even with cowboy position, is the hardest skill on floor

JUDGES – KEEP YOUR HEAD UP! CONNIE MALONEY

- For judge's scores to be within .20 and .30 of each other is amazing!
- Better to look up and see what the gymnast is performing
- Use any way to record routines – use your own symbols
- Whole head should not go all the way down during a routine. Most judges look down at end of tumbling pass. By doing this they may miss creative moves that add to the routine.
- Bars – never look down unless during a fall.
- Beam – look during falls –
- Falls – gymnast may not do an element on the mat during a fall. If they do an element deduct for extra warm up
- When the judge looks down it is obvious to the athletes and coaches. Both are watching the judges at all times
- If you have to look down just lower the eyes quickly where it isn't obvious.
- Some ideas to use to keep from looking
 - Can feel the end of page with heel of hand
 - Alternate using different colored pencils/pens

Hold finger at line you are writing on

Cut card stock the size of the area you are writing routines

- If having a problem with judging bars try skills, then parts, then whole routines. If you don't know a skill put DVD in slow motion and look at it over and over. Practice in slow motion. If you get behind when judging talk to yourself.
- When judging bars draw the starting position of the gymnast so you can rethink the routine to see where a half turn is present
- Be aware of your habits during judging because the coaches and gymnast are watching you.

J O UPDATE TOM KOLL, CONNIE MALONEY, PAUL PADRON, MARIAN DYKES

- The minutes with all changes are listed on the USAG web site
- USAG members will be required to pay for a background check when they renew their USAG membership starting this fall. The cost will be around \$20 but it will cost more for individuals who have had name changes and address changes. Members will sign up on line and furnish the necessary information. USAG will get a notice of "Red Light" for individuals who did not get a good rating or "Green Light" for an individual who has passed the screening. You should allow approximately 2 weeks for processing and search. USAG will not receive the report just a notice of classification. Member clubs can use these services for their staff eventually. Members will be required to have a back ground check every two years.
- New policy with Injury Petition – R & P, page 50, III, B, 1. Changes will be made where individuals will be allowed (at State Meets) to compete in one, two or three events and not jeopardize the petition.
- Gymnast does not have the right to repeat a routine because of bleeding. Gymnast must stop bleeding before remounting after a fall. Meet Director should have a first aid kit.
- Individual Specialist – each state can consider possibilities of individual event specialist. Specialist would be in the same session as all around gymnast and receive duplicate awards.
- Late Arrival of athlete – Every effort should be made to allow a gymnast to compete if delayed because of traffic or weather. Meet Directors should provide a safe and effective warm up without upsetting the flow of the meet.
- Handicap Athletes – R & P, page 35, I, B, 2 – peti-

tions refer to a permanent handicap gymnast

- Start Value Flash – All meets at all optional levels including level 7.
- Unallowable elements – Level 7 & 8 deduct 2.00 from the Start Value
- Warm up for Level 7 – change to 1 ½ minutes
- Deduction change: Insufficient exactness of tuck, pike, stretch \wedge .20 for UB/BB/FX and \wedge .30 for vault
- The chief judge may change a score for neutral deductions (out of bounds or over time) up to the end of the rotation. The coach should be advised of the change and the revised score flashed.
- Inappropriate Attire deduction should be taken when the attire is deliberately worn not when seen when competing
- Vault – the specific hand placement mat for vault must be furnished by the Meet Director. Gyms may bring their own
- Elements changed in Level 1 Floor (crab stand – make a table), Level 2 Floor (hinge back – lean body back from knees), Level 3 Floor (push to bridge and kick over)
- Level 7 acro element – handstand can have any leg position but MUST be held for 2 seconds
- Optional Floor – salto to sit – not a salto so doesn't affect dismount

EVALUATING VAULT FOR JUDGES PAUL PADRON

- Be passionate about vaulting
- Too little time is spent on vaulting in judging training
- Not enough separation between the vaults
- Vaults happens in an instance
- Coaches Complaints
 - Are the judges looking for the same things that we are?
 - Not enough separation is given to the more difficult vaults. Riskier vaults are being hit harder
 - It is hard to separate the big vaults
- Major Focus
 - Repulsion Phase
 - Second flight
 - What makes a big vault – the trajectory off the horse. All vaults look the same coming on the horse. Look for rise in flight path. Judges have to see the big picture.

- Develop an Eye for the Following Major Errors:
 - Body position upon arrival on table - \wedge .40
 - Height of vault - \wedge .50
 - Arm bend - \wedge .50 Tsukahara can have a SLIGHT arm bend in the lead arm
- Handspring is the root of all vaults
- Twisting Vaults –
 - Half-half – not many great ones seen – anytime you deviate from a straight line there should be deductions.
 - Twist should be completed at the apex of the vault. Timing of twist is \wedge .50.
 - Twist should be finished while inverted with feet pointing upward
- Roundoff entry vaults
 - Head in line with arms – if head goes up feet go down
 - If the body has a slight pike take for body position
 - Height and timing of the vault is the only way to separate this group of vaults
- Deduct for timing on salto if twist is on the way down.

LEVEL 10 BAR COMPOSITION COOKIE BATSCHKE

- Level 10 Nationals
 - 60% ended with a “C” dismount
 - Top level gymnasts had a double lay dismount – 20%
 - Many just barely met Special Requirements
 - Top level gymnasts had one release outside of bars and one inside the bars. Most had more
- Ideal bar composition will have full execution and complete difficulty
- At level 10 it is almost impossible to not use 4 structure groups
- Easy to over use of specific element or group of elements – long hang, cast to handstand – usually have 3

Variety of bars should have:

Connection of elements of highest value to elements of lowest value

Elements that pass through vertical

Release elements should be up to the level of competition – consider value and type

Should have high points so distribution should be considered

Spacing should be over, under, inside, outside and between the bars

Direction – gymnast facing same direction the whole time would receive deduction

- Judges should not rush to get their start value up – it is only for the coaches, not other judges.

UNDERSTANDING GRIPS AND TURNS ON BARS TIM RAND

- Most difficult event for judges.
 - Grips are hard to recognize.
 - Helps to know what leads into and out off grips
 - Each level has it's own compulsory routines within a few skills
 - If you can anticipate the next move it will help with judging routines
 - Difficult grips get difficult value part so becomes more difficult
 - Judges need to practice to get comfortable with bar grips and releases
- Over grip – thumb around or over bar – goes to kip, cast handstand, clear hip handstand, staldler to hand stand, back giant, toe on toe off
- Reverse grip – palms under bar
- Cross grip – hands crossed over. Not used very often
- Mixed grip – inverted and reverse grip (one hand over and one under the bar) – used for healy's and low to high connections
- Inverted (eagle or L grip) – We are a trendy group and names of elements are prevalent for a period of time.
- Slip grip – hands slip around the bar – used when falling a lot of times – usually not intentional – should see shift of hands past the point of peeling off
- Pirouettes – finish is what the judges are looking for but coaches sometimes don't watch for the finish –
- Walk around turns should be in one direction – change hands over in the direction you are turning
- During a hop you want to see the shoulders elevating
- Reverse grip $\frac{1}{2}$ - the grip is already done. Need to lean to stay closer to the center of the bar
- Blind change – turn with back leading – start with back half of circle

- Higgins – reach back to inverted grip – rolls hands over
- Hop turns – very hard – won't see very often out of a cast – should see the pop and hop action
- Half turn in one direction, then half in other direction is a "C"
- Half, half in the same direction = "D"
- A walk around full turn in handstand has 4 hand changes.
- A blind change full has only 2 hand changes
- Healy was never meant to be a turn in handstand – it was designed as a one hand turn after handstand. Most common ending for a healy is one hand in L grip and one hand in reverse grip.
- Front half to blind change puts gymnast in position to do a front giant.
- Clear hip, stalder, toe on toe off, easier to do a blind change. Turning in handstand is safe but use 2 hand changes. Clear hip changes on way up for blind change.

COMPOSITION DEDUCTIONS FOR LEVEL 9 BEAM COOKIE BATSCHE

- In the large meets the .05 composition deductions can make a big difference for the top scores
- If a gymnast is doing back handspring, back handspring she usually has a lack of balance between acro and dance value parts
- Roundoff is on the beam and counted as a side element
- A straddle, straddle $\frac{1}{4}$ is considered the same skill because it is in the same box in the code

PERFECT SKILLS

TIM RAND

- Kids do not need to lean forward to go backward
- Look for bent arms and knees on back handsprings

HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE MEET REFEREE AND/OR CHIEF JUDGE

MARIAN DYKES

- There should be an individual judge assigned as Meet Referee for every meet
- If the Meet Referee is on balance beam the Chief Judge on another event should give verbal warning for inappropriate attire and send a written note to the Meet Referee so she is aware of warning.
- Meet Referee should be notified of any changes after the start of the meet concerning things like the beam timing moving locations. It is important for the Meet Referee

to have full knowledge of any changes in case a problem arises.

- Timing on beam seems to be a hot topic – no matter who is timing beam (even another judge) Chief Judge should make sure to explain the correct procedure. If you ask for the time for every routine it keeps the timer on their toes. If the timer has other duties remind them that timing is their first priority.

- Meet Referee should have a short judges meeting and give reporting times for the following day, etc. All judges should have a schedule – MR should make sure all have one

- Question - \$10 a day at state and above meets – do you get fee each day or is it tempered according to the number of sessions? Answer: \$5.00 for a one session day and \$10 for a two or three session day.

- Question – Should all score sheets be signed? Answer: R & P does not mandate the score sheets be signed. When judges sign it is to verify attendance – NOT verifying scores

- Question – What is the process if the judges are not inputting scores? Answer: The MD is responsible for checking scores. Chief Judge could be asked to check scores for the previous rotation during next squad warm up.

- Question: Should the Chief Judge keep a master sheet with scores and average? Answer: It is the CJ responsibility to control the event and scores so should keep scores.

- At the State Meet there are 4 judge panels and the judges looked like they were talking but judges were helping each other. This is what the coaches and parents perceived. The only place you should sit together is on vault. If two judges are at the table together put someone between them. R & P states not to sit together. Each should have their own table.

- Always let your CJ know if you need to go to bathroom. One CJ puts her papers in chair and sits on them to remind her a judge has left the floor.

- Question: If judges don't agree on score do you base score? Answer: There is no such thing as base scoring anymore. If you can't agree the panel judge has to come in range with the CJ. MR hasn't judged all the routines in the meet so can't make a judgment. Get scores in range as quickly as possible so the discussion doesn't hold up the meet.

- Questions: Should the panel judge say anything during conference with coach? Answer: CJ should always handle coach's questions. Panel judge should not answer questions even if the panel judge is higher rated because of affiliation. CJ can ask the panel judge's opinion.

When an inquiry is brought to CJ the MR will tell the number to each judge as she/he arrives at the CJ table – will ask SV and what is different. There should not be a discussion unless asked.

- Questions: On a 4 judge panel do the two middle scores have to be in range with the CJ score? Answer: NO
- Question: If coach has conversation with judge can the coach then turn in an inquiry? Answer: No! Best for CJ to request they come back at the end of the session to discuss routine or score. Can tell a coach if they are interested in a score change they need to fill out an inquiry. It is the coach's responsibility to protect their own gymnast scores.
- Questions: Explain score change! Answer: Judges error can not be changed if next gymnast has been signaled. Only change of score can be out of bounds and over time deductions.
- If an inquiry comes in make sure all 4 judges check their scores, even if their score did not count originally. When all 4 judges look the score average could be affected.
- Question: Should both vaults be judged? Answer: Always judge and enter both vaults. Then if the score is out of range conference with the panel judge.
- Question: What is the time limited between the two vaults? Answer: IF the gymnast is injured you could ask the coach how much time is needed, or can give them a time limit but be very polite.

PRACTICE JUDGING

MARIAN DYKES

- Level 5/6 Counter/Tap swing
 - Gymnast should have a candlestick body position
 - If arched and feet above hips ded. .30 plus .2 for body position
 - If hips extended (everything extended) ded .20 for hips and ,20 for lack of hollow body position
 - If small arch under the bar there is no deduction
 - Hollow chest with extended hip angle – possible .20 ded
- Layout Position – Gymnast have different body shapes – the more powerful the gymnast the more curves the gymnast will have. Take this into consideration when expecting a gymnast to be in a specific body position such as a handstand
- Uncharacteristic elements are elements that are initiated from the feet.
- Round off used with a salto for dismount on beam –

RO is on the beam and not a part of dismount so no deduction for lack of side/forward element.

- If gymnast is down on the beam once it is enough to satisfy on beam requirement.
- Free leg of first skill must be take off of second skill – dance series.
- Level 10 D releases – one has to be on same bar and one has to go from bar to bar.



ALABAMA WINS TWO NETTIE AWARDS

Each year at the National SJD Meeting the meeting ends with the awarding of Nettie Awards. This year Alabama was fortunate to receive two Nettie Awards. Below are the different categories and winners.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Best Newsletter Lay Out Design | Arkansas |
| Best Educational Article | Alabama |
| Best Informational Article | Illinois |
| Best Feature Article | Alabama |
| Most Humorous Article | Michigan |
| Most Humorous Video | Minnesota |
| Best Web Site | Southern California |

For NAWGJ this is the “cream of the crop” to win a Nettie Award. Everyone waits with anticipation until the awards are given out at the end of the meeting. Alabama has been very fortunate to win Netties on a regular basis. An outstanding Alabama organization and a lot of hard work is what has won the awards for Alabama. Keep up the good job.

Congratulations Kelly Hill

On the completion of your

MASTER'S DEGREE

JOB WELL DONE





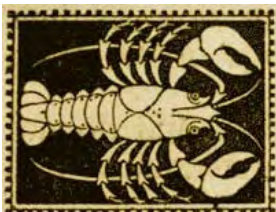
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JUNE JULY AUGUST



GEMINI

Phyllis Thompson—June 9th



CANCER

Michelle Young—June 25th
Gayli Craver—June 30th
Sheryl Dundas—July 7th
Stephanie Kuhlman—July 21st
Jarrett Ezell—July 22nd.



LEO

Diane Peeks—August 2nd
Debbie Walls—August 2nd



VIRGO

Kelly Wriston—August 27th

PRESONAL PORTFOLIO:

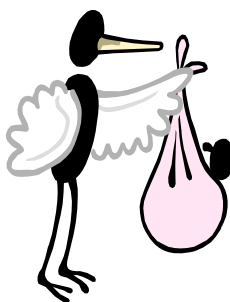
Each of you is responsible for keeping your portfolio up to date with Phyllis Thompson. Every membership card should be on file in **Phyllis's** office one month after renewal. If you have not received a card it is your responsibility to contact the office of the organization and obtain an up to date copy.

OFFICIAL UNIFORM:

Many of you attended the session at Regional 8 Congress "Professionalism for Gymnastic Judges" presented by Connie Maloney. The subject of "Official Uniform" was one of the many points Connie presented during the session. After questions were asked at the session and judges questioned me concerning the uniform I feel I need to make some comments or statements so we are working together as a group. USAG Rules and Policies has always stated (Page 63, 1,F) "Judges are required to wear the official uniform of a navy blue suit (slacks or skirt) and a white blouse/shirt." The NAWGJ directors of the region have encouraged judges to wear the NAWGJ uniform because it helps spectators recognize the judges as officials and sets the judges apart from other people who might wear a navy suit and white blouse/shirt. The contracts from the AL NAWGJ office states "the official uniform required" which is the requirement in the Rules and Policies which shows the judges as a united group. As a state and within our region we have always been proud of the fact that our judges have always looked professional and worn the NAWGJ uniform. I think the first thing we must remember is that USAG contracts NAWGJ as the agency that furnishes judges for the USAG competitions. Judges have rules and policies from two different organizations when they are contracted to judge a meet. Each of these organizations works hand in hand to provide a knowledgeable and fair experience for the young gymnast who compete.

Connie mentioned that judges should display their USAG patch when she was talking about judge's professional attire. Each organization (USAG & NAWGJ) has their own patch. At the conclusion of the Brevet and National certification courses in 2005 each **participating** judge was given a USAG patches. Judges who did not attend either of these courses are able to purchase a USAG patch on the USAG web site. Each of you wears a NAWGJ patch on the pocket of your NAWGJ judging jacket and may want to consider purchasing the USAG patch not to replace the NAWGJ patch but to wear with the NAWGJ patch. The USAG patch is oblong mounted on a medal plate that attaches like a stick pin.

Thank you to the Alabama judges for their professional attire, knowledge of the sport, and continued support of our athletes.



CONGRATULATIONS to Melissa & Aaron Nevitt on the birth of their daughter.

Ansley Grace Nevitt
8 lb 14 oz
19 3/4 inches
April 24th

Date 6/5/07 Name Mary Ann Wallace
 Position SJD Address P.O. Box 145
 Region 8 Killen, Alabama
 State AL Phone 256-757-8403

(Nov-Feb) Due March 10
 X (Mar-May) Due June 10
 (June-Oct) Due Nov 10

INCOME

EXPENSES

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|------------------------------|----------|
| Judges Cup | | Judges Cup | 3,404.01 |
| Clinics/Workshops | | Travel (Director/Board) | 1,022.30 |
| Certification Exams | | Airfare/Mileage | |
| Assigning Fees | 132.00 | Housing | |
| Interest Income (Checking) | | Meals | |
| Fundraiser—other | | Other | |
| Other Income (Specify) | | Postage | 45.05 |
| Reimbursements | 20.00 | Operating Supplies | 291.12 |
| | | Telephone | 405.72 |
| | | Printing/Copies | |
| | | Clinic Expense | |
| | | Certification Exams | |
| | | Promotional Items | |
| | | SJD Disbursements (RJD Only) | |
| Income Rec'd from Nat/Reg | | Educational | 2,539.00 |
| | | Memberships | 291.00 |
| | | Other Expenses (Specify) | |
| | | Gifts | 187.18 |

TOTAL INCOME

\$ 152.00 TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 8,275.38

REGION 8 HALL OF FAME

During the Region 8 Congress banquet the first REGION 8 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES was announced. Alabama is proud to announce that 5 of the 18 inductees were from our state.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Lenette Calvin

Mary Lou Dillard

Wilma Guy

Debby Kornegay

James Linderholm

NATIONAL SJD MEETING

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS JUNE 9 & 10, 2007

Introduction of RJDs and SJDs

The NAWGJ membership lost 4 members this yearly cycle: Roe Chonduchi Shelly Baker

 Thelma Hubbard Christina Turskie

Notes from Carole Ide's presentation:

- What is offered to one judge must be offered to all judges within a state. Even if a new judge has only been a member for 2 months.
- Judges give authority to State Governing Board and the State Governing Board gives authority to the SJD.
- NAWGJ began in 1974
- Statistics for the year:
 - ⇒ 1,828 judges on SJD Annual Reports
 - ⇒ 1,811 judges listed as members
 - ⇒ 3,517 meets assigned
 - ⇒ 24,000 judging assignments
 - ⇒ 143 judging clinics
 - ⇒ 173 judging exams given
- State Boards must be a minimum of 5 members and a maximum of 9 members
- Insurance premiums have gone down each year for the past 3 years once the membership insurance was combined with the directors and governor board members insurance.
- NAWGJ Committees are:
 1. National Ethics Committee
 - NAWGJ President
 - NAWGJ Vice President
 - 3 RJDs
 2. NAWGJ Constitution Committee
 - Evelyn Chandler – Chairman
 - Mary Lee Martin
 - Ann Heppner
 3. JAS Oversight Committee

- Carole Ide
- Evelyn Chandler
- Janet Packwood
- Patty Panichas

Proposed: A new position on National NAWGJ Board will be the National Collegiate Assignor. Carole Ide is now serving in this capacity and will resign the position in 2008. The JAS Oversight Committee will choose a person to replace Carole.

- New policy for NAWGJ – If a judge is convicted of a felony he/she will be suspended as a member. The person has the right to request a hearing for reinstatement.
- New Clarification: Any SJD who misses 2 consecutive Regional Board meetings or 2 consecutive National SJD meetings will be removed. A proxy will not fulfill the attendance requirement, but a proxy MUST be sent.
- When an election is held in your state you can request two sets of labels of your membership list from Betty Sroufe at a charge of \$15.00. If you do not want to order the mailing labels you can request a list from Betty of current members at no charge. Voting ballots that don't follow the written procedures exactly are void.

Proposed Constitutional changes:

- National Collegiate Assignor added to NAWGJ National Governing Board
- Term Limits of Director Positions – All Directors will be allowed to serve two consecutive terms. The odd numbered Regional elections in 2007 will have the possibility of 2 terms from 2007. The even numbered Regional elections in 2008 will have the possibility of 2 terms from 2008. If no one volunteers for the position after the two consecutive terms have been completed, the director may continue to serve if desired.

Note: Since these are Proposed Constitutional changes, the RJD's have 30 days to poll their SJD's for input. After 30 days, they will vote yea or nay on these changes.

Betty Sroufe's Membership Report:

- Region 8 has the best financial reports. Region 8's reports are on the correct form and on time.

- Lapsed memberships – A broken membership will remove a judge from the membership list. Membership is broken if lapsed for one year. When a judge renews a broken membership the years of participation start over.
- When you look at the membership number the P8 is for Professional Member from Region 8. The next two numbers are the year membership began. The next two numbers are the month the membership began and the following numbers are tracking numbers.
- If membership renewal arrives in the office after the renewal date, even by one day, a late fee will be charged. The check will be returned to the judge and a new check will need to be submitted with the late fee included.
- NAWGJ office is closed for the months of June and July. When the office is closed Betty will be there but the two secretaries are on vacation.

Patty Shipman – National Judge’s Cup

2007 National Judge’s Cup Statistics:

- 3 gyms of competition at same time
- 17 Level 7 State Teams
- 23 Sessions of competition
- 56 Participating Clubs from 19 states
- 99 Judges from 37 states
- 1,318 Gymnasts
- 2008 National Judge’s Cup will be held in San Diego, January 4-6
- Marriott San Diego Mission Valley will be the host hotel. Room rates will be \$120. Make reservations through the National Travel Systems. Other hotels will also be listed.
- 2009 National Judge’s Cup will be held in central Florida. Site TBA

Carole Ide’s Report:

- New updates from the WTC, JO, and WAC Committees are on the USAG web soon.
- TA Update will be at all Regional and National Congress. When a TA resigns the TA materials go to the person taking over as TA. All test given before the end of July will not have new changes.
- Assigning Fees – Can not charge more than \$5.00 for late request for judges. Can use Pay Pal and take less than \$3.00 but can not change the set fee of \$3.00 for on time requests.
- No rider’s fees may be charged.
- Foreign judges who want to judge meets (for Meet

Directors who request foreign judges) in the US must send a copy of their Brevet rating to the SJD and to Connie Maloney. They must attend an optional JO clinic in the USA to make sure they understand and know the JO rules. They must take and pass the 5/6 test to be able to judge compulsory meets. Once they have gone through the process above, their name will appear on the USAG web site list of approved judges.

- USAG has become partners with National Center of Safety Initiative. All USAG members will be required, when they renew their membership, to have an extensive background check. The charge for the background check will be added to the USAG membership fee. Each state will have a different fee, depending on the state. The NCSI will collect the background check fee. The program will be called “Check It Twice”. Each year you will be required to have a background check to renew your membership. Background checks will go back 10 years. More information will follow on the USAG web site.

Sheila Ragle’s Report on Judging Fees:

Three different meet scenarios follow for calculating judges fees:

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Reporting Time | 8:00 | 9:00 | 8:00 |
| March In | 8:30 | 9:30 | 8:30 |
| Finishes | 9:16 | 8:30 | 10:00 |
| Judging Time | 8:16 | 5:59 | 10:14 |
| Time In Gym | 12:46 | 11:00 | 14:00 |
| Break Time | 3:45 | 2:00 | 4:30 |
| Judges Paid for | 9 ½ HR | 9 HR | 10 HR |

- First session judges go on the clock at march in time listed on schedule or earlier if march in is earlier than time listed
- After the first session judges go back on the clock when actual march in time occurs (no matter what schedule says).
- Meet Referee will charge half of their hourly judging fee plus their actual judging fee each day they serve as MR.
- If Meet Referee works through break time they will stay on the clock and fall under a break time schedule different from the other judges in the meet.

Judy Dorbranski - Library Report:

- Library gave 3 DVDs (3/4/5/6, 7/8 & 9/10) to each SJD
- One mistake on the Compulsory DVD – Level 6 beam, number 6 routine will show gymnast salute and then DVD moves to gymnast number 7. The DVD has 6 routines on Beam.

- Scripts for DVDs are on the DVD in .pdf format. Each person can print their own scripts.
- Scripts do not have scores or deductions because it is so hard to get a range of scores from individuals. The DVDs are designed to give each judge a way to practice and study prior to meet assignment. Each state is asked to score the routines and send an average of the range of scores to Judy. Each SJD can request the score ranges at a later date.

Sheila Ragle – Uniform Report

- Fit Line of uniforms will be at all Regional Congresses for judges to try on and place orders
- The Fit Line will have brass buttons that will be replaced with navy buttons and our patch when uniforms are ordered.
- Within 2 weeks from June 9th there will be a link on the NAWGJ web site to the company to place orders for new uniforms.
- Sizes will range from 2 – 20. Special orders for smaller, larger, or petite sizes can be placed but it will cost more. The additional cost will be calculated according to the changes that need to be made.
- There is a separate men’s line of uniforms
- The new NAWGJ uniform is the same as the World Air uniforms. Since we are not a large enough organization, we must piggy back onto their account with HPI.
- Midway Uniforms, old company, began to use cheaper material, could not change style of skirt or pants, and had decided to change the jacket to a style without a pocket for the NAWGJ emblem.
- The company will place orders twice a year. The first order will be placed at the end July and uniforms will be mailed in mid October. The second order will be placed around Oct 21st and return around January 1st.
- They will have a 5% - 8% inventory order with the first order placed.
- NAWGJ had to guarantee \$20,000 worth of orders a year.

Prices: Women

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|---------------|------|
| Skirt | Modified A-Line | | |
| | | sizes 2 – 12 | \$44 |
| | | sizes 14 – 20 | \$50 |
| | Pants – Flat Front | | |
| | | Sizes 2 – 12 | \$44 |
| | | Sizes 14 – 20 | \$50 |

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|---------------|-------|
| | Pants – Flex Fit | | |
| | | Sizes 2 – 12 | \$55 |
| | | Sizes 14 – 20 | \$63 |
| | Blazer | Sizes 2 – 14 | \$105 |
| | | Sizes 16 – 20 | \$118 |
| Prices: | Men | | |
| | Pants – Flat Front | | |
| | | Sizes 28 – 42 | \$49 |
| | | Sizes 44 – 46 | \$57 |
| | Pants – Flex Fit | | |
| | | Sizes 30 – 42 | \$61 |
| | | Sizes 44 – 48 | \$69 |
| | Jacket | Sizes 36 – 48 | \$115 |
| | | Sizes 44 – 48 | \$130 |

- Flat Front pants are not lined
- Flex Fit pants are lined to knee and have an inset elastic panel that is not gathered material.
- At some point other items may be added as part of the official uniform.

Carol Ide – Carpooling

- When clarifications on Carpooling were published by USAG Carole received numerous emails.
- As an organization we recommend who carpools together. We can not mandate carpools. We can recommend and judges should comply according to R & P (if a judge decides not to carpool they travel at their own expense)
- If a problem arises mileage could be split.
- Judges should never increase the cost of travel for the Meet Director.
- Mileage covers gas and car wear. It is not and should not be a way to earn money.
- Less than 15 miles one way, no mileage is paid. Even if the judge goes to pick up another judge and then drives to the meet the driver will not get mileage for picking up the other judge since her mileage to meet was 15 miles.
- Carpooling is designed to help save the Meet Director additional expense.
- If a judge comes off a meet and is replaced, the new judge should be notified of carpool recommendations.
- Rental Cars – If a judge rents a car and the cost is less expensive than mileage the judge can not claim mileage and make money. The Meet Director will only pay for car rental and gas.

- Proposed New Contract with USAG for Judging Fees:
 - Level 9, 10, National & Brevet \$3.00 an hour increase. Level 5, 6, 7, & 8 \$2.00 an hour increase in fall 2007
 - Level 9, 10, National & Brevet \$2.00 increase. Level 5, 6, 7, & 8 \$1.00 increase in fall 2009.
 - Raise Championship Fees - \$30.00 a day increase and \$15.00 increase for half a day
 - Minimum 3 hours paid for single session meet without restrictions on mileage.
 - Possibility of fees being tied into the Consumer Price Index with changes in fees when national changes are made.
 - Above proposal was sent to USAG the first of March. Request policy notification before first regional congress so information can be given to judges.

These are the actual minutes from the meeting. The new compensation package that was approved can be found in this newsletter on page 17.

Nettie Awards:

- Best Newsletter Layout Design – Arkansas
- Best Educational Article – Alabama
- Best Informational Article – Illinois
- Best Feature Article – Alabama
- Humorous Article – Michigan
- Humorous Video –
- Web Site - Southern California

Carole Ide – Collegiate Judging

- 433 judges listed in JAS System
- 38 fewer judges than 2006 & 92 less than 2005
 - 2005 – 525 (not all eligible to be assigned)
 - 2006 – 471
 - 2007 – 433
 - Brevet 71
 - National 196
 - Level 10 166
- 13 Assigners – there will be three openings as assigners
- 2,357 judges assignments made in 2007 season to 85 schools
- When completing the JAS form the judge can set her own perimeters
- 347 refusalsConflicts occurred at the end of March

because of JO State Optional Meets. Less of a problem with JO regional. This problem affected Pac 10.

- Judges will not be allowed to accept 2 meets the same day because of conflicts this year.
- If a plane ticket has been purchased and the judge has to drop off the meet the judge should notify the college immediately to work out the problem. For \$50 a ticket can be changed and used within a year. So those judges can possible work the meet for this college the following year.
- Collegiate coaches have raised their own membership fee to establish an emergency fund of \$5,000 to cover unforeseen emergency.
- Division 3 schools have a travel waiver where they do not have to have a judge more than 200 miles away from school. There was a meet this year that could not be filled and some meets with only 3 judges.

Guidelines Proposed

- Judge will not be assigned if the basic principles are not met.
- Meets not assigned with the JAS will not be calculated in the RQS
- All institutions will be divided into 3 categories:
 - A – Institution with 12 full athletic scholarships
 - B – Institution with 5 full athletic scholarships
 - C – Institution with no scholarships
- Each season a minimum of 50% or the judges for each meet must be from out of area. Every effort will be made by assigners to assign 50% of judges from out of area. Out of area is defined as :
 - Category A – minimum of 150 miles one way
 - Category B – minimum of 50 miles one way
 - Categories A & B may not be assigned the same judges more than 2 times home and 2 times away.
 - Category C may not be assigned the same judge more than 3 times at home and 3 times away.
- This year judges will not be allowed to be on floor until after march in.
- There will be a National Collegiate Symposium at the end of October in Minneapolis. Each state is asked to send 2 judges. Fee will be below \$100. Look at sending an experienced judge and a new judge. Suggest that state NAWGJ pay transportation and any other expenses possible. Get approval from State Boards.
- SJDs can get a list of judges in their state who have registered with JAS.

- Collegiate assignments will be sent by November 15th.
- SJDs can get a list of judges coming to their state to judge a meet and possibly use them for a JO meet in the state.
- Collegiate scores should be based on the performance at that time. A judge should not give scores according to ranking, name, or previous score. Correct deductions are taken at the JO level and can be done at the collegiate level. A lot of money is spent to get fair judgments
- Since JAS has taken over judging stats show that there is a separation between the scores and scores are not as high.
- The difference between high team scores and lower team scores have a more accurate difference.
- Some colleges have a 5th judge or separate Meet Referee which can be local. There was a proposal that a judge can only Meet Ref a school 2 times but did not pass.
- Schools can not request a specific judge but can request a specific Meet Referee.
- Regional and National assignments are chosen by the National NCAA office by September. No one is to know who is assigned. The judge is not allowed to tell anyone.
- Premium Fees:
 - Away from home 5 hrs - \$15
 - Away from home 6 – 8 hrs - \$30
 - Travel by flight - \$50
 - Flight & overnight stay - \$75
 - 2 overnight stay - \$125

OUTBREAK SESSIONS:

Travel Concerns:

- Situations and Problems –
 - +Judge(s) needs/wants to be home Friday night with family and wants to come in Saturday morning (even if travel starts early)
 - +Judge(s) want to leave before other judges get off work
 - +Judge drives too fast and wants to leave later because she can get there the appropriate arrival time. Others don't want to ride with her.
 - +A judge was asked to carpool with another judge but the judge would not return the other judges repeated calls – both drove and there was a huge argument.
 - +Meet Director books flights where judges arrive at site at 5:45 a.m. and the meet doesn't start until 9:00. There

was another flight the judges could have taken but cost more.

+Contract Assigners concerns:

- a. listing carpools – liability
 - b. mileage is listed on contract and since Meet Director accepts contract the cost is listed and each judge should be able to travel separately and charge the amount listed on their contract
- +Problem with judges who ride for an extended period of time
 - +Some judges won't ride with anyone else because as an employee their can not be told to ride with another person
 - +A new trend – Meet Director rents a car for judge to drive to meet. It cost the MD \$60 plus gas instead of paying judge for 600 mile round trip to meet. MD wanted to use the same type of transportation with 6 people in each carpool but because contract stated the judges would be flown the MD was not allowed to use this type of transportation.
 - +States with large land areas and states with large masses of water that separate the state have a major problem with transportation.
 - +Some gyms can not host meets because judges won't travel without some riding compensation.

• Points and Solutions to Travel Problems:

- +The majority of people in the carpool should rule on when carpool leaves
- +Arrival time at night is the issue when carpools leave in the p.m. Arrival at 9:00 pm should be the latest arrival time. Safety should be the first concern for the judges.
- +Rules and Policies states: You can not require a judge to carpool but if a judge chooses to not carpool he/she can not claim mileage.
- +Put on contract “According to Rules and Policies”
- +Announce that one carpool will come from one area and judge can decide if they want to participate.
- +Meet Director can say “I will only pay for one carpool from a specific area”.
- +It should never cost the judge to drive to a meet unless they choose to travel separately.
- +Set guidelines within your state through your NAWGJ State Board within the USAG policy.
- +Needs to be on judge's contracts that rental cars

are acceptable or not so judge and meet directors understand each others positions.

Communication & Websites:

- Communication is a must to let members know what is happening
- Anything in email is may be subpoenaed so watch who you respond to – individual or All
- Newsletters – okay for newsletters to be placed on the websites
- Watch what you put on the web pages such as meet assignments.
- Get a signed release if personal information is on the web site.

Ethics:

- What do you do with older judges who have lost their edge? Chief Judge should point out mistakes they make so they know something is wrong. Also assign them to smaller meets.
- All state boards should have an ethics person on their state boards.
- If a judge has a complaint ask for it in writing.
- If a SJD needs to talk with a judge about ethical behavior it should be between the SJD and person involved. One state has a standardized letter where areas can be checked.
- All SJDs need to read responsibilities so we don't take on things we shouldn't
- RJDs are there for a reason and can bring a neutral opinion.
- New judges need to be reminded what they should wear to be professional in appearance and behavior.
- Use humor to avoid hurt feelings
- Show appreciation for aging judges for time given and ease them out with smaller, less intense meets.
- Gossip – can't legislate what people say but you need one person in the group to help counteract comments point out the person's good traits.
- If an SJD does something or gives the perception of doing something not listed as a duty of the SJD they are not covered with insurance.

Funds for Small States

- If hosting a judges cup raise entry to what other meets are charging
- Run a meet where the gym gets all income and the judges fees go to the SJD office. Judges would still get mileage and per diem

- Judges could volunteer to critique gyms routines and the fee would go into the SJD fund.
- Parents pay \$10 for a course to learn how the judges look and score the routines. How judges come up with their scores.
- Judge's Cup – leo consignment sale.
- Christmas Catalogue passed around in the stands and take orders with profit going to SJD funds. Carole Ide was concerned that this practice be handled properly so parents didn't think the more they spent the better their daughter's scores.
- Carole Ide – NAWGJ can not charge a head tax

Judge's Cups:

- Suggest that Judge's Cup money be used to send team to National Judge's Cup. There are many degrees of what expenses states cover
- Foster communication
- Good PR when coaches know that judges are volunteering their time
- Good place for new judges to practice judge
- Make it a fun meet for gymnast
- Place critiques on other side of score card where judges can quickly check items
- Try not to compete against meets in your state
- Some states can't go out and rent a facility and equipment
- Never give family or athlete money – against NCAA rules
- To get judges to participate, link benefits to working Judge's Cup

NAWGJ Funds (Use of):

- Any travel to functions over \$100 must get permission from board and bring something back for the whole judging community
- Once board approves travel you must get approval form RJD
- Reimburse expenses:
 - Phone/Internet Service, etc. – calculate the % of personal use and reimburse
 - Get board approval for every device or % of expenses associated with devices
- Send 1099 form to anyone (clinicians, judges, etc.) you pay +\$600 within a year (question came from a CPA that these should go out from National Office

since we do not file tax forms)

- If participating in NAWGJ functions nothing should come out of your pocket. State NAWGJ funds should pay for food, transportation, fees, gratuities included,
- If a SJD has a long flight it is okay to come into site a day early
- Any meeting with your state board pay for mileage using NAWGJ funds

Getting New Judges Involved:

- Develop a relationship with new judges
- A new judge may start with the 7/8 test and then take the compulsory test
- Some states use the Mentor Program with help practice judging and answering questions.
- Assign new judges to a practice judge:
 - Go to meet – scores don't count but sit with judging panel
 - NAWGJ pays judge \$12 an hour for one session
 - Judge might only judge two events at this meet
 - Pay travel expenses
- Encourage to practice judge with DVDs
- Judges who are testing up might be good mentors since they understand what's happening
- Some states pay the new judges membership fee the first year
- One idea was to have a "Bar-B-Q and Bars" session to help judges with bars

Plans are being made for the 2008 National SJD Meeting to be held on Monday after National Congress in Philadelphia. Don't plan to fly back until Tuesday. The SJDs will meet all day, until everything is covered.

Minutes for the Breakout Sessions will be on the web site

Dear Mary Ann,

Thank you so much for the beautiful hydrangea you sent on behalf of AL NAWGJ. It was such an appropriate choice, since we had blue hydrangeas in the spray for Mom's casket. Mom loved blue flowers! Dad is now living in Birmingham with us and we are making the difficult adjustment to the unexpected changes in our lives.

Thanks again for thinking of me.

Gail



Judges Spotlight Wendy Seabrook



After competing as a Class I gymnast as a teenager, I was given an opportunity to coach Levels 5 and 6 during college. My judging career started because Carol Smitherman constantly asked me when I would take the next step and become a judge. It was something I always wanted to do and her encouragement helped me make the decision to sit for the first exam in 1995. Becoming a judge was a natural progression from competing and coaching and it has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience.

The gymnastics community of Alabama has contributed not only to who I am as a judge, but also as a person. The positive examples I have seen from many of the Alabama judges inspired me to attain my Level 10 rating. I want to give something back to the community that has given me so much and judging makes me feel like I am part of something really special. I have opportunities to interact with a group of people that share similar interests and personalities. We love the sport of gymnastics and we love to judge beautiful movement.

On a personal note; my husband of fourteen years, Rex, is very supportive of my involvement in gymnastics. There have been many long weekends when he has stayed home with our daughter, Frannie, beginning when she was only *six months* old. I am proud to say that BOTH of them have survived so far and Frannie has successfully reached the ripe old age of six. My husband says the long weekends at home with just him and our daughter have really helped them to form a special father/daughter bond that he believes is unique. My involvement in gymnastics would have been much more difficult without the support and encouragement of my family.

CONTRACTS:

Each contract has an acceptance date listed for completion of contract. Beginning this year, if your contract is not signed by the acceptance date your contract will be marked declined and the contract will be issued to another judge. Each judge is sent an email notification about a newly issued contract. If you check you email regularly you will not miss the opportunity to accept a contract. The email address the notice is sent to is the email address listed on your Personal Profile. If you change email addresses and fail to make the changes on your Personal Profile you will not receive the notice.

Each year when you renew your NAWGJ and USAG memberships you need to go into your Personal Profile and change the membership dates. These are the dates that are listed on the contract automatically. A contract with an out of date membership is a void contract.



OUR HEARTFELT SYMPATHY

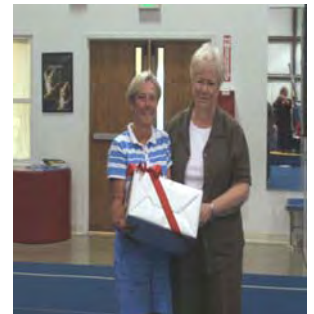
Our sympathy goes out to Gail Tourtellotte who lost her Mother in May and to Phyllis Thompson who lost her brother Alan in July. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



NEWSLETTERS

We are now listing all Newsletters on the AL NAWGJ website. You will receive an email notifying you that the newsletter is on the website. This eliminated extra time Diane spent printing, folding and address envelopes to send the newsletters to the judges. It also cuts down on the expense of printing and postage. Diane does a wonderful job of putting this newsletter together which takes a considerable amount of her time. Please let her know

CAROL SMITHERMAN NAMED AS ALABAMA NAWGJ OUTSTANDING JUDGE FOR 2006-2007 & ALABAMA USAG LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, 2006-2007



This is the first time a person has received the Outstanding Judge Award and the USAG Leadership Award the same year. Carol's service and devotion to the sport of gymnastics in Alabama was recognized by her peers at the Annual Gymnastic Banquet by not receive one award but both the service and leadership awards. Another milestone in Carol's life is her retirement from teaching in the Jefferson County School System.

Congratulations Carol on an outstanding job.

JUDGES PAY RAISE

Beginning August 2007, a 5% increase per current rating will result in the following hourly fees:

| | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Brevet | \$30.45 | National | \$28.35 |
| Level 10 | \$26.25 | Level 9 | \$23.10 |
| Level 5/6,7/6 | \$18.90 | Level 7/8 | \$16.80 |
| Level 5/6 | \$14.70 | | |

Beginning **August 2009** a 3% increase will go into effect for the hourly rate. The raise was approved after the research with the other NGB's as they tried to find the "industry" standard. The Women's judges are at the top compared to similar sports. The other consideration USAG had is how the Women's Program ranks in comparison to the Men's Program and Rhythmic Programs.

AVAILABILITY:

Availability appears on each judges Personal Profile page as the Meet Directors submit their Request for Judges form. You will need to check your Personal Profile at least once a week until all meets have appeared on the Availability Form. You will not receive a form to indicate your availability as we have done in the past. Once a meet is place on the web site I can view the availability of judges for each meet or the availability for the season for each judge. Contracts have already gone out for meets that the Meet Director have requested specific judges. I will start contracting meets that the MD did not request specific judges on July 15th. To date about 65% of the judges have completed the availability for meets listed. It is the individual judge's responsibility to keep their availability up to date. If your availability changes for a meet please contact me with the information.

Alabama is proud of their judges and the participation in education clinics this summer.

Alabama Mississippi State Congress

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Amy Arnts | 9. Diane Peeks |
| 2. Annette Burgin | 10. Janet Skaggs |
| 3. Sheryl Dundas | 11. Carol Smitherman |
| 4. Sharon Griffin | 12. Maria Ross |
| 5. Kelly Hill | 13. Phyllis Thompson |
| 6. Ashleigh Kelley | 14. Jamie Wallace |
| 7. Debby Kornegay | 15. Mary Ann Wallace |
| 8. Stephanie Kuhlmann | 16. Debbie Walls |
| | 17. Michelle Young |

Region 8 Congress

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Amy Arnts | 10. Diane Peeks |
| 2. Annette Burgin | 11. Maria Ross |
| 3. Gayli Craver | 12. Wendy Seabrook |
| 4. Mary Lou Dillard | 13. Janet Skaggs |
| 5. Jarrett Ezell | 14. Carol Smitherman |
| 6. Tammye Goehring | 15. Gail Tourtellotte |
| 7. Sharon Griffin | 16. Mary Ann Wallace |
| 8. Debby Korengay | 17. Debbie Walls |
| 9. Heather Newman | 18. Kelley Wriston |

NEW LINE OF UNIFORMS

The new NAWGJ uniforms can now be ordered online. The website is: <http://nawgj.hpidirect.net> You can reach the link by going to the NAWGJ website at www.NAWGJ.org and click on the link. The first order deadline will be on **July 21, 2007** and the second date for ordering is **October 1, 2007**. Judges should expect their order within 70-75 days of the order deadline dates. If you should have URGENT questions that can not be answered, please contact Jim Poyner at jpoyner@hpidirect.net. You MUST put **NAWGJ Uniform** in the subject area.

WEB SITE LAYOUT

T. G. and John have been working on a new web layout for the past year. This new layout will be implemented by the fall. Be aware that you will need to look at what changes take place. I have asked that each meet listed on your Personal Profile Page have a title and that the meets be placed in a Archived File after the date of the meet. You will be able to enter the Archived File at any time to look at previous meets but there won't be a long list of meets on the Personal Profile page.

JUDGES RETREAT 2007
JULY 28 & 29
KELLY HILL'S HOME
CLINICIAN – JUDY DORBRANSKY

If you plan to attend the Alabama Judges Retreat 2007 you must register with Mary Ann as soon as possible. Preparation of food and supplies are based on the number attending. If your name is listed below and you do not plan to attend also contact Mary Ann immediately.

1. David Bowles
2. Annette Burgin – Sat only
3. Sheryl Dundas – after work Sat
4. Gayli Craver* – after lunch on Sat
5. Mary Lou Dillard
6. Jarrett Ezell
7. Tammye Goehring – until afternoon on Sat
8. Kelly Hill
9. Ashleigh Kelley – Sat only
10. Stephanie Kuhlmann
11. Heather Newman
12. Diane Peeks
13. Maria Ross*
14. Wendy Seabrook*
15. Carol Smitherman
16. Phyllis Thompson*
17. Jamie Wallace
18. Mary Ann Wallace*
19. Debbie Walls
20. Michelle Young

Those names with an * indicate judges who need a place to sleep. If anyone else needs a place please let Mary Ann Wallace know immediately.

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| | AUGUST | |
| August 25 | Compulsory Judges Cup | Legacy & Alabama Starz |
| | SEPTEMBER | |
| September 8 | CCY Flyers Alabama Starz | Chilton County YMCA Birmingham |
| September 15 | Anna Bama Festival of Stars | NSG Saltos-Anniston United-Montgomery |
| September 22 | Vulcan | MTB-Birmingham |
| September 29 | Fliptanic | TTT-Tuscaloosa |
| | OCTOBER | |
| October 6 | Training Camp | Winston Salem |
| October 13 | Planet Auburn | Planet-Mobile Auburn |
| October 20 | Blue Gray Champions | Armory-Montgomery Champions-Attalla |
| October 27 | Level 1-3 Compulsory Invite | Shoals-Muscle Shoals |
| | NOVEMBER | |
| November 3 | Legacy Invitational | Legacy-Birmingham |
| November 10 | Bama Rama | Tuscaloosa |
| November 17 | Huntsville Invite 1-3 Fall State Meet | Von Braun Civic Center- Huntsville |
| | DECEMBER | |
| December 1 | Level 4-6 Compulsory State | Ozark, Alabama |
| December 8 | Optional Judges Cup | TBA |

SPRING SEASON 2008

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | JANUARY | |
| January 5 | National Judges Cup | San Diego, CA |
| January 12 | Winter Blast | NSG Saltos-Anniston |
| January 26 | Spirit of Courage | Shoals Gymnastics |
| | FEBRUARY | |
| February 2 | Vulcan Challenge | MTB-Birmingham |
| February 9 | Mardi Gras Invite | Planet-Mobile |
| February 16 | Carnival of Stars | Untied-Montgomery |
| February 23 | CCY Flyers | Chilton Count YMCA |
| | MARCH | |
| March 1 | Cirque de Saltos | NSG Saltos-Anniston |
| March 8 | The Elite Cup | JFJ-Birmingham |
| March 15 | Huntsville Invite | HGC-Huntsville |
| March 29 | Optional State Meet | Champions-Gadsden High |
| | APRIL | |
| April 5 | Prep Op, 2, 3 State Meet | Champions-Attalla |
| April 19 | 9/10 Regionals | Von Braun Civic Center-Huntsville |
| | MAY | |
| May 3 | Level 8 Regionals | TBD |

ALABAMA NAWGJ

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www.alnawgj.org

In regards to the CPE credits for attending the 2007 VISA USA Championships:

1. **The hours spent at the competition will count for CPE "Clinic hour" credit.**
2. **The number of CPE "Clinic" credits that can be earned by attending this competition is limited to one-half of the total CPE CLINIC hours required for the level of judge:**
 - a. **Level 5/6 & 7/8 limited to 3 hrs.**
 - b. **Level 9 limited to 4 hrs.**
 - c. **Level 10, National & Brevet limited to 5 hrs.**
 - d. **Any additional hours earned by attending USA Championships may be applied to Miscellaneous CPE credits.**
3. **Because VISA Championships and the National Congress are held concurrently, VISA Championships is the ONLY competition at which CPE credits may be earned.**

They should complete the form with all the signatures for the sessions they attend, plus staple the meet ticket to their form as a receipt for the total hours credited for the weekend. They would fill out one of the grid rows as "Jr. USA's", indicate # of hrs. but would not be required to have a signature. The ticket attached will suffice.

If you have any additional questions, please contact me at 317-829-5628 or cmaloney@usa-gymnastics.org

Connie Maloney

Women's Jr. Olympic Program Manager

Alabama Judges:

The CPE Annual Report is was due to Phyllis Thompson by June 30th. If you have not completed your clinical hours and are unable to complete your record by the end of June you can also use the month of July since the year begins August 1st. June and July can be used for the 2007 or the 2008 report. If you need to wait until July to send your form in to Phyllis you will need to notify her with this information. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Some contracts have already been issued for the fall and next spring meets. If you do not turn in your Annual CPE Report your contract will be void. If your contract is void and the Meet Director(s) will be contacted. You may or may not be placed on the meet after your Annual Report has been turned in because the Meet Director may have already requested a replacement for you.

There have been several questions about the CPE Annual Report. I want to make sure everyone understands some of the alternatives and regulations they must follow.

- A small number of CPE credits may be carried over from the previous year BUT you must indicate what credits you will carry over to the next year. Last year was the first year judges submitted a CPE Annual Report and many of you probably did not indicate on the form that you would carry over credits and how many. I suggest you always carry over your maximum number if you have extra credits because you never know what obstacles may prevent you from earning CPE credits the follow year. Each year indicate at the bottom of the CPE form the hours you will carry over to next year. Since this may not have been done last year Phyllis will check your last year CPE form and make sure you have the hours to carry over if you did not indicate last year. Make sure to list on a separate line the carry over hours and where they came from (clinic and year).

- Volunteer hours – many of you have more than 4 volunteer hours. You can only claim 4 credit hours for volunteering so only list 4 credit hours on your form

- Make a copy of your original CPE cards and send the copies to Phyllis, not the original

Judges without CPE credits for 2006-2007 will not be issued contracts until the credits have been completed and turned in to Phyllis. Any contracts already signed for the 2007-2008 season will be void without the CPE Annual Report in Phyllis's office.

Please let me know if you have any other questions. You can read the information concerning the CPE Annual report on the USAG web site or in your 2006-2007 Alabama Judges Handbook page 13 (same form as on the web).

Mary Ann Wallace

Alabama SJD