

Cannon # 12

A judge should at all times both look and act professionally. A judge should maintain a neat and well-groomed appearance when judging. He/she should wear the uniform of the Association (except where other dress is permitted).

Sitting at the judges' table, 300 sets of eyes on you, have you dressed professionally? What kind of image do you give the parents, staff and most importantly, the athletes?

Meet apparel, the NAWGJ uniform with a white blouse, seems fairly obvious. So why do so many judges still make eyebrow-raising mistakes, especially during summer?

As professionals, we should dress as one. If you were assigned by NAWGJ, the official uniform is the Land's End Navy jacket w/ NAWGJ emblem, navy pants/skirt, and white blouse. When even one judge dresses inappropriately, or provocatively, it can lead to offensive comments from other judges. If a specific judge has a problem, talk to him/her discreetly in private and get him/her to change without criticizing her style. Spiked heels are taboo! The gym owners do not need their mats aerated!

We are allowed to add adornments such as a necklace, lapel pin or in some instances, a small scarf for those chilly days.

Looking professional means you not only have on a clean uniform, unwrinkled blouse/pants, but look interested in your task – judging. DO NOT judge with your head down or resting on your hand. Sit up tall and smile at the gymnast; show them the same courtesy we expect from them.

Going to the bar after the meet? It is wise to change or remove your NAWGJ jacket; remember perception is truth to many.

With that said, there are parameters that we should follow.

- ❖ NAWGJ uniform (correct size); refrain from wearing leggings, navy/black jeans or cargo pants with a navy sweater or jacket.
- ❖ Dark shoes without spiked heels
- ❖ White blouse that does not show a deep cleavage or your bra.
- ❖ Jewelry should be tasteful without being over powering.
- ❖ The NAWGJ patch is licensed and must be worn with the Land's End uniform. Do not pin or sew it to a standard navy jacket from the local department store.
- ❖ First year judges are the exception; they have a year to purchase the uniform.

Lani Yosten

Commissioned by Region 3

For fun, attached are spoof photos. How many things can you find are “wrong with this picture?”





Examples of a proper dress code for judging.

