

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS JUDGES  
NATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN  
July 12, 2017**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Evelyn Chandler at 8:30 a.m. CDT. After thanking all members for their continued support of NAWGJ, she called for a roll call for the record:

President: Evelyn Chandler  
Vice President: Mary Lee Martin  
Director of Finance: Patty Shipman  
Secretary: Barbara Tebben  
Region 1: Cindy Lord  
Region 2: Ann Heppner  
Region 3: Marilyn Blilie  
Region 4: Robin Smith  
Region 5: Donnalyn Trevethan  
Region 6: Pat Panichas - excused  
Region 7: Bonnie Synol  
Region 8: Cookie Batsche  
National Judges Cup Director: Patty Shipman  
National Librarian: Judy Dobransky  
National Education Director: Janice Eyman  
National Collegiate Assigner: Donnalyn Trevethan  
National Web Site Director: Judy Hoeflerlin

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting in Virginia Beach, Virginia on January 7, 2017 were approved.

Bonnie Synol: I move to accept the January minutes.

Second: Cindy Lord

Passed: Unanimously

**EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS**

**President – Evelyn Chandler**

Evelyn attended the USA Gymnastics National Junior Olympic Joint Committee Meeting in May to provide an update of NAWGJ activities. A primary objective is to enhance our relations with State Committees.

That same week, Evelyn and National Collegiate Assigner Donnalynn Trevethan attended the NACGC/W (College Coaches) meeting. In August, Evelyn will attend the

USA Gymnastics Advisory Council Meeting and conduct the annual NAWGJ open meeting at USA Gymnastics National Congress in Anaheim, California. The meeting is scheduled for August 9 at 4:30.

**Vice President – Mary Lee Martin**

The updated Operating Code and Election Guide, reflecting changes voted on at the January 2017 meeting, were posted on the Web site in April. Mary Lee continues to answer many questions from members regarding judging protocol and elections.

**National Secretary – Barbara Tebben**

Membership continues to grow: active professional members now number 2,260, with over half rated Level 10 or higher. Twenty new judges took advantage of the \$30 membership rate from January through June. Barbara continues to process many State group renewals. She will send a membership disbursement report to Patty Shipman for the period of February 1, 2017 through July 31, 2017.

An Officers directory was circulated in order to update personal contact information.

**Director of Finance – Patty Shipman**

Patty distributed a comprehensive Financial Report for FYE October 31, 2016, which included the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Report. She filed the Form 990 Tax Return and mailed disbursement checks to RJD's for two periods ending January 31, 2017. Barbara Tebben is working with her to reconcile financial membership records each month.

Patty suggested a revision in the national reporting procedure for the annual Equipment Inventory Report Form. Only those forms with a minimum of \$1500 of depreciable inventory would be mailed to her. The requirement of sending the Inventory Report Form showing all items over \$400 to the RJD remains in effect.

MOTION: Cookie Batsche: I move that the Equipment Inventory Report Form be mailed to the Director of Finance only if items total \$1500 or more.

Second: Cindy Lord

Passed: Unanimously

The Constitution Committee will add two items to the **Financial Policy**:

- 1) A Capital Purchases & Capitalization Threshold Policy under Guidelines for General Expenditures (Section V: C: #3).
- 2) Assignment of Authority (Section II: Financial Policy Section II-Assignment of Authority NGB 7.16.17):

B. These Officers have the authority to open a checking and/or savings account in the name of NAWGJ. These Officers **only** will have signing and online privileges on such accounts:

Executive Officers (President, Vice President, National Secretary, Director of Finance)

Regional Judging Directors  
State Judging Directors  
At-Large Directors *with the approval of the Executive Officers*

Also, the proposed budget for FYE 10-31-18 was distributed. Discussion followed regarding the details.

MOTION: Ann Heppner: I move to accept the Budget.  
Second: Cookie Batsche  
Passed: Unanimously

### **Regional Reports**

Each Regional Judging Director provided a status report of the States in her Region.

### **At-Large Directors Reports**

#### **National Judges' Cup Director – Patty Shipman**

Patty distributed a report on the “Blizzard at the Beach” Judges' Cup held January 6-10, 2017 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Despite difficulties with the weather, judges' shortages and a power outage, the meet posted the third highest net earnings in Judges' Cup history.

RTC's Neela Nelson and Myra Elfenbein gave a CPE clinic on Friday afternoon for judges, as the first session did not begin until Friday evening.

Not having enough judges on the last day continues to plague the Judges' Cups. Patty would like any State-sponsored judge to commit to a whole day on Sunday so that all participating gymnasts will get the same quality experience. The NGB wants to emphasize to SJD's that support of the NJC takes priority over funding non-NAWGJ events.

Next year the National Judges Cup will be held January 5-7, 2018 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon. Bids are out for the next three meets.

#### **National Librarian – Judy Dobransky**

Judy distributed cases of eight new practice judging DVD's. This pack will also be given to SJD's along with an index-weight “Mat Height Guide” for XCEL Silver vaults. The new DVD's will be offered for purchase at a cut-rate of \$10 for 10 DVD's for two months. Judy will enlist the help of RJD's and SJD's to score many of the routines this week.

A new DVD replicator was purchased for the library this year.

### **National Web Site Director – Judy Hoeflerlin**

Judy passed out a report updating everyone on Web Site activity. The NAWGJ History page, honoring its creator, Lee Bjella, has been incorporated into the NAWGJ Web site. Plans are in place to also create a National Judges Cup page and a National Symposium page.

Judy updated several links, contacts, photos, videos and other information in many sections.

Future projects: posting a slide show from the 2014 National Symposium in Atlanta on the home page to “start beating the drums” for the upcoming 2019 Symposium in Ft. Worth, Texas; and re-locating the educational postings from Regional pages into a more accessible area, such as an Educational Corner.

### **National Collegiate Assigner – Donnalynn Trevethan**

JAS Committee: Donnalynn Trevethan, Evelyn Chandler, Pat Panichas, Mary Lee Martin, Barbara Tebben

Donnalynn reported that 425 judges entered the JAS system last season; 25 were new Level 10's.

A JAS survey went out last January, requested by the JAS Liaison Committee, to determine what judges did not like about judging at the college level; 840 judges responded. The top complaints were: pressure from the coaches to give high scores, lack of separation tools, and payment/travel issues.

Conference Meet assigning may not be as difficult this year because of fewer conflicts with State Meets. The JAS DIII video project, completed at DIII Nationals in Menomonie, Wisconsin in March, came in under budget and will supply many DIII routines for use in JAS projects.

Two JAS Assigners are going out after their four year terms. The JAS Committee received eight applications to replace outgoing assigners Dean Ratliff and Linda Fenton. Discussion on the various candidates.

The Committee recommended that Carol Curley and Dawn Kiss replace the two outgoing Assigners.

Vote: Unanimous

### **National Education Director – Jan Eyman**

Jan distributed a Three Year Model developed by the NAWGJ Education Committee: Cookie Batsche, Donnalynn Trevethan, Ann Heppner, Robin Smith, Judy Dobransky, Pat Panichas.

A proposed NAWGJ Education Committee Vision Statement will help guide their work:

*To promote, create and distribute materials and products for the purpose of enhancing the continuing education of the members of NAWGJ.*

This Vision will be accomplished by

- 1) The application of information provided to us by the gymnastics community
- 2) The utilization of our NAWGJ Library
- 3) The promotion of our NAWGJ Web Site
- 4) Our own innovation and introduction of new concepts and ideas
- 5) Diversified contributions from our general membership

Projects underway for “Year One” (starting August 2017) include:

1. Development of an educational NAWGJ logo for items placed on the website that have been reviewed and approved by the Education Committee
2. Publishing of various documents, such as compilation of all changes in one place for each event and level, a comparison of XCEL and JO rules, line art of selected vaults, and general deductions for posture and footwork.
3. Use of Dartfish program to analyze skills
4. Investigation to use a modified “Good Better Best” Doug Hills program, using our own video footage

Plans were also outlined for Years Two and Three.

Jan will work with Evelyn and Patty regarding a budget for these projects.

#### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Constitution Committee** – Mary Lee Martin, Ann Heppner, Barbara Tebben  
Mary Lee will supervise the revision of the Operating Code to include the following Motions:

#### ***Add Financial Assistant to State Governing Board***

MOTION: Cindy Lord: I move that each State Governing Board must have an elected Treasurer or designate an elected Board member as Treasurer.

Second: Cookie Batsch

Vote: Unanimous

Motion amendment: Cindy Lord: I move that we amend the motion on July 12 to reflect a title change from Treasurer to Financial Assistant.

Second: Cookie Batsche

Passed: Unanimously

***SJD Attendance Requirement/SJD Workshop***

MOTION: Marilyn Blilie: I move that State Judging Directors must be present from the start to the end of the summer SJD Workshop to satisfy the requirement for attendance.

Second: Ann Heppner

Passed: Unanimously

***RJD Permission Threshold for Depreciable Items***

MOTION: Cookie Batsche: I move to increase the threshold from \$200 to \$400 for SJD's to obtain RJD approval for purchase of depreciable items.

Second: Bonnie Synol

Passed: Unanimously

***SGB Should Meet Minimum Two Times per Year***

MOTION: Cindy Lord: I move that our State Governing Boards meet a minimum of two times per year, one meeting of which must be in person.

Second: Robin Smith

Passed: Unanimously

***NJC Support Priority***

MOTION: Barbara Tebben: I move that financial support of the National Judges Cup must take priority over support of non-NAWGJ events.

Second: Marilyn Blilie

Passed: Unanimously

Also, the Committee will add a clarification to SJD Elections: #1: *According to the NAWGJ Constitution, State Governing Boards must have 5-9 members. Exceptions will be directed to the RJD.*

**Meeting Recessed 5:03 p.m. CDT**

**President Chandler called the meeting back to order on Thursday, July 13 at 8:28 a.m. CDT.**

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(STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS, continued)

**Helping Hands Committee** - Robin Smith, Cindy Lord, Ann Heppner

Robin felt that the culture of helping is going in a good direction. Several States have made donations to Helping Hands this past year, and other States are helping neighboring States with NAWGJ expenses.

Helping Hands funds were allocated to the SJD's in Idaho and South Dakota for travel costs to the SJD Workshop in Milwaukee.

**Site Committee** – Bonnie Synol, Ann Heppner, Marilyn Blilie

Three proposed sites for the 2018 National Governing Board Meeting/SJD Workshop were considered: Burlington, Vermont; Portland, Maine; and Niagara Falls, NY. Discussion on the various sites.

RJD's will gather opinions from their SJD's during their Regional Board meetings and report back on Sunday.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Document Review**

The emphasis of the Document Review should be two-fold: Financial Review and Program Review, all in accordance with the SJD Duties listed in the Operating Code. Evelyn will revise the Review checklist to reflect changes since the Document Review's inception in 2012.

The Document Review process will be noted in our reports to the IRS.

### **Insurance Clarification**

If a judge suffers an injury *while performing judging duties* at a meet, the NAWGJ insurance policy could be activated as secondary insurance. The injured judge must have been issued a NAWGJ contract by an elected NAWGJ assigner.

### **Video Critiques**

Although it is permissible for judges to earn money by providing online judging critiques, NAWGJ as an organization cannot endorse this activity.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

**Pro's of Term Limits Committee:** Evelyn Chandler, Patty Shipman, Donnalynn Trevethan, Pat Panichas

Evelyn provided a short history of NAWGJ term limits. When NAWGJ was founded in 1974, term limits were in place for all Officers. Through the years, however, term limits were abolished, and the NGB voted down the last two attempts to re-establish term limits.

The Pro's of Term Limits Committee propose that the benefits of term limits outnumber the disadvantages. Points to consider:

- 1) Term limits are highly recommended for non-profit organizations
- 2) Term limits can be different for different levels of Officers
- 3) Having term limits leads to a larger pool of Officer candidates and the diversity of Board perspectives
- 4) Term limits can be over-ridden in most cases

- 5) Term limits may prevent financial and political problems
- 6) Term limits enable a graceful exit for members who would like to leave

More discussion is needed. We will revisit term limits in January.

**Emergency Situations Committee** Cookie Batsche, Marilyn Blilie, Ann Heppner  
Cookie presented the Committee's draft of *Considerations for Emergency Situations Involving Judges at Gymnastics Meets*.

This document will provide Meet Referees, SJD's and Meet Directors tools for situations when a judge appears too impaired, sick or injured to continue her job. Sections include: *Who makes the call? Who should be notified? How can we support the impaired judge? Should the judge continue judging the meet?*

Also included is a "You Know It's Time to Stop Judging When..." box for self-reflection.

A final version will be posted on the NAWGJ Web Site.

**Forms Committee** Mary Lee Martin, Robin Smith, Judy Hoferlin Cindy Lord  
The Forms Committee looked at forms currently required by RJD's and SJD's to see if any can be updated or eliminated. The Committee discussed use of a Google Drive to store and share all forms.

MOTION: Marilyn Blilie: I move that Web Master Judy Hoferlin develop a Google Drive for the storage of all NAWGJ forms. The Constitution Committee and the Web Site Director will have editing rights; the NGB members will have view-only rights.  
Second: Bonnie Synol  
Vote: Passed Unanimously

The Constitution Committee, who will assume responsibility for Forms, will insert updated RJD and SJD Calendar Checklists into the Operating Code just prior to the Financial Policy. They will work with Judy Hoferlin regarding posting forms online.

Motion to adjourn: Cindy Lord  
Second: Bonnie Synol  
Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m. CDT



**RECONVENE THE MEETING**  
**July 16, 2017 8:00 a.m. CDT**

President Evelyn Chandler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. CDT and asked for a roll call for the record:

President: Evelyn Chandler  
Vice President: Mary Lee Martin  
Director of Finance: Patty Shipman  
Secretary: Barbara Tebben  
Region 1: Cindy Lord  
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National Web Site Director: Judy Hoeflerlin

**Site Committee Update**

After RJD's polled their Regional Boards, the Site Committee recommended The Essex Resort in Burlington, Vermont as the site for the next NAWGJ National Governing Board meeting and SJD Workshop, July 8-15, 2018.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

Evelyn will negotiate details with Joan Morrison. Pat Panichas will make an on-site visit to the Essex.

**Document Review Update**

States slated for a book review for 2018 include: So Cal, Utah, Hawaii, Colorado, Oklahoma, Maine, New York North, Rhode Island, Alabama and Florida.

**Education Committee Update**

The Education Committee will continue to explore ideas for line art and video projects. They will coordinate with the Women's Technical Committee regarding any deductions.

The Committee needs to define their goals and projects before proceeding.

**Term Limits Update**

Regional Boards overwhelmingly considered Term Limits favorable. The Constitution Committee will work with Pat Panichas regarding a proposal for the January meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Bonnie Synol

Second: Pat Panichas

Meeting Adjourned 11:05 a.m. CDT