

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS JUDGES  
NATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES  
BURLINGTON, VERMONT  
July 10-15, 2018**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Evelyn Chandler at 3:05 p.m. EDT. A special welcome was extended to Ann Heppner, new Vice President, and Denise Green, new Region II Regional Judging Director, as well as Mary Lee Martin, former Vice President, who was invited to attend. Evelyn then called for a roll call for the record:

President: Evelyn Chandler  
Vice President: Ann Heppner  
Director of Finance: Patty Shipman  
Secretary: Barbara Tebben  
Region 1: Cindy Lord  
Region 2: Denise Green  
Region 3: Marilyn Blilie  
Region 4: Robin Smith  
Region 5: Donnalyn Trevethan  
Region 6: Pat Panichas  
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

Conflict of Interest Policy and Confidentiality Agreement forms were passed out for everyone to sign. Evelyn reviewed the week's agenda and introduced the theme for the SJD Workshop: *With A Little Help From My Friends*.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS**

**President – Evelyn Chandler**

In February, Evelyn and members of the NAWGJ Collaboration Committee (Pat Panichas, Patty Shipman and Donnalyn Trevethan) worked with USA Gymnastics Junior Olympic Program Director Annie Heffernon and members of the Technical and JO Committees to discuss potential changes to the Judges' Compensation package. This was followed up by a formal proposal to Ms. Heffernon and the Junior Olympic Joint Committee.

After being invited to sit on the USA Gymnastics Interim Board of Directors meeting in May in Indianapolis, Evelyn attended the Junior Olympic Joint Committee meeting

in Cincinnati as well as the NACGC/Women's meeting with National Collegiate Assig-  
ner Donnalyn Trevethan.

### **National Secretary – Barbara Tebben**

Membership is still on the rise, with 2,287 judges listed as active professional mem-  
bers of NAWGJ. Over half of the judges are rated Level 10 or higher. Twenty-three  
State Judging Directors renewed their State's memberships through the National  
Secretary.

### **Director of Finance – Patty Shipman**

Patty supervised the data entry of the quarterly reports from State and Regional  
Judging Directors. She also filed the Form 990 Tax Return for FYE 10/31/17, which  
was distributed to the NGB.

Disbursement checks were issued for the periods February 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017  
and August 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018. A comprehensive Financial Report, includ-  
ing Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statements, was distributed to the NGB. The  
Budget for FYE 10-31-19 will be presented for approval on Sunday.

### **Regional Reports**

Each Regional Judging Director recapped the activities and issues in her Region.

### **AT-LARGE DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

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

The 2018 National Judges Cup, held in Portland, Oregon January 5-7, was our largest  
meet by over 100 participants (1,627 entries) and brought in almost double our  
highest earnings.

The 2019 National Judges Cup will take place in Overland Park, Kansas January 4-6  
at the Overland Park Convention Center.

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

Practice judging DVD's, including one for the new 6-7 vaults, were distributed to  
each NGB member, along with an updated Library order form. New college videos  
are ready for scoring and will be posted on the JAS site this fall. The Library will  
have a sale later this year on older practice judging DVD's.

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

Various educational projects are underway, including a models library for *Good-  
Better-Best*, starting with five skills on bars, further discussion with Dr. Doug Hills to  
determine whether his program will be financially feasible for our organization, and  
indexing DVD's from the NAWGJ Library for use in future projects.

MOTION: Robin Smith

I move that we pay Wally Eyman \$500 to draw five line art models of each of the allowable 6-7 vaults.

Second: Cookie Batsche

Passed: Unanimously

### **National Website Director – Judy Hoeflerlin**

A NAWGJ Google Drive was created to store a copy of important NAWGJ documents, as well as an instruction sheet for using the Google Drive. Also, Judy revised many forms and sent them to the Constitution Committee for review. Most forms in the SJD section are now fillable, including the Quarterly Financial Report.

Various documents and articles were posted for the Education Corner, Tool Tyme and NAWGJ Library. The History pages were also updated.

Because Judy Hoeflerlin is retiring this year, a search for a new Website Director began in May. Two applications were received: Brenda Eberhardt and Devany Plentovich. Judy's husband has agreed to stay on as webmaster. The Website Director selection will be completed at the conclusion of the weekend after interviews can be conducted.

### **National Collegiate Assigner – Donnalyn Trevethan**

Donnalyn attended the College Coaches meeting (NACGC/W) in May. College officials will receive a raise in per diem to cover rising travel costs.

There were 364 college judges in the JAS system last season and 401 meets were assigned. Refusals this year were significantly lower. Because the Regionals and Nationals formats are changing this season, fewer judges will have the opportunity to judge a championship meet. An NCAA-only rating is being considered but no action has been taken.

Two new videos helpful to NCAA meet referees were posted on the NCAA page of the NAWGJ Website: *Tips for NCAA Meet Referees* and *NCAA Equipment Specifications for Meet Referees*.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**JAS Committee** - Donna Trevethan, Evelyn Chandler, Pat Panichas, Barbara Tebben  
Four assigners have finished their four-year term this year: Sibby Lane, Diane Cote-Burk, Beth Renwick and Marian Dewane. The JAS Committee will present the new assigners to the NGB for approval in mid-August and notify all applicants.

Denise Green was appointed to take Mary Lee Martin's place on the JAS Committee.

**Constitution Committee** - Ann Heppner, Barbara Tebben, one TBA

The Constitution Committee presented a Term Limits proposal for Regional and State Judging Directors.

***Rationale:*** *The National Governing Board is concerned with building capacity and developing leadership qualities among its members.*

***Proposal:*** *All Regional and State Judging Directors will serve a four year term and may be re-elected only for one additional consecutive term. In the event that no eligible candidate indicates interest in the position, permission may be requested for the incumbent Director to continue to serve an additional term. For a SJD position, permission would be granted by the Regional Governing Board. For a RJD position, permission would be granted by the National Governing Board.*

***Issue:*** *The NGB did not want RJD's and SJD's to leave office at the same time.*

Following discussion, the Constitution Committee passed out a revised term limits proposal and election schedule:

*RJD's in odd and even Regions are up for election in 2019 & 2020, respectively. In order to begin offsetting the years for RJD's and SJD's in the same Region, RJD terms will be moved to 2021 for odd Regions and 2022 for even Regions.*

The Committee recommends approval of the new term limits proposal and election schedule.

Second: Robin Smith

Vote: 10 yes 1 opposed

Changes to the Constitution, Operating Code and Election Guide to reflect term limits for RJD's and SJD's will be presented on Sunday, along with any other revisions from this NGB meeting. Because there is a Constitutional change, the vote must be taken via email after 15 or more days.

Cindy Lord was appointed to take Mary Lee Martin's place on the Constitution Committee.

#### **AT LARGE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Website Committee** – Judy Hoeflerlin, Judy Dobransky, Robin Smith, Bonnie Synol  
Discussion about adding a standing committee to assist the National Website Director.

The committee recommends that a standing Website Content Committee be established. The Website Director will serve as Chair of the Committee. Two members will be Robin Smith and Cookie Batsche.

Second: Bonnie Synol

Passed: Unanimously

**Hall of Fame Committee** – Bonnie Synol, Cindy Lord, Marilyn Blilie

Motion: I recommend that we change the name of the Hall of Fame Committee to the Awards Committee.

Second: Cookie Batsche

Passed: Unanimously

Bonnie Synol presented nominees for the Hall of Fame Global and Lifetime Member categories. Selections were made for new inductees. Their names will be printed in the January minutes after they have been invited to attend the 2019 Symposium, where they will be inducted.

The Committee also recommended that all Regions establish a NAWGJ Regional Hall of Fame.

#### “Green Flag Award”

This is a new award to recognize special contributions made by up and coming (or current) leaders. The Awards Committee will establish criteria for the award and also develop a physical Green Flag award, such as a pin or plaque.

MOTION: Cookie Batsche

I move that the Awards Committee develop a program to recognize judges’ outstanding contributions. This award will be called The Green Flag Award.

Second: Cindy Lord

Passed: Unanimously

#### **Helping Hands Committee** – Robin Smith, Cindy Lord, Ann Heppner

In addition to helping needful SJD’s attend their annual meeting, the Committee has set aside \$4,000, in eight \$500 awards, to help members attend Symposium next year.

Robin Smith passed out a Helping Hands Symposium Award survey for prospective recipients. The Surveys are due by October 20 to SJD’s, who will then complete a form for each candidate from their State to submit to Robin by November 10. Selections will be announced at the National Judges Cup in January 2019.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **SYMPOSIUM PLANNING**

The 2019 NAWGJ Symposium will take place July 11-14 at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas. The National Governing Board members will meet July 8-9, and the SJD Workshop will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, July 10-11 (including session for new SJD’s). Symposium will begin Thursday evening, July 11, and run through Sunday morning, July 14.

After receiving input from the SJD’s, the theme will be ***New Frontiers: Steering our Path Forward.***

Evelyn appointed three Symposium committees:

BANQUET: Barbara Tebben (chair), Robin Smith, Denise Green

AWARDS: Bonnie Synol (chair), Cindy Lord, Marilyn Blilie

PROGRAM: Jan Eyman (chair), Cookie Batsche, Pat Panichas and Donna Trevethan

BUDGET: Patty Shipman (chair), Judy Dobransky

Discussion on various Symposium topics, such as number of educational tracks, speakers, early bird registration, gifts for judges, Lunch 'n Learn topics.

### ***Call for National Symposium Educational Projects***

Cookie Batsche distributed a flyer soliciting educational projects to showcase at Symposium. Formats include PDF, mp4 video, Power Point, Quizlet, graphic drawings, IBook, etc. The deadline for submission to Cookie is November 1, 2018, and voting will occur at our January 2019 NGB meeting. Various awards will be given to winners, which may include a free registration to Symposium.

### **New Consequences Committee**

President Chandler appointed an Ad Hoc Consequences Committee to provide SJD's with more tools for handling situations when Canons are violated. Members are: Cindy Lord, Bonnie Synol, Denise Green.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Best Practices for NAWGJ Websites and Social Media**

Discussion on the use of NAWGJ websites and social media, such as Facebook pages, for outsiders' financial gain.

MOTION: Donnalyn Trevethan

I move that NAWGJ social media, posts and websites may not be used for financial gain by individuals or private businesses without written permission from the NAWGJ National Governing Board.

Second: Ann Heppner

Passed: Unanimously

#### **USA Gymnastics Testing Options/Levels of National Rating**

Discussion on presenting USA Gymnastics a viable, positive option to the current testing system. Also discussed was the possibility of separating the National rating into categories based on longevity or service.

An Alternative to Testing Task Force Committee was formed: members are Cookie Batsche, Marilyn Blilie and Ann Heppner.

#### **Private Rooms for Regional Competitions**

Regions 4 and 8 now provide judges private rooms at USA Gymnastics Regional Championships. Discussion about other Regions supporting this trend was conducted.

#### **SJD's Role in State Governing Board Elections**

Discussion on possible influence or interference on the part of the SJD in a State Governing Board election. The State Governing Board application form in the Election Guide will be revised: "Send to RJD ONLY."

## **Forms Revisions**

Contracts: replace “employment” with “engagement” to help clarify our status as independent contractors, not employees.

MOTION Robin Smith

I move that we change the word “employment” to “engagement” in our official contracts.

Second: Cindy Lord

Passed: Unanimously

Judy Hoeflerlin will make the changes online.

MOTION: Pat Panichas

I move to accept electronic signatures on our fillable forms.

Second: Bonnie Synol

Passed: Unanimously

MOTION AMENDED: Pat Panichas

I move to accept electronic signatures on our fillable forms *with the exception of the Financial Assistant’s signature on the Quarterly Financial Reports.*

Second: Bonnie Synol

Passed: Unanimously

The following changes will be made to forms:

- (1) State Governing Board Application will have lines provided for “At Large” or “Position Sought.”
- (2) The “Request return receipt, please” will be deleted on all application forms.
- (3) Annual Statistical Report will cover the activities from July 1 – June 30; due to RJD November 20 and due to President December 1.
- (4) Equipment/Inventory Report Form will be due to RJD November 20.
- (5) Quarterly Financial Report will have a line for the Financial Assistant’s signature.
- (6) The Monthly Expenses Verification form will be deleted in the SJD section.

Motion to Adjourn: Bonnie Synol

Second: Cookie Batsche

Meeting adjourned 3:35 p.m. EDT.

## **Sunday, July 15, 2018**

President Evelyn Chandler called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. EDT.

She called for a roll call for the record:

President: Evelyn Chandler

Vice President: Ann Heppner

Director of Finance: Patty Shipman

Secretary: Barbara Tebben

Region 1: Cindy Lord

Region 2: Denise Green

Region 3: Marilyn Blilie

Region 4: Robin Smith

Region 5: Donnalyn Trevethan  
Region 6: Pat Panichas  
Region 7: Bonnie Synol  
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### **Review of SJD Workshop**

Discussion on the recent State Judging Directors Workshop.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Approval of Budget** for FYE 10-31-19.

MOTION: Marilyn Blilie

I move to accept the Budget.

Second: Pat Panichas

Passed: Unanimously

### **Appointment of National Website Director**

Robin Smith, Bonnie Synol, Judy Hoeflerlin and Evelyn Chandler met with the two candidates, Brenda Eberhardt and Devany Plentovich, on Saturday.

Non-voting members, with the exception of current Website Director Judy Hoeflerlin, were excused during the voting process.

Brenda Eberhardt is appointed the new National Website Director.

MOTION: Robin Smith

I move that we ask Devany Plentovich to serve on the Website Support Committee.

Second: Pat Panichas

Passed: Unanimously

### **Constitution Committee**

Chairman Ann Heppner read the Committee's proposed changes to the Constitution, Operating Code and Election Guide, based on motions and discussions during our NGB meeting. A vote will take place the week of August 12.

Patty Shipman will check with legal counsel regarding the wording for Term Limits in the Constitution.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Contracts**

If a state utilizes a blanket contract at the beginning of each year, each judge must sign one prior to accepting assignments.

The issue concerning judges who break contracts or do not update their availability in a timely manner was discussed. Although this is not professional behavior, no

penalty exists. The Consequences Committee will bring some thoughts to the January 2019 meeting.

### **Safe Sport**

To address issues that might come up, such as dealing with minor judges or a judge who is suspended by USA Gymnastics, NAWGJ will consult with an attorney who specializes in Safe Sport. Also, judges should be very careful about using inappropriate language around gymnasts.

MOTION: Bonnie Synol

I move that the Executive Board obtain legal counsel to comply with Safe Sport policy and Background Checks.

Second: Cookie Batsche

Passed: Unanimously

### **OTHER ISSUES**

#### **Online Voting System**

NAWGJ could consider an alternative to VotingPlace.net. Barbara Tebben will talk with Wild Apricot about their new voting application.

#### **Bank of America Credit Limit for Executive Board**

MOTION: Donnalyn Trevethan

I move we increase the maximum Bank of America NAWGJ credit limit to \$20,000.

Second: Pat Panichas

Passed: Unanimously

Motion to Adjourn: Bonnie Synol

Second: Pat Panichas

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. EDT.