

NAWGJ Board Meeting Minutes: Region 8

June 23, 2017

Attendance: Teri Costa, Gayli Craver, Brenda Eberhardt, Janet Efland, Kim Joye, Sibby Lane, Susan Monahan, Mary Thacker, Marian Dykes

The meeting was called to order at 12:30. Discussion was postponed until lunch was served.

Budget Approval

The RJD budget was presented for the 2017-18 year and was approved by the Board. It was noted that it may be necessary to add money to the gifts category to pay for gifts for Eastern National judges should this meet be awarded to Region 8.

Region 8 NAWGJ Symposium

The Board discussed the format and logistics for the Region 8 NAWGJ Symposium to be held in conjunction with Region 8 Training Camp at Gymnastics Academy of Atlanta, October 6 – 8, 2017. The following suggestions emerged:

- The theme for the Symposium will be *Cruise to Success*
- A select number of training stations will be identified for formal observation and interaction by judges. Judges who wish to participate in these stations will sign up when they arrive. The number of spots will be limited based on space availability to be determined when the RJD arrives at training camp and can see the floor plan. A “bouncer” will be appointed to monitor stations and ensure participants are in the correct location.
- Ideas were solicited for gymnast station(s) to be staffed by judges. It is possible that judges will be needed for two stations. Recommendations included: SV and composition station and a station on expression/artistry on floor. SJDs were asked to send other ideas to C. Batsche.
- Kim Joye will offer the judging exams at Symposium. It may be necessary to host the exam at a hotel site or at another location if space is not available in the gym.
- Topics suggested for Symposium included:
 - Composition on Level 9/10 bars, beam, floor
 - Practice judging at Level 8, 9, 10 (fewer routines than usual but with more in-depth analysis/discussion)
 - Series and connections (possibly using NAWGJ dvds: Series of Series or To Give or Not To Give)
 - Mounts and landings (new NAWGJ DVD)
 - NCAA Survey Results
 - Julie King’s session on practice judging for coaches and judges (if we can get coaches)
 - Judging challenging routines using new Oops DVD or So You Had A Bad Day

- SJDs were asked to submit other ideas for topics to C. Batsche (Note: after the meeting, Kim Joye suggested a session called “It Drives Me Crazy When Judges...” to be presented by a panel of coaches/judges/parents. She subsequently asked Joan Gnat, Ray Gnat, and Ashley Gnat if they would be interested in presenting this session and they agreed they would be presenters if they are available).
- SJD’s were asked to provide C. Batsche with suggestions for clinicians. Clinicians will be paid \$150 per session.
- Vladimir Novikov, Planet Gymnastics, was suggested to be the clinician for the Saturday morning coach-judge session.
- Floor management: The following rules were suggested to minimize disruption, injury, or damage on the gym floor:
 - If judges move mats, they should return them to their original location when finished. Mats should not be moved away from the athlete stations.
 - To avoid damage to the mats, chairs should not be placed on mats.
 - If judges bring something in to the gym, they should take it back out with them.
 - Food should not be brought into the gym.

C. Batsche will prepare a draft schedule for the Symposium and work with the SJDs to finalize the speakers.

Updates From Marian Dykes

Marian indicated that she would send the compiled list of regional availability sent to her by judges from their states. SJDs were reminded that the list is confidential. She indicated that there was no need to pressure judges to submit availability. At the same time, it is helpful if SJDs remind their judges to submit their availability and in-gym forms on time if they wish to be considered.

Marian will develop and disseminate a revised process for submitting availability forms. All submissions will be required to be in PDF format using a specified naming convention. The naming convention format will be developed by Marian. SJDs should begin to inform judges that they will need to submit their forms in pdf format so they can make plans if they do not have this capability on their own computers/devices.

Financial Reports: Best Practices

SJDs discussed practices they use to make the financial reporting process manageable. The primary strategy was to record expenses immediately and to file receipts as soon as expenditures are made. Two states use Google Docs and submit their report electronically (including receipts) to the RJD. Cookie indicated that financial reports may be submitted by email but that all receipts and bank statements also need to be included.

Allowable Expenditures

Discussion ensued about allowable expenses for SJDs and the following conclusions were reached:

- SJDs may be reimbursed for attending events in which an official Regional Board meeting occurs as well as meetings of their state boards.
- SJDs may be reimbursed for attending the SJD meeting at the National Board meeting.
- SJDs may be reimbursed for attending Regional Symposium if they have an active role.
- SJDs may be reimbursed for attending National Judges Cup and/or they may send a representative from their state.
- SJDs may be reimbursed for actual mileage or airfare to events. As far as those present knew, there is no limitation on the mileage reimbursement but clarification will be obtained at the national board meeting.

Questions/Practices to be Submitted For Discussion at National SJD Meeting

The Board would like to have the following topics/questions addressed at the National SJD meeting in July, 2017:

- Confirmation of our understanding that actual mileage or airfare may be reimbursed without a restriction that the reimbursement for mileage be limited to the cost of a plane ticket.
- Discussion on the allowable practices for flowers and gifts to members along with a request for a more lenient/flexible interpretation.
- Clarification on the practice of making a check to “cash” rather than to the SJD when reimbursing personal expenses.
- Paperwork Reduction: Discussion of the possibility for reducing the amount of paperwork/forms submitted and any unnecessary duplicate submissions.
- SJDs were asked to send other topics to C. Batsche so these could be considered when formulating the agenda for the national meeting. Evelyn Chandler has asked the RJDs for agenda topics so our ideas can be considered.

State Practices for Membership Support

C. Batsche asked SJDs to summarize the benefits they provide to their membership. It was noted that the ability to provide membership support is dependent on the number of judges in the state and the amount of funds raised at Judges Cup. The following practices were identified and represent a variety of practices from state to state—not the practice of any one state:

- Payment of NAWGJ dues (in some states, dues are paid if judges work all of Judges Cup or $\frac{3}{4}$ of the sessions at Judges Cup)
- Payment of USA Gymnastics dues (if judges work at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of sessions)
- \$30 per session at Judges Cup; \$50 per session at Judges Cup
- Reimbursement for clinic fees/expenses (depending on the state, specific amounts mentioned were up to \$150, up to \$250, up to \$300; one state pays the cost for one clinic)
- Reimbursement of one out-of-state clinic for a major event, e.g., regional congress, national congress, symposium and \$100 travel expenses for event

- Per diem of \$40 per day for clinic days and \$25 per day for travel days (CPE form required for reimbursement)
- Up to \$100 for expenses associated with Training Camp attendance
- Registration for training camp and half of cost of a hotel room for a major event
- Registration for training camp and hotel room
- \$25.00 travel fee for State training camp
- Designated amount of funds for testing or re-certification expenses
- Free clinic prior to recertification year (state pays for clinician)
- Judging supplies, e.g., DEM cards, start value flashers, neutral deduction flashers, name tags for uniforms
- Purchase of Code of Points (paper or electronic)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine (Cookie) Batsche
Regional Judging Director