

**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 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 will be 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.

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.

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

National Web Site Director – Judy Hoferlin

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 recommends 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 Mission Statement will help guide their work:

*To promote, create and distribute materials and products
to enhance the continuing education of the members of NAWGJ.*

This Mission 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
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

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 Time 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 should 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
Region 2: Ann Heppner

Region 3: Marilyn Blilie
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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 should 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, in association with the Benefits of Term Limits Ad Hoc Committee, will develop a proposal for implementing Term Limits.

Motion to adjourn: Bonnie Synol
Second: Pat Panichas
Meeting Adjourned 11:05 a.m. CDT