

Questions and Answers SJD Workshop 2015

UNIFORMS

1. At what point should we require our judges to purchase the uniform?
NAWGJ states 2nd year
2. What should be done (warnings/discipline) with judges who do not wear the appropriate uniform? Is there a procedure? Who handles it?
According to 2014-15 R & P, p 37, V.A.B., judges are required to wear the official uniform of a navy blue SUIT (slacks/skirt) and white blouse/shirt. As a professional organization we have adopted a navy blue suit with the official NAWGJ patch as our uniform and encourage our members to purchase it. There is no discipline in writing but, technically, the contract has been violated. Suggestion: Have a position of Ethics Chair on State Board who could address the contract violations.

INSURANCE

1. Can a judge inform the assignor when they are going to critique, do a mock meet, etc. and have our insurance cover that judge?
Yes and the fee is waived. We no longer charge for this. States may have a different procedure and if it works, we encourage them to continue it.
2. Can a judge also ask to be insured when they are asked by a club to judge a meet such as USAIGC, or if they accept an out of state assignment which is contracted by USAG?
No, Competition needs to be assigned by "NAWGJ assignor of record" and \$3 fee paid.
3. If a meet referee is fulfilling USAG requirements, is that person still covered by NAWGJ insurance?
Yes, they are assigned and contracted by NAWGJ assignor of record.
4. Does NAWGJ insurance cover a judge who is in a coaching position at a clinic or critique session?
If coaching, no. If critiquing at a clinic, yes.

ELECTION

1. If we have an empty position on the board (nobody ran), can a person be appointed?
Yes, but they can not vote and the duties they perform are not covered by directors and officers (D & O) insurance. Appointed members may not assign.

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2. If a state has co-SJDs and one of them cannot finish the term, should there be an election to fill the empty spot?

No. There is a SJD in place. Restructure board to get more help if needed or (last resort) appoint, if necessary.

MEMBERSHIP

1. What is the procedure for a judge to rejoin NAWGJ after leaving the sport as a judge for one or more years?

They rejoin NAWGJ on-line (or contact Barb Tebben) and ask USAG (Connie M.) about actual judging.

COLLEGIATE

1. Do you only need a NAWGJ membership to judge college?

Yes. No USAG membership, safety cert., background check, etc. is required.

2. Do you have to wear the NAWGJ uniform for collegiate judging?

Yes. NAWGJ is recommended but not required for NCAA regionals/nationals since they are assigned by NCAA.

3. How do we handle judges who accept a contract then contact the meet director asking to be replaced for one day because they also accepted a contract for another assignment (college)?

There currently is no penalty in writing if a judge breaks a JO contract. It is unprofessional and could cause a meet director to request that the judge not be assigned in the future.

4. A judge signs a college contract and then gets invited to judge a 3 day JO meet

After investigating, the judge will receive a letter of reprimand from the National JAS Director. The action will be kept in the judge's file and future assignments may be in jeopardy.

5. Can the SJDs have a list of JAS assignors and know which schools /states they cover so we could find out which judges could possibly be contacted for an age group meet the same weekend.

Yes, Contact Donna Trevethan for this information.

CONTRACTS/FORMS

1. If NAWGJ is the assigning organization for USAG, is it only the SJD and Assignors of Record who can send out contracts?

Yes

Can other board members send out contracts?

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No. Only the assignor who either ran for and won that position OR was elected “at large” and given the assigning duty in board minutes.

2. Can SJD send a list of judges in their state (to include rating and hometown) to meet directors with information sheet explaining procedure for assigning meets?

No, we should not provide any such lists.

3. The new SJD statistical form has changed dates and we have Fall and Spring meets. What meet assignments are included?

All meets in the fiscal year - November 1 through October 31

4. Is the document review done by season, calendar year, or fiscal year?

Fiscal Year

CARPOOLING

Judges need to be reminded that carpool requirements have not changed. The only change is that judges who choose to not carpool when possible must work out the details with the other carpool members in advance. NAWGJ will NOT assign carpool members or carpool driver.

1. Can the meet referee work with the meet director for carpools or does each individual judge decide who they are riding with and then, if they can't carpool, contact the meet director or meet referee?

The judges should contact the meet referee if there is a question. The meet referee should be the one working with the meet director. However, remember that NAWGJ does not assign carpools nor is that the responsibility of the meet referee. It is the responsibility of the individual judges per the R & P to follow the travel reimbursement policy.

2. I have a big concern about the Meet Referee, acting as a USAG representative, having to coordinate payment of the judges (carpool \$ given or not - basically who is getting paid for what?) The meet director is the one in charge of finances. They may be fine paying everyone to drive - or they may not. A meet ref will not know that. The meet director has received contracts with projected costs. If they have concerns they should contact the judge directly.

The Meet Director is basing everything on the Rules and Policies. The meet referee should coordinate with the MD on these issues.

3. A coach that is a judge has gymnasts in sessions Friday and Sunday. They were asked to judge on Saturday. Does the meet director pay mileage and hotel?

Not unless the judge had planned on going home Friday night and return Sunday morning. The assignor should request that information in advance.

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4. Would it be unreasonable to let judges assigned to a meet know that only 1 car would be reimbursed mileage from a particular area? Not specifically say the carpool driver, just let them know only 1 car will be paid mileage.

No, it is not unreasonable. The meet director has probably assumed that one car will come from each area.

5. What is considered “acceptable” to break up a carpool? Works too late, kids, babysitter, etc. Do both get mileage?

No, The judges could decide between themselves how the mileage will be divided. The meet director is expecting to pay per Rules and Policies.

ROOMS

1. There have been questions in my state as to whether or not judges are required to share a room.

Can a meet director “force” a judge to share a room?

Refer to 2014 R & P, Chapter 5, page 49. Meet Director’s do not have to provide individual rooms. You could encourage and work with them on providing suites with two sleeping areas

If a judge chooses to room alone, for any reason, must this be reimbursed or not?

No, it will not be reimbursed.

FINANCIAL

1. I notice from some of my Region’s newsletters that some states are still using the # of sessions a judge participates in at Judges’ Cup meet to determine the benefits that a judge receives. (e.g. 1 session = NAWGJ dues paid, 2 sessions = NAWGJ dues and something else, etc.) Is this acceptable?

Yes. As long as everyone knows in advance what will be offered, everyone has the opportunity to participate and no one is denied. In addition, the money has to be in the budget that is approved by the board.

These are considered expenses of the fundraiser. After these are subtracted from the gross income of the meet, the net profit must be used for the benefit of the entire membership. Remember that operating expenses of the office are considered as “benefitting the entire membership.”

2. Can we receive a specific list of how we are to disperse our funds?

example: 1. NAWGJ dues Yes
 2. Clinic registrations Yes

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- 3. USAG dues Yes but NAWGJ and education comes first
- 4. Clinic travel Yes
- 5. Clinic per diem Yes
- 6. Educational supplies Yes
- 7. Special Apps/ electronics, iPad - No
- 8. Testing Yes
- 9. Casual uniform in state where permitted –
No, there are no casual NAWGJ uniforms

3. In sticking with 501c3 rules, is it ok to have new judges pay for their initial sign up for a NAWGJ membership and then as long as they are an active judge, the state NAWGJ pay for the membership?

Yes, if that is the plan by the board and it is budgeted this way. Make sure all are informed in advance.

4. Do all net profits earned by state organization have to be shared by all judges even if they don't help with the event?

Yes . Remember, operating expenses for SJD office is considered "benefitting the entire membership."

5. If all judges are given an opportunity to participate in money-making event, can profits be shared with those who choose to participate?

Please see answer to #1 under Finances. Net profits must be used to benefit the entire membership.

5. Can we have a "Financial to Do List" with due dates?

Good Idea. We will work on it.

6. If judges are required to travel out of state or to educational/training to be eligible for regionals (required by USAG), should NAWGJ cover it?

Judges choose to judge USAG competitions and, as a professional, are personally responsible to keep up to date. NAWGJ/USAG could assist with the expenses but neither organization should be required.

7. Can we pay NAWGJ dues for my governing board?

No. These are volunteer positions. Expenses to meetings only can be paid.

8. We have heard that some meet directors are adding tax to meet entries. Do we need to add tax to our meet entry fee for Judges' Cup.

We have no expertise to answer this question. You will need to research your individual State Laws. It might be different because we are not for profit.

9. Can money in our account pay for USA Gymnastic membership?

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Yes, but NAWGJ dues and education comes first.

GENERAL

1. Can we increase the assigning fee from \$3 per judge?
Probably not. The \$3 is supposed to cover costs of assigning. If you need to spend money on systems you would have to find it in your budget.
2. Can we not have meetings with or without symposium in resort hotels or locations? It is difficult and more expensive to enjoy and appreciate the chosen location when we are so far from the city center and need to rent a car to get from place to place.
Our goal is to hold a meeting and conduct business. We try to find a place that is reasonably priced and meets our meeting requirements. We have a site committee who handles the site selection.
3. How do I address complaints about scores (in general)? Coaches are saying their gymnasts are “getting killed” at state championships compared to the rest of the year. I assume scores are inflated at previous invitational meets.
All you can do is educate your judges and coaches and collaborate with coaches in clinics.