



# Rule # 7

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NAWGGJ



**RULE 7:** A judge shall not use her/his position as such to endeavor to influence or attempt to influence anyone in any manner whatsoever, or to obtain any special advantage for herself/himself by reason of or as consequence of her/his being a judge.

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What does  
that mean?

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A judge should not use the power of  
their position to:

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- ❖ ***Influence*** or persuade others to change outcomes
- ❖ ***Solicit*** special favors or return special favors
- ❖ ***Coerce*** others or intimidate them be a part of unethical events
- ❖ ***Bully*** another judge to get their way

# Influence:

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**Influence is the power to have an important effect on someone or something. If someone influences someone else, they are changing a person or thing in an indirect but important way. Sometimes a person uses influence to benefit themselves.**

**“You’re new..trust me this is the best gymnast in this meet”**

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**Action:**

**A new judge, excited to be judging with someone they look up too, is influenced to change his/her scores to assure a certain team or athlete is assured a win.**

**Reaction:**

**The new judge becomes confused and may lose respect for judging and may or may not continue to judge. The judge also is not given the opportunity to develop skills to be an impartial/unbiased judge.**

**“If you trust me, I can make things happen...your team can win”**

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**Action:**

**A judging leader uses his/her influence to develop an inner circle of judges that agree to show favoritism toward a certain club or clubs so as to be assured of being assigned to certain prominent meets.**

**Reaction:**

**A judge should feel empowered to know that if they are made aware of these actions that they have the support of their leadership to report them without repercussions .**

# Solicit: Ask for or try to obtain (something) from someone

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## **Action:**

**A judge sends an email to a Meet director to request to be assigned to their meet.**

**“I haven’t heard from the assigner that I am on your meet”**

**“Just want to make sure that I will be on your meet”**

## **Reaction:**

**The meet director is placed in a very uncomfortable position and may feel that not assigning the judge may make the judge talk badly about the meet director or their club.**

# Bullying

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**A person who habitually seeks to harm or intimidate those whom they perceive as vulnerable.**

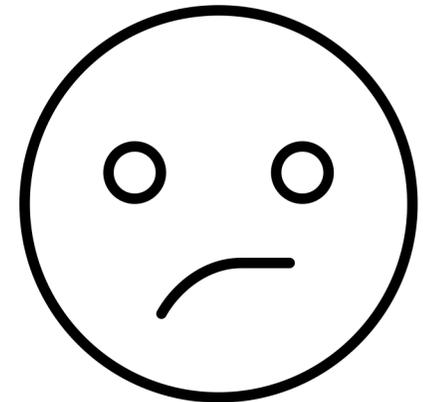
Relational Bullies spread rumors and break confidences to increase their own social standing and harm someone's reputation

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**Action:**

**A judge, in a high position, uses her influence to continually discredit others to make themselves look better or to place themselves in favor**

**“You don't want to use those judges they don't like your team or your athletes, I have a list of judges that will be better”.**



As a judge we should always display professionalism, compassion to all, respond appropriately to the situation, demonstrate respect for others, practice solid ethics, be supportive and an example to all around.

