

***The mission of NAWGJ is to provide professional development for its members
and to support and promote women's gymnastics in the United States.***

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS JUDGES
NATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES via Zoom**

January 24, 2022. 7:00 p.m. EST

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Cookie Batsche at 7 p.m. EST. After welcoming everyone, the roll call was taken for the record:

President: Cookie Batsche
Vice President: Ann Heppner
Director of Finance: Robin Ruegg
Secretary: Denise Green
Region 1: Teresa Barnard
Region 2: Priscilla Hickey
Region 3: Marilyn Blilie
Region 4: Robin Smith
Region 5: Debbie Campbell
Region 6: Pat Panichas, excused
Region 7: Bonnie Synol
Region 8: Diane Thompson
National Collegiate Assigner: Lois Colburn
National Education Director: Janice Eyman
National Historian: Gina Fuller
National Judges Cup Director: Evelyn Paradis
National Librarian: Judy Dobransky
National Website Director: Brenda Eberhardt

MOTION: Priscilla Hickey

I move to approve the minutes from our July 7-19th, 2021 Zoom meeting.

Second: Robin Smith

Passed: Unanimously

For the Record

No new elections were held for NAWGJ officers prior to the meeting. *February 10th*

Update to minutes: The election for Regional Judging Directors concluded shortly after the NGB meeting. For the record, Jim Burton of New York was elected as the new RJD for Region 6. The election outcome is reported in these minutes to allow Jim Burton to proceed with establishing a bank account prior to the Summer Board meeting.

Announcements

- a. **Sliver Flume Charter/License Renewal:** NAWGJ is engaging Paul Anderson, a Nevada attorney, to assist with the renewal of the annual corporate filings in Nevada and to serve as our Registered Agent in Nevada.
- b. **Membership Updates:** The Secretary reported that NAWGJ has 2,166 active members, 208 new since 8/1/21.
- c. **Disbursement Reports**
A report will be completed in February for memberships renewed between August 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022, with disbursements to Regions following shortly thereafter.
- d. **Election Update**
NAWGJ renewed the license with our election platform, Election Buddy, which will renew annually. The Vice President is currently running RJD elections in Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8, with SGB elections to begin in June for those same regions.
- e. **Meeting minutes**
Searchable meeting minutes are now posted on the NAWGJ website and can be located in “Official Documents” under the “About Us” tab.
- f. **Clinician Fee adjustment for national projects**
Beginning January 1, 2022, NAWGJ will pay clinicians \$200.00 per clinic session with a one-time preparation fee of \$200.00 for clinics organized at the national level. Exceptions will be needed for the lead presenters at the National Symposium in 2023. The Finance Committee is exploring options to address the intellectual property status of NAWGJ virtual clinics that are recorded and posted on the NAWGJ website.
- g. **Role of NAWGJ as a Service Organization**
NAWGJ is an organization that provides service not only to its members but also to other sports organizations such as USAG and the NCAA. NAWGJ submits proposals to these organizations regarding compensation and related matters for their consideration using the designated procedures of each organization. For example, proposals with USAG are discussed with the Women’s Technical Committee and proposals for collegiate gymnastics are discussed with the Women’s Gymnastics Coaches Association. Proposals are considered by these groups in the spring of each year. Recommendations from these groups are then considered by the administrative entities responsible for the organization. The NGB was asked to help all of our members understand the relationship of NAWGJ to the organizations we serve.

h. Update on Diversity Initiative

The Diversity Initiative Committee had many accomplishments in 2021, many of which are helpful to all judges.

Accomplishments:

- Presentation on diversity at 2021 NGB meeting
- Activities to increase representation in educational projects and websites.
- Mentoring guidelines collected from states and published on the NAWGJ website
- Gender-neutral language in Professional Dress guidelines
- Outreach proposals under development to recruit new judges
- Training sessions for NGB members in collaboration with Minnesota NAWGJ

They have an evolving To-Do list for 2022.

Governance documents: Update on the process and timeline for revisions

The Constitution Committee is working on recommendations from legal counsel to merge our Constitution and Operating Code into a single Bylaws document. The committee will send the document to the NGB prior to the summer NGB meeting for discussion and possible approval.

Problem Resolution Process:

The Problem Resolution Process was revised to simplify the procedures and to promote consistency in the appeals process as recommended by legal counsel. The revised document was sent to the NGB in advance of the meeting for review and recommendations. Additional suggestions made based on the NGB review included:

Change Level 1 State Level Process as follows: add to 5.

The letter must be dated and sent either by email or by registered/certified mail to the affected judge, return receipt requested, with delivery restricted to the addressee only. The letter shall be clearly marked "Personal and Confidential."

Change Level 1 State Level Process as follows: add to 6.

"The SJD shall notify the RJD of the outcome of the process."

Call the question: Does the NGB accept the recommendation from the Professional Development Committee to adopt the revised Problem Resolution Process document?

Unanimously approved

The Revised Problem Resolution Process is posted on the NAWGJ website and can be located in "Official Documents" under the "About Us" tab.

National Judges Cup

NJC 2022

- The NJC held in New Orleans with a Mardi Gras theme was a positive experience for gymnasts, coaches, and judges. Thank you Evelyn Paradis!

- 14 state teams completed in the Patty J. Shipman Level 7 State Team Challenge
 - 1st place NorCal
 - 2nd place SoCal
 - 3rd Place Pennsylvania

NJC 2023 & Future

- Due to numerous complications affecting the 2022 NJC (hurricane closures, COVID restrictions, other issues), there was not adequate time to put the 2023 NJC out for bid. The NJC Director requested a delay of one year in putting the NJC out for bid as approved by the Board at the July 2021 meeting. The bid for the 2024 NJC will be issued in spring, 2022.
- Options for the 2023 NJC are currently being explored.
- The Site Committee was asked to work with the NJC Director to explore site possibilities for future NJC events beginning in 2024.

Priscilla Hickey: I move we allow a one-year delay in the implementation of the RFP for the NJC with the understanding that the 2024 NJC will be put out for bid.

Second: Bonnie Synol

Passed: Unanimously

Library Report: Judy Dobransky

The library reported \$960.00 in income from Library products at the NJC. Approximately 75% of NAWGJ DVDs have been sold and/or dispersed. The Board thanked Judy and Brenda for making this a success.

Land's End Uniform updates

- Backlog, supply-chain, and employee shortages have impacted all parts of the production chain on both the Professional Uniform and the Leaping Lady sites. As a result, orders from Land's End are delayed. Land's End anticipates improvement in the Spring.
- The fleece jacket with the official NAWGJ emblem will be added to the Professional Uniform site in spring, 2022 along with other sweater options currently available.

Professional Activity Report (PAR)

NAWGJ is working on a method to include designated events in the Professional Activity Report, e.g., national-level events, such as East/West Nationals, National Championship meets, and collegiate events.

New Judges

Helping Hands and the Finance Committee are exploring ways to support new judges and to ease the costs associated with becoming a judge. The committee will send out requests to SJD's for information and ideas.

Potential topics for Virtual Summer SJD meeting

The Board engaged in general discussion regarding interactive topics to present at the 2022 Virtual SJD workshop.

Assigning Issues Workgroup:

Teresa Barnard will chair a workgroup to brainstorm problems, solutions, and Best Practices for assigning.

Tentative Plans/Schedule for Summer

- NGB (June 22-25): Grand Rapids Amway Grand Plaza
- SJD Meeting (July 9-10 weekend): virtual

NAWGJ Historian, Gina Fuller

All judges are asked to send Gina Fuller your unique memories and experiences regarding judging during COVID years. A request was also made for retired/retiring judges to send in their memories. These submissions should be brief anecdotes approximately one paragraph in length. The collection will be prepared as a gift for judges at the NAWGJ National Symposium.

MOTION to adjourn: Priscilla Hickey

Second: Debbie Campbell

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 EST

National Congress-held in conjunction with the 2022 U.S. Gymnastics Championships

- August 18-21 in Tampa, FL
- Early Bird Pricing ends April 13
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 1 Congress

- August 25-28 in San Jose, CA
- Early Bird Pricing ends April 13
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 2 Congress

- August 14-15 in Portland, OR
- Early Bird pricing ends April 13
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 3 Congress

- June 10-12 in Norman, OK
- Early Bird pricing ends February 23
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 4 Congress

- June 17-19 in Cedar Rapids, IA
- Early Bird pricing ends February 23
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 5 Congress

- July 22-24 in Grand Rapids, MI
- Early Bird pricing ends March 23
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 6 Congress

- August 5-7 in Warwick, RI
- Early Bird pricing ends April 13
- [Click here](#) for registration details

Region 7 Congress

- June 24-26 in Baltimore, MD
 - Early Bird pricing ends February 23
 - [Click here](#) for registration details
-