

NAWGJ Regional Board Meeting
Saturday, June 9, 2018
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Present: Gayli Craver, Brenda Eberhardt, Janet Efland, Kim Joye, Susan Monahan, Terry Robertson, Reg Shurden, Catherine Batsche; Guests: Marian Dykes, Deb Kornegay, Julie King.

Call to Order. The meeting was convened at 12:15 p.m. Reg Shurden, the new Mississippi SJD, was welcomed as a new member of the Region 8 Board.

Updates from Region 8 USA Gymnastics Board Meeting. Deb Kornegay and Marian Dykes provided an update on judging topics that were discussed at the USA Gymnastics Board Meeting held on June 7, 2018.

- a. Individual Hotel Rooms for Judges at Regional Competitions. Deb Kornegay reported on a proposal made by Toni Rand, Florida USA Gymnastics State Chair, to the USA Gymnastics Region 8 Committee requesting individual rooms for judges at regional competitions. The Region 8 Committee approved the provision of individual rooms for judges at Level 9/10 Regionals beginning in 2019. In order to accommodate the additional expense, the USA Gymnastics Region 8 Committee voted to waive the competition fee that the Meet Director pays to Region 8 for this meet. For the 2019 season, Regional Meet Directors will be strongly encouraged to provide individual rooms for judges at 6/7/8 and XCEL levels. In future years, it is anticipated that this expense will be included as part of the budget in the bid proposals submitted by applicants. The 6/7/8 and XCEL meets typically bring in sufficient income to support the additional expense; therefore, waiving the competition fee was not considered to be necessary. Because this expense was not included in the most recent bid requirements, the USA Gymnastics Region 8 Committee is not requiring the Meet Director to provide individual rooms for the 6/7/8 and XCEL meets in 2019. However, each USA Gymnastics State Committee has the option to pay for the additional rooms that would be needed to provide individual rooms for judges from their state. Please see USA Gymnastics Region 8 Committee minutes for exact language.
- b. Regional Assignments. During the USA Gymnastics Board Meeting on June 7, 2018, one of the State Chairs asked for a description of the process used to select judges for regional assignments. Marian Dykes described the process to the Board. A summary of the steps taken follow:
 - a. First, judges are considered who submit their availability form on time with all information completed correctly. All requirements must be fulfilled and entered on the availability form.
 - b. Judges are considered for assignments at the highest level of in-gym hours completed. All nine hours must be at the appropriate level or higher. For example, judges who complete 9 in-gym hours at Level 9/10 are eligible for consideration of an assignment at 9/10, 6/7/8, and XCEL regionals. If the required 9 hours includes a mix of levels, e.g., 9/10 and 6/7/8 in-gym hours, the judge is eligible for 6/7/8 and XCEL assignments but

not for level 9/10 (unless they have more than 9 in-gym hours and at least 9 in-gym hours at the highest level for that meet, i.e., Level 10).

- c. USA Gymnastics State Boards submit recommendations to Marian Dykes for JO Nationals, Eastern Nationals, and Regionals. Some states provide specific names of judges for each meet and others use a rotational system.
- d. After all recommendations are received from the USA Gymnastics Boards, a draft set of assignments is developed. Judges recommended for Eastern Nationals (4 per state) and JO Nationals (4 total from the region) are placed first on the 9/10 regional meet.
- e. Next, four judges (if eligible and available) are assigned from the host state for Level 9/10 regionals. The remaining slots for Level 9/10 are filled with the goal of assigning at least one judge per state to the 9/10 regional (assuming judges are available, have fulfilled all the requirements, and have been recommended by their state USAG Board). If this process results in a state getting only one judge assigned in the current year, efforts are made for that state to have two judges assigned in the subsequent year.
- f. Each state gets four slots for judges at the Level 6/7/8 meet and XCEL meet assuming the judges are available, have fulfilled all requirements, and have been recommended by their state USAG Board.
- g. Prior-year regional assignments are also taken into consideration when making final selections in an effort to provide more judges with the opportunity to judge regionals—all other factors being taken into consideration.
- h. Note: Because of the small number of judges who submit availability in some states, it is possible that some judges in these states will be assigned to two regionals each year.

Discussion of Assigning System. Julie King, developer of the Judging Assignment System used by all states in Region 8, attended the meeting to discuss potential system changes in the future. The NAWGJ Board expressed appreciation to Julie for the development of the system and noted that the assigning process is greatly improved as a result. Changes currently being considered for the system include the addition of a decline button, a comments field to note hotel, mileage, and other notes, and emergency contact information fields. The SJDs requested the capability for Out-of-State Meet Referees to be able to assign events. Julie indicated this is a more complicated process but she would try to address it within the year). In addition, SJDs would like fields added specifically for hotel, mileage, and other expenses. Julie indicated she could consider this if the official NAWGJ contract allows for the additional information. A long version of the NAWGJ contract was found on the NAWGJ website but may need to be revised and updated. This topic will be presented at the Summer NAWGJ Board meeting for clarification.

SGB Elections. The election timeline was distributed as a handout at the meeting to all SJDs. SJDs were asked to send a reminder to their members of the due date for applications.

Term Limits Proposal. C. Batsche provided an update on the status of the term limits proposal. The proposal will be finalized at the National Governing Board meeting in July and presented at the SJD meeting. It is anticipated that term limits will begin with RJDs and SJDs in the first phase and then include SGB and NGB members in a second phase. The specifics will not be finalized until the NGB meeting.

Region 8 Symposium. The SJDs agreed that Regional Symposium, to be held in Athens, Georgia, on September 7-9, should focus on practice judging at Levels 6 through 10. Other possibilities include a session on the Level 6/7 vault and a session on the impact of the new income tax law on judges. The judging test will be offered with the help of all TA's present so that one person does not have to spend an entire day testing. C. Batsche will bring a draft format and schedule to the July SJD meeting where the schedule will be finalized. SJDs were asked to think about possible presenters for each of the practice judging sessions.

Both training camps (Athens and Tampa) will need two judging stations to be staffed and activities developed for the athletes. SJDs were asked to think about activities for these stations.

C. Batsche will work with Deb Kornegay to obtain rooms for testing (both sites) and Symposium (Athens).

Topics for National SJD Meeting. SJDs were asked for topics for the upcoming SJD meeting. Responses to date include: Update on Term Limit Proposal; Revision of NAWGJ long-form contract if needed; change in the financial reporting form to allow for signature by the reviewer in lieu of a separate form (outstanding from last year). SJDs were asked to send additional topics to C. Batsche.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: SJD National Meeting. Friday, July 14, 6:30 p.m.