



## WOMEN'S TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING May 17-18, 2021

Meeting was called to order by NTCC Cheryl Hamilton at 5:30 PM on May 17, 2020.

### I. Roll Call:

NTCC	Cheryl Hamilton	Guests:
Region 1	Gigi Iavarone	Cookie Batsche– NAWGJ President
Region 2	Linda Mulvihill	Newly elected TC Chairs:
Region 3	Carole Bunge	Region 2- Jeanine Henneford
Region 4	Linda Thorberg	Region 3- Marilyn Blilie.
Region 5	Char Christensen	Region 5 – Sue Kane
Region 6	Pat Panichas	Region 7 – Jane Caruso (Tues AM)
Region 7	Myra Elfenbein	Region 8 – Evelyn Chandler
Region 8	Marian Dykes	
DPTD	Connie Maloney	

II. Cheryl thanked the Technical Committee members for their commitment to the Women's Program. She also welcomed the newly elected Technical Committee Chairs.

III. NAWGJ Report: Cookie Batsche reported on the activities of the National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges, highlighting the successful "in-person" National Judges Cup held January 8-10<sup>th</sup>, featuring 1000 gymnasts. She informed the TC of the initiatives taken by NAWGJ, including 1) the development of pandemic safety guidelines to support judge safety, 2) development of a Professional Activity Reporting System for non-contracted activities and 3) establishment of the NAWGJ Diversity Initiative.

The NAWGJ has also changed insurance provider and upgraded their Professional liability policy and also has engaged a Sports Attorney to provide guidance for its business operations.

**All of the following clarifications and recommendations for change are effective August 1, 2021, unless otherwise stated.**

### IV. Judges' Compensation Concerns

A. Expense reimbursement for mileage  
 Recommendation to the National Office to eliminate the requirement of submitting a hard copy MapQuest of the judge's mileage. The Meet Referee should verify the individual judge's MapQuest electronically. If requested by the MD, the judge must send MapQuest documentation directly to the Meet Director in order to receive payment.  
 Note: If recommendation is approved, Technical Committee will add mileage verification to the Meet Referee checklist.

Motion: Linda Thorberg  
 Motion: Char Christensen  
 PASSED

B. Recommendation to amend the *Rules and Policies*, top of page 45, regarding Chief Judges and Meet Referee payment  
 C. 1.d. Dual compensation (total of \$20/day) is given if the Meet Referee also serves as a Chief Judge **at only the above-listed meets.**



C.2. Chief Judge OR Meet Referee fees are NOT paid at state meets with two-judge panels, or

at any sanctioned local/sectional meets.

Add a 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet:

- Meet Referees who also serve as a judge at meets with one-judge panels, such as intersquad meets, or meets with less than four events running concurrently are not eligible for the Meet Referee or Chief Judge fee.

C. The Technical Committee requested the National Office to add an example #3 to the *Rules and Policies*, page 44, II. Judging Compensation, A. Hourly Meet Fees, 5. a. Three session meet examples:

EXAMPLE 3: Report time is 8:00 AM and competition ends at 8:00 PM. If one break time between sessions is 30 minutes and the second break time is only 15 minutes. (45 minutes of total break time), the judges would be paid for the entire 12 hours since the minimum break time was not provided.

D. Determining the designated time to return to the field of play after a break.

The committee requested the National Office to add to the *DP Code of Points*, General-4, under Meet Referee's responsibilities v. 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet and to the *Rules and Policies*, page 44, II.A.6.add a bullet:

- Following a meal break time, judges should return to the field of play at the scheduled March-in time; however, in the case of meets at which the athletes have a timed warm-up period immediately following the march-in, the Meet Referee may make arrangements with the Meet Director to continue the break time to ensure the minimum of 30 minutes break, provided that they can return to field of play within five minutes of the start of competition.

## V. Meet Referee and Chief Judge duties

Cookie Batsche brought forward some concerns from NAWGJ in regard to the equipment wording in the *DP Code of Points* and *Xcel Code of Points* under the duties of the Meet Officials, Meet Referee and Chief Judge.

A. It was suggested that the current wording be amended in *DP Code of Points*, under Meet Referee duties: General-4 k, and c Judges-11 k. "Acts as the final authority in all technical matters involving judges, timers, line judges, flashers and Individual Event (and AA) tabulators. Delete "as well as equipment"

DP COP General-5 C. Chief Judge #2 and *Xcel Code of Points* Judges-12 C. Xcel Chief Judge #2: Delete reference to "apparatus and mats correspond to the USA Gymnastics regulations" and change to "Advises the Meet Director of any equipment safety concerns or non-approved equipment" and also checks that all materials necessary are available and functioning properly, including:

- a. Light or time signals
- b. Stopwatches

B. Required Judges Uniform: reference found in *DP Code of Points* General -3 #9. and *Xcel Code of Points*, Judges-10, #9:

Request from NAWGJ that the NAWGJ navy dress and navy sweater be added to



the official uniform options. Suit jackets are required for State and above competitions. Also add that leggings are not acceptable.

#### **VI. Special circumstances form**

The committee requested that the National Office finalize the Special Circumstances form with legal and post the form on the website. The form is intended to verify that a physical disability creates a situation in which a deduction would normally be applied but would direct the judges to ignore the deduction, such as not taking the 1.00 deduction for touching the vault table with only one hand for an athlete who has a missing or congenitally deformed upper extremity.

#### **VII. Chief Judge Deductions**

##### **A. Gymnast apparel**

Recommendation that effective August 1, 2021, shorts are allowable apparel for the Development and Xcel Program competitions. Shorts must be solid black lycra (small manufacturer's branding allowed) with no embellishments. They must be worn over a leotard and the length must be above the knee or shorter.

Motion: Marian Dykes

Second: Carole Bunge

5 in favor, 3 opposed

PASSED

This modification will be updated in the following publications:

*Rules & Policies*, page 18/19. Under Athlete's rights and obligations

*DP Code of Points-General-7* under Chief Judge deduction for Incorrect attire

*Xcel Code of Points-Judges-13* under Chief Judge deduction for Incorrect attire

##### **B. Recommendation to change the wording under jewelry regarding earrings: to delete the reference to "one pair of stud earrings, one in each ear" to:**

*R&P* pg 19 #10 c. No jewelry, with the exception stud earrings in the ear. All other piercings should be REMOVED, not just covered with tape or Band-aids (Bandages).

*DP Code of Points*, General-7, Incorrect Attire deduction #7: change to: Only stud earrings are allowed.

*Xcel Code of Points*, Judges-13 under Incorrect Attire 2<sup>nd</sup> e. change to: Only stud earrings are allowed

Motion: Pat Panichas

Second: Marian Dykes

PASSED

##### **C. The TC reminded the gymnastics community that the backless leotard requirements stated in the *Rules & Policies*, page 19 are in effect on August 1, 2021.**

#### **VIII. 2022 Code of Points Development**

Committee discussed the pros and cons of the concept of producing one **Code of Points** that would include rules for both the Development and Xcel Programs.

Recommendation to continue to publish two separate *Code of Points* for the Development and Xcel Programs.

Motion: Carole Bunge



Second: Linda Mulvihill  
PASSED

**IX. DP CODE OF POINTS modifications effective August 1, 2021**  
**FLOOR EXERCISE**

The Technical Committee was requested to create new wording for Level 6/7 Floor Acro Special Requirements reflecting the new definition of an acro pass.

LEVEL 6 and 7 FLOOR EXERCISE SPECIAL REQUIREMENT wording:

*DP Code of Points* Floor-19: Level 7 Special Requirement #1 change from “One Acro Series-minimum three directly connected flight elements” to “One Acro pass-minimum of three directly connected flight elements, one of which is a Backward Salto Stretched to two feet.”

*DP Code of Points* Floor-20: Level 6 Special Requirement #1 change from “One Acro Series, minimum three directly connected elements, two with flight” to “One Acro pass – minimum three directly connected elements, two with flight”.

**X. JUDGES' ACCREDITATION**

- A. Recommendation to change the minimum age for testing Level 10 from 21 years to 18 years.

Motion: Linda Mulvihill  
Second: Char Christensen  
PASSED

- B. 2022 National/USA Brevet Judges' Certification Process for 2022-2026  
The committee is working with NAWGJ to establish procedures for the 2022 USA Brevet and National Judges' Course. The proposal includes three basic groups:  
Group 1 - Eligible Level 10 judges testing National for the first time,  
Group 2 - Judges who have held a National or USA Brevet rating for one cycle (2018-2022 or 2013-2018) and  
Group 3 – Judges who have held a National or USA Brevet rating for two or more cycles (8 years or more).  
Testing requirements for each Group will be presented in the summer of 2021.

Finalized information will be posted and sent directly to all eligible judges in the summer of 2021.

- C. 2021-29 Compulsory Exams  
The Online Level 4/5 written exam will be available as of August 1, 2021. More information will be posted on the USA Gymnastics website with the next month. Once the exam is passed, the rating will be valid through December 31, 2029.

Recommendation that based on previous policy, the following individuals will maintain their Compulsory rating through the 2021-29 cycle.:

- 1) the current Women's Technical Committee members,
- 2) the choreographers of the 2021-29 Beam and Floor Exercise routines
- 3) the proofreader of the entire book, and
- 4) the current Development Program Committee members who are rated officials.



Newly elected Technical Committee members, whose term of office begins July 1, 2021, will be required to take the online Compulsory Level 4/5 exam.

Motion: Pat Panichas  
Second: Gigi Iavarone  
PASSED

D. 2022-2026 Optional Testing

Recommendation that based on previous policy, the current Women's Technical Committee and Development Program Committee members who are rated officials, as well as the newly elected Technical Committee members, will maintain their current Optional rating through the 2022-26 cycle.

Motion: Pat Panichas  
Second: Gigi Iavarone  
PASSED

XI. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM, Tuesday, May 18, 2021.