

New Judge Handbook for Washington State



Updated November 2021

WELCOME

We want to extend a warm welcome to each of you who are considering becoming a Washington State Gymnastic Judge whether you are a new judge, new to our state or even just thinking about becoming a judge. Our gymnastic community is here to aid and support you. Do not hesitate to contact the State Judging Director, Patty Ames, pames7@aol.com

Our NAWGJ WA board recommends that you have a mentor; we will assist you with that selection. Mentors are very valuable; they facilitate in your testing preparation, answer questions involving judging issues, and support you throughout your "growing years" as an official.

Jayme Hostetter is our New Judge Liaison. She will contact you by email and will help you get involved with practice judging and tips on how best prepare for taking the judging test.



Becoming a Gymnastics Judge can be a bit overwhelming

Become A Judge – National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges
(nawgj.org).

NAWGJ – DEFINITIONS:

NAWGJ – National Association Women's Gymnastics Judges.
National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges – Promoting
Judging Excellence (nawgj.org)

NAWGJ WA – State Chapter for Washington
NAWGJ WA (wanawgj.com)

SJD – State Judging Director, Patty Ames pames7@aol.com

RJD – Regional Judging Director: Priscilla Hickey, Washington.

The RJD is the Regional NAWGJ representative. The State Judging Director answers to the Regional Judging Director, who answers to the NAWGJ National Board.

USAG – DEFINITIONS

USA Gymnastics – USAG (Women's Program)

The National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of gymnastics in the United States located in Indianapolis, IN. [USA Gymnastics](#)

USA Gymnastics Washington – USAG-WA state chapter www.usagwa.com

R2 – Region 2 USA Gymnastics Region 2 – Alaska – Hawaii – Idaho – Montana – Oregon – Washington

R & P – Rules & policies – [USA Gymnastics | Women's Program Rules and Policies](#)

TA – Test Administrators:

Priscilla Hickey, Patty Ames, Denise Green are the Washington State TAs. Every state has TAs. You can take a test anywhere in the U.S., but you need to report your test results to your state SJD.

Study Materials & Information

NAWGJ – WA (New Judges Tab) [New Judges – NAWGJ WA](#)
[\(wanawgj.com\)](#)

NAWGJ (Education Tab) [Education – National Association of Women's](#)
[Gymnastics Judges \(nawgj.org\)](#)

Practice Judging – (Education Tab – Video Projects) [Practice Judging –](#)
[National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges \(nawgj.org\)](#)

Practice Judging – (Education Tab – You Tube Channel) [National NAWGJ](#)
[YouTube Channel – National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges](#)

Study Aids & Resources

Practice tests and quizzes.

[Study Aids – NAWGJ WA \(wanawgj.com\)](http://wanawgj.com)

[Judging Aids – National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges \(nawgj.org\)](http://nawgj.org)

SCHOOL of JUDGING EXAMS

[USA Gymnastics | USA Gymnastics University - School of Judging](#)

Entry Levels: a new judge may take the entry level judging exams for:

- Xcel Bronze/Silver
- Compulsory Level 4/5
- Optional Level 7/8. If you have been a college gymnast or National Team member you may apply to take the Level 9 test as an entry level. Please contact your SJD.

Registration: You must register for an Optional Level 7/8 exam two weeks prior to the exam date.

[USA Gymnastics | Xcel Bronze/Silver/Gold Judging Exam](#)

[USA Gymnastics | WJ05 – Level 4/5 Online Judging Exam](#)

[USA Gymnastics | Judging Accreditation](#)

Technical Materials Store

[USA Gymnastics \(sportgraphics.biz\)](http://sportgraphics.biz)

Women's DP Compulsory Book online exam using Level 4 & 5 rules.

Women's Xcel Code of Points online exam using Bronze & Silver rules.

Women's Developmental Program Code of Points in-person Level 7/8
Written and Practical exams.

Certification year is August 1st to the following July 30th.

You may take each part of the exam up to four times in a certification year.

You must hold an Optional rating for 12 months before taking the next higher-level test.

Practice judging is not required to test at a higher level, but a good idea.

Exam Dates

Washington State exam dates are listed under “events” on the home page.

[NAWGJ WA \(wanawgj.com\)](http://wanawgj.com)

Find and Register online for nationwide exam dates.

[USA Gymnastics | Judging Accreditation](#)



After Passing the Exam

WHAT'S NEXT?

Memberships: must be a member before you can be assigned to judge a meet. You are required to renew your memberships annually.

1. **NAWGJ** [National Association of Womens' Gymnastics Judges - Join Us \(wildapricot.org\)](http://wildapricot.org)
2. **USA Gymnastics** [USA Gymnastics | Membership Overview](#)
 - ✓ Background Check
 - ✓ Safety/Risk Management
 - ✓ SafeSport Core Course
 - ✓ U113-Safe Sport Policy Course

- ✓ Background Check

[USA Gymnastics | Professional Background Check](#)

You must pass a background check – cost is approximately \$22

- ✓ Safety/Risk Management Course

<https://usagym.org/pages/education/courses/U101/>

Required for all Professional Members of USA Gymnastics. The primary goal of this course is to increase safety and risk management awareness. Online course and must be taken every four years and takes approximately 4 to 5 hours to complete.

Cost: \$65 for USAG Members

- ✓ SafeSport Core Course (required, no cost)

[USA Gymnastics | U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport Core Course](#)

- ✓ U113-Safe Sport Policy Course (required, no cost)

Access to NAWGJ-WA Username and password:

Once you pass the judges exam and join NAWGJ and USA Gymnastics (complete the Safety Certification, Background Check and Safe Sport Course) – you must contact the WA SJD for your log-in username and password.

Judging Uniform:

A new judge may wear dark blue or black slacks and a white blouse/shirt with a dark blue suit jacket.

CPE Continuing Professional Education

Annually judges must maintain their CPE.

We are a professional organization that requires continual education to ensure the highest possible standards.

You will need to keep track of your own CPE hours and submit the form by May 31st of each year to the designated CPE Coordinator assigned by USAG:

CPE Coordinator: Patty Ames pames7@aol.com

CPE Annual Form: [AnnualCPERecord_2017.pdf \(usagym.org\)](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Judging Availability – listed on the **GymJas** system

<https://gymjas.com/wa/>

Judging Assignments – posted using Google Docs on Judges Log-in page

[Judges Log In – NAWGJ WA \(wanawgj.com\)](#)

Traveling to Meets – When you are assigned to a meet, and when you drive to the site - you need provide round trip mileage information for reimbursement.

How do you get paid to judge?

You will need a voucher form [Forms – NAWGJ WA \(wanawgj.com\)](#).

Meet Referees will use a multiple session voucher to track payments.

Judges MUST be at a meet 30 minutes prior to the march in time and you are paid from report time so be on time.

Professionalism

- A. **Preparation**: Review your rules and event assignments before each meet. Carefully pack your bag or briefcase to include all the sheets, books, and supplies you need. If you do not feel comfortable judging an event, please ask to switch events. The gymnast's score is of upmost importance, and it is your responsibility to be prepared to judge the event's you are assigned.
- B. **Appearance**: The NAWGJ uniform consists of a navy jacket, navy skirt or pants and white blouse/shirt.
- C. **Behavior at Meets**: Do not speak excessively to coaches during the competition. Keep conferences brief, and speak well of all gymnasts, coaches and other judges. Stay at your event until the session is completed. Eat or drink discreetly. NO PHONE USE. Keep your eyes on the gymnasts you are judging.
- D. **Responsibilities**: You are responsible for your own judging career - you must keep your required memberships and ratings current and take care of any required financial reporting (taxes, etc.). Be a responsible judge: Return contracts promptly, carpool when you can, be prepared for your assignments, and be on time - 30 minutes prior to march-in!

“Good Luck”

Thank you for your interest in
Judging Women’s Gymnastics!

