

Open IL-NAWGJ Meeting

June 26, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

Board Members in attendance: Linda McDonald, Cyndi Zimmerman, Carrie Marquardt, Mary Lou Ackman, Betty Axelson-McClelland, Billie Stone and Sue Brosnan.

Attendees: Brooke Bennett, Kim Dyer, Jean Johnson, Hilary Carlson, Laura Vincent, Sarah Marks, Deb Tritt, Cindy Morano, Kathie Gebhardt, Natalie Lalogosz, Cheryl Schuh, Natalie Koga, Heather Forbes, Betsy Ellis, Shane Sanders, Betty Bennett, Judy Redmond, Sue Woloszyk, Kim Bendixen, Norbert Bendixen.

Linda McDonald introduced the current Board members.

Linda stated that the organization is in a learning mode, conversations with her are kept confidential.

Introduced Hilary Carlson, RJD who informed everyone that CPEs are due June 30, 2011.

Election – all board members positions are up for election, the ballots will be mailed on July 1 and must be post marked back to Hilary by July 21.

2013 huge testing year – both compulsories and optional rules change. IL-NAWGJ needs to start preparing now in order to be able to pay for the expenses. Has placed \$5,000 in a savings account labeled 2013 Education Fund. Want to earmark another \$5,000 from the 2011 Judges Cups and additional money from the 2012 Judges Cup. Would like to pay for the National Course, compulsory book and Code of Points, Compulsory Clinics. The cost would be approximately \$27,000.

Judges Cup – NAWGJ membership is paid for if you work one day (three sessions) at the North Cup and work at least two sessions at the South Cup (depending on the number of sessions). Need more participation from membership including timers/runners/hospitality. The more we do, the more money for the Education Fund. Need to encourage coaches to participate – the money goes back into the judges' education, better prepared judges.

The football and baseball jerseys are a fundraiser. Can be worn at training camps or when working in gyms as a way to identify yourself as a judge. Can order from Gym Treasurers today or on the website.

IL-NAWGJ has a Facebook page – social networking, reminders about registration, promote Judges Cup, calendar reminder for birthdays.

Hilary Carlson – common sense must be used on what is put on Facebook.

Need to be professional about what is put on the Facebook page.

South Judges Cup – why do we have it if the South clubs are willing to drive yet the North clubs are not willing to drive south. Four south judges participated in last year's meet, a group from the north went down, there were 108 gymnasts, the profit was approximately \$2,000 before professional benefits. No one wants to host it – need to know what they get, facility rental charge, gate, concessions, and

gymnasts registration. It may be smarter to combine the two Judges Cup. Pros and Cons – South is too early, Fall meet, Level 3 invitational at Fall State Meet, Level 3 added to Judges Cup, North Judges Cup is the second to last weekend to qualify for the Fall State Meet. Shift should be toward more compulsory gymnasts with a Level 7 meet that would choose a team for National Judges Cup. Hope to have the leos donated, Gym Treasures donate a warm-up, NAWGJ pays the entry fee for the Level 7 team.

National Judges Cup – the bylaws state we will send a judge. Last year issue of not being able to replace the judges on their contracted meet. Read the Motion from the May 19th meeting. Concern that having to work all three days will limit people as many people work on Friday.

Carrie – everyone receives a participation award to go to National Judges Cup must work at least one session since they are giving up a weekend of pay. The board will revisit the issue and possibly reword the Motion.

Hilary reminded everyone that anyone can volunteer for National Judges Cup, whether the IL-NAWGJ pays for it or not.

Linda thanked Norbert for inviting us to participate in the State Congress.

Questions on how meets are assigned, who gets meets, how awarded.

Clubs host meets as part of their business and it is to make money and have repeat customers. Some reasons teams come back are prize money, fair and accurate scores, hospitality and the judges. Don't want high scores, drama – teams ask for the same judge – no one rude to helpers or to each other. As judges, we must agree to disagree, be respectful, be nice to people at the table, treat everyone with respect, be fast, accurate scores, rating. Meet directors request judges at the assigner meeting.

Goal is to get more people in A Gym, Level 10s and Nationals need experience, not signing up for Level 9/10 State Meet because not seeing enough at that level. Need to spread the wealth.

Mary Lou Ackman – Meet directors request judges to be assigned to their meet and request judges not to be assigned to their meet. Meet directors request highly experienced judges, close people. Everything the meet director tells me is kept confidential.

Deb Tritt – if there is an issue, the person should be informed so they can correct the issue. Can't fix if you don't know it is wrong.

Billie Stone – not enough judges, long distances to drive.

Hilary – meet directors requesting judges is not a board problem. Need to discuss the event, be honest with the other judge.

Independent scoring – give what we saw, timer between judges, paper trail, no talking, re-add, don't get argumentative. If within range of scores, let it go. No one is always right, respect experience. May need to go back to base scoring.

Mentoring program is something Linda would like to get up and going – need more people.

Meeting adjourned 8:55.