

November 2019

ILNAWGJ NOTES

“IN”

Welcome to ILNAWGJ Notes. This is the second edition of monthly news and updates for ILNAWGJ members. “IN” thanks Linda, Brooke and Christi for their articles in the first edition. We are one week away from Judge’s Cup. Brooke has an important message for you on page 3 with directions on what to wear, duties and other tips for having a successful experience during Judges Cup. Winter has made an early appearance and is unpredictable for Judges Cup next weekend. Allow plenty of drive time to accommodate Friday traffic and iffy weather. The Open Meeting will be held in the hospitality room right off the competition floor on Friday evening. The host site has asked that judges, coaches and spectators not bring in outside food or beverages. Please be respectful of that request.

Featured articles this month are “Professionalism”, “What’s Up With Judges Cup (Part 2)” and “What’s In Your Judging Bag?”.

Enjoy!

NOTEWORTHY NOTES FROM YOUR SJD –

Linda McDonald

With Judges Cup comes the start of another gymnastics season. Start the season off right! Ask yourself, how do I want to be viewed as a professional? As judges we are in the spotlight. We are being watched by gymnast, coaches, and spectators.

Professionalism includes:

Appearance, are you in uniform and neatly groomed? Navy Suit or NAWGJ uniform with a white top. No huge scarfs. No yoga pants. There is no rule for shoes. They should be comfortable and practical.

Demeanor, are you confident and polite? Arrogance and cockiness have no place on the competition floor. Be courteous and polite to fellow judges, meet directors, meet volunteers, coaches, and gymnasts. Conversations should be kept to a minimum and be pertinent to gymnastics and the competition.

Reliability, did you accept all contracts assigned and in a timely manner? Will you honor all accepted contracts? Will you arrive on time?

Competence, are you prepared for your assignment? True professionals strive to become experts in their field. This also includes attending clinics, congresses and seminars.

Ethics, do you always display ethical behavior. Remember, when judging a meet, you are wearing the hat of a judge. Act only as a judge. You are no longer a coach, parent, sibling, or friend of anyone at the competition. Treat everyone the same and with respect.

Maintain your Poise, when challenged by a coach you must state your case calmly and stick to the facts. Seek guidance from the Meet Referee. Meet Referees are a liaison between coaches and judges. Meet Referees are also there to support the judges.

Accountability, as a judge you will make mistakes. Do not let it fluster you. Do not place blame on your judging partner. The importance does not lie in whether you are right or wrong. What is important is that we do what is in the best interest of the gymnast. Use all mistakes as learning experiences.

Nobody is perfect and we all will make mistakes!

How you are viewed on the competition floor is all up to you.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

What's Up With Judges Cup (Part 2) - Brooke Bennett

A few reminders for everyone. Judges Cup is a little different than our regular meets. Please sign in and out each day next to the scorer's table. You will be paid \$15/hr for the entire time you are on site, regardless of your job. As this is our fundraiser, please do not sign in earlier or later than your scheduled time unless you are helping with setup or cleanup. If you do not sign in and initial your hours, you may not get credit for your time working; so please help with the time sheet. Your check will be available at the end of your last session at the scorer's table. Occasionally it will take up to 15-20 minutes to get through writing the checks so please be patient.

Friday night is our clinic. Please feel free to wear any NAWGJ, Region 5 or Illinois attire as well as any old Judges Cup t-shirts that you have. For Saturday and Sunday, we encourage you to wear our current meet t-shirt for the competition. The goal is to present a united and approachable front. Wearing our shirt makes us easily recognizable and more convenient for everyone to shift around in jobs from front of the house to the judging table and to coaching for those who need it without running for a quick change. You will be provided one (1) light purple shirt this year, so please plan accordingly. If you are working up front, it is usually cold and suggest long sleeve shirts for under the JC t-shirt.

Please don't forget to bring baked goods for the hospitality room. All contributions are encouraged and very much appreciated!!

Any further questions, don't hesitate to ask! You can reach me at: illinoisjudgescup@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you all soon!!



CHRISTI’S CORNER – Christi Kearns

Getting Ready for a New Season: What goes in my judging bag?

Hello everyone!! It is that time again, time to dust off your judging pens and get ready for the season. I hope that everyone has had some time to get to know their mentors. Your mentor can make excellent suggestions on what goes into your bag but here are the basics:

Xcel Code, JO Code, and Compulsory Book- These can be in many different forms. You can have the hard copy of the book, the mini book or the digital version.

Start Value Chart: You will need a start value chart for all levels of Xcel and Level 6-10 in JO.

Neutral Deductions Chart: You will need this if you are a head judge. New judges will get experience being a head judge very early on in your judging career, so it is a great idea to order this.

Expense Voucher Sheets: These will be given to you by the SJD. Please see the SJD if you do not have these.

Pens!! Lots of pens—find the pen that works for you. Sometimes you have 12 plus hours of judging. You need a pen that writes fast and fits your hand comfortably. Some judges prefer to alternate different color pens on different routines so that if their shorthand wanders up into the previous routine, they don’t accidentally get confused.

Paper: Have a notebook or scratch paper for judging on. Some meets will give you their scratch paper as it comes available, but always have some on hand for back up.

“Cheat Sheet” Items: These can be flip charts, pages printed off the NAWGJ website, items purchased from the NAWGJ library, etc. Find what works for you and go with it!! Each year you need to make sure that these items are up to date and corrected with the new changes for the season. Your mentor can help you find items that work for you!

It is also extremely handy to have a small arsenal of meds/Kleenex in your bag. Cough drops, Ibuprofen, etc. may be needed throughout the day but often there is no time to go make these purchases.

MAKE A NOTE OF IT – Important Dates

November 1-3, 2019	Forward Momentum Camp Olympia Gymnastics, Shelby Township, MI
November 8, 2019	ILNAWGJ Assigning Meeting – Bourbonnais
November 8, 2019	ILNAWGJ State Governing Board Open Membership Meeting
November 8 – 10, 2019	Judges Cup

SHAREABLE NOTES –

Send good news items that you have gotten permission to share to:
ilnawgjkathy@gmail.com

YOUR CALENDAR NOTES --

Don't forget to update your calendar so you don't forget a meet that you are contracted for!

YOU ARE NOW READY FOR THE SEASON TO BEGIN!

GOOD LUCK!!