

May, 2021

ILNAWGJ NOTES

May has arrived with a variety of information. Linda has several updates to share in Noteworthy Notes from Your SJD. It's time to turn in your CPE requirements explained in an article by Heather.

“IN”

WHY DO YOU LIKE TO JUDGE?

Most of us have been in the sport forever. We have a natural bond that holds us together as a group of officials. It is our passion for the sport that keeps us dedicated to work as hard as we can to be a good judge. Joy, on the other hand, keeps us hooked on judging. No, it's not like golf when you make one good shot during 18 holes of play and you want to go back next week to chase that little white ball around the golf course again. Judging is different. It's like a big puzzle that comes together to form a picture when you put all the pieces in the right places.

There is a certain level of mental and physical preparation that a judge must strive for before each meet. The physical preparation is making sure you bring the right seat cushion with you to withstand 3 days of sitting. The mental preparation takes a little more work to sharpen our evaluating skills. Knowing the rules and how to use them fairly and consistently throughout the entire meet is the challenge and expectation as adjudicators. All the coaches, athletes and parents want to see is that you are fair and consistent. It doesn't matter to them if you are the chief judge or the assisting judge. It doesn't matter to them if you are judging with your friends or strangers. It doesn't matter to them if you want a baked potato for lunch or potato chips. All that matters to them is fairness and consistency.

But let's get back to that word, joy and why it keeps us hooked. People see and feel joy differently. As judges, we feel joy when we figure bonus correctly. We feel joy when our judging panel clicks. We feel joy when the average is correct even if our individual scores look a little off. Of course, there is joy at the end of the weekend when we believe we did a good job and our panels worked together smoothly.

Those joys are all tangible and quantifiable. The joy that keeps me coming back is watching a gymnast experience the excitement, the sense of

satisfaction and the joy that participating in sport brings to each athlete. Have you ever watched a less accomplished gymnast walk out on the floor with a serious, scared and what-am-I-doing-here look on their face? Then the music begins and something stirs within that child and a smile creeps across their face. Now that is joy. Joy in participating and overcoming an obstacle. Joy in doing well. Joy in winning. That is the joy I feel when I see gymnasts feel the beauty of our sport.

Ask yourself, what keeps you coming back? Is there something more than the paycheck at the end of the weekend that motivates you? What is your joy?

I'm interested in what you would like to see included in the "IN" or any other comments you may have. You can contact me, Kathy Krebs at ilnawgjkathy@gmail.com.



**NOTEWORTHY NOTES FROM YOUR SJD
LINDA MCDONALD**

t's May and we have almost completed a season. Give yourselves a pat on the back as this year has been a challenge. Thank you all for your ability to be flexible as schedules changed and meets cancelled or were moved. It took efforts on all parts to make this season a reality. May and June bring a few more State, Regional, and National Championships. It truly is remarkable we were able to make this season happen. I commend you all on a job well done!

Moving forward we have an election. Please consider running for a board position. All State Governing Board positions are up for election. In Illinois we have the following positions: Administrative Assistant/Newsletter, Assigners, we have three assigning positions, Education, Financial Assistant, Judges Cup and Webmaster. Complete job descriptions will come in an email later this month with the application to run for election. What to look forward to this summer? We have Windee Weiss coming in to do a two-day clinic on the new compulsories July 17-18. A BIG THANKS to Jessica Holtz for donating her gym. The clinic will be at Phenom Gymnastics and it is free to all NAWGJ members. Your SGB will be meeting to determine benefits for compulsory testing. Stay tuned for more information on what will be provided to all members from the Educational Fund. Spring is here, enjoy! You have earned it!



CPE NOTES – Heather Forbes

CPE Report is due at the end of this month, May 31. It was decided that for this reporting year, the requirement for each level is cut in half. If you were paid for something (ie Judges Cup) it cannot count towards volunteer hours, AAU education opportunities do not count, Virtual Congress does count. If you are short hours, but know what your plan is for this summer, please communicate that so it can be included on final report.

You may click here to get the required

<https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/Judges/cpeforweb.pdf>

If you have any questions, please reach out. You may send form electronically or via snail mail.

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Shareable Notes – Tiffany Winton

Tiffany Winton has moved to Texas. We would like to wish Tiffany the best of luck as she begins a new career as a personal trainer with Crunch Fitness. Good Luck Tiffany! You will be missed.