

October, 2020

# ILNAWGJ NOTES

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*“IN”*

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There’s a chill in the air so it must be time for the October “IN”. The focus of Illinois gymnastics is slowly and cautiously shifting toward our new normal. We are anticipating and preparing for the 20-21 season. As odd as it is to talk about the coming season, we are slowly moving in that direction. If you accept an assignment to judge a meet this year, you will need to bring your patient and flexible self to the meet. There are many governmental rules that meet directors must follow to host a meet so this year will not be normal by any stretch.

You will find an updated judge’s pay explanation in Linda’s article. Brooke has also provided an update on what’s up with Judges Cup.

It is time for you to complete your availability to judge. Go to gymjas and update your personal information as well as the dates you are available to judge. The assigning team will begin assigning meets on October 18. This is your last chance to update your USA Gymnastics membership and credentials. You will not be assigned a meet unless your credentials are up to date.

This is an FYI that Nancy Gibson will host a free Xcel Clinic on Zoom on Sunday, October 18, 2020 at 12 pm. A link will be sent out the week of the clinic for you to attend and receive CPE credit.

As always, I’m interested in what you would like to see included in the “IN”. You can contact me, Kathy Krebs, at:  
[kmkrebs@comcast.net](mailto:kmkrebs@comcast.net)

## NOTEWORTHY NOTES FROM YOUR SJD –

Linda McDonald

October has arrived and we are closer to an actual gymnastics season! Your assigning committee will have their first assigning meeting on October 18. Make sure you have your availability up to date.

Nominations are being taken for the Green Flag Award. The Green Flag Award is presented to NAWGJ members who go above and beyond and represent NAWGJ well. Any Illinois NAWGJ member may make a nomination. Nominations are due October 15 and are to be sent to the SJD. Your State Governing Board will decide the Illinois candidate. An application is included in this newsletter.

The Women’s Technical Committee has amended the procedures for unpaid break time. This was deemed necessary due to COVID. There will be more break time between sessions for many reasons; the need to sanitize between sessions, the need to have crowds not overlap, many meets will be doing awards on the floor. The newly voted recommendation is as follows:

I. Judges Compensation Package: Unpaid Break Time USA Gymnastics’ recommendations for Meet Directors for safe return to competition includes reducing the number of competitors per session to allow for social distancing, which will require more sessions per day with proper safety procedures between sessions. Considering that Meet Directors will have reduced revenue from meet fees (as well as reduced or no spectator fees), this recommended change in judges’ fees will relieve the additional cost somewhat to encourage Meet Directors to continue to offer competitive experiences for our athletes.

**Recommendation to the USA Gymnastics National Office to amend the following procedures used for determining judges’ hourly meet fees in the 2020-21 Women’s Rules and Policies, page 44, effective August 1, 2020 – July 31, 2021.**

A. Hourly Meet Fees:

1. Judges will be paid an hourly fee, according to their rating, with a minimum payment of three hours PER DAY.
2. For meets with 3 or more sessions PER DAY, judges are to be provided a minimum of two 30-minute break times. Meals are to be provided during breaks, when appropriate as determined by the Meet Referee, regardless of the number of sessions per day.
3. Additional breaks, of any duration, may be provided between sessions throughout the day.
4. The maximum amount of unpaid break time is 120 minutes (60 minutes for 2-session meets), including the required 30-minute breaks for lunch and/or dinner.

5. The daily number of paid hours is calculated by subtracting the break time per day (minimum 30/maximum of 60 minutes for two-session meets and maximum of 120 minutes for meets with more than two sessions) from the total time at the meet (from start of report time/judges' meeting to the completion of all four events for the day).

**EXAMPLES:**

a. Three session meet:

EXAMPLE 1: Report time for judges' meeting is at 8:00 AM, march-in/competition begins at 8:30 AM and the last session ends at 8:00 PM. Two 45-minute breaks for 2 meals were provided. Total time from report time to end of competition in the last session that day is 12 hours. Deduct the break time (two 45-minute breaks = 90 minutes total break time); the judge will be paid for 10.5 hours.

EXAMPLE 2: If both break times between sessions were one hour instead of 30 minutes (total of 120 minutes of break time), there would be a total time of 13 hours (report time at 8:00 AM; meet ends at 9:00 PM), deduct 120 minutes of maximum unpaid break time and judges would be paid for 11 hours.

b. Four session meet: Report time 8:00 AM; break between sessions 1 and 2 is 45 minutes; break between sessions 2 and 3 is 60 minutes (lunch provided); break between sessions 3 and 4 is 60 minutes (dinner provided). Meet is completely over at 10:00 PM. Total time at meet is 14 hours. Total break time is 2 hrs and 45 minutes. Subtract 120 minutes (the maximum unpaid break time allowed) for a total of 12 paid hours.

6. If the required 30-minute break times for lunch/dinner have not been provided, payment for the day is calculated from the contracted report time to the end of the entire competition for that day. The Meet Referee must communicate with the Meet Director if, per the published competition schedule, the required 30-minute break time may not be provided.

Finally, there will be a Professional Involvement/Availability form to be completed by all judges interested in judging Illinois State Meets. When available the form will be sent to the membership. Hang in there and stay safe.



## Judges Cup Notes – Brooke Bennett

We have unfortunately decided that our 2020 Judges Cup event will be skipped this year due to the ever-changing situation with Covid-19. With so much uncertainty, we felt it was financially irresponsible to hold an event that we did not know if we would have enough athletes or, worse yet, be canceled last minute.

But with adversity comes opportunity and the idea of the 2020 Judges Cup 2 Go event began. This year your IL NAWGJ Board presented the option of our membership going into the clubs and providing some in house critiques or mock competitions. We were fortunate to have many officials agree to work with us and to date, we have now been scheduled to work with over 250 athletes in numerous clubs. While the numbers are nowhere near as large as a traditional competition would have provided us, it will enable us to grow our relationships with clubs, coaches and athletes in a more personal capacity. We look forward to the chance to be in these athlete and coaches home clubs this year and hope to get them off on the right foot for their season.

Benefits for the judges who volunteered to work the event include their mileage, \$20/hour and their NAWGJ membership paid for the upcoming year. Once again, I want to thank everyone for their flexibility in this unique situation!



## Shareable Notes

Our long-time judging friend, Judy Redmond, is moving to Texas by the end of October. Judy has served Illinois gymnastics in many capacities: coach, judge, Illinois USA Gymnastics Committee member, Hall of Fame member, Green Flag Award winner, Meet Referee and in so many other ways. Her new address will be: 1816 Rosson Rd., Little Elm, Texas 75068

The ILNAWGJ Board thanks Judy for her many years of service as a judge. On a personal note, I will miss my riding buddy and friend of many years. So long, Judy—we will miss you! We wish you the very best!