

"IN" Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

WWW.ILNAWGJ.COM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 1 - Oct 31 - Reimbursements can be submitted for Education Package during "testing year" 2026.
- Judges Cup 2026 Availability Form due
- Oct 6 - IL NAWGJ SGC Online Meeting
- Oct 15 - Nominations for Green Flag nominee due to the SJD.
- Nov 6-8 - Illinois Judges Cup 2026 - Bourbonnais, IL
- Dec 31 - Old credentials expire today
- Jan 8-10 - National Judges Cup 2027 - Niagara Falls, NY

Great Job !!

THESE JUDGES HAVE SUCCESSFULLY LEVELED UP.

Reese Hejza - Level 8
 Abby Partain - Level 9
 Jessica Morreale - Level 10
 Mya Fegaras - Level 10

Welcome Back !!

Stacey Mooney - Level 10

STACEY HAS BEEN JUDGING COLLEGE AND HAS NOW RETURNED TO ALSO HELP IL NAWGJ.

TOP NEWS

- ASSIGNING PROTOCOLS FOR IL-NAWGJ ON PAGE 4.
- NOMINATE AN IL NAWGJ MEMBER FOR THE GREEN FLAG AWARD. SEE PAGE 2.
- USE THIS LINK : [JUDGES CUP 2026 AVAILABILITY FORM](#) & COMPLETE BY OCT 3RD. SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE DETAILS CONCERNING JUDGES CUP 2026.
- FOR REIMBURSEMENTS TO BE SUCCESSFULLY PROCESSED, COMPLETE A SEPARATE ONLINE FORM FOR EACH RECEIPT.
- CLICK HERE FOR [LINK TO : WAG JUDGES CPE ANNOUNCEMENT](#).
- LINKS FOR REGION 5 CAMP INFO AND INTEREST FORM ON PAGE 6.



Sue Brosnan-McNamara & Tracey Rogers will both be representing Illinois at National Judges Cup 2027 in Niagara Falls, NY.

YIPPEE!

NEW JUDGE !!

Krisna Morales
 - Level 8 -



TO ALL WHO HAVE PASSED THEIR TESTS.

IL NAWGJ
 JUDGES CUP

11/6/26 - 11/8/26



How does one become a green flag recipient?

The Green Flag Award is given to a member of the National Association of Women's Gymnastic Judges (NAWGJ) who has made significant contributions to the organization, demonstrates leadership, and promotes professionalism.

Green Flag
nominations
needed now!

- 2026 -

**[Link to
Green Flag
Nomination
Form Here](#)**

Form due by October 15

-2025 Winner-

Sue Brosnan-McNamara
will be presented with her
award at Judges Cup 2026

Judges Cup 2026

A letter from your Judges Cup Chair...

Hi!

Hope you all had a great summer! Can't believe season is right around the corner.

This is the biggest Illinois Judges Cup ever so we need as many judges as possible to work all 3 days. It is November 6-8, 2026 in Bourbonnais, IL. Attached you will find the 2026 Judges Cup Benefits & a link for a google form regarding availability for Judges Cup.

Each judge working at least 2 days will receive 2 short sleeve t-shirts. If you are working only 1 day, you will receive 1 short sleeve t-shirt. If you need to wear a shirt under it because you are cold, the shirt underneath must be white. We have a NEW LOGO this year, so no wearing anything you have received in the past. Black (or navy if you do not have black) pants are to be worn. No jeans & no leggings. The Judges Cup t-shirts from this year are the required uniform for this meet.

You do NOT need to print your mileage anymore.

Please make sure your availability in Gymjas matches your availability on this form.

As you can see from the benefits chart on the next page, you only have to work 7 sessions to receive the 2027 National Symposium paid for at the extra early bird rate with group registration.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE GOOGLE AVAILABILITY FORM NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 3rd.

Sharon Sargeant
IL Judges Cup Chair
630 220-2485

[Judges Cup 2026 Availability form](#)

Criteria	Benefit	Notes
First 3 hours of Judges Cup for each judge	- Judges Cup 2026 apparel - Mileage/tolls to and from 2026 Judges cup reimbursed with receipts - Hotel room will be covered	Mileage will not be printed at event
Work 3+ hours at Judges Cup	- Receive NAWGJ membership paid - Will be paid the USAG contracted rate	*those working admissions/hospitality/will have either later start or earlier finish for their session time-
Work 7 sessions or more	National Symposium will be paid and registered at super early bird group rate Deadline to register 1/20/27	*if can't attend symposium, please reach out to SJD
	- CPE Clinics available Saturday Night - CPE Clinics available Sunday Morning	

JUDGES CUP COMPENSATION 2026



Benefits available through 10/1/27

IL-NAWGJ Compensation to members only



ASSIGNING PROTOCOLS

2026-2027 IL-NAWGJ

ELIGIBILITY:

- Must be available in GymJas at time of assigning meeting. If a judge is requested and not available, assignor on record will contact the judge to confirm availability.
- Must have the appropriate rating for the meet taking into consideration the number of judges requested and meet format. ILNAWGJ will follow the best practices established by USAG.
- Must be a member in good standing with NAWGJ and USAG (NGA, AAU if necessary). All memberships and certifications must be current AND updated in GymJas.
- If a contract is canceled by a judge, your eligibility is moved to the end of the list. (special exceptions-funerals, illness)

PROCEDURES:

- Assign judges based on meet director requests entered into GymJas and judge preferences on day of assigning. Requests made after initial assigning will not be guaranteed.
- After meet director requests and judge preferences have been exhausted, assigning will default to the existing assigning process until the remaining judge positions are filled.
- Other considerations for assigning such as proximity to the meet site and number of meets already assigned to each judge.
- Contracts not signed within 7 days can be removed by the assigning committee.
- Out of State judges will only be assigned at the written request of the meet DIRECTOR in GymJas OR if no other Illinois judges in good standing and/or with the required rating are available at the time of assigning.
- If an out-of-state meet referee is requested, it is the responsibility of the meet director to ensure the out-of-state meet referee follows IL-procedures. [Illinois Meet Referee responsibilities.](#)
- A contract can only be canceled by the assigning committee under limited circumstances (i.e. a change of dates/level, a decrease in the number of judges requested due to registration). The meet director must inform the assigner on record in writing what changes are occurring and if applicable which contracts will be canceled.
- Please refer to R&P (p. 25 section G) regarding additional information about modifications and cancellations of contracts.



Are you Ready?



NEW!

**EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026,
THE IRS BUSINESS
STANDARD MILEAGE RATE
IS 76.0 CENTS PER MILE.**

BREAKING NEWS

**Digital CPE Form
for 2026-2027**

Here is the LINK

Here is your Judging Checklist

- PURCHASE NEW DIGITAL CODE OF POINTS
- STUDY AND UNDERSTAND ALL NEW CHANGES IN THE CODE
- COMPLETE WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL TESTS FOR APPROPRIATE OPTIONAL LEVEL
- UPDATE PROFILE IN GYMJAS
- UPDATE AVAILABILITY IN GYMJAS
- UPDATE YOUR USAG AND NAWGJ PROFILE (NAWGJ.ORG) TO INCLUDE AFFILIATION AS A NAWGJ REGION 5 MEMBER
- RESPOND TO CONTRACTS WITHIN 7 DAYS OR RISK BEING REPLACED

USAG UPDATES

IMPORTANT COMMITTEE LINKS

- Joint Xcel/Technical Committee minutes from May 12, 2026
- Xcel Committee minutes from May 12-13, 2026
- Joint Dev. Program/Technical Committee minutes from May 11, 2026
- Dev. Program Committee minutes from May 11, 2026
- Technical Committee minutes from May 11-13, 2026

IL NAWGJ

Our lil' Midwest corner

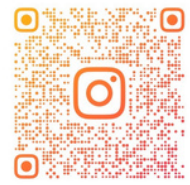
Hello Everyone- I am sharing some sad news.

Betty Axelson-McClelland's husband Paul passed away peacefully on September 20, 2026 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. She has always been grateful for the care and concern many judges had for her husband. Every meet judges would check on how he was doing, which always meant a lot to her! Paul can now watch his Cardinal baseball from a sky box.

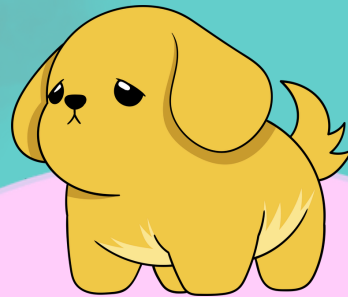
If you would like to make a donation in honor of Paul, please send your donation to me via zelle or venmo by October 10th. We will make a donation in Paul's honor.

Thanks-
Heather

**IL USAG
is on
Instagram!**



SCAN HERE



**LINK
TO INFO
FOR**

**Region 5
Training
Camps**



WARNING

**Absolutely NO SOLICITING as a
meet referee or a judge to Meet
Directors. See Rule #8
Rules of Professional Conduct**

ARE YOU A NEW MEET REF ?

I JUST FOUND OUT I'M A MEET REFEREE.
WHAT DO I DO?
HERE ARE GREAT LINKS TO HELP...

[IL MEET REFEREE CHECKLIST](#)

[IL MEET REFEREE JUDGES MEETING TEMPLATE](#)

ARE YOU A NEW JUDGE ?

Please contact me, Christi Kearns if you are a new judge. I can help assign you to a mentor!

educationchristi@gmail.com

Link to Updates

<https://nawgj.org/https-usagym-org/updates/>

NATIONAL LINKS

- [Category Description & Eligibility Criteria - USA Brevet & National](#)
- [Brevet Course Eligibility Form](#)
- [National Course Eligibility Form](#)
- [Documentation - USA Brevet & National](#)
- [Activity Involvement - USA Brevet & National](#)
- [Leadership Approval Form - USA Brevet & National Eligibility Course-Leadership Credit](#)

"IN"



IMPORTANT COMMITTEE LINKS

- [Joint Xcel/Technical Committee minutes from May 12, 2026](#)
- [Xcel Committee minutes from May 12-13, 2026](#)
- [Joint Dev. Program/Technical Committee minutes from May 11, 2026](#)
- [Dev. Program Committee minutes from May 11, 2026](#)
- [Technical Committee minutes from May 11-13, 2026](#)

IL NAWGJ Committee Contact Information

- Christi Kearns-Education Chairperson
 - educationchristi@gmail.com
- Heather Forbes - State Judging Director (SJD)
 - ilsjdheather@gmail.com
- Mary Lou Ackman - Financial Assistant
 - Financeackman@gmail.com
- Richard Sabel - Webmaster
 - ilwebmasterrichard@gmail.com
- Sarah Mark - Assignor
 - ilnawgjassignorsarah@gmail.com
- Sharon Sargeant - Judges Cup Chairperson
 - judgescupsharon@gmail.com
- Sue Brosnan-McNamara - Assignor
 - ilnawgjassignorsusan@gmail.com
- Tanya Chmielewski- Administrative Assistant
 - tanya.ilnawgjadmassist@gmail.com