



Welcome to Arizona NAWGJ! Whether you are new to judging or thinking about becoming a judge, the following document will serve as a guide to our organization as well as the process of becoming a judge.

What is NAWGJ?

NAWGJ is the acronym for the National Association of Women Gymnastics Judges organization. Established in 1974, *the mission of NAWGJ is to provide professional development for its members and to support and promote women's gymnastics in the United States. AZ NAWGJ accomplishes this mission by providing local educational clinics and lectures with the Arizona gymnastics community.*

NAWGJ Websites

- National Association Women's Gymnastics Judges www.nawgj.org
- Our state chapter is AZNAWGJ and our website is www.nawgjaz.org
- Our AZ State Judging Director/SJD is [Natalie Koga azsjudnkoga@gmail.com](mailto:Natalie.Koga@azsjudging.com)

AZ NAWGJ Board Members

- Natalie Koga azsjudnkoga@gmail.com - State Judging Director (SJD)
- Lindsay Abney line00@yahoo.com - Treasurer
- Karen (Cricket) Udowitch texascricket@gmail.com - Webmaster
- Pam Evans pammieevans@msn.com - Judges Cup Coordinator
- Dianne Grayson dianne_grayson@yahoo.com - Assigner/USAG State Administrative Committee Chairman
- Caren Mansholt caren.mansholt@gmail.com Secretary
- Kim Neal kimneal939@yahoo.com Education
- Neela Nelson justahopin@aol.com At Large Member/Assigner
- Andrea (Andi) Synder-Petersen coachandi29@aol.com CPE Coordinator

AZ NAWGJ Website Information www.nawgjaz.org

Here you will find links to USA Gymnastics as well as information on "How Do I Become A Judge". Topics include:

- Testing
- Registration
- Study Materials for the Exams and rule books for judging
- Organizations to Join
- Professionalism
- JO Compulsory & Optional
- Xcel
- NCAA
- CPE Information
- Rules and Policies
- Forms

USAG Website (USA Gymnastics is the national governing body for all gymnastics in the U.S.)

USAG website www.usagym.com

- Arizona USAG website <https://www.azusag.com/>
- Our Arizona USAG State Chairman is Dianne Grayson dianne_grayson@yahoo.com

Where Do I Start?

Mentor Program

Our Judging Mentor Director is Natalie Koga. She will be happy to connect you with a Mentor to help you navigate the process of becoming a judge and answer any questions you may have throughout your judging journey. Please contact Natalie at nkoga@juno.com.

Mentors can help you with...

- Judging Fees and Mileage
- Testing/Study Process/Practice Judging Form
- Gymjas (Meet Assigning System)
- Meet and Judging Protocol
- Judging your First Meet
- CPE Continuing Professional Education

USA Gymnastics website: Judging Overview

<https://www.usagym.org/pages/women/pages/judging.html>

Study Materials

Official USA Gymnastics study materials for the exams and rule books for judging are available at <http://usagym.sportgraphics.biz/>

- If you are testing JO Compulsories (Levels 2-5), you'll need the Women's JO Compulsory Book. Your exam will cover Level 4/5 rules.
- Recertification for Compulsories is every 8th year of our gymnastics cycle; 2021, 2029, etc.
- If you are testing JO Optional (Levels 6-10) you will need the Women's JO Code of Points.
- Once you have achieved an Optional rating, you must hold that rating for 12 months before taking the exam at the next highest level.
- Recertification for Optional is every 4th year of our gymnastics cycle; 2022, 2026, etc.

Exams

- As a new judge you may take the entry level judging test at the JO Compulsory Level 4/5 exam and/or at the JO Optional Level 7/8.
- If you have competed as a National team member, NCAA gymnast, or Level 10 you may be able to apply to begin testing at a higher level. Please contact our SJD Jennifer Ditmer for more information.

Exam Registration

Registration is accepted on the USA Gymnastics website at:

https://www.usagym.org/pages/women/pages/judging_accreditation.html#

- You must register for an exam at least 7 days prior to the test date
- Each exam part (written and practical) costs \$25

Additional State Requirements prior to judging your first gymnastics meet.

You're required to practice judge two sessions of a sanctioned competition at the Level you are testing before you can be assigned to an "Official Meet". You DO NOT need to pass the exam prior to doing this but you must be a current USAG Pro Member and have your Background Check and Safety Certification completed. Please contact either Natalie Koga to help you set your practice sessions. You will need to have a "Practice Meet" form signed by the Meet Referee of the meet you attend. This form can be found at the end of this packet.

When will I be assigned?

We assign meets using the online system Gymjas. When you are ready to be assigned you will contact [Natalie Koga azsjdnkoga@gmail.com](mailto:Natalie.Koga@azsjdnkoga@gmail.com). She will input your name and preliminary information into the on-line system. You will then be able to access the system as a new user, create a username and password, and update all your information in your personal profile. You will then fill out your availability for the upcoming season. The amount of meets you will be assigned will be based on your availability, rating, location of the meet, and any Meet Director requests. We assign JO Compulsory meets in early August and JO Optional and Xcel meets in mid-November.

Last but not least you will need to send copies of the following documents to [Natalie Koga azsjdnkoga@gmail.com](mailto:Natalie.Koga@azsjdnkoga@gmail.com) before you can be assigned to a meet.

- Your USAG Professional Membership Card, includes your USAG Pro Number with the expiration dates of your General Membership, Safety Certification, and Background Check.
- The NAWGJ Information Sheet filled out and signed. A copy can be found on our website.
- Your Practice Judging fulfillments.

When does the season run?

- JO Compulsory Season Level 3-5 typically runs from late August through December.
- JO Optional Level 6-10 & the Xcel season typically run from Jan-May/June.

**The meet calendar can be found on the Arizona USAG website is www.azusag.com*

Uniform Information

As stated in the USA Gymnastics Women's Program Rules and Policies: "Judges are required to wear the official uniform of a navy blue suit (slacks or skirt) and a white blouse/shirt." Information about ordering a uniform can be found at http://www.nawgj.org/ordering_a_uniform.php Judges have one year to purchase the official uniform. Until then it is appropriate to wear a white blouse/shirt and navy or black slacks or a skirt. Clothing that is considered inappropriate includes shorts, denim, yoga type pants, tank tops and flip flops.

AZ NAWGJ New Judge Entry Level Requirements & Checklist

JUDGING PREPARATION MATERIALS

- Women's USA Gymnastics Jr. Olympic (JO) Compulsory Book (written) - \$60.00
- Women's USA Gymnastics (JO) Optional Code of Points (written) \$60.00
- Digital version Compulsory Program and Code of Points books (online):
<https://usagym.org/pages/home/store/apps.html>
- Women's USA Gymnastics Xcel Code of Points (written) \$60.00
- USA Gymnastics Women's Rules and Policies (Free download):
https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/rules_policies.html
- Information and helpful judging aids are available from the NAWGJ Education Corner (online):
http://www.nawgj.org/education_corner_study_aids.php

TESTING AND JUDGING ACCREDITATION

- USA Gymnastics oversees the testing of judges. The examinations are administered locally several times/year. For information, contact SJD Jennifer Ditmer@ azsjdjenitmer@gmail.com
- USAG master test schedule with dates, locations and registration is available on the USAG website at: https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/judging_accreditation.html#
- Test dates will also be posted on <http://www.nawgj.org/>
- Cost \$25 per testing area (written and practical) each time. You may retest each area up to 4 times/year.
- Please contact Natalie Koga@ nkoga@juno.com for Judging mentors and study buddies near you.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY FOR JUDGING

- USAG Professional Membership (Yearly Membership runs August 1-July 31)
 - Cost \$93.00 - Renew every year
 - Website link https://usagym.org/pages/membership/pages/membership_overview.html
- Professional Background Check (NCSI)
 - Cost \$30.00 - Renew every 2 years
 - Course link: <https://usagym.org/pages/membership/pages/background.html>
- Safety Certification (U101: Safety & Risk Management Certification)
 - Cost \$65.00 - Renew every 4 years
 - Course link: https://usagym.org/pages/education/courses/U_101/
- U.S. Center for SafeSport Core Course (U110)
 - Free - Renew every year
 - Course link: <https://usagym.org/pages/education/safesport/>
- National Association of Gymnastics Judges (NAWGJ) Membership, <http://www.nawgj.org/> (year runs August 1-July 31)
 - Arizona's state judging committee pays for this membership - Renew every year

ADDITIONAL JUDGING NECESSITIES

- NAWGJ Uniform (The NAWGJ uniform consists of a navy jacket, navy skirt/pants and plain white blouse. (A navy jacket with NAWGJ logo is required for State meets and above).
 - Uniform ordering website: http://www.nawgj.org/ordering_a_uniform.php
 - For theme competitions; judges maybe requested to dress in meet theme.
- CPE's (Continuing Professional Education) Required by USA Gymnastics after first year of judging.
 - Please contact Andi Snyder-Peterson@ coachandi29@aol.com formoreinformation

We look forward to having you as part of our judging team!



AZ NAWGJ Practice Judging Form

Name: _____

Practice Judging Level: _____

Date Submitted: _____

AZ NAWGJ Practice Judging

You are required to practice judge **two sessions** of a sanctioned competition at the Level you are testing before you can be assigned to an "Official Meet". You DO NOT need to pass the exam prior to doing your practice judging, but you must be a current USAG Pro Member and also have completed your Background Check and Safety Certification. Please contact Jennifer Ditmer or Natalie Koga and they will help you with your practice sessions.

Please take this form with you to each session you practice judge. Once completed, submit your form to Natalie Koga nkoga@juno.com in pdf format. Remember to Keep a copy of this form for your records and Annual CPE.

Date: _____

Meet Location: -----

Level of Athletes at meet: _____

Meet Referee: _____

Meet Referee Signature: _____

Comments: -----

Date: _____

Meet Location: -----

Level of Athletes at meet: _____

Meet Referee: _____

Meet Referee Signature: _____

Comments: -----
