

PA/DE NAWGJ COMMITTEE MEETING

August 15, 2023

8:00pm

Meeting held via zoom with the following in attendance: Linda, Laurie, Jeannie, Marcy, Terry, Barb, Mary Ann, Connie, Kathy, Jean, Sara, Abby, Amy and Leslie.

Opening and Introductions:

- Linda and Laurie reviewed the mission statement of NAWGJ and reminded us that we always need to keep this in mind regarding whom we serve which includes the membership, gymnasts and coaches.
- The mission of the National Association of Women Gymnastics Judges is to provide professional development for its members and to support and promote women's gymnastics in the United States.
- Welcome to our new members including Sara, Jean, and Kathy (Amy was not present yet) and highlighted the expectations of a board member.

Routine Business:

- Jeannie read the past board meeting minutes from June 23, 2023 with one corrections made with the banquet date. Minutes were motioned, second and approved.
- Linda reminded the board of some upcoming changes which will be posted on the website as it becomes available. These include the \$1.00 hourly raise per level effective August 1st and the new National Judge group structure which is still being determined by USA Gymnastics.

New Business:

1. Western Critique Clinic Update by Sara:

- Sara is in the process of connecting with Charity on details of the event and has been added as co-meet director on the sanction.
- New flyer and email will be sent with more detailed information when approved to all the gyms and the PA Gymnastic website.
- The event is planned for an 11am start per Gym Sport request with 2 four-hour sessions with a 2-hour approved CPE time.
- CPE topics has been approved by our SJD and should be received back from Nicole at USA gymnastics by the end of next week.
- Discussion making sure the judges know that they must be there for both sessions to get credit towards the judging compensation credits.

2. Level 7 Qualifier/Compulsory Critique Meet Update by Barb:

- Level 7 qualifier/compulsory critique will be held November 5-7, 2023.
- An email blast will be sent out again as well as individual emails to those gyms whose athletes did well last year.
- The goal is to raise between \$10-12,000 as this is the normal cost of sending athletes to the National meet which will be held this year in Chicago.
- PA typically sends a minimum of 6 athletes but are hopeful to send as many as 12.

3. Judges Cup Update by Laurie:

- Currently has 213 gymnasts registered consisting of 3 teams.
- Another email blast will be sent out in September in hopes of getting more gyms involved.
- Hotel room blocks are confirmed.

4. Raffle Update by Connie:

- Confirmation that Parkette's will be donating a week of camp.
- IGC is waiting until after their current round of camps but will most likely be donating the \$1,000 towards a week of their camp.

5. Education:

- Zoom training sessions being offered and ways to make it better.
- Additional zoom dates and topics
- Updated comparison sheet between the Dev and Xcel programs
- Reminder that ½ of the required level CPE credits will need to be in person vs all virtually now that the world is returning to normal post COVID limitations.
- New judges' procedure which there is already a reference posted on the NAWGJ website. Jean is already up and running with developing a new judging protocol and contacting them to make the transitions easier.
- Possible leadership summit to discuss topics like how to be a meet ref or how to handle tough circumstances.

6. Years of Service Banquet Update by Mary Ann:

- Need additional information regarding cost.
- Discussed doing it next year vs waiting an additional year and all were in favor of keeping the banquet in Harrisburg as the location is more central for all judges to attend.
- As past protocol, there will be a small fee for all participants with PA/DE NAWGJ will covering the balance.

7. 9/10 State Meet Update- Judging panel

- Concerns about if our mission statement is to provide professional development, would it be beneficial for PA/DE NAWGJ to pay for the additional 8 judges for this meet? This would provide more judges an opportunity to gain experience with these levels.
- Noted: Judges placed on the 9/10 state meet are those assigned to the regional competition, so they are chosen by the Region 7 board vs the PA state board.
- Lengthy discussion by the group entailed regarding cost, coaches' panel preference, the fact that 75% of these gymnasts are already pre-qualified to regionals and how we could get judges more opportunities throughout the year to judge this higher level.
- With the opportunity to judge at Xcel regional and now a level 7 Regional, more judges will have an opportunity to judge in a 4 vs 2-judge panel even though it may not be the highest of levels.
- Ongoing discussion will occur regarding providing opportunities for judges to see higher level routines especially with some of the veterans retiring in the next 5-10 years.

Motion made by Sara and second by Kathy to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 9:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Lippert
Secretary/Webmaster