

PA/DE NAWGJ State Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 7, 2026 – 8PM EST

In attendance: Laurie, Linda, Steph, Kelly, Barb, Jeannie, Sara, Kathy, Marcy, Charity, Amy, Laura, Jean, Mary Ann, Terry, Abby, Connie, Barb

Laurie called the meeting to order at 8:04 PM.

1. Welcome

2. Reminder of our Mission

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.

3. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from 10.5.25 Meeting – correction noted that the 7 athletes attending are representing the PA/DE NAWGJ team not Hanover.

- Motion to approve minutes- Jean
- Seconded by – Sara
- Motion approved.

4. Current Business

a. Level 7 Qualifier – Abby

Held in conjunction with Tim Weaver hosted by Hanover Y

- i. Recap: The All Star team came in 3rd place. The PA/NAWGJ team came in 9th. Overall good experience. Vault was the strongest event. Abby and Amy will follow-up at the next meeting with a power point presentation on experience.
- ii. Would we use Hanover again (Y or N)? Abby will reach out and get their feedback and if they will be presenting a bid. Also, Lee Tracy is interested in putting in a bid.
- iii. Planning for 2026: Forego the postcards. Use QR codes or get a banner for the sponsors that can be used each year.

b. Judges Cup – Laurie

- i. 292 competed (down about 100 athletes this year), 42 judges attended.
- ii. Budget update: Facility rental, scoring system and printing stayed the same. EMT services and awards costs went up. Food costs and hotel expenses increased. Travel fee for judges totaled \$2100 and the NAWGJ fee will be \$75 per and added in. There were refunds for injured athletes totaling \$440. Total income approx. \$9719.64. The final budget will be forwarded. Discussion then continued regarding overall operating budget and the current surplus. It was discussed that there should be some spend down

since this is a non profit organization. Issuing testing certificates this year should help.

c. PA Judge Mentor

- i. Update on Mentors: A few judges have finished their practice judging. One new level 4/5 judge tested over the holidays. Some interaction between new judges and mentors has occurred but more communication is being encouraged. Looking for a date to do a ZOOM for the level 10 and below to go over what testing will look like this upcoming year. Also discussed adding a “welcome new judges” blurb to the newsletter and the less expensive CPE opportunities like state clinic, western PA critique, Flipping Education, virtual clinics and judges cup. Connie to send Laura the slide show regarding CPE info that was previously presented for new judges.

5. New Business

- a. Green Flag Award – Congratulations to Connie. Her nomination moved onto Region 7 voting. Connie has also retired!
- b. 2025-2026 PA/DE NAWGJ Operating Budget - Amy and Linda presented the budget which will be forwarded asap. November begins with a balance of approximately \$145,000. Budgeted income was \$30,000 and expense \$26,000. Testing certificates are budgeted at approximately \$40,000. This expenditure would bring budget into alignment for desired range for the organization (under \$100,000). Rising expense for Judges cup versus desire of athletes to attend large invitationals were discussed.
 - Motion to approve budget - Jean
 - Seconded by – Sara
 - Motion approved.

c. PA/DE NAWGJ Assigning Document:

This document is a temporary, foundational policy created to address immediate compliance needs by posting something on the website. It is intentionally clean, simple, and incomplete, meant to serve as a starting point that will be expanded over time. Other states are working on similar documents.

The document was developed over the past three months by reviewing other states’ policies, reaching out to state organizations, and drafting content through the Knowledge Board. Key contributors included Leslie Boyer, Marcy Blitz, and Terry McGirk, and it was vetted by current assigners, with approximately 98% of their feedback incorporated. Remaining items will require future discussion and voting.

The current focus is on the 2026 assigning document, which outlines policies and procedures for assigning judges within the PA–Delaware geography, from a judging (NAWJG) perspective, not that of meet directors, coaches, or club owners.

Key responsibilities of the State Judging Directors (SJDs) include:

- Supporting state assigners and coordinating with other states to secure judges.
- Handling verbal and written complaints in a timely, fair, and confidential manner.

- Resolving issues at the state level when possible, in alignment with NAWJG guidelines (noting potential changes due to a new NAWJG disciplinary board being formed).
- Managing judging data in GymJAZ, including demographics and rating updates.
- Ensuring credential compliance through annual audits of NAWJG and USA Gymnastics memberships, credentials, and CPE records.
- Renewing and paying for the assigning software license.
- Collecting assigning fees for meets registered in GymJAZ and accounting for all judging fee transactions.

Discussed items like assigning judges in multiple gyms at a meet and carpooling.

Laurie explained that assigning judges to meets involves many factors and cannot be reduced to a fixed checklist or strict order. No state uses a simple step-by-step ranking because assignments depend on numerous variables, such as the number of meets in a weekend. In accordance with USA Gymnastics rules and policies, judges are assigned based on multiple considerations, including geographic location, rating, affiliation, availability, requests, and meet director input. Priority is given to judges selected for USA Gymnastics national, regional, and state assignments when schedules allow. Additionally, assigners try to provide opportunities for newer or lower-rated judges when possible, while also considering overall judging experience.

Discussion ensued regarding assigning to meets that are pending versus ones that have paid assigning fees.

Discussed judges responsibilities: Judges are assigned to meets according to USA Gymnastics rules and policies, but they are responsible for maintaining their own eligibility and professionalism. This includes keeping ratings, memberships, clearances, ethics compliance, and availability up to date, as well as accurately managing information and expiration dates in GymJAZ. Judges must remove availability when they are no longer able to work a meet, as assigners are not responsible for contacting judges who have not listed availability. Judges must also communicate any affiliations to assigners and ensure this information is current, notifying assigners immediately upon assignment if an affiliation exists. Judges may only accept assignments for which they are properly rated and have met all professional requirements, must fulfill accepted contracts and be punctual, must notify assigners promptly if unable to fulfill a contract, and may not solicit meets for themselves or others.

Discussed Meet Referee duties and determined they should not be included in this document.

- Motion to adopt assigning document made by Sara
- Seconded by Amy
- Motion approved

- d. 2026 State Clinic – May 30th, 2026
 - i. Venue – max is 65 attendees, same venue as 4 years ago, close to the turnpike. Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East

- ii. Operating budget – approximately \$5680 divided by 60 attendees (\$100 per person)
- iii. Compensating the presenters: budgeted \$1000 per speaker. \$1500 for Linda since she is traveling.
 - Motion to approve state clinic made by Jean
 - Seconded by Abby
 - Motion approved

State training event will be at Skyline July 11-12. Information forth coming.

6. Questions and vote to conclude meeting:
- Motion to adjourn made by Jean
 - Seconded by – Abby
 - Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 950pm