

# EASTERN GYMNASTICS JUDGING ASSOCIATION

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## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I: NAME

This association will be known as the Eastern Gymnastics Judges Association, a founding member of the National Gymnastics Judges Association.

### ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

- A. To recruit, train and certify an appropriate number of judges to serve the needs of the Gymnastics community.
- B. To foster excellence in judging and to promote high standards of ethics, sportsmanship, co-operation and closer understanding among gymnasts, coaches, spectators and judges.
- C. To support the National Gymnastics Judges Association.

### ARTICLE III: JURISDICTION

The Association will seek to work with all organizations which serve gymnastics in the general northeast region of the United States.

### ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- A. Active Members
  - 1. Qualifications
    - a. There shall be two levels of active membership: National Card Holder and J.O. only card holder.
    - b. Active members must meet the respective age and experience requirements of the NGJA within their membership level.
    - c. Active members who are National Card Holders shall attend a minimum of fifty percent of meetings held over each three year period.
    - d. Active members shall hold a valid NGJA rating.
    - e. Active members shall pay membership dues as provided for in the bylaws. Differential rates of dues shall be set for each membership level.
  - 2. Entitlements
    - a. National Card holders shall be entitled to attendance, voice and vote at meetings of the association
    - b. J.O. only Card holders shall be entitled to attendance and voice, but no vote, at all meetings of the association
    - c. Active members shall be members of the NGJA as provided for by the NGJA, through local association membership and payment of NGJA dues.
    - d. Active Members shall be listed as such on the roster which is submitted to assigning commissioners
- B. Associate members
  - 1. Are supporting members not meeting all of the qualifications for active membership
  - 2. Shall pay dues to the EGJA only
  - 3. Shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the EGJA with voice but no vote.

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## ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

- A. There will be one regularly scheduled meeting of the Association per year. It will be held in the fall as soon as possible after the USAG Congress and before the start of the USAG Junior Olympic and collegiate competitive season. Additional meetings may be called by the executive committee for the good of the Association.
- B. A majority of active, voting members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of Association business
- C. Meetings agenda: meetings shall include the following items
  1. Opening and determination of the necessary quorum
  2. Reading and approval of the minutes of the last meeting
  3. Presentation of the financial report and the proposed budget
  4. Old business
  5. Correspondence
  6. Reports of liaison officers, commissioners and committee chairs
  7. New business
  8. Technical program: Guidelines as follows:
    - a. A minimum of two hours per annual meeting
    - b. Discussion and clarification of rules and interpretations changes
    - c. Possible film review and/or other practice judging
    - d. Refresher Exam
- D. Meetings of the Association will be conducted according to the rules of parliamentary procedure, i.e., Robert's Rules of Order.

## ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Association shall be a president, secretary-treasurer and a technical director
- B. Election of officers
  1. The officers will be elected at the annual meeting in the and will serve a term of three years.
  2. All elections shall be held by open nomination and closed ballot where there are at least two candidates for an office. A person must win by a majority vote of the active voting members. If there is no majority, there will be a runoff between the two candidates with the most votes
- C. A representative shall be elected at the annual meeting from each of the two districts other than the district of the president of the Association. The three districts of the Association are: New England, New York, and New Jersey/Pennsylvania. The representative must reside in the district. The Representative will be elected by the active voting members from his region. The election to coincide with the election of EGJA officers.
- D. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the three elected officers and the two district representatives.
- E. Replacement of Officers:
  1. Vacancies due to resignation or death shall be filled with an interim replacement by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
  2. Officers may be removed for incompetent or malfeasant performance of the responsibilities of office by a majority vote of the members of Executive Committee. The Executive Committee must then elect an interim replacement
- 3. Interim replacements shall serve until the next regular meeting of the Association. If that meeting occurs in an even year, the Association will elect a person to serve

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until the next election year.

## ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- A. The President:
  - 1. Shall preside at association meetings
  - 2. Shall appoint all committee members and the chairs of those committees
  - 3. Shall appoint or serve as the liaison officer to all organizations served by the Association.
  - 4. Shall be the chief fiduciary officer of the Association.
  - 5. Shall inform and consult with members of the Executive Committee on discretionary disbursements and on other matters of importance to the association and to its members
  - 6. Shall be responsible for keeping the constitution and by-laws current
- B. The Secretary-treasurer:
  - 1. Shall keep minutes of all meetings
  - 2. Shall maintain a record of attendance of all members
  - 3. Shall collect membership dues and examination fees
  - 4. Shall maintain the Association account and be responsible for meeting all financial obligations of the Association
  - 5. Shall keep a record of all active members and shall distribute that list to the assigning commissioners and to other authorized persons
  - 6. Shall notify all members of the time, place and agenda of each meeting
  - 7. Shall seek written authorization from the president for all discretionary disbursements
  - 8. Annually, prior to the regular meeting, shall present to the Executive Committee a financial statement, a budget and a proposal for the annual dues for the ensuing year.
- C. The Technical director:
  - 1. Is responsible for the planning, organization and administration of the technical instructional program at the annual EGJA meeting
  - 2. Shall offer administrative assistance to the NGJA Regional Technical Directors for the conduct of the NGJA certification courses conducted in conjunction with the EGJA.
  - 3. Is responsible to arrange for the administration of the annual NGJA refresher examinations
  - 4. Shall provide the secretary-treasurer with the information needed to produce the list of members in good standing.
- D. Regional Representatives shall:
  - 1. Serve as liaison between the Executive Committee and the members in their respective regions.
  - 2. Provide counsel to the Executive Committee regarding issues of concern to members in the region.
  - 3. Work with the other members of the Executive Committee in the conduct of association business.
- E. The Executive Committee shall:
  - 1. Act for the association between annual meetings
  - 2. Fill all vacancies of officers created by death, resignation, incompetence or malfeasance. Such appointments are subject to vote by the membership at the next annual meeting.
  - 3. Annually propose to the membership the amount of dues to be paid by each member during the ensuing year

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4. Conduct elections for induction into the Hall of Fame.
5. Annually select a candidate for the EGJA Judge of the Year award.
6. Annually examine the membership roster for potential nominees for the EGJA Hall of Fame.
7. Authorize discretionary disbursements as necessary.

## ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

- A. Any part of this constitution may be amended by a mail vote of 2/3 of the active members in good standing who are eligible to vote. Any proposed amendment must be put before the membership at the annual meeting and passed by a two-thirds vote of those eligible to vote. Thereafter, the president will distribute the proposal to all eligible active members for a mail vote. After receiving the needed 2/3 majority vote, the amendment becomes immediately operative.
- B. Periodically, the Executive Committee may call for a constitutional revision. The president shall appoint a committee to develop a draft proposal which shall be distributed by mail one month prior to the annual meeting at which it is to be considered. It shall be discussed on the floor of that meeting and voted upon. A 2/3 vote of the eligible active members present is necessary to approve the new constitution.

## ARTICLE IX: CONFORMITY TO LAW

- A. In the event any provision of this Constitution or its By-laws, is contrary to law, or would place the EGJA in a position of not in good standing with the NGJA, such provision will not be applicable.
- B. In the event any provision of this Constitution or its By-laws, is contrary to law, or would place the EGJA in a position of not in good standing with the NGJA, all other provisions of this Constitution and its By-laws shall remain in effect.

## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I: DUTIES AND EXAMINATION FEES

- A. Dues payable to the Association consist of both NGJA and EGJA dues assessments.
- B. There will be a special fee associated with the annual refresher examination in an amount to be determined by the NGJA
- C. There shall be special fees associated with the conduct of national certification courses.
- D. Annual dues are payable at the fall meeting each year. Members are not in good standing until their dues are paid.

### ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

- A. New members: For new members who join the association between courses, to be eligible to judge they must do the following:
  1. Fill out a personal history form
  2. Pay current Association and NGJA dues where necessary.
  3. Be in possession of a currently valid NGJA, J.O., National, or an International certification.
  4. If eligible, based on the above, the individual's name will be added to the list of

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active members and distributed to assigning commissioners as eligible to be assigned to meets until the next certification course.

5. Comply with the EGJA meeting requirements. At the discretion of the president, this may be waived for the first year for someone entering the association.
- B. Deactivation and reinstatement:
1. Members will be deactivated upon non-payment of the current year's dues (i.e., assigning commissioners will be notified of the person's deactivation)
  2. To be reinstated during the first year of delinquency, deactivated members must pay the current year's dues and, to be eligible to judge, must meet the attendance and certification requirements of the Association
  3. To be reinstated during a second or subsequent year of delinquency deactivated members must only pay that current year's dues, however, in order to judge, they must hold a current NGJA certification and must meet the Association's attendance rule before being assigned to judge .
  4. Members who fail to pay dues for two consecutive years will be removed from the mailing list following the annual meeting which starts the second year of delinquency.

### ARTICLE III: DISBURSMENT OF ASSOCIATION FUNDS:

- A. Disbursements of funds will be limited to the following:
1. Routine disbursements to be handled by the secretary-treasurer:
    - a. Stamps and stationary appropriate to Association business.
    - b. Necessary printing and duplication.
    - c. Payment of annual dues, examination and course fees to the NGJA.
  2. Discretionary disbursements: Unforeseen expense appropriate to Association business. Such disbursements are to be voted upon by the Executive Committee and subsequently reported to the membership in the treasurer s report.
- B. Support for travel for NGJA officers
1. When an NGJA Regional Director or Regional Technical officer is a member of this Association, the EGJA will contribute to his travel expenses for one NGJA meeting per year (generally at the USAG Congress) if that officer is not already reimbursed as a judge. Upon receipt of the expense sheet, the EGJA Executive Committee will determine the amount to be reimbursed to each officer.
  2. In the event there is no NGJA officer who is a member of the EGJA able to attend the USAG Congress, the Executive Committee may authorize a member to represent the EGJA at the USAG Congress.

### ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

- A. There shall be no smoking at general meetings at general meetings of the Association.
- B. Members who are forced to miss an Association meeting due to a conflict with an NGJA or USAG judging assignment shall not have that meeting counted against them when determining eligibility to receive league assignments according to the attendance rule.
- C. The Association president may waive the attendance requirement in emergency situations.

### ARTICLE V: CODE OF OFFICIATING

- A Rules interpretations and modifications:
1. Judges are expected to maintain their knowledge of the FIG rules and their

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interpretations by the NGJA and their proficiency in applying those rules and interpretations.

2. They shall understand and apply to the best of their ability exceptions and modifications made by the NCAA, the Junior Olympic program or any other organizations from whom they accept meets.

### B. Dress

1. Judges are required to conform to the uniform regulations as presented by the NGJA whenever judging USGF, college or other national or regional meets unless specifically exempted from those regulations by the meet referee, chief judge or the NGJA representative, if any.
2. Judges shall be aware of any guidelines for uniform and neatness presented by any organization for which they judge. They should not accept meets for which the expected standards are so divergent from their own that they are likely to cause controversy.

### C. Ethics

1. Judges shall accept only meets for which they are certified and for which they have had time to prepare. Exceptions may be made in the case of emergency subject to the agreement of the involved coaches and other officials (e.g., a meet which would be canceled because regularly scheduled judges did not show up)
2. Judges should not accept meets which involve teams and/or individuals with which they have some personal interest in how well the team or individual does in the competition.
3. Judges are to make every effort to fulfill assignments which they have accepted. If this becomes impossible, the earliest possible notification to the commissioner or the host coach is expected.
4. All judges shall abide by the code of ethics as presented in the NGJA Rules Interpretations Manual.

## ARTICLE VI: HONORS

### A. EGJA Judge of the Year Award

1. After the competitive season (May or June), the EGJA Executive Committee shall select an Association member as EGJA Judge of the Year. The EGJA Judge of the Year shall be proposed to the NGJA Regional Director-East as a candidate for the NGJA Regional Judge of the Year.

### B. EGJA Hall of Fame

1. A roster of distinguished members of the association will be identified as the EGJA Hall of Fame. A record of recipients shall be kept by the secretary-treasurer
2. Selection to the Hall of fame will be based upon the following minimum qualifications for membership :
  - a. A member of the EGJA Association for twenty years.
  - b. Held office in the EGJA or NGJA.
  - c. Must have made significant administrative or technical contributions to the Association or to the NGJA.
  - d. Must be over 50 years of age.
3. Election procedures
  - a. The Officers shall annually inspect the membership roster for members who meet the minimum qualifications.
  - b. Nominations to the Hall of Fame shall be by a letter written to both the President and Secretary/Treasurer explaining how the person fulfills the criteria for selection as stated in section B2 of article VI. The letter must be received within 60 days after the

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- annual meeting. The Executive Committee will determine that the nominees meet the criteria.
- c. Upon nomination of the member, the president will conduct a mail ballot among all active, eligible members. Support by 2/3rds of those voting will be required for election to the Hall of Fame.
  - d. Induction of selected members will take place at the annual meeting following the election, at which time the inductee will be honored with the presentation of a suitable plaque.
4. Privileges of membership  
Lifetime free membership with the right of voice and vote will be accorded those individuals elected to membership in the Hall of Fame who are not actively judging.

### ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

- A. These By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Association at which a quorum exists by a majority vote of the members present.

### APPENIX: IX

The following distinguished judges have been inducted into the EGJA Hall of Fame:

Harry Nelson  
Vincent D Autorio  
Fred Meyer  
Frank Wells  
Frank Cumiskey  
Anthony Ricciardi  
Adam Walter  
Todd DiNicola  
Roman Piao  
Richard Aronson  
Len Depue 1997  
Joe Toth 1997  
Dave Hirst 1998  
Lou Bordo  
Harry Bjerke 1990  
Robert Stout 1993  
Tom Gibbs 1993  
Erik Kjeldsen 1993  
Robert Elsinger 1995  
Abe Grossfeld 1995  
Peter Bacon 1996  
Jeff Koodin 1996  
Tony Napier 1996  
Ken Achiron 2002  
Tom Stevenson 2003  
Mark Cuyjet 2004  
Bruce Temple 2005

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Bill Martin  
Michael Gorn  
Peter Graber