

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

This association will be known as the Metro Gymnastics Judges Association, a 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 community.

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 by-laws. 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 MGJA only
3. Shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the MGJA with voice but no vote.

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 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. 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

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 year following the Summer Olympics and will serve a term of four 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 run off between the two candidates with the most votes.
- C. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the three elected officers.
- D. 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 scheduled vote of the Association.

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.
7. Shall be responsible for the appointing and overseeing of the Assigner for the association.

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 MGJA 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 MGJA.
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. 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
4. 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 2/3rds 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 MGJA 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 MGJA 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: DUES AND EXAMINATION FEES

- A. Dues payable to the Association consist of MGJA 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 active members and distributed to assigning commissioners as eligible to be assigned to meets until the next certification course.
 - 5. Comply with the MGJA 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: DISBURSEMENT 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.
 - 2. Discretionary disbursements: Unforseen expenses 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 and National Card Holders

1. When an NGJA Regional Director or Regional Technical officer is a member of this Association, the MGJA will contribute to his travel expenses for one NGJA meeting per year (generally at the USAG Congress). Upon receipt of the expense sheet, the MGJA 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 MGJA able to attend the USAG Congress, the Executive Committee may authorize a member to represent the MGJA at the USAG Congress.
3. MGJA funds shall also be used to support the travel of MGJA members selected to participate in judging exchanges with other national associations.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

- A. There shall be no smoking 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. In general, however, all MGJA members are expected to attend a minimum of one Association meeting per year to be considered for NGJA, NCAA and/or USAG judging assignments for that calendar year.

ARTICLE V: CODE OF OFFICIATING

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