



## **USAG/NGJA International Judges Selection Process**

### **Overview:**

Below is a summary of the USAG/NGJA judges selection process for international competitions. This process does not cover any situation where the FIG MTC directly invites/appoints judges to certain high-level competitions (e.g. D-Panel judges for World Championships).

### **Definitions:**

- ISC – Independent Selection Committee. This committee consists of four (4) individuals: The USAG Men’s Program VP, USAG MPC Chairman, NGJA Technical Vice President-International Program (TVPI), and the current FIG MTC Member (or the MPC designated representative).
- MPC – Men’s Program Committee
- TVPI – NGJA Technical Vice President-International
- RTD – NGJA Regional Technical Director
- MTC Member - The FIG Men’s Technical Committee Member from the USA, or MPC designee if no USA MTC Member exists

### **The Process:**

1. The USAG Men’s Program VP informs the TVPI of international competitions in which USAG will participate. Ideally, this should occur at least three to six months prior to the first competition. However, some competitions are acted on with less notice. For each competition, the Men’s Program VP will indicate:
  - a. The number of judges needed;
  - b. The FIG category/experience required of the judge(s);
  - c. Travel dates for the competition;
  - d. Other relevant or available information related to logistics or funding; and
  - e. General judging performance or selection criteria guided by USAG strategic goals.
2. Items to be considered when considering judges for an assignment:
  - a. FIG Brevet card holder and what category;
  - b. Does a judge have the requisite experience as specified for the competition and/or by USAG;
  - c. What events a judge has officiated, such as USA Championships, Winter Cups, NCAA national competitions, or other relevant international competitions;
  - d. Whether a judge is respected by USAG Men’s Program, coaches, and peers; and

- e. Does a judge meet any additional requirements for the competition or as stated by USAG.
3. The TVPI provides the assignment criteria to the RTDs and seeks nominations. The RTDs will then:
  - a. Inform qualified judges in their region of the assignment request and confirm the availability of each judge who states a willingness to judge a particular competition;
  - b. Nominate to the TVPI judges from their respective regions who meet the experience and availability guidelines for each competition; and
  - c. Along with a nomination, provide the TVPI with each judge's experience, Brevet category, and the judge's track to maintain or advance their Brevet category in the subsequent cycle (e.g., number of FIG competitions to meet FIG requirements for their current Brevet category or to advance to the next category).
4. The TVPI communicates with the NGJA President and other NGJA VPs (the "Proposal Committee") to review and select nominated judges for each identified competition. The selection decisions made by the Proposal Committee, including any alternates, will be documented in writing in advance of providing the names of the judge(s) to the ISC. **NOTE:** If any NGJA region does not have representation on the call in which nominations are discussed (i.e., is not represented in one of the positions of NGJA President or NGJA VP), an NGJA member from that region will be assigned by the NGJA President to be part of the Proposal Committee.
5. The TVPI schedules a meeting of the ISC and provides the ISC members:
  - a. Names(s) of proposed judge(s), the judge(s) Brevet category, and position, if applicable (e.g. auxiliary judge);
  - b. Names and Brevet category of sufficient alternates for the competition, in the event the proposed judge(s) becomes unavailable; and
  - c. Names of other judge(s) that were considered available and qualified as part of the proposal process but were not selected.
6. The ISC discusses, reviews, edits, and finalizes the assignment for each competition. For purposes of clarity, in the event additional judging positions become available for a competition after the ISC has confirmed judging assignments (e.g., one judge was required initially but subsequently another position become available, for a total of two), the intent of the NGJA is that the alternate(s), in the order confirmed by the ISC, will be placed in such new position.
7. If necessary, the TVPI edits the proposed list of judge(s) originally provided to the ISC to reflect the assignments made by the ISC and routes the updated list to the ISC for final approval.

8. After final approval of assignments by the ISC, the TVPI communicates the judge selections to the NGJA RTDs. The RTDs will then inform the selected and nominated judges in their respective regions of the ISC judge selections.

**Special Comments:**

NGJA Considerations: The NGJA tracks each judges' FIG category and competition experience to ensure international assignments are afforded to as many members as reasonably possible. As mentioned above, the intent of the NGJA in this process is to position its judges to maintain or advance their FIG category in the upcoming Brevet cycle. While it is not possible for each judge to always achieve their desired category given the limited number of competitions available and the large number of Brevet holders in the USA, the NGJA will consider this as part of its selection process. However, the ISC and the USAG Men's Program does not always follow this strategy.

Discussions are Confidential: All discussions of the NGJA Proposal Committee and the ISC are considered confidential.

Bottom Line: The USAG Men's Program HAS FINAL SAY ON ALL ASSIGNMENTS. The NGJA partners with the ISC and USAG to perform a consultative and influential role during this process.