

Characteristics of a Quality Judge

Adopted September 2021

Characteristics of a Quality Judge (1 of 2)

Characteristics	Examples
Judge is consistently prepared for assignments.	Demonstrates knowledge of rules in conversation, studies the rules, asks relevant questions
Judge has shown growth and has gained experience in a variety of competition and training settings.	Demonstrated high level of integrity. Successfully completed assignments of increasing responsibility and challenge.
Judge can determine D&E scores with relative accuracy and competence.	Scores are within acceptable ranges as witnessed through observation and collaboration.
Judge can determine D and E scores with speed relative to peers	Able to determine scores in a timely manner relative to their experience and caliber of competition. Positive reputation among coaches and gymnasts.
Judge displays consistency throughout competitions	Able to maintain same level of judging from start to finish of competition, applies the rules all of the time (regardless of competition or timing), judge doesn't let feelings get in the way – the score is the score (aside from the rare exceptions in JDP when dealing with a very low-level athlete)
Judge shows ability to effectively collaborate with others	Approachable, easy to work alongside in a panel situation, desires to engage in professional conversation with coaches and other judges, when wrong shows humility and willingness to correct situations.
Judge maintains a high level of composure on the competition floor.	Tone, body language and content of conversations display conviction and confidence in judgements, especially in stressful or high-pressure situations. Trust your instincts.

Characteristics of a Quality Judge (2 of 2)

Characteristics	Examples
Judge displays high levels of integrity	Relationships (good or bad) with coaches or gymnasts does not affect scores. Cheating (if observed) is not tolerated. Your character counts.
Judge displays common sense and has a high gymnastics IQ	Displays an understanding of current trends of contemporary gymnastics.
Judge is courteous to others	Other judges, coaches, meet directors, administrators and volunteers are treated with respect (even in situations where it is difficult).
Judge is professional in their approach	Appropriately dressed, arrives to competition in timely manner, uses appropriate language, responds to emails and requests. Calm demeanor.
Judge shows willingness to provide service to the gymnastics community in multiple ways	Attends camps/clinics, teaches/instructs at courses, participates on committees, etc.
Judge displays high level of leadership on various ways.	Shows ability to lead a panel, willing to mentor other judges
Practice good professional social media etiquette.	Judges should never comment on social media, contradict, or bring into question in public the decisions made in competitions while performing their duties as an official. Judges should never comment on social media, contradict, or bring into question in public the decisions made in competitions while performing their duties as an official.

1. Preparedness

You have a responsibility to consistently be prepared for your assignments. This means that you ...

- Study the rules
- Demonstrate knowledge of the rules in conversation
- Ask relevant questions



2. Experience

You have shown growth and participated in various types of gymnastics settings. This means that you ...

- Have improved your judging such that you have advanced to higher levels of competition.
- Have gained experience in areas outside of the competition (clinics, camps, etc.)



3. Accuracy

You are able to determine D and E scores with relative accuracy and competence. This means that you ...

- Are able to calculate scores that are within acceptable ranges as witnessed through observation and collaboration.



4. Speed

You are able to determine D and E scores with speed relative to your peers. This means that you ...

- Are able to determine scores in a timely manner relative to your level of experience and caliber of competition



5. Consistency

You display a consistent line of judging. This means that you ...

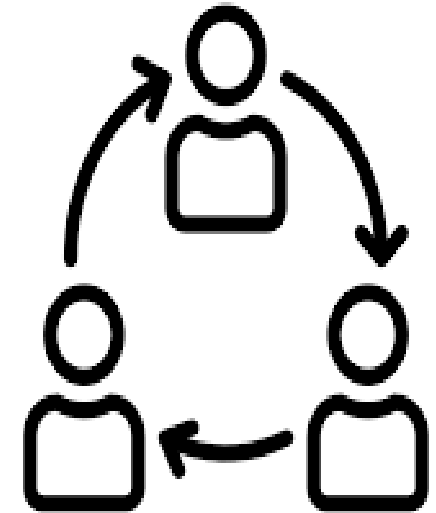
- **Are able to consistently apply the rules from start to finish of a competition.**
- **Are able to apply the rules regardless of the level of competition, timing of competition or team you are judging.**
- **Do not let your feelings get in the way of your score.**



6. Collaboration

You have the ability to form positive relationships with others.
This means that you ...

- Are approachable and easy to work alongside.
- Desire to engage in gymnastics conversations with other coaches and judges.
- Show humility and are willing to correct situations.



7. Composure

You maintain a high level of composure on the competition floor. This means that you ...

- Show confidence in your judgements through both your tone and your body language, especially in stressful situations.
- Trust your instincts.



8. Integrity

You display a high level of integrity. This means that you ...

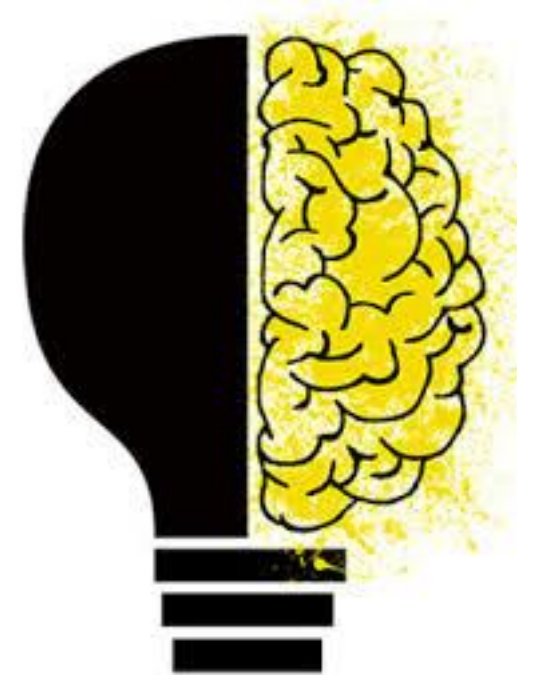
- Don't allow relationships (good or bad) to affect your scores.
- Don't engage in cheating under any circumstances.



9. Common Sense

You display a gymnastics IQ that is consistent with current trends and practices. This means that you ...

- Draw conclusions using logical reasoning.



10. Courteousness

You treat the various people you come into contact with respect. This includes ...

- Coaches
- Meet Directors
- Administrators
- Meet Volunteers
- Other Judges



11. Professionalism

You must always maintain a professional appearance. This means that you ...

- Are appropriately dressed
- Arrive to competition on time
- Use appropriate language
- Respond to emails/communication in a timely manner
- Possess a calm demeanor



12. Service

You have shown a willingness to provide service to the gymnastics community in a variety of ways. This could include

...

- **Camps**
- **Clinics**
- **Judges Courses**
- **NGJA / Local Association Committees**



13. Leadership

You have shown the ability to to guide others in their understanding of judging. This means that you ...

- Have shown the ability to effectively lead a panel of judges on the competition floor.
- Are willing to take on mentoring roles to assist others in their understanding of gymnastics.



14. Professional Social Media Etiquette

Be aware that content and information can damage the reputation of the NGJA and individual judges....

- Use good judgement, be responsible and protect confidential information, use accurate facts, avoid negative comments
- Never comment on social media, contradict, or bring into question in public the decisions made in competitions

