

BOOKING

Once you have joined the NAWGJ and the USAG, your name will automatically be on the list for booking and receipt of newsletters from state, regional, and national organizations.

Georgia's current booking (meet assignment) coordinator is Gwyned Bius. All of our USAG and AAU meets are booked at one time, the weekend of the Judge's 500 Meet (usually the weekend after Labor Day).

Order of booking is determined by rating, and within that rating, time spent with that rating. Brevet judges are booked by phone, National judges are booked in a separate session or by phone, and then on Saturday or Sunday, the Level 10's, 9's, 7/8's, and 5/6's are booked. You will be notified of your time to come to be "booked" for the year. Any judge who did not return his/her active status card to the Membership Chairperson, Marian Dykes, by the appointed time will be moved to the bottom of their rating level. If you cannot attend this booking session, you may send a proxy; if you do not attend and do not send a proxy, you will be booked as vacancies appear during the year.

Do not be discouraged if your rating is new! During the year, there are many, many openings as judges replace themselves.

When you come to booking at Judges' 500, you should have your meet calendar which can be downloaded from the NAWGJ website. Please know which weekends you can judge and accept or pass a meet without commentary. **Please keep personal conversations out of the booking room.** If you have not previously sent in the *Judges Information Sheet* to Marian Dykes along with a copy of your USAG Judges Rating card, NAWGJ Membership card, and USAG card (with proof of safety certification), you must have a copy at booking. **Otherwise, you cannot book.** This sheet will come to you in your booking letter. If you are affiliated, please notify the booking agent during booking. Affiliated judges may not be chief judges.

Please do not take intersquad or practice meets that have not gone through the booking agent. This is for insurance purposes.

Never, under any circumstances, solicit a meet from a coach, meet director, or gym owner! This puts the coach in a very tough position. Some coaches fear that if they do not honor the request, the judge will "take it out" on their gymnasts. This would not occur to most of us, but perception is everything!

If a shortage of properly rated officials for any level of competition exists, the use of lower rated officials must be approved by the RTCC. (*Technique*, Aug. 2000)
Request must be made by the SJD.

The **JUDGES' 500** is the GA-NAWGJ sponsored competition that kicks off each fall season. You will be asked to donate your time (including travel) for this meet. The revenues earned from the Judges' 500 are used to support judges' education in Georgia. Judges who donate their time receive their NAWGJ dues. In addition, registration fees to clinics, such as Regional Congress are often partially or fully covered by Georgia NAWGJ for judges that volunteer for the Judges' 500.

Collegiate meets require, at a minimum, Level 10 rating. All SEC, collegiate meets are assigned by regional assigners. During the year UGA will need auxiliary judges and you may sign up for those positions during booking. The pay is \$50 for these services.

State and State Qualifying Meets - AAU or USAG state and qualifying meets usually are two days (Saturday and Sunday) but quite often have so many entries that a Friday afternoon or evening session must be added. Because there is no way to estimate how many gymnasts will qualify for a state or sectional meet, you must be able to judge on the Friday of a state or state-qualifying meet should the meet require Friday sessions.

Hard to Book Meets - The booking agent will designate certain meets as hard to book, and will send the list of the hard to book meets to all judges before booking. At booking, each judge will first be asked to choose one (1) of these hard to book meets to book. If the judge does NOT book a hard to book meet, that judge is dropped two (2) booking groups later immediately and will book at the bottom of that group.

If a judge books a meet designated as **hard to book**, and that meet is later cancelled and there is no other meet available in which to place this judge, then each judge cancelled is paid for three (3) hours by GA-NAWGJ.