

NAWGJ-VERMONT
NEWS FLASH
AUGUST 2012

GREETINGS: Summer greetings to all coaches, judges and other friends. Hopefully everyone was able to watch the Olympics and enjoy the work of all the athletes. Here in Region 6, we are especially proud of Aly Raisman on her performances and her coaches Mihai and Silvie Brestyan for their dedication and hard work. Very soon our competitive season will begin so read below so you are all prepared.

In Memory: Tom Dunkley passed on in early August. Tom was one of the founding fathers of gymnastics in Vermont. From personal conversations that I had with Ruth and Kim over the years, he was surely a fireball. I loved their stories of participating in parades etc. NAWGJ Vermont extends its heartfelt "Thanks" to Tom for his leadership over the years.

Nitty Gritty: Please be sure to read below all that applies or better yet, just read this entire news update. I have tried to put it into sections so information will not be overlooked. My theme for this season is "Be Proactive"

COACHES:

1. Safety and Risk Management Course on Friday, Sept. 21st beginning at 5:00 PM sharp, location: Central Vermont Gymnastics Academy ,80 Commercial Drive, Waterbury, Vermont. Pre-registration is required for both new and renewals. If you cannot do this online, download the forms and fax or snail mail them in, I would suggest doing it immediately as the deadline is Sept. 7th. If you have any problems registering, call 1-800-345-4719 for assistance.
2. Meet Directors Request for Judges: When scheduling a meet, please download and fill out this form with all information. The fee is \$3 perjudge if completed and sent prior to 30 days or \$5 per judge if less than 30 days. In order to facilitate the proper assignment of officials, I will need to know what levels and how the meet will be run. Send the form **with the check made out to : NAWGJ-Vermont c/o : Gail McGann PO Box 631 Bomoseen, Vt. 05732.**
3. Technical Updates: Please make sure you have all this information:
Highlights: Regulated to play digital copies of music at meets, hand placement mat only for yurchenko vaults, may only video record your own athlete and a reminder that use of cell phones for texting or talking is prohibited in the field of play
4. Inquiries: At the state USA meeting in August, I felt that no one would be offended by photocopied inquiries. (ones made up in advance) Actually, I think it is a good idea to have some made up ahead of time as it can work as a

double check for you that your athlete has all their SR's and Difficulty Value. It also saves looking for a form and the feeling of being under the gun for time to get the form filled out and presented to the Meet Referee. This makes it easier for the judges to check off what was awarded and what was not or omitted.

5. Coaches, make sure you pre-place yourself with USA gymnastics and have your University Courses up to date.

JUDGES:

1. The State NAWGJ Clinic will be held on Saturday, Sept. 29th at Sunrise Gymnastics in Barre, Vermont. It will run from 12:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Our NAWGJ Board will be meeting on Aug. 20th at my home to set the clinic topics and schedule. Remember, half of your required credits come from Sanctioned clinics. This is our only sanctioned clinic in Vermont so if you did not attend National or Regional Congress, mark this date. It affects your CPE credits.

2. USA MEMBERSHIP CARDS: I must have a photo copy of your USA membership card immediately. I currently have only the following: Michelle Beam, Kori Crane, Carol Baldwin, Marylou Smith, Heather Goodwin, Kara Bissonnette, Carolyn Krug and Gail McGann. Please understand, unless I have the card, you will not be assigned any USA meets. I will go over this in detail concerning expirations of membership, safety or background and how it affects sanctioned meets at our State Clinic. Please be PROACTIVE and send this information in so I can do a spread sheet.

3. BE PREPARED; you may want to make up cheat sheets or have tabs to know the warm timing rules, the handling or inquiries, running of events, timing each event and board deductions. This is very helpful when you arrive at the meet and know how your event will go.
4. In order to judge at the State USA meet, the USA board requires that each judge having judged a minimum of two meets and one sectional to be considered for the State meet. Keep this in mind for your availability to judge.
5. In the Region 6 Newsletter which came out at the end of July, there was a page that must be returned to Pat Panichas by August 15th. This lists your availability to judge Regional meets and also for you to check off what educational clinics or congresses you have attended. If you misplaced your newsletter, you can get in online at Region6gymnastics.
6. Green Mountain Invitational: Judges Cup: will be held at Green Mountain Gymnastics in Williston, Vermont on the weekend of December 8th and 9th. Since this is our only form of income for NAWGJ-Vermont, it is considered mandatory. If you owe us a day, you will have two days to judge. The Theme

is “Pick your decade” Will be fun. Alicia is working hard on getting information out to as many clubs as possible so we can fill this meet.

7. Laura has sent out NY High School availability so please be prompt in returning that information to her. Only current NAWGJ rated judges with current CPE can judge.
8. This is the year that Vermont will send a judge to the National Judges Cup which is the weekend of January 4th- 6th in Daytona, Florida. I want to select our judge at the State Clinic so think about this so we can make that decision on the 29th. The state is now responsible for the flight of our judge. The Region will pick up the hotel. This is a volunteer assignment but the rewards are great in the experience you will gain.
9. Next year, National Congress is in Hartford, Ct. so as members, you may want to consider doing a group membership which can lower the cost to just over \$100 to attend. The Visa Championships will also be held in conjunction with this event.

10. SAFETY COURSE: IF RENEWING, DO SO IMMEDIATELY

Other miscellaneous items: Shannon Miller will be a Green Mt. Gymnastics on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Send any inquiries about this event to Robin Bourdeau at Green Mt. Gymnastics.

Another item is to consider taking the U100 Course online from USA Gymnastics University. It is free and worth it. Perfect for anyone interested in becoming a judge to give them some instructor background and I will go over this at the State Clinic.

Meet Schedule:

November 17th and 18th Harvest Meet @ Northern Lights
December 8th and 9th Green Mountain Invitational @ Green Mt. Gym
December 16th Winter Wonderland @ Le Studio
January 27th Let it Snow @ Green Mt. Gym
February 10th Second Sectional @ Regal
February 17th I Love Vermont
March 10th Second Sectional @ Sunrise
March 16th and 17th Hip Hop at Woodman Athletics
March 23rd and 24th Vermont USA State meet all levels not sure but
may be in Bellows Falls

The first sectional is part of the Green Mountain Invitational. There may possibly be other meets scheduled. The first weekend of March is the Luikin and American Cup in Worcester, Ma.

Please bring your availability to the State Clinic. I have information that may assist you in determining your availability.

Potential New Judges and Judges on Leave: Please feel free to attend this clinic to keep your CPE so you can test in at your level when the new rules come out and for the new judges, this will give you an idea of what you will be getting into next summer when we begin the new cycle.

Please enjoy the remaining summer and be **PROACTIVE !!!!**

CO-SJD,

GAIL MCGANN