



To provide professional development, leadership, and support to Texas NAWGJ members and to unify and promote women's gymnastics throughout the state.

Updates:

* New IRS mileage rate effective January 1, 2024 = \$.67/mile

* New standard CONUS lodging rate effective January 1, 2024 = \$107/night*

*USAG Rules and Policies, page 42

- 3. The form of accommodation (double occupancy vs. single occupancy) must be specified in the judge's contract.
 - Accommodations based on double occupancy must provide two beds, which CANNOT include a sleeper sofa.
 - A judge may request single room accommodations if not provided by the Meet Director.
 - If necessary to share the cost of the room with the Meet Director, the judge will pay no more per night than the difference between the actual room rate and the current CONUS lodging rate for overnight accommodation.

*Correction: your NAWGJ dues were paid at least through 2025 (not 2024) for volunteering at the 2023 Judges' Cup in October



Newsworthy articles. Click the topic to read more

Congratulations to **Amanda Stroud Gagnon** for winning the Texas Green Flag award.

Katie Kuhleman wins first place all around!

Team Texas is competing in the Patty J Shipman Level 7 state challenge at the National Judges' Cup in Tinley Park (Chicago), IL on January 6, 2024

We thank Snowflake apparel for donating the leotards for our athletes!



Friendly Reminder

Texas High School State Meet Availability Due January 20, 2024

Add your volunteer, critique, and professional development events to the GymJAS Activity Reports feature for insurance coverage. You do not need to advise your assigner. *click on the link below*

Activity Reports to create or view documentation for insured professional activity. Activity reports must be made prior to the event. Reports cannot be entered after.

This is a great way to keep track of your volunteer and critique hours for any post season application

If you plan to take an optional practical test in 2024, contact [Bonnie Crawford](mailto:sjd@txnawgj.org) sjd@txnawgj.org

Congress tiered club group pricing through TX NAWGJ:



Minneapolis Convention Center June 28-30, 2024

Early bird - through March 1, 2024 \$180

Regular March 2 - June 7, 2024 \$220



Fort Worth Hilton June 1-2, 2024

Early bird - through Feb. 2, 2024 \$120

Regular Feb 3, - May 17, 2024 \$150



J501 **USA Brevet/National /Level 10 Judges' Course/Study Materials**
<https://txnawgj.org/index.php/education-and-testing/j501>
Free to current level 10 or above-rated judges for review

\$75 for judges testing up to level 10
10 CPE clinic hours (½ “live” credit / ½ “misc” credit)

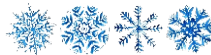
Xcel Program

Xcel Judges' Course/Study Materials – highly recommended, not required

[Xcel Program Practice Quiz](#) (posted 2018-12-11)

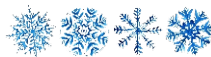
J110: 2021-26 [Women's Xcel Bronze/Silver/Gold Judges' Course](#); \$15
Rules, special requirements, and deductions
Practice judging routines with scripts of deductions
5 CPE clinic hours (½ “live” credit / ½ “misc” credit)

WJX1: [Xcel Bronze/Silver/Gold Judging Exam](#); \$25



Elite Compulsory Certification

WJEC: [Elite Compulsory Judges' Certification Course](#); Free
≈ 2.5 hours
2 CPE clinic hours (½ “live” credit / ½ “misc” credit)



TOPS Certification

WTJC: [Women's TOPS Judges' Certification](#); Free
2 CPE clinic hours (½ “live” credit / ½ “misc” credit)



HAPPY Hour Compulsories

Join Nancy Parker as she hosts the compulsory *Happy Hour!*

Happy Hour - L 1-5 Vault and Bars Thursday, January 11, 2024 7:00 - 9:00 PM CST

Happy Hour - L 1-5 Beam Thursday, January 18, 2024 7:00 - 9:00 PM CST

Happy Hour - L 1-5 Floor Thursday, January 25, 2024 7:00 - 9:00 PM CST

Look for an update regarding registration on the TxNAWGJ website

Stay tuned for upcoming dates and times for more  practice judging events

START NOW

2026-30 National and Brevet course eligibility forms

[National eligibility form](#)

[Brevet eligibility form](#)

NEW [Category Details, Explanations, and Logistics:](#)

Introduction Letter

Category Description & Eligibility Criteria Table

Documentation Form

Activity Involvement Chart

Leadership Approval Form

Presentation Table

Q&A Judges New Category System

Due between 2025-09-01 and 2025-11-01 12M EDT

Your 2023-24 annual [CPE record](#) is due to Bonnie Crawford no later than May 31, 2024



Welcome Molly Stuckey back from Africa

to our new judges!

District 2

Jordan Gray (returning) Arlington 4/5

Juliana Bouton Flower Mound . . 4/5

Theresa Downs Highland Village 4/5

Tiffany Winton Lewisville 10

District 5

Diane Callison (returning) . . . New Caney 4/5

Mauro Martinez Tomball 4/5

Valentina Malzoni Michelini . Tomball 4/5

Congratulations to these existing judges who achieved their new rating in 2023



LeighAnne Taylor . . 7/8

Anjela Kolarova . . . 9

Chanie Greer 9

Conner Payne 9

David Schafer 9

Jansen Hubbard . . 9

Braie Swann 10

Christina Barrett . . 10

Evgeniya Artemova 10

Silvia Markarian . . 10

Tiara Wilson 10

Alysse Loopstra . . 10

Janet Cochran 10



Congratulations to
Amanda Stroud Gagnon
for winning the Texas Green Flag award.

I first heard about the Happy Hour game at a local clinic I helped with in Houston. I thought it sounded like such a fun, interactive way to practice judge.

At this year's Houston Judges Cup some of the new level 9 and level 10 judges were talking about practice judging hours they needed, and I offered to host a Happy Hour.

We started with Level 9 bars, and after that first one we had a group of judges who were interested in playing a round for the rest of the events.

Hosting does take some preparation time, but with all the rules I have to keep straight it really helped me too! We ended up playing 10 routines on each event for level 9 and level 10. It was such a lively way to connect with fellow judges and prepare for optional season!

A little bit about me.....

Gymnastics has been a part of my life since I could walk. As an athlete, I spent four years on the US National Team and earned a gymnastics scholarship to the University of Florida. I received my first judge's rating while still in college and progressed to coaching, overseeing a large girls' program in Tampa, FL.

While coaching girls, I ventured into judging men's gymnastics. In 2013, I earned my FIG International Brevet for Men, and in 2018, I was the first woman to judge Men's NCAA Championships. Throughout the years, I consistently re-tested and maintained my Women's rating, and in 2021, I achieved FIG International Brevets for both Men's and Women's artistic gymnastics.

Currently, I judge all levels in both disciplines. I have many years of teaching and mentoring experience on the men's side, and I am happy to share my experience with the women's program in Texas!

Thanks so much. I am beyond honored to be a Green Flag recipient!

Amanda



[You can read more about Amanda's green flag award on the TxNAWGJ website](#)

Congratulations to **Katie Kuhleman**

I've always loved challenges and sarcasm so when I was scrolling social media and saw a virtual adult gymnastics competition called, "Everything Hurts" I thought it was funny and figured why not! I already worked at a gym so I just needed permission from the owner to use the gym to train and record.

For several weeks I would try to plan to work out with help for spotting and safety since it had been twenty years since I had done many of the skills. The plans kept falling through. With only a couple weeks remaining to submit my videos for the virtual competition I recruited the help of a former gymnast turned collegiate acro and tumbling base to help with vault and bars. We spent at least four hours at the gym on a Sunday afternoon working on relearning and perfecting skills. I recruited another coach and friend to help with floor and beam the following weekend and spent another upwards of six hours at the gym. In my living room at home I learned one of my own gymnasts floor routines that was created by Gelena Verucci and then perfected it at the gym. I never lost my ability to perform a back handspring on floor! The hardest event was bars because I had a terrible injury on a playground in Ukraine in 2004 and never quite recovered mentally, but I'm too competitive to have not participated in the All-Around. Something I had only had the opportunity to do three other times in my life.

I had my former gymnast and friend video my routines those two weekends and practiced until I was satisfied with the result and sent them to the organizers for the virtual competition *Everything Hurts Meet*. One very long week later I was notified of the results. I won 1st place all around with scores:

Vault 9.325, Bars 9.3, Beam 9.3, Floor 9.45, All Around 37.375

My husband was so proud of me that he made me a banner!



A little bit about me.....

I began taking gymnastics at the age of four in Middleburg Heights, OH at the YMCA. I quickly fell in love with the sport, but taking classes didn't last very long. I'd beg my parents to let me do gymnastics and I'd get to do gymnastics off and on through the Strongsville City Rec Center throughout elementary school. In middle school I was on the spirit team and the varsity cheerleading coaches knew who I was because of my older sister. I ended up getting to take a tumbling class at a private gymnastics gym with the varsity cheerleaders and the gym owner ended up letting me do gymnastics too. I tried out for the gymnastics team in high school and made it. I finally had a chance to compete once I got the skills required for what was probably considered modified Level 8 or 9. I got my floor skills first, followed by beam and vault, and then only competed a very sad bar routine once for a JV meet. I also got to compete all around in two AAU meets in Ohio when I was 18 years old. I actually skipped prom to compete. I ended up cheering in college at Indiana Wesleyan University so I could continue tumbling and was given a scholarship after receiving an invite to attend varsity camp.

I've continued to work in the sport both as a coach since high school and a judge after I moved to Texas. I attained my level 10 rating this past year and look forward to years of judging the talented athletes in Texas. While my husband, a fire fighter, and I are busy raising our 4 daughters and both working, there is always a lot of excitement and the days are filled with love and joy.



Supporting Texas at the National Judges Cup
Visit their website by clicking on their logo above

Mission: Snowflake Designs

We do not have salespeople – we have relationship people! Why? We know that gymnastics is not something a gymnast can do forever,

but we do know that you are forever a gymnast. We want you to come back when you are a gymnast, a mom of gymnasts, and a grandma of gymnasts!

Your friends at Snowflake will always be here and we look forward to continuing to serve you.

We are family owned, and gymnast run!