

VAWV NAWGJ MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 18, 2026

Location: Sheraton Oceanfront, Virginia Beach, VA

Call to Order: 12:06 PM

Adjournment: 3:00 PM

In attendance: Laurell Mauro, Summer Oostra, Kathy Atkinson, Barb Jirka, Dawn Talty, Tiffany Kirkham, Diane Berry, Sue Leonelli, Helen Reading, Chelci FitzDanos, Cari LeDoux

1. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

- **Motion:** Sue moved to approve the October 10, 2025 meeting minutes.
- **Second:** Tiffany.
- All members were in agreement.
- **Motion carried.**

October 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes

- **Motion:** Tiffany moved to approve the October 18, 2025 meeting minutes.
- **Second:** Sue.
- All members were in agreement.
- **Motion carried.**

2. SJD updates

- SJD email addresses will be changed to a **standardized email format**, consistent with National and Regional NAWGJ format. This will apply to the google suite as well for smooth transitions when there is a transition in officers.
- All SJD meetings will be in person moving forward.

3. GymJAS & NAWGJ PROFILES

Wild Apricot/NAWGJ profile

- Update your profile, i.e. rating
- If a membership lapses, you are not eligible to vote for 90 days **once you have renewed.**

GymJAS Profile

- Membership information in **GymJas** needs to remain updated (USAG membership, NAWGJ membership, Safety Cert, CPE etc), as this information is included on contracts.
- Members should ensure that **all information is current and accurate**.

4. SYMPOSIUM

- The upcoming **Symposium will be held in Kansas City, Missouri**.
- July 15-17, 2027

5. IN-GYM VISITS & INSURANCE

- Judges who do **non-sanctioned** gym visits should complete the Professional Activity Report form in **GymJas** so they can be covered by NAWGJ insurance.

6. NAWGJ POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- An updated **NAWGJ Policies and Practices for SJD's** resource is being developed.
- The **Judges Handbook** will be posted on VAWVNAWGJ website soon.

7. Testing and level changes/ GYMJAS

- Notify the SJD's if you have passed a new level for judging, so they can update your GymJAS profile

8. ASSIGNING

- Assigners are following the **assigning guidelines from USAG until the end of the year, while judges are retesting**.
- If a judge is specifically requested by a Meet Director but has **not completed the required testing**, assigners can assign that judge.
- Assignors continue to use the State Invitational Calendar for assigning priorities.

9. FUNDRAISING

Level 7 Qualifier

- **Aerial East** currently has 12 athletes they are sending to the Level 7 Qualifier.

- We will use the **State Meet as the method for selecting the Level 7 team**, similar to the current process used for Level 8.

Judges Cup

- There will be **two sessions of Judges Cup** this year.
- **Back judging** will continue to be available at camp.
- Due to lower enrollment, there will be **less fundraising revenue** this year.

Fundraising Motions

Motion 1 — Judges Cup Volunteer Benefit

- Anyone who volunteers for **one session of Judges Cup** will have their **NAWGJ dues paid for the following year**.
- **Moved by:** Tiffany
- **Seconded by:** Sue
- **Motion carried.**

Motion 2 — Two-Session Judges Cup Volunteer Benefit

- Anyone who volunteers for **two sessions of Judges Cup** will receive a choice of attending one of the following:
 - Symposium
 - State Meeting
 - Regional Congress
 - National Congress
- Reimbursement will be **up to \$150**.
- The request must be submitted by the **group registration deadline**, and the individual must be included in the **early-bird group registration and will need to pay any difference via PayPal**.
- If the individual is not included in the early-bird group registration, they **will not be reimbursed**.
- **Moved by:** Tiffany
- **Seconded by:** Sue
- **Motion carried.**

10. STATE MEETING

- 41 judges attending Saturday, 37 on Sunday

11. MEET FOLLOW UP SURVEYS

- SJD's will continue to send follow up surveys to Meet Directors and Meet Referees after each weekend.
- They are given the opportunity to set up a phone call with the SJD's if they don't want to put something in writing.
- SJD's follow up with concerns timely and professionally.

12. ETHICS

- Importance of judges presenting themselves professionally on the floor, in the judging room, in conversation.

13. CPE

- Morgan is doing an excellent job managing CPE.

14. EDUCATION

- **Mentor program** - the formal mentor program continues, helps facilitate new judges to test up.
- Offered multiple Zoom sessions for L10/Nationals test prep.
- Working on the L9 test prep, will be rolled out soon.
- Continue to follow up with compulsory ratings to encourage testing up.
- Discussed in-gym, brush up clinics for the fall.
- Back judging opportunity discussion.

15. BUDGET

- **November 1** marks the beginning of the new fiscal year.
- Members should refer to the **budget handout** for all budget-related materials.

Budget Motions

Motion 1 — SJD Travel to Kansas City

- Approve payment of **hotel and travel expenses** to send an SJD to Kansas City in **July 2027**.
- **Moved by:** Sue
- **Seconded by:** Tiffany
- **Motion carried.**

Motion 2 — Helping Hands

- Approve a **\$500 contribution to Helping Hands**.

- **Moved by:** Helen
- **Seconded by:** Diane
- **Motion carried.**

Motion 3 — National Judges Cup

- Approve **\$1,000 to send a judge to the National Judges Cup.**
- **Moved by:** Kathy
- **Seconded by:** Tiffany
- **Motion carried.**

16. GREEN FLAG

- **Green Flag nominees** must be submitted by **October 15, 2026 to the SJD's.**
- These nominations will be shared with the VAWVNAWGJ to vote on the VAWV Green Flag choice, this name will be forwarded to the RJD.

17. GRANTS & BUDGET MOTIONS

VA/WV NAWGJ Grant

- **Motion:** Approve up to **\$200 per judge** for judges experiencing financial hardship.
- Funds may be used for fees associated with **USAG & NAWGJ membership fees (including safety recertification and background checks), and pertinent materials needed for judging**, upon submission of receipts.
- **Moved by:** Kathy
- **Seconded by:** Sue
- **Motion carried.**

New Judge Funding / VA-WV NAWGJ Grant

- **Motion:** Combine the **\$1,000 to be used for both New Judge allocation and the VA/WV NAWGJ Grant.**
- **Moved by:** Helen
- **Seconded by:** Chelci
- **Motion carried.**

2026–2027 Budget

- **Motion:** Approve the **2026–2027 Budget.**
- **Moved by:** Tiffany
- **Seconded by:** Dawn
- **Motion carried.**

18. New Business

Communication:

- VAWV NAWGJ will try a **monthly newsletter/announcement** format to the website.
- Any information that needs to be included for the following month should be sent to **Cari by the 15th of the previous month.**
- Cari will organize the information and send it to the **SJDs by the following week for approval** and to be posted to the website.
- Members can **subscribe to the website** and receive notifications when new information is posted.

Fundraising discussion:

- The **first weekend of November** is reserved for NAWGJ events.
- Discussed multiple options for potential fund raising.
- **Proposal:** Form a **Fundraising Ad hoc Committee** to explore and develop additional fundraising opportunities.
- Need a fundraising committee to facilitate and plan options.
 - Judges could earn **volunteer hours at specific events** by assisting at meets that need volunteers, with NAWGJ receiving payment for the judges' volunteer hours.
 - Consider **hosting a meet as a fundraiser.**
 - Another idea discussed was a **\$25 head tax**, with a portion going to USAG and a portion going to NAWGJ.
 - A **summer meet** was also discussed as a possible fundraising opportunity.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at **3:00 PM.**

Meeting minutes unanimously approved by email vote 9/19/26