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July 1999 Issue

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# Jen's Journal (July 1999)

First of all, I would like to tell everyone how excited I am to be elected as your new State Judging Director. I am full of ideas and excited to begin my term. Thank you to Toni for all of the hard work she put in as SJD. She is an exceptional person and did a great job. I hope all of you take the time to express your appreciation. Toni is someone that I have looked up to and respected as a judge and as a person. I am sad to see her retire, but hope that her retirement is only temporary. There is a lot of information in this newsletter about the upcoming season, so please take the time to read it carefully. I look forward to seeing you all at Judges' Cup!

Jen

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## A Farewell Toni Talk (July 1999)

Hi everybody! I hope you are all enjoying your summer. Mine is flying by as usual. Jamie has again done a great job of gathering up all sorts of information for you so please take a little time to read through this newsletter. Please also make a special note of your new board members. These people have knowingly signed up to donate a lot of their time and effort to make our organization run. You should thank them when you see them. Also, please thank all of our outgoing board members. They have spent a lot of time serving you over the last two years.

On the leadership front, I'm sure you all know by now that Jennifer Shipman is our new SJD. I am very excited that Jen will be heading up our organization. Her intelligence, warmth, and depth of experience in gymnastics make her both a wonderful judge and a great person. (Chip off the old bock, right Patty? :-)) I hope you will all support Jen as she works to improve our organization and the gymnastics community in our state and region. She will represent us well.

As for me, you may also have heard that in addition to stepping down as SJD, I am also retiring from judging for the foreseeable future. This has been a very difficult decision for me since I love judging and will really miss seeing so many close friends on a regular basis. I remember walking into my first meet when I moved to California. I knew no one and kept wondering if I would someday be friends with any of the people wandering around the gym. Ten years later, I often think of that day when I walk into a meet and know just about everyone there. It's great! Right now, however, I really want to spend my weekends with my family. Marco is growing faster than I ever imagined, and I love being a mom.

I wish you all good luck in gymnastics and in life. I'll poke around at a meet or two next year to say hello and show off the kiddo.

Best wishes to each of you!!

**Toni**

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## PRESENTING... The New NorCal NAWGJ Board (July 1999)

I would like to thank the new Board Members for volunteering their time. I am excited and eager to work with such a great group of people.

Jen

Title	Name
State Judging Director	<a href="#">Jennifer Shipman</a>
Assigning Committee Chairman	<a href="#">PJ Slater</a>
Membership Services Coordinator	<a href="#">Cara Gibson</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	<a href="#">Patty Shipman</a>
Director of Training	<a href="#">Fran Earles</a>
Newsletter Editor	<a href="#">Jamie Ulloa</a>

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## NorCal NAWGJ Judge's Cup (July 1999)

# NorCal NAWGJ Judge's Cup

## August 21-22, 1999

### Technique Gymnastics

Please remember to respond to PJ Slater regarding your availability to volunteer at Judges' Cup by July 22, 1999. If you work 3 sessions, NAWGJ will pay your NAWGJ dues. If you work 6-7 sessions, NAWGJ will pay your USAG and NAWGJ dues.

One of the ways NAWGJ plans on using the funds raised at the Judges' Cup is to sponsor more clinics for all level judges to improve the quality of judging in NorCal. Please plan on volunteering to make sure that we have a successful meet.

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# Baby Talk (July 1999)

Congratulations to:

**Danielle Bunel** on the birth of her baby girl. **Sydney Alexis** was born on **May 7, 1999**, weighed **8 lbs. 12 oz.**, and was **20 inches** long.

Congratulation are also in order for **Lisa Schultz** on the birth of her baby boy. **Alexander Michael**, nicknamed **A.J.**, was born on **June 4, 1999**, weighed **6 lbs. 7 oz.**, and was **19 1/2 inches** long.

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## Recruiting New Judges (July 1999)

If anyone knows of people interested in becoming a judge, please send their name, phone number, and address to Jennifer Shipman. A new judge clinic will be held Wednesday, August 11th at 6:30 p.m. at Jen's house for people interested in testing compulsories at Congress. Please pass this news along.

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# Active Status Update (July 1999)

As of NOW... please send your active status cards and copies of your membership cards to Cara Gibson. We have not received many of your current cards, so please copy them and send them to Cara as soon as possible. Also be reminded that it is very important that you keep your SJD informed of any changes of your address or phone number.

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## Scores and Ethics Committee (July 1999)

NorCal and NAWGJ have formed a "Scores and Ethics Committee" to look at the trend of scores in NorCal and how we can work together and address the concerns. The judges on the committee are Jennifer Shipman, Cara Gibson, and Kristen Schrader. Please express any concerns you may have with one of those individuals, and they will be discussed at the next committee meeting . We will be sure to relay the information from the meetings and the actions we have decided to take to improve communication and other concerns that have been expressed.

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# Assigning News (July 1999)

by Patty Shipman

Contracting all the officials is a difficult, time consuming task at best. Just when you think it's all worked out, an eleventh hour crisis hits. Although, I think we've made some good strides toward refining the procedures and minimizing the crisis. With your continued cooperation, input, and support, I am confident PJ Slater will have us all working together like a well-oiled machine.

As I turn the responsibility over to PJ (Hooray!), a few necessities come to mind which will help assure her success.

- Respond to the availability request promptly and as thoroughly as possible providing as much information as you feel will help her out. To know so far in advance is difficult, we understand, but make your best estimation as to what you are willing to do. Remember, you will be assigned based on this response, but you will have a second look when you receive your actual contract.
- Maintain your current resume with the membership coordinator (now, Cara Gibson). She needs copies of your USAG membership card, NAWGJ membership card, JCI rating card, Safety Certification card, and your active status card. These items are a must to be considered eligible to judge, and PJ will be coordinating with Cara on this.
- Return your contracts in a timely manner. The sooner PJ knows if you have a change, the less of an emergency it is to deal with. Most importantly, if you do not return a signed contract, she has no way of knowing you have accepted the assignments.
- If you do not receive a postcard with the meet specific information two weeks prior to the meet, you should call PJ. She is your contact for information.
- Remember, the rules regarding judging and affiliations are very specific. It is your responsibility to indicate any potential affiliation problems.

Finally, I'd like to tell you all how much I have appreciated your cooperation, professionalism, and dedication. We have a great group of judges here in NorCal, and it has been my pleasure to work with you in the capacity of assigning chairman.

I want to particularly express sincere appreciation (and you should too) to Nancy Miller, Margie Schultz, and Laurie Skelton for their countless hours of work on our behalf over these years.

Now, as I move on to a different job on the board, I leave this one in PJ's capable and caring hands.

Patty

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## **Clinic Opportunities** (July 1999)

### **Level 4 Clinic**

The NorCal Board has decided to allow Level 4 to compete in compulsory meets. It seems as though it is an up and coming trend and could be beneficial to our sport. It is very important that we are prepared to judge this level. We will have a clinic on judging Level 4 Saturday morning, August 21st, prior to the first session of Judges' Cup. We will also briefly review Levels 5 and 6 if time allows. Please plan on attending. You can expect additional information to follow.

### **Connie Maloney**

Southern California NAWGJ is having a clinic on July 31, 1999 with Connie Maloney at Cal State Fullerton. We are invited to attend and share in the wealth of knowledge that Connie has to offer. If you are interested, please contact Sue Graff for more information.

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## Getting Prepared for the Upcoming Season (July 1999)

Here is a helpful list of necessary items to keep in your judging bag at all times provided by Judy Grenfell, a Brevet Judge from Missouri:

Judging Bag Checklist		
<input type="checkbox"/> FIG Code of Points	<input type="checkbox"/> Active status card	<input type="checkbox"/> Calculator
<input type="checkbox"/> USAG Technical Handbook	<input type="checkbox"/> Fee structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra hosiery
<input type="checkbox"/> USAG Supplement to Code of Points	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional rule interpretations (NCAA, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal items
<input type="checkbox"/> USAG Rules and Policies	<input type="checkbox"/> Judging sheets or pads	<input type="checkbox"/> Mints, tums, aspirin
<input type="checkbox"/> Pertinent minutes of committees (WTC, JO, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheat sheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Tissues
<input type="checkbox"/> Compulsory texts	<input type="checkbox"/> Scorekeeping forms	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership cards	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing implements	<input type="checkbox"/> Airline tickets, road maps, etc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Metric tape measure	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact phone numbers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Stop watch	<input type="checkbox"/> Other instructions or communications

Here is a great check list to keep any judge on their toes! Simply keep track of your memberships and scheduled meets to keep your membership and assigning chairmen free of stress, if that's possible! Special thanks to Judy Grenfell, once again.

### Seasonal Judging Check List

Annual:	Renewal Date:	Date Sent:
NAWGJ Membership	_____	_____
USAG Membership	_____	_____
JCI Rating	_____	_____
Active Status	(Dec. 31st)	_____
Safety Certification	_____	_____

Before Each Meet					
Scheduled meet dates	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Event assigned	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Return contract	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Study event	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Plan travel	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Check uniform	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Supply judging bag	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Inform family	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

At Meet

Attend entire judge's meeting

\_\_\_\_\_

Fill out judging sheets

\_\_\_\_\_

Check equipment

\_\_\_\_\_

Inform/Instruct assistants

\_\_\_\_\_

Prepare judging station

\_\_\_\_\_

After Meet

Check scores

\_\_\_\_\_

Sign score sheets

\_\_\_\_\_

Sign sanction form

\_\_\_\_\_

Wait for dismissal

\_\_\_\_\_

Express thanks

\_\_\_\_\_

Evaluate performance

\_\_\_\_\_

Notes

\_\_\_\_\_

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## **National Congress** (July 1999)

NorCal is extremely lucky to have National Congress in our "backyard". It is an experience that no one should miss. Since we are not having a Regional Congress or Symposium this year, it is very important that you attend. There are a lot of sessions offered and many wonderful clinicians. This is a great opportunity to attend educational sessions presented by well respected coaches and judges. It is also an opportunity to meet judges and coaches from all over the United States.

### **Volunteering at National Congress**

If you are interested in volunteering to work at Congress, please fill out the enclosed form and send it to the Sacramento Sports Commission, 106 K Street, Suite 330, Sacramento, CA 95814. You will be contacted by the Sports Commission with further information.

### **Level 5-10 Testing Opportunity**

The next testing opportunity will be at National Congress. All levels will be offered. The registration material will be available in the National NAWGJ Newsletter.

### **U.S. Championships Tickets**

In conjunction with Congress is the U.S. Gymnastics Championships at ARCO Arena. NorCal NAWGJ is planning on purchasing a block of tickets to Women's All-Around Finals to sell to NAWGJ members so that we can enjoy the event together. If you are interested in purchasing tickets through NAWGJ, please call or e-mail Jennifer Shipman by July 22, 1999.

### **Safety Certification**

There will be another opportunity for you to acquire or renew your Safety Certification at National Congress. Please contact USAG at 1-800-345-4719 or refer to any Technique publication to register for the course.

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# The Judges' Prayer (July 1999)

by Karen Stump, Missouri judge, soon to be NorCal judge

*Our gymnast who art in level seven hollowed by thy vault.*

*Thy layout come, Thy routine be done*

*On the beam as it is on the floor.*

*Give us this day, our special requirements*

*And forgive us our errors as we quickly decide if that was "THE" leap or "THE" cast.*

*And lead us not into a confusing situation*

*But deliver unto us routines that are simple*

*And with it, power, artistry and dynamics, forever and ever*

*Amen.*

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