



Gymnastics Australia
Women's Artistic Gymnastics

Judges Newsletter July 2004

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Olympic Squad and Olympic Team

Following National Championships in Sydney a squad of twelve athletes were selected to attend a one week training camp in Canberra. All athletes then went back to their programs for two weeks and attended the final training camp in Canberra for two weeks prior to the Olympic Selection trial in conjunction with National Clubs competition.

Squad:

Nicole Alexander	AIS
Belinda Archer	AIS
Danielle Kelly	QAS
Stephanie Lo Piccolo	VIS
Stephanie Moorhouse	VIS
Melissa Munro	AIS
Aleea Newton	VIS
Karen Nguyen	VIS
Monette Russo	VIS
Lynn Silcock	MLC
Lisa Skinner	QAS
Allana Slater	WAIS

This squad trained well over the two weeks and the competition for the team was strong. The selection trial was held over two days, detailed results are available on the GA website.

Allana scored 74.925 over the two day competition which gave her automatic selection into the team – Congratulations Allana.

Olympic Team

Allana Slater WAIS
Danielle Kelly QAS
Stephanie Moorhouse VIS
Melissa Munro AIS
Monette Russo VIS
Lisa Skinner QAS
Coaches: Peggy Liddick Head Coach,
Misha Barabach
Nicholai Lapchine
Xiaoli Tang
Vladimir Zakharov
Danica Mladenovic - Judge

Australian judges wish Danica all the best for this competition as A1 judge on beam.

Reserve: Karen Nguyen VIS Karen will be travelling to Germany to train with Shaoyi Jiang up until the competition begins, in readiness.

We wish the team good luck and all the best for this exciting competition.

State Judges' reports

NSW Judges' Report for Nationals 2004

All members of the NSW Judges' Assembly continue to be involved in many competitions run across the state. These include Region, State, School and Club Invitational events.

Education

The primary focus for 2004 is to educate judges on the new Levels Development Program. We held several updating sessions for Level 2 and above judges and three (3) Level 1 judges' courses have been completed with several more planned.

A Judges' School was run in February that included a Level 2, Level 3 and Level 1 updating sessions. Also a Level 3 and above judging workshop was completed. The State committee plans to run additional Level 1 and level 2 Courses for later in the year.

Judge Registration Numbers

The number of judges has remained constant.

Level 1206	National 1 & 2	30	
Level 295	National Sub Junior	10	(8 have other accreditation)
Level 321	FIG	6	
Total - 360			

New Initiatives

Liaison Personnel

Communication has always been a problem in this State. We have appointed four (4) judges who are experienced judges, have excellent communication skills, are respected member of the JA body, and are enthusiastic and positive about gymnastic judging. They are responsible for three regions and form a connection between the committee and the regions.

Discussion Point

We have a concern in the Level 2 area that only about 50% of candidates attain the required score at the courses. Most achieve with the Practical but have difficulty with the Theory. As we feel the theory paper has valid questions which a well prepared candidate should not have trouble with we propose

- to run preparation workshops for the candidates as we normally do for level 3 and above judges
- to extend the worksheets to make the candidate aware of what is involved

Anne Elsegood
NSW Judging Coordinator

Victorian WAG Judges Report May 2004

The following report has been divided into sections with information coming from the appropriate Judging Co-ordinator.

Level 1 – Evelyn Capper

Several Level 1 judges courses have been run on the new NDP this year. We now have approximately 80 newly accredited and/or updated Level 1 judges. Our State Pennant championship is looming and will be an interesting competition on the new routines. With the new course, it is now much more obvious when clubs prepare their candidates before they come to the course. We need to encourage this in future.

Level 2 – Sue Draper

There were 2 Level 2 courses held in the past year with approximately 40 successful candidates. Most panels were able to filled easily at Victorian Championships. The new level 2 candidates seem to be quite competent. It is good to see many coaches doing Level 2 courses although it makes rostering them on for competitions difficult when it has to fit around coaching commitments.

Level 3+ - Sue Synnot, International Judging Co-ordinator – Carol Weiss

This year has been successful with 1 Level 3 course held in February and 9 successful candidates. 3 judges upgraded their National qualification at the National course at Canberra Cup, but unfortunately, 2 of them cannot complete their accreditation at Nationals due to personal reasons. 3 judges also did the Sub-Junior course at Canberra Cup, 2 successfully and 1 yet to finalise her accreditation due to her coaching commitments. The numbers of gymnasts at Level 7-10 within the state seems to be decreasing but numbers at International 6, 8 and 10 have steadily increased. The judging numbers of the 2 streams are in opposition to the gymnast numbers and we need to address the low number of sub-junior and international judges to ensure we are always able to field panels for

competitions. We continue to encourage sub junior and international judges to regularly attend training sessions, as this is a vital part of the updating process and the only way to become consistent, knowledgeable judges. We endeavour to ensure that this commitment, while at times daunting, is fastidiously maintained.

Judges Invitationals – Sue Cowdell

The Judges Invitational competitions are still a valuable resource for gymnasts and coaches and a viable fundraiser for Nationals. Their popularity is such that we are looking to restructure them in future so that the demand can be met in reasonable length competitions.

Eastern Region – Liz Milkins

My role as the Eastern Regional Victorian Judges Coordinator is to assist Sue Draper where possible at competitions and to assist in the running of the level 2 judges courses, which we conduct twice a year. Also I am a first step for rural judges with any questions regarding any aspect of judging.

Western Region – Sue McConnell

A very successful new level 1 judges' course was held at Ararat during April with approximately 25 participants. The judges are embracing the new level 1 to 3 program well. A further Level 1 course for the western region is scheduled for June at Mildura. While no level 2 courses were held in the region, several judges from the region travelled to metropolitan courses to successfully upgrade to level 2.

The bar has been raised for judges in rural areas with more emphasis and support for remote learning. The greater availability of practice videos and a broader support network has greatly assisted judges in their practice judging even though they may not have regular access to gyms.

Thank you to all the Judging Co-ordinators for their work in 2003/4 and to our Treasurer Toni Myers, the quiet achiever.

Sue Synnot
WAG Judging Co-ordinator

WA Judges Report May 2004

Membership

Level 1	21
Level 2	8
Level 3	6
National	7
FIG	4

Education

Regional Level 1 course held 28th/29th February 10 candidates
Metro Level 1 course held 1st/2nd May 7 candidates
Metro Level 2 course held 1st/2nd May 2 candidates
The level 3 course for this year was cancelled due to lack of participants. There are still some current judges who have not attended a NDP course .

Judges Payments

FIG & National \$15.00 per session
Level 3 \$13.50 per session
Level 2 \$10.00 per session
Level 1 & assistants, volunteers no payment

Issues of Concern

1. Equal representation of States for senior/junior panels
2. Selection of judges for National teams. At the FIG course it was stated that no category 4's would travel this cycle and yet one was chosen for Pacific Alliance. What are the selection criteria for these events?

Pam Pryce
WA WAG Judging Co-ordinator

Information re 2005 code of points

Unofficial information re the 2005 Code of Points, please refer to new Code when received.

All Start Values begin from 9.00

VAULT

Increased Value

3.304 9.2
4.305 9.2
2.502 9.9
3.505 10.00

Decrease Value

5.408 9.2
5.409 9.3
5.509 9.5 All are permitted a 270° entry with no deduction

Deleted

3.306
3.307
3.407

UNEVEN BARS

Difficulty

Glide kip and long hang kip are different

3.201 now 'B'

All elements with 540° will be lowered one value part if there is a break in rhythm between ½ & 1/1 or 1/1 & ½

7.411 now 'E'

8.407 now 'E'

SR

delete 3,6,7

Connection Bonus

C+D (C must show flight or turn) +0.10

D+D +0.10

D+D +0.20 (if both elements are flight on the same bar;

ok

to repeat flight element eg. Tkatchev)

D+E +0.10 (if neither element shows flight)

D+E +0.20 (one element must have flight)

Deductions

If legs straddle to handstand then deduct 0.05 each time

If element with turn is followed by non flight element then deduct:

10° – 45° 0.10

45° – 90° 0.20 (for the lateness of the turn)

If element with turn is followed by flight element then deduct:

10° – 45° 0.00

45° – 90° 0.10 (for the lateness of the turn)

BALANCE BEAM

Difficulty

Delete Star jump 2.102

7.202 now 'C'

9.507 now 'E'

SR

Delete 180 split requirement must be different

Connection Bonus

	0.10	0.20
Acro Back/Front & Front/ Back	C+D	
Mixed	C+D	
Acro in one direction	<u>On BB</u> C+C/D	C+C+C (can all be same)
	B+E	D+D/E
	B+B+DB+B+E	B+C+D
	<u>Dismount</u> B+B+D/E	B+C+D

FLOOR

Difficulty

Delete 1.309, 1.409

1.409 now 1.302 value 'D'

All 'A'saltos are 'B'

2.402, 2.302 minimum leg requirement is at horizontal only

SR

Delete dance 'B' turn

Dance series must both show 180 split (jump or leap)

Connection Bonus

	0.10	0.20
Indirect Acro	C+D	C+E
Direct Acro	B+B+D	
	(B's can be same)	

Physio: Keren Faulkner

Training

On arrival very late at night into Hawaii we were organised into our hotel which was satisfactory (but certainly not 5 star!) then channelled through the accreditation system.

Training the next day was on the "podium" or really just the competition apparatus. The venue, University of Hawaii, was quite a good size but too small to hold all men's and women's equipment at the same time. So each day there was a change over of equipment so that the men could have their podium training alternating with the girls.

The other training hall was a large basketball stadium outside the main venue which was set up with comparable equipment.

The Australian girls had been through the training camp in Canberra for the previous two weeks and were well rehearsed in their training schedule. They got on with the job when they arrived and looked a professional and impressive team.

Most of the other teams trained from the Tuesday when we arrived and the standard of skills is broad at this type of event as well as the standard of efficiency in training. Many teams waste time or do not complete all skills in their routines, or have many falls and therefore do not get through a whole routine. This makes it difficult from a judge's point of view as you don't really have full routines recorded and the start scores evaluated.

The US team arrived a day later after their training camp, they also looked polished and confident. Some of the skills performed were exceptional, and their aggressive nature during training is very impressive.

Team and Finals Competition

The junior team competition was closely fought with the US ending in first place, China second and Australia third.

The senior team competition was exciting with USA clearly first with a score of 112.580, Australia second with 109.530 and China third with 108.763.

Vault: An exciting event with a dynamic Yurchenko 1 ½ twist performed by Elsa Garcia from Mexico and a Jana Bieger USA to tie for first place. Aisha Gerber CAN also performed a Yurchenko 1 ½ twist to place third. All three athletes demonstrated amazing power and dynamics for juniors on vault.

In the senior competition Alicia Sacramone USA scored 9.55 with a powerful Yurchenko double twist, a group of gymnasts had 9.70 start score vaults with final scores ranging from 9.45 and below. Many gymnasts competed the full on - pike back salto off, something that may not be as popular on the new code.

Bars: Once again the USA was strong on this event with some amazing skills and combinations. The Chinese gymnasts once again showed their superb technical skills with their routines. Yufei Zhang scored 9.65 in the bar final with a combination of stalder full, Bi (L giant fwd with 1/1 turn on one arm) L giant full, geinger, pak (D + E + D + D+ D = 1.2 in difficulty and connection bonus!!) Katie Heenan USA won the final with a score of 9.712 who had jump h;st mount, shap, shoot h'st to LB, toe on toe off full, hiccup (a mere .8 in bonus), she was very exciting and dynamic in her execution. Allana placed third in this prestigious company.

Beam: This event was the “pay everything” event and many gymnasts received start scores that may not have been awarded here in Australia. Some dodgy connections and technically incomplete skills were awarded bonus. Carly Patterson USA once again showed her skills on beam to win this event with 9.787. She did her Arabian double salto dismount to receive a super E and 0.3 bonus. Yufei China was beautiful, change leg leap, ring jump, full twisting korbut in series, ro, flip layout salto in series, then aerial wo, one arm flip, korbut as her third series and finishing with flic, flic double tuck dismount. Again Allana placed third with a strong routine.

Floor: The 4 US competitors were very confident and performed their floor routines with exceptional acrobatic skills and the standard dance skills and connections. Nastia Liukin was fantastic with a full in double back tuck, double pike and triple twist. Jana Beiger is a strong and dynamic tumbler and her routine opened with a double Arabian, then a double front tuck, front tuck with full twist ro flic 2 ½ twist and a double pike at the end. She is a very strong gymnast although her dance skills were not pretty.

The senior floor final was won by Carly Patterson with her powerful tumbling - full in, double Arabian 2 ½ twist layout front, double pike to finish and a score of 9.725. Alyse Ishino USA scored with a 9.80 start score, she is a dynamic and clean performer.

Brenda Magano MEX displayed her power with double layout, double Arabian, full in double pike and double pike to finish. She certainly has the jumping gene, unfortunately she had a few execution faults to lower her score.

Judges meeting

The judges meeting was scheduled one hour prior to the competition which did not give us much time to get together as a panel, although the judges panels had been distributed earlier so we knew what we were judging in the team competition.

New elements were submitted and Alyce Arrowsmith was accredited with a C value for her full turning flared leap to front support. It was awarded a C value although we are not confident that it will receive this value at any other international competition. This skill should be evaluated again to ensure we are correct in giving it a C value. As no connection bonus will be gained on floor on the new code it is irrelevant for the future if this skill is awarded a C or B value. The only other element submitted for valuation was from Canada, the gymnast does a front gainer front aerial and this was awarded D value. This was a really pretty skill and is considered different to a normal front aerial.

Full results are available on the USGF website.

Jill Wright

Information re National Levels videos for States

Videos taken at National Championships for Level 7 – 10 finals have been copied and distributed to all State Judging Co-ordinators. Also the International Level 6, 8 and 10 routines, Junior and Senior competition have been sent to all States.

All judges should have the opportunity to borrow these tapes for viewing and practice judging.

Many thanks are extended to Karen Myers and the GA office for this service as well as all the video operators who sat through the competitions pressing record and stop!