

1. BACKGROUND

The standard of judging in Australia is of an exceptionally high standard, however in order to provide a clear pathway for judges, to preserve this high standard and to offer opportunities to developing judges, the WAG National SMC has developed a Succession Plan. This plan will provide a clear pathway by outlining responsibilities and the process of selection of FIG Judges to attend Continental and Intercontinental Judges Courses.

2. PURPOSE

- To provide a pathway for FIG judges
- To provide a greater opportunity for more judges to reach FIG 1 Status
- To identify the qualities necessary to move through this pathway
- This pathway has been developed to ensure that the judging in Australia reflects the same professional standard as that demonstrated by our athletes and coaches

3. PATHWAY

To achieve an FIG Brevet, a judge (National 1/National Sub Junior (International Level 6 & 8) or by invitation) must first complete a Continental Judges Course, which allows them achieve FIG 4 accreditation. Currently the commitment required to reach FIG1 status is at least 16 years (4 Olympic Cycles) and it also involves attendance at 2 Intercontinental Judges Courses.

Continental Judges Course – A continental judges course is an international course that is held in Australia at the beginning of each cycle for Australian Judges. Any National 1 or National Sub Junior judge (International Level 6 & 8) may attend the course and there is also the possibility of invitations being extended to coaches and ex-athletes. This course is usually run over 4 days. Candidates will be responsible for all course costs (flights, accommodation, meals, course fee).

Intercontinental Judges Course – An Intercontinental Judges' Course is held at the beginning of each cycle, hosted by a National Federation and run by the FIG Women's Technical Committee. The number of judges per Federation able to attend this course is determined by the FIG (Usually 4 – 5 judges FIG 2 and above). Judges are selected by Gymnastics Australia to attend this course and then called upon to assist in the running of the Continental Course and National Judges' Courses held within Australia. Gymnastics Australia will fund the attendance of a set number of judges to this course.

The following diagram indicates the steps required for a judge entering the pathway as a National 1 or National Sub Junior judge (International 6 & 8) needs to reach FIG 1 status.

It is the aim of Gymnastics Australia's Women's Program to have 2 FIG 1 judges accredited at all times.

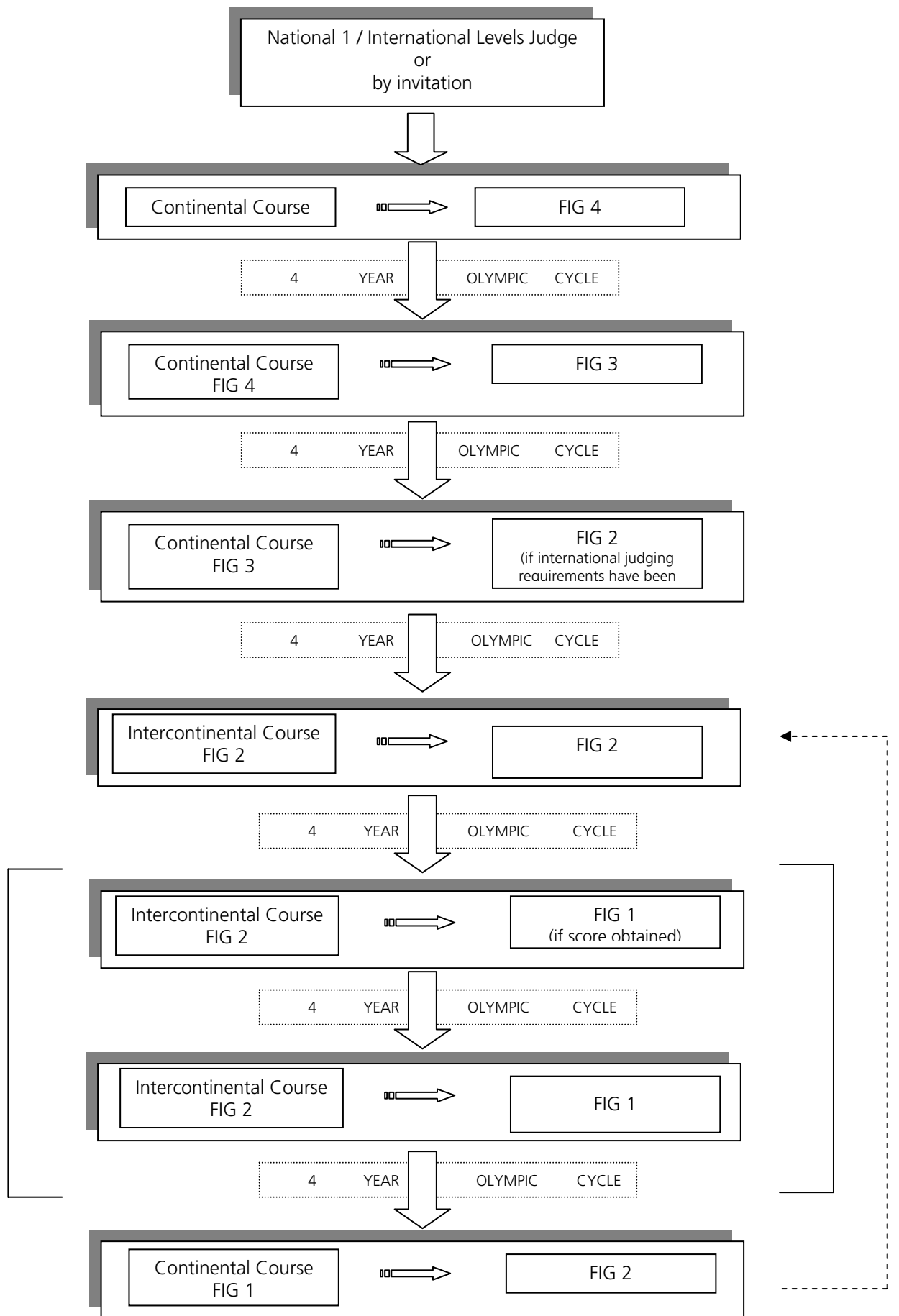
This pathway provides an opportunity for judges to achieve a term as an FIG 1. A 2 cycle limit for judges to remain FIG 1, is indicated in the plan to allow the succession of judges.

Should there be no appropriate candidates at FIG 2 in Australia to succeed a current FIG 1 judge, then they may be considered for an additional cycle.

Attendance at an Intercontinental Course is a privilege and it is expected that the judges who are selected to represent Australia at these courses, are extremely well prepared with the view to becoming a FIG 1 judge.

Judges must fulfill all requirements listed in the FIG Judges' Responsibilities, as outlined in this document to maintain the support of Gymnastics Australia through the pathway.

Enter Pathway



4. SELECTION OF JUDGES TO ATTEND A CONTINENTAL JUDGES COURSE:

The attendance at a Continental Judges Course is open to all National 1 or National Sub Junior Judges (International Level 6 & 8). Invitations may also be extended to coaches and ex-gymnasts who the National WAG Selection Committee feels are appropriate candidates for the course.

Judges who wish to be selected for travel with Australian teams must have program endorsement, must achieve a minimum score and be actively involved in judges' education in their State. Participants who do not meet these criteria may only achieve a non-traveling accreditation.

All applications for entry to the Continental Course must also be endorsed by your State Judging Co-ordinator and the General Manager/Executive Director of your State Association.

5. SELECTION OF JUDGES TO ATTEND AN INTERCONTINENTAL JUDGES COURSE:

The selection of judges to attend an International Judges' Course will be via the following process:

The Women's National Judging Co-ordinator will make recommendations to the National WAG Selection Committee for approval. These nominations will then be ratified by the WAG SMC and GA Board.

Number of judges attending an Intercontinental course will be determined by:

- No. allowed per country by the FIG
- Funding provided by Gymnastics Australia
- Brevet Level required by FIG

Selection of Judges to attend will be based on:

- Availability and attendance at National and International Events held within Australia
- Displayed commitment to and the fulfillment of the FIG Responsibilities listed below (No. 7)
- Regular attendance and assistance at training sessions of an appropriate level
- Commitment and enthusiasm displayed toward the direction of the WAG National Program

6. FIG JUDGING ALLOCATIONS & GYMNASTICS AUSTRALIA JUDGING POOLS

Following the Cycle XI Intercontinental and Continental Judges Courses judges will be awarded an FIG Judging Brevet for this cycle. The WAG Selection Committee will nominate judges into 4 pools (independent of FIG Category) based on the following criteria :

Continental Course Exam Results (practical results bearing more weight)

Judging Experience

Attachment to a High Performance Program – Commitment and support demonstrated throughout previous cycles to a High Performance Program and practical assistance provided to this program when required

Shown support of the National Program – Commitment and support demonstrated throughout previous cycles to the National Program

Political savvy – Knowledge and awareness of political strategies and influence that may occur at international events

Pool allocations will be revised through out the cycle, there is flexibility to move between the pools and this is reviewed annually. The pool allocated to each judge will determine the type of events they will be eligible to be nominated to judge.

INTERNATIONAL A

Intercontinental Course participants

FIG WTC Representative

INTERNATIONAL B

Judges who consider they satisfy all of the above criteria and are actively involved within a High Performance Program may nominate for inclusion into the International B judges' pool. In order to do this they must:

- submit a nomination to GA. This must be endorsed by the Head Coach of a High Performance Centre.
- send verification of updating to the National Judging Coordinator (via GA) every 3 months . If this is not maintained judge's position in the International B pool may be reassessed by the Selection Committee

All nominations will be considered by the GA WAG Selection Committee for final ratification.

NATIONAL A

Judges who satisfy all or some of the above criteria, and have regular and ongoing contact with a High Performance Program(s) . To maintain National A, verification of updating must be sent to the National Judging Coordinator (via GA) on the first of April each year.

NATIONAL B

All other FIG judges

NATIONAL EVENTS

Panels will be structured giving priority based on the following:

Australian Championships and National Club Championships

Senior and Junior International - International A and B; National A (B Panel only)
International Level 10 - International A and B; National A and B

Selection Trials (not attached to a National Event)

Senior and Junior International - State Nominated position giving priority to International A and International B judges. Should the nominated judge be unavailable, an alternate judge may be nominated by the State for invitation by the WAG Selection Committee. If this judge is not acceptable/suitable/suitably qualified the WAG Selection Committee may nominate another judge from that State.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Panels will be structured giving priority based on the following:

International Competitions held within Australia

Senior and Junior International - International A & B
National A & B judges may be considered should positions be available. Judges should indicate their availability to the National judging Co-ordinator.

International Competitions held outside of Australia

Senior and Junior International - International A & B

7. FIG JUDGES RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide clear and public demonstration of your commitment to the GA Board and its objectives, including all office bearers, National Coach and the philosophy of the WAG National Program.
- Present a positive view and opinion of Australian Gymnastics and gymnasts both within Australia and overseas.
- Conduct yourself in a professional manner that is consistent with the values and ethics of Gymnastics Australia.
- Undertake judging duties on behalf of Gymnastics Australia within Australia at National and International competitions, as and when required.
- Contribute to the best of my skills and ability in judge education in Australia, as and when required.
- Lead and assist in the development and presentation of Judges' education within my State and at a National level when required.
- Support and participate in judging at competitions within my State and at a National level when required.
- Judge conscientiously and fairly, at all times, with no regard for the Nation, State or gymnast.
- Attend training for a minimum of **70 hours per year**, at the international level
- Have my attendance at training verified by the Head Coach at a High Performance Centre or the National Coach
- Record all my officiating and updating hours in a judges' log book, which I will submit to Gymnastics Australia for part requirement of re-registration each year.
- Assist when and where requested within a High Performance Centre for the improvement of the structure and performance of gymnasts' routines.
- Attend training camps as an observer when possible, and when requested.
- Attend the training camp for the tour to which I am allocated when required by the Head Coach.

Please note the following conditions:

- Judges who have not completed updating requirements will not be eligible to judge at State or National events.
- Judges must submit their updating log book to the National Judging Co-ordinator prior to renewal of Technical membership.
- The number of hours gained at any one event may not exceed 15.
- Judging on the floor does not count as updating hours, but observation of training during an event is acceptable.

