

JUDGES TRAINING COMMITTEE (JTC)

REPORT TO THE BOARD January 2015

REGION & STATE	COMMITTEE MEMBERS	ROTATE OFF
2-CA	Tim Norman	Dec. 2015
	Vacant	
5-NY	Jennifer Sanderson	Jan. 2017
1-OR	Linda Colville	March 17
8-MS	Chris Rowley	Jan. 2015
7 – NM	Rebecca Mumpower	Oct. 2016
4-OH	Doug Bragg	Jan. 2015
8 -VA	Jason Overman	April 2017

COMMUNICATION:

- I was appointed INTERIM CHAIR on April 25, 2014.
- I provided Judges Exam and Judges Clinic information to the convention host for the June 2014NPGA Convention.
- The JTC, as a committee, is now making a proposal to the board.
- I have made contact with the host of the 2015 Convention to start the planning process and requirements for the 2015 Judges Clinic, JE and ConEd.

· **Continuing Education (ConEd):**

Four judges attended the ConEd given at the 2014 Convention.

There were two judges who were given extensions and now must attend the 2015 ConEd to meet their NPGA license requirements. (Elkins, White).

Zarski did not meet the requirements set forth by NPGA and is no longer a licensed NPGA Judge.

5 of the 8 JTC members were present for the JE.(Sanderson, Norman, Colville, Rowley, Overman) Kress also attended at Interim Chair.

2014 Judging Clinic

April Seiler was the NPGA Clinician and Kevin Kress was the assistant Clinician. 2 people took the clinic and one auditor.

2014 Judging Exam:

Two candidates took the exam and neither passed.

BOARD PROPOSALS:

Procedure of JTC:

As JTC Chair I manage the committee just as the current NPGA Board President resides over the board. Ideas, thoughts, questions and issues are brought to my attention or the attention of a JTC member. I then propose the question to the Committee and allow them to formulate an answer through discussions. Only majority rule proposals are included in the JTC's report to the board. Unresolved or disputed issues are not presented to the board. Every JTC member's ideas and thoughts are incorporated into the final proposal that I include in this report. In an effort to make the JTC's proceedings transparent to the board, I will include the names of the JTC committee members that voted for each proposal and those that were non-responsive. This disclosure is meant to help the board understand the JTC's procedures and processes.

Below you will find the committee's proposals and each JTC member who approved the proposal for the board's consideration. There are 7 JTC members(one empty slot) and 1 Chair, though only 7 votes have been cast for each proposal since **the chair does not vote**.

The JTC kindly requests the board's approval of the following proposal. The entire JTC, as a unit, endorses these proposals by majority rule.

Topic 1: Minimum number of candidates in order to have a JE at the annual convention.
Approved: Bragg, Colville, Mumpower, Norman, Sanderson. No Vote: Overman . Non-Responsive: Rowley. Proposal Passes 5 yes to 1 no.

Currently there is no rule that requires a minimum number of candidates be required for a convention host to have a JE. With NPGA membership declining, and the incredible cost to put on a JE, NPGA must analyze the need for an annual JE. As pointed out by Past Chair Tim Norman, "We have had past experience when we have skipped a year due to a lack of interest and we found that the skipped year did infuse interest the next year. I think the question should assess our current number of judge to the need and, if we are doing well in that regard, maybe we skip a year." The cost to NPGA to host a JE is about \$5,000.

Pros: *NPGA and the Convention host will save money (\$5000 for NPGA, Site rental costs for the Convention host \$500-\$1000).

*Balancing the number of judges vs. the need. Keeping the ratio between shows given vs. the number of judges available.

*Increased interest for candidates in subsequent years.

*Saving money and time for volunteers putting on the Judges Clinic, and JE.

Cons:

- Some regions might not host a JE on their given Convention year.

Facts: NPGA currently has 57 licensed judges, 55 of which are active. There are plenty of judges to cover the number of shows given in a year. The NPGA spend about \$5,000 a year to

cover the costs of the JE and the JTC. The convention host should keep between 75-100 goats in order to put on the clinic and JE. There must be about 20 handlers to cover the required needs of the JTC for the clinic and JE. To put on a Clinic and JE requires a lot of volunteer time, goats, and monies spent without reimbursement. About \$10,000 is spent by NPGA members to host and put on a Clinic and JE. This includes extra hotel night, food, fuel, facility rentals, etc.

In 2014, the two candidates for the JE were NOT from the host region.

Conclusion:

The JTC Requests that a minimum number of JE candidates be required in order to host a Judges Clinic and JE. The following Language be added/alterd in the Rules and Regulations.

10.B.

Written Test (07-11) 1. The fee to take the test is \$25.00. If not passed, the written test may be retaken no less than 10 days apart for an additional \$25.00 each time. Candidates must have passed the written test at least **60** days before the Judging Exam. (04-16)

Reason: This text not included. This allows time for preparation and airline ticket purchase, 8 weeks prior, currently 3 weeks prior, does not allow for airline ticket purchase.

8 weeks to Register. All Candidates should be ready and able to proceed in this time frame.

10.C.6. A minimum number of FOUR candidates must have met the requirements set forth in 10.B.1. in order to facilitate the Judges Clinic and the JE. If this required FOUR Candidates are not registered with their fees at least 53 days prior to the Judges Clinic, the Judges and JE shall not occur at the National Convention.

10.D.2.The fee to take the test is \$50.00. Candidates must register to take the Practical Test at least **53** days before the JE. Candidates must be on time for and attend all day of both days of the JE until released by the JTC.

10.D.7.A minimum number of FOUR candidates must have met the requirements set forth in 10.B.1. in order to facilitate the Judges Clinic and the JE. If this required FOUR Candidates are not registered with their fees at least 53 days prior to the Judges Clinic, the Judges and JE shall not occur at the National Convention.

The ConEd for Current Judges would still be held at each Convention.

Topic 2: Create job description for NPGA Judges and stand alone document for Judges Code of Ethics.

Approved: Brag, Sanderson, Overman. No Vote: Colville, Mumpower, Norman . Non-Responsive: Rowley. Proposal has NO action 3 yes to 3 no.

Facts:

The submission by Leman, Proposal: Create a job description for NPGA Judges and create a stand alone document for the Judge's Code of Ethics, to include and incorporate those found at 10.A.4 and 10.E.3.a-h.

Currently there are two documents that specifically address the Ethics and responsibilities of Judges: The Judges Pledge, The Code of Ethics For Judges. As well as judges are to be held accountable under the Code of Ethics for NPGA Members.

Further clarification is needed from the board is this proposal for a "Job Description" or a merger of the Code of Ethics document for Judges.

The JTC was divided as to any action on this proposal and therefore no majority was found. The vote was 3-3.

A Job description might be difficult to build and enforce. Currently the JTC has not course of action to deal with any issues that might arise. The Chair and the committee can discuss issues that are presented, based on competency judge issues, but as of now, a formal complaint must be filed with the compliance committee.

No action to be taken at this time.

JTC CHAIR NOTE:

The Committee Members request that the board review this report and discuss its contents with their region. The JTC members request that you direct your discussion and questions to me as the Chair and I will do my best to address any concerns. Please, come to the JTC directly and do not presume answers. This committee, as always, has discussed the pros and cons of every proposal and, with a majority rule vote, presents these items for acceptance.

Thank you for your time and dedication to NPGA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Kress

Judges Training Committee Chairperson
December 2014

Report Reviewed and Approved by the JTC: Normam, Colville, Mumpower, Bragg, Sanderson, Rowley. Overman: comments, no formal approval.