

# Illinois NAWGJ

**ILLINOIS BOARD**

**Jeanne Johnson**  
 Illinois State Judging  
 Director  
[ilsidjean@att.net](mailto:ilsidjean@att.net)

**Mary Lou Ackman**  
 North Assigner  
[mlouackman@yahoo.com](mailto:mlouackman@yahoo.com)

**Billie Stone**  
 South Assigner  
[cesbls5152@aol.com](mailto:cesbls5152@aol.com)

**Cathy Peebles**  
 South Judges Cup  
[cathypeebles@comcast.net](mailto:cathypeebles@comcast.net)

**Betty Axelson-McClelland**  
 North Judges Cup  
[eggsgymbetty@aol.com](mailto:eggsgymbetty@aol.com)

**Linda McDonald**  
 Website/Newsletter  
[leendamac@yahoo.com](mailto:leendamac@yahoo.com)

**Sue Brosnan**  
 Administrative Assistant  
[judge25@juno.com](mailto:judge25@juno.com)

**Cyndi Zimmerman**  
 Treasurer and Profes-  
 sional Benefits  
[gymmom4@aol.com](mailto:gymmom4@aol.com)

**Carrie Marquardt**  
 Education Chair  
[carrie.marquardt@gmail.com](mailto:carrie.marquardt@gmail.com)

**Mary Kraus**  
 Ethics  
[mary.kraus@comcast.net](mailto:mary.kraus@comcast.net)

**IL Test Administrator**  
**Hilary Carlson**  
[hilarycarlson@comcast.net](mailto:hilarycarlson@comcast.net)

**A NOTE FROM YOUR SJD**

Region 5 Congress is coming up. I am looking forward to seeing so many friends. The Congress schedule looks great! The Illinois NAWGJ Board is hosting an open NAWGJ Meeting. The meeting will be Saturday morning at 8:00am. There will be a meeting room secured for Illinois NAWGJ at the congress site. Send in topics to be discussed as this meeting is for you. E-mail both Jeanne and Sue Brosnan. Also, for those judges that officiate college, the JAS system is up and running. You may go on-line to start the 2010 competitive season. Good luck in the 2009-2010 gymnastics season!

Jeanne Johnson

**2009 JUDGES CUP**

\*THANKS TO OUR BOARD MEMBERS for contacting clubs to help meet our goal of getting more clubs to come to the meets or THANK THEM for always supporting our South/North Judges' Cup meets. If any of our members work for or with a club, it's not too late to still encourage them to participate in our meets! We greatly appreciate any help all of our judges can lend to our goal of ALL ILLINOIS CLUBS bringing gymnasts to this "jump start" meet of the season!

**\*DATES OF JUDGES' CUP:**

**SOUTH JUDGES' CUP- OCT. 3,4**

**NORTH JUDGES' CUP- NOV. 13,14,15**

## NORTH AND SOUTH JUDGES CUP

---

**\*VOLUNTEER SPIRIT:** There are 21,000 volunteers for the Chicago 2016 Committee, and Chicago hasn't even gotten the bid! If they can get that many people to help with something that may not even happen, I would think that we certainly could get MOST of our judges to volunteer for the South and North Judges' Cup meets! This is our only fundraiser, and you really aren't a volunteer, since you do **GET PROFESSIONAL BENEFITS!** When the Judges' Cup Meet first started, everyone was truly a volunteer. None of us got anything except the satisfaction that we were contributing to an organization that does so much for us and the love of the sport! Now we are fortunate enough to be able to give you back something for your time and dedication, and we want to strive every year to keep this going by making the meet bigger and better.

This year we are offering the coaches the choice of verbal OR written critiques of their gymnasts (in response to coaches' requests). So if you are doing critiques, you may still be talking a lot, or writing a lot, depending on what the coaches would like!

**Our perks this year for the coaches AND JUDGES:**

**South Cup:** Party after the Sat. night session for coaches and judges (food, drinks, etc.) at Cathy Peebles' house, and then on Sunday, a chocolate fountain in the Hospitality Room.

**North Cup:** Friday late afternoon- **TAILGATE PARTY** for coaches and JUDGES, with steaks, chops, ribs, burgers, etc. grilled right outside the Hosp. room, and if the weather permits, a few fun games outside in the back of the gym. On Sat. and Sun. afternoon, there will be a **chocolate fountain in the Hospitality Room**. We realize that not everyone will be able to come down Fri. for the tailgate party, but we hope that maybe we'll get a few more judges that might be able to beat the traffic and come down early and enjoy this before the meet starts.

**\*The revised critique booklets and the Coaches' Handbook** that every club gets are a work in progress and we hope to be finished with them in the next few weeks. A BIG THANK YOU TO ARLENE NORRIS (alias the FOX), who is presently working on the Optional revisions! We have a new format for the compulsories that we hope will be faster and simple, yet informative for the coach and gymnast.

**\*If you have a prior commitment and are unable to work the North or South Cup, please contact Cathy Peebles or Betty Axelson-McClelland to find out if there is anything you can do to help prior to the meet. You do get Prof. Benefits for any project that involves some time. A good example of this is the South Cup is still planning to have baskets for an additional fundraiser, so if you can help with this project, contact Cathy Peebles for what is involved (this is all on an individual basis).**

**\*NEW AWARDS:** Jeanne has been working hard to get the keepsake medallion finalized, but we are very excited about this unique award that all gymnasts get instead of a T-shirt or tank as in the past.

**\*For both the North and South meets, judges are asked to bring any kind of homemade dessert, appetizer, etc. to the Hospitality Rooms. North Cup judges- NO more dragging pop and water to the meet. Last year's lousy weather made it a real pain, so we thought if you are willing to bring something to eat that's EASY to bring, that would be better. If you don't cook, there's always something from a bakery, etc. that would go over big in the Hosp. room! THANK YOU ALL IN ADVANCE FOR ANYTHING YOU MAY WANT TO BRING!!**

**\*HOTEL INFO:** Any judge needing to make hotel arrangements for the South Cup, please contact Cathy Peebles. For the North Cup, our hotel again is the Best Western Countryside, 6251 Joliet Rd., Countryside, Il. 60525, just 15 miles (25 minutes) from UIC. It offers free parking & hot breakfast, exercise room, indoor pool, and is close to fine dining, fast food, the Quarry Mall and Oakbrook shopping mall. If judges need a room for Fri. and/or Sat. night, please contact LEIGH ANN KLAUS by OCT. 29 at 630-262-1627 or [rgklak@comcast.net](mailto:rgklak@comcast.net) so she can make the reservation for you.

**\*A word from Jeanne: Remember our Judges' Cup meets are about hospitality, and the gymnasts and coaches are our guests. We want to make a correction or clarification gracefully. The goal is to inform, refine, and establish a rapport.**

**\*MOST IMPORTANTLY, SAVE THESE JUDGES' CUP DATES AND PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP AS MUCH AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN!**

**THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO MAKE THE 2009 JUDGES' CUP MEETS THE BEST EVER!!!!!!!!!!!!**

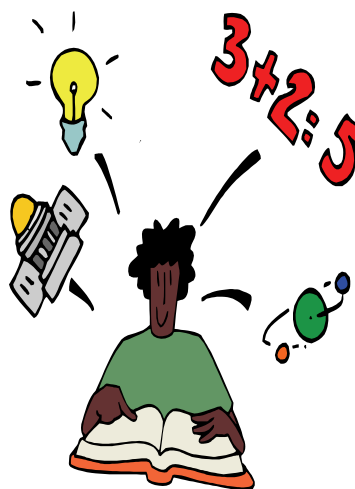
## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR ASSIGNERS

By now, you should have received the 2009-2010 Judge's Availability Letter, your login (USAG#) and password from me. If you have not, please email me at [mlouackman@yahoo](mailto:mlouackman@yahoo). Also, if your login or password is not working, please contact me. You need to have your availability entered into the new assigning system at <http://contracts.meetcontrol.biz/> by September 15, 2009. Billie and I will start assigning meets soon thereafter. When you get assigned to a meet, you will receive an email indicating you have a contract in your profile. You will need to login to the assigning system again and go to PENDING MEETS and accept the meet. Please be patient during the new process as there should be some bumps along the way. All instructions for use of the new assigning system were in the "Judge's Availability Letter" and will be posted on the website. So please go to the website first if you have a question, instead of contacting the assigners. Thank you. Mary Lou and Billie

## SUMMER TESTING

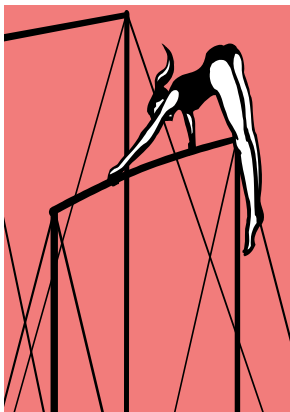
Everyone's optional rating will expire on December 31, 2009. Everyone must test this year to retain an optional rating.

Your current compulsory rating is good until December 2013.



Congratulations to everyone who has already passed their test and good luck to everyone with upcoming tests!

ILLINOIS NAWGJ WEBSITE [www.ilnawgj.com](http://www.ilnawgj.com)



Please use the website as your first resource for all your gymnastics judging informational needs. Important information will always be posted on the website. If you need to contact a board member, click on the board member link on the website's home page to see the board members and the position they hold. This will help you to know what board member to contact with your particular needs.

The website's e-mail address is [webmaster@ilnawgj.com](mailto:webmaster@ilnawgj.com). The webmaster sends e-mails for all the other board members, the SJD and the RJD. If the message was from Hilary (RJD) for example, and you have reason to respond to Hilary in regards to the e-mail, you will need to send a response to Hilary's e-mail, not to the webmaster. **Anytime you respond to the webmaster e-mail, your response will go to the webmaster, Linda McDonald.**

If you have not already sent Linda your password for the Judges Only Page, you must do so in order to access the Judges Only Page. Send your USAG number, which is your username and your password to Linda. After it is entered into the system you will have full access to the Judges Only Page.

## NATIONAL COURSE 2-ILLINOIS JUDGES PAST & PRESENT



### Level 8 Regional's – A Pleasant Surprise!

The judges at Level 8 Regional's had a very pleasant surprise when former NAWGJ President Yvonne Hodge showed up to watch her granddaughter. Yvonne was a terrific leader, mentor, and judge. It was such a treat to see her. She is truly missed in the judging ranks. Yvonne is front and center in the orange and white.



National Congress was held in Dallas, Texas August 13-16th. A very nice man entrusted the congress attendees from Illinois with his authentic Olympic torches! What was he thinking? No torch was harmed in the taking of this picture!



# ILLINOIS ACCOLADES

## Dates To Remember

**Sept. 1st**  
**Professional Involvement Forms Due**

**Sept 17th**  
**Judges Test**  
**Schaumburg, IL**

**Sept. 18-20th**  
**Region 5 Congress**  
**Schaumburg Convention Center—Schaumburg, IL**

**Oct 3rd**  
**Judges Test**  
**South Judges Cup**

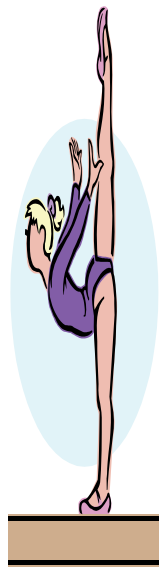
**Oct. 3-4 th**  
**South Judges Cup**  
**Midstate Gymnastics**  
**Springfield, IL**

**Nov 12**  
**Judges Test**  
**Itasca Park District**

**Nov. 13-15th**  
**North Judges Cup**  
**UIC Chicago, IL**

The Visa Championships were held in Dallas ,Texas August 12-15th. Illinois was brilliantly represented by elite gymnastics sisters Bridgety and MacKenzie Caquato of Naperville Gymnastics. Bridgy placed second All-Around in the junior division and MacKenzie placed 5th All-Around in the Senior division. Both girls were added to the USA Gymnastics National Team and will represent the USA in international competitions. As a senior, MacKenzie now has an opportunity to make the World Team. World Championships will be held in London, England October 13th-18th.

Olympian and Region 5 gymnast Bridget Slone is The new Champion of the USA!  
Congratulations girls!



Congratulations Steve Cacchione, owner of American Eagles Gymnastics and husband of judge Jenny Cacchione. Steve was selected by USA Gymnastics to perform the job of floor manager at the Visa Championships in Dallas, Texas. Great job Steve. We are proud of you. You did a great job representing Illinois & Region 5!

Region 5 was the overall winner of both USAG Level 9 Eastern's and Level 10 JO Nationals! The theme of this year's Region 5 Congress is Number 1 and Loving It. A well deserved title for the best region in the country. Congratulations to all the coaches and athletes who made our region such a success.

## Our Illinois Champions

### USAG LEVEL 9 EASTERNS

All-Around Champions from Illinois

Junior 7: Katie Hollon Energym Gymnastics

Senior 3: Alina Cartwright, Naperville Gymnastics

### USAG LEVEL 10 JO NATIONALS

Sr A: Kaylan Earles, Arena Gymnastics

Jr B: Keeley Kmiecziak, Phenom Gymnastics

Incidentally, Keeley won all four events and the all-around!

