



Rhythmic Gymnastics
Section G
Judging Policies and Guidelines
2023 - 2024

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1. Ontario Judging Sub-Committee

The National and Provincial Judging Chairpersons appoint the Ontario Rhythmic Gymnastics Judging Sub-Committee.

The Judging Chairpersons jointly preside over all Sub-Committee meetings. All members of the committee have a vote. The Chairs will break any ties. Majority rules.

The sub-committee supplies the body of the Ontario Rhythmic community with the training, maintenance and upgrading of all Ontario Rhythmic Judges, the ranking of the judges from their previous judging records and judging assignments. The sub-committee members assist the Judging chairs in fulfilling the objectives of the sub-committee.

All three judging levels Brevet, National and Provincial should be represented on the committee.

Objectives of sub-committee:

- To organize and administer the upgrading and maintenance clinics, courses and workshops for all Ontario RG Judges.
- To maintain and provide Gymnastics Ontario, for their Ontario Judges Database, the updated information regarding the fulfillment of observation hours, assignments, clinic attendance and upgraded levels of each judge.
- To rank registered Ontario Judges in each level according to their previous judging records.
- To assign the Judge Responsible for the Ontario competitions
- To assign Course Conductors for all RG Provincial Judging courses.
- To make recommendations to the RG Budgeting for the new judging season.
- To serve as a liaison between the RG Technical Program Committee and the Ontario Judging community.
- To handle all appeals and requests that falls within the jurisdiction of the Judging community.
- To ensure that all levels of rhythmic judges are aware of any new materials and/or changes to the judging rules and regulations, competitions, courses and workshops pertaining to their level of judging.
- To access and deal with any written concern and/or complaint regarding the judging community or the judging system.
- The Judging sub-committee will, in accordance with GO Rules and Regulations, decide any sanctions that will apply to infractions of the judging rules.

2. Judging in Ontario

All judges in Ontario are governed by GCG Judge Rules. The GO rules below are in addition to the GCG Judge Rules.

Children or other relatives of judges are not allowed on the floor at clinics, competition and/or training camps, unless accredited and in uniform.

3. Affiliation

In Ontario, a Judge is affiliated if she is, in the current season, or in the previous two seasons, one or more of the following:

- A parent, grandparent, sibling, or aunt/uncle of a competitive gymnast;
- A club owner, employer, employee, board member;
- A registered coach;
- A registered athlete.

Note: Club Affiliations are valid for the duration of the competitive season and are based on the club with whom the athlete or coach or judge is registered for that season, or the club where an individual works or owns. A judge/coach may be registered with one club, however, if she is coaching, or has coached at other clubs in the current or the past 2 seasons, she must declare this to the Judging Chair(s) and to Gymnastics Ontario.

4. Judges' Honoraria

The host club should provide an additional honorarium amount of \$25.00 to the Judge Responsible in cases where she has actively assisted the host club by reviewing schedules, rotations, competition planning, etc. This "flat fee" amount is the same whether it is a one day or longer

Honoraria for Provincial Stream Competitions

For all competitive events until January 31, 2024 judges honorarium will follow the table below:

Level	Half Day 0 – 3 ¾ hrs	Full Day 4 – 7 ¾ hrs	1 ½ Day 8hrs+
Provincial 3 (Club)	\$45	\$70	\$90
Provincial 2	\$55	\$90	\$110
Provincial 1	\$65	\$110	\$130
National 3	\$75	\$120	\$150
National 2	\$75	\$120	\$150
National 1	\$80	\$130	\$160
Brevet	\$90	\$150	\$180

Starting February 1, 2024 judges honorarium will be paid on hourly basis:

Level	Pay per hour
Club	\$11
Provincial 2	\$13
Provincial 1	\$16
National 3	\$20
National 2	\$20
National 1	\$22
Brevet	\$25

Note: AGG judges who judge only AGG at a competition will receive \$35 per day judged, which is to cover their honorarium and their travel. If a judge is assigned to judge both AGG and the Provincial / National stream, then they will receive the honorarium appropriate to her judging level for RG and an additional AGG honorarium (\$35/day).

Honoraria are not given for GCG Competitions: Elite Canada, Eastern Regionals, Canadian Group Championships, Canadian Individual Championships.

5. Travel Expenses

Travel Expenses for Official Ontario Competitions for Rhythmic Judges

Host clubs will cover travel expenses for all Ontario Provincial Competitions (Provincial Qualifiers, Provincial Championships, Elite Ontario).

The Judge Responsible must approve all provincial travel and accommodations for all Ontario official competitions, prior to travel arrangements being finalized. Any person making personal arrangements, which have not been approved, will be totally responsible for all their own expenses.

Judges traveling in any other capacity other than as a judge are responsible for their own travel and/or accommodation. In order to be classified as a judge you must declare that this is your role for a minimum of one day of the competition.

Mileage for ALL official Ontario Competitions:

- 30 cents per kilometer, OR
- Bus or Train fare if approved by GO, OR
- Plane fare, if mileage is over 500 kilometers one way.

The 30 cents per kilometer will apply for ALL mileage even within the same city (see exception below). Mileage is to be measured from the judge's residence to the competition site and return. Judges will be requested to complete their information on the attached mileage summary form for the Meet Director at the breakfast meeting of the competition. If this is not completed at that time, the judge will not be reimbursed. (NOTE: it is recommended that Meet Directors have petty cash on hand to pay each judge for their mileage).

EXCEPTION: A maximum mileage of \$100.00 will be paid.

- The current mileage rates are \$0.30 /km when travelling alone, and \$0.35 /km when travelling with passenger(s).
- There is no minimum number of kilometers needed before reimbursement is made.
- The \$0.30/km rate applies to the period of travel for the driver prior to picking up passenger(s); the \$0.35/km rate does NOT apply to the entire trip. E.g. an Ottawa judge picks up a Kingston judge and they travel together to a Toronto meet. The driver can claim \$0.30/km from Ottawa to Kingston and \$0.35/km from Kingston to Toronto.

Bus or Train fare: Travel expenses for bus, subway or train fare to and from the competition site will be paid by the host club when approved in advance by the Judge Responsible in consultation with the Meet Director. Only this fare will be paid. In all other situations, the bus or train fare is not applicable. Original receipts are required.

Taxi Service: Normally, taxi fare for judges, will not be covered by the host club who is responsible to reimburse only the usual mileage rate. If, however, the host club did not provide transportation for a judge from airport to hotel or hotel to competition site and the return trips, and taxi service must be used, the host club will be responsible for the taxi fare. Ultimate approval of all expenses rests with the Judge Responsible or Judging Chair in cooperation with the Meet Director. Receipts are required for all expenses claimed. The receipts should be forwarded to the host club if not available until after the meet.

Meals

Meals must be provided for judges at competitions as follows:

- Continental breakfast will be provided to all judges regardless of the number of rotations judged
- Lunch will be provided for full day meets
- For all other rotations the following will apply:
 - o For a single rotation no meal is provided, except for ½ day meets held in the evening when judges should be provided with a meal.
 - o For ½ day meets held in the evening judges should be provided with a meal
 - o For a full day competition judges are entitled to receive continental breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Accommodation

Gymnastics Ontario will arrange lodging for judges for GCG competitions, including Eastern Regional Championships, Elite Canada and Canadian Individual Championships.

Ontario Official Competitions:

The host club will arrange accommodations for Provincial competitions, including Elite Ontario, Provincial Qualifiers, and Provincial Championships. All travel and accommodation must be approved by the Judge Responsible / GO. The following applies to these competitions:

- Judges are expected to share a room with one other judge. In order to make it simpler to book and manage their own hotel rooms, each judge will receive ½ of the cost of each night accommodation. This cost is based on the lesser of the hotel room rates (including tax) negotiated by the Host Club, or the actual cost, as shown on the hotel receipt

- For a distance over 100 kilometers one way, a judge should receive one night's accommodation during a two-day competition.

Travel Expenses for National Competitions for Assigned Rhythmic Judges

National Competitions:

- Elite Canada, Eastern Regionals, Canadian Group Championships, and Canadian Individual Championships

Travel arrangements will be made by Gymnastics Ontario only, unless prior approval from Gymnastics Ontario and the Judging Chair (s) has been obtained. Any changes to bookings will be the responsibility and expense of the Judge.

Note: The Technical Committee can choose to reduce the distance requirement depending on the location of the facility, and season. For example, for a competition in the winter, if held in a facility not on major routes, the Technical Committee may require that accommodation be provided for any judge traveling 100km or more one way.

- For distances over 200 kilometers one way, two nights' accommodation should be provided (e.g., Friday and Saturday nights accommodation for a Saturday and Sunday event).
- Judges should receive one night's accommodation for distances traveled over 200 kilometers one way, for a one-day competition.

6. License Requirements

Levels of Judging - Ontario Criteria

There are seven (7) recognized levels of Rhythmic Gymnastics Judges in Ontario.

Provincial 3 (Club)	National 3	Brevet (as outlined by F.I.G)
Provincial 2	National 2	
Provincial 1	National 1	

Course Conductors - Ontario Criteria

Senior members of the judging committee, National 1 or Brevet Course Conductors set the criteria for the four-year cycle in conjunction with the Judging Committee. Examination is given and set by the Course Conductor and approved by the Judging Committee.

*** Note: each full day judged at a competition counts as one day towards the requirements for maintenance / upgrading for all Provincial judge levels.

Provincial 3 (Club) Level License

In order to obtain a Provincial 3 (Club) Level License, an RG Judge must:

- Be a registered judging member of Gymnastics Ontario (minimum of 30 days prior to event judged).
- Be a minimum of 15 years of age to attend the course and write the exam – must turn 16 by December 31st of the current competitive season.

- Must be minimum Foundations Trained Coaching Certification for Rhythmic Gymnastics.
- Attend all days of a Provincial Club Level Course.
- Successfully pass the examinations. Exam requirements will be announced once more information regarding examination becomes available from FIG and GymCan.
- Judge at least 48 hours at approved events and receive a satisfactory evaluation from the Judge Responsible:
 - 16 hours must be completed at Interclub level events
 - 32 hours must be completed at provincial level events
- Act as a line and/or time judge for a minimum of 12 hours at any competition.
- Record all judging (must include number of hours judged) in the judge record book and submit to the Provincial Judge chair.

Note: Provincial 3 (Club) Level License is not granted until all the above criteria is met.

Not eligible to judge at Ontario Championships

Provincial 2 Level

In order to obtain a Provincial 2 License, an individual must:

- Be a registered judging member of Gymnastics Ontario (minimum of 30 days prior to event judged). Hold a valid Provincial 3 (Club) Level License.
- Judge at least 48 hours at approved events and receive a satisfactory evaluation from the Judge Responsible:
 - 12 hours must be completed at Interclub level events
 - 36 hours must be completed at provincial level events:
 - Min. 8 hours at a Qualifier
 - Min. 8 hours at Ontario Championships
- Act as a line and/or time judge for a minimum of 8 hours at a Provincial or National level events.
- Record all judging (must include number of hours judged) in the judge record book and submit to the Provincial Judge chair.
- The judge will then have earned her “Provincial 2 Licensed” designation.

With a Provincial 2 License, a judge is eligible to judge on all panels at Provincial stream competitions.

Provincial 1 Level

In order to obtain a Provincial 1 License, an individual must:

- Be a registered judging member of Gymnastics Ontario (minimum of 30 days prior to event judged).
- Hold a valid Provincial 2 License.
- Judge at least 48 hours at approved events and receive a satisfactory evaluation from the Judge Responsible:
 - 8 hours must be completed at Interclub level events
 - 40 hours must be completed at provincial level events:

- Min. 16 hours at a Qualifiers or Rhythm Fest
- Min. 8 hours at Ontario Championships
- Act as a line and/or time judge for a minimum of 8h at a Provincial or National level event
- Record all judging (must include number of hours judged) in the judge record book and submit to the Provincial Judge chair.
- After fulfilling this requirement, the judge will hold the “Provincial 1 Licensed” designation.

With a Provincial 1 License, a judge is eligible to judge on all panels for provincial stream competitions (including Eastern Regionals), and on the execution panel (E panel only) for National stream. Provincial 1 Judges may act as the Judge Responsible at Invitational competitions or assist the Judge Responsible at official Ontario Competitions.

The Provincial 1 Licensed judge may also request approval from Gymnastics Ontario to participate in a National judging course.

National Level License

Refer to GCG Rhythmic Gymnastics Rules and Regulations.

7. Gym Observation

It is highly recommended that each judge complete 10 hours of non-affiliated gym observation each competitive season.

Observation hours may be counted at any training or competition venue in Canada, while not judging.

Because of the growing number of affiliated judges, a maximum of 4 hours of Gym Observation may be done at a judge’s “own” gym. It is understood that judges will observe OTHER coaches and athletes at their own gym.

The goals of gym observation include:

- Communication between Coaches, Judges and athletes to encourage element, skill combinations as time permits.
- Gaining full understanding of technical elements, apparatus and body techniques for group and individual exercises.
- To observe varying levels of athletes.
- To solidify the theory and expectations as outlined in the FIG Code of Points and the Ontario Technical Rules and Regulations.
- Permission from the Head Coach should be requested prior to visiting. The observing judge should not be required to “JUDGE” unless specifically requested ahead of time.

8. MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADING

Annual Provincial Workshop or Q/A session

A workshop will be given prior to the new competitive season and is compulsory for ALL judges wishing to be assigned to any Provincial Level competition. This workshop will discuss the Provincial program for the new season and the judging values that will be applied.

All changes to GCG manuals and Ontario RG manuals will be discussed.

Recertification in the New Cycle

Every four years the Provincial Program is revised according to the new FIG Code of Points. ALL Provincial level judges must take an Ontario Provincial or National (offered in Canada) course in order to re-certify or upgrade in the new cycle and in order to be legible to judge competitions under the new COP.

Compulsory Competition Requirements

All judges must complete minimal number of judging assignments per year to maintain their license or they will have to re-certify/complete practical judge evaluation before judging in the new season.

All Provincial 3 Level judges must complete at least:

- Three (3) half days Interclub stream assignments per year
- Two (2) full days Provincial stream judging assignments per year

All Provincial 2 and Provincial 1 Level judges must complete at least:

- Two (2) half days Interclub stream assignments per year
- Two (2) full days Provincial stream judging assignments per year

All National and Brevet level judges must complete at least:

- One (1) full day Provincial stream judging assignments per year
- One (1) full day National stream judging assignments per year

Note: in the case of competitions where judges are being assigned to panels for half days, the half day assignment will count as one competition towards the annual requirement. For all judges, at least one of the two mandatory competitions must be a Provincial Qualifier or Provincial Championships.

A National and Brevet judges' obligations for their national / brevet license maintenance are as per GCG Rules and Regulations.

Renewal of Provincial License

The validity of the license is limited to the duration of the FIG cycle, or as established each cycle by GCG or the Province. Provincial level judges will be required each FIG cycle to complete a course and exam to retain their license. National and Brevet judges maintenance and upgrading is as per the GCG Judge Rules.

Non-Renewal

Without renewal of FIG or GCG License the judge does not lose certification but loses the right to judge at GCG/FIG competitions of the current cycle. Having received a license, it remains in all respects the possession of the judge and will not be withdrawn by FIG or GCG.

Judging Accommodations

It is strongly recommended for young coaches to take a judging course. Possible accommodations could be made to allow beginner judges to judge levels where there is no conflict of interest (no athletes present from the same club) while coaching at the event.

9. JUDGING ASSIGNMENTS

The Judging Chairpersons are responsible for assigning the Judge Responsible for the Ontario competitions, and for assigning the panel judges. A judge's current level of certification determines her eligibility for the Competition and for panel assignments. Judges are selected by seniority and rotation, with consideration given to past judging. One goal is to ensure that all judges fulfill their required number of competitions.

Criteria set forth by the GCG and Gymnastics Ontario will be followed as to judges' levels and numbers. All judges who are being considered for a competition must hold the appropriate certification and may not have any sanction from the current season. Each judge's past performance at competitions and her entire judging record will also be taken into consideration.

Assignments are placed on ROTATIONAL BASIS:

The judge assigned, must be certified for the current cycle and without any penalty sanctions.

1. Seniority
2. GCG strategic plan involvement
3. Priority for upgrading
4. Evaluation from previous competitions

Travel Sanction Requests for international judging assignments must be sent to Gymnastics Ontario office and be approved by the Judging Chair (approves the Judge's level for assigned competition only). The request for travel is then sent to the GCG office for sanction approval. The G.O. Travel Sanction Request form has been approved for this purpose by GCG and must be completed in full.

Assignment Chart

Competition	Eligible Level	Selection Made By
International Championships	FIG Brevet	FIG/GCG
International Invitationals	FIG Brevet, GCG Brevet	GCG
Elite Canada National Championships	As per GCG Rules	GO Judging Chair/GO Judges sub-committee recommended to GCG
Eastern Regionals (Nat.) Eastern Regionals (Prov.)	Brevet; National 1, 2, 3 Provincial 1 (Provincial stream only)	GO Judging Chair/GO Judges sub-committee recommended to GCG
Elite Ontario	To be assigned by seniority/level in the following order: Brevet, National 1, 2, 3 Provincial 1 (execution panels only)	GO Judging Chair/GO Judges sub-committee

Provincial Championships; Provincial Qualifiers	To be assigned by seniority/level in the following order: Brevet, National 1, 2, 3 Provincial 1, 2	GO Judging Chair/GO Judges sub-committee
RhythmFest	All Levels	GO Judging Chair/GO Judges sub-committee
Ontario National Invitations	National stream invitationals must have at least 75% of the panel judges at national level or higher, and the JR must be Brevet	Judge Responsible
Ontario Development Level (Provincial) Invitationals	Provincial stream invitationals, judges may be any level	Judge Responsible
Ontario Interclub Invitationals	Intreclub stream invitationals, judges may be any level	Judge Responsible

Judges Selection Process for Ontario Championships, RhythmFest, Provincial Qualifiers, and Elite Ontario

Provincial Qualifiers, RhythmFest and Ontario Championships:

- Judge Responsible and panel judges are assigned by the GO Provincial Judge Chair, with the assistance of the judges sub-committee.
- To be assigned, provincial level judges must have judged at least 2 provincial stream competitions during the current season and have obtained satisfactory assessments. National level judges must have judged at least one provincial stream competition.
- If a judge has received a yellow (or red) card, they will not be assigned.
- Judges will be assigned to Provincial Championships and Provincial Qualifiers by level and seniority in the following order: Brevet, National 1, National 2, National 3, Provincial 1, Provincial 2 Licensed, Provincial 2 Unlicensed. Provincial 3 (Club) Level judges will only be assigned to Qualifiers if there are insufficient judges to complete the panels and provided they have met all the other criteria. Provincial 3 (Club) level judges will not be assigned to Ontario Championships.
- In the case of affiliated judges, only one judge per club will be assigned to the judging panels. In the event there are not enough judges after assigning a maximum of one per club and any unaffiliated judges, a draw from the names of the unassigned eligible judges will be made for the remaining positions
- Judges may be assigned to panels for one day only. This will provide more opportunity for judges to judge at these competitions, will help reduce the stress and tiredness of long days for the judges, and in turn, will provide a more fair assessment of the athletes.

Elite Ontario:

- Judge Responsible and panel judges are assigned by the GO National Judge Chair.
- If a judge has received a yellow (or red) card, she will not be assigned.
- In the case of affiliated judges, only one judge per club will be assigned to the judging panels.

Selection Process for National Competitions

- Eastern Regional Championships judges will be recommended to GCG by G.O. National Judging Chair and sub-committee, according to ranking and rotation. GCG will assign the judges.
- The Ontario Judging sub-committee will submit Ontario judges' names to GCG for Elite Canada and the Canadian Individual Championships.

Selection Process for International Invitational Competitions

Judges wishing to participate in International Invitationals must first apply to Gymnastics Ontario and the Ontario Judging Chair by using the Application for Travel Sanction Request Form. The Ontario Judging Chair approves verification of Degree of Judging, the G.O. Program Manager confirms membership, and the Application for Sanction request form is then forwarded to GCG for final assignment.

10. JURIES

Recommended Juries for **Ontario** Competitions

Note - these may be changed at the discretion of the Judging Chair / sub-committee

Official Competitions (Qualifiers, Championships, Elite Ontario)

- Execution: 4 judges (E)
- Artistry: 4 judges (A)
- Difficulty: 4 judges (2 DB, 2 DA)
- Total of 12 judges per panel required

Invitational Competitions (Provincial streams) – Single Panel

- Execution: Minimum of 2 judges
- Artistry: Minimum of 2 judges
- Difficulty: 4 judges (2DA, 2DB)
- Minimum 8 panel judges required

Invitational Competitions (Interclub streams) – Single Panel

- Execution: Minimum of 2 judges
- Artistry: Minimum of 2 judges
- Difficulty: Minimum of 2 judges (1DA, 1DB)
- Minimum 6 panel judges required

Minor Officials Required for all **Ontario** Competitions

- Judge Coordinator / Secretary: 1 minor official
- Line Judge: Groups - 4 minor officials
Individual - 2 minor officials

- Timer: 1 minor official

11. JUDGING DUTIES

Judge Responsible

Assigned by the Judging Chairperson (Provincial or National, as appropriate).

- To be a good role model in behavior and actions for all panel judges
- Responsible for overseeing all judging details, reviews the proposed schedule and the rotations for the meet
- Responsible for instructional course and judges meeting preceding the competition
- Assigns judging panels according to their level and supervises their scores
- Liaises between the Meet Director and the judges
- Checks and approves computer scores before they are published
- May be called upon for input when scores are not within range
- Can be present for the gymnast draw
- Can suggest to Meet Director cancellation if facilities are unsuitable
- Can change "Order of Competition"
- Can allow for repetition of a routine if obstruction by something beyond the gymnasts' control
- Will discuss final details with Provincial Judging Chair and have judging panels approved.
- Can dismiss any judge who is not conscientiously fulfilling her duties and following all rules, regulations and by-laws of the sport
- Can expel any coach, gymnast, or judge who hinders the competition by disobeying the rules and regulations
- Submits a report to the Provincial Judging Chairperson and Gymnastics Ontario evaluating the competition
- Will assign an individual to say the Oath (in both English and French at Provincial competitions)
- Remind all panel judges that use of cell phones and other electronic devices is prohibited for the duration of the competition except for the designated breaks

Note: The Judging Sub-committee as a whole can overrule any of the above decisions if a discrepancy occurs.

12. COMPETITION STANDARDS

Rhythmic Gymnastics Competitions shall be judged in accordance with the Rules and Regulations published by the F.I.G. Code of Points, GCG Technical Rules and Regulations, Gymnastics Ontario's Rhythmic Gymnastics Technical Rules and Regulations, and the Ontario Judging Sub-committee recommendations.

Judging shall be open at the Provincial Championships, Eastern Regional Championships, Elite Ontario, and at all Ontario invitational competitions.

APPEALS

No appeals permitted to judges' routine evaluation score.

Request for reviews of results can only be made when judge scores have been inputted into the scoring program.

13. Judges' Oath

In the name of judges and officials, I promise that we will officiate in these championships with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

Au nom de toutes les juges et officielles, je promets que nous remplirons nos fonctions pendant les présents Championnats en toute impartialité, respectueuses des règlements et fidèles aux principes du véritable esprit sportif.