

T&T FIG Brevet Judges International Assignments

As at April 8, 2022

Amended June 25, 2022

Amended August 24, 2022

Statement of Principles

USA Gymnastics will focus efforts and resources into U.S. FIG Brevet judges through assigning judges to international competitions where the USA sends a delegation.

In order to provide the best support for USA Gymnastics National Teams and clarity for those in the FIG Brevet judging pool, the following process has been developed. Benefits of a rotating assignment process include providing judges with the required competitions to maintain or increase their judges rating, promoting sharing of information, and transferring of international practices to the domestic environment.

Occasionally it may be necessary to go outside of this process, for example in the case of Team USA coaching conflicts, safety considerations, and timing of key events. Where the FIG awards a judge a nominative position (e.g., for the Olympic Games), this will be honored so long as that judge is in good standing with USA Gymnastics.

Assignment Process

- I. The Technical Committee will create a general rotation order for each discipline using the following criteria. Once a judge has been assigned, they will be placed at the bottom of the rotation schedule. This general rotation order will remain in effect for the quad cycle; however, at the beginning of each new year, the order will be reassessed to comply with all relevant criteria and adjusted accordingly.

Criteria for Ordering Rotation:

- A. FIG Category 1
 - B. FIG Category 2
 - C. FIG Category 3
 - D. FIG Category 4
 - E. Tie-Breakers within each Category:
 - a. Length of continuous FIG rating with current active status in the discipline
 - b. Length of continuous FIG rating in the discipline before a period of in-active status
 - c. Current Senior Judges Council Member
 - d. Current Junior Judges Council Member
 - e. Current National Committee Member
 - f. Current Regional/State Committee Chair or Technical Representative
 - g. Current Leader Level Judge
 - h. If a tie cannot be broken, place in order by a draw for each discipline.
 - F. Newly eligible judges will be placed at the bottom of the rotation order.
 - G. Additional criteria that affect rotation order assignments are listed below in this document.
- II. At the beginning of each new year competition season, all USA FIG Brevet judges will be sent a list of known international competitions for the current upcoming year. Judges will respond with their

availability for each competition no later than the indicated deadline. Any change in availability must be communicated in writing to the Technical Committee in a timely manner.

- A. Judges may change their availability status for international competitions without penalty any time prior to the Technical Committee sending recommendations to the Selection Committee.
 - a. If a judge declines an assignment that they have indicated their availability for after recommendations have been sent to the Selection Committee without notifying the Technical Committee of their status change beforehand, they will be immediately placed at the bottom of the rotation order for that discipline.
 - b. A written request for extenuating circumstances may be submitted. That request will be evaluated by both the Technical Committee and the Selection Committee. If this request is approved, that judge will retain their position on the rotation for the next event.
- B. For consideration to be assigned to World Championships, judges must indicate availability for additional events (other than just World Championships and WAGC):
 - a. Trampoline judges must indicate availability for at least two additional events.
 - b. Tumbling and Double Mini judges must indicate availability for at least one additional event.

III. To be considered for an international assignment, judges must:

- A. Be an active USA Gymnastics T&T judge member in good standing; and
- B. Have judged domestically or have coached at a regional or national competition during the previous 12 months; and
- C. Submit their availability form for the current year being considered; and
- D. Must have fulfilled the judges' requirements set forth in the National Team Handbook for their international assignments occurring in the current or previous year.

Non-compliance with any of the above considerations may result in removal from the next international assignment or forfeiting the next assignment available for consideration.

IV. Additional Criteria to be used in determining assignments. Funding for judges is dependent upon yearly budgets and may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

- A. For FIG Group 2 Competitions, such as World Championships, World Cups, World Games, Continental Championships, and Continental Games, the rotation will be restricted to Category 1-2 judges. For disciplines where there are two or fewer Category 1-2 judges, or when there is a lack of availability, then Category 3 judges will be considered in the assignment rotation.
 - a. For World Championships, judges may not be assigned to two consecutive years (regardless of discipline) unless there are no other judges with the prioritized rating available.

Rationale:

- Category 1-2 judges are more likely to get seated on individual competition panels/multiple panels at these competitions.
- The Federation may be fined for not sending judges of this level to these competitions when there are adequate numbers.
- Create greater opportunities for assignments at World Championships.

- B. For World Age Group Competition (WAGC), assigned judges:
 - a. Category 3-4 judges will be assigned in rotation order for WAGC for disciplines that prioritize Category 1-2 judges for Group 2 competitions.

- b. Category 4 judges will be assigned in rotation order for WAGC for disciplines that prioritize Category 1-3 judges for Group 2 competitions.
- c. If there are no Category 3-4 judges available to fill the WAGC assignments, then all judges may be considered with priority given to the judges who are already assigned to World Championships.
- d. Judges may not be assigned to consecutive years at WAGC (regardless of discipline) except in the case where a World Championship judge is selected to fill the WAGC assignment.

Rationale:

- This will create an opportunity for lower rated judges to be assigned since they will not be considered for the events that require a higher category rating.
 - To create greater opportunities for assignments at WAGC.
- C. For back-to-back events that necessitates a single travel group, such as when international invitationals run in conjunction with a World Cup, judges assigned to the World Cup event will also be assigned to the associated event, provided they are available for both. Judges may be assigned to the same or a different discipline they hold a rating in.
- a. If the assigned World Cup judge is not available for the invitational, then the invitational assignment may be offered to Category 3-4 judges who can self-fund.
 - b. If there are back-to-back World Cups, then judges with the prioritized rating must be available for both competitions.

Rationale:

- Budgets are developed based on fully utilizing all resources, alleviating additional travel arrangements.
- D. For judges who test high enough to earn an advanced rating but lack the experience to obtain that rating, efforts to assist them in achieving their potential over the allowable time period may be considered. This may require that they be prioritized in that discipline while placing their other disciplines on hold until the number of competitions are achieved.
- a. Category 3 judges who are eligible for an upgrade to Category 2 may be assisted to achieve their upgrade in the current cycle.
 - b. Category 1 ratings may only be achieved at the premier international testing event. A Category 2 judge may be chosen to participate by using the same criteria listed for eligibility for premier events (see IV. E). The candidate may be assisted in achieving the required number of competitions over the current cycle to be eligible for a Category 1 rating.
- E. For events that the FIG outlines a procedure for selecting judges to premier events, such as the Olympic Games, the following will be considered in selecting a judge to ensure that a USA representative is eligible for consideration by the FIG (not listed in order of importance):
- a. USA Gymnastics Judge member in good standing
 - b. FIG Judging Rating required for assignment to the premier event.
 - c. International Experience/Technical Knowledge
 - d. Available for the number of events required for consideration.
 - e. Available to attend the premier event as a judge.
 - f. Compliance with the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct and Trampoline & Tumbling National Team Handbook

The judge(s) selected will be assigned to the necessary number of competitions for the year(s) in order to be eligible for selection to the premier event.

- F. If a judge is at the top of the rotation schedule on more than one discipline for a competition, the following criteria should be used to determine which discipline will be assigned (all criteria to be considered):
- The discipline they hold a higher rating in or have indicated a preference for.
 - The discipline that will allow the opportunity to upgrade category in the same cycle.
 - The discipline that will allow them to meet eligibility requirements for a premier event or rating.
 - If none of the above apply, the Technical Committee will make a recommendation with possible alternative options to the Selection Committee for final determination.
- G. A judge may only be considered for a maximum of two separate assignments per year, regardless of discipline, unless there are no other judges available with the prioritized ratings.
- Combined assignments necessitating one judge to cover related events (see IV. C) will be considered as one assignment. A single competition may be considered for their additional assignment if applicable.
 - Exceptions may be made for assignments that allow a judge to be eligible for a premier event or to fulfill experience requirements to obtain a rating upgrade (see IV. D and E).

Rationale:

- To create greater representation at international events
- To allow judges to maximize their potential.

- V. Whenever the Selection Committee meets to approve any type of international assignment or other opportunity, it will be considered an assignment and subject to rotation order penalties if declined (see II. A). A written expression of interest for a judging opportunity will be considered as availability for that event.