



**NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Friday, November 7–Sunday, November 9, 2025

Hyatt Place Indianapolis Airport – Indianapolis, IN

The meeting was called to order by National Technical Committee Chair (NTCC), Linda Thorberg at 8:00am on November 7, 2025.

Roll Call:

|   |                  |                     |
|---|------------------|---------------------|
| NTCC                                      | Linda Thorberg   | Non-Voting*         |
| RTCC Region 1                             | Gigi Iavarone    | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 2                             | Laurie Reid      | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 3                             | Marilyn Blilie   | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 4                             | Windee Weiss     | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 5                             | Kathleen Edwards | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 6                             | Pat Panichas     | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 7                             | Jane Caruso      | Voting              |
| RTCC Region 8                             | Evelyn Chandler  | Voting              |
| Women's Technical Director                | Nichole Otterson | Non-Voting          |
| Women's Development Program Director      | Christy Naik     | Non-Voting          |
| Women's Judges' Accreditation Coordinator | Connie Maloney   | Non-Voting          |
| Vice President Women's Program            | Annie Heffernon  | Non-Voting (Fri am) |
| Chief Membership Officer                  | Erica Koven      | Non-Voting (Fri am) |
| E-Learning Content Manager                | Sara Clements    | Guest (Fri am)      |
| Director of Technology                    | Scott Allen      | Guest (Fri am)      |
| Senior Web Applications Developer         | Jessica Dantzer  | Guest (Fri am)      |

\*Casts a vote only in case of a tie or acclamation.

**REPORTS**

1. Erica Koven updated the Technical Committee on Regional and National Congresses and Brevet/National course exam sites.
2. The USA Gymnastics IT department demonstrated the new judges' exam platform, Synap.
3. The RTCC's confirmed judging panels for Level 9 East/West Championships and Level 10 Development Nationals.

**Unless otherwise noted, the following updates & recommendation for change are effective November 1, 2025.**

**The following recommendations apply to the judges' course forms for National Categories 1–4.**

1. Recommendation to update the Brevet/National rating system to be referred to simply as the 'National' rating, effective 2030.  
**Motion:** Gigi Iavarone (R1)  
**Second:** Laurie Reid (R2)  
**PASSED**
2. Recommendation to update the Category 2 Service requirement of three (3) separate events to specify a minimum of two (2) Regional or higher events and one (1) State or higher event.  
**Motion:** Marilyn Blilie (R3)  
**Second:** Pat Panichas (R6)  
**PASSED**



3. Recommendation to update Leadership credits to two (2) credits for a State Training Camp and four (4) credits for Regional and National Training Camps per event.

**Motion:** Laurie Reid (R2)

**Second:** Evelyn Chandler (R8)

**TIE:** NTCC, Linda Thorberg, cast a vote

**PASSED**

4. Recommendation to update the maximum number of Leadership (organize and present) credits earned per State clinic event to four (4) credits.

**Motion:** Evelyn Chandler (R8)

**Second:** Windee Weiss (R4)

**PASSED**

5. Recommendation to update the number of Service and Leadership credits awarded for elected co-SJDs: Each SJD will receive one (1) Service credit and one (1) Leadership credit per year.

**Motion:** Gigi Iavarone (R1)

**Second:** Jane Caruso (R7)

**PASSED**

6. **Rules and Policies:** Recommendation for judge assignments to the National Xcelebration, effective 2027.
  - Each gym will operate with four-judge panels. The Chief Judge (CJ) must hold at least a National rating and must have served as a Meet Referee (MR) or Chief Judge at the Xcel Regional meet in the same year. Panel Judges (PJs) must hold a minimum Level 10 rating and must have judged at a Xcel State or Regional meet in the same year.
  - Judges will be selected from each of the eight (8) Regions, with each Region submitting six (6) judges.
  - One (1) Meet Referee will be assigned to each gym.
  - Meet Referees will include the NTCC, the Women's Technical Director, and the RTCC representing the Region hosting the National Xcelebration.

**Motion:** Jane Caruso (R7)

**Second:** Windee Weiss (R4)

**PASSED**

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## DISCUSSION

The committee discussed the following topics, but **no action** was taken:

1. Overall count of potential participants for the 2026 Brevet/National courses.
2. Implementation of a Professional Improvement Plan (PIP) in conjunction with the 2026 WAG Brevet and National examinations.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Update and post the 2030–2034 National Judges Category 1–4 forms, including the Eligibility Form, Criteria Description Table, Activity Involvement Form, Documentation Form, and the updated Q&A.
2. Add the judging criteria for the National Xcelebration to the 2026–27 *Rules and Policies*.

The remainder of the time was dedicated to preparing the Brevet and National courses and their corresponding exams for the 2026–2030 WAG cycle.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11–13, 2026, in Oklahoma City, OK.

Recommendation to adjourn at 12:00 pm on November 9, 2025.