



BCRSGF JUDGING RULES and REGULATIONS

Introduction:

Having a body of educated, experienced and dedicated RG Judge/Officials in BC is an essential component for the successful delivery of a strong Competitive Level Rhythmic Gymnastics program in the province. BCRSGF is responsible for supporting RG Officials in their work and assisting them, wherever possible, in maintaining an environment in which they are afforded opportunities for education, experience and advancement.

Brevet Judge Committee:

This body of top Rhythmic Gymnastics Officials in BC is comprised of all BC active and registered BC Brevet Judges.

The Chairperson of the Committee is elected annually at the BC Judges Assembly by Brevet level, National and Provincial Level Judges.

The Brevet Judges Committee reports to BCRSGF through its annually elected Chairperson who can be also a member of the BCRSGF Board of Directors.

General Operational Guidelines of Brevet Judges Committee:

The Brevet Judges Committee is composed of all active Judges in BC who have earned the Brevet Judges designation.

General Responsibilities:

To provide direction and assistance for the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of BC Judges Rules and Regulations and Code of Conduct. Sets and oversees goals and objectives, long and short term plans and programs for the development of Espoir Development Level, Club Level and Provincial Judges.

Specific Responsibilities

- a) Provides leadership and direction in technical development of RSG i.e. Code of Points interpretation and implementation
- b) Develops, revises and implements judging certification standards up to and including the provincial levels.
- c) Develops and revises judging rules and regulations up to and including the provincial level.
- d) Develops, revises and implements judges' evaluation procedures up to and including the provincial level.
- e) Oversees the updating of annual Judges List

- and Levels of BC Judges
- f) Oversees and makes decisions on consequences for Judges reported and documented violations of Judging Rules and Code of Conduct at BC competitions.
 - g) Co-ordinates judging aspects of zone and provincial level competitions.
 - h) Develops selection criteria for assigning judges to zone, provincial, and national competitions prior to the start of each competitive season.
 - i) Assigns judges to zone and provincial competitions and forwards recommended assignments for provincial, national and international competitions as well as courses and workshops to the Board of Directors for approval and submits recommendations to GCG Judges Rep as needed or required.
 - j) Adheres to published fair and objective selection criteria for assigning judges to attend national competitions.
 - k) Researches and circulates literature and information of a RSG judging nature.

Meetings

- a) The Judging Committee will meet a minimum of two times per year and will be chaired by the Judging Chairperson. Minutes of the meetings will be recorded and circulated to all BCRSGF judges, CDC members, and members of the Board of Directors. The original minutes of each meeting will be filed promptly at the BCRSGF office with applicable attachments.
- b) Notification of committee meetings will be circulated 14 days in advance in writing except in extenuating circumstances. All agendas and applicable attachments will be received by all members 7 (seven) days before the meeting (except in extenuating circumstances).
- c) Matters and conversations discussed amongst the Committee Members when reaching decisions must be held in confidentiality and not circulated or discussed outside the committee. This allows the members to contribute their points of view in an environment of professional trust and aids the process of reaching a positive and collective decision on all matters. There will be official published minutes of meetings and outcomes. Those minutes will reflect the group decision of the committee and will not reflect the personal voice of any single committee member as part of the member's agreement to respect the one voice of the committee on all issues.

Voting at Meetings

Motions are carried by a simple majority of the Committee members present and with voting rights. The Chairperson will cast a vote only in the case of a tie, such vote being decisive and final. Proxy votes are not accepted but electronic vote from a member is accepted as long as the member has received written or verbal information (via conference call) detailing the motion .

BC Judge's Assembly:

The Chairperson of the Brevet Judges Committee calls an assembly each Fall prior to November 30th. The purpose of the Assembly is:

- Update the Judging membership on any administrative policy or rule changes to Judges Rules and Regulations submitted to BCRSGF by Brevet Judges Committee.
- Update the membership on FIG, GCG or Provincial changes to the Technical Rules for Judging the various levels in the province and nationally.
- Presentation of BC Judges current Judges list for upcoming season
- Presentation of Calendar of Events for upcoming season
- Annual signing of Code of Conduct Agreement by all levels of judges individually
- All votes are carried by a simple majority vote and in the case of a tie, it is broken by the Chairperson.
- Election and presentation of the Brevet Committee Judges and Chairperson. The Chairperson is elected by all Brevet, National and Provincial Level Judges present at the Assembly. No proxy votes are allowed.

Judges Ethics and Code of Conduct:

All registered and active Judges in BC must sign the Code of Conduct Agreement annually prior to participating in any BCRSGF activities. At all times, they must adhere to and abide by the Code of Conduct Agreement, abide

by the Judges Rules set out in this document, and follow the rules as set out for the expected good conduct

and protocols at events. Failure to do so can and may result in removal from judging an event, inactive status for a season or, if repeated violations continue beyond one season, an official may be permanently prohibited from judging in BC. Ethical conduct, neutrality in judgment and respect for athletes and other officials is paramount in judging. Anything less than respectful, fair minded, and unbiased judgment on the part of BC's RG Officials will not be tolerated.

Judges Oath

"In the name of all judges and officials, I promise that we will officiate in this competition with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the Judging Rules & Regulations which govern us, abiding by the Judges Code of Conduct and all times conduct ourselves in the true spirit of sportsmanship and for the glory of our sport."

Judges Ethics & Code of Conduct:

It would be impossible to list all instances or conduct below that would constitute violations of the Judges Ethical Code of Conduct and that would lead to some form of disciplinary action. However, the following are

set out as some obvious reminders to all Judges. These may serve as reminders of aspirational behavior or things to avoid. Ultimately, the first step in a disciplinary action is initiated by the event's Head Judge when it is deemed necessary. But in practice panel judges are advised to conduct themselves in a accurate, fair, co-operative and polite manner and to judge each athlete with a neutral approach and by the same standard of evaluation. Personal preferences, likes and dislikes have no place when one's overriding job is to "officiate with complete impartiality, in the true spirit of sportsmanship" keeping in mind the respect of all young athletes who entrust that they will be treated fairly at all times.

- Judges should be dressed in the appropriate uniform, which consists of a black or navy blue jacket and pants or skirt and white shirt. Judges must present themselves in an appropriate and acceptable manner as ambassadors of the BCRSGF, the province of B.C. and the sport of Rhythmic Gymnastics.
- Judges are expected to treat gymnasts, coaches, meet officials, and each other with courtesy and respect at all times.
- It is a violation for a judge to attempt to correct or to give coaching aid to a gymnast without first getting approval of the gymnast's coach.
- Judges cannot speak with a coach or athlete during a competition unless specifically authorized to do so by Head Judge of event.
- Public displays of disagreement, temper, inappropriate words, abusive language or body gestures are not allowed during your work at a competition or in the competition arena, regardless of any personal frustration that you may feel. Any such behavior may result in immediate warning, yellow card or expulsion with red card dependent upon the assessment of the Head Judge.
- Adherence to the competition rules regarding attire, grooming, timely attendance in accordance with Head Judge schedule and protocols of the event must be respected at all BCRSGF events.
- Judges are to refrain from malicious comments, negative gossip and demeaning remarks with or without intent to bias opinions concerning gymnasts, other judges or coaches. In judging it is not your place to speak negatively about a gymnast's qualities, routines or overall appearance. It is your place to judge fairly what you see on the competition floor.
- Always observe the competition with objectivity and impartiality, setting aside personal relationships, affiliations and even likes and dislikes. Let the Code of Points and its evaluation system be your only guide.
- Judges must always work quickly, accurately and independent of other judges to reach your score. Excessive discussion amongst judges outside the norm required will not be tolerated during the process of Judging an athlete.
- When necessary a meeting of panel judges may be called to bring scores in line with middle scores of judges. In such cases, all Judges will meet respectfully and quickly, state their reasons and move their score in line as required by FIG rules and directed by Head Judge or her authorized judge. Failure to co-operate in this regard can lead to yellow card warning or red card expulsion from the event.
- Judges are not allowed to attempt to have scorers change marks after a competition. Exception is the Head Judge of the event who can allow for the correction of a verified error or omission in judging occurs.
- A judge is required to attend a competition she is scheduled to attend and must be on hand except in the case of unexpected illness, injury or serious emergency. In any case, the judge is required to communicate with the organizing committee ahead of time (if possible).

- Judges are not allowed to leave during a competition (with the exception of certain extenuating circumstances) and with consent of Head Judge.
- Judges cannot applaud after any athlete's performance or to physically demonstrate other forms of partiality or preference. In turn, a Judge should maintain a neutral facial and body language demeanor and never communicate non verbally any sort of negative or unsupportive reaction during the course of judging.
- Disrespectful behavior during competition for Head Judge (or her appointed emissary) for any reason may result in automatic disciplinary action deemed appropriate by Head Judge.

Disciplinary Action for Violations in

Judging:

1. Any BCRSGF Judge who cannot abide by the above rules or who breaks the general rules of competition at any time while judging events (or while attending meetings or workshops) may have a yellow or red card issued on the spot, at the discretion of Head Judge.
2. The Judge may also be asked to immediately leave judging panel.
3. Subsequent to any violation taking place, the Head Judge will file a written report with the BCRSGF Brevet Judges Committee, with a further disciplinary recommendation (if suggested) to the Committee.
4. The Brevet Committee will be empowered to recommend further disciplinary action in accordance with the severity or frequency of the violation or to recommend no further action on the matter.
5. The Brevet Judges Committee will notify the Judge in question within 30 days, in writing, if any further disciplinary action is recommended and will advise the individual that they will be offered a right to appeal the disciplinary decision to the BCRSGF

prior to the BCRSGF approving the disciplinary decision of the Committee.

6. The Committee will also notify the BCRSGF within 30 days that the Committee has recommended a disciplinary action or suspension against an Official and will be presenting same to the BCRSGF Board at the Board's earliest convenience. The BCRSGF Board will in turn offer the Official in question an opportunity to appeal the decision of the Committee prior to BCRSGF taking a final decision on the matter.
7. If a BCRSGF member Official disputes the final decision of the BCRSGF and instead seeks outside or legal assistance to appeal or overturn (or not comply in any way), it is understood that the Official will, according to their signed Code of Conduct Agreement, become an "Inactive member, not in good standing" for the period of time that it takes for the matter between the Official and the BCRSGF to be completely resolved.
8. During the period of time that an individual member is declared an "Inactive member, not in good standing", the Official will cease all participation at any BCRSGF approved events within the province and will not be sanctioned to attend any national events, in any capacity until the matter in dispute with the BCRSGF is resolved.

General Discipline Levels for Violations of Code of Conduct:

The Brevet Committee has three levels of discipline at its disposal to use in case of violations to the BCRSGF (or GCG) Judging Rules & Regulations as follows:

- Verbal warning – with reminder that next Verbal warning will result in issuance of a Yellow Card
- Yellow Card – with warning that next Yellow Card will result in issuance of a Red Card
- Red Card Offense (or two or more chronic Yellow Cards without change in behavior)
 - Red Card can result in an immediate removal from the event and non-assignment for one year.
 - Re-Entry – will require personal monitoring by a Brevet level judge for the following season's Provincial Competitions (2 events)
 - Positive personal monitoring outcome leads to reinstatement to BC's pool of officials for the following season.
 - In the case of repeated Judging offences accumulating over two or more seasons, the Brevet Judging Committee will recommend removal of an Individual from Judging in BC to BCRSGF Board of Directors.
 - The Board will consider an appeal from the Judge in question and thereafter will

put the decision to a vote. A simple majority vote will carry the decision.

Development of Judging Officials in B.C.

BC ESPOIR Judges Program

The ESPOIR Judges Training Program provides for a program of progressive levels of training and development in order to develop a pool of young, independent Provincial and National Level BC Judges.

- Objective: Trained Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics judges for Provincial, Regional and National Level of competitions.
- Aim: To train judges according to the F.I.G. Code of Points at an easy- moderate pace to encourage more retired National Level athlete applicants to commence training as a Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastic Officials.
- Goals:
 - 1) To satisfy rhythmic sportive gymnastic technical requirements for officials for BCRSGF events and to prepare strong candidates for future judging at the regional and national events.
 - 2) To create a smooth athlete in sport transition environment of encouragement and progression for technically experienced applicants.
 - 3) To retain former athletes as integral members of our rhythmic gymnastics community in BC.
 - 4) To further friendly and professional interrelationships between trainee officials and established RSG clubs and personnel.

BC ESPOIR Judges Examination

Judges who take and pass the **Introductory Basic Espoir Judges Entry Exam** with a minimum qualifying score of **75%** are confirmed members of the **Espoir Judging Pool**. They will be eligible to attend both Provincial Championships in BC in the following capacities: Line Judge, Timer, Assistant to the Judge Coordinator, Equipment Measurer and shadow judging on the panel under direct supervision of Brevet Judges..

1. First year: Trainee Espoir 1 Judge at a minimum of 3 competitions. Based upon Brevet Committee evaluations for First Year, Espoir Judge will be recommended to continue with further practice/evaluation or move to Second year.
2. Second & Third year: If advancement conditions are met, the Trainee will be recommended by Committee to advance to **Espoir 2**. Here the Espoir 2 Judge must

- successfully take the next level Espoir Judges Course, pass with 75% and judge a minimum of 6 Invitational competitions and four Provincial competitions over a two year period, without major faults before being recommended by Brevet Judges Committee to advance to Espoir 3.
3. Fourth Year: **Espoir 3** Judges will be eligible for recommendation to write the **GCG National Judging Exam** and will continue to be monitored and evaluated by the Judges Committee.
 4. Upon successfully passing National Judging Exam for 2021-2024, BCRSGF Espoir Judges will become National certified Judges and eligible to be assigned to all Provincial, Regional or in some cases National events.
 5. Throughout this certification process, an individual must follow all the general criteria guidelines as they pertain to Espoir Judges Pool and general rules of Judging. If at any point the Espoir Judge is known to be coaching Regional or National level athletes, they will automatically cease being a member of the Espoir Pool of Judges. If a member wishes to pursue coaching at the Regional or National Level they have the right to respectfully withdraw from the Espoir Pool.

Succession Planning & Judges Development Policy:

In 2019 the BC Brevet Judges Committee implemented a plan to put energy and funds into a new Judges Development Program that would directly focus our recently retired (and not working as competitive Coaches) former National athletes. This focus going forward will keep pace and share similar philosophies with other countries in the world who are promoting independence and neutrality in Judging and looking to their retired unaffiliated athletes as a great technically astute resource to be developed. Starting in 2020 we will have a 3 tiered system in judging as follows:

- i. **Current Brevet, National and Provincial Level Judges already in our BCRSGF system** as fully certified (at their level) Judges. These Judges (although some are also Coaches) will continue to be developed and supported in our system.
- ii. **Future National Development Pool known as Espoir Judges** selected and development because they meet all criteria of that Program. After 3-4 years of developing within BC (with workshops, courses, exams and practical experience), we

will put forward the candidates to take the National Judging Exam and if successful, they will be added to our National Pool of Judges. *See addendum #1 for expanded details and eligibility/selection for BC Espoir Judging Development Program.

- iii. **BCRSGF Club Level Judges Pool** – parents of retired gymnasts, retired Western Level athletes, newcomers. These Individuals can challenge a modified BC Level 1-3 Judging exam and if successful, they will be allowed to Judge at Club Invitationals and at BC's Provincial Levels 1 to 3 Championships held in June each year. Individuals from this pool will not move forward into the National Judging Development Program nor be sanctioned in future to write the National Exams.

Judging at BCRSGF Sanctioned Competitions

Judging at BCRSGF sanctioned competitions is governed by the FIG Code of Points for all National Junior and Senior Individual and Groups and by the GCG Development Program for all National Novice and all Regional Stream Level 3A to 6C. Provincial Levels are governed by BCRSGF Development Level program and Age Categories developed by the collaboration of the BC Brevet Judges Committee and the BC Competitive Development Committee and published annually.

Remuneration

Judges are funded by the BCRSGF (excluding club and invitational competitions where it is the responsibility of the hosting club or the Competition Organizing Committee to provide honoraria for the judges). BCRSGF funds judges' honoraria and travel expenses for Provincial Competitions. The amount of the honoraria is based upon recommendation from the Judges Committee and approved by the Board of Directors

BCRSGF RG Officials' Responsibilities

- a) To be an active registered member Official of the BCRSGF annually.
- b) In the case of any Official from 2020 forward who are entering into the Espoir Judging Program, these Judges must register as independent judges directly with BCRSGF

office and sign an additional agreement that they do not or will not in the future be coaching in any BC Competitive Stream program.

- c) To have full knowledge of the Code of Points and the Technical Rules and Regulations
- d) To participate in regular refresher seminars, clinics and judging courses.
- e) To sign and agree to the Judges Code of Conduct annually before participating as an Official for the season.
- f) To always adhere to these rules and regulations, Code of Ethics for officials and to, above all, show behavior fitting a judge of Rhythmic Gymnastics: competency, objectivity, fairness to all young athletes (no matter personal feelings for coach/club, co-operation and respect to all parents, volunteers and fellow officials.
- g) At all times, act as a goodwill ambassador for the sport, the sport governing body (BCRSGF) and the athletes that we are volunteering to support to the best of our abilities at all times.
- h) Regarding any intention to travel with BC or other gymnasts, all registered Judges in BC must inform the BCRSGF office and Chairperson of the Committee of any planned international travel (assigned or volunteered).

Judges' Rights

- a) To receive certification after successfully completing a Judges course (in accordance with the BCRSGF's Judges Development Programs and with a recommendation by the Judges Committee. However, as per our jurisdiction, no individuals are sanctioned to register or take the GCG National Judges Course without permission and approval of the Brevet Judges Committee.
- b) To receive pre-determined reimbursement for expenses at competitions.
- c) To judge at competitions at which Official is qualified to do so and at all lower levels.

Assignment Eligibility

- a) The British Columbia Sportive Gymnastic Federation (BCRSGF) Judges certification period follows the four-year FIG cycle.
- b) A certification rating obtained during the current cycle will be valid throughout the current cycle provided the judge meets all certification maintenance requirements.
- c) A judge may advance in the rating structure during a cycle provided all rating requirements are met.
- d) Rotational systems follow the traditionally established Zone participation order. At the discretion of the Brevet Judges Committee a Judge from a Zone that does not have any Individual athletes eligible to participate at an event, another next in line Zone Judge

with athletes participating may be assigned instead.

Judges List and Certification

- a) A judges' certification/rating list will be published annually by December 30 and based upon the results of the previous year for competition assignments.
- b) Upgrades will be published as necessary but will not alter the competition assignment rotation.
- c) A judge's certification/rating is determined by GCG for National/International levels and by BCRSGF for Trainee, Club and Provincial levels. Fair, objective and published criteria are used and applied in a fair and objective manner.
- d) Assignment for Regional and National competitions follow the BCRSGF Annual Rotational System for each event and is kept as a rotating record by the BCRSGF Brevet Judges Committee. Assignments made are based on the Rotational system and the rules that apply to it.

Competition Dates & Officials Assignments

- a) A list of all competition dates, venues, and names of meet directors must be submitted to the BC Judging Committee prior to December 1st of each year.
- b) This competition list will be sent to all eligible judges by December 15.
- c) Each judge will be asked to return their availability form to the Judges Chairperson prior to the January 10 deadline of each year.
- d) Competition judging assignments will be made by the Judging Committee according to the annual rotation list.
- e) The rotation will continue where it left off for the following year until it is exhausted, and then the new year's rotation will begin.
- f) Each judge will be funded (annual budget permitting) to officiate at the minimum number of official (FIG in the case of Brevet) competitions required to maintain their license in the current cycle. All assistance with travel expense is always **dependent upon BCRSGF funding availability**.
- g) A list of judges and alternates will be published for each meet depending on funding availability.
- h) If no additional funding is available, and BC is requested to send more judges, then a judge may self-fund. This will count as an assignment and must not replace a BCRSGF funded judge on any panel.

- i) If a funded BC judge attends an assigned competition and does not judge all days of the competition by their own choice (either sick or scheduling problems), that counts as an assignment. At Western Regional Championships if Officials are also acting part of the time as club coaches, they will receive only 50% of funds distributed to other Officials only individuals.
- j) All judging assignments must be sanctioned by the BCRSGF for all competitions (FIG, GCG, BCRSGF) and signed by the judges' chairperson. Requests for GCG assignment to international events must be approved by the BC Judges Chair and sent on the judges behalf by BCRSGF office.

Judge Responsible for BCRSGF Competitions

- a) National Stream Provincials--minimum National II Degree
- b) Provincial Stream Provincials--minimum National I Degree
- c) Zone and Club Meets--minimum Provincial Level II
(For National Level Competitions, the CRSGF assignment policies will be followed))

BCRSGF Competition Judge Responsible Duties

- a) The Judge Responsible must ensure that a balance between judges according to her/his qualifications will be maintained when assigning panels if more than one club is participating.
- b) Duties--The Judge Responsible or Meet Head Judge is assigned by the BC Judges Chairperson or the Judging Committee.
- c) **Prior to the Competition:**
 1. Establish contact with the Competition Meet Director and Technical Director.
 2. Obtain the BC Judges availability list from the Judges Chairperson.
 3. Contact the available judges and confirm their assignments.
 4. Inform the judges of the location, date, time, technical information, level of the competition and the time for the judges meeting/ briefing.
 5. Assist the Technical Director with the following:
 - a. Check gymnast's registration.
 - b. Confirm that the gymnasts have paid BCRSGF membership.
 - c. Confirm competition level of gymnasts.
 - d. Assist with the draw for the competition.
 - e. Help with the schedule of the competition.
 6. Decide if one or two Judging Panels will be used.
 7. Calculate the time schedule of the rotations.
 8. Draw the layout (floor plan) and seating for the judges.
 9. Confirm with the Meet Director that the following equipment is available.
 - a. Appropriate sound system
 - b. RSG equipment measuring table.

- c. Stop-watch for the Timer.
- d. Scoring equipment, computer or manual.
- e. Score board.
- f. Chairs for line judges (2).
- g. Video camera to tape the competition.
- h. Tables and comfortable chairs for the panel judges.
- i. Runners to assist with the judges score sheets.
- j. Inspect the competition floor/carpet area--13mx13m.

Order from the BCRSGF office, Executive Director the following:

- k. Panel judges score sheets, DB, DA, Artistry & Execution for all categories.
- l. Coordinator Judge score sheets.
- m. Score sheets for scoring table, awards--individual and all- around.
- n. Line judges slip.
- o. Timer judge slip.
- p. Equipment measurer slip.
- q. Ensure that the above items are delivered to the competition site.
- r. Red and green flag for Head Judge.

Assign the judges according to their level/rating. Use the most experienced judges for the DB and DB panels.

During the Competition:

- a. Coordinate the judges meeting/briefing, prior to the start of the competition.
- b. Attend the technical meeting, with the Meet Director or with the Technical Direct.
- c. Instruct --judge coordinator and assistance of assignments.
- d. Monitor the time schedule of the competition.
- e. Oversee the panel judges.
- f. Ensure the line judges and timer are in position.
- g. The equipment should be measured at the end of each routine.
- h. At the end of each rotation confirm and sign the official score sheets.

After the Competition

- a. Collect all score sheets and judges slips attached, place in a sealed envelope and send to the BCRSGF office for record keeping.
- b. Time Permitting - Schedule after the competition a judges and coaches meeting for about 30 minutes for judges to give positive feedback on the individual routines, or to give general comments on technical matters.

Judges Honorarium

The following rates per day shall apply to judges officiating at BCRSGF sanctioned competitions. A day is considered to be eight hours or less, including the judges' meeting. Hours of competition are from the start of the judges' meeting until the last gymnast is finished on the last event, plus 15 minutes.

Honorarium is payable to the officials on the day of the competition if the competition is up to 8 hours. If the competition is longer the rates are double.

Level Brevet/Head Judge	Rates (day)
Brevet	\$200.00
National I, II, 111	\$ 100.00
Provincial I, II	\$ 75.00
Certified Espoir or BC Club Level	\$ 40.00
	\$ 30.00

Clinician Honorarium

A judge who conducts a BCRSGF organized certification clinic/course for other judges shall be paid as follows:

LEVEL	RATE PER DAY
BREVET	\$150.00 (8 hrs or less)
NATIONAL	\$75.00 (8 hrs or less)

To be eligible for this honorarium, the clinic/course must be officially recognized, sponsored and/or sanctioned by the Judges' Committee.

NOTE: Judges in BC are forbidden to do private consulting work, coaching, choreography work, assessments or trainings with any **competitive** athletes that they may be in contact with you **outside of a competition setting**. Acceptance of any work of this type for other clubs, other than one you have owned/coached at for several years historically before becoming a Judge, will prohibit a Judge from participating in sanctioned events or future assignments.

ADDENDUM #1

BCRSGF Criteria for ESPOIR Judges Selection

1. Age Eligible: 16 years of age as of date of course and maximum 23 years of age, as of date of course.
2. Competed nationally during the last (2) FIG Cycles (2013-2016) and or (2017-2020)
3. Competed National Level Junior or Senior Individual in Canada for at least (1) Full Season during one or both of the last two FIG Cycles 2013-16 or 2017-20.
4. Coaches who take the course in the hope of working their way up the Judging levels can continue to coach at the Recreational, Interclub, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 BC Provincial Levels only. If in future they wish to pursue the higher levels of coaching by training athletes at the Regional or National Levels, they will relinquish their spot in this ESPOIR Judges Pool.
5. * Note reason for Criteria #4 is the consensus is that this d succession plan for developing new coaches for BC's future is to draw a strict line separating Judging from Coaching responsibilities/relationships. Our aim is to promote independence in judging and to create a community of new young Judges who are not wearing two hats by coaching the levels of gymnasts they are judging.



BCRSGF Espoir Judges Development Pool Pathway for Education and Certification

Reading this document is your first step to becoming a rhythmic gymnastics judge. Judges are essential participants in the sport of gymnastics. As a judge, you are responsible for applying the rules of the sport in a fair and equitable way, while ensuring a level playing field and a safe environment for our athletes. Judging can be a rewarding experience, but it also entails a lot of dedication, practice, and professionalism.

Here is what you need to know to get started

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE A JUDGE? Former national level gymnasts who retired during the last three quadrennials (12 years) and is a maximum age of 30 years.

HOW DO I GET STARTED? The first step is to contact your BCRSGF Judges' Representative and let them know of you are interested. They will be able to tell you when the next judges' course/test will be held and how you can register. The next step is for you to review and familiarize yourself with the Rules BCRSGF Interclub Rules and the BCRSGF Provincial Stream Individual and Group programs. In addition, refer to the Judges Policies for BCRSGF Rules and Regulations. Finally, you will need to register for the appropriate Course and Test. Courses are held several times in an Olympic cycle.

WHAT ARE THE JUDGE RATING (CERTIFICATION OF LEVEL) PATHWAYS?

There are four levels of judge ratings in BC and Canada's Rhythmic Program:

- **BCRSGF Club 2 and Club 1 (2 yrs min time frame)** – 16+ years of age for eligibility to write exam. Once passing exam, judges Interclub, BC Level 1, 2, 3 (Execution Technical E 3/4 Only...under supervision)- two years minimum to complete Club 1 and 2. Moving up to Club 1 requires clean judging record, proof of successfully judging 3 minimum Invitational competitions and 1 BC Provincial Level Championships over one year minimum and another year of experience judging as Club 1 successfully and the recommendation of BC Judging Committee to advance to taking Provincial Judging Course.
- **BCRSGF Provincial 2 & 1 (3 yrs minimum time frame)** – judges at competitions up to the GCG Regional Level (Execution 1-2 or Execution 3-4 only), over 2 yr period at 5 BC Invitational competitions & min 3 BC Provincial Championships . Moving to **Provincial 1** level requires clean judging record, proof judging 4 Invitational & 3 BC Provincial Championships over minimum 1 year period and the recommendation of the BC Judging Committee. * Note: 1 year minimum successfully judging at **Provincial 1** Certification is

required (at 2 Provincials and 3 invitationals) before being eligible for recommendation to take the **National Judging course**.

- **National Level 2** , must be 18 yrs +- must pass the National Judging course and successfully judge over a two year minimum period at all levels of events in BC, have a clean judging record to be recommended by the BC Judges Committee to confirm certification at **National Level 2** and to be eligible for assignment to judge at Western Regional Competitions. **National Level 1** – must pass any new national course (if a new Code quadrennial) and have judged successfully provincially and regionally for two years at **National Level 2** to achieve **National 1 confirmation** and recommendation by BC Judges Committee. Must Judge at the **National 1 confirmed** level successfully for min 1 year, before being eligible for recommendation as a BC candidate for writing the Brevet exam.
- **Brevet** - Must have recommendation of BCRSGF Judging Committee to register (after two years of clean/successful judging in BC or Regionally at **Certified National Level 1** rating) in order to be considered for recommendation to write the Brevet Judging Exam.
 - **REQUIREMENTS TO WRITE BREVET:**
 - Have a current National 1 clean record, no infractions and a recommendation of Provincial Judging Committee
 - The International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) administers the test, which is by invitation only and not always open to all candidates that a country lists.
 - WHAT'S ON THE TEST? The judge's test has both a written and a practical component. The written component is typically multiple choice and/ or short answer questions. For the practical component, you will judge a number of routines on video. The key to success is to study prior to taking the course!
 - The National Judges' Representative will send you your results as soon as possible after the testing date.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** there is a “fast tracking system” in judging education/certification for recently retired **National Team Members** and some long-term **National Level Seniors**. Check with Judges Chair when applying to judge.