

2026 SC USA Gymnastics State Championship Criteria for Judges

The SC USA Gymnastics Committee reviewed and approved the criteria for judges to be eligible to judge SC State Championship at the SC USA Gymnastics Committee meeting on **July 23, 2025**.

The policy is as follows:

SC USA Gymnastics Criteria for Selection of Judges for State Championship

The SC USA Gymnastics State Administrative Committee (SC SAC) must approve the slate of judges for all State Championships. Regardless of the State Championship structure (for example 2 or 4 judge panels), the following is the criteria for the selection process.

1. Fulfillment of Volunteer Requirements - In an effort to further their preparation and to ensure SC Judges are adequately prepared to judge SC athletes at State Championship, judges are required to volunteer at a State Training Camp for at least one day/session (4-6 hours), every other year and are highly encouraged to attend Regional Training Camps and Regional / National Congresses. Exceptions to this requirement would be considered on an individual basis by the SC SAC from a petition sent to the SC SACC.
2. Consideration for Regional Assignments
3. Rating and Experience
4. When all the above is relatively equal, then location, affiliation and membership to the SC NAWGJ Board and SC SAC will be considered

Volunteer Opportunities to Meet Requirement for State Meet Eligibility:

- 2024 SC Optional Training Camp including the High-Performance Training Day
- 2024 SC Compulsory & XCEL Training Camp
- 2025 SC Compulsory & XCEL Training Camps (Either location)
- 2025 SC Optional Training Camp including the High-Performance Training Day

Judges Moving into South Carolina - When a judge (no matter their rating - 4/5 through Brevet) moves to the state, they will go to the bottom of the rotation for that year for State Championships. They will be considered to judge the State Meets on an as needed basis within the first year and then be included in the selection based on their availability after the first year.

Clarifications for Assigning Judges to the State Championship who have met the Selection Criteria:

1. If for any reason, a judge is you are unable to obtain the correct rating to judge the Level(s) at the State Meet you are contracted and assigned, the judge will be replaced.
2. All judges must have their CPE completed and turned into the SC CPE Coordinator by 12/31/25 or the judge will be replaced.
3. If for any reason, there are not four unaffiliated judges to be Chief Judges, the next unaffiliated judge in rank order will be used.
4. The SC SAC preference is to use judges that are available for entire sections of meet. When this is not possible, the SC SAC's preference is to split the meet among SC judges rather than to contract out of state. (Example of sections: Levels 8-10, Xcel components, etc.)

Judge Selection Process for State Meets:

The SC USA Gymnastics State Administrative Committee will ask the SC NAWGJ Assignor to collect availability and any petition to be considered by the SC SAC for the SC judges who would like to be considered to judge the SC State Championships to be submitted by October 8th. The slates of judges for the SC State Championships will be created based on the submitted availability. The slate should be obtained by collecting a form from each judge that includes availability, levels willing to judge and affiliations for each level for each State Championship. The criteria for selecting judges for State Meets and procedures should be included on this form to communicate clearly to the judges all the procedures & information the SC SAC follows to select judges to judge the SC State Championships. Petitions submitted should include an explanation in regard to the volunteer requirement not being met, along with any documentation needed.

The NAWGJ State Judging Director (NAWGJ SJD) and the Assignor will present a slate of available judges, who have met the selection criteria, to judge State Championships to be discussed, along with any petitions to be considered, to select the judges to judge each State Championship on October 22nd at SC SAC meeting. The slate is presented to the SC SAC including the availability, ranking, and affiliation of each judge for each State Championship. Only the NAWGJ SJD, Assignor, and SC USA Gymnastics Chairman may see the slates prior to presenting them to the SC SAC. If for any reason after the slates of judges have been presented to the SC SAC on October 22nd, all judge slots are not filled, the SC NAWGJ Assignor will send communication to all SC judges to inquire if anyone's availability has changed. If needed, availability from out of states judges in surrounding states will be collected by the SJD/Assignor of those states. The SC SAC will then meet again to consider all options to fill the judge spots for the SC State Championships.

The SC USA Gymnastics Chairman and the NAWGJ SJD will select the Meet Referees to be submitted to the Committee. The following components will be considered when selecting the Meet Referees: meet referee experience, level of gymnasts, and duration of time since last meet referee assignment at State Championships. Any Level 10, National, or Brevet rated judge will be eligible to be a Meet Referee for the State Championships. Whenever possible, options to use multiple meet referees within one State Championship will be considered to create more opportunity for judges to serve in that role. Only the NAWGJ SJD, Assignor, and SC USA Gymnastics Chairman may see the slates and the selected Meet Referees prior to presenting them to the SC SAC.

The SC USA Gymnastics Chairman and Meet Referee will work together to assign the Chief Judges and the event assignments. State Championship event assignments are sent to judges after the regional event assignments have been determined.

The SC USA Gymnastics Committee Chairman will assign a replacement judge if within one week prior to the State Championship without a SC SAC vote in the event that a judge is no longer able to judge one of the SC State Championships. The Chairman will make the replacement assignment by determining what is best for the meet and from the available judges. Other factors such as proximity, ranking, etc. may be considered; yet will not dictate the decision.

After being selected to judge a State Championship at an October Committee meeting, a judge must be sent a contract by the NAWGJ SJD or Assignor by November 1st for all State Championships. The judge must return the contract within 30 days of receipt.