

## Electronic Scoring and Keypad Errors

Electronic scoring has been a big help to the gymnastics community. Judges benefit from the improved environment it allows by reducing the number of people who need to sit by them as assistants. Scores are flashed instantaneously. Averaging errors are eliminated. However, a new opportunity for error, i.e. keypad entry mistakes. Generally, these errors are caught by the Chief Judge when there are two judge panels. However, with four judge panels, the errors may not be noticed because of the practice of dropping the low and high scores. Here's a couple of examples from a recent meet:

<b>J1</b>	<b>J2</b>	<b>J3</b>	<b>J4</b>
9.60	9.70	9.55	<b>2.96</b> (probably a 9.6)
7.70	7.90	7.90	<b>9.20</b> (probably an 8.2)
9.00	8.70	8.90	<b>8.875</b> (probably an 8.7)

What can we do to prevent these errors?

- Before pressing the send key, double check the screen to make sure you entered the score you intended
- Chief Judges should ask for a print out of all four scores as well as the average when verifying scores and check each score
- Even if the two middle scores are in range, the Chief Judge should check with the judge who turned in the "suspect" score to determine if an error was made.