

NAWGJ NEWSLETTER

November, 2002

Judges as Spectators at Meets

If you attend a meet to watch (not as a judge) you must pay for the meet as a spectator. Judges should not accept offers to enter a meet for free or reduced prices. This suggests a lack of impartiality. The only time you are admitted into the meet for free is when you are judging, practice judging or volunteering. Please do not ask the meet director for special favors.

It is best to refrain from providing information to other spectators about the judging while you are sitting in the stands. It's best to answer questions in a general manner rather than to comment on a particular athlete's routine or possible execution errors. The athlete's coach is the only person who should communicate execution errors to the gymnast.

If a parent asks you a question, you can say it is different watching a meet as a spectator than as a judge and that, unless you have your pen in hand, it's hard to predict a score or apply a deduction.

