# Women's Artistic Gymnastics Whānau Guide

A guide to the national competitive programme.



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#### Introduction

This handbook is to provide a guide to the national Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) competitive programme in New Zealand.

Women's Artistic Gymnastics is one of the most popular, celebrated and thoroughly modern sports for women, having undergone more transformation than perhaps any other Olympic sport. With a thrilling combination of daring and grace, gymnasts perform challenging elements on four apparatus – Vault, Uneven Bars, Balance Beam and Floor – with emphasis on agility, artistry, flexibility, power and style.

# Gymnastics New Zealand

As an International Gymnastics Federation member, Gymnastics NZ is the national governing body for gymnastics in New Zealand. We look after the sport across all codes from grassroots, through to high-performance athletes.

Our codes include both men's and women's artistic gymnastics, rhythmic, aerobics, trampoline, and GNZ parkour, and work with technical committees to outline the New Zealand rules and regulations for each one of these codes.

Gymnastics NZ staff support clubs in the operational and technical delivery of the sport, through relationship managers, education, international tours, and head office.

Clubs are required to be a member of Gymnastics NZ to compete in the national competitive programmes.

# Strategic Plan 2024-2030

This is the road map outlining what our priorities will be and why.

Our Vision – To be New Zealand's First Choice Sport.

This is a vision that we can measure and be inspired by. Gymnastics is a core foundational sport, whether we are your first sport, or your forever sport. And we believe that gymnastics sets you up for life.

Our Purpose – To Enable Positive Gymnastics Experiences for Everybody.

This purpose both guides a motivates us. Our athletes, volunteers, clubs, officials, and people are the reason we are here. We believe that everybody involved in our sport deserves a positive, enjoyable, fun, experience at every level of sport.

#### Our Values

These are the key behaviours we believe the organisation needs in order to achieve success for our sport, and should underpin everything that we do. They were designed by our team, based on community feedback and interactions.



#### Our Strategic Priorities

These are the key outcomes we are looking to achieve by 2030. These outcomes were set by the Board after careful consideration, and feedback from the community through our club hui.

- Growth in participation.
- Thriving club communities.
- Established performance pathways.

We believe these are the three areas of focus that will deliver on our vision to be New Zealand's first choice sport.

You can find the full strategic plan on our website.



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# Safe Sport

Gymnastics NZ is committed to creating a positive culture within the sport of gymnastics that prioritises the safety and wellbeing of all involved, with particular emphasis on children and young people. This includes both the prevention of harm within gymnastics as well as recognising and responding to concerns, disclosures, and allegations both within and outside of the sport.

It is important that any concerns regarding child safety and wellbeing are raised as soon as possible. This could involve contacting your club safeguarding lead, or by completing a safe sport form on the Gymnastics NZ website. Identifying and addressing concerns early and at the appropriate level is an important part of creating a safe and positive culture within the sport of gymnastics.

Please refer to the <u>Gymnastics NZ website</u> for more information on how concerns and complaints are handled and for the Gymnastics NZ Complaints Policy, and Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

# Gymnastics NZ Code of Behaviour

The <u>Gymnastics NZ Code of Behaviour</u> applies to anyone involved in the sport of gymnastics in New Zealand, whether they are an athlete or in a paid or unpaid/voluntary capacity with Gymnastics NZ or an affiliated club or organisation.

Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every individual athlete as a human being. Treat everyone equally regardless of sex, disability, ethnic origin or religion. Respect the talent, development stage and goals of each athlete to reach their desired potential.

#### Protect athletes from all forms of abuse.

Refrain from any form of verbal, physical, or emotional abuse towards athletes. Refrain from any form of sexual or racial harassment, whether verbal or physical. Do not harass, abuse, or discriminate against athletes based on their sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religious or ethical beliefs, race, colour, ethnic origins, employment status, disability, or distinguishing characteristics. Any physical contact with athletes should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the athlete's skill development. Be alert to any forms of abuse directed towards athletes from other sources while in your care. You must raise any concerns you have regarding the treatment of any athlete by another coach, volunteer, parent etc. in accordance with this code or any other relevant policies and procedures e.g. Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

#### Provide a safe environment for training and competition.

Adopt appropriate risk management strategies to ensure the training and/or competition environment is safe. Ensure equipment and facilities meet safety standards. Ensure equipment, rules, training, and the environment are appropriate for the age, physical and emotional maturity, experience, and ability of athletes. Show concern and caution toward

sick and injured athletes. Allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate. Encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required. Provide a modified training programme where appropriate. Maintain the same interest and support toward sick and injured athletes as you would the healthy athletes.

#### Make a commitment to providing a quality service for all athletes.

Seek continual improvement through ongoing education, and other personal and professional development opportunities. Provide athletes with planned and structured input appropriate to their needs and goals. Seek advice and assistance from professionals when additional expertise is required. Maintain appropriate records.

#### Maintain a high standard of integrity.

Operate within the rules of the sport and in the spirit of fair play, while encouraging athletes to do the same. Advocate a sporting environment free of drugs and other performance enhancing substances with the guidelines of the Drug Free Sport New Zealand and World Anti-Doping Code. Do not disclose any confidential information relating to athletes without their prior written consent.

# Be a positive role model for the sport and athletes and act in a way that projects a positive image.

All athletes are deserving of equal attention and opportunities. Ensure the athlete's time spent with you is a positive experience. Be fair, considerate, and honest with athletes. Encourage and promote a healthy lifestyle – refrain from smoking and drinking alcohol around athletes.

#### Professional responsibilities.

Display high standards in your language, manner, punctuality, preparation, and presentation. Display control, courtesy, respect, honesty, dignity and professionalism to all involved within the sphere of sport – this includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, media, parents, and spectators. Encourage athletes to demonstrate the same qualities. Be professional and accept responsibility for your actions. You should not only refrain from initiating a sexual relationship with an athlete but should also discourage any attempt by an athlete to initiate a sexual relationship with you, explaining the ethical basis of your refusal. Accurately represent personal qualifications, experience, competence, and affiliation.

# Women's Artistic Programme in New Zealand

The STEPs programme has been developed with the majority of gymnasts in mind. Although it is possible to progress through the programme to an international level, the Women's Artistic Gymnastics Technical Committee (WAG TC) recognises this is not necessarily within all gymnasts' abilities, or even their goal.

STEPs encourages gymnasts to Strive Towards Excellence in Performance (STEP) at their own level and pace. There are 10 STEPs from beginners to high level gymnasts and, while most gymnasts may not reach STEP 10, it is hoped they will progress to a level at which they can fulfil their dreams as gymnasts. The STEP programme is flexible enough to allow gymnasts to progress further on one, or more, apparatus.

Whilst developing the programme, the WAG TC considered the following to be characteristics of a successful competitive structure:

- Sustainable it should have longevity, allowing the system to be in place for more than one cycle.
- Progressive it should allow gymnasts to move up through the system to achieve their potential.
- Comprehensive it should encompass all ages and abilities of gymnast and their development from beginners to senior or elite athletes.
- Comprehensible it should be easy to understand by the uninitiated (parents/media/sponsors) and simple to introduce to the coaches, gymnasts and judges.
- Retentive it should engage gymnasts such that they want to continue in the sport as teenagers.
- Rewarding it should encourage excellence in technical execution.
- Laudatory it should reward gymnasts tangibly with certificates, or similar, and have value attached to improvement.

The STEPs programme begins with compulsory exercises which are designed to be achievable by the majority of gymnasts, and encourage them to perform with attention to technical excellence. STEPs 4 to 6 permit a choice of some skills, to account for gymnast's physical abilities, and allow them to transition to STEPs which have optional exercises based on composition requirements. Again, encouraging gymnasts to perform within their ability, but allowing for faster development on one, or more, apparatus.

STEPs 1 to 8 have age groups to assist in retaining the older gymnasts, whilst giving younger gymnasts a chance to compare themselves against their peers. STEPs also have progression thresholds to ensure gymnasts advance as they are ready.

A Ribbon Award Scheme operates for STEPs 1 to 6, giving gymnasts an instant and tangible recognition of their achievements, with different coloured ribbons signifying the different score targets they have achieved.

## STEP – Striving Towards Excellence in Performance

The competitive STEPs cover the gymnast's development from beginner to high level athlete.

STEP	Competitions available to athletes	Exercise Type	
1	Entry level		
2	Small Club Competitions	Companyloomy averages	
3	Local Club or Regional Competitions	Compulsory exercises	
4	Local Club or Regional Competitions		
5		Creative Compulsory eversions	
6		Creative Compulsory exercises	
7			
8		Ontinual avarages	
9	Local Club or Regional Competitions and	Optional exercises	
10	are eligible for National Championships		
Junior and		International rules and guidelines	
Senior			
International			

Competition organisers will determine what awards will be offered at their competition, and this should be communicated prior to the event. e.g., they may offer awards for All Around and Apparatus placings, or for All Around placings only.

# Progression through the STEPs Programme

It is recommended gymnasts enter at STEP 1 and progress at their own pace up through the STEPs. Before progressing, the gymnast must be physically, mentally and emotionally ready to handle the demands of the training and skills required in the next STEP.

The club and/or coach is responsible for ensuring a gymnast is adequately prepared for the STEP in which she is competing. As each STEP builds upon the foundation of skills and requirements of the previous STEP, the gymnast must have achieved the minimum score before considering the readiness factors for the next STEP.

This minimum score must have been achieved on two separate occasions. STEPs 1 to 6, both occasions may be from the gymnast's home province. STEPs 7 to 10, one of these is required to be outside the gymnasts home province.

Factors which must be considered before allowing a gymnast to progress include, but are not limited to:

Factor	Comment	
Physical preparation	Does the gymnast have the strength, flexibility and other physical	
	preparation required for the next STEP, including solid foundation of skill	
	development?	
Skill readiness	Can the gymnast perform consistently in training, all the elements and	
	requirements to compete the STEP?	
Psychological readiness	Is the gymnast ready to handle the psychological demands of the training	
	and requirements for the next STEP?	
Stage of development	Regardless of physical preparation and skill level, is the next STEP	
	appropriate given the gymnast's childhood stage of development and	
	growth?	
Outside factors	Is the next STEP appropriate given the gymnast's obligations, demands,	
	desires and limitations beyond gymnastics? (Family, education, work,	
	extra-curricular, financial etc)	

Once all factors have been considered, and the prerequisite of a minimum score in the previous STEP has been fulfilled, the gymnast may move to the next STEP, but is not required to do so. Clubs may also set their own additional criteria for progression to the next STEP.

Progression		
	Minimum	
STEPs 1 to 4	50.000	
31273 1 10 4	Distinction	
	56.000	
	Minimum	
STEPs 5 to 6	50.000	
31273 3 10 0	Distinction	
	56.000	
STEP 7	43.000	
STEPs 8 to 10	43.000	
Junior International		
Senior International		

A gymnast may compete at more than one STEP during a single competitive season, provided she meets the score requirements and all readiness factors have been considered. If the gymnast proves herself capable of faster progression by achieving a distinction, she may move to the next STEP immediately, but only after all readiness factors have been considered.

#### STEPs Age Divisions

STEPs 1 to 8 are split into age divisions. STEPs 9 and 10 do not have age divisions. The age divisions may compete together, or separately, in the competition programme, but the individual results and awards must be separate for each age division. Teams may comprise gymnasts from either, or both, age divisions within the STEP.

The age division is determined by the age the gymnast will turn during the calendar year. The gymnast must have turned 6 years on 1 January to be eligible to compete. In STEP 1-4, if an age division is at 40 athletes or more, then the division may be split equally into two. In STEP 7 and 8, if there are 6 gymnasts or less in a competition in total, it is recommended clubs combine the two age groups.

STEP	1st Age Division	2nd Age Division		
1	up to 8	9+		
2	up to 9	10+		
3	up to 10	11+		
4	up to 11	12+		
5	up to 12	13+		
6	up to 13	14+		
7	up to 14	15+		
8	up to 14	15+		
9	No age divisions	No age divisions		
10	No age divisions	No age divisions		
International				
Junior	up to 15	up to 15		
Senior	16+	16+		

#### International Athletes

To enter the International Stream, she must demonstrate she is physically and psychologically prepared and must meet minimum criteria. Gymnasts approved by the WAG Technical Committee to compete in the International Stream will compete in accordance with full FIG requirements.

# STEPs Badges

STEP Badges are available following qualification at each STEP (1- 10), a gymnast is eligible to purchase the corresponding badge through their club who can purchased them from Gymnastics New Zealand.

#### Ribbon Awards Scheme

The Ribbon Award Scheme is an incentive performance-based scheme which gives instant recognition to individual achievement, independent of a gymnast's ranking in a competition. It operates in STEP 1- 6. Ribbons may be awarded at club competitions, provided there is compliance with the judging panel requirements.

When competing in a first competition at any STEP, the gymnast will be awarded a ribbon on each apparatus, with its colour determined by the score achieved. As the performances improves to the next score band, they will be awarded the ribbon of the colour for that score band.

A gymnast does not need to be awarded a ribbon if their score decreases from their personal best at any time. i.e. if a gymnast has been awarded a red ribbon at their first competition, they do not need to be awarded a blue or green ribbon at any subsequent competition.

#### Ribbon Scores for STEPs 1-6

• Gold 14.000

• Red 13.000

Blue 12.000

• Green <12.000

# Levels of Competition



# Competition Attire

#### Gymnastics NZ Regulations – All Codes

- 1. Gymnasts may choose to wear gymnastics shorts or leggings over their leotard.
- 2. Hair can be worn in any style, provided it is securely fastened.
- 3. Bandages, strapping and braces where available these should be skin-coloured or beige, white or black.
- 4. No deductions will be given for underwear showing during a routine.

### Women's Artistic Gymnastics Competition Attire Regulations

#### International Representative Athletes

Please note that FIG competition attire regulations may differ and will apply to all gymnasts when competing at selection events for, and when representing New Zealand at FIG competitions. These regulations can be found in the <u>WAG Code of Points</u>. Athletes competing overseas at non-FIG competitions should check the rules of the event before travelling.

#### Athletes at Domestic Competitions

The following regulations apply to all competitive gymnasts at domestic competitions in New Zealand.

- Gymnasts must wear an appropriate leotard, or unitard (i.e. a one-piece item of clothing with full length leg cover from hips to ankles) in club or representative colours.
- If shorts or leggings are worn, they should be either black or the primary colour of the provincial leotard and either be plain or with a discrete logo.
- The leotard, or unitard, may be sleeveless, short or long sleeved. Mesh fabric underlain by a skin-coloured fabric is permitted.
- In the team competition the design of the leotard, or unitard, should be identical for all members of the team. If this is not possible due to supply issues etc, the WAG TC should be notified prior to the competition. Within the team, the gymnasts may choose to wear either the leotard, or unitard, or add fitted shorts or leggings.
- Gymnasts competing as individuals (i.e. not as part of a team) may wear differing attire, even if they are from the same club.
- Gymnasts may wear gymnastic shoes and/or socks.
- Hand grips, bandages and wrists wraps are permitted. They must be securely fastened and in good repair.
- For safety, loose jewellery (bracelets or necklaces) must not be worn, but small studtype earrings are permitted.
- Hip or other padding is not permitted.
- Hair must be securely fastened so as not to cover the face or come into contact with equipment while performing.
- At two-day competitions, gymnasts may choose to wear a leotard of their own choice on the second day of competition.

#### New Zealand Gymnastics Championships

- For the New Zealand Gymnastics Championship, gymnasts may march on in a leotard or tracksuit. If wearing a tracksuit, track pants or leggings are permitted (provincial colours or black).
- For prize-givings, athletes must wear their track suit including track pants or leggings (provincial colours or black).
- For day 2 of the championships, gymnasts may wear a leotard, or unitard, of their own choice, but it must be in their Provincial colours.
- Those gymnasts who have represented New Zealand in the previous 12 months may wear their New Zealand team leotard.

#### **Deductions**

- Violation of these rules may result in a penalty of 0.3 points applied by the control judge, which will be deducted from the total score of any of routine in which the violation occurs.
- Before a deduction is applied, judges will speak with the athlete and give them the opportunity to resolve the violation.
- Team competition: non-identical leotards (for gymnasts from the same team) may incur a penalty of 1.00 in qualification and team final taken 1 x in competition phase.

# New Zealand Gymnastics Championships Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for selection by their Province for the National Championships, in STEP 5 and 6, the gymnast must achieve the qualification score on two separate occasions, one of which must be at a competition outside their home Province. Days 1 and 2 at the same competition do not constitute separate occasions.

In STEP 7 and above, the gymnast must achieve the qualification score on one occasion.

NOTE: There may also be additional provincial selection policies, which are at the discretion of the province.

# 2024 Qualification Scores for the NZ Gymnastics Championships

Progression	Nationals All Around	Nationals Apparatus Specialist	
STEPs 5 to 6	50.000	Not eligible	
STEP 7	43.000	Not eligible	
STEPs 8 to 10	43.000	11.000	
Junior International 43.000		Not eligible	
Senior International	45.000	VT 12.500 (average of two vaults)  UB 11.300  BB – 11.5  FX – 11.7	

Score thresholds may be reviewed annually after the championships, and prior to the start of the next year.

# **Equipment Information**

#### Vault (VT)

A 25m run up must develop the necessary power to take off from the springboard, and complete aerial skills before a stable landing.

#### Balance Beam (BB)

Is 5 meters long and 10cm wide, Gymnastic complete a series of leaps, jumps and turns demonstrate elegance, flexibility, balance and control before a tumbling combination to dismount.

#### Uneven Bar (UB)

Continuous swings in both directions, above, below and between bars with multiple re grasp elements, precede an acrobatic dismounts.

#### Floor (F)

Choreographed to music this acrobatic routine displays, tumbling, strength and balance movements connected with gymnastics artistry.

# Competition Equipment Height

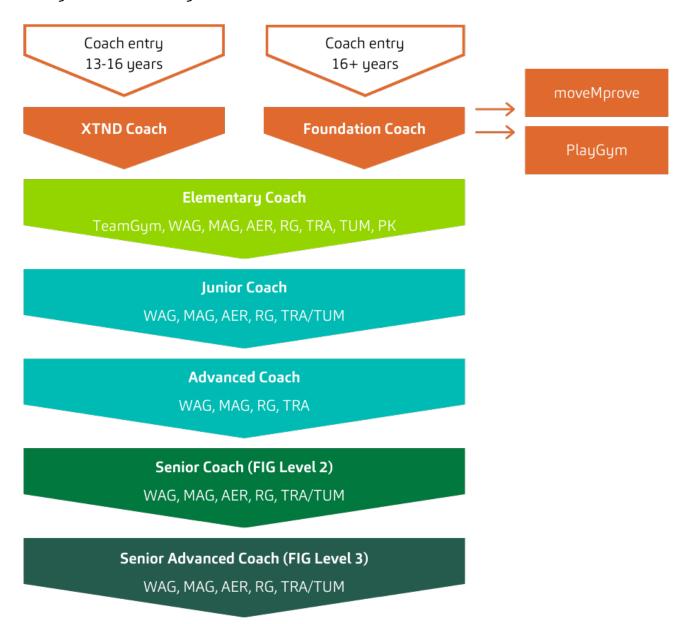
Measurements of height are from the floor, not the mat. All apparatus norms are published on the FIG website in the rules section. Apparatus specification as FIG unless specifically stated here.

	Vault	Beam	Bar	Floor
STEP 1		105cm		12m v 2m strin of
STEP 2		1030111		12m x 2m strip of mats
STEP 3				IIIdts
STEP 4	105cm 115cm OR 125cm	115cm	HB 250cm and LB 170cm	12m x 12m floor area OR 12m x 2m strip of mats
STEP 5	105cm		HB 255cm and LB	
STEP 6	115cm OR 125cm		175cm	
STEP 7		125cm		12m x 12m floor
STEP 8		1230111	If the gymnast	area
STEP 9	125cm		requires the rails	
STEP 10			raised because of	

Junior and Senior International	her height, then the max diagonal distance becomes 182cm
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# Gymnastics NZ Coach Qualification Pathway

Below is the Gymnastics NZ coaching pathway to show how coaches come into and move through the education system.



Gymnastics New Zealand aims to meet the professional development needs of gymnastics coaches and judges by providing theoretical and practical programmes. Courses are offered throughout the country with some being online. Above is the diagram of this pathway; alongside these courses there are other opportunities to engage in workshops, coach developer opportunities, guest speakers and a bi-annual coach connect conferences. All registrations for these courses are through the member clubs.

# Coaching Requirements

# Coach Qualifications for Endorsed Events

Coaches should have a qualification consistent with the level of the gymnasts they are coaching. The following stepped approach is currently in place for the next two years. These requirements will be reviewed annually.

Athlete Level	Competition Level	Minimum Coach Requirements 2023
Elementary	STEP 1-3	Elementary <sup>1</sup>
Elementary	STEP 4	Elementary
Junior	STEP 5-6	Junior <sup>2</sup>
Senior	STEP 7-8	Advanced <sup>2</sup>
Senior STEP 9+ and International		Senior <sup>2</sup>

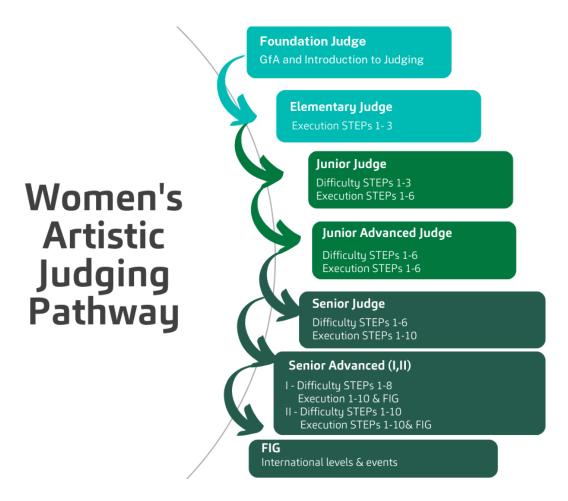
Notes:  $^1$ The qualification may still be in progress. A second coach for a group at Foundation/XTND may be permitted.

# Coach Qualifications for 2024 New Zealand Gymnastics Championships

Qualification of Coach	Level/ International
Women's Artistic Junior Coach	STEPs 5 and 6
Women's Artistic Advanced Coach	STEPs 7
Women's Artistic Senior Coach	STEPs 8 or higher

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>May be in progress

# Gymnastics NZ Judge Education Pathway



# Foundation Judge Qualification

The Foundation Judge course is an online course that serves as an introduction to judging, including qualities and knowledge required to become a judge. Judges learn the basics of how to observe, record and correctly evaluate performance. Judges must be a minimum of Year 9 at school.

# Elementary Judge Qualification

- Must be a minimum of 15 years of age.
- Eligible to judge on E Panel for STEPs 1 to 3.
- Judges must complete their Logbook listing the sessions judged, before gaining their full Elementary qualification.
- Judges must complete two years of judging STEPs 1 to 3 routines, and have their Log Book signed off by the WAG National Judging Advisor, before they can progress to the Junior Judge Course.

#### Junior Judge Qualification

The Junior Qualification is split into two parts: Junior and Junior Advanced. Junior Judges can judge on E Panel for STEPs 1 to 6 and on D Panel for STEPs 1 to 3.

- Judges must complete their Log book listing the sessions judged, before gaining their full Junior qualification.
- Judges must have a minimum of two years' experience at Junior level, be competent in judging <u>all</u> apparatus, and be able to act as Head of a Panel at STEPs 1 to 3, before attempting the Junior Advanced qualification.
- Junior Advanced Judges can judge on both D and E Panel for STEPs 1 to 6.

## Senior Judge Qualification

Judges who have proven their competency, with a minimum of two years' experience at Junior Advanced Judge level, will be eligible to attend the Senior Course.

The qualification is split into two parts: Senior and Senior Advanced.

- A Senior Judge is qualified to judge E Panel for all STEPs and D Panel for STEPs 1 to 6.
   A Senior judge is expected to have a minimum of two years' judging experience of optional routines, before being eligible for the Senior Advanced qualification.
- Senior Advanced requires judges to have an extensive knowledge of the FIG Code of Points as they will act as both Difficulty and Execution judge.
  - o The Senior Advanced qualification is split into two levels:
    - Level 1 qualified to act as D Panel for STEPs 7 and 8 and E Panel for all STEPs.
    - Level 2 qualified to act as D Panel for STEPs 7 to 10 and E Panel for all STEPs.
  - In the first year of qualifying as Senior Advanced, the judge will be appointed as a D2 Panel judge to work under the guidance of the D1 Panel judge. The judge is expected to have two years of experience as Senior Advanced Level 1 judge, before attempting the Senior Advanced Level 2 qualification.

# International Judging Qualification (FIG Brevet)

To be eligible be eligible to attend the FIG Continental Judges Course (held every 4 years after the Olympics) the judge:

- should have completed 4 years at Senior Advanced level
- must have proven their competency as Difficulty and Execution judge,
- should have experience as a Control Judge for endorsed events at STEPs 5 to 10
- must have judged at a minimum of 2 National Championships in the previous 4 years
- must have demonstrated a long term and ongoing commitment to judging in New Zealand
- must be available to present judging courses and/or act as a mentor to less qualified judges

Attendance at the FIG course is by invitation only, from the Technical Committee, upon recommendation from a Brevet judge. There is a limited number of places at the FIG course,

therefore judges are ranked accordingly based on exam results at Senior Advanced Level 2 and judging commitment over the previous four years.

# Judging

#### Difficulty Judge

The Difficulty (D) Score is defined as the difficulty of the exercise performed. It has a maximum of 5.0 for STEPs 1 to 6 and comprises specific elements, or series of elements, and connections. For STEPs 7 to 10 the maximum D Score depends on the ability of the gymnast. It encompasses components such as Difficulty Value, Composition Requirements and Difficulty Bonus. The gymnast must perform elements unaided to be awarded their value.

#### **Execution Judge**

The E judges or execution judges are responsible for taking marks off the gymnast based on any errors such as bent legs, legs apart, falls onto or off the apparatus. There are small, 0.1, medium 0.3 and large errors 0.5 as well as 1.0 mark off for a fall. The E judges add up all their deductions and take it off the total of 10.000. This gives the E or execution score.

The D score, plus the E score gives the final score.

# Judges Conflict of Interest

The parents or guardians or any person who has a direct family relationship to any gymnast shall not officiate as judges on a panel where their child or ward is amongst the gymnasts competing. This veto extends to partners in a relationship with a parent of a competing gymnast.

The parents or guardians or any person who has a direct family relationship to any gymnast competing shall not be used as secretary/recorder on a panel where their child or ward is amongst the gymnasts competing.

Exemption to the rules pertaining to judges may be sought from the Women's Artistic Gymnastics Technical Committee.

Exemption to the rules pertaining to recorders may be sought from the control judge of the competition.

# **Judging Panel Requirements**

STEP	Min # Judges	D1	D2	E Panel
1-3	2	Junior		Elementary
4	2	Junior Advanced		Elementary (A)*
5-6	2	Junior Advanced		Junior
7-8	3	Senior Advanced 1	Senior (VT) Senior Advanced 1 (UB, BB, FX)	Senior
9-10	3	Senior Advanced 2	Senior Advanced 1 (VT) Senior Advanced 2 (UB, BB, FX)	Senior
FIC	Panel of 3 or	FIG Brevet	FIG Brevet	FIG Brevet
FIG	Panel of 4 FIG Brevet FIG Brevet	FIG Brevet	2 x Senior Advanced 1	

<sup>\*</sup> Elementary (A) = Elementary accredited. A judge is deemed accredited once they have submitted their logbook and it has been verified by the Judging Advisor

#### Volunteers

Volunteers without a judging qualification are appointed to various tasks on the competition floor to aid the smooth running of the event, e.g., as score inputters and holders, marshals, music players, or announcers. They should be appropriately dressed, thoroughly trained in their roles, punctual for sessions, impartial in their behaviour and attire, and professional in their conduct. It is important that when in a volunteer position you don't communicate to any gymnast on the competition floor/area and phones are left in the competition office.

#### Functions of the Recorders

When records are required, they are usually appointed by the competition organisers.

Under the supervision of the D1 Judge, they are responsible for:

- Accurately and quickly recording the judges' deductions on the recording sheet,
- Correctly displaying the Final Score,
- Supervising the score holders' accuracy and behaviour.

