



AGG USA JUDGES MANUAL

Approved January 5, 2025

Subject to Minor Changes

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1. LEVELS OF AGG USA JUDGES

AGG USA maintains the following judging structure:

<i>Level</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
1	Head Judge	Expert Present on the AGG USA Technical Committee
2	AGG USA Technical Committee	Members of the AGG USA Technical Committee
3I	IFAGG Certified International Judges	May judge World Cups, IFAGG B & C Category Competitions, and all AGG USA National Competitions
3N	National AGG USA Certified Judges	May judge all categories and programs at AGG USA sanctioned competitions
4	-----	May judge all age categories of short programs, plus all Children's long programs at AGG USA events
5	-----	May judge all age categories of short programs at AGG USA events

2. BECOMING AN AGGUSA JUDGE

AGG USA wishes to acknowledge that knowledge of current rules and changes in this sport are integral to becoming a qualified judge of this sport. The following rules are not just a policy of AGG USA, but are also included in other IFAGG National Federations.

2.1. *Becoming an AGG USA Level 4 or 5 judge*

1. Only individuals who have been a member of AGG USA for 3 consecutive years are eligible to take the AGG USA judge's exam. Any break in membership will reset the three-year requirement, and there can be no gap between the three years and taking the judges exam.
2. If an individual **ONLY** passes the short program portion of the judges' exam, they qualify as a Level 5 judge.
3. If an individual passes both short program portions and the children long program portions of the judges' exam, they qualify as a Level 4 judge.
4. If the individual passes ALL short and long program portions of the judges' exam, they can qualify as a Level 3N judge.

Note: Level 4 or 5 AGG USA judges **may** be eligible to judge tournaments that are not affiliated with the IFAGG World Cups or World Championships. This applies exclusively to tournaments in Mexico and Canada.

2.2. *Becoming a level 3N Judge*

A Level 4 judge who successfully judges at least 6 national competitions within 2 years without any penalized misconduct, they may become a level 3N judge after passing a judges' exam.

Once an individual becomes a level 3N judge, they are eligible to take an IFAGG judges' exam after two years without any penalized misconduct.

2.3. *Fast track to becoming a Level 3I Judge*

Former AGG USA National Team members, including athletes and their coaches, can take an IFAGG Judges Course and Exam as their first step toward certification.

Note: Athletes and coaches of AGG USA National Teams must have medaled at least once in an international competition **before** applying an IFAGG and/or AGG USA Judging License.

2.4. *Registering for Judge's Courses and Exams*

Any AGG USA member may register for AGG USA courses through KSIS, however, only those who meet the eligibility requirements may take the judge's examination.

Only the AGG USA Federation Office may register individuals for IFAGG courses. Candidates must meet the course requirements and notify AGG USA in advance before registration.



3. JUDGING ASSIGNMENTS

3.1. *Selection Process for Judging Assignments*

1. All current AGG USA judges must submit their availability for each assignment on the AGG USA Events Calendar to AGG USA at the beginning of the season.
2. The Technical Committee will evaluate each judge's past performance, considering how frequently their scores align with the middle score.
3. The committee will also review feedback submitted by judges after their previous assignments.

Note:

Assignments include competitions, classes, and routine reviews.

The President of AGG USA meets with the Judge Responsible after international assignments to review the performance of AGG USA judges.

3.2. *Number of judges to be sent to international assignments*

The number of judges sent on international assignments is determined based on a 1:3 ratio (one judge per three teams).

NUMBER OF TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT	NUMBER OF JUDGES THAT MAY BE SENT
10	Up to 4 judges
8	Up to 3 judges
6	Up to 2 judges
3 OR FEWER	1 judge

3.3. *Covering Judge Expenses at International Events*

The costs for travel, transportation, per diem, and accommodation for judges on international assignments are covered by the teams participating in the international event. Judges will receive compensation ranging from \$200 to \$400 for competitions outside the American continents, which is also covered by the traveling teams.

3.4. *Logging Assignments*

It is the responsibility of the judge to submit a report (review of the performances of the teams) of their assignments upon completion. The report must be emailed to the Technical Committee in both English and Russian.

Judges must also log their hours at [the designated link](#) within 3 days of completing the assignment. This log applies to all judges' activities, including competitions, routine reviews, courses, etc. Unlogged assignments will not be counted towards a judge's official record.

3.5. *Judges' Logs*

Each judge is responsible for keeping their judging log is up to date with the AGG USA Office. This log records the total hours a judge has spent officiating and which team they have worked with. Any AGG USA member may request to view a judge's log to verify their qualifications and experience.

3.6. *Routine Reviews*

Teams that have a **choreographed** routine may request a routine review by an AGG USA judge through the AGG USA Office. Routine Reviews must be scheduled through AGG USA and reported back to the AGG USA Office once completed. Clubs may choose to have their review in-person or via Zoom.

Routine review rates are already set by the AGG USA Federation and are available to view [here](#). If a judge performs a routine review in-person, they should be compensated by check or Zelle immediately after concluding their work in-person.

The routine review must be requested through the AGG USA Office with at least four weeks' notice and must occur at least two weeks prior to the team's next competitive event.

Judges are strictly prohibited from accepting gifts from clubs or parents. Judges may only receive compensation for routine reviews at the official AGG USA rates. Accepting gifts may result in penalties, including disqualification.

3.7. *Practical Hours*

New judges (in their first year) must complete ten non-compensated practical hours. If a judge resides out of state and is unavailable to attend an AGG USA event in person, they must be compensated according to AGG USA's [per diem rates](#).

Following an IFAGG rule change (which occurs periodically every two years) all AGG USA judges must fulfill a requirement of ten practical hours for that season.

If a judge fails to complete their practical hours in their first season, their case will be reviewed by the Ethical Committee, which may impose disciplinary action, including a one-season disqualification from AGG USA events.

3.8. *Judges that are affiliated with AGG USA Clubs*

To ensure fairness at national competitions, affiliated judges may not officiate any age category in which their own team is competing.

3.9. *Judge Reimbursement Form*

Judges who need reimbursement for travel cost, unforeseen expenses, or other eligible cost must complete the official AGG USA Reimbursement [form](#). Judges will not be reimbursed unless the form is fully completed, **and** all receipts are submitted with an expense report. The same form is used for logging assignments, and it must be fully completed to be processed.

4. JUDGING COMPETITIONS

4.1. *Assigning Panel Judges at AGG USA Partner Events*

At AGG USA Partner Events, Level 3N, 4, and 5 Judges are assigned their panel positions by the AGG USA Technical Committee and the Judge Responsible. Judges of Level 3I and higher will participate in a Judge's Draw, which takes place at the Judges' Meeting of the competition.

Materials required for the Judge's Draw include:

- ∞ A minimum of 20 identical items (postcards, figurines, or just papers) on reverse marked TV1, TV2, TV3, TV4, AV-A1, AV-A2, AV-A3, AV-A4, AV-B1, AV-B2, AV-B3, AV-B4, EXE1, EXE2, EXE3, EXE 4 (or adjusted according to the number of judges present)*.
- ∞ A non-transparent box or tray for the draw.
- ∞ The head judge must be drawn first, followed by the judges.

***Depending on the number of Judges and panels, the responsible judge for the competition will prepare with LOC the exact order of how the DRAW will be conducted.**

4.2. *Assigning Panel Judges at AGG USA Invitationals*

At AGG USA Invitationals, all Level 4 and 5 AGG USA Licensed Judges are eligible to be panel judges. No judges' draw takes place at the Invitationals. Instead, the AGG USA Technical Committee and the Judge Superior assign judges to their positions.

5. IFAGG AND AGG USA REGULATIONS

As an IFAGG member, all AGG USA members, especially judges, must adhere to IFAGG rules and the AGG USA Code of Conduct.

5.1. IFAGG Judging License Regulations

Once an AGG USA judge reaches Level 3I, they become eligible to follow IFAGG's Judging License structure in addition to AGG USA's Judging structure.

The IFAGG License structure is available to view [here](#).

IFAGG's International Judging System requirements are listed [here](#).

5.2. IFAGG Judges Code of Ethics

All AGG USA judges are required to follow the IFAGG Code of Ethics, which is available [here](#).

5.3. Duties and Responsibilities of a Judge Panel

Judges must comply with all AGG USA and IFAGG requirements when officiating at sanctioned events.

[Duties and Responsibilities of a Judge Panel](#)

5.4. AGG USA Code of Conduct

All judges are expected to follow the AGG USA Code of Conduct which is available [here](#).

6. FEES AND RATES

6.1. AGG USA Judge Membership Rates

AGG USA JUDGE LEVEL	MEMBERSHIP DUE
LEVELS 1, 2, AND 3I	\$175, valid for two years*
LEVELS 3N, 4, AND 5	\$175 per year

*International judges are certified and licensed by IFAGG for two years, have their AGG USA Membership valid for the same period.

Note: National judges must renew their membership annually.

6.2. Routine Review Rates

AGG USA JUDGE LEVEL	ROUTINE REVIEW RATE IN PERSON (PER HOUR)	ROUTINE REVIEW RATE OVER ZOOM (PER HOUR)
LEVEL 1	\$85 – all children categories and junior/senior short program \$125 – junior/senior long program	\$65 – all children categories and junior/senior short program \$105 – junior/senior long program
LEVEL 2	\$75 – all children categories and junior/senior short program \$115 – junior/senior long program	\$55 – all children categories and junior/senior short program \$95 – junior/senior long program
LEVEL 3I	\$50 – all children categories and junior/senior short program \$90 – junior/senior long program	\$30 – all children categories and junior/senior short program \$70 – junior/senior long program

Note: Level 3I judges must have at least two years of experience before conducting routine reviews.

6.3. Competition Rates

AGG USA judges are paid \$30 per hour for competition judging. If a competition is less than three hours per day, the minimum daily rate is \$90.

Note: Judges must be paid before the end of the second competition day.

6.4. Choreography Rates

AGG USA Choreographer Rates

\$ 750 short program for all ages
\$1500 long program juniors/seniors
\$1400 long program 12 – 14 years-old
\$1300 long program 10 – 12 years-old
\$1200 long program 8-10 years-old
\$1000 free program 6-8 years-old
\$900 free program 4-6 years-old

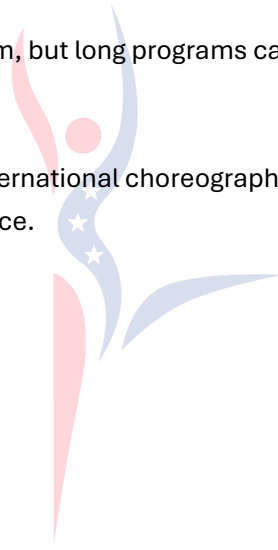
Clubs may hire international choreographers, but the rate will be higher for in-person sessions due to additional costs.

Clubs must cover the choreographer's hotel, flight, and per diem in addition to their choreography fee.

Clubs may request a short program via Zoom, but long programs cannot be choreographed via Zoom.

Approval Requirement:

If a club or coach wishes to work with an international choreographer (live or via Zoom), they must obtain prior approval from the AGG USA office.



7. DISQUALIFICATION FROM JUDGING

Judges are expected to uphold the highest standards of fairness, integrity, and professionalism in their roles. Any failures to meet these expectations may result in disciplinary action, including disqualification from judging.

7.1. *Failing to report a routine review*

Judges must report all routine reviews to the Federation. Failure to report a routine review, for any reason, will result in the following penalty:

Disqualification from judging for one year due to non-compliance.

If a disqualified judge wishes to reinstate their status, they must:

- Attend all AGG USA National Events as part of their reinstatement process
- Service at these events will be considered practical hours but will be uncompensated.

7.2. *Other disqualification protocols*

Any instance of unsportsmanlike behavior by a judge will be reviewed by the AGG USA Ethical Committee. The committee will determine the appropriate disciplinary action, which may include suspension or permanent disqualification from judging.