

RGM Judging Technical Rules and Regulations

6 OFFICIALS

6.01 General Principles

In general competitions held under the auspices of RGM will be officiated in a manner consistent with the GCG-RG Judging Rules and Regulations. Further this section is intended to be consistent with the RGM by-laws, policies, and procedures. These regulations extend the GCG-RG “Judging Rules and Regulations” into the provincial area of operations.

Next to coaching, it can be said that judging has the greatest impact on the success of the sport as measured by the progress of the athletes in the sport and the perception of the public to the sport. It is therefore required that judges behave to the highest of professional standards. To maintain a positive image, it is important that all judging activities are carried out in as open a manner as is possible and that the judging appears to be fair and unfettered of any apparent or possible conflict of interest.

6.02 Education and Certification for Licenses

The GCG-RG Judging Committee is responsible for the ongoing education and certification of Canadian judges. Within Manitoba the Director – Judging of RGM is responsible to manage the judging program within the requirements and authority of the GCG-RG Judging Committee.

In recognition that volunteers may wish to become involved in officiating at a lesser level, RGM provides certification for specialist officials other than provided for in the National Program. These positions include:

- Timer
- Line Judge
- Judges Assistant

46. Regulation: Specialist Certification (ref. 6.02)

Minor Official positions are certified to the specific requirement of the function. They are the responsibility of the Provincial Judging Committee and will be subject to performance evaluation in a manner similar to licensed judges. Recertification will be required every two years and will be the responsibility of the RGM Judging Committee.

The provincial Judging Committee will provide Courses for the certification of Judges and Minor Officials in the Fall of each calendar year.

6.03 Qualifications

47. Regulation: Qualification for Certification (ref. 6.03)

In addition to the GCG-RG certification requirements, RGM requires active judges to officiate a minimum of two provincial competitions (Club Invitationals, Western Regional Qualification or Provincial Championships) every calendar year. Further, the

judge must achieve an average practical score of 70%. If either of these requirements is not met, the judge will be placed on a probation list for one year. The judging committee is required to assess the deficiencies of persons on the probation list, provide an increased level of supervision and recommend remedial programs that would assist the judge in improving their performance.

Within one year of being placed on probation, the judge concerned will be required:

- In the case of low scoring, to recertify through the examinations process in the next calendar year. If not recertified within the year, the judge will be required to take the associated course and then pass the technical examination with a mark required of that level and to have achieved a practical score of over 70% at an invitational competition.
- In the case of insufficient participation in Provincial competitions the judge concerned will not be permitted to participate in the normal rotations of judging assignments until the requirement has been met.

6.04 Judging and Ranking

The Judges Committee will publish a list of judges and minor officials registered with RGM for the information of the membership and public. The classification and the rank of the judges will generally be established and operated in a manner consistent with the National methodology. However, the provincial ranking will be separate from the national ranking and shall be established according to the following.

48. Regulation: Ranking of Officials (ref. 6.04)

Judges will be ranked in their respective categories. They will be ranked by the Judging Committee according to their “Judging Ranking Score” calculated as follows:

$(\text{Score at last qualifying examination} + \text{practical score at last 3 competitions}) / 4 + 10$
points per session judged at provincial competitions in the 24 months prior to the competition.

Within 10 days of any RGM competition, Judges serving on a panel will be provided with their scoring results. This is important for the ongoing development of judges.

The Judging Committee has the right to change the ranking of a Judge based on inadequate scores or misconduct (eg. a yellow or red card at a competition)

6.05 Selection of Judges

6.05.1 Club Invitationals, Western Regional Championship Qualification and Provincial Championships (group and individual)

49. Regulation: Selection of Judges (ref. 6.05.1)

The judging committee shall assign a judge responsible for each RGM sanctioned competition. This process shall be carried out before October 15 of each calendar year by the Judging Committee. In general this assignment will be such that the highest ranked eligible judge will be assigned the Provincial Championships, the next highest ranked eligible judge to the Western Regional Championships Qualification Meet, the next highest ranked eligible judge to the Provincial Group Championships, and then Club

Invitationals. A judge is not eligible to be Judge Responsible at a competition where there is a child competing for whom the judge is parent, coach, or club executive/owner.

The judge responsible for the competition shall be responsible for the selection of judges to serve at RGM competitions. The process will be as follows:

- In September of each year, all registered judges will be polled for their availability at all planned competitions.
- The judging committee will publish an assignment register prior to the end of October of each year.
- The assignments will be made based on the level of their license and then by order of their ranking in descending order. Other criteria are:
 - Qualifications necessary to officiate at an event
 - Officials in good standing
 - Officials available to officiate at the event
 - Is the event of particular importance to one or more officials
 - To maximize the developmental opportunities for judges, the Judge responsible is required to reserve one position on each panel for a eligible active Judge with the minimum qualification required.
 - Special requests, or considerations, made in writing, regarding the event (eg. familiarize official with routines prior to an elite level competition).

Consistent with the General Principles provided in section 6.0, the Judge Responsible shall make all possible effort to avoid:

- An assignment of a judge who is the parent of an athlete competing in that event (i.e. Avoid the circumstance of a parent judging their child and peers)
- An assignment of a judge who is an executive member or owner of a club that has athletes participating at the competition.
- An assignment of a judge who is the personal coach of an athlete competing in that event (i.e. Avoid the circumstance of a coach judging their athlete and peers)
- An assignment of a judge who is the head coach of a club whose athletes are competing in that event (i.e. Avoid the circumstance of a head coach judging athletes for which they are responsible)

The GCG-RG declares that a person becomes a competition Judge when they have attended the first Judges meeting of the day and are wearing the Judges uniform. The person remains in this category until the results for that competition day have been finalized. This rule acknowledges that it may be necessary and is acceptable to have judging panels of a smaller number than the minimum called for in the Code of Points. The FIG code of points was designed for international and national championship events. The following identifies the recommended minimum panel size requirements for Provincial competitions.

Judge Responsible	1
Judge Coordinator	1
Technical	1
Artistic	1
Execution Panel	2

In the case that only one judge will be on a panel, the minimum level judge will be Provincial II.

These requirements do not apply to the assignments of minor official positions.

The table following identifies the recommended minimum level of qualification for any position:

Competition	Position	Minimum Level
Club Invitational	Judge Responsible	National II
	Panel Judge	Club I
	Judge Coordinator	Club I
	Judges Assistant	Certified Assistant
	Line Judge	Certified Line
	Timer	Certified Timer
	Equipment Measuring	Club I
Western Regional Qualification	Judge Responsible	Brevet I
	Panel Judge	Provincial I
	Judge Coordinator	Club II
	Judges Assistant	Certified Assistant
	Line Judge	Certified Line
	Timer	Certified Timer
	Equipment Measuring	Club I
Provincial Group Championships and Provincial Championships	Judge Responsible	Brevet
	Panel Judge	Provincial II
	Judge Coordinator	Club II
	Judges Assistant	Certified Assistant
	Line Judge	Certified Line
	Timer	Certified Timer
	Equipment Measuring	Club I

Table 15 Minimum Judging Qualification Recommendations

6.06 Selection of Judges to RGM Funded Positions at other meets.

In cases where RGM is providing the funding for a judging assignment through one of its programs, the Judging committee will be responsible to assign and sanction the opportunity.

50. Regulation: Selection to Funded Positions (ref. 6.06)

To qualify for an assignment in this category, the judge must:

- In the previous 14 months judges at either Provincial Championships (individual or group)

- In the previous 14 months judged a minimum of at least one session at the Western Regional Qualification Meet
- In the previous 14 months judged a minimum of at least one session at two or more club Invitationals.
- For National and Brevet level judges, they must in the 24 months previous, have acted as the judge responsible at a provincial competition.

By the end of October of each year the Judging Committee shall compile a list of funded judging positions known to be available for the competitive year. The assignment process will be as follows.

- In September of each year, all eligible registered judges will be polled for their availability at all planned competitions.
- The Judging Committee will publish an assignment register prior to the end of October of each year.
- The assignments will be made as identified in Regulation 50.
- Each Judge will be funded to officiate at the minimum number of official competitions required to maintain their license in the current cycle, dependent only on funding availability.
- Where an unplanned opportunity arises the Judging Committee shall proceed down the list of eligible judges, and invite the next eligible judge available after the last judge to be given an assignment and so on until the vacant position has been filled.

Consistent with the General Principles provided in section 6.0, the Judging Committee shall make all possible effort to avoid:

- An assignment of a judge who is the parent of an athlete competing in that event (i.e. Avoid the circumstance of a parent judging their child and peers)
- An assignment of a judge who is an executive member or owner of a club that has athletes participating at the competition.
- An assignment of a judge who is the personal coach of an athlete competing in that event (i.e. Avoid the circumstance of a coach judging their athlete and peers)
- An assignment of a judge who is the head coach of a club whose athletes are competing in that event (i.e. Avoid the circumstance of a head coach judging athletes for which they are responsible)

When funded judging assignments become available to RGM, they shall be assigned on a rotating basis. For any particular opening, the opportunity shall be made available to the judge with the required qualifications and who has waited the longest time since being last assigned. For newly qualified judges this date will be the date that they qualified.

6.07 Selection of Judges to Non-Funded Positions

51. Regulation – Assignment to Non-Funded Positions (ref.6.07)

Where no RGM funding is available and there is a judging opportunity available to Manitoba, then a judge may self-fund (personal or through a club). This will count as an assignment in the rotation. This judge may not replace an RGM funded judge on any panel.

In cases where a funded Judge attends an assigned competition and does not judge all days of the competition by their own choice, it will count as an assignment. “Self Funded” is meant to apply to all competitions where RGM is not providing funding for the position in whole or in part through its programs and budgets. The judge involved must apply for sanction from the Judging Committee in all circumstances and granting of sanction is at the discretion of the Judging Committee.

6.08 Selection of Judges to Unscheduled Events

These are events which are not part of the RGM Business Plan, but are identified during the year and are considered valuable opportunities for the athletes, coaches, and officials.

52. Regulation – Selection of officials to Unscheduled Events (ref. 6.08)

The Committee shall review each such event and select officials with the same criteria as noted in Rule 90.

6.09 Participation of Judges in Informal Events

RGM officials may wish to attend events which are informal in nature and may not provide standing or additional qualification for officials (e.g. Interclub Competitions, Controls). In such cases, the participating members/clubs may wish to have a specific individual attend, or wish to find a volunteer.

53. Regulation – Participation of Officials in Informal Events (ref. 6.09)

The club involved must submit a request to the Judging Committee for the requirement. The Committee shall ensure that:

- The official meets the qualification requirement for the event
- There is no financial obligation being incurred by RGM
- The official is a member in good standing

6.10 Special Requests

Officials may request the opportunity to officiate at an event “out of rotation”.

54. Regulation – Special Requests for Officiating Assignments (ref. 6.10)

The official must submit a request in writing to the Judging Committee, with a copy to the Executive Director of RGM, and the affected Club Executive, to inform them of the request. Should the Judging Committee deny the application, they shall so inform all parties in writing with reasoning. If the request is approved, the Chair Person shall inform the Executive Director in writing, as well as the affected Club Executive to ensure that they are in agreement with the assignment. Once agreement is assured, the Chair Person shall so inform the official in writing.

6.11 Responsibilities of Judge Responsible

For each competition sanctioned by RGM, it is the responsibility of the Provincial Judging Committee to assign a Judge Responsible for the competition. This judge, in addition to the responsibilities as outlined in the GCG-RG shall also act as one member of the Jury of Appeal as well as the Jury of Control. This judge is responsible for the judging assignments for the competition.

55. Regulation – Duties of the Judge Responsible (ref. 6.11)

1. Establish contact with the competition Meet Director
2. Obtain the list of assigned judges and confirm their intent to attend
3. Inform the judged of the location, date, time, technical information, and the time for the Judges Meeting/briefing
4. Confirm with the meet director that athletes are correctly registered
5. Assist with the draw and schedule
6. Decide on panel size and structures and assign judges to panels
7. Confirm the meet layout with the meet director
8. Ensure with the meet director that necessary equipment will be available including: measuring tables, scoreboard and scoring equipment, judging tables, video equipment
9. Ensure that necessary judging equipment and score sheets are prepared and available
10. Oversee the Judges Meeting/briefing
11. Ensure that the officiating during the competition is carried out according to regulations.
12. Certify the competitive results prior to the awards ceremony
13. At the end of the competition collect the score sheets and forward them to the RGM office
14. Submit a post-competition review report to the Judging Committee

6.12 Judges Courses

The procedures provided in the GCG-RG Judging Rules shall apply in general with the following exceptions for RGM meets.

56. Regulation – Judges Courses (ref. 6.12)

There will be a judges course scheduled prior to each competition and judges meeting prior to each session of the competition. Provision for these meetings will be made by the competition organizers so that space and time is available each session. All judges are required to attend these courses. Lateness by judges may result in a yellow card or removal from judging responsibilities for the session.

The courses should not exceed one hour in duration. Meetings prior to each session should not last more than 30 minutes.

6.13 Code of Conduct

6.13.1 Judges Oath

57. Regulation – Judges Oath (ref. 6.13.1)

The RGM Judges Oath shall be read aloud by judges during the Judges Meeting at the beginning of the competition. It is as follows:

“I promise that I will officiate in this competition with complete impartiality respecting and abiding by the rules in the true spirit of sportsmanship”

6.13.2 Code of Conduct

58. Regulation – Code of Conduct (ref. 6.13.2)

Judges belonging to RGM are required to adhere to the following code of conduct. A signed copy of the code provided to the Executive Director prior to the first competition

of the calendar year and is to be dated no more than 30 days prior to the beginning of the year. The judge will not be sanctioned to judge in an RGM sanctioned event or participate in its programs without this agreement being in place.

- The Judging Code of Conduct (Appendix M) helps determine the propriety of behavior. It is a statement of a few overriding rules of ethical behavior. It establishes the spirit in which the judge must approach the profession of judging and provides the framework through which the judges gauge their own conduct with respect to the principles of fair play and professionalism.

6.14 Judging Discipline and Sanctions

In cases where the Judging Committee has determined that there has been a breach in the behavior of a Judge resulting in a yellow or red card being applied, or where a breach of the Code of Conduct has occurred, the Judging Committee is required to record the event and where appropriate apply a sanction to the offending official. Minor Officials will also be subject to sanction as provided for Licensed Judges. Before a sanction decision is made, the judge concerned shall be notified and invited to submit a statement in writing along with supporting information.

59. Regulation – Judging Discipline (ref. 6.14)

Where the judge responsible determines that a judge has violated the requirements in the oath, the FIG Technical Rules and Regulations, the GCG-RG Judging Rules and Regulations, the RGM or the Technical Regulations and Operational Guidelines, sanctions may be applied including a yellow or red card and subsequent consequences. The Judge Responsible is required to record in writing the incident for consideration by the Judging Committee.

60. Regulation – Judges Sanctions (ref. 6.14)

The provincial Judging Committee will keep a 4-year rolling record of applied sanctions on file. The Committee may suspend the license/certification for a specified period, of a judge that receives a series (more than two) of cards (yellow or red) or a combination of cards and breaches of the code of conduct over 3 competition events within 12 months, or is in the judgment of the Judging Committee no longer fit to judge competitions. Any suspension will include measured by which the judge concerned can regain active status.

61. Regulation – Judges Appeal of Sanction

A Judge, upon receiving notification of sanction, may appeal the decision within 14 days of notification, to the Executive Committee of RGM.

6.15 Judges Honoraria

Judges honoraria are calculated according to the number of sessions worked. One session is 3 hours including breaks but excluding judges meetings or lunch breaks. The recommended schedule of honoraria is as follows:

Club Levels 1&2	\$10.00 per session
Provincial Levels 1&2	\$15.00 per session
National Levels 1&2	\$20.00 per session
Brevet Levels 1, 2&3	\$25.00 per session

6.16 Judging Committee

6.16.1 Mandate

Under the direction of the Judging Chairperson, a member of the RGM Board of Directors, the Judging Committee facilitates the effective and efficient delivery of the judging programs consistent with the Mission, Vision, Values and Goals of RGM. In addition the committee supports the development of rhythmic gymnastics in Manitoba, as well as nationally and internationally by encouraging and facilitating the development of Manitoba Officials. The development of officials is based on a combination of educational training (courses, seminars, and tests) coupled with practical experience gained by officiating at events of different levels.

6.16.2 Duties and Responsibilities

The Judging Committee is responsible to:

1. Develop long and short range plans for the development of judging in Manitoba
2. Develop and implement policies and procedures for the effective and efficient delivery of Judging Programs
3. Review and evaluate the delivery of the programs
4. Recommend changes to the RGM Game Plan
5. Develop and recommend to the technical Committee amendments to the RGM Technical Rules and Operational Guidelines
6. Oversee the judging certification and assignment process
7. manage all disciplinary matters

6.16.3 Terms of Reference

Provide effective leadership in the development, implementation and monitoring of the judging program in Manitoba including:

1. Develop short and long range plans for the development of judging in Manitoba through the RGM Game Plan
2. Ensure the implementation of the judging program according to the RGM Game Plan
3. Provide opportunities for formal training in the theory and practice of judging rhythmic gymnastics with the result of developing qualified and certified judges.
4. Plan and manage the delivery of National Judging Certifications including Club, Provincial, National and Brevet
5. Evaluate and upgrade the certification of judges based on performance
6. Provide guidance and expertise to RGM and judges in the areas of judging development as well as areas affected by judging (e.g. leveled program, competition schedule etc.)
7. Assign judges to club invitational, provincial, national and international competitions where the positions are funded by RGM or are self-funded
8. Develop, recommend, and manage the implementation of policies and procedures in the RGM Technical Rules and Operational Guidelines to facilitate the delivery of the judging program in Manitoba
9. Publish a calendar of judging activities, assignments and judges ranking each year
10. Coordinate the development, publishing and distribution of program support materials including manuals, handbooks, reference material, module material, exams, etc.
11. Provide recommendations to the GCG-RG of Judging development
12. Provide the Judging Director with assistance in the development of the annual game plan

13. Maintain a database of RGM judges
14. Annually provide the GCG-RG with the official list of RGM registered judges, their certification and status
15. Promote the RGM Code of Ethics, Policies and Procedures and NCCP standards for their effective enforcement
16. Develop new program initiatives, in addition to the certification program, for the continued development of judging, (e.g. workshops on choreography, music, entry programs, compulsory exercises, promotions, etc.)
17. Advocate for judges on Judging issues
18. Develop and implement judge recognition programs
19. Communicate to the judges information regarding events, programs, rules, judging tips, etc.
20. Maintain a file of correspondence and documentation pertinent to the portfolio

6.16.4 Accountability and Authority

The Judging Committee is accountable to the Technical Assembly of RGM. The Technical Assembly at their annual meeting may alter the policies adopted by the Judging Committee.

6.16.5 Structure

Judging Chairperson and three Judges at large elected annually from the ranks of registered active judges and elected by registered judges. These elections must take place prior to October 14 each year.

6.16.6 Time Commitment

Approximately 10 three hour committee meetings and 4 three hour Technical Committee meetings per year plus special meetings as required plus preparation time.