



NVGOA Professional Guidelines

1. We are a professional organization, and we must dress and act as such. The judging uniform is a **navy blue blazer** with the VHSL emblem attached, and corresponding professional dress. Our respect from schools, community, and competitors is based on how we look and act. The appropriate time to greet friends, coaches, and relatives of competitors is after the meet. Please keep these behavioral guidelines in mind throughout the judging season.
2. Meet Referees should be at the school 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the meet while other judges should arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the meet. At that time, all equipment is to be measured, meet fee sheets signed, and judging assignments decided. No judge should delay the start of a meet.
3. Failure to fulfill a judging contract, without prior notification to the scheduling chairperson or assistant in case of an emergency, will result in a fine equal to the pay for that meet.
4. Review the rules for the event you are judging. Head judges need to review the range of scores.
5. Work quickly and efficiently. Judge the routine you see. Give credit for the performance. Calculate the deductions and complete your score. Do not agonize over scores. Your first impression is usually your best one. Delays in scoring slow down the meet and can cause criticism and discontent among officials, coaches, competitors, and spectators.
6. If a gymnast or coach approaches you at the end of a meet, you may want to give your impressions on how to improve the routine, although you are not obligated to do so. A cheerful disposition and sound professional advice can enhance the self confidence of coaches and gymnasts and add to the enjoyment and expansion of the sport!
7. The following items should be taken with you when you are judging:
 - Rule book, meet fee sheet, pencils, scratch paper, stopwatch, tape measure, and directions to the school.