

November 16, 2008

To: Collegiate gymnastics judges for women
From: Robin Ruegg, JAS National Assignor
Subject: Assigner information, Assignments, Update your information, Conference meets

Attached is a list of the 2009 season assigners, the schools they assign, and email contact information.

We have finished regular season assignments. There are always tweaks and replacements needed throughout the season. **So would you please go into the JAS system and update your availability?** We may need you as a replacement during the season, so it is important to us to have your availability correct. (<http://judges.troester.com> —there is no www in front of it)

Regarding conference meets the weekends of March 7&8th (Two Division III meets) and March 20-21st, I am in charge of assigning these. I had hoped to have them finished by today, but realistically it will be about two more weeks.

So what have I learned in my first season with this position? First off, we have an incredible group of assigners who work many hours to follow the rules of the JAS system. Second, we have many judges who would like to judge more meets. Unfortunately constraints of the system leave many disappointed. Third, air fares and flight availability have significantly changed for the worst this year. And finally, location of where judges live make a huge difference—if you live close to many schools (such as the DIII areas in MN and WI or on the East Coast), you will be assigned many more meets than folks who live elsewhere. This is a cost saving reality, and with the change this year to assigning local officials first, became apparent.

Finally, I would like to hear back from you with any thoughts of changes or ideas you have to improve the JAS system. I will collect and compile these, and forward them to the coaches for their consideration at their sounding board meetings in April. I am pleased that the coaches invited us to give them more feedback in this manner. If you have feedback or ideas, please be professional and businesslike in presenting them—tell me what you would like, why the change would be helpful, and any impact you can think of.

Best wishes for a good collegiate gymnastics judging season!