



Date: November 1, 2009
To: DDCA Board
From: JA Leadership Team
Subject: Affiliation Guidelines: Levels of Team/School Association - Appropriateness to Judge

The following personnel have been designated appropriate or inappropriate to judge competitions attended by a school with which they have some level of association. These levels of association/appropriateness are general guidelines to be used by the discretion of those making judging assignments at local and state competitions.

- 1.1 Definition:** The term “hired” is referring to a person who has been a volunteer or paid member of the coaching staff as an advisor, coach, choreographer, show designer (drill, concept, music, etc.), or consultant. This person has a vested interest in the team and their success due to the time put into the creation and development of the show.
- 1.2 Definition:** The term immediate family includes daughter/son, aunt/uncle, niece/nephew, mother/father, grandmother/grandfather, cousin, and sister/brother.
- 1.3 Definition:** Judging Consult: A Judge attending a practice in order to view the routine and then educate the coaching staff of what works or doesn't work in relation to the score sheet. A Judging consult does not involve creating or designing elements of the show (providing choreography or drill as an example).
- 1.4 Level One – Direct Team Association/Current: Inappropriate to judge**
 - Advisor, Coach, Choreographer, varsity or JV currently or previously hired (volunteer or paid) by the school or team within the previous three years or until all previous team members have left the team (graduated/quit).
 - Creative consultant or designer hired (volunteer or paid) by the school or team to contribute to the program within the previous three years or until all previous team members/coaches have left the team (graduated/quit).
 - Performer, manager, team member, or student of the team/school within the previous three years.
 - Immediate family member associated with the team within the previous three years.
 - Employee of the team hired (volunteer or paid) to coordinate fund raising, competitions, or creative endeavors for the team within the previous three years or until all previous team members/coaches have left the team (graduated/quit).
- 1.5 Level Two – Past Team Association after three years: Appropriate to Judge**

- Advisor, Coach, Choreographer, varsity or JV hired (volunteer or paid) by the school or team.
- Creative consultant or designer hired (volunteer or paid) by the school or team to contribute to the program.
- Performer, manager, team member, or student of the team/school, at least 21 years of age
- Immediate family member associated with the team.
- Employee of the team hired (volunteer or paid) to coordinate fund raising, competitions, or creative endeavors for the team.

1.6 Level Three – Indirect Team Association: Appropriate

- Technical consultant or certified judge asked to consult on the program or provide education on the score sheet/judging criteria.
- Employee of the school or school district with no direct involvement to the dance team.

1.7 Additional items

- Certified judges will be allowed to consult 2 times per team per year (November - March)
- State Judging Personnel are under a no consult policy after the final day of competition during the traditional season.

1.8 Affiliation reporting process

- All Judges are required to submit to the JA Scheduling Director, any affiliations prior to the start of dance team season.
- The JA Scheduling Director will use the website where teams who are attending an event are listed, in order to avoid any conflicts with Judges and their affiliations.
- A coach may report an affiliation as well. Coaches would report that affiliation to the JA Commissioner or the JA Scheduling Director/DDCA Board Representative. All affiliations reported will be documented with the JA Scheduling Director. If needed, the JA Commissioner may investigate the affiliation to determine if a policy has been violated. A form will be available, but information that must be included in the reporting process would be:
 - Name of Judge
 - Name of School/Team the Judge is affiliated with
 - Detailed explanation of job description of the Judge in relation to the team/school
 - Name and contact info of person reporting the affiliation, for further possible questions.