

## CBTF Judges Rep Report

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Looking at the past year I know I was not as active as I would have liked due to starting my own business, and being pregnant. I did try my best to continue to uphold my duties and continue to provide opportunity's for the Canadian Judging community. I feel strongly that I made the provincial Reps feel confident that their voices were heard, and that I would always do what I could to assist any judge that needed my help. Following up from a new idea I had last year, I followed it through instituting in the assignments that the scoring panel write an overview of why each athlete received the score they did. I was hoping this would provide clarity to those who might not have done as well as they would have liked to. I didn't hear much feedback about it, but I would like to continue with it this year. One of the major projects I worked on this year was developing the event materials for Twirl Team. This was a fun project for me, and it really pushed me to reach out to my judging community for feedback. I am continuing on now with this project by creating the Role Model videos. In the fall I did host a practice webinar for the assignments to help the Judges feel more confident with testing, and understanding the format. I reached out to the younger upcoming judges to see what they needed to succeed and received some great feedback. I continued to keep an open line of communication between the judge's reps, and provided assistance when needed. I am excited to be more active again, and have some great new ideas to present.

This year I would like to start something new for the judges, a "Winter Meeting". Talking with the judges they seem to want to discuss why a routine was scored the way it was, and why it was so different from their initial judgement. In this meeting we will talk about specific events that were judged differently at the Canadians and Team trials in the past years, as well taking a look at assignments that were controversial. In doing this the objective is to learn from each other, and continue towards our shared goal of judging as consistently as possible as a panel. We will talk about issues from the past year and how we can fix them in the following. A major meeting to iron out the wrinkles before the season starts. This type of meeting would be a step forward from a communication perspective, and would require a co operative nature from those who are attending. I hope this will be a success!

Something else I would like to try this year is to help are upcoming judges get their practice hours easier. Some judges have a hard time attending enough competitions in the year to get their hours completed. I heard from a lot of the younger judges that this was a major struggle for them, and it could potentially loose their interest. With the way the younger generation is today they want everything now, and they want access to it. I was hoping to try and set something up online, almost in an assignment type setting. We could even use the assignments from past years for them to go on watch, score, and comment. Or giving them the option to participate in the assignments each year and receive practice hours. This would be a great way as well for the judges to become used to how the assignments are done, so when it

comes time for them to apply they are familiar with the process. I do believe they should still have to attend a local competition, but maybe we make that the last part of receiving your hours, a final live exam. That is when they could get their final sign off. As our world progresses we need to adapt with it, I think this would be a great step in the right direction for the next generation of judges.

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend Canadians this year as I was awaiting the arrival of my son. I did hear however from those attending that the judges did continue to interact and work well as a team, this was something I had felt very strongly about in the previous year. The more we can make the judges feel the importance of the team environment at a championship like this, the more our judging opinions and vision will come together. In the end this will all benefit the reason we do it all, for the continuation and progression of our sport, and its athletes.

Finally, I look forward to continuing to providing the Judges in Canada more opportunity's to further their education. I want to continue growing the communication between our judges and technical committee as I know that is the pinnacle of our organization. I look forward to the year ahead and hope it is a success.