

End-of-year report to UANA Executive

November 18, 2016

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UANA SY Judges List – 2016 & 2017

The 2016 UANA SY Judges List was published 2 times in 2016 – a preliminary draft with full details on Jan 12th and a final version on August 28th. Being new to the position of Judges Subcommittee chair, I took the time to obtain as much information as possible from the Federations in order to provide the most accurate list of Judges. Many Federations cooperated fully, while some did not.

Communication and adhering to deadlines was a struggle in 2016, including understanding the request and required forms. This led to many follow-up emails to which some were never responded to. So, based on the experience in preparing the list for 2016, it was my goal to try to simplify the process and the needed forms.

The 2016 list included the following 20 Federations: ARG (6), ARU (7), BRA (9), CAN (14), CHI (7), COL (10), CRC (6), CUB (6), CUR (6), DOM (8), ESA (8), GUA (3), JAM (7), MEX (6), PAN (1), PER (6), PUR (7), URU (4), USA (16), VEN (9)

Total Judges: 146

The preliminary draft of the 2017 list is available and will soon be posted to the website. In the preparation of this list, the Federations were much better about adhering to the November 1st deadline and using the new forms that were provided. Again, in order to have the most accurate UANA Database, there are many follow-up emails needed to ensure the information is complete. I do find that it is much easier to obtain the information when working directly with a Synchro person/department in a Federation, as they are quicker to respond and have the requested information readily available.

The preliminary draft list for 2017 will unfortunately not include the following Federations as they have not submitted their forms: **ESA, GUA and PAN.**
If received at a later date, their judges will be added.

With some minor adjustments (additions/ removals), the total number of judges on the 2017 preliminary list, including ones awaiting confirmation, will be **134**, with a breakdown as follows:

A judges - 23

B judges – 12

G judges - 99

Goals:

- To continue to encourage UANA Federations to provide a list of judges for the UANA list.
- To continue to encourage UANA Federations to provide FINA with a list of judges. It has been surprising to find that a few of our SY Federations do not turn in their SY Judges list to FINA.
- To continue to strive to collect as much information so the UANA Database is a valuable tool.
- To remind UANA Federations that all judges will need to attend a FINA school and be retested after the new rules are approved in July 2017.

UANA SY Judges Forms

As mentioned previously, the UANA SY Judges list forms were revised this year. Permission was obtained from the FINA SY department to use the FINA forms with modifications. This made the UANA forms more professional looking, and easier to complete due to a fill-in format. This also provided easier to read forms for updating the List and Database.

UANA Judges Manual

The Goal for 2017 will be to finalize updates to the UANA Judges Manual. A first draft was prepared prior to the UANA Championships and distributed to the Judges Subcommittee of Esther Croes (ARU), Jorge Ruz Guerra (CUR) and Lina Zapata (COL). Beginning discussions were held by the subcommittee in San Juan, with a continuation to be done in 2017 via email.

Goals:

- To complete the revisions to the UANA Judges Manual prior to the 2017 UANA Championships.
- To standardize the process followed for promotions, selection of judges, etc.
- To review possible judges for promotion (to be discussed at the 2017 UANA Championship).

UANA Database

In previous years, the Database was maintained by Barbara McNamee. It is my understanding that the program that was used was no longer supported by the manufacturer, so converting the information to a new program that could be transferred to the new Judges Subcommittee Chair was a lengthy, difficult process. Success was finally obtained and the Database was received in early August. It is a FileMaker Pro program now which had to be purchased in order to continue to update and maintain it properly. The Database is a fantastic tool that maintains personal information and evaluation data on each judge. It is continuously updated each year based on the information submitted by the Federations on the Activity Reports as well as evaluations received throughout the year. The information is then used for possible promotions and selection of judges.

My gratitude to Barbara McNamee for her assistance with the Database is beyond words.

2016 UANA Championships - San Juan, Puerto Rico (Sept 1-4, 2016)

We had judges attend from 12 Federations as follows:

ARG – 1 (A judge)
ARU – 2 (G judges)
CAN – 3 (G judges)
COL – 1 (G judge)
CRC – 4 (A, B + 2 G judges)
CUR – 1 (G judge)
DOM–1 (A judge)
JAM – 1 (G judge)
PAN – 1 (G judge)
PUR – 3 (B + 2 G judges)
USA – 3 (A + 2 G judges)
VEN – 1 (G judge)

On occasion, we also needed to use TSSC members who were FINA/UANA judges to fill in the panels for figures and routines. We used 5 TSSC members which added one A judge, one B judge and three G judges.

Total number of judges used: **27**

FINA provided an evaluator from Russia, Irina Butuzova. The evaluations for all 27 judges have been received and updated in the Database.