

Parent Judging Expectations

In order for the sport of jump rope to be able to host competitions for our athletes, we require the assistance of parents as judges for these events. The Ontario Rope Skipping Organization (ORSO) is working on having paid judges, but until that time, we will need to continue to assist in this manner. Each team attending the Ontario Open, Provincials and National competitions MUST register an equivalent number of judges to register athletes for these events. If we do not have enough judges to meet the requirements set by ORSO and RSC (Rope Skipping Canada), we will not be able to register our athletes for competition.

This contribution is required by all families with competitive athletes on the team and is above and beyond the volunteer requirements for our team to function. Judging can be intimidating, especially for new families, but there are resources to help you through it and we will work together to make it easier.

Many parents find that once they get the hang of things, judging at competitions helps to pass the time and also helps them to understand the rules and requirements of the sport. This is beneficial both to the team as a whole and also to their own athletes as they have a much better understanding of the sport overall.

The judging qualifications and possible assignments are as follows:

Speed

Athlete Presentation (Presentation A) and Routine Presentation (Presentation R)

Required Elements

Difficulty

To assist with this process and to ensure that we have enough qualified judges from year to year, the following expectations have been set for all families:

The first year that you have an athlete or athletes on the competitive team you are required to do the online (Level 1) and instructor led (Level 2) qualifications for speed judging only.

The second year that you have an athlete or athletes on the competitive team you are required to complete Level 2 of a second judging qualification - most likely either presentation or required elements.

The third year that you have an athlete or athletes on the competitive team you are required to complete a third Level 2 judging qualification - typically either Presentation or Required Elements (whichever you did not do in your second year) or Difficulty if preferred.

The fourth year that you have an athlete or athletes on the competitive team you are required to complete the fourth judging discipline - whichever one you have not yet completed in your first 3 years.

The requirements from ORSO and RSC are dependent on the number of athletes registering, so for families with one athlete, only one parent will need to complete these qualifications. For families with more than one athlete, either both parents can be certified or one parent can serve 'double duty' and do 2 shifts. In most cases, judges are assigned for only one half day on one of the 2 competition days (for the Ontario Open or Provincials, for example). If you have multiple athletes, then you may be assigned 2 shifts over the competition weekend.

If there are extenuating circumstances and for some reason your family is not able to meet these requirements, each case will be handled on an individual basis and alternate arrangements can be made, depending on the situation. Exceptions must be addressed to the Vice President of the board, or another board member as soon as possible in order to make the appropriate accommodations where needed.

Families who do not meet the above certification expectations and do not make alternate arrangements or proactively approach the Vice President of the board for consideration will incur an additional \$300 fee per athlete for the year to cover the cost of another judge in their place. Failure to pay this fee may result in your athlete not being able to register for competition.

The above are the minimum requirements, but anyone is always more than welcome and even encouraged to complete their qualifications sooner when possible. As much as possible, we will try to assign you to your preferred judging duty for the year and be consistent for the year in order to build on your experience and become more comfortable.

As we want to encourage our older athletes and experienced judges to continue their involvement with the sport and to draw on their experience and familiarity with the skills, the club will offer an honorarium of \$100/session for judging difficulty at any ORSO or RSC competition. This honorarium will be offered to any qualified alumni, current athletes, type B member or member of the community who fulfills our judging requirements at competition. The honorarium is per session, meaning that if you judge both team freestyle and individual freestyle, that is considered 2 sessions and \$200 honorarium will be awarded.

More information about the judge training can be found on the IJRU website here: <https://ijru.sport/rules/judge-training>, including a link to the training portal.