Communication No. 2351

Synchronized Skating
On-line Element Evaluation

Purpose

The Synchronized Skating (SyS) Online Element Evaluation is being offered and arranged by the ISU Synchronized Skating Technical Committee (ISU SySTC) to provide an opportunity for International and Championship Synchronized Skating Teams to have several SyS Elements evaluated by ISU and International Officials prior to the upcoming competition season.

Panels of Judges, comprised of ISU and International Officials, will be designated by the ISU SySTC. Each Panel of Judges will include one (1) Referee from the Technical Committee plus up to seven (7) Judges from different ISU Members. The Officials will work independently, only awarding Grades of Execution (GOE) to the Elements submitted for review. A common debriefing with the Judges will be done at the end of their evaluations to provide participating Officials with an opportunity to practice their evaluation skills for the upcoming season and to ask questions about the current rules.

Technical Panels, comprised of ISU and International Officials, will also be designated by the ISU SySTC. Each Technical Panel will include one (1) Technical Controller and two (2) Technical Specialists. A Member of the SySTC will act as a Data Input Operator. The Technical Panel will be comprised of different ISU Members and will work independently first, and then meet online to reach a consensus on Element levels and remarks. A debriefing will also be done during this on-line meeting to discuss and ensure a common understanding of the current Element requirements and Rules.

Judging panel GOE marks and Technical Panel levels will be entered on-line within a specific timeframe. No overall results will be published.

A debriefing of the On-line Element Evaluations will be scheduled for each participating Coach/Team. The Referee and a member of the Technical Panel, both from the Technical Committee, will participate in each individual on-line meeting and will provide a summary of comments from the Technical Panel and Judges evaluations for each Element submitted.

Content

Teams will have the opportunity to first register for their participation in the On-line Element Evaluation. Teams can submit up to three (3) different Elements and they may be from either the Short and/or Free Program.

NOTE: One (1) Element must be the No Hold Element (NHE). The remaining two (2) Elements are of the Teams/Coaches choice.

Teams will be required to send a good quality video of the Element(s), taken from a slightly elevated position. Optimal location of the videographer would be where the Technical Panel is usually seated during a competition. Guidelines and further information regarding video requirements and the process to submit video(s) is attached as an appendix.
Participants:
Junior and Senior Teams, that have competed Internationally during past seasons, are invited to participate.

Project Duration:

JUNIOR Teams
Submission of videos for the Junior category is November 9-15, 2020. (Videos for Junior teams received after November 15, 2020 will not be accepted).
Evaluation of the Junior category November 16-22, 2020
Debriefing of the Junior category November 23-29, 2020

SENIOR Teams
Submission of videos for the Senior category is November 23-29, 2020. (Videos for Senior teams received after November 29, 2020 will not be accepted).
Evaluation of the Senior category November 30 – December 6, 2020
Debriefing of the Senior category December 7-13, 2020.

Registration Deadline
Registrations must be received by November 1, 2020

How to Register
An e-mail stating the Teams request to register for participation in the On-Line Element Evaluation must be received on or before the deadline. The e-mail may be sent from the ISU Member OR directly from the Teams’ Coach and must contain the name of the Team(s), name and e-mail of the Coach, category (Senior/Junior), and the number of Elements to be evaluated per Team.

Registration e-mails must be sent to the following by November 1, 2020:
Mr. Philippe Maitrot, Chair of the SySTC p.maitrot73@gmail.com
Ms. Lois Long, Member of the SySTC mrsloislong@gmail.com

Late Registration and/or video submissions will not be accepted.
Synchronized Skating (SyS) On-Line Evaluation Project
Submission Requirements for Element Video

SyS On-Line Evaluation Project Description
- Each Team may submit up to three (3) different Elements; NHE is mandatory for all Teams, plus two (2) Elements of the Teams’ choice
- Label each Video separately;
  o Coach Name_Team Name_Element Name_Program_Date of Submission.mp4
  o Example: CathyDalton_Meraki Senior_NHE_SP_Nov18,2020.mp4
- Separate video files for each Element should be submitted IF more than one (1) Element is submitted.
- **If possible:**
  o The entry and exit Transition of the Element should be recorded. It’s best to start the video at the end of the previous Element and record until the beginning of the subsequent Element

Video Requirements
Camera Position
- The camera must be elevated and if possible situated close to where a Technical Panel would be seated on the judge/technical panel side of the rink (approximately at centre ice)
  o If submitting a Traveling Element it is best to place the camera at centre ice in order to permit the Officials to clearly view the start and end of the Element
- The camera must remain in one place and remain stationary during the recording
- It is important to keep all Skaters in view at all times. Use a wide angle/wide screen. If recording with a phone please use the landscape orientation
- Use the camera zoom feature keeping the Team close when (if) they move to the opposite end of the rink
- Ensure that music is clear since the judges require music to evaluate GOE
- Ensure that the lighting on the ice-surface is at competition level if possible

Video Format
Video files have various formats that are indicated in the file title. For example, a video could be titled: PIVOTING BLOCK_PB4.mp4. MP4 is the indication of the file type or format. This is automatically added when the video is created. **MP4** files work best. If you have saved your file in another format, there could be some loss of resolution (blurry). WAV files are often low resolution and will result in an unclear picture. **AVI** files (often the default on a Mac computer) should be changed to MP4.

Quality Standards
High resolution videos are best (720p or 1080p when possible). It is important to use the original video downloaded to make your clips. When sending the clips to others for consideration be aware that the quality could diminish in transit. For example, if a clip is sent via an email attachment, it could lose its clarity.

Transferring the video for the On-Line Project Evaluation:
Participants will receive an invitation from Mrs. Long to upload the video(s) to Dropbox. A Technical Panel and Judges will be assigned to the dropbox and will only have the ability to view and evaluate the videos.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:
Mrs. Lois Long or Mr. Philippe Mairtrot
Member of the ISU SySTC Chair of the ISU SYSTC
E-mail: mrsloislong@gmail.com E-mail: p.maitrot73@gmail.com