

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS  
& TECHNICAL RULES**

**SYNCHRONIZED SKATING**

**2021**

as accepted by an online vote  
June 2021

See also the ISU Constitution  
and General Regulations

In the ISU Constitution and Regulations, the masculine gender used in relation to any physical person (for example, Skater/Competitor, Official, member of an ISU Member etc. or pronouns such as he, they, them) shall, unless there is a specific provision to the contrary, be understood as including the feminine gender.

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

## Regulations laid down by the following Congresses:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Scheveningen	1892	30 <sup>th</sup>	Helsinki	1963
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Copenhagen	1895	31 <sup>st</sup>	Vienna	1965
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Stockholm	1897	32 <sup>nd</sup>	Amsterdam	1967
4 <sup>th</sup>	London	1899	33 <sup>rd</sup>	Maidenhead	1969
5 <sup>th</sup>	Berlin	1901	34 <sup>th</sup>	Venice	1971
6 <sup>th</sup>	Budapest	1903	35 <sup>th</sup>	Copenhagen	1973
7 <sup>th</sup>	Copenhagen	1905	36 <sup>th</sup>	Munich	1975
8 <sup>th</sup>	Stockholm	1907	37 <sup>th</sup>	Paris	1977
9 <sup>th</sup>	Amsterdam	1909	38 <sup>th</sup>	Davos	1980
10 <sup>th</sup>	Vienna	1911	39 <sup>th</sup>	Stavanger	1982
11 <sup>th</sup>	Budapest	1913	40 <sup>th</sup>	Colorado Springs	1984
12 <sup>th</sup>	Amsterdam	1921	41 <sup>st</sup>	Velden	1986
13 <sup>th</sup>	Copenhagen	1923	42 <sup>nd</sup>	Davos	1988
14 <sup>th</sup>	Davos	1925	43 <sup>rd</sup>	Christchurch	1990
15 <sup>th</sup>	Luchon	1927	44 <sup>th</sup>	Davos	1992
16 <sup>th</sup>	Oslo	1929	45 <sup>th</sup>	Boston	1994
17 <sup>th</sup>	Vienna	1931	46 <sup>th</sup>	Davos	1996
18 <sup>th</sup>	Prague	1933	47 <sup>th</sup>	Stockholm	1998
19 <sup>th</sup>	Stockholm	1935	48 <sup>th</sup>	Québec	2000
20 <sup>th</sup>	St. Moritz	1937	49 <sup>th</sup>	Kyoto	2002
21 <sup>st</sup>	Amsterdam	1939	50 <sup>th</sup>	Scheveningen	2004
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Oslo	1947	51 <sup>st</sup>	Budapest	2006
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Paris	1949	52 <sup>nd</sup>	Monaco	2008
24 <sup>th</sup>	Copenhagen	1951	53 <sup>rd</sup>	Barcelona	2010
25 <sup>th</sup>	Stresa	1953	54 <sup>th</sup>	Kuala Lumpur	2012
26 <sup>th</sup>	Lausanne	1955	55 <sup>th</sup>	Dublin	2014
27 <sup>th</sup>	Salzburg	1957	56 <sup>th</sup>	Dubrovnik	2016
28 <sup>th</sup>	Tours	1959	57 <sup>th</sup>	Seville	2018
29 <sup>th</sup>	Bergen	1961		<u>Online voting</u>	<u>2020</u>
				<u>Online voting</u>	<u>2021</u>

# I. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

## INDEX

<b>General</b>		<b>Page</b>	
Rule No.	800	Discipline and content of Synchronized Skating	7

### REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITIONS IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

#### A. General

Rule No.	815	Segments of Synchronized Skating Competitions	8
	816	Competition personnel	8
	822	Required rinks	9
	823	Music	9
	830	Competition schedule	10
	831	Video Recordings	11
	833	Communication during Competitions	12
	834	Program Content Sheet	12
	838	Call to the Start	12
	839	Behavior of Competitors and Officials	13
	842	ISU Judging System – scoring systems	13
	843	ISU Judging System – determination and publication of results	15
	844	Team Results by ISU Member	19
	845	World ranking systems	19
	848	Awards	20
	855	Exhibitions during Competitions	20
	856	Protocol	20
	857	Novelty formats	21
	858	Comments to the public	22

#### B. ISU Synchronized Skating Championships – Special Rules

Rule No.	865	Allotment	23
	866	Schedule/duration of Championships	23
	867	Participation in Championships	23
	868	Entries in ISU Synchronized Skating Championships	23
	869	Music titles	24
	870	ISU Event <u>Manager/Regional Assistants Event Manager</u>	24
	871	Presentation of medals	25

872	Medals	26
874	Advertisement of ice shows	26

## **C. REGULATIONS FOR OFFICIALS**

### **A. Nomination and appointments of Officials**

Rule No.	900	Process for nomination and appointment of Officials	27
	901	General requirement for nomination and appointment of Officials	30
	902	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Referees	33
	903	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Judges	36
	904	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers	38
	905	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Specialists	40
	906	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Data & Replay Operators	42
	907	ISU Seminars for Officials	44

### **B. Appointment of Officials to Competitions**

Rule No.	910	Appointment of Officials to International Competitions (General)	46
	911	Appointment of Officials to ISU Championships (Special Rule)	47

### **C. Duties and powers of Officials**

Rule No.	920	General and specific duties and powers	49
	921	Meeting at Competitions for Referees and Judges	54
	922	Meeting at Competitions for Technical Panels	55
	923	Reports	56

### **D. Evaluation of service by Officials**

Rule No.	930	Evaluation of service by Officials	58
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## II. TECHNICAL RULES SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

<b>A. General Technical Rules in Synchronized Skating</b>		<b>Page</b>	
Rule No.	950	Definition of the skate blade	66
	951	Clothing	66
	952	Duration of Skating	66
	953	Falls and Interruptions	67
	954	Marking of Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating	68
<b>B. Technical Rules for Competitions in Synchronized Skating</b>			
Rule No.	960	Competition Schedule	72
	961	Announcement of entries and panels of Officials	72
	962	Draws	72
	963	Draws for Starting orders <u>for International Competitions</u>	73
	964	Warm-up periods	74
	965	Interruptions, Music Deficiencies, <u>Adverse Conditions</u> and Incomplete Programs	75
<b>C. ISU Championships – Special Technical Rules</b>		<b>Page</b>	
Rule No.	970	Draws for <u>Starting Orders</u>	80
	971	Judges Draws	82
	980	I. Size of Starting Order Groups Short Program for International Competitions (and Free Skating if Ties) and Novice Free Skating	85
	981	II. Size of Starting Order Groups Short Program for ISU Championships	85
	982	III. Size of Starting Order Groups Free Skating	85
<b>D. Technical Definitions</b>		<b>Page</b>	
Rule No.	990	Synchronized Skating Technical Definitions	86
		1. General Terms	86
		2. Turns/Steps/Linking Steps	87
		3. Definitions of Additional Features and Requirements	90
		4. Definitions of Features and Requirements	97
		5. Definitions of Elements and Requirements	99
	991	Short Program and Free Skating	105
	992	Element information for Short Program and Free Skating (Novice, Junior and Senior)	108

993 Announcement of requirements for Short  
Program and Free Skating

109

## I. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

### Rule 800

#### Discipline and content of Synchronized Skating

1. Synchronized Skating consists of:
  - a) Short Program for Senior and Junior categories
  - b) Free Skating for Senior, Junior and Novice categories
  
2. A Synchronized Skating Team must consist of the following number of Skaters and may include both women and men (see paragraph 2. e); the object of a Team is to perform as one unit.
  - a) In all International Synchronized Skating Competitions:  
Senior: a Team shall consist of sixteen Skaters,  
Junior: a Team shall consist of sixteen Skaters,  
Novice Advanced: a Team shall consist of sixteen Skaters.
  - b) In all ISU Synchronized Skating Championships a Team shall consist of sixteen Skaters.
  - c) Each Team may have up to a maximum of four alternates listed as such on the Team roster.
  - d) Exceptions to the composition of a Team, paragraph a), c) of this Rule may be decided by the Council for multi-sports events sanctioned by the ISU.
  - e) Synchronized Skating Teams for the purpose of the Olympic Winter Games, the Council may decide on the number of Skaters forming a Team which may differ from paragraph 2 a) and b) above. A Team may have a maximum of two alternates. A Team may include women only (if the ISU so decides). The maximum number of entries for the Olympic Winter Games will be defined by the International Olympic Committee.
  - f) Injury at the International Competitions/Championships:  
If an injury/illness should occur during practices or competition, at either the Championships or practice venue(s), the Team will be permitted to skate with not less than fourteen Skaters. At the Championships, injury/illness must be certified by the ISU Medical Advisor assigned to the Championships.
  - g) Teams of an ISU Member may enter more than one event using a different program, with minimum change of 50% of the Skaters (Alternates are not included in the calculation of 50% of the Team).
  
3. Synchronized Skating Teams will be permitted to use individual Team names, provided that they do not conflict with the ISU sponsors. If the ISU deems a name inappropriate at any time, it will

notify the ISU Member Federation, which will then be required to file a name change for the Team in question.

4. Age limits for Synchronized Skating - See Rule 108, paragraph 4.

**Rules 801 – 814 (reserved)**  
**REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITIONS**  
**IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING**

**A. GENERAL**

**Rule 815**  
**Segments of Synchronized Skating competitions**

1. ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, shall consist of Short Program and Free Skating.
2. International Competitions in Synchronized Skating shall consist of:
  - a) Short Program and Free Skating (Senior and/or Junior)
  - b) Short Program (Senior only)
  - c) Free Skating (all categories)
3. Order of Segments and skating in Segments
  - a) Short Program must be skated before Free Skating.
  - b) Each Team must skate the Short Program and Free Skating alone on the ice surface.

**Rule 816**  
**Competition personnel**

1. The following competition personnel designated by the Organizing Committee are necessary:
  - a) an announcer to summon the Teams and to read the scores and results;
  - b) up to two timekeepers;
  - c) supplementary competition personnel (if necessary) to guarantee the orderly conduct of the competition in other respects;
  - d) Referee's Assistant at ice level (RAI).
2. The Organizing Committee must assign a person (International or National level Synchronized Skating Official) as the Referee's



Assistant at ice level, near the entrance with the following functions/duties:

- a) permits (verifying the competing Skaters) the first and each additional Team to enter the ice for their warm-up;
- b) checks for the maximum number of authorized alternate(s) at ice level;
- c) monitors the ice conditions and report problems to the Referee;
- d) directs a registered alternate to enter the ice for the express purpose of picking up objects on the ice considered hazardous to the Skaters;
- e) shall not Judge or take notes during the Team performance. For safety reasons, the full attention of the Referee's Assistant at ice level must be on the Team;
- f) does not participate in the Victory Ceremony.

### **Rules 817 – 821 (reserved)**

#### **Rule 822 Required rinks**

1. The available skating area for the Short Program, Free Skating must be rectangular and if possible, shall measure sixty meters in length and thirty meters in width, but not larger, and not less than fifty-six meters in length and twenty-six meters in width. Officials shall not be seated on the ice surface. The Judges, the Referee and the Technical Panel will be seated in an elevated position, if possible.
2. For International Synchronized Skating Competitions, at least one covered and preferably heated rink is required. For ISU Synchronized Skating Championships two covered, closed and heated ice rinks are required.

#### **Rule 823 Music**

1. All programs must be skated to music.
2. Teams shall furnish competition music of excellent quality in a format and means as per the announcement of the competition in accordance with Rule 112.

- a) The Teams must announce the exact running time of the music (not skating time), which shall be certified by the Team Coach, Team Manager or Team Leader at the time of registration.
  - b) Each program (Short Program/Free Skating) must be recorded on one separate track or on a separate disc (if using CDs).
  - c) Teams must provide a back-up drive for each program in a format and means as per the announcement of the competition in accordance with Rule 112.
3. All music used for competitive events must be played on high quality electronic recorders, e.g. MP3 player or similar, computer or CD player, one or two of which shall be used during the competition. The organizer shall furnish, for each rink used for the competition and practice, adequate facilities for the reproduction and playback of music. The facilities to be provided by the organizer must be set forth in the Announcement of the competition.
  4. Precautions must be taken to prevent frequency and/or voltage variations.
  5. The volume level of the music as determined by the ISU Medical Commission in either the practice or competition rinks must not exceed 85–90 dB Sound Pressure Level in any part of the arena.
  6. The organizers of each competition shall undertake to delete, after the competition, all music files which they have received in connection with the competition.
  7. If there is no official practice, the organizer must provide the Team, Coach, Team Manager or Team Leader the opportunity to check before the competition that electronically submitted music is the correct Competitor's music.

## **Rules 824 – 829 (reserved)**

### **Rule 830 Competition schedule**

1. When the event is comprised of two Segments, it is recommended that the competition should last at least 2 days, but in no more than 3 consecutive days.

2. The Short Program must be skated before the Free Skating. At the option of the Organizers the Short Program can be skated either on a preceding day or on the same day as the Free Skating (except ISU Championships) provided there is an interval of at least 4 hours after the end of the Short Program.
3. Events should not begin before 9.00 a.m. and should be planned to finish by 11.00 p.m.
4. After registering at accreditation for a competition, Teams may not practice at a rink other than the official rink.
5. At all events, the Organizer must provide to each competing Team on the competition arena ice surface practice ice free of charge. For Senior category: 10 minutes of practice ice, free of charge before the Short Program event and 12 minutes between the Short Program and the Free Skating. For Junior category: 10 minutes before the Short Program and 11 minutes between the Short Program and the Free Skating. For Novice category: 10 minutes any time before the Free Skating.  
At the official practices for Short Program and Free Skating, the competitive music of the Team will be played twice, each time without interruption. No other music will be played during the official practice Segments.

### **Rule 831 Video Recordings**

The Organizing ISU Member, or as the case may be, the ISU, shall provide to the Referee video recording of each Segment of the competition.

### **Rule 832 (reserved)**

**Rule 833**  
**Communications during Competitions**

All official communications during ISU Synchronized Skating Championships and International Competitions must be published in English.

**Rule 834**  
**Program Content Sheet**

Each Team shall present a Program Content Sheet, i.e. an official form indicating the planned Elements, for each Segment of the Competition.

**Rules 835 – 837 (reserved)**

**Rule 838**  
**Call to the Start**

1. Prior to each performance, the names of those Teams about to compete must be clearly called on the ice and in the dressing rooms.
2. Prior to the announcement, the next Team to skate must enter the ice surface for their warmup at the sign of the Referee's Assistant at ice level. Following the warmup period of at least 1 minute (see Rule 964), the Team is announced.
3. Teams shall be announced utilizing the Teams' own name in the following manner: Team Name followed by the name of the ISU Member.
4. Each Team must take the starting position and make a signal to the Referee of each Segment of the competition (Short Program and Free Skating) at the latest 30 seconds after their name has been announced. If this time has expired and the Team has not yet taken the starting position, the Referee shall apply a deduction (deducted from the final score) as per Rule 843, paragraph 1. m). If 60 seconds started from the call to the start have expired and the Team has not yet taken the starting position, they will be considered as withdrawn.

**Rule 839**  
**Behavior of Competitors and Officials**

1. Encouragement or advice of any kind, especially prompting during skating, by Officials, is not permitted.
2. Before skating the Short Program and Free Skating, Teams are not allowed to bow to the spectators. Bows may be made to thank the public for applause given at the end the performance.
3. Skaters are not allowed to use headphones, earbuds or any similar devices on the ice during any official practice and during the event.

**Rules 840 – 841 (reserved)**

**Rule 842**  
**ISU Judging System - scoring systems**

1. The results must be calculated electronically at ISU Synchronized Skating Championships.
2. The organizing ISU Member, in the case of International Competition other than ISU Events, or the ISU, in the case of ISU Events, is responsible for the accuracy of the results including the computer software program and shall provide experienced, competent operators who shall be responsible for the entry of data into the computer and the generating of official results.
3. Online marking and Display system
  - a) Officials Screen  
Each Judge and the Referee operates independently, and the decisions of the Technical Controller and Technical Specialists are recorded by the Data Operator using a touch screen or similar system which could be equipped with a built-in video replay system approved by the ISU. The inputs by each individual Judge, the Referee and the Technical Panel are transferred into a calculation computer, including, if possible, a complete back-up system.
  - b) Electronic marks display/scoreboard  
In the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships an electronic mark display system must be used. The results display information (scoreboard) must show place in previous Segment

(Short Program), current place in this Segment and overall current place. Additional information on scores, of interest for the public, is displayed as decided by the Council.

4. Off-line marking

When online marking is not available, the Officials shall operate as follows.

a) With not more than five Judges and no Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist):

(i) The panel of Judges shall be split in the "Technical Judge(s)" (maximum two Judges) and the "Performance Judges" (if possible not more than three Judges).

(ii) The "Technical Judge(s)" shall record all Elements and award the GOE for each Element, the "Performance Judges" shall award the Program Components only. The "Performance Judges" shall operate independently, while the "Technical Judges" may confer to agree on decision about the identified Elements.

(iii) One of the "Technical Judges" shall act as Referee. He shall, alone, decide upon the deductions under the obligations of Referees and Technical Panels.

b) With a Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist and, if possible, Assistant Technical Specialist) or with more than five Judges:

(i) With more than five Judges but no Technical Panel, paragraph a) (i) above shall apply.

(ii) A communication chain needs to be established (headsets etc.) between the "Performance Judges"/Judges and the "Technical Judge(s)"/Technical Panel. With the communication chain it is guaranteed that the "Performance Judges"/Judges operating in the panel are aware of the identified and called Elements.

(iii) The "Technical Judge(s)"/Technical Panel shall record all Elements and apply the deductions under the obligation of Technical Panels. The Judges shall award the GOE for each Element as well as the Program Components.

(iv) One of the "Technical Judges"/Judges shall act as Referee unless a separate Referee has been assigned to the event. He or the Referee alone shall apply the deduction under the obligations of Referees.

c) The "Officials Marking Sheets" need to be collected after each performance. The data is either transferred into a computer to calculate results or the calculation is done manually. The calculation of results shall be done according to Rule 843.

## Rule 843

### ISU Judging System - determination and publication of results

#### 1. Basic principles of calculation

- a) Every Element (i.e. Required Element of the Short Program or Element of the Well Balanced Free Skating Program) has a certain Base Value indicated in the Scale of Value (SOV) chart published in the ISU Communication.  
The Base Values for the Levels of Elements is determined by combining the Difficulty Groups of Elements and the Difficulty Groups of Additional Features. Each Synchronized Skating Element/configuration belongs to a Difficulty Group of Elements, which may contain the Features that are specific for the respective Element and increase the difficulty of an Element.
- b) Each Judge identifies for each Element one of the Grades of Execution. Each grade has its own positive (+) or negative (-) numerical value also indicated in the SOV chart.
- c) The panel's Grade of Execution (GOE) is determined by calculating the trimmed mean of the numerical values of the GOE awarded by Judges.
- d) The trimmed mean is calculated by deleting the highest and the lowest values and calculating the average of the remaining values. In the case when there are fewer than five judges, the highest and lowest values are not deleted from the calculation.
- e) This average will become the final GOE of an individual Element. The panel's GOE is rounded to two decimal places.
- f) The panel's score for each Element is determined by adding the trimmed mean GOE of this Element to its Base Value.
- g) The panel's scores for all the Elements are added giving thus the Total Elements Score.
- h) In the Short Program and Free Skating, each Element (Block, Circle, Intersection, Wheel etc.) will be evaluated separately and given a GOE.
- i) Any additional Element or Elements exceeding the prescribed numbers will not be counted in the result of a Team. Only the first attempt (or allowed number of attempts) of an Element will be taken into account.
- j) Each Judge also marks the Program Components on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with 0.25 points increments.
- k) The panel's points for each Program Component are obtained by calculating the trimmed mean of the Judges results for that Program Component. The trimmed mean is calculated in the manner described above in sub-paragraph d).

The trimmed mean of each Program Component Score is rounded to two decimal places,

- l) The panel's points for each Program Component are then multiplied by a factor as follows (same for Junior and Senior):

Short Program 0.8      Free Skating 1.6

The factored results are rounded to two decimal places and added.

The sum is the Program Component Score.

- m) Deductions are applied for certain violations specified in the Regulations as follows and are taken from the Total Score:

<b>Violation:</b>	<b>As per:</b>	<b>Points:</b>	<b><u>Ded. given by</u></b>
<u>Program time violation</u>	Rule 952	-1.0: - for every 5 seconds lacking or in excess (Free Skating) - for every 5 seconds in excess of 2 min 50 sec (Short Program)	<u>Referee</u>
<u>Music requirements violation</u>	Rule 991, paragraph 2.a)	-1.0 per program	<u>Referee</u>
<u>Costume and prop violation</u>	Rule 951, paragraph 1	-1.0 per program	<u>Judges/Ref</u>
<u>Costume failure</u>	Rule 951, paragraph 2	-1.0 per program	<u>Referee</u>
Fall	Rule 953, paragraph 1	-1.0 for every Fall of one Skater	<u>Technical Panel</u>
Late start	Rule 838, paragraph 4	-1.0 for start between 1 and 30 seconds late	<u>Referee</u>



Interruption in <u>excess</u>	Rule 953, paragraph 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ more than 10 seconds up to 20 seconds: -1.0</li> <li>▪ more than 20 seconds up to 30 seconds: -2.0</li> <li>▪ more than 30 seconds up to 40 seconds: -3.0</li> </ul>	<u>Referee</u>
Interruption of the program with allowance of up to 3 minutes to resume from the point of interruption	Rule 965	-5.0 per program	<u>Referee</u>
<u>Adverse condition prior the beginning of the program with allowance of up to 3 minutes</u>	<u>Rule 965 Paragraph 6</u>	<u>-5.0 per program</u>	<u>Referee</u>
Illegal Elements/ Features/Additional Features/ Movements	Rules 992, paragraph 2	-2.0 per violation	<u>Technical Panel</u>
Non-permitted Elements/Features/ Additional Features/ Movements	Rules 992, paragraph 3	-1.5 per violation	<u>Technical Panel</u>
<u>Separation in excess</u>			<u>Judges/Ref</u>
<u>Stopping in excess</u>			<u>Referee</u>
Un-prescribed, Additional or Repeated Element	Rule 991, paragraph 3.a)	-1.5 per violation	<u>Technical Panel</u>
Wrong Element shape in SP	Rule 991, paragraph 3.e)	No value	<u>Technical Panel</u>

## **2. Determination of Results in each Segment of the Competition**

- a) The Total Segment Score for each Team in each Segment of a competition (Short Program and Free Skating) is calculated by adding the Total Element Score and the Program Component Scores, subtracting any deductions for violations described in sub-paragraph 1. m).
- b) The Team with the highest Total Segment Score is placed first; the Team with the next highest Total Segment Score is placed second; and so on.
- c) If two or more Teams have the same result, the Total Element Score will break the tie in the Short Program. The Program Component Score will break the tie in the Free Skating. If these results are also equal, the Teams concerned will be considered as tied.
- d) For any Segment where a Segment factor is applied, the factored Segment Scores are rounded to two decimal places.

## **3. Determination of the Final Result**

- a) The Total Segment Score of the Short Program and Free Skating are added and the result constitutes the Final Score of a Team in a competition. The Team with the highest Final Score is first, etc.
- b) In cases of ties in the Final Score, the Team with the highest score for the last skated Segment is placed first etc. If there is a tie in the highest score, the better placement will decide the better place.
- c) If there is a tie for this Segment, the placement of the previously skated Segment will count for the better place etc. If there is no previous Segment, the Teams are tied.

## **4. Publication of Results**

- a) In the publication of the overall results of an event, the eliminated Teams shall be listed following the Teams who have successfully finished the competition and such eliminated Teams will be listed in order of their placement after their last completed Segment. Disqualified Teams will lose their placements and be officially noted in the intermediate and final results as disqualified (DSQ). Teams having finished the competition and who initially placed lower than the disqualified Teams(s) will move up accordingly in their placement(s).
- b) Following each Segment the Total Elements Score, the Panel's points obtained in each Program Component, the Program Component Score, the deductions and the Total Segment Score of every Team must be published.

- c) Following each Segment a printout indicating the Base Values of all the Elements and the GOE and points for the Program Components from every Judge will be issued.
- d) The final result must be published as soon as possible after the conclusion of the event. This must include for each Team:
  - (i) the final place;
  - (ii) separately, the placing in each Segment of a competition.
- e) On conclusion of the event the total points (Final Score) of each Team must be published.

#### **Rule 844**

#### **Team Results by ISU Member**

The Council shall publish, in an ISU Communication, a calculation system to establish Team Results by ISU Member in International Competitions. This system shall be based on the results of the individual competitions in each discipline per category (Senior, Junior, Novice), i.e. Women, Men, Pair Skating, Ice Dance and, when applicable, Synchronized Skating. This system shall be implemented as an option by organizing ISU Members of International Senior, Junior and Novice Competitions and be duly announced in the Announcement of the competition. Upon completion of the competition, the final Team Results are announced after the last awards ceremony for the individual competitions and shall be included in the final protocol.

#### **Rule 845**

#### **World ranking systems**

1. The relevant ISU Bodies shall determine and publish in an ISU Communication calculation systems to establish world rankings:
  - a) for Synchronized Skating separately for Seniors and Juniors;
  - b) by ISU Members including Team Event Results and/or individual results.
2. World rankings are updated and published on the ISU website.

#### **Rules 846– 847 (reserved)**

## **Rule 848 Awards**

1. Awards are made for the final result of each competition.
2. Medals are awarded only to members of Synchronized Skating Teams including registered alternates actually taking part in the competition.
3. The Organizing ISU Member may make additional awards for placement in any Segment of the competition.
4. Members of the ISU may not award for other competitions any medals which resemble the ISU Championships medals.

## **Rules 849 – 854 (reserved)**

## **Rule 855 Exhibitions during Competitions**

A Team in an International Synchronized Skating Competition may not give an additional performance until all parts of the competition have been completed and the results of the competition in question announced.

## **Rule 856 Protocol**

1. A protocol must be published after each ISU Synchronized Skating Championships and International Competition. It must include the general and special items specified below.
2. The general items of a protocol are:
  - a) the place of the event and the name of the ice rink;
  - b) the date and time when the event was held;
  - c) for the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships only: a list with the ISU Council, Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance Technical Committee members, Synchronized Skating Technical Committee members, ISU Director General, Sports Technical Directors, Treasurer and Legal Advisors;
  - d) the attending ISU Office Holders;
  - e) participating ISU Members and Entries;
  - f) the composition of the Organizing Committee;
  - g) the event schedule (on ice and off-ice schedule);
  - h) the Officials; (for each Segment if applicable);
  - i) the type of rink (heated or unheated);

- j) the size of the skating area/ice surface;
  - k) the ice conditions;
  - l) the number of entries, followed by the number of Teams who took part;
  - m) the special conditions of the Segments, the factors and duration;
3. Protocols of competitions in Synchronized Skating must indicate:
    - a) final result (placements);
    - b) results (placements) of Segments;
    - c) performed Elements and the Base Value of these Elements;
    - d) “Judges Details” print-outs for each Team in each Segment. “Judges Details” basically include the following:
      - (i) Judges GOE and individual Program Component Scores in seating order except for ISU Championships in random order;
      - (ii) the Total Factored Technical Score;
      - (iii) the Total Factored Program Component Score;
      - (iv) the Total Segment Score;
      - (v) the Final Score.
  4. Protocols of competitions in Synchronized Skating must include the following special item:
    - a) the names of the Team members of the first three placed Teams with the Team captain designated.
  5. A protocol must be signed by the Referee and the Technical Controller.
  6. In the protocols of ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, the photographs of the Teams placed first, second and third must be included.  
 Only Team Skaters may be pictured in this photograph.  
 For the International Competitions the inclusion of photographs of the Teams placed first, second and third is not mandatory.
  7. Protocol for ISU Events and International Competitions must be sent in electronic form to the ISU Secretariat for publication on the ISU website, not later than two weeks after the completion of the event (for ISU Championships see Rule 135).

**Rule 857**  
**Novelty formats**

Novelty formats at International Competitions

For modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the provisions of Rule 104, paragraph 11.b) apply.

**Rule 858**  
**Comments to the public**

No Officials participating in an International Synchronized Skating event in any capacity may make negative comment to the public concerning such event.

**Rules 859 – 864 (reserved)**

## **B. ISU Synchronized Skating Championships – Special Rules**

### **Rule 865 Allotment**

For Regulations concerning the allotment and dates of the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships (see Rules 127 and 128).

### **Rule 866 Schedule/duration of Championships**

1. ISU Synchronized Skating Championships must not exceed four days, with a minimum of two days. At least one day of free practice at the site of the Championships, for all Teams, must be provided by the Organizing ISU Member prior to the first competitive skating day to any ISU Synchronized Skating Championships.
2. The Short Program must be skated before the Free Skating and must not be on the same day.

### **Rule 867 Participation in Championships**

Participation in the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships is open to all Skaters of Teams who belong to an ISU Member (see also Rule 109, paragraph 2 d).

### **Rule 868 Entries in ISU Synchronized Skating Championships**

1. At ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, the entries of Teams must reach simultaneously the Sports Technical Director Figure Skating and the Organizing Committee at the latest 21 days before the first day (opening and first draws) of the Championships. For post entries, Rule 115, paragraph 4 of the General Regulations applies.
2. a) In ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, each ISU Member, except Special Clubs, may enter one Team.  
b) At ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, the top five placed ISU Members in the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Championships may enter two Teams.

3. Team members for ISU Synchronized Skating Championships must comply with the age requirements as stated in Rule 108, paragraph 4 a) and respective 4 b).
4. Team members for ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, must comply with rules governing Team composition as stated in Rule 800, paragraph 2.
5. Each ISU Member, may enter one substitute Team in the case of one entry but not more than two substitute Teams in the case of two entries. The substitute Team may compete only if its ISU Member has withdrawn the name of its Team entered for the competition 2 weeks before the first draw.  
However, the names of all Teams' Skaters, including alternates may be finally announced at the time of registration.

**Rule 869**  
**Music titles**

The title of the music for the Short Program and the Free Skating and the names of the composers must be submitted with the entries for ISU Synchronized Skating Championships. If possible this should be printed in the program.

**Rule 870**  
**ISU Event Manager and Regional Assistants Event Manager**

1. Event Manager, Assistant Event Manager and Regional Assistants Event Manager (RAEMs) in Figure Skating:  
The ISU Council shall appoint an ISU Event Manager for Figure Skating and if necessary and possible an Assistant Event Manager as well as a pool of Regional Assistants Event Manager according to Article 38 of the Constitution.
2. Consultation and inspection visit for ISU Figure Skating Championships, ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships (except the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships) and ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final:  
For each Figure Skating Championships, the Event Manager and/or Assistant Event Manager shall attend at least one consultation and inspection visit at the site of the Championships, including meetings



with the television and advertising companies during the 2 years before the Championships/Final.

3. On-site monitoring of ISU Figure Skating Championships and ISU World Synchronized Championships:

For each Figure Skating Championships, ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final the Sports Technical Director Figure Skating and/or the Event Manager and/or the Assistant Event Manager plus one or two Regional Assistants Event Manager shall be present at the Championships/Final. At least one of them must be present from the beginning of the official training of the Championships/Final and may not serve in another capacity except in an emergency. They shall represent the ISU in all technical matters concerning the condition, adequacy and scheduling for use of all skating facilities and services used in connection with the Championships/Final. In addition, as necessary, they will act as a liaison between the Referee and other Officials and the Organizers.

The composition of each ISU Event Coordination team (Sports Technical Director Figure Skating, Event Manager, Assistant Event Manager, Regional Assistant Event Manager) shall be proposed by the Vice President through its annual budget and shall be decided by the ISU Council.

4. Monitoring and on-site attendance of other ISU Figure Skating Events:

For other ISU Figure Skating Events (including the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships), an ISU Event Coordination team shall monitor and possibly be present on site of the Event as necessary and as proposed by the Vice President within an annual budget and as decided by the ISU Council.

### **Rule 871 Presentation of medals**

The ceremonies for awarding medals at ISU Synchronized Skating Championships shall be as follows:

1. When the final results have been calculated, first the third placed Team captain and Team and then the second placed Team captain and Team and finally the first placed Team captain and Team are called to the winners' podium on the ice. The Team captains shall stand on the podium and the respective Teams shall be lined up behind their captain on the ice.

2. The ISU Representative awards to the third and second placed Competitors (Team captains) the bronze and silver ISU medals (ISU Synchronized Skating medals), and to the. Champion(s) (Team captain) the gold ISU medal(s) (ISU Synchronized Skating medals). The Referee, Technical Controller and the representative of the Organizer congratulate the medal winners (Team captains) and present flowers to them (see also Rule 134, paragraph 3 b). Representatives of the Organizing ISU Member award the ISU Synchronized Skating medals to the members of the Teams and registered alternates taking part in the Championships.
3. After the completion of each Segment of every event (Short Program and Free Skating), the Referee shall present an ISU gold medal to the first Team, silver and bronze medals to the second and third Team. See also Rule 134 paragraph 3 e).

### **Rule 872 Medals**

The Organizing ISU Member must order the Championships Synchronized Skating Medals from the ISU Director General.

### **Rule 873 (reserved)**

### **Rule 874 Advertisement of ice shows**

At ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, no advertising of ice shows are allowed inside or outside the ice rinks or in the program sold or given to the public. If such advertisements exist, the ISU Event Manager and/or the ISU Representative must intervene immediately.

### **Rules 875 - 899 (reserved)**

# REGULATIONS FOR OFFICIALS IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

## A. Nomination and appointment of Officials

### Rule 900

#### Process for nomination and appointment of Officials

1. In accordance with Rules 121 and 122, every ISU Member must, annually before April 15<sup>th</sup>, nominate to the ISU Director General those individuals who are recommended as follows:
  - a) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an International Referee and first appointment;
  - b) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an ISU Referee and first appointment;
  - c) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an International Judge and first appointment;
  - d) for ISU Examination to become an ISU Judge and first appointment;
  - e) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an International Technical Controller and first appointment;
  - f) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an ISU Technical Controller and first appointment;
  - g) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an International Technical Specialist and first appointment;
  - h) for ISU Seminar and ISU Examination to become an ISU Technical Specialist and first appointment;
  - i) for ISU Seminar to become an ISU or International Data & Replay Operator and first appointment.
2. Nominations must be submitted, and appointments by the ISU must be made, separately for the different qualifications and the different disciplines as follows:
  - a) Referees and Judges
  - b) Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists
  - c) Data & Replays Operators
3. Each nomination of an Official by an ISU Member must be accompanied by the completed official form for the respective discipline and qualification of Official.

4. The ISU Member must verify in accordance with Rules 901 to 907 the qualifications of the individual recommended for the qualification of Official applied for.
5. In the case of national activities required for ISU Examination, first appointment or re-appointment, the ISU Member must submit together with its nominations, the respective documents confirming these activities such as a list of panel of the event or a statement of the ISU Member or the Referee.
6. Officials can be nominated in the following way:
  - a) for first appointment: by an ISU Member (Technical Specialists also by Technical Committee/Sports Technical Directors;
  - b) for annual re-appointment as an International Official: by the respective Technical Committee unless otherwise informed by the ISU Member as per Rule 122;
  - c) for annual re-appointment as an ISU Official: by the respective Technical Committee unless otherwise informed by the ISU Member as per Rule 122.
7. In principle, Officials nominated to be entered on the list of an ISU Member shall have the citizenship of the country of that ISU Member.
8. If an Official nominated to be entered on the list of an ISU Member does not have the citizenship of the country of that ISU Member, the Official must have had a permanent residence in the country of that ISU Member for at least 12 months preceding the nomination. In addition, the ISU Member in the country of which the Official is a citizen must give its approval.
9.
  - a) An Official who has already been on the list of any ISU Member, can be nominated to be entered on the list of another ISU Member only under the following conditions:
    - (i) the Official has acquired the citizenship of the country of the ISU Member on whose list he is to be entered and has also taken up permanent residence in that country; or
    - (ii) the Official has had dual citizenship and has taken up permanent residence in the country of the ISU Member on whose list he is to be entered and of which he is also a citizen;
    - (iii) the ISU Member on whose list the Official was entered before gives its approval.
  - b) If an Official who has already been on the list of any ISU Member;
    - (i) acquires a new citizenship without changing the country of his permanent residence; or

- (ii) has had a dual citizenship and agrees to be entered on the list of the ISU Member in the country of his second citizenship, but does not change the country of his permanent residence; or
  - (iii) is not given the approval of the ISU Member on whose list the Official was entered before, he can be nominated to be entered on the list of another ISU Member only after expiration of 12 months following April 15<sup>th</sup> of the year during which he was entered on the list of the original ISU Member.
10. Exceptions to paragraphs 7 to 9 of this Rule may be granted by the Vice-President Figure Skating if insisting on satisfying all stated requirements would result in a serious hardship to the Official concerned due to special circumstances of his case.
  11. For interpretation of terms "citizenship" and "residence" as well as documents by which citizenship and residence can be proved, reference is made to relevant ISU Communications issued by the Council.
  12. Candidates having passed successfully all parts of an ISU Examination to become an Official will immediately be appointed and be added to the current and respective list of Officials of the ISU Member concerned.
  13. According to Article 20, paragraph 3.c) the appointment as Officials from among nominated persons requires the initial approval of the respective Technical Committee which prepares a list of the individuals it recommends for appointment and submits that list to the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating. If a nominated person is not included on the Technical Committee's approved list, an appeal may be made by the nominating ISU Member to the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating whose decision shall be final. Only Officials finally approved by the respective Technical Committee and the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating will be recognized as such. When a nominated person is not approved by the ISU, the reason for such non-approval will be communicated to the nominating ISU Member.
  14. The ISU Vice-President Figure Skating may, following consultation with the respective Technical Committee, appoint without prior nomination a maximum of:
    - a) three names to the lists of Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators,
    - b) six names to the list of Judges.

Persons so appointed by the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating must satisfy all qualification requirements.

15. As ISU Officials are entitled to serve as International Officials in the same function (see Rule 920, General, b)), their names are not included in the list of International Officials.
16. As ISU Referees are entitled to serve as ISU Judges or International Judges (see Rule 920, General, c)), their names are not included in the list of ISU Judges and International Judges.
17. As International Referees are entitled to serve as International Judges (see Rule 920, General, d)), their names are not included in the list of International Judges.
18. The full list of Officials who have been approved by the respective Technical Committee and the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating must be communicated to the ISU Members in accordance with Rule 122. The appointments shall be effective August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year through July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.
19. ISU Members must check the list of Officials as soon as they receive it. Any request for correction must be made within 2 months. After that period the list is deemed to be correct. Objections to any such list must be lodged by ISU Members within two months, with the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating, whose decision, after consideration of any such objection, shall be final.

### **Rule 901**

#### **General requirements for nomination and appointment of Officials**

1. Each ISU Member shall guarantee that the Referees, Technical Controllers and Judges nominated by it, for first appointment or re-appointment are eligible persons in accordance with Rule 102. In cases of violation of the foregoing, the ISU Member concerned shall lose the right to nominate Officials for the immediately succeeding year and the Referee, Technical Controller or Judge in question shall be removed from the lists.
2. ISU Members must exercise the utmost care to nominate as Officials only competent, reliable, trained, tested and impartial individuals who possess a thorough knowledge of the ISU Rules appropriate to their qualification.

Individuals nominated as Officials must have a working knowledge of English appropriate to the duties attached to their qualification.

3. Service and seminar attendance taken into consideration for the specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Officials (see Rules 902 to 907), are only those in the respective discipline, unless specifically mentioned.
4. For any first appointment, the international service (when applicable) and national service (when applicable) of the concerned Official in the requested qualification(s) must have been considered satisfactory:
  - a) for international service: by the respective Technical Committee,
  - b) for national service: by the respective ISU Member (when the Official is nominated by an ISU Member),
  - c) for the period of time preceding the nomination during which the service requirements must be met.
5. For re-appointment of Referees and Judges, Officials who have not been able to meet the service requirement because, although nominated to serve, have not been drawn, shall not be disqualified from re-appointment.
6.
  - a) Any ISU Official, not fulfilling the service and/or seminar/webinar/online learning modules attendance requirements preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> for re-appointment to the respective qualification shall be transferred to the list of International Officials of the respective qualification. To be eligible for reinstatement to the position formerly held, the concerned Official then must fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. If these requirements are still not fulfilled, the concerned Official remains on the list of International Officials, provided the requirements for this qualification are fulfilled.
  - b) Any International Official, not fulfilling the service and/or seminar/webinar/online learning modules attendance requirements preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> shall be deleted from the list of International Officials. To be eligible for reinstatement to the position formerly held, the concerned Official then must fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. If these requirements are not fulfilled, the Official must fulfill the requirements for first appointment as an International Official and be nominated accordingly.
  - c) However in case the seminar/webinar/online learning modules attendance requirement is not fulfilled because of medically

certified illness the consequences stipulated in paragraphs a) and b) above shall not apply for 1 year.

7. ISU Examinations:
  - a) The criteria to pass successfully the ISU Examinations to become an Official are published in ISU Communications.
  - b) Each ISU Examination to become an Official cannot be taken more than three times by a candidate. In case of two failures, there must be an interval of at least 24 months between the second and the third final attempt.
  
8. Reinstatement of Officials after suspension for misconduct:
  - a) The suspension for misconduct of an Official by the Disciplinary Commission shall apply to all the ISU/International qualifications and disciplines for which the Official was qualified.
  - b) An Official suspended for misconduct by the Disciplinary Commission for a specified period of time shall be eligible for reinstatement at the end of that time, as follows, unless a request to the contrary is received from the ISU Member of the Official:
    - (i) an Official suspended for misconduct for up to 36 months shall be reinstated in the position formerly held if he was fulfilling the age, service and seminar attendance requirements for re-appointment to this qualification as of July 31<sup>st</sup> preceding the reinstatement. If applicable, service in National Competitions during the period of suspension shall not be taken into consideration. If these requirements were not fulfilled (or could not be fulfilled), provisions of paragraph 6 above shall apply;
    - (ii) to be reinstated, an Official suspended for misconduct for more than 36 months must again fulfill the requirements for first appointment as an International Official and be nominated accordingly.
  
9. Definitions for the purpose of Rules 901 to 905:
  - a) National Competition: means Senior, Junior or Advanced Novice national, sectional, divisional championships or competition.
  - b) International Competition: means ISU Event, or other International Senior or Junior Competition conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraphs 8 or 9, with, for the Segments considered for service requirements, two or more ISU Members participating. Service in International Advanced Novice competitions conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraph 10, with the above minimum number of ISU Members



participating is considered as an activity. Other International non-ISU event activity, of two or more ISU Members participating can also be considered as activity if no Teams participate in the National Competition.

- c) Trial Judging in an ISU Seminar for first appointment of International Judges: means judging a competition live or on screen with an evaluation by a moderator.
- d) Trial Judging as a judging service: means judging the Segment of an ISU Synchronized Skating Championships for which an ISU Judge is not drawn, conducted by a moderator who submits a report to the respective Technical Committee.
- e) The number of National or International Competitions considered for service requirements is the number of different Competitions of an age category per discipline relevant for the nomination or appointment being sought. Different Segments of a competition are not considered as a different Competition however, each age category is considered as different Competitions.

## **Rule 902**

### **Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Referees**

#### **1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Referee, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) have been included as International Judge in the three consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - (ii) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned;
  - (iii) possess good communication skills;
  - (iv) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.
- c) Service: have served, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination:
  - (i) as a Referee, in two National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a);
  - (ii) as a Judge (or as a Technical Controller for Technical Committee Members only):
    - a) in three International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b). The Segments judged must include:
    - b) three times Short Program,

- c) three times Free Skating,
- d) Seminar attendance:
  - (i) have completed, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination an ISU Judges Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of Judges (see Rule 907),
  - (ii) completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of International Referees (see Rule 907).
- e) Examination: passes successfully the ISU Examination to become an International Referee.

**2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Referee, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination as a Referee, Judge, Trial Judge or Technical Controller in one International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of Judges and an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of International Referees (see Rule 907). ISU Seminar for re-appointment of International Referees may also be an on-line learning/webinar conducted by the Technical Committee. This seminar does not substitute the seminar and exam for promotion to ISU Referee.
- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Referee, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) have been included both as ISU Judge and International Referee in the four consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - (ii) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned;
  - (iii) possess good communication skills;
  - (iv) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.

- c) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination preceding the nomination
  - (i) as a Referee, in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b). The Segments refereed must include:
    - twice Short Program,
    - twice Free Skating,
  - (ii) as a Judge (or as a Technical Controller for Technical Committee Members only), in four Segments at ISU Synchronized Skating Championships or an ISU event where the ISU appoints the Referee and Technical panel members. These events will be counted as recertification, consistent with ISU Events where the ISU assigns the Referee and Technical Panel Officials. The Segments judged must include for Synchronized Skating:
    - once Short Program,
    - once Free Skating,
- d) Seminar attendance:
  - (i) have completed, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination preceding the nomination, an ISU Judges Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of Judges (see Rule 907),
  - (ii) completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of ISU Referees (see Rule 907).
- e) Examination: passes successfully the ISU Examination to become an ISU Referee.

**4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Referee, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination as a Referee, Judge, Trial Judge or Technical Controller in at least one International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of Judges and an ISU Seminar for first appointment of ISU Referee (see Rule 907). ISU Seminar for re-appointment of ISU Referees may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the Technical Committee.
- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

## Rule 903

### Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Judges

**1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Judge, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four but not the age of fifty (if a Judge is already on the ISU List of International or ISU Judges/Referees for another ISU Figure Skating Discipline, the age limit of 50 does not apply) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Judge in two National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a). The Segments judged must include:
  - (i) twice Short Program,
  - (ii) twice Free Program,Other international non-ISU event activity, of two or more ISU Members participating and with five or more entries, can also be considered as activity if the required numbers of Teams do not participate in the National Competition.
- c) A Trial Judge in an ISU Seminar for first appointment of International Judges (see Rule 901, paragraph 9 c)).

In case that there are not enough Teams at National Synchronized Skating Championships or qualifying National Competitions, the candidate must participate in two different Trial Judging events which will be counted as the national activities. The trial must have been considered as acceptable by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee. An application for Trial Judging a Synchronized Skating Competition must be submitted to the Chair of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee. The Trial Judging must have been considered as acceptable by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.
- d) Seminar attendance: completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of International Judges (see Rule 907).
- e) Examination: passes successfully the written/verbal part and practical part of the ISU Examination to become an International Judge.

**2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Judge, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination as a Referee, Judge, Trial

Judge, Technical Controller or OAC Member on site in one International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 8.b).

- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of International Judges (see Rule 907). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of International Judge may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).
- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**3. To be eligible, for first appointment as an ISU Judge, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background: have been included as International Judge in the three consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination.
- c) Service: have served during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Judge: in three International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) including one Senior and one Junior. The Segments judged must include:
  - (i) twice Short Program,
  - (ii) twice Free Skating,
- d) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Judges Seminar for first appointment of ISU Judges (see Rule 907). A seminar held in conjunction with the examination for International Judges is not considered as a valid seminar to meet this requirement.
- e) Examination: pass successfully the written/verbal part and practical part of the ISU Examination to become an ISU Judge.

**4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Judge, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Referee, Judge, Trial Judge, or Technical Controller in at least one International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU

Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of ISU Judges (see Rule 907). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of ISU Judge may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).

- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

## **Rule 904**

### **Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers**

#### **1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Technical Controller, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) have been included at least as International Judge in the two consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - (ii) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
  - (iii) possess good communication skills;
  - (iv) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.
- c) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in two National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- d) Seminar attendance: completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of International Technical Controllers (see Rule 907).
- e) Examination: passes successfully the ISU Examination to become an International Technical Controller.

#### **2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Technical Controller, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901 paragraph 9.b) or National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU

Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of International Technical Controllers (see Rule 907). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of International Technical Controller may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).

- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Technical Controller, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) have been included as ISU Referee or ISU Judge in the two consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - (ii) have been included as International Technical Controller in the four consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - (iii) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
  - (iv) possess good communication skills;
  - (v) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.
- c) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in a minimum of three competitions at least one of which must be an International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- d) Seminar attendance: completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of ISU Technical Controllers (see Rule 907).
- e) Examination: passes successfully the ISU Examination to become an ISU Technical Controller.

**4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Technical Controller, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b), or one ISU Event and one International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or one National Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).

- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of ISU Technical Controllers (see Rule 907). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of ISU Technical Controller may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).
- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

### **Rule 905**

#### **Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Specialists**

- 1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**
  - a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four but not the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Background:
    - (i) be recruited from the group of Coaches, former competitive Skaters, or ISU/International Judges or Referees;
    - (ii) be involved on at least a weekly basis for the discipline concerned on site;
    - (iii) have been a former high-level Skater (as a minimum at national level);
    - (iv) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
    - (v) possess good communication skills;
    - (vi) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.
  - c) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in two National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
  - d) Seminar attendance: completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of International Technical Specialists (see Rule 907).
  - e) Examination: passes successfully the ISU Examination to become an International Technical Specialist.
  - f) A minimum of two seasons waiting period must be given between the end of the competitive skating career and the first nomination as a Technical Specialist.
  
- 2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**



- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of International Technical Specialists (see Rule 907). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of International Technical Specialist may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).
- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) have been included as International Technical Specialist in the four consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - (ii) be recruited from the group of Coaches, former competitive Skaters, or ISU/International Judges or Referees;
  - (iii) be involved on at least a weekly basis for the discipline concerned on site;
  - (iv) have been a former high-level Skater (as a minimum at national level);
  - (v) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
  - (vi) possess good communication skills;
  - (vii) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.
- c) Service: have served, during the 48 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in a minimum of three competitions at least one of which must be an International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- d) Seminar attendance: completes an ISU Seminar for first appointment of ISU Technical Specialists (see Rule 907).

e) Examination: passes successfully the ISU Examination to become an ISU Technical Specialist.

**4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as Technical Specialist in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b), or one ISU Event and one International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or one National Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 36 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of ISU Technical Specialists (see Rule 907). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of ISU Technical Specialist may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).
- d) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**Rule 906**

**Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of  
Data & Replay Operators**

**1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) be recruited from the group of Coaches, former competitive Skaters, ISU/International Judges or Referees, or persons involved in Figure Skating in any capacity with a good knowledge of data operations and video system;
  - (ii) have a good knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
  - (iii) possess good communication skills;
  - (iv) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.

- c) Service: have served, in the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, on data operations and video systems on national level.
- d) Seminar attendance: complete an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators (see Rule 907) and be recommended by the ISU Vice-President for this “International” qualification.

**2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as Data & Replay Operator in both capacities in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a). Serving in any discipline counts. Serving as a moderator in an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators counts as service in both capacities.
- c) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**

- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - (i) be recruited from the group of Coaches, former competitive Skaters, ISU/International Judges or Referees or persons involved in Figure Skating in any capacity with a good knowledge of data operations and video system;
  - (ii) have a good knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
  - (iii) possess good communication skills;
  - (iv) be able to take directions and work within a team environment.
- c) Service: have served, in the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, on data operations and video systems on national level.
- d) Seminar attendance: complete an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators (see Rule 907) and be recommended by the ISU Vice-President for this “ISU” qualification.

- 4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:**
- a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Service: have served, during the 24 months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as Data & Replay Operator in both capacities in two International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b), or one ISU Event and one National Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a). Serving in any discipline counts. Serving as a moderator in an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators counts as service in both capacities.
  - c) Consequences of not meeting the service and/or seminar attendance requirements are listed in Rule 901, paragraph 6.

**Rule 907**  
**ISU Seminars for Officials**

- 1. ISU Members are required to apply for and to organize ISU Seminars covering the purposes of first appointment of ISU Judges, re-appointment of International and ISU Judges and re-appointment of International and ISU Referees, either alone or in conjunction with another (other) ISU Member(s), when necessary. For the purpose of first appointment as International Judge, Trial Judging must be included. The application for organizing such ISU Seminars must be made by the organizing ISU Member to the ISU Director General with a copy to the Chair of the respective Technical Committee not later than January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 2. The dates and locations of ISU Seminars for Officials, as well as their purposes regarding seminar attendance requirements, are announced in ISU Communications.
- 3. Applications to complete ISU Seminars for Officials can be made:
  - a) for ISU Seminars for first appointment: by their ISU Members (Technical Specialists also by respective Technical Committee or Sports Technical Directors,
  - b) for ISU Seminars for re-appointment:
    - (i) of International Officials: by their ISU Members,
    - (ii) of ISU Officials: by their ISU Members or by the Officials themselves.
- 4. The nomination of Officials for participation in an ISU Seminar for Technical Controllers or Technical Specialists and/or the ISU

Examination to become a Technical Controller or a Technical Specialist requires the initial confirmation of the respective Technical Committee and needs to be presented to the ISU Vice President Figure Skating for final confirmation.

5. The Initial Judges Meeting (if conducted by the Referee together with the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee) and the Round Table Discussion of an ISU Synchronized Skating Championships form together an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Judges only (not for re-appointment of Referees and not for promotion of Referees and Judges).
6. Serving in an ISU Synchronized Skating Championships as a Referee with a mini-seminar:
  - a) conducted, together with the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee, the Initial Judges Meeting,
  - b) conducted the pre-event meetings,
  - c) conducted the Round Table Discussion,
  - d) concluded by a reportforms an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Referee.
7. Serving in an ISU Synchronized Skating Championships as a Technical Controller (respectively as a Technical Specialist) with a mini-seminar:
  - a) conducted the Initial Technical Panel Meeting together with the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee and if available, a Sports Technical Director prior and after the competition,
  - b) concluded by a report prepared by the officiating Technical Controllers in consultation with the Sports Technical Directors, when on site, and sent by the Technical Controller to the ISU Secretariat,forms an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Technical Controllers (respectively of Technical Specialist).
8. Serving as a moderator in an ISU Seminar for Officials in the respective qualification of Referee, Judge, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist meets the seminar attendance requirements for re-appointment in that qualification.

**Rule 908-909 (reserved)**

## **B. Appointment of Officials to competitions**

### **Rule 910**

#### **Appointment of Officials to International Competitions (general)**

1. As per Rule 121, paragraph 2, the ISU Member holding an International Competition is entitled to appoint the Officials, with exceptions for:
  - a) ISU Championships: see Rules 971,
  - b) other ISU Events: see article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution.
2. Appointments of Officials by the ISU President are made in accordance with Article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution.
3. The following Officials are recommended:
  - a) Referee;
  - b) a panel of a minimum of five, if possible and a maximum of nine Judges;
  - c) a Technical Controller;
  - d) a Technical Specialist;
  - e) an Assistant Technical Specialist;
  - f) a Data Operator;
  - g) a Replay Operator.
4. The names of the Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators actually serving at International Competitions as well as the names of those Judges nominated but not drawn must be announced to the ISU Secretariat within 2 weeks after the conclusion of the competition, by the Organizing ISU Member.
5.
  - a) For all ISU Events and the Olympic Winter Games, the Referee, Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same ISU Member and all must be designated ISU.
  - b) For all other International Competitions, if possible, the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same ISU Member and all must be designated ISU. As an exception in extenuating circumstances, one national Technical Specialist or one national Data or Replay Operator from the host ISU Member may be used as Assistant Technical Specialist or Data or Replay Operator. In this case, this Assistant Technical Specialist or Data or Replay Operator must be designated as his ISU Member. See also Rule 121 of the General Regulations.

6. ISU Members organizing International Competitions must do their utmost, in composing the panels of Judges, to secure representation on the panels of Judges from as many participating ISU Members as possible. However, no ISU Member can have the majority of the Judges on any panel. As an exception in extenuating circumstances, if the number of the Judges present is insufficient to compose the panel; one national Judge from the Host ISU Member may be used provided that Judge has been trained in the use of the ISU Judging System.
7. For the results from any International Competition to count towards ISU Championships qualification, or for World Standings or World Rankings, the following conditions must be met:
  - a) the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialist must not be from the same ISU Member, and
  - b) a panel of a minimum of five judges is required, and, no ISU Member can have the majority on any panel.

### **Rule 911**

#### **Appointments of Officials to ISU Championships (special Rule)**

1. The Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Assistant Technical Specialist, Data & Replay Operators and OAC members shall be appointed according to Rules 121 and 129, paragraph 4 of the General Regulations.
2. The Organizing ISU Member may recommend serving not more than one of its own Referees/Technical Controllers/Technical Specialists for Synchronized Skating, including those who are also ISU Office Holders. Such recommendation must be submitted to the respective Sports Technical Director Figure Skating not later than May 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. The selected Referees, Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators and OAC members must be contacted by the Organizing ISU Member not less than 60 days before the start of the Championships.
4. A member of the Organizing Committee of an ISU Championships may not serve as a Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Data & Replay Operator, OAC member or Judge at the Championship concerned.

5. For the composition of the panel of Judges, Rule 971 of the Technical Rules for Synchronized Skating applies.

**Rule 912-919 (reserved)**



## **C. Duties and powers of Officials**

### **Rule 920**

#### **General and specific duties and powers**

##### **General**

- a) The category of Officials (“ISU” or “International”) able to officiate at the different ISU sanctioned events and related restrictions are described in Rule 121 of the General Regulations.
- b) ISU Officials in Synchronized Skating are automatically entitled to serve as International Officials of the same function in the respective discipline.
- c) ISU Referees in Synchronized Skating are automatically entitled to serve as ISU or International Judges in the respective discipline.
- d) International Referees in Synchronized Skating are automatically entitled to serve as International Judges in the respective discipline(s).
- e) Officials must adhere fully to the ISU Code of Ethics.
- f) Officials must:
  - (i) keep themselves fully informed about all matters concerning the performance of their duties in the current General Regulations and Special Regulations and Technical Rules, ISU Communications and Manuals, Handbooks and Booklets and all updates published on the ISU website;
  - (ii) have a satisfactory standard of eyesight, hearing and general physical condition in order to perform their duties;
  - (iii) comport themselves with discretion as ISU appointed Officials;
  - (iv) not show bias for or against any Team on any grounds;
  - (v) be completely impartial and neutral at all times;
  - (vi) base their marks and decisions only on the performance and not be influenced by reputation or past performance;
  - (vii) disregard public applause or disapproval;
  - (viii) not discuss their marks or decisions and marks or decisions of other Officials during the competition with any person other than the Referee and/or, for members of the Technical Panel only, the other members of the Technical Panel of the part of the discipline in which they are serving;
  - (ix) not serve as television commentator nor engage in communication with the media, television, or others except through the Referee of the part of the Competition in which they are serving;

- (x) Any form of electronic communication devices such as mobile phones, tablets or smart watches must be switched off while the officials are on the officials' stand.
- (xi) not act as a Team Leader (or Assistant) in ISU Synchronized Skating Championships in the same season during which they serve as Referee, Judge, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist or OAC member in ISU Synchronized Skating Championships.
- (xii) No official participating in an International Figure Skating event in any capacity may make any negative comment to the public concerning such event.

## **1. Duties and powers of the Referee**

- a) checks the observance of all eligibility Rules, the ISU clearance certificates and the accuracy of calculation software unless the ISU Event Manager is present;
- b) together with the medical advisor/competition physician, approves any medical appliances containing metal or hard plastic in advance of the competition (see Rule 141, paragraph 2);
- c) conducts all the draws for the starting order;
- d) manages the panel of Judges (including ensuring that they do not, while on the Judges stand, bring notes from previously awarded scores or any form of electronic communication, nor communicate with one another or indicate errors by action or sound, nor look at marks being input by Judges sitting alongside them) and acts as the responsible spokesperson of the Officials should the need arise;
- e) conducts the Initial Judges Meeting (see Rule 921) and a meeting with the Judges prior to every Segment of an event according to the ISU guidelines;
- f) checks the compliance of warm up periods with Rule 964;
- g) times the duration needed by the Competitors/Team to take the starting position and decide upon subsequent possible withdrawal (see Rules 838 paragraph 4 and 953);
- h) gives a signal to the person in charge of music to start the music of the Team;
- i) time with the assistance of a Timekeeper (see Rule 816) the program as skated, the possible interruptions according to Rule 843 paragraph 1. m);
- j) takes necessary actions related to delayed start or restart as per Rule 965, including instructing the person in charge of music to stop or restart the music of a Competitors/Team;
- k) decides whether the condition of the ice permits the holding of the event;

- l) decides upon all protests in the event concerned;
- m) alters the shape and size of the skating surface if unfavorable circumstances arise;
- n) accepts in agreement with the Organizing ISU Member or affiliated Club, another rink for the holding of the event;
- o) decides upon the following deductions according to Rule 843 paragraph 1. m): time violations, interruptions of the program, music violations, part of the costume/decoration falls on the ice;
- p) together with the Judges Panel decides upon the deductions according to Rule 843, paragraph 1. m) for the violation of the following requirements or restrictions: costume, props (including feathers/headpiece). Those deductions are applied according to the opinion of the majority of the panel which includes all the Judges and the Referee. No deduction is made in case of a 50:50 split vote;
- q) judges the complete event;
- r) suspends skating until the order is restored in case the public interrupts the competition or interferes with its orderly conduct;
- s) excludes Teams from the event, if necessary;
- t) removes Judge(s) from the panel, if necessary and based on important and valid reasons;
- u) forbids any coach at any time during the course of the Championships or Competitions to be on any part of the ice surface of the rink on which the Championships or Competitions is taking place;
- v) decides any matter concerning breaches of the ISU Constitution or Regulations;
- w) participates in the Victory ceremony;
- x) moderates the Round Table Discussion according to ISU guidelines (See Rule 921);
- y) prepares the Report (online or using the electronic form) on the event according to ISU guidelines (See Rule 923).

## **2. Duties of the Judges**

- a) use the whole range of Grade of Execution values and Program Component marks;
- b) mark independently and while judging do not converse with one another or indicate errors by action or sound;
- c) do not use previously prepared marks;
- d) together with the Referee decide upon the deductions according to Rule 843, paragraph 1.m) for the violations of the following requirements or restrictions: costume, props (including feathers/headpiece); those deductions are applied according to the opinion of the majority of the Panel which includes all the

Judges and the Referee. No deduction is made in case of a 50:50 split vote;

- e) attend the Initial Judges Meeting (see Rule 921) and the meeting held by the Referee prior to every Segment of an event according to the ISU guidelines;
- f) attend the Round Table Discussion moderated by the Referee according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 921).

### **3. Duties and powers of the Technical Controller**

- a) authorizes or corrects the deletion of Elements;
- b) supervises the Technical Specialists and Data Operators and proposes corrections, if necessary, respecting any performed Element and Level of Difficulty identified by the serving Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist. However, if both Technical Specialists disagree with a correction asked by the Technical Controller the initial decision of the Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist stands. In the case of a disagreement about an Element and/or Level of Difficulty exists between the Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist, the decision of the Technical Controller prevails;
- c) the Technical Controller, is responsible to verify that the performed Elements and Levels of Difficulty identified in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure are correctly introduced into the system by the Data Operator and the performed Elements and Levels of Difficulty may be validated only upon formal confirmation by the Technical Controller that such verification has been completed;
- d) authorizes or corrects the identification of illegal Elements/non-permitted Elements/Features/Additional Features/movements;
- e) authorizes or corrects the identification of a fall, which occurred in any part of the program; However, if both Technical Specialists disagree with a correction on illegal Elements or falls asked for by the Technical Controller, the initial decision of the Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist stands;
- f) attends the sufficient practice sessions of the competition to make the necessary preparations;
- g) conducts the Initial Technical Panel Meeting (see Rule 922) and a meeting with the Technical Specialists and the Data & Replay Operators prior to every Segment of an event according to the ISU guidelines;
- h) moderates the Technical Panel Discussion according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 922);
- i) if possible, assists the Referee in moderating the Round Table Discussion according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 921);

- j) prepares the Report on the event according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 923);
- k) participates in the Victory Ceremony.

#### **4. Communication between the Referee and the Technical Controller**

If possible, there should be direct communication between the Referee and the Technical Controller during the competition.

#### **5. Duties of the Technical Specialist/Assistant Technical Specialist**

##### **a) The Technical Specialist**

- (i) identifies and calls the performed Elements;
- (ii) identifies and calls correct Levels of Difficulty of the performed Elements (the difficulty groups of Elements and the difficulty groups of Additional Features);
- (iii) identifies and calls deductions;
- (iv) identifies illegal Elements, Non-permitted Elements/Features/Additional Features/movements (see Rules 991, 992);
- (v) identifies a fall, which occurred in any part of the program;
- (vi) identifies and deletes additional Elements;

**b) The Assistant Technical Specialist** is also part of the decision-making process as outlined under the duties of the Technical Controller.

##### **c) The Technical Specialist and the Assistant Technical Specialist**

- (i) attends the sufficient practice sessions of the competition to make the necessary preparations;
- (ii) attends the Initial Technical Panel Meeting (see Rule 922) and the meeting held by the Technical Controller prior to every Segment of an event according to the ISU guidelines;
- (iii) attends the Technical Panel Discussion moderated by the Technical Controller according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 922).

#### **6. Duties of the Data & Replay Operator**

##### **a) The Data Operator**

- (i) inputs the called Elements;
- (ii) inputs the Levels of Difficulty of the Elements as called;
- (iii) inputs the deductions as called;
- (iv) corrects Elements or Levels of Difficulty as instructed by the Technical Controller;
- (v) indicates additional Elements identified by the computer to the Technical Specialist and to the Technical Controller.

**b) The Replay Operator**

records each Element separately to enable the Technical Panel, the Referee and the Judges to review the Element when necessary.

**c) The Data & Replay Operators**

- (i) support the Technical Specialists and the Technical Controller;
- (ii) attend the Initial Technical Panel Meeting (see Rule 922) and the meeting held by the Technical Controller prior to every Segment of an event according to the ISU guidelines;
- (iii) attend the Technical Panel Discussion moderated by the Technical Controller according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 922).

**Rule 921**

**Meetings at Competitions for Referees and Judges**

**1. Initial Judges Meeting and Pre-Event Meeting at ISU Championships, ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games**

Judges at ISU Championships, ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games must attend an Initial Judges Meeting moderated by the Referee, together with the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee, if present, and, if possible, the Technical Controller, held before the competition starts, and a Pre-Event Meeting moderated by the Referee immediately preceding the beginning of the competition.

In the Initial Judges Meeting, the moderators must draw to the attention of the Judges in brief summary the Rules relating to the duties of Judges and the marking of Synchronized Skating with special attention being paid to any changes in Rules or in their interpretation or clarification that have been officially published. In the Pre-Event Meeting the focus shall be on the essentials of the Elements of the respective Segment of competition.

For the purpose of Rule 907 paragraph 5, this meeting must be moderated by the Referee, together with the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee.

**Judges Meeting at International Competitions**

Judges at International Competitions must attend a Judges Meeting to be held immediately before the beginning of the competition. The exact time and the format of this meeting will be determined by the Referee. However, this meeting shall include at least a brief

summary of all topics to be covered in the Initial Judges Meeting and the Pre-Event Meeting of ISU Championships, ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games.

## **2. Round Table Discussion**

Judges at International Competitions, ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games must attend a closed meeting Round Table Discussion (RTD) with the Referee and, if possible the Technical Controller, held as soon as possible after conclusion of each discipline/category but not later than the following day of the discipline/category in question. The Referee is recommended to include video from the competition in the RTD. This is mandatory in ISU Events and recommended in all International Competitions.

The following topics will be discussed during the meeting, with a purpose of feedback among Judges and to reach a consensus to assist the ISU for future judging guidelines:

- a) general quality of skating,
- b) range of points for Elements and each of the Program Components of selected Teams, without establishing a range of acceptable scores (this will be established by the Officials Assessment Commission in accordance with the procedure established by the ISU Council),
- c) application and validity of current regulations,
- d) possible improvements to the marking guide, equipment, the print-outs and the flow of information both internally and externally.

During the discussion the Judges will be encouraged to express their opinions. The discussion will not be used to criticize individuals judging the discipline in question.

## **Rule 922**

### **Meetings at Competitions for Technical Panels**

#### **1. Initial Technical Panel Meeting**

Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators of International Competitions, ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games must attend a closed meeting (Initial Technical Panel Meeting) moderated by the Technical Controller held before the competition starts. The moderators must draw to the attention of the Officials in brief summary form the Rules relating to the duties of Technical Panels and the calling specifications with special attention

being paid to any changes in calling specifications or in their interpretation or clarification that have been officially published.

At ISU Championships, this meeting must be moderated by the Technical Controller, together with the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee and if available, a Sports Technical Director for the purposes of Rule 907 paragraph 5.

## **2. Technical Panel Discussion**

Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators of International Competitions, ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games, must attend a closed meeting (Technical Panel Discussion) moderated by the Technical Controller, held as soon as possible after conclusion of each discipline/category but not later than the following day of the discipline/category in question.

The following topics will be discussed during the meeting, with a purpose of feedback among Officials and to reach a consensus to assist the ISU for future guidelines:

- a) evaluation of teamwork;
- b) evaluation of service;
- c) difficult decisions;
- d) possible improvements to the calling specifications, the equipment, the print-outs and the flow of information both internally and externally.

## **Rule 923 Reports**

1. The Referee shall prepare a report (online or using the electronic form) of the competition on a standard form, in which the following areas are to be identified:
  - a) standard of organization;
  - b) standard of skating in each Segment;
  - c) standard of judging and the ability of each judge to communicate his understanding of the rules and their applications;
  - d) summary of Round Table Discussion;
  - e) additional remarks (if necessary);
  - f) proposals for improvement;
  - g) correctness of the calculation setup (except for ISU Events);
  - h) documentation on withdrawals.

A report has to be written only if the competition category fulfils the requirements of an International competition, i.e. more than one ISU Member took part. If this is not the case, the Referee must notify the ISU Secretariat.



2. The Technical Controller shall prepare a typed report on a standard form of the competition (except for Basic Novice International Competitions), in which the following areas are to be identified:
  - a) evaluation of teamwork;
  - b) evaluation of the Technical Specialist's work;
  - c) evaluation of the Assistant Technical Specialist's work;
  - d) evaluation of the Data Operator's work;
  - e) evaluation of the Replay Operator's work;
  - f) summary of Technical Panel Discussions;
  - g) additional remarks (if necessary);
  - h) proposals for improvement.
  
3. The Referee and the Technical Controller shall send their respective report within 14 days following the competition to the ISU Secretariat. Upon well-grounded request, the ISU Secretariat may extend this time limit by a maximum of 14 days if compelling circumstances so warrant, provided the request has been sent to the ISU Secretariat within the original time limit.

The ISU Secretariat shall send copies of the report as soon as possible to the following persons:

  - a) the Chair and each member of the respective Technical Committee;
  - b) the respective Sports Technical Director Figure Skating.

**Rule 924-929 (reserved)**

## D. Evaluation of service by Officials

### Rule 930

#### 1. Officials Assessment Commission

- a) The composition and the duties of the Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) are defined in Article 23 of the Constitution and the related Rules of Procedure published in an ISU Communication.
- b) For all ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games, Winter Youth Olympic Games and Olympic Qualifying Figure Skating Competitions two OAC members for the discipline shall be appointed by the ISU President as per Article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution. The appointed OAC members shall conduct the relevant evaluations in accordance with this Rule 930 and the Rules of Procedure published in an ISU Communication.

#### 2. Evaluation of anomalies in the Judges scores at ISU Events.

- a) The OAC members shall prepare a report for each competition including the identification of those anomalies and suspected (national) bias in the Judges scores (as per Article 23 of the Constitution and the related Rules of Procedure published in an ISU Communication) that, in the opinion the OAC members, must be considered as errors or (national) bias warranting an Assessment. This report shall be made available without delay to the respective Technical Committee through the ISU Secretariat.
- b) The respective Technical Committee shall proceed with its evaluation of the OAC reports and send its own report to the ISU Secretariat as soon as possible. If the Technical Committee disagrees on any determination of errors and/or indications of (national) bias by the OAC members, it shall consult them to achieve a consensus. If a disagreement prevails, the Vice President Figure Skating will have the final decision.
- c) If the respective Technical Committee identifies anomalies in Judges scores which the OAC members have not evaluated it shall inform the respective Sports Technical Director who shall decide whether these anomalies are to be considered as determined errors and/or (national) bias.
- d) The respective Technical Committee shall evaluate cases of identified errors in a Judge's score for possible Assessment and issue Assessments in accordance with paragraph 5 below and the criteria established in the related Rules of Procedure published in an ISU Communication.

e) Cases of identified (national) bias shall be submitted by the respective Technical Committee and/or the respective Sports Technical Director and/or the Vice president for the Figure Skating Branch and/or the Council to the ISU Disciplinary Commission (DC) by filing a Statement of Complaint for violation of the ISU Code of Ethics. In case (national) bias emanates from erroneous Judges' scores, the assessment procedure as well as the filing of a Statement of Complaint to the DC shall be undertaken. In case the evaluation process leads to the conclusion that there is an indication of (national) bias in a Judge's scores but not sufficient evidence for submitting the case to the DC, the respective Technical Committee shall issue a Letter of Warning to the concerned Judge. Such Letter of Warning and its underlying facts shall be taken into consideration as relevant evidence in any further case involving the same Judge where the conclusion of the presence of (national) bias is not solely based on his marking at the competition under evaluation but supported by a certain scoring pattern of the Judge which is revealed only by observation of his marking at several competitions.

**3. Evaluation of the decision of the Technical Panel, the operation of Data Replay Operators and of the decisions of or the conduct of competition by the Referee at ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games, Winter Youth Olympic Games and Olympic Qualifying Figure Skating Competitions.**

- a) If:
- (i) the OAC members appointed to the competition (on site or off site) and/or
  - (ii) the ISU President and/or,
  - (iii) the ISU Council and/or,
  - (iv) the respective Sports Technical Director(s), and/or,
  - (v) the respective Technical Committee and/or,
  - (vi) for decisions of the Technical Panel only: the serving Referee as per the outcome of the Judges Round Table Discussion (Judges or the Referee noticed some discrepancies),
- consider a decision by the Referee, an operation of the Data or Replay Operator or a decision of or the conduct of the competition by the Referee as erroneous they shall file a report to the Vice-President for the Figure Skating Branch outlining the identified wrong decision, wrong operation or wrong conduct of the competition in consistent and detailed remarks with indication of the applicable Rules.
- b) Upon receipt by the Vice-President for the Figure Skating Branch or upon his own cognition of a respective mistake of a report

identifying a wrong decision by the Technical Panel, a wrong operation of the Data or Replay Operator or of a wrong decision or wrong conduct of a competition by the Referee, the Vice-President Figure Skating shall inform the respective Technical Committee and the concerned Official, requesting him to inform in writing within 2 weeks whether he acknowledges or contests the alleged mistake. In case of contest the Vice-President Figure Skating shall send the respective report together with the relevant video recordings, if available, to the respective Technical Committee and to three Officials, selected by him for review at their residence. The selected Officials shall not be informed of the identity of the other selected Officials. The selected Officials must be from different ISU Members and must not be from the same ISU Member as the concerned Technical Panel members, the concerned Data or Replay Operator or the concerned Referee and any Skater(s) affected by the respective potential wrong decision or wrong conduct of the competition. The three selected Officials shall be composed as follows:

- (i) for Technical Panels: one ISU Technical Controller and one ISU Technical Specialist,  
for Referees: two ISU Referees,  
for Data & Replay Operators: one ISU Technical Controller and one ISU Data & Replay Operator,
  - (ii) One member of the respective Technical Committee. If a member of the respective Technical Committee is subject to the evaluation, no Technical Committee member shall be included in the selected Officials. Instead, a second ISU Technical Controller or ISU Technical Specialist respectively a third ISU Referee and a second ISU Data & Replay Operator shall be selected.
- c) In cases concerning a wrong decision by the Technical Panel the Vice-President for the Figure Skating Branch shall first check the available video recordings and the audio records of the Technical Panel discussions in order to establish if such decision has been made as a majority or split decision of the Technical Panel or if the decision was due to an erroneous operation by the Data Operator or the Replay Operator. He then shall proceed according to letter b) above with respect to the Officials responsible for the alleged wrong decision.
  - d) The selected Officials and the respective Technical Committee shall forward their conclusions whether the relevant decision, operation or conduct of the competition was wrong or not, independently from each other to the Vice-President for the Figure Skating Branch. If the majority of the selected Officials concludes

that the decision or operation or conduct of the competition in question was wrong, the Vice-President for the Figure Skating Branch shall submit the case, together with the report of the respective Technical Committee and his detailed report with his own evaluation of the matter to the Council for final decision upon an Assessment or, in case of minor failures, a Letter of Criticism.

#### **4. Evaluation of reports of Referees and reports of Technical Controllers**

The respective Technical Committee shall rate the quality of the reports of the Referees and of the reports of the Technical Controller for all ISU Events and International Competitions based on documentation delivered according to Rule 923, as very good, good, acceptable/average, mediocre or poor. The respective qualification shall be added to the records of the concerned Referees and Technical Controllers. If any report is rated as poor the respective Technical Committee shall issue an Assessment according to paragraph 5 below.

#### **5. Assessments**

- a) Erroneous marking, being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team, wrong decisions and wrong conduct of a competition by the Referee, poor reports by the Referee or by the Technical Controller and wrong operations by Data & Replay Operators shall be subject to Assessment 1 in a first case, Assessment 2 if an Assessment 1 had been issued before and Assessment 3, if an Assessment 2 had been issued before.
- b) Assessments against Judges shall generally be decided by the respective Technical Committee. Assessments against members of the Technical Panel, Referees, and Data & Replay Operators by the Council, except for Assessments for poor reports by the Referees and Technical Controllers, which shall be decided by the respective Technical Committee (see paragraph 4).

#### **6. Demotions**

- a) If an accumulation of Assessments for an Official leads to an Assessment 3, the ISU body responsible for the respective Assessment (paragraphs 2 d, 3 c and 5 b) shall demote the Official with immediate effect as follows:
  - i) ISU Judges, Referees Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators: shall be transferred to the respective list of International Officials;

ii) International Judges Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators shall be deleted from the respective list of International Officials.

b) Before a demotion is decided, the following procedure shall be followed:

If an Assessment 3 is issued, the Official concerned and his ISU Member shall be notified through the ISU Secretariat about his possible demotion.

The Official may, within 5 days upon receipt of the notification, contest a demotion by challenging any of its underlying Assessments and request a hearing with at least three members of:

(i) the respective Technical Committee in cases concerning Judges.

(ii) the Figure Skating Branch of the ISU Council, Council which may appoint additional experts in cases concerning Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists or Data & Replay Operators.

If a hearing is requested it shall be held without delay, at a date and time to be determined by the hearing body, if possible and unless the hearing body considers an in-person hearing as necessary due to special circumstances, by means of a video-conference.

At the hearing the Official shall be given the opportunity to explain why, in his opinion, a demotion and the underlying Assessments, in his view, is/were not justified. For supporting his explanations he may use available video and/or audio recordings.

Upon conclusion of the hearing the hearing body shall prepare a report on the hearing, including its recommendation to maintain or revoke any challenged Assessment. The respective Technical Committee, respectively the Council shall decide whether to revoke or maintain any challenged Assessment. If the contested Assessment(s) is/are confirmed or if the Official has renounced at a hearing the respective Technical Committee respectively the Council shall proceed to demotion according to section 6a) above.

Any expenses related to the hearing shall generally be for the Official's account. However, if the hearing body has called for an in-person hearing and if any of the contested Assessment is revoked travel board and lodging expenses of the Official shall be borne by the ISU.

## **7. Effectiveness and duration of validity of Assessments and demotion**

- a) An Assessment or a demotion shall be effective only for the concerned qualification, i.e. Referee, Judge, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist or Data & Replay Operator.
- b) Assessments and demotions concerning Judges, Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists shall be effective only for Synchronized Skating.
- c) Assessments and demotions of Referees and Data & Replay Operators shall be effective for all disciplines, i.e. Synchronized Skating, Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance.
- d) For Referees Assessments received in different disciplines are added.
- e) For Technical Specialists acting also as Technical Controller (and vice versa) Assessments received in these different functions are added.
- f) Each Assessment shall remain valid for the current season plus additional two seasons and shall count during such period of time towards an accumulation of Assessments.
- g) A demotion shall remain valid until the concerned Official is reinstated in the position formerly held by having fulfilled the requirements for first appointment to this position, as per Rules 900 to 906.
- h) If the majority of Judges (or Referees when serving as Judges) of an ISU Member have been suspended for misconduct and/or demoted subsequently to Assessments and/or warranted Assessments over a period of several years, the Council may decide that this ISU Member will be warned or will lose the right to appoint Judges to ISU Championships and/or Olympic Winter Games and/or International Competitions for such a period as the Council may decide. In the exercise of this power, however, the Council shall not generally take into consideration cases having occurred more than five years before the decision.

## **8. Notification of Letters of Warning, Assessments and Demotions**

The ISU Body issuing a Letter of Warning, an Assessment or a Demotion shall instruct the ISU Secretariat to notify the Official concerned with a copy to his ISU Member and the respective Technical Committee.

## **9. Sanctions for violations of the Duties of Officials and ethical offenses**

- a) Erroneous marking, wrong decisions by Technical Panels, wrong operations of Data & Replay Operators, wrong decisions or wrong

conduct of competitions by Referees and poor reports are subject to assessment (Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 above). Any other violations of the Duties of Officials as defined in Rule 920, including violations of the ISU Code of Ethics, if committed with any degree of fault (intent, gross negligence, recklessness, carelessness etc.) are disciplinary/ethical by nature and subject to disciplinary sanctions according to Art. 25, paragraph 9 of the Constitution. This in particular includes, but is not limited to:

- i. Not or partly attending official meetings without justified cause;
  - ii. Not or only partly attending draws without justified cause (Referee only);
  - iii. Not or only partly attending the competition without justified cause;
  - iv. No report submitted, report submitted late or incomplete report (Referees and Technical Controllers only);
  - v. Any violation of the ISU Code of Ethics (for cases of (national) bias see paragraph 2 above)
- b) Any serious disciplinary/ethical violation of the Duties of Officials shall immediately be submitted to the ISU Disciplinary Commission.
- c) In case of a less serious disciplinary/ethical violation by any Official who has never been subject to any disciplinary sanctions and/or any Letter of Warning before, the respective Technical Committee and/or Sports Technical Director shall issue a Letter of Warning, making mention of the violation in question and informing the Official that any further disciplinary/ethical violation of the Duties of Officials might lead to a Complaint to the Disciplinary Commission.  
Any further disciplinary/ethical violation of the Duties of Officials shall be submitted to the Disciplinary Commission, except for particularly minor cases for which the imposing of any disciplinary sanction would obviously be disproportionate; in such cases (a) further Letter(s) of Warning shall be issued.
- d) Statements of Complaint regarding disciplinary/ethical violations of the Duties of Officials and/or ethical offenses shall be filed with the Disciplinary Commission in accordance with the DC Rules of Procedure by the respective Technical Committee, and/or the respective Sports Technical Director and/or the Vice President for the Figure Skating Branch and/or by the ISU Council.
- e) Statements of Complaint shall be based on the own observations of the filing body and/or reports received from any third person, in particular but not limited to reports received from Referees, members of Panel of Judges, members of Technical Panels.



**Rules 931-949 (reserved)**

## II. TECHNICAL RULES SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

### A. General Technical Rules in Synchronized Skating

#### Rule 950

##### Definition of the skate blade

Figure skating blades used during competitions must be sharpened to produce a flat to concave cross section without change to the width of the blade as measured between the two edges. However, a slight tapering or narrowing of the cross section of the blade is permitted.

#### Rule 951

##### Clothing

1. At ISU Championships and International Competitions, the clothing and makeup of the competitors must be modest, dignified and appropriate for athletic competition not garish or theatrical in design. Costumes may, however, reflect the character of the music chosen. The clothing must not give the effect of excessive nudity inappropriate for the discipline. Men must wear full-length trousers. Accessories, feathers, props and rhinestones adhered to the face are not permitted. Costumes that transform in appearance will be considered as props. Clothing and makeup that does not adhere to these guidelines will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).
2. The decorations on costumes must be non-detachable. Part of the costume or decoration falling on the ice will be penalized by a deduction, (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).

#### Rule 952

##### Duration of Skating

The time must be reckoned from the moment that a Skater begins to move or to skate until arriving at a complete stop at the end of the program.

1. Short Program:  
Senior and Junior: 2 minutes and 50 seconds but may be less.

- a) Any Element started after 2 minutes and 50 seconds will be considered in the marking as omitted.
- b) If the Team fails to finish the Short Program within the time limit, there shall be a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m)), from the Total Score for up to every 5 seconds in excess.

2. Free Skating:

- a) Senior: 4 minutes.
- b) Junior: 3 minutes 30 seconds.
- c) Novice: 3 minutes.

The Team is allowed to finish the Free Skating within ten seconds plus or minus the required time.

If the Team fails to finish the Free Skating within the allowed range of time, there shall be a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m)) for up to every 5 seconds lacking or in excess.

Any Elements started after the required time (plus 10 seconds allowed) will not be identified by the Technical Panel and will have no value.

If the duration of the program is 30 seconds or more under the required time no marks will be awarded.

### **Rule 953** **Falls and interruptions**

1. A Fall is defined as loss of control by a Skater with the result that the majority of his/her own body weight is on the ice supported by any other part of the body other than the blades e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm. For every Fall there shall be a deduction (see Rule 843, para 1.m)).
2. An Interruption is defined as the time elapsed between the moment a Skater(s) stops performing the program until the moment he/they resume performing the program. For every Interruption by one or more Skaters of more than 10 seconds, there shall be a deduction (see Rule 843, para 1.m)). If an Interruption by the Team as a whole lasts more than 40 seconds, an acoustic signal is produced by the Referee and the Team is withdrawn. For cases of interruption due to adverse conditions unrelated to the Skater or related to the Skater's health or equipment, see Rule 965.

## Rule 954

### Marking of Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating

#### 1. Element Score

The guidelines for the marking of Element Score are published and updated in ISU Communications.

##### a) Scale of Values (SOV)

As per Rule 843, paragraph a) the Scale of Values Table of the Synchronized Skating Elements of Short Program and Free Skating is published and updated in ISU Communications. This Scale of Values (SOV) contains Base Values of all the Elements and the numerical values of the Grades of Execution.

##### b) Base Value

The Technical Panel will determine the name and, when required, the Level of Difficulty of every Element. Base Values of Elements are measured in points and are indicated in the Scale of Values table. They increase with the increasing difficulty of the Elements. The difficulty of the Elements depends on their Levels of Difficulty.

##### c) Levels of Difficulty of Elements

The description of characteristics (Features) that give an Element a certain Level of Difficulty is published and updated in ISU Communications.

Required/Optional Elements are divided into four or five Levels of Difficulty depending on their difficulty, except Elements designated with a fixed Base Value in the list of Elements announced annually.

##### d) Grade of Execution (GOE)

As per Rule 843, paragraph b) each Judge will mark the quality of execution of every Element depending on the positive features of the execution and errors on the eleven Grades of Execution scale: +5, +4, +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3, -4, -5.

##### e) Features/Additional Features

The Additional Features (Step Sequences, Free Skating Moves/Elements, Point of Intersection) are divided into the groups according to their difficulty (see Rule 990 paragraph 4.)

Examples of some Additional Features are included in the difficulty levels for the following Elements in Short Program and Free Skating and called by the Technical Specialists:

#### **ELEMENTS**

Intersection:

Move Element:

No Hold Element:

#### **ADDITIONAL FEATURES**

Point of Intersection

Free Skating Move(s)

Step Sequence

### *Features:*

Examples of some Features are body movement, pivoting, traveling etc. (See Rule 990 paragraph 5).

#### **f) Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features/Movements**

Every Illegal Element/Feature/Additional Feature/Movement as defined in Rules 992, paragraph 2 performed in the program will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m)).

If an Illegal Element/Feature/Additional Feature/Movement is performed during the execution of any Element, the Element will be called as Base Level if the requirements for Base Level are fulfilled, otherwise the Element will be called “No Value”.

#### **g) Non-permitted Elements/Features/Additional Features/Movements**

Every Non-permitted Element/Feature/Additional Feature/Movement as defined in Rules 992, paragraph 3.a) (Short Program) and Rule 992, paragraph 3.b) and c) (Free Skating) performed in the program will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m)).

If a Non-permitted Element/Feature/Additional Feature/ Movement is performed during the execution of any Element, the Element will be called as follows:

- (i) The Element will be called “No Value”; if the Non-permitted Element is the Element;
- (ii) Element is called + Feature is not counted; if the Non-permitted Movement is included in the Feature;
- (iii) Element is called + Additional Feature is not counted; if the Non-permitted Movement is included in the Additional Feature.

## **2. Program Component Score**

### **a) Definition of Program Components**

The Team's whole performance is evaluated by five Program Components: Skating Skills, Transitions (Linking Steps, Formations and Movements), Performance, Composition, Interpretation of the Music/Timing.

For Synchronized Skating there must be equal demonstration of the criteria by all Skaters.

#### **(i) Skating Skills:**

Defined by overall cleanness and sureness, edge control and flow over the ice surface demonstrated by a command of the skating vocabulary (edges, steps, turns etc.), the clarity of technique and the use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed.

In evaluating Skating Skills, the following must be considered:

- Use of deep edges, steps and turns;
- Balance, rhythmic knee action and precision of foot placement;
- Flow and glide;
- Varied use of power, speed and acceleration;
- Use of multi directional skating;
- Use of one foot skating;

**(ii) Transition:**

The varied and purposeful use of intricate footwork, positions, movements, holds and formations within the Elements and that link all Elements.

In evaluating the Transitions, the following must be considered:

- Continuity of movements from one Element to another (all disciplines);
- Variety (including variety of holds);
- Difficulty;
- Quality;

**(iii) Performance:**

Involvement of the Teams physically, emotionally and intellectually as they deliver the intent of the music and composition.

In evaluating the Performance, the following must be considered:

- Physical, emotional and intellectual involvement;
- Projection;
- Carriage and Clarity of movement;
- Variety and contrast of movement and energy;
- Individuality/personality;
- Unison and “oneness”;
- Spatial awareness between Skaters - management of the distance between Skaters and management of changes of hold.

**(iv) Composition:**

An intentionally developed and/or original arrangement of all types of movements, according to the principles of musical phrase, space, pattern and structure.

In evaluating the Composition, the following must be considered:

- Purpose (idea, concept, vision, mood);
- Pattern, ice coverage;
- Multidimensional use of space and design of movements;
- Phrase and form (movements and parts structured to match the musical phrase);

- Originality of the composition;

**(v) Interpretation of the Music/Timing:**

The personal, creative and genuine translation of the rhythm, character and content of music to movement on ice.

In evaluating the Interpretation of the Music/Timing, the following must be considered:

- Movement and steps in time to the Music/Timing;
- Expression of the music's character/feeling and rhythm, when clearly identifiable;
- Use of finesse (\*) to reflect the details and nuances of the music;
- Relationship between the Skaters reflecting the character and rhythm of the music;

\*Finesse is the Skater's refined, artful manipulation of music details and nuances through movement. It is unique to the Skater/Skaters and demonstrates an inner feeling for the music and the composition. Nuances are the personal ways of bringing subtle variations to the intensity, tempo and dynamics of the music made by the composer and/or musicians.

**b) Marking of Program Components**

After completion of a program, as per Rule 843, paragraph j), each Judge marks the Program Components on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with increments of 0.25. Points given by the Judges correspond to the following degrees of the Program Components: less than 1 – extremely poor, 1-1.75 - very poor, 2-2.75 - poor, 3-3.75 - weak, 4-4.75 - fair, 5-5.75 - average, 6-6.75 - above average, 7-7.75 - good, 8-8.75 - very good, 9-9.75 -excellent, 10 - outstanding. Increments are used for evaluation of performances containing some features of one degree and some of the next degree.

Guidelines for marking Program Components are published and updated in ISU Communications.

**3. Deductions**

Deductions are applied for certain violations of the Regulations (see Rule 843, paragraph 1. m)).

**Rules 955 – 959 (reserved)**

## **B. Technical Rules for Competitions in Synchronized Skating**

### **Rule 960 Competition Schedule**

1. When the event is comprised of two Segments it is recommended that they are completed in at least 2 days but in no more than 3 consecutive days.
2. Short Program must be skated before the Free Skating. At the option of the Organizers the Short Program can be skated either on a preceding day or on the same day as the Free Skating (except ISU Championships) provided there is an interval of at least 4 hours after the ending of the Short Program.
3. Events should not begin before 9:00 a.m. and should not finish after 11:00 p.m.
4. After registering at accreditation for an event, Teams may not practice at a rink other than the official rink.

### **Rule 961 Announcement of entries and panels of Officials**

For the purpose of verifying the compliance of Competitions with requirements for World Standing consideration as published in ISU Communications, preliminary unofficial announcements of entries (by Team name) and Officials of relevant competitions and categories, other than ISU Events, must be made by the Organizing Committee at any time after the closing of entries but at the latest 7 days before the competition starts. This provision is optional for other competitions and categories. However, the names of all Teams' Skaters, including alternates may be finally announced at the time of registration.

### **Rule 962 Draws**

1. The draws for the starting order of the Short Program are made publicly by the Referee. The Referee should ask the Organizing Committee to check the correct spelling of the names of the Teams and Officials.



2. Starting numbers shall be drawn by each Team, if present, or by official representatives of their ISU Member or by members of the Organizing Committee.
3. The official announcement of the entries and of the panels of Officials is made by the Referee of each competition at the time of the first starting order draw of that competition. Different procedures may apply for ISU Events.

### **Rule 963**

#### **Draws for Starting orders for International Competitions**

The draw for starting order of the Teams for the Short Program of the Event shall be conducted as follows:

1. Short Program:
  - a) Select a Skater from one of the Teams in order to draw for the ISU Member who will start the draw;
  - b) Draw the starting order proceeding in alphabetical order by ISU Member, beginning with the ISU Member who was drawn to start; This procedure does not apply to the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships and Olympic Winter Games (see Rule 970, paragraph 1).
2. Free Skating:
  - a) The starting order of Teams in Free Skating is determined from the result of the Short Program;
  - b) As soon as possible after the determination of the results of the Short Program, the Referee shall divide the Teams into the smallest possible number of equal groups (see Rule 982), size of Starting Order Groups Free Skating, Table III in the order in which they finished the Short Program;
  - c) If the number of Teams is not equally divisible, the last group to skate (and as many preceding groups as necessary) must contain one more Team than the first group. The lowest placed group must skate first, the next lowest second and so on;
  - d) If two or more Teams are tied for the same place at the end of the Short Program, the Teams concerned shall be placed in the same group, if necessary, the immediately preceding group shall be smaller by the number of Teams added to that particular group. The maximum number of Teams to be placed in the same group is six;
  - e) The order of skating in each group shall be determined by lot and

each Team shall be drawn in the order of placement in the preceding part of the competition, that is, with the best placed Team being drawn first and including those tied. The order of the draw between tied Teams shall first be determined by a separate draw prior to the main draw.

At International Competitions the Organizers have the option of determining the order of skating according to sub-paragraphs a) to e) of this Rule or using the reverse order of places in the Short Program. The method used should be mentioned in the Announcement of the competition.

3. If one or more Teams decide to withdraw their participation before the beginning of the next Segment then the open spot(s) will not be substituted by any other Team(s). The number of Teams for that Segment will be reduced by the number of withdrawn Teams. If the withdrawal(s) is announced after the draw for the starting order of the following Segment, then the starting order and the warm-up groups will not be changed and the spot of the withdrawn Team(s) remains empty.
4. If one or more Teams are disqualified before the beginning of the next Segment then the open spot(s) will be filled by the remaining Team(s), and the starting order and the warm-up groups will be changed accordingly.  
If necessary:
  - a) The starting order of the added Teams in the first subgroup will be decided by an additional separate draw;
  - b) Rule 964, paragraph 3 shall apply.

#### **Rule 964 Warm-up periods**

1. Warm-up periods must be allotted to all Teams. For a maximum size of each Starting Group before ice to be resurfaced see Rules 980, 981 and 982; Size of Starting Order Groups Tables I, II and III).
  - a) Short Program and Free Skating; each Team shall be allowed a warm-up of at least 1 minute in duration (without their music during the judging time of the previous Team) before the Team is called to start.
  - b) A Team must not take more than 30 seconds for exiting the ice surface for both the Short Program and Free Skating.

- c) The first Team of each starting group is granted a 1 minute warm up period before their call to start.
2. In case of an interruption in the competition due to unforeseen circumstances of more than 10 minutes, the Teams concerned will be permitted to a second warm-up period.
3. In the event one or more tied Teams, as per Rule 963, paragraph 2.e), are included in the same group, the maximum number permitted to warm-up may be exceeded by one Team. However, if the maximum number permitted is exceeded by two or more Teams, the group in question shall be divided into two sub-groups.
4. For Synchronized Skating it is recommended that the ice be resurfaced after every six Teams for the Short Program and after every five Teams for the Free Skating. The ice resurface groups will be based on Rules 980-981-982, however the ISU Event Manager and/or ISU Representative may decide to change the ice resurface groups based on the conditions of the ice at ISU Championships.

### **Rule 965**

#### **Interruptions, Music Deficiencies, Adverse Conditions and Incomplete Programs**

1. An Interruption is defined as the period of time starting immediately when a Skater/Team stops performing the program or is ordered to do so by the Referee, whichever is earlier, and ending when the Skater/Team resumes his/their performance. The Referee shall decide where the point of interruption is and communicates this to the Team Captain, the Judges and the Technical Controller. The Skater/Team shall resume the program according to paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 below. The Technical Panel decides if the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during the Element. The Technical Controller shall inform the Referee accordingly.
2. **Music Deficiencies.**

If the tempo or quality of the music is deficient or if for any reason there is an interruption or stop in the music, the Competitor must stop skating when he becomes aware of the problem or at the acoustic signal of the Referee, whichever is earlier.

  - a) If any of these problems with music occurs within the 20 seconds

after the start of the program, it is the choice of the Competitor whether to continue from the point of the interruption of music or restart the program. If the Competitor decides to restart the program, the Judges and Technical Panel evaluate the program from the beginning, disregarding previous evaluation. If the Competitor decides to continue from the point of the interruption of music, the Judges and Technical Panel continue evaluating the program from the moment the Competitor starts to resume the program and the prior evaluation remains.

- b) If any of these problems occurs more than 20 seconds after the start of the program, the Competitor shall resume the program from the point of interruption or, if the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an Element, at the point immediately preceding this Element. If this Element was identified and called by the Technical Panel before the interruption, the Technical Panel has to delete it from the list of the performed Elements. The Competitor is allowed to repeat this Element when resuming the program  
No deductions apply for interruptions due to music deficiencies.

### **3. Adverse conditions unrelated to a Skater/Team and/or his/their equipment.**

If an adverse condition unrelated to a Skater/Team or his/their equipment, such as lighting, ice-condition, item thrown onto the ice etc. occurs, the Team Captain and/or the Team may stop skating and report to the Referee when he/they become aware of the problem and must stop skating at the acoustic signal of the Referee. When the problem is solved, the Team shall continue from the point of interruption or if the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an Element, at the point immediately preceding this Element. If this Element was identified and called by the Technical Panel before the interruption, the Technical Panel shall delete it from the list of the performed Elements. The Team is allowed to repeat this Element when resuming the program. If, the interruption lasts longer than 10 minutes, there shall be a second warm-up period according to Rule 964, paragraph 2. After the second warm-up, the Team shall continue from the point of interruption or, if the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an Element, at the point immediately preceding this Element.

No deductions apply for interruptions unrelated to the Skater/Team and/or his/their equipment.

### **4. Adverse conditions related to a Skater/Team and/or his/their equipment occurring during the program.**

If a Skater is injured during the program or another adverse condition related to him or his equipment (such as but not limited to health problems, nose bleeding, lace undone, damage to clothing or skates) occurs, the Skater must stop skating when he becomes aware of the problem or at the acoustic signal of the Referee, whichever is earlier. The music shall be stopped only if the Referee instructs the music technician to do so according to section b) below.

### **Duration of Interruptions:**

#### **a) Up to 40 seconds**

If the adverse conditions can be remedied without delay, the Skater does not need to report to the Referee, and the rest of the Team has continued to skate their program and the affected Skater(s) resumes skating their program within 40 seconds, the Referee will apply a deduction for interruption as per Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).

#### **b) Up to 3 minutes**

If a Skater/Team does not resume skating within 40 seconds, the Referee shall instruct the music technician to stop the music, and allow the Skater/Team 3 additional minutes. If the Skater/Team resumes skating within this additional period, the Referee will apply a deduction of 5.0 points as per Rule 843, paragraph 1.m). This deduction also covers an interruption of up to 40 seconds immediately preceding the allowance of 3 additional minutes.

When the problem is solved, the Skater/Team shall continue from the point of interruption or, if the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an Element which was called by the Technical Panel before the interruption, at the point immediately following this Element. The call made prior the interruption shall stay.

Only one resumption per program is allowed upon an allowance of additional 3 minutes. If there is a second interruption of more than 40 seconds due to an adverse condition related to the Skater/Team or his/their equipment, the Team shall be considered withdrawn.

## **5. Medical attention**

If medical attention is required, the Referee must stop the performance by an acoustic signal, follow the Medical Protocol (Communication 2267 or any update thereof) and instruct the music technician to stop the music.

After consulting with the respective Team Physician, or, if not present, the medical doctor provided by the Organizer, the Referee shall decide if the Skater is allowed back to compete. If the Referee does

not allow the Skater to resume within 3 minutes since the Skater stopped skating his program, another Skater may be substituted per Rule 965, paragraph 10. If the Referee allows the Skater to continue skating his program no deduction will apply.

When the problem is resolved, the Skater shall continue from the point of interruption or, if the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an Element, at the point immediately following this Element, which is called by the Technical Panel and the call remains.

- a) In case of Skater's injury, which requires Skater's evacuation by the medical personal from the ice surface and/or new ice resurfacing is needed after the accident, this 3 minutes period is not in place.
- b) If a substitute Skater is available but not used, and the Team chooses to finish their program with less than sixteen Skaters, Rule 800, paragraph 2.f will apply.
- c) If a Team initially starts to compete with less than sixteen Skaters, Rule 800, paragraph 2.f. will apply. If an injury or adverse condition occurs, Rule 965, paragraph 4 will also apply.

#### **6. Adverse condition occurring prior the beginning of the program with allowance of up to three minutes.**

- a) If any adverse condition related to a Skater/Team or his/their equipment occurs between the call to the start and taking the starting position, which cannot be remedied within 60 seconds (Rule 838), the Referee shall allow the Skater/Team 3 additional minutes and apply a deduction of 5.0 points as per paragraph 4 b) above.
- b) If any adverse condition related to the Skater/Team or his/their equipment occurs after he/they take the ice but before the call to the start and the time before the start of the program is not sufficient to remedy such condition, the Referee shall allow the Competitor 3 additional minutes before being called to the start and apply a deduction of 5.0 points as per paragraph 4b) above.

#### **7. Adverse condition occurring during the warm up.**

If an adverse condition related to a Skater/Team with the first starting number in the warm up group or his/their equipment occurs during the warm-up, and time before the call to the start is not sufficient to remedy such condition the Referee shall allow the Skater/Team 3 additional minutes before being called to the start without applying any deductions. For the purposes paragraph 4, section b) above of this situation is not considered as resumption of the program.

#### **8. Limit of the interruptions allowed.**

Only one interruption, up to 3 minutes, is allowed whenever it takes place (prior or during the program). If there is a second interruption of more than 40 seconds due to an adverse condition related to a Skater/Team (including medical problems) or his equipment the Team shall be considered withdrawn.

**9. Incomplete Programs.**

If a Team does not complete the program, no marks will be awarded and the Team shall be considered withdrawn.

**10. Substitution of Skaters.**

Once a Short Program or Free Skating has started, no substitution of a Skater will be permitted (if there is no visible reason i.e. injury/equipment failure, etc.). However, registered Team alternates may be substituted if the Team's program is stopped by the Referee due to injury or equipment problems. If a Team substitutes a Skater without the authorization of the Referee, the Team will be disqualified.

**Rules 966-969 (reserved)**

## C. ISU Championships – Special Technical Rules

### Rule 970 Draws for Starting orders

At all ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, the draw for the Short Program and the Free Skating will be held according to the number of entries.

#### 1. The Draw for the Short Program will be made as follows:

At all ISU Championships, the draw for the Short Program will be held according to the latest World Standings utilizing the Teams' own name. World Standings are established as per the procedures published in an ISU Communication. The draw for the Short Program will be conducted as follows:

- a) Teams will be divided into two approximately equal groups with the higher ranked Teams being drawn in the second part (thereafter called the part "skating later") and the lower ranked Teams, and Teams with no ranking, being drawn in the first part (thereafter called the part "skating earlier"). If the number of Teams cannot be divided equally by two, the skating later part will include one Team more than the skating earlier part. In the case of ties in the World Standings on the border of the two parts, all those tied Teams will be included in the skating later part;
- b) if the number of Teams with no ranking is bigger than the number of places in the skating earlier part, some of these Teams (decided by draw) will be in the skating later part. For this draw, all Teams with no ranking will participate to draw for as many positions as necessary for the skating later part;
- c) the number of Teams in the last and the next to last starting order groups will be determined according to the Table in Rule 981 using the total number of Teams;
- d) there will be a free draw among Teams with the highest ranking to skate in the last starting order group of the skating later part and a free draw among Teams with the next highest ranking to skate in the next to last starting order group of the skating later part.
  - (i) In case of ties in the World Standings on the border between the last and next to last starting order groups, all those tied Teams will be included in the last starting order group and the next to last starting order group will be smaller by the number of Teams so added to the last starting order group. In the event the last starting order group exceeds the maximum size permitted by two



- or more Teams, the last starting order group will be divided into two subgroups and there will be a free draw in each subgroup;
- (ii) In case of ties in the World Standings on the border between the next to last starting order group and the rest of the Teams, all those tied Teams will be included in the next to last starting order group. In the event the next to last starting order group exceeds the maximum size permitted by two or more Teams, the next to last starting order group will be divided into two subgroups and there will be a free draw in each subgroup;
  - e) there will be a free draw among all other Teams of “skating later” part.
  - f) there will be one more free draw among all Teams of the skating earlier part. For this draw all these Teams will be divided into two parts: Teams with and without ranking, so that Teams with ranking will draw for the later starting numbers;
  - g) starting numbers are drawn according to the World Standings with the highest ranked Team being drawn first, the next ranked Team – second etc. In cases of ties in the World Standings there will be a separate draw between tied Teams to decide the order of the main draw.
  - h) Starting Order groups will be determined according to Table II in Rule 981, using the total number of Teams. In case of adjustments to the last and next to last starting order groups as per paragraph d) (i) and (ii) above, Starting Order groups will be adjusted accordingly.

## **2. The draw for the Free Skating**

- a) The starting order of Teams in Free Skating is determined from the result of the Short Program;
- b) If two or more Teams are tied for the same place at the end of the Short Program, the Teams concerned shall be placed in the same group, if necessary the immediately preceding group shall be smaller by the number of Teams added to that particular group. The maximum number of Teams to be placed in the same group is six;
- c) The order of skating in each group shall be determined by lot and each Team shall be drawn in the order of placement in the preceding part of the competition, that is, with the best placed Team being drawn first and including those tied. The order of the draw between tied Teams shall first be determined by a separate draw prior to the main draw.
- d) The order of skating for the final two groups (i.e. with the best places Teams) will be drawn in four subgroups.
  - (i) The top three finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the final group and will be drawn from the first

- subgroup.
- (ii) The fourth and fifth place finishers in the Short Program will be the first to skate in the final group and will be drawn from the second subgroup.
  - (iii) The sixth, seventh and eighth place finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the second-to-last group and will be drawn from the third subgroup.
  - (iv) The ninth and tenth place finishers in the Short Program will be the first to skate in the second-to-last group and will be drawn from the fourth subgroup.
  - (v) If the size of the subgroup is smaller than the maximum, the subgroups will be adjusted accordingly: in case of an even number of entries the subgroups are equal in size, in case of an odd number of entries the later skating subgroup is larger by one entry than the previous skating subgroup.

### **Rule 971 Judges Draws**

1. For all ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, the panel of Judges shall consist only of Judges on the current lists of ISU Judges and all Judges must be designated ISU.
2. Each ISU Member, must enter annually by October 1<sup>st</sup> Judges by number only, and indicate with the entry, in which ISU Synchronized Skating Championships they intend to participate in the respective draw ceremony.  
The entries must be made for the following ISU Events from ISU Members according to Rule 971, paragraph 3:
  - a) ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships;
  - b) ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships.
3. Principles of entries and restrictions
  - a) Each ISU Member may enter a Judge by number (not by name) in the Event in which the Judges of this ISU Member are qualified to judge and in which that ISU Member has participated with at least one Team in the preceding ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, who has finished at least one Segment of the competition.
  - b) The ISU Members will enter with their Judges' name(s) for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships including a

substitute Judge, in which they have been drawn, 21 days prior to the first Judges Meeting of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships concerned.

- c) Any necessary changes of the Judges nominated must be communicated by the fastest electronic means to the Vice President for Figure Skating, to the ISU Secretariat and to the Organizing Committee.
- d) A Judge nominated by the ISU Member, who is present and available, must serve if drawn.
- e) The ISU President or the ISU Vice President Figure Skating may update this restriction under paragraph a) above for any Championships in which not enough Judges are available to compose the panels of Judges.

#### 4. Draw procedure

- a) The draw procedure of the panels of Judges for all ISU Synchronized Skating Championships will take place annually between October 1<sup>st</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>. The draw is open to all ISU Members who may send one Representative at their own expense. The draw shall take place in Switzerland in the presence of a certified Swiss auditor. The ISU President will appoint the person(s) who will conduct the draw.
- b) Each panel of Judges will consist of a maximum of nine Judges but not less than eight Judges.
- c) There will be a separate draw for the panel of Judges for each Segment of each Championships (Short Program, Free Skating), at the main draw as to paragraph 4.a) and on site of the Championships concerned.

#### 5. ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships.

- a) All ISU Members who have entered according to the rules with Judges for the respective ISU Synchronized Skating Championships will participate in the draws for the composition of the panel of Judges (see paragraph 2 a), b) above).
- b) For ISU Synchronized Skating Championships thirteen ISU Members are drawn amongst the ISU Members.
- c) If there are not enough ISU Members available, there will be an additional draw amongst all ISU Members available and willing to serve but not yet represented in the panel concerned, to complete the panel of Judges with up to thirteen Judges.
- d) On the site of the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, an open random draw will be conducted by the Referee 45 minutes

prior to the skating of each Segment in the presence of all thirteen Judges drawn for the respective Championships, to complete the panel of nine Judges.

- e) For the first Segment (Short Program) nine Judges will be drawn from all thirteen Judges drawn for the Championships. The seating order will be identical to the order the Judges are drawn.
- f) At the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, for the second Segment (Free Skating), the four Judges not drawn for the first Segment will automatically be assigned to be in the panel of nine Judges for the second Segment and all other Judges serving already in the first Segment will participate in the draw to complete the panel of nine Judges. A separate draw will be held for the seating order of the nine Judges.
- g) If at the time of the Championships, if Judges drawn and entered by name are not present, and their entered substitute Judge is not available, they will not be substituted by another Judge from the same ISU Member, who was not entered as a substitute Judge. A separate draw amongst all Judges present and available, but not represented already in the particular panel will complete the panel to the possible maximum of nine Judges if needed.
- h) If there still are not enough ISU Members available to draw up to four Judges for the second Segment as to paragraph 4 c), only those Judges, who are remaining, will be considered and the draw on site for the completion of the panel of Judges will be made accordingly.
- i) The ISU President may, in exceptional cases, authorize modifications in the application of this Rule. If the ISU President is not reachable in a timely fashion, the ISU Vice President for Figure Skating may authorize such modifications in exceptional circumstances. On site of a Championship, if both the ISU President and the ISU Vice President for Figure Skating are not present, then the ISU Representative may authorize such modifications in exceptional circumstances.
- j) For post entries relating to all deadlines included in this Rule, Rule 115, paragraph 6 applies.

### **Rules 972-979 (reserved)**

**Size of Starting Groups for International Competitions  
and ISU Championships  
(see charts I, II and III)  
Applies to Rules 980, 981 and 982**

Short Programs and Novice Free Skating: maximum of six  
Junior and Senior Free Skating: maximum of five

**Rules 983-989 (reserved)**

## D. Technical Definitions

### Rule 990

#### 1. GENERAL TERMS

##### a) **Additional Features**

A term used for describing technical content that increases the difficulty of an Element. Additional Features such as Step Sequences, Free Skating Moves, Free Skating Elements and Point of Intersection are divided into groups according to their difficulty which are issued in ISU Communication (see Rule 990 paragraph 5).

##### b) **Axis**

Axis refers to the imaginary line(s) which divide the ice surface (long axis, short axis, diagonal axis, continuous axis). A turn(s) or pattern(s) is executed on an axis.

##### c) **Axis of Intersection**

Refers to the axis where the Skaters are passing/intersecting with one another. In the case of a collapsing Intersection (box, triangle etc.) the Axis of Intersection is defined as being the area within the shape once the corners have started to intersect and before the Skaters exit the Intersection and pass through at the final corners.

##### d) **Configuration**

A Configuration is the number of lines, spokes or circles in the Element.

##### e) **Difficulty Groups of Elements**

All Elements in Synchronized Skating are divided into groups of difficulty based on the number of Features included. The Synchronized Skating Technical Committee will each or every second year prepare lists with Difficulty Groups of Elements that will be issued as the ISU Communication.

##### f) **Element**

An Element is a component that is part of a Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating. Elements are divided into groups of difficulty.

##### g) **Features**

A term used for describing technical content that increases the difficulty of an Element which may become part of the Difficulty Group of an Element.

- Examples of Features are: body movement, pivoting, traveling etc. The Features for each Element will be updated annually and published in the ISU Communication.

**h) Highlighting**

A term used when one Skater performs a movement that is away from and in contrast with the rest of the Team.

**i) Holds**

Basket weave, catch, hand, elbow, shoulder and no hold are some examples of different holds that may be used.

**j) Interaction between Skaters**

The different Skaters cross paths, intersect, circle, mirror, pass by or are connected to each other etc.

**k) Point of Intersection (see Rule 990 paragraph 3.c)**

The Point of Intersection is an Additional Feature for the Intersection Element.

**l) Skating Direction**

Skating direction refers to skating either forwards or backwards (e.g. forward spirals and backward spirals).

**m) Sub-Grouping**

Sub-grouping refers to a subordinate or smaller group(s) without a close relationship to the rest of the Team; a division of the Team into several smaller groups.

**n) Syncopated Choreography**

Choreography or Elements that have a rhythmic time delay in movement.

**o) Series/Combination of Turns**

Consists of at least two different types of turns executed on one foot where the exit edge of one turn is the entry edge of the next turn.

**p) Sustained**

A movement or position held for 3 seconds or longer.

**q) Stationary**

Skaters are on one spot and their blade(s) are moving (either gliding or by using the toe picks).

**r) Stopping**

Skaters are standing in one place without movement of the blade(s).

**s) Transitions**

A term used to describe sections of the program that occurs within Elements, during entrances and exits of Elements, as connecting Elements and executed in-between the required/optional Elements (see Rule 991 for Short Program and Free Skating).

**2. TURNS/STEPS/LINKING STEPS**

**a) Turns**

A rotational movement in which the Skater moves from forward to backward or backward to forward using one foot and on an edge and axis

- (i) **Bracket** – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an inside edge or an inside edge to an outside edge, with the exit curve continuing on the same lobe as the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction opposite to the curve;
- (ii) **Counter** – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an outside edge or an inside edge to an inside edge, with the exit curve on a different lobe from the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction opposite to the entry curve (i.e. in the direction of the exit curve);
- (iii) **Loop** – A one foot movement where the Skater skates an oval pattern using the same edge. The entry and exit of the loop must cross. The loop must be clean cut without scrapes or points;
- (iv) **Rocker** – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an outside edge or an inside edge to an inside edge, with the exit curve on a different lobe from the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction of the entry curve;
- (v) **Three turn** – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an inside edge or an inside edge to an outside edge, with the exit curve continuing on the same lobe as the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction of the curve;
- (vi) **Twizzle** - A traveling turn on one foot with one or more rotations that quickly rotate with a continuous (uninterrupted) action. The weight remains on the skating foot with the free foot in any position during the turn. A series of checked three turns is not acceptable, as this does not constitute a continuous action. If the traveling action stops during the execution, the twizzle becomes a solo spin.

## b) Steps

A method of turning that is executed using two feet such as Choctaws and Mohawks

- (i) **Choctaw** - A step from one foot to the other in which the curve of the exit edge is opposite to that of the entry edge. The change of foot is from outside edge to inside edge or inside edge to outside edge. The entry and exit edge are of equal depth;
- (ii) **Mohawk** - A step from one foot to the other in which the entry and exit curves are continuous and of equal depth. The change of foot is from and outside edge to and outside edge or and inside edge to an inside edge.

## c) Linking steps

The visible tracing on the ice that is executed on one or two feet. They may consist of an edge, change of edge, chasses, cross rolls, crossovers, progressives, toe steps moving, dance jumps and small



hops. Linking steps may be used as connecting steps between turns in the Step Sequence Additional Features and in Features;

- (i) **Change of edge** - The visible tracing on the ice that changes from one distinct curve to another distinct curve with no change of foot;
- (ii) **Chasse** - A series of two edges (usually outside, inside) in which on the second edge the free foot is placed on the ice beside the skating foot, but not ahead of or behind it, and the free foot is lifted with the blade parallel to the ice;
- (iii) **Cross Roll** - A roll started with the action of the free foot approaching the skating foot from the side so as to strike the ice almost at right angles to the skating foot, started forward with the feet crossed in front or backward with the feet crossed behind;
- (iv) **Crossover** - A sequence of two steps (push + cross) in which the free foot crosses the skating foot completely before it is placed onto the ice;
- (v) **Dance Jump** - A small jump of not more than one revolution;
- (vi) **Edge** - The visible tracing on the ice produced by a Skater skating on one foot that is on a distinct curve;
- (vii) **Flat** - The visible double tracing on the ice that is straight (imprinted by the Skater skating on one foot on both edges of the blade);
- (viii) **Progressive/Run** - A step or sequence of steps in which the free foot passes the skating foot before it is placed on the ice, thereby bringing the new free foot off the ice trailing the new skating foot;
- (ix) **Small Hop** - A small jump without revolution;
- (x) **Toe Steps** - A step where the Skaters move from one toe pick to the other toe pick without jumping with or without using rotations as they travel down the ice.

**d) Terms used describing turns, steps and linking steps**

- (i) Different turns/steps - is a term that includes each of the listed types of turns and steps plus the four different methods of execution;
- (ii) Different types of turns and steps - is a term that includes each of the listed turns and steps;
- (iii) Difficult turns – consists of Rocker, Counter, Bracket, Loop, Twizzles with 1½ or more rotation;
- (iv) Listed turns and steps - consists of three turn, Mohawk, Choctaw, Twizzle, Rocker, Counter, Bracket, Loop;
- (v) Method of execution – is a term which describes the four different manners each turn/step may be executed, considering the entry edge: a) forward inside, b) forward

- outside, c) backward inside and d) backward outside;
- (vi) Turning Method - A technique in which a turn or step occurs using either the same/one lobe (bracket, three turn, twizzle) or using two different lobes (counter, rocker) during the entry and exit of each turn. See the respective turns and steps in paragraph 2. a and 2. b;
  - (vii) Turn/step - is a term used when only one turn/step from the listed turns and steps is required;
  - (viii) Turns/steps - is a term used when at least any two turns/steps from the listed turns and steps are required;
  - (ix) Turns/steps and linking steps - are terms use when at least any two turns/steps from the listed turns and steps and linking steps are required.

### **3. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS**

#### **a. FREE SKATING ELEMENTS**

Free skating Elements such as jumps, jump combinations, jump sequences, assisted jumps, spins, lifts, death spirals, pair pivot, vaults are examples and are permitted in Synchronized Skating.

Free skating Elements are allowed in Elements such as Creative Element, Group Lift Element and Pair Element, etc. or as a transitional move between Elements to increase the difficulty of transitions and add variety/complexity to the program.

##### **(i) Assisted Jump**

A jump in which a Skater(s) provides passive assistance to another Skater(s) in a non-supportive manner. The take-off must be done by the Skater who jumps. In this action there is a continuous ascending and descending movement. The hands of a Skater(s) providing the passive assistance may rise higher than shoulder level height.

##### **(ii) Butterfly (pair or individual)**

The body is already in a nearly horizontal position at the take-off. The free leg makes a wide, powerful rotational swing upwards so that it is higher than the upper part of the body and head. During the flight and on the landing, the body remains in a horizontal position. There is no number of revolutions required after the landing.

##### **(iii) Jump**

A rotational type of movement during which both feet leave the ice. The list of jumps consists of split jump, euler (1/2 loop), waltz jump, flip, loop, toe loop, salchow, lutz, axel and any jump of any revolution.

**(iv) Jump Combination**

Consists of any number of jumps of at least one revolution that may be linked with turns, steps or with a slight touch down.

**(v) Jump Sequence**

Consists of any number of jumps of any revolutions that may be linked with small hops and dance jumps, immediately following each other while maintaining the jump rhythm (knee); there can be no crossovers or stroking between jumps during the sequence.

**(vi) Lifts**

An action in which Skater(s) are lifted to any height either by the lifting Skaters or by the lifted Skater(s) themselves using body support from other Skaters and will be counted as a lift when a Skater is held off the ice for more than 3 seconds.

**a) Acrobatic Lifts** Acrobatic Lifts are defined as:

Moves in which the Skater is held only by either the blade(s), foot (feet) or leg(s) and swung around.

- All lifts where the lifted Skater(s) is in a totally vertical sustained position with the top of their head towards the ice are considered dangerous and therefore illegal.

- Lifts where the lifted Skater is rotating around herself/himself are allowed, provided there is no sustained, totally vertical position with the top of their head towards the ice.

**b) Group Lift** - An action in which one or more Skaters is (are) lifted and sustained to any height by two or more Skaters and set down. A lifting Skater(s) must have at least one skate on the ice at all times.

**c) Pair Lifts** - An action in which one Skater is lifted and sustained by one other Skater and set down.

**d) Types of Lifts** (Pair Lift or Group Lift)

**1. Stationary Lift**

Stationary Lift is a lift that is executed on the spot (stationary location) by the lifting Skater(s) who may or may not be rotating.

**2. Gliding Lift** (during the preparation, lift/execution and exit)

- All lifting Skaters in a Group Lift/the supporting Skater in a Pair Lift must be skating or gliding as they prepare for the lift.

- The lifting Skater(s) must continue to skate/glide as the lift is executed.

- All Skaters in a Group Lift/both Skaters in Pair Lift must continue to glide during the exit of the lift. The lifted Skater must be set down and after the lifted Skater has

been set down all Skaters must continue to skate/glide.

### **3. Rotational Lift that glides and rotates at the same time**

- Rotational lift is a lift in which lifting Skater(s) rotate while gliding/traveling across the ice.
- The lifting Skater(s) must continue to glide as the lift is executed (while rotating).
- All Skaters in a Group Lift/both Skaters in a Pair Lift must be skating or gliding as they prepare for the lift. The lift must glide during the rotation. There is no minimum amount of ice coverage required for gliding either before, during or after the rotation.
- The supporting Skaters in a Group Lift/lifting Skater in a Pair Lift must turn from forwards to backwards or vice versa using a two footed three turn or two footed mohawk-like steps.
- All Skaters in a Group Lift/both Skaters in a Pair Lift must continue to skate/glide during the exit of the lift. The lifted Skater must be set down and after the lifted Skater has been set down all Skaters must continue to skate/glide.

### **4. Un-sustained Lift**

Un-sustained Lift is a Group or Pair Lift in which one Skater is lifted and put down, in a continuous ascending and descending movement. The lifted Skater must be elevated for less than 3 seconds before being set down. This type of lift may be stationary or gliding. The lifted Skater may vault up and or down from the un-sustained lift.

## **(vii) Pivot**

### **a) Death Spiral**

The Skater executing the Death Spiral must skate on a clean edge with her/his body and head close to the ice surface; however, the Skater must not touch the ice with their head or assist themselves with the free hand or any part of the body. Variations of arm hold (holding by either one or both hands) and pivot position (backward or forward or a combination of both, with or without the toe pick) are possible.

### **b) Pair Pivot**

A Pair Pivot is executed by two Skaters where one of the Skaters becomes the center point and the supported Skater is gliding around the center point.

## **(viii) Spins**

A spinning movement, with a minimum of three revolutions, without interruption performed on one foot on the spot (except a cross foot spin) and in the correct position.

### **a) Types of Spins**

1. **Solo Spins:** The Skaters are spinning as individuals on one foot without interruption.
2. **Spin with a change of foot:** A spin with a change of foot must consist of one change of foot.
3. **Spin combination:** The spin combination must include a minimum of two different basic positions (sit, camel, upright or any variation thereof). A change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or jump.
4. **Pair Spin:** A spin skated by two Skaters performed on the spot around a common axis simultaneously without interruption. One or both of the partners may be in different spinning positions, and in any hold.
5. **Group Spin:** A spin executed by three or more Skaters, performed on the spot around a common axis simultaneously without interruption. The Skaters may be in the same or different spinning positions, and in any hold.

### **b) Types of Spinning Positions**

1. **Camel Spin:** The Skater remains in a spiral position while rotating. The free leg (including the knee and foot) must be held at hip level or higher.
2. **Sit Spin:** The Skater remains in a sit position while rotating. The supporting leg must be bent at least a 90° angle. The thigh of the skating foot must be parallel to the ice surface.
3. **Upright Spin:** The Skater is spinning in an upright position. The arms and free foot may be held in a variety of positions.

### **c) Variation of an Upright Spin**

1. **Cross foot spin:** An upright spin position where both of Skater's feet are on the ice while spinning. The feet may be crossed in front or behind.
2. **Layback Spin:** The Skater must be leaning backwards with the head leaning away from the core axis of the body. The body must show a definite arch in the back.
3. **Sideways Leaning Spin:** The sideways leaning spin must have at least a 45° angle from the torso to be credited.

**d) Difficult Variation of an Upright Spin**

A difficult variation is a movement using the free leg, which requires more physical strength, flexibility in order to execute the upright spin and therefore has an effect on the balance of the main body core.

**1. Biellmann Spin** (Biellmann position in a spin). A spin where the Skater's free foot is pulled, by one hand or both, from behind, to a position higher than the head and towards the top of the head close to the central axis of the Skater.

**2. Upright Extension Spin:** A spin where the Skater's body remains upright with the free leg held at least at a 135° angle to the skating leg. The free leg may be held to the front or to the side. The free leg and skating leg should be straight. The free leg may be supported or unsupported.

**e) Flying Spins**

This spin must "fly" during the entry of the spin. No previous rotation on the ice before take-off is permitted. The "flying position" may be executed in any position but all Skaters must be in the same flying position at the same time. A three turn executed before the flight does not demonstrate a flying spin. After landing, all Skaters must be in the same and correct spinning position.

**(ix) Throw Jumps**

Throw Jumps are partner assisted jumps in which one of the Skaters is thrown into the air by another Skater on the take-off and lands without assistance from the partner on a backward outside edge. A throw jump may have any number of revolutions.

**(x) Vault**

A vault of not more than one revolution, in which a Skater(s) provides passive assistance to another Skater(s) who turns/revolves, head over heels (or vice versa) in a cartwheel or somersault action. In this action there is a continuous ascending and descending movement, where the vaulting Skater rotates/revolves.

**b) FREE SKATING MOVES**

Free Skating Moves such as lunges, spirals, Ina Bauers, spread eagles, hydroblading, Biellmann spiral, Charlotte and shoot the duck, etc. are permitted. Free Skating Moves are allowed in Elements or as transitional moves between Elements to increase the difficulty of transitions and add variety/complexity to the program.

(i) A "type" of free skating moves (fms) is a term that refers to each of the listed free skating moves in the ISU Communication with

Difficulty Groups of Elements. Biellmann is considered a different type of fm than a Spread Eagle. Biellmann RFI is considered the same type as Biellmann RFO.

- (ii) “Different free skating moves” is a term that refers to the same type of free skating moves executed using at least two of the eight different methods of execution. A Free Skating Move executed with an outside edge is considered different than the same type of Free Skating Move executed with an inside edge. A Free Skating Move executed forward is considered different than the same type of Free Skating Move executed backward. A Free Skating Move executed on the right foot is considered different than the same type of Free Skating Move executed on the left foot.
- (iii) “Same free skating move” is a term that includes one “type” of free skating move executed in the same position, on the same edge, on the same foot and in the same skating direction.

To get credit for performing free skating move(s), each move must be held in the correct position and on the correct edge for at least three seconds.

A Free Skating Move with one change of edge must be held for a minimum of 2 seconds on each edge and for a total of 4 seconds. In the case when Skaters change edges at different times, all Skater(s) must hold the free skating move for at least 2 seconds on each edge.

**(i) Biellmann**

To be called as Biellmann position, the Skater's free foot is pulled from behind to a position higher than the head and towards the top of the head close to the central axis of the Skater.

**(ii) Charlotte**

A Charlotte is a glide either forwards or backwards on an edge or a flat. The Skaters' body must bend forward (minimum of 135°) from upright so that the head and chest is "close" to the supporting leg. The free leg and supporting leg should be straight with the free leg extended behind and held at a minimum of 135°. The free leg may be supported or unsupported.

**(iii) Hydroblading**

The Skaters must show a low sit-like position that is counter balanced, where the supporting leg is bent to at least 90° (parallel to the ice) and the free leg and hands are not resting on the ice surface. The Skaters' torso, including the shoulders, are leaning far in towards the center of the circle and the free

leg is placed to the outside of that circle. The move must be executed on an edge and on one foot.

**(iv) Ina Bauer**

An Ina Bauer is a two footed movement in which the Skater travels along the ice with one foot on a forward edge/tracing and the other on a matching backward edge on a different but parallel edge/tracing.

**(v) Lunge**

A Lunge is a movement either forward or backward on an edge or a flat in which the Skater travels along the ice with one supporting leg bent (with at least 90° between the thigh and shin of the skating leg) and other leg directly behind with the boot/blade touching the ice. The Skater's torso may be upright, bent forward, leaning backwards or to the side. The free leg may be straight or bent and may be held to the back or side. The free foot may be in any position.

**(vi) Shoot the Duck**

The Skaters must show a low position, where the supporting leg is bent to at least 90° (parallel to the ice) and the free leg is not resting on the ice surface. The Skaters' torso may be upright, bent forward. The free leg may be straight or bent and may be held to the front or to the side. The move must be skated on an edge and on one foot.

**(vii) Spirals**

A Spiral is a glide on a forward or backward, inside or outside edge in arabesque position. To be counted as a Spiral, the free leg (including the knee and foot) must be held higher than hip level. The position of free leg may be backward, forward or sideways.

**a) Spiral with a Change of Edge and Free leg position**

A Spiral with a change of edge and free leg position, the free leg must remain at least at hip level or higher as it changes position. The free leg position may change from front, to side, or to the back, or any combination thereof.

**b) Spiral Variation**

A Spiral position either to the front, side or to the back where the free leg is bent and supported (either by the same or another Skater) or unsupported. The free leg must be held higher than hip level (including the knee and foot).

**(viii) Spread Eagle**

A Spread Eagle is a two footed movement in which the Skater skates with one foot on a forward edge and the other on a matching backward edge on the same track (e.g. outside and outside).



**(ix) Upright Extension**

An Upright Extension is a glide on a forward or backward inside or outside edge. The Skaters' body remains upright with the free leg supported (either by the same or another Skater) at least at a 135° angle to the skating leg. The free leg may be held to the back, front or to the side.

**c) POINT OF INTERSECTION**

The Point of Intersection is defined as the type of movement/rotation that the Skaters are executing at the Axis of Intersection.

**d) STEP SEQUENCE**

A combination/series of different turning methods such as three turn, bracket, choctaw, counter, loop, mohawk, rocker, twizzle, linking steps (see Rule 990 paragraph 2) and short Free Skating Moves (see Rule 990 paragraph 3.b) used as part of an Element such as the No Hold Element/NHE.

- (i) Use of crossovers must be kept at a minimum.
- (ii) During the Step Sequence Additional Feature, all Skaters must execute the same steps/turns in the same skating direction, on the same edge, at the same time, except to initiate or end a mirror image pattern.
- (iii) Linking steps, Free Skating Moves etc. may be different.
- (iv) Short free skating moves are allowed within Step Sequence Additional Feature but must be held for less than 3 seconds.

**Turn Requirements**

The requirements for turns are as follows:

- (i) Steps and turns must be skated on, recognizable edges and lobes.
- (ii) Turns/steps that do not have sustained edges due to a quicker tempo shall be counted as long as they are executed with clear/clean entry and exit edges.
- (iii) Teams that use a good quality of skating but have shorter and quicker edges, must not be penalized in the GOE.
- (iv) When turns/steps and linking steps are used in a Step Sequence, the turns/steps and linking steps must be balanced in their distribution throughout the Step Sequence Additional Feature.

**4. DEFINITION OF FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS**

**a) Back-to-Back Approach**

Is shown when the Skaters' back (including shoulders and hips) are facing towards the Axis of Intersection, independently of the skating direction, during the entire Approach Phase. A pivoting entry with

backward skating is also considered to be a back-to-back approach.

**b) Balancing Position (Lift)**

The position of the lifted Skater is stabilized mostly by their own strength. The lifted Skater's position becomes precarious and influences (affects) their balance.

**c) Body Movement**

Body Movement is the use of the body parts (arms, legs, head, torso) when executing the turns and linking steps. The core changes from the center balanced position and that movement has a significant impact of the body's weight distribution over the blade.

**d) Change of Position**

An action where the spokes/lines/Skaters change their order when compared to the start or when Skaters within a spoke/line change position with each other.

**e) Change of Position during a Free Skating Move**

If a Skater begins on the right side of another Skater, they must change to the left side of that same Skater.

**f) Change of Position of a lifted Skater**

Is shown when the lifted Skater uses at least two different positions during a lift.

**g) Choreographic Sequence**

Consists of any kind of movements such as steps, turns, spirals, spread eagles, Ina Bauers, hydroblading, lunges, Choreographic slide, etc.

**h) Choreographic Slide**

Consists of a movement when a Skater(s) slides across the ice in a controlled manner. The Skater(s) may slide on one or both knees, their thigh or other parts of the body.

**i) Extra Features**

Extra Features are short Free Skating Moves, dance jumps, toe steps, small hops, body movements, etc.

**j) Different Configuration**

Different Configuration is shown when the number of lines, spokes or circles changes during an Element. Skaters have to move to form a new configuration.

**k) Flexible Position (Lift)**

Flexible positions include but are not limited to: front split, side split, 135°, backward arch in a semi-circle or full circle

**l) Intersecting**

Is a movement which occurs when there are only individual/solo Skaters involved. The movement refers to an individual/solo Skater passing in-between two other individual/solo Skaters.

**m) Interlocking**

**Circle:** At least two circles rotating in opposite directions are linked together when individual Skaters in one circle pass in-between at least two consecutive individual Skaters of the other circle.

**Wheel:** At least two wheels rotating in opposite directions where a spoke of each wheel passes in-between two consecutive spokes of the other wheel(s).

**n) Mirror Image Pattern**

A Mirror Image Pattern is shown when one half of the Team uses a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction and the other half of the Team uses the opposite direction at the same time (anti-clockwise or clockwise).

**o) Passing through**

Is a movement which occurs when there is a pair(s) or group(s) of Skaters involved. The movement refers to; (i) A Skater (individual/solo, pair(s) or group(s)) passing in-between two other pair(s) and/or group(s) of Skaters and/or (ii) A pair(s) or group(s) of Skaters passing in-between two individual/solo Skaters

**p) Pivoting**

A continuous action in one rotational direction when an individual Skater, Pair, Line or Block is rotating around a common center point. The common center point is permitted to remain stationary or progress across the ice.

**(i) Change of Pivot Point**

In the Pivoting Block or Pivoting Line Elements, when the pivot point changes from one end of the line to the other. The pivot point is permitted to progress through the line(s). Retrogression is not permitted during a change of pivot point. Skaters may not cross their own old tracks as the pivot point is changing ends.

**q) Travel**

An action where a rotating Element such as a Circle or Wheel is caused to move in a given direction or path for a required distance. The rotation and travel must occur at the same time. The path may be curved or straight.

**r) Weaving**

An action when Skaters pass each other by moving side to side. For example changing from an outer circle into a center circle or vice versa depending on where they start.

**5. DEFINITION OF ELEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS**

All Element requirements are described considering a Team comprised of sixteen Skaters.

### **a) ARTISTIC ELEMENT**

An Artistic Circle/Artistic Wheel begins once the configuration is recognized and starts to rotate with all Skaters participating.

The Artistic Block/Artistic Line begins once the configuration is recognized and is progressing along/across the ice with all Skaters participating.

The Artistic Element should be used to match the music in order to enhance the composition of the program.

The Element ends once the configuration breaks apart or a transition into another Element or transitional Element begins.

Artistic Elements are those Elements listed below which are considered to be the base of Synchronized Skating:

- (i) **Artistic Block:** A Block configuration with a minimum of three lines.
- (ii) **Artistic Circle:** A Circle or multiple Circles configuration with a minimum of four Skaters in each Circle.
- (iii) **Artistic Line:** A Line configuration with one or two Lines that may be straight or curved.
- (iv) **Artistic Wheel:** A Wheel or multiple Wheels configuration with a minimum of three Skaters in each spoke.

All Skaters must participate in the Artistic Element

### **b) CREATIVE ELEMENT**

**The Creative Element must meet the following criteria;**

- (i) The Creative Element begins when the shape/requirements of the selected Element is recognized.
- (ii) The Creative Element is a unique presentation of one or more Synchronized Skating Element(s) which will be selected annually by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee. All or part of the requirements, currently listed for the selected Element, may be suspended for the season.
- (iii) The Creative Element ends when the Element breaks apart with the transition into the next Element (or until the end of the program if placed as the last Element).

### **c) GROUP LIFT ELEMENT**

**The Group Lift Element must meet the following criteria;**

- (i) The Group Lift Element begins once the Skaters begin to form their group for the lift.
- (ii) All Skaters must participate in a Group Lift Element either by being the lifted Skater, by supporting the lifted Skater or by executing a free skating Element.
- (iii) The Group Lift(s) must meet the definition for group lifts (see Rule 990 paragraph 3. a. vi) b).
- (iv) The free skating Element(s), executed by the remaining Skaters, not participating in the lift, may be the same or

different and executed at approximately the same time as the lift.

- (v) The Group Lift Element ends when the lifted Skater is set down.
- (vi) All Skaters must act as unit.

#### **d) INTERSECTION ELEMENT**

**The Intersection Element must meet the following criteria:**

The Intersection Element begins once the Skaters begin the approach phase of the Intersection. All Skaters must pass another Skater during the Intersection Element. There are several different manners in which this can be executed.

Individual Skaters may pass each other simultaneously or separately as long as each Skater is involved in the Intersection.

- (i) **Angled Intersection:** an Intersection where two lines are skating towards each other and the Axis of Intersection, from opposite sides/ends of the ice surface while remaining parallel to each other.
- (ii) **Collapsing Intersection:** an Intersection where Skaters pass each other at different times using at least two different axis. Examples of a collapsing type of Intersection are box, triangle or “L” Intersection.
- (iii) **Combined Intersection:** an Intersection that combines rotating Element(s) such as a Circle(s) and/or Wheel(s) either with line(s) or rotating Element(s) such as a Circle(s) and/or Wheel(s).
- (iv) **Two Line Intersection:** an Intersection where two lines are skating towards each other and the Axis of Intersection from different/opposite sides of the ice surface in a Mirror Image pattern.
- (v) **“V” Intersection:** an Intersection where two or more straight lines are pivoting and skating towards each other and the Axis of Intersection from two opposite sides/ends. Skaters pass each other at the same or different times.
- (vi) **Whip Intersection:** an Intersection where the two lines approach each other starting from a true half circle curve till the lead Skaters of each line become back to back with the axis of intersection and then start to straighten before intersecting.

The Intersection Element may include an Additional Feature (Point of Intersection).

The number of Skaters in each line (part) of an Intersection must be as equal as possible.

The Intersection Element ends after the exit phase of the intersection (phase 3) and upon the start of the transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

### **Phases of an Intersection Element:**

Intersection Elements are described using three phases. Each of these three phases must be included and executed correctly. There is no required length of time that each phase must be held.

#### **Phase 1 – Approach**

The approach to the Intersection is defined as the moment that the shape of the Intersection is established and the Team starts moving towards the Axis of Intersection.

Phase 2 – Point of Intersection (see Rule 990 paragraph 1.k) and 3.c).

#### **Phase 3 – Exit of Intersection**

The exit phase of the Intersection is defined as the moment following the Axis of Intersection when the Skaters are moving away from the point of Intersection.

### **e) MIXED ELEMENT**

#### **The Mixed Element must meet the following criteria;**

- (i) The Mixed Element begins when at least two different Synchronized Skating Elements are recognized.
- (ii) The Mixed Element consists of at least two different Synchronized Skating Elements.
- (iii) The two or more Elements must interact with each other
  - Choice of Block, Circle, Intersection, Line and Wheel, etc.
  - If using a Block there must be a minimum of three lines and eight Skaters.
  - If using a Circle there must be a minimum of six Skaters.
  - If using an Intersection there must be a minimum of eight Skaters who intersect.
  - If using a Line there must be a minimum of eight Skaters if doing one Line or in the case of two Lines there must be four Skaters in each Line.
  - If using Pair Element there must be a minimum of four Skaters.
  - If using a Wheel there must be either a minimum of two spokes with three Skaters in each spoke or in the case of a one spoke Wheel there must be a minimum of five Skaters in the spoke.
  - If using a Move Element there must be at least six free skating moves.
  - If using a Synchronized Spin Element there must be at least eight individual Spins or four pair Spins or two Group Spins.

- (iv) The Mixed Element ends once the transition into another Element or transitional Element begins.

**f) MOVE ELEMENT**

**The Move Element must meet the following criteria:**

- (i) The Element begins at the start of the Free Skating Move.
- (ii) This Element consists of Free Skating Move(s).
  - One part of the Team may perform one type of a Free Skating Move and another part of the Team may perform another type of a Free Skating Move. Up to four different types of Free Skating Moves (either the same or different levels) will be permitted.
- (iii) Any transition, including transitions resembling an Intersection are permitted during the Free Skating Move (see Rule 992 paragraph 2 and 3 for Illegal and Non-permitted Elements).
- (iv) The Element ends with the completion of the Free Skating Move(s).
- (v) All Skaters must act as a unit

The Move Element may include an Additional Feature (Free Skating Moves)

**g) NO HOLD ELEMENT**

The No Hold Element may include an Additional Feature (Step Sequence) executed with a no hold.

**The No Hold Element must meet the following criteria:**

- (i) The No Hold Element begins when the Skaters form a closed block and are in a no hold, no matter where the closed block is placed on the ice.
- (ii) Linking steps, free skating moves and body movements etc. may be different and executed at different times.
- (iii) The No Hold Element ends at any place on the ice surface when the block breaks upon the start of a transition into a different Element or transitional Element or when all or some of the Skaters deliberately touch each other and/or take a hold.

**h) PAIR ELEMENT**

**The Pair Element must meet the following criteria:**

- (i) The Pair Element begins once the eight pairs are formed.
- (ii) The Element may consist of Free Skating Elements, Free Skating Moves or Step Sequences or other skating movements.
- (iii) The pairs must act as a unit.
- (iv) All pairs must perform the same movement at the same time.
- (v) The Pair Element ends once the eight pairs break apart.

**i) PIVOTING AND LINEAR ELEMENTS**

**(i) BLOCK ELEMENT**

**The Block Element must meet the following criteria:**

- The Block Element begins once the configuration is recognized and is progressing along/across the ice with all Skaters participating.
- A block configuration must have a minimum of three straight lines.
- All Skaters must be attached (for most of the time).
- The Block Element ends when the Block configuration is broken by the transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

**(ii) LINE ELEMENT**

**The Line Element must meet the following criteria:**

- The Line Element begins once the configuration is recognized and is progressing along/across the ice with all Skaters participating in the configuration.
- There may be one line or two straight lines.
- If there are two lines, these two lines may be joined or separate and may pass by each other.
- The number of Skaters in each line must be as equal as possible.
- The Line Element ends when the line(s) breaks apart upon the start of a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

**j) SYNCHRONIZED SPIN ELEMENT**

**The Synchronized Spin Element must meet the following criteria:**

- (i) The Synchronized Spin Element begins with the entry edge into the spin.
- (ii) Any solo or pair spin can be used.
- (iii) The rotation of the spin can be clockwise, anti-clockwise or a combination of both directions.
- (iv) The Skaters may use the same or different rotational directions.
- (v) The movements of the Skaters during all the phases of the spin should be completely synchronized.
- (vi) The Synchronized Spin Element ends when the Skaters stop spinning.

**Phases of a Synchronized Spin Element:**

The Synchronized Spin Element is described using three phases. Each of the three phases must be included.

**Phase 1 – Entry**

The entry edge phase is defined as the moment that the Skater(s) steps onto the entry edge.

**Phase 2 – Rotation(s)**

Rotation(s) refers to the number of times a Skater(s) rotate.



### **Phase 3 – Exit**

Is described as the moment when the Skater(s) stop spinning.

#### **k) TRAVELING AND ROTATING ELEMENTS**

##### **(i) CIRCLE ELEMENT**

**The Circle Element must meet the following criteria:**

- The Circle Element begins once the circle is recognized and starts to rotate with all Skaters participating in the configuration.
- A circle must have a minimum of four Skaters.
- The Circle Element ends when the configuration is broken, stops rotating and begins a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

##### **(ii) WHEEL ELEMENT**

**The Wheel Element must meet the following criteria:**

- The Wheel Element begins once the configuration is recognized and starts to rotate with all Skaters participating in the configuration.
- There must be at least three Skaters in each spoke.
- Spokes may be straight, curved or of different lengths.
- A variation of a wheel configuration is defined as: a deviation of a basic wheel shape where Skaters are attached to the wheel or a spoke and rotating around a pivot point.
- Basic Wheel shapes are defined as follows:
  - One, two (or “S” wheel), three, four or five spoke Wheel
  - Interlocking Wheels
  - Two - line parallel Wheel
- The Wheel Element ends when the wheel configuration is broken, stops rotating and begins a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

#### **l) TWIZZLE ELEMENT**

**The Twizzle Element must meet the following criteria:**

- (i) The Element begins with the entry of the first twizzle.
- (ii) The Element consists of a series of at least two Twizzles.  
The Element ends when all Skaters complete the last twizzle.

## **Rule 991**

### **Short Program and Free Skating**

#### **1. Number of Elements**

- a) Senior Short Program consists of a maximum of six required Elements.  
Junior Short Program consists of a maximum of six required Elements.

The sequence of Elements is optional.

- b) Senior Free Skating consists of a maximum of eleven Elements.  
Junior Free Skating consists of a maximum of ten Elements.  
Novice Free Skating consists of a maximum of nine Elements.

## **2. General Requirements for Short Program and Free Skating**

- a) Any music including vocal music using lyrics is permitted. However, the Teams must skate the program in time to the music. Additions of the sounds of applause or cheers are not permitted.
- b) Element(s) will not be considered as attempted if the Element does not meet the minimum requirements for Base Level.
- c) Creative innovations and variations are not Features and are permitted in the transitions and required Elements; Creative innovations will be reflected in the Program Components.
- d) The Team must predominately act as one unit. Division of the Team into several units is allowed during the Creative Element and transitions. Additionally, several units can be used as short transitions if the Element following the transition so requires (i.e. preparation for an Intersection or beginning of a Creative Element).
- e) For creativity in a Linear Elements: Block and Line and in Rotating Elements: Circle and Wheel: Skaters (a maximum of half of the Team) may leave and rejoin an Element as long as the minimum number of required Skaters in the Element is maintained.
- f) Features and Additional Features will be counted only once per Element.
- g) All Skaters must be joined/aligned to a spoke, line, circle etc. during Features for these to be counted.
- h) Some Features may be executed at the same time as other Features. Please see each Element for the cases where this is not permitted.
- i) Mirror Image Pattern is permitted in the Elements, Features and Additional Features and transitions. (See Rule 990 paragraph 4.n)).
- j) Step Sequences of a complex variety may be used both in the Elements and during transitions.
- k) Turns/steps and linking steps may be used during Element(s).
- l) Syncopated choreography may be used (other than in the Step Sequence, Additional Feature or Features where correctly executed turns/edges are required to determine the difficulty level).
- m) The choreography and Elements should be executed facing towards all sides of the ice rink.
- n) The programs not fulfilling the requirements will be penalized.

### 3. Short Program Requirements

- a) Un-prescribed or additional Elements or repetitions of Elements which have failed, are not allowed and will not be marked and a deduction must be made if any of those Elements are included (see Rule 843, paragraph 1 m). Basic Element shapes up to and including Level 1, Creative Element(s) and/or Artistic Elements (any level) will not be considered as an un-prescribed or additional Element(s).
- b) Transitions necessary to link the required Elements are permitted.
- c) Some Features and Additional Features will be prescribed for each Element in a Short Program. Features and Additional Features other than those required for each Element in Short Program may not be taken into consideration when determining the level of an Element. Features and/or Additional Features that are not permitted will receive a deduction for Not According to Requirements (NAR) if included (see Rule 843, paragraph 1 m). This deduction will be taken from the Total Program Score. (See current ISU Communication).
- d) Feature(s) or Additional Feature(s) will be considered as omitted if not attempted.
- e) Elements executed using the wrong shape will receive a penalty (see Rule 843, paragraph 1 m). A wrong shape would include examples such as Team executing a four spoke instead of a required three spoke, or an angled intersection instead of a box intersection.

### 4. Free Skating Requirements

- a) Free Skating consists of a Well Balanced program composed of Elements and other linking movements reflecting the character of the music and/or expressing a concept, story, theme or idea of the Team's own choice. A good program contains Elements such as Blocks, Circles, Creative Element, Intersections, Lines, Move Element, Pair Element, Synchronized Spin Element and Wheels etc. linked together harmoniously by a variety of transitions and executed with a minimum of two footed skating. Synchronized Skating refers to the quality of skating, importance of unison, the accuracy of formations and preciseness of the Team, all incorporated into a program of a specified time limit.
- b) Other Elements may be incorporated into the Free Skating program and will be judged as transitions and/or choreography components.
- c) Features and Additional Features are optional in a Free Skating Well Balanced program. In order to increase the difficulty of the required Elements in Free Skating, Features and Additional

- Features may be incorporated into the Free Skating Elements and will be called by the Technical Panel and evaluated by the Judges.
- d) Lifts may be used in Senior Short Program (only when required as an Element) and Free Skating (See Rule 990, [3a.vi](#)).
  - e) Un-sustained Lifts may be used in Senior and Junior Free Skating only, Vaults may be used in Senior and Junior Free Skating only (see also Rule 992 paragraphs 2b), 2c) and paragraphs 3b), 3c)).

## **Rule 992**

### **Element Information for Short Program and Free Skating (Novice, Junior and Senior)**

#### **1. List of Elements**

##### **a) Short Program:**

The required Elements for the Junior and Senior Short Program will be selected each season from the following list of Synchronized Skating Elements and will be published annually in an ISU Communication.

1. Artistic Element
2. Creative Element
3. Intersection Element
4. Group Lift Element (Senior only when required)
5. Linear Element (Block or Line)
6. Mixed Element
7. Move Element
8. No Hold Element
9. Pair Element
10. Pivoting Element (Block or Line)
11. Rotating Element (Circle or Wheel)
12. Synchronized Spin Element
13. Traveling Element (Circle or Wheel)
14. Twizzle Element

##### **b) Free Skating**

Novice, Junior and Senior Free Skating programs may consist of a maximum number Elements which will be selected from each of the following Lists.

1. Artistic Element
2. Creative Element
3. Intersection Element
4. Group Lift Element (Senior only when required)
5. Linear Element (Block or Line)
6. Mixed Element
7. Move Element

- 8. No Hold Element
- 9. Pair Element
- 10. Pivoting Element (Block or Line)
- 11. Rotating Element (Circle or Wheel)
- 12. Synchronized Spin Element
- 13. Traveling Element (Circle or Wheel)
- 14. Twizzle Element

**2. Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features and Movements Short Program (Junior and Senior) and Free Skating (Novice, Junior and Senior)**

- a) Illegal lifts as defined in Rule 990, paragraph 3.a. vi) a)
- b) intersections incorporating back spirals
- c) flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
- d) split jump through the point of intersection

**3. Non-permitted Elements/Features, Additional Features and movements Short Program and Free Skating**

**a) Junior and Senior Short Program**

Lifts of any variety unless required (including Un-sustained Group Lifts)

**b) Novice**

- (i) lifts of any variety (including Un-sustained Group Lifts)
- (ii) vaults
- (iii) stopping (exceeding 5 seconds) on more than one occasion within the free program (not counting the opening and closing movements, which must not exceed 10 seconds each).
- (iv) separating longer than necessary before resuming skating together as a unit.

**c) Senior and Junior Free Skating**

- (i) stopping (exceeding 5 seconds) on more than two different occasions within the free program (not counting the opening and closing movements which must not exceed 10 seconds each).
- (ii) separating longer than necessary before resuming skating together as a unit.

**Rule 993**

**Announcement of requirements for Short Program and Free Skating**

- 1. For International Competitions, the lists of Elements will be announced annually by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee in an ISU Communication not later than June 1<sup>st</sup>, to

become effective on July 1<sup>st</sup> of the same year following the announcement.

2. a) The specific requirements for the Short Program and Free Skating will be decided annually by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and announced in an ISU Communication;
- b) The specific requirements announced for the Short Program and Free Skating must be used at all ISU Championships and respective International Competitions during the year, from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, for which they are announced.
3. All Communications concerning technical requirements must be published before June 1<sup>st</sup> except for pending decisions as a result of a Congress, clarifications and additional examples which may be published as needed.

**Rules 994 – 999 (reserved)**

## I. Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 980

Number  
of Teams

### Synchronized Skating

Short Program for International  
Competitions (and Free Skating if Ties)  
Novice Free Skating

maximum of 6

---

2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	5 + 6
12	6 + 6
13	4 + 4 + 5
14	4 + 5 + 5
15	5 + 5 + 5
16	5 + 5 + 6
17	5 + 6 + 6
18	6 + 6 + 6
19	4 + 5 + 5 + 5
20	5 + 5 + 5 + 5
21	5 + 5 + 5 + 6
22	5 + 5 + 6 + 6
23	5 + 6 + 6 + 6
24	6 + 6 + 6 + 6
25	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
26	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6
27	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
28	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
29	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
30	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
31	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6
32	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
33	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
34	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
35	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
36	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6

## II. Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 981

Number  
of Teams

### Synchronized Skating

Short Program for ISU Championships

---

	maximum of 6
2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	5 + 6
12	6 + 6
13	4 + 4 + 5
14	4 + 5 + 5
15	5 + 5 + 5
16	4 + 6 + 6
17	5 + 6 + 6
18	6 + 6 + 6
19	3 + 4 + 6 + 6
20	4 + 4 + 6 + 6
21	4 + 5 + 6 + 6
22	5 + 5 + 6 + 6
23	5 + 6 + 6 + 6
24	6 + 6 + 6 + 6
25	4 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 6
26	4 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
27	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
28	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
29	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
30	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
31	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
32	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
33	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
34	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
35	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
36	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6



### III. Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 982

Number  
of Teams

**Synchronized Skating**  
Free Skating

maximum of 5

---

2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	3 + 4 + 4
12	4 + 4 + 4
13	4 + 4 + 5
14	4 + 5 + 5
15	5 + 5 + 5
16	4 + 4 + 4 + 4
17	4 + 4 + 4 + 5
18	4 + 4 + 5 + 5
19	4 + 5 + 5 + 5
20	5 + 5 + 5 + 5
21	4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 5
22	4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5
23	4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5
24	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
25	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
26	4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5
27	4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5
28	4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
29	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
30	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
31	4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5
32	4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
33	4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
34	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
35	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Founded: July 23rd, 1892, at Scheveningen (Netherlands)

## ISU MEMBERS

<b>AND</b>	<b>Andorra</b>	Federacio Andorrana d'Esports de Gel (Figure)
<b>ARG</b>	<b>Argentina</b>	Argentine Ice Speed Skaters Union (UVEPA) (Speed) Federacion Argentina de Patinaje Sobre Hielo (Figure)
<b>ARM</b>	<b>Armenia</b>	Figure Skating Federation of Armenia (Figure)
<b>AUS</b>	<b>Australia</b>	Australian Ice Racing Inc. (Speed) Ice Skating Australia Incorporated (Figure)
<b>AUT</b>	<b>Austria</b>	Österreichischer Eisschnelllauf Verband (Speed) Österreichischer Eiskunstlauf Verband (Figure)
<b>AZE</b>	<b>Azerbaijan</b>	The Skating Federation of Azerbaijan Republic (Figure)
<b>BEL</b>	<b>Belgium</b>	Fédération Royale Belge de Patinage de Vitesse (Speed) Fédération Royale Belge de Patinage Artistique (Figure)
<b>BIH</b>	<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	Skating Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<b>BLR</b>	<b>Belarus</b>	Skating Union of Belarus
<b>BRA</b>	<b>Brazil</b>	Brazilian Ice Sports Federation
<b>BUL</b>	<b>Bulgaria</b>	Bulgarian Skating Federation
<b>CAM</b>	<b>Cambodia</b>	Cambodia Ice Skating Federation (Provisional Member Figure)
<b>CAN</b>	<b>Canada</b>	Speed Skating Canada (Speed) Skate Canada (Figure)
<b><u>CHI</u></b>	<b><u>Chile</u></b>	<u>Chilean National Figure Skating Federation (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<b>CHN</b>	<b>China</b>	Chinese Skating Association ( <u>Speed</u> ) <u>Chinese Figure Skating Association (Figure)</u>
<b>COL</b>	<b>Colombia</b>	Federacion Colombiana de Patinaje (Provisional Member Speed)
<b>CRO</b>	<b>Croatia</b>	Croatian Skating Federation
<b>CYP</b>	<b>Cyprus</b>	Cyprus Skating Federation (Figure)
<b>CZE</b>	<b>Czech Republic</b>	Czech Speed Skating Federation (Speed) Czech Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>DEN</b>	<b>Denmark</b>	Dansk Skøjte Union
<b><u>ECU</u></b>	<b><u>Ecuador</u></b>	<u>Ecuadorian Skating Federation (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<b>ESP</b>	<b>Spain</b>	Federacion Española de Deportes de Hielo
<b>EST</b>	<b>Estonia</b>	The Estonian Skating Union
<b>FIN</b>	<b>Finland</b>	Suomen Luisteluliitto (Speed) Suomen Taitoluisteluliitto (Figure)

<b>FRA</b>	<b>France</b>	Fédération Française des Sports de Glace
<b>GBR</b>	<b>Great Britain</b>	<u>British Ice Skating</u>
<b>GEO</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	Georgian Figure Skating Federation (Figure)
<b>GER</b>	<b>Germany</b>	Deutsche Eisschnelllauf-Gemeinschaft (Speed) Deutsche Eislauf-Union e.V. (Figure)
<b>GRE</b>	<b>Greece</b>	Hellenic Winter Sports Federation (Provisional Member Figure)
<b>HKG</b>	<b>Hong Kong/ China</b>	Hong Kong Skating Union Ltd
<b>HUN</b>	<b>Hungary</b>	Hungarian National Skating Federation
<b>INA</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>	Federasi Ice Skating Indonesia
<b>IND</b>	<b>India</b>	Ice Skating Association of India
<b>IRL</b>	<b>Ireland</b>	Ice Skating Association of Ireland
<b>ISL</b>	<b>Iceland</b>	Icelandic Skating Association (Figure)
<b>ISR</b>	<b>Israel</b>	Israel Ice Skating Federation
<b>ITA</b>	<b>Italy</b>	Federazione Italiana Sport del Ghiaccio
<b>JPN</b>	<b>Japan</b>	Japan Skating Federation
<b>KAZ</b>	<b>Kazakhstan</b>	National Skating Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan
<b>KGZ</b>	<b>Kyrgyz Republic</b>	Skating Federation of the Kyrgyz Republic (Figure)
<b>KOR</b>	<b>Rep. of Korea</b>	Korea Skating Union
<b>LAT</b>	<b>Latvia</b>	Latvian Skating Association
<b>LIE</b>	<b>Liechtenstein</b>	Liechtensteiner Eislauf Verband (Figure)
<b>LTU</b>	<b>Lithuania</b>	Lithuanian Speed Skating Association (Speed) Lithuanian Skating Federation (Figure)
<b>LUX</b>	<b>Luxembourg</b>	Union Luxembourgeoise de Patinage de Vitesse (Speed) Union Luxembourgeoise de Patinage (Figure)
<b>MAR</b>	<b>Morocco</b>	Association of Moroccan Ice Sports (Figure)
<b>MAS</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	Ice Skating Association of Malaysia
<b>MDA</b>	<b>Moldova</b>	Figure Skating Federation of the Republic of Moldova (Figure)
<b>MEX</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	Federacion Mexicana de Patinaje Sobre Hielo y Deportes de Invierno, A. C. (Figure)
<b>MGL</b>	<b>Mongolia</b>	Skating Union of Mongolia
<b>MKD</b>	<b>North Macedonia</b>	Skating Federation of North Macedonia ( <u>Provisional Member Figure</u> )
<b>MON</b>	<b>Monaco</b>	Fédération Monégasque de Patinage (Figure)
<b>NED</b>	<b>Netherlands</b>	Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond
<b>NOR</b>	<b>Norway</b>	Norges Skøyteforbund
<b>NZL</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	Ice Speed Skating New Zealand Inc (Speed) New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Association (Inc) (Figure)

<b><u>PER</u></b>	<b><u>Peru</u></b>	<u>Peruvian Ice Skating Federation (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<b>PHI</b>	<b>Philippines</b>	Philippine Skating Union
<b>POL</b>	<b>Poland</b>	Polish Speed Skating Association (Speed) Polish Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b><u>POR</u></b>	<b><u>Portugal</u></b>	<u>Portuguese Winter Sports Federation (Provisional Member Speed)</u>
<b>PRK</b>	<b>D.P.R. Korea</b>	Skating Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
<b>QAT</b>	<b>Qatar</b>	Qatar Skating Federation (Speed)
<b>ROU</b>	<b>Romania</b>	Romanian Skating Federation
<b>RSA</b>	<b>South Africa</b>	South African Speed Skating Association (Speed) South African Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>RUS</b>	<b>Russia</b>	Russian Skating Union (Speed) The Figure Skating Federation of Russia (Figure)
<b>SGP</b>	<b>Singapore</b>	Singapore Ice Skating Association
<b>SLO</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>	Slovene Skating Union
<b>SRB</b>	<b>Serbia</b>	Serbian Skating Association
<b>SUI</b>	<b>Switzerland</b>	Schweizer Eislauf-Verband Internationaler Schliittschuh-Club Davos (Club Member)
<b>SVK</b>	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	Slovak Speed Skating Union (Speed) Slovak Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>SWE</b>	<b>Sweden</b>	<u>Swe-Sports - Svenska Skridsko-, k�alk-och Rullidrottsf�orbundet</u> (Speed) Svenska Konstakningsf�orbundet (Figure) Stockholms Allm�anna Skridskoklubb (Club Member)
<b>THA</b>	<b>Thailand</b>	Figure and Speed Skating Association of Thailand
<b><u>TKM</u></b>	<b><u>Turkmenistan</u></b>	<u>National Center of Turkmenistan for Winter Sport (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<b>TPE</b>	<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	Chinese Taipei Skating Union
<b>TUR</b>	<b>Turkey</b>	Turkish Ice Skating Federation
<b>UAE</b>	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	UAE Ice Sports Federation (Figure)
<b>UKR</b>	<b>Ukraine</b>	Ukrainian Speed Skating Federation (Speed) Ukrainian Figure Skating Federation (Figure)
<b>USA</b>	<b>United States of America</b>	US Speedskating (Speed) The United States Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>UZB</b>	<b>Uzbekistan</b>	Winter Sports Association of Uzbekistan
<b><u>VIE</u></b>	<b><u>Vietnam</u></b>	<u>Skating Federation of Vietnam (Provisional Member Speed and Figure)</u>

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

## Headquarters: Registered postal address:

Avenue Juste-Olivier 17, 1006 Lausanne, Switzerland, Phone: (+41) 21 612 66 66,  
Fax: (+41) 21 612 66 77, E-Mail: info@isu.ch

## OFFICE HOLDERS 2018-2022

### Council:

President:		Jan Dijkema	Netherlands
1st Vice President:	Figure Skating:	Alexander Lakernik	Russia
Vice President:	Speed Skating:	Tron Espeli	Norway
Members:	Figure Skating:	Patricia St. Peter Tatsuro Matsumura Maria Teresa Samaranch Marie Lundmark Benoit Lavoie	USA Japan Spain Finland Canada
	Speed Skating:	Stoytcho G. Stoytchev Sergio Anesi Jae Youl Kim Roland Etienne Maillard <u>Suwanna Silpa-Archa</u>	Bulgaria Italy Republic of Korea Switzerland <u>Thailand</u>
Director General:		Fredi Schmid	Switzerland
Treasurer:		Ulrich Linder	Switzerland
Legal Advisors:		Michael Geistlinger Béatrice Pfister	Austria Switzerland

Figure Skating Sports Technical Director:  
Charles Z. Cyr USA

Speed Skating Sports Technical Director:  
Hugo Herrnhof Italy

### Technical Committees:

<b>Single &amp; Pair Skating:</b>	Chair:	Fabio Bianchetti	Italy
	Members:	Yukiko Okabe	Japan
		Rita Zonnekeyn	Belgium
		Leena Laaksonen	Finland
		Susan Lynch	Australia
Appointed Skater:	<u>Fedor Klimov</u>	<u>Russia</u>	
Appointed Coach:	Patrick Meier	Switzerland	
<b>Ice Dance:</b>	Chair:	Halina Gordon-Poltorak	Poland
	Members:	Shawn Rettstatt	USA
		Hilary Selby	Great Britain
		György Elek	Hungary
	Appointed Skater:	<u>Alper Uçar</u>	<u>Turkey</u>
Appointed Coach:	Maurizio Margaglio	Italy	

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

<b>Synchronized Skating:</b>	Chair:	Philippe Maitrot	France
	Members:	Petra Tyrbo	Sweden
		Lois Long	USA
		Uliana Chirkova	Russia
Appointed Skater:	Roberta Giuliani	Italy	
Appointed Coach:	Cathy Dalton	Canada	
<b>Speed Skating:</b>	Chair:	Alexander Kibalko	Russia
	Members:	Nick Thometz	USA
		Øystein Haugen	Norway
		Alexei Khatylev	Belarus
	Appointed Skater:	Beixing Wang	China
Appointed Coach:	<u>Renate Groenewold</u>	<u>Netherlands</u>	
<b>Short Track Speed Skating:</b>	Chair:	Nathalie Lambert	Canada
	Members:	Reinier Oostheim	Netherlands
		Satoru Terao	Japan
		So Hee Kim	Korea
	Appointed Skater:	Christoph Milz	Germany
Appointed Coach:	Wim de Deyne	Belgium	

## Athletes Commission

(elected until March 2022)

Chair

Vice Chair

Douwe de Vries

Eric Radford

Yang Zhou

Yuri Hulitski

Ida Hellström

Netherlands

Canada

China

Belarus

Finland

## Disciplinary Commission:

Chair:

Members:

Volker Waldeck

Allan Böhm

Jean-François Monette

Susan Petricevic

Albert Hazelhoff

Germany

Slovak Republic

Canada

New Zealand

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## Medical Commission:

Chair:

Members:

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Joel C. Shobe

Hiroya Sakai

Ruben Ambartsumov

Hannu Koivu

Eunkuk Kim

Marieke Becker

Canada

USA

Japan

Ukraine

Finland

Rep. of Korea

Netherlands

## Development Commission:

Coordinator:

Susanna Rahkamo

Jildou Gemser

Xu Xun

Finland

Netherlands

China

<b>Honorary Presidents:</b>		Year of election
Viktor Gustaf Balck †	Sweden	1925
Emerich von Szent Györgyi †	Hungary	1933
Herbert J. Clarke †	Great Britain	1955
James Koch †	Switzerland	1967
Jacques Favart †	France	1982
Olaf Poulsen †	Norway	1994
Ottavio Cinquanta	Italy	2016

<b>Honorary Vice Presidents:</b>		
Sven Låftman †	Sweden	1971
Hendrik Roos †	Netherlands	1977
John R. Shoemaker †	USA	1980
Hermann Schiechtl †	F.R.G.	1984
Georg Pettersson †	Sweden	1986
Jean Heckly†	France	1992
Josef Dedic †	Czech Republic	1994
Lawrence Demmy M.B.E. †	Great Britain	1998
Gerhard Zimmerman	Germany	2010
David Dore †	Canada	2016

<b>Honorary Secretary:</b>		
Georg Häsler †	Switzerland	1975

<b>Honorary Members:</b>		Year of election
Hans Pfeiffer †	Austria	1939
Gustavus F. C. Witt †	Netherlands	1953
Marcel Nicaise †	Belgium	1959
Friedrich Kachler †	Austria	1959
Walter S. Powell †	USA	1961
Reginald J. Wilkie †	Great Britain	1963
Georg Krog †	Norway	1969
Ernest Labin †	Austria	1969
Harald Halvorsen †	Norway	1969
Ernest J. G. Matthews †	Great Britain	1977
Heinz Dragunsky †	G.D.R.	1980
Oskar Madl †	Austria	1980
George Blundun †	Canada	1980
Emil Skákala †	Czechoslovakia	1980
Viktor Kapitonov †	U.S.S.R.	1984
Arne Kvaalen †	Norway	1984
Icilio Perucca †	Italy	1988
Elemér Tertak †	Hungary	1988
Donald H. Gilchrist †	Canada	1992
Herman J. van Laer †	Netherlands	1992
Benjamin T. Wright †	USA	1992
John Hurdis †	Canada	1992
Charles A. De More †	USA	1994
Hans Kutschera†	Austria	1996
Jean Grenier	Canada	1996
Jürg Wilhelm †	Switzerland	1998
Lars-Olof Eklund †	Sweden	1998
Jan W.P. Charisius †	Netherlands	1998
Wolfgang Kunz †	Germany	1998
Joyce Hisey	Canada	2002
Walburga Grimm	Germany	2002

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

<b>Honorary Members:</b> <i>(continued)</i>		Year of election
John Hall †	Great Britain	2002
Maria Bialous-Zuchowicz †	Poland	2006
Claire Ferguson	USA	2006
Monique Georgelin	France	2006
Myong-Hi Chang	Rep. of Korea	2010
Courtney J.L. Jones O.B.E.	Great Britain	2010
Ulf Lindén	Sweden	2010
Gerhardt Bubník	Czech Republic	2010
James L. Hawkins	USA	2010
Phyllis Howard	USA	2016
Tjasa Andréa-Prosenc	Slovenia	2016
German Panov	Russia	2016
Lan Li	China	2016
György Martos	Hungary	2016
Peter Krick	Germany	2016
Alexander Gorshkov	Russia	2016
Ann Shaw	Canada	2016
Olga Gilardini	Italy	2016
Junko Hiramatsu	Japan	2018

<b>Past Presidents:</b>		Years of service
Willem H.J. Mulier †	Netherlands	1892–1894
Viktor Gustav Balck †	Sweden	1895–1924
Ulrich Salchow †	Sweden	1925–1937
Gerrit W.A. van Laer †	Netherlands	1937–1945
Herbert J. Clarke †	Great Britain	1945–1953
James Koch †	Switzerland	1953–1967
Ernest Labin †	Austria	1967
Jacques Favart †	France	1967–1980
Olaf Poulsen †	Norway	1980–1994
Ottavio Cinquanta	Italy	1994–2016

<b>Jacques Favart Trophy:</b> established 1981		Year of award
Irina Rodnina	U.S.S.R.	1981
Eric Heiden	USA	1983
Jayne Torvill / Christopher Dean	Great Britain	1986
Scott Hamilton	USA	1987
Katarina Witt	G.D.R.	1988
Karin Kania	G.D.R.	1990
Natalia Bestemianova / Andrei Bukin	Russia	1992
Tomas Gustafson	Sweden	1993
Gaétan Boucher	Canada	1994
Bonnie Blair	USA	1998
Kurt Browing	Canada	1998
Johann Olav Koss	Norway	1998
Ludmila † & Oleg Protopopov	Switzerland	1998



**Georg Häsler Medal:**

established 1985

Zoltán Balázs †	Hungary	1987
Willi Zipperlen †	Switzerland	1987
F. Ritter Shumway †	USA	1988
Herbert Kunze†	F.R.G.	1989
Assen Pavlov	Bulgaria	1989
W. Thayer Tutt †	USA	1989
Victor Blinov †	U.S.S.R.	1990
Andrea Ehrig	G.D.R.	1990
Radovan Lipovscak†	Yugoslavia	1990
Courtney J. L. Jones O.B.E.	Great Britain	1991
Milan Duchon	Czechoslovakia	1992
Klaas Schipper	Canada	1992
Lysiane Lauret	France	1993
Anna Sinilkina †	Russia	1993
George Howie†	USA	1993
Pamela E.L. Davis, M.B.E. †	Great Britain	1994
Jurjen Osinga	Netherlands	1994
Ivan Mauer †	Slovak Republic	1995
Florea Gamulea	Romania	1996
David E. Morgan †	Australia	1996
Beat Häsler	Switzerland	1998
Mitsuo Matsumoto †	Japan	2000
Robert Moir †	Canada	2002
Valentin Piseev	Russia	2002

**ISU Gold Award of Merit:**

established 2004

Lysiane Lauret	France	2006
Lucy Brennan	USA	2007
Susan Johnson	USA	2007
Joachim Franke	Germany	2008
Ann Shaw	Canada	2008
David Mitchell	Great Britain	2016
Robert Horen	USA	2017
Joseph Inman	USA	2017
Christa Elisabeth Krick	Germany	2017
Erik Ømundset	Norway	2017
Kenneth Pendrey	Great Britain	2017
Gale Tanger	USA	2017
Michel Verrault	Canada	2017
<u>Susan Heffernan</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Joanne Shaw</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Sally Rehorick</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Knut Ludahl</u>	<u>Norway</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Jan Marmstål</u>	<u>Sweden</u>	<u>2019</u>