

**INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION**

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS  
& TECHNICAL RULES**

**SYNCHRONIZED SKATING**

**2016**

as accepted by the 56<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Congress  
June 2016

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

# I. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

## INDEX

<b>General</b>			<b>Page</b>
Rule No.	800	Discipline and content of Synchronized Skating	6

### REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITIONS IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

#### A. General

Rule No.	815	Segments of Synchronized Skating Competitions	7
	816	Competition personnel	7
	822	Required rinks	8
	823	Music reproduction system	8
	830	Competition schedule	9
	833	Communication during Competitions	10
	834	Program Content Sheet	10
	838	Call to the start	10
	839	Behavior of Competitors and Officials	10
	842	ISU Judging System – scoring systems	11
	843	ISU Judging System – determination and publication of results	12
	848	Awards	16
	855	Exhibitions during Competitions	17
	856	Protocol	17
	857	New systems	18
	858	Comments to the public	19

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

Rule No.	865	Allotment	20
	866	Schedule/Duration of Championships	20
	867	Participation in Championships	20
	868	Entries in ISU Synchronized Skating Championships	20
	869	Music titles	21
	870	ISU Event Coordinator/Regional Event Coordination Assistants	21
	871	Presentation of medals	22
	872	Medals	23
	874	Advertisement of ice shows	23

## **C. REGULATIONS FOR OFFICIALS**

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

Rule No.	900	Process for nomination and appointment of Officials	24
	901	General requirement for nomination and appointment of Officials	27
	902	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Referees	30
	903	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Judges	32
	904	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers	34
	905	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Specialists	36
	906	Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Data & Replay Operators	38
	907	ISU Seminars for Officials	39

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

Rule No.	910	Appointment of Officials to International Competitions (general)	42
	911	Appointment of Officials to ISU Championships (Special Rule)	43

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

Rule No.	920	General and specific duties and powers	44
	921	Meeting at Competitions for Referees and Judges	48
	922	Meeting at Competitions for Technical Panels	49
	923	Reports	50

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

Rule No.	930	Evaluation of service by Officials	52
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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	61
	951	Clothing	61
	952	Duration of Skating	61
	953	Falls and Interruptions	62
	954	Marking of Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating	63
<b>B. Technical Rules for Competitions in Synchronized Skating</b>			
Rule No.	960	Competition Schedule	67
	961	Announcement of entries and panels of Officials	67
	962	Draws	67
	963	Draws for Starting orders	68
	964	Warm-up periods	69
	965	Allowance of a Delayed Start or Restart	70
<b>C. ISU Championships – Special Technical Rules</b>			<b>Page</b>
Rule No.	970	Draws for Teams	73
	971	Judges Draws	75
	980	I. Size of Starting Order Groups Short Program for International Competitions (and Free Skating if Ties) and Novice Free Skating	79
	981	II. Size of Starting Order Groups Short Program for ISU Championships	79
	982	III. Size of Starting Order Groups Free Skating	79
<b>D. Technical Definitions</b>			<b>Page</b>
Rule No.	990	Synchronized Skating Technical Definitions	80
		1. General Terms	
		2. Turns / Steps / Linking Steps	
		3. Definitions of Elements and Requirements	
		4. Definitions of Additional Features and Requirements	
		5. Definitions of Features and Requirements	
	991	Short Program and Free Skating	100
	992	Element information for Short Program and Free Skating (Junior and Senior)	102
	993	Announcement of requirements for Short Program and Free Skating	105

## **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 and Junior categories
  
2. A Synchronized Skating Team must consist of the following number of Skaters and may include both ladies and men (see paragraph 3 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 (16) Skaters,  
Junior: a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters,
  - b) In all ISU Synchronized Skating Championships a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters.
  - c) Each Team may have up to a maximum of four (4) alternates listed as such on the Team roster.
  - d) Exceptions to the paragraph a), c) of this Rule may be decided by the Council for multi-sports events sanctioned by the ISU.
  - e) A Synchronized Skating Team for the Winter Olympic Games shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters and may have up to a maximum of two (2) alternates. A Team may include ladies only (if IOC so decides). The maximum number of entries for OWG is ten (10) Teams and the best placed six (6) Teams will qualify for the final Free Skating.
  - f) Injury at the International Competitions/Championships:  
If an injury/illness should occur during practice or competition, at either the Championships or practice venue(s), the Team will be permitted to skate with not less than fourteen (14) 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.
  
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, Free Skating alone on the ice surface.

### **Rule 816**

#### **Competition personnel**

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 (2) 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).

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:

- permits (verifying the competing Skaters) the first and each additional Team to enter the ice for their warm-up;
- to check for the maximum number of authorized alternate(s) at ice level;
- monitors the ice conditions and report problems to the Referee;
- directs a registered alternate to enter the ice for the express purpose of picking up objects on the ice considered hazardous to the Skaters;

- 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;
- 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 (60) meters in length and thirty (30) meters in width, but not larger, and not less than fifty-six (56) meters in length and twenty-six (26) 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 (1) covered and preferably heated rink is required. For ISU Synchronized Skating Championships two (2) covered, closed and heated ice-rinks are required.

#### **Rule 823 Music reproduction system**

1. Teams shall furnish competition music of excellent quality on CD, or in any other approved format.
  - a) The music covers/discs must show the exact running time of the music (not skating time), which shall be certified by the Team and by the coach, when submitted at the time of registration.
  - b) Each program (Short Program/Free Skating) must be recorded on one track and on a separate disc.
  - c) Teams must provide a back-up drive for each program.
2. 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.



3. Precautions must be taken to prevent frequency and/or voltage variations.
4. 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.

### **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 two (2) days, but in no more than three (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 four (4) hours after the ending 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, 10 minutes of practice ice, free of charge before the Short Program event and 12 minutes of practice ice before the Free Skating event but after Short Program event. 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.

### **Rules 831-832 (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 one (1) minute (see Rule 964), the Team is announced.
3. 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 thirty (30) seconds after their name has been announced, failing which the music will be played.

**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, 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.

## **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 5 Judges and no Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist):
    - (i) The panel of Judges shall be split in the "Technical Judge(s)" (maximum 2 Judges) and the "Performance Judges" (if possible not more than 3 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 5 Judges:
- (i) With more than 5 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 Grades of Execution 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 (5) judges, the highest and lowest values are not deleted from the calculation.
- e) This average will become the final Grade of Execution of an individual Element. The panel's GOE is rounded to two (2) 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) If the value of the Element (after taking any missing requirement, deductions and reductions) is less than zero, the Element shall be awarded a value of 0.00.
- i) In the Short Program and Free Skating, each Element (Block, Circle, Intersection, Wheel etc.) will be evaluated separately and given a GOE.
- j) 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.
- k) Each Judge also marks the Program Components on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with 0.25 points increments.
- l) 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 (2) decimal places,
- m) The panel's points for each Program Component are then multiplied by a factor as follows (same for Junior and Senior):  

SyS:	Short Program 0.8	Free Skating 1.6
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The factored results are rounded to two (2) decimal places and added.  
The sum is the Program Component Score.
- n) **Deductions** are applied for certain violations specified in the Regulations as follows:

<b>Violation:</b>	<b>As per:</b>	<b>Points:</b>
Program time	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)
Music requirements	Rules 991, paragraph 2.a)	- 1.0 per program
Costume and prop	Rule 951, paragraph 1	- 1.0 per program
Part of the costume / decoration falls on the ice	Rule 951, paragraph 2	- 1.0 per program
Fall	Rule 953, paragraph 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SyS: -1.0 for every Fall of one Skater</li> <li>▪ -2.0 for every Fall of more than one Skater at one time.</li> </ul>
Interruption in performing the program	Rule 953, paragraph 2	<p>For every Interruption of:</p> <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> <li>▪ more than 40 seconds by one or several Skaters: - 4.0</li> <li>▪ more than 40 seconds by the Team as a whole, the Team is withdrawn</li> </ul>
Interruption of the program with allowance of up to 3 minutes to resume from the point of interruption	Rule 965	- 5.0 per program
Not According Requirement NAR	Rule 991, paragraph 2.n)	- 0.5 per violation
Omitted Requirement	Rule 991, paragraph 3.e)	- 0.5 per violation
Illegal Elements / Features / Additional Features / Movements	Rules 992, paragraph 2	- 2.0 per violation
Non-permitted Elements / Features / Additional Features / Movements	Rules 992, paragraph 3	- 1.5 per violation

Un-prescribed or Additional Element	Rule 991, paragraph 3.b)	- 1.5 per violation
Repeated Element shape in SP	Rule 991, paragraph 3.b)	- 1.5 per violation
Wrong Element shape in SP	Rule 991, paragraph 3.f)	<u>No value</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. n).
- 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 (2) or more Teams have the same result, the Total Element Score will break the tie in the Short Program. The Program Components 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 (2) 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.  
At the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, the result from the Short Program and the Free Skating (Group A and B) will be combined and published.  
The top fifteen (15) ranked Teams after the Short Program will be skating the Free Skating segment in Group A and the bottom ranked teams in Group B, however the final result will combine both Groups. The ranking order will follow the principles of ranking with the highest Final Score 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 (Teams who do not qualify for the next Segment either due to the insufficient scores or due to withdrawal) 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:
  - the final place;
  - 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.

### **Rules 844 – 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 Championship 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 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:
    - Judges GOE and individual Program Component Scores in seating order except for ISU Championships in random order;
    - the Total Factored Technical Score;
    - the Total Factored Program Component Score;
    - the Total Segment Score;

- the Final Score.
4. Protocols of competitions in Synchronized Skating must include the following special item:
    - 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 (2) weeks after the completion of the event (for ISU Championships see Rule 135).

**Rule 857**  
**New Systems**

1. New methods and technical amendments may be tried out in International Competitions (with the exception of the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships) provided the following directions are observed:
  - a) An application must be sent at least three (3) months in advance to the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and the approval of the latter obtained.
  - b) In the announcement of the competition a remark must be made as to the kind of innovation to be tried out.
  - c) The Technical Committee will appoint a competent person to oversee the competition and report on the new method.
  - d) On conclusion of the competition the Organizing ISU Member must report on the new method to the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.
2. Modifications of a technical nature may be implemented by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee on a trial basis in International Competitions. ISU Members shall be notified of such modifications through an ISU Communication or Circular letter.

**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 (4) days, with a minimum of two (2) 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 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 Sport Director Figure Skating and the Organizing Committee at the latest twenty one (21) days before the first day (opening and first draws) of the Championships. For post entries, Rule 115, paragraph 6 of the General Regulations applies.
2. a) In ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, each ISU Member, except Special Clubs, may enter one (1) Team.  
b) For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the top five (5) placed ISU Members in the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships may enter two (2) Teams.

- c) For the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, the top five (5) placed ISU Members in the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships may enter two (2) Teams. If no ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships were held during the two (2) previous seasons but an ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup was held during one (1) or both of the previous two (2) seasons, then the top five (5) placed ISU Members in the last held ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup may enter two (2) Teams (valid until July 2017).
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 (1) substitute Team in the case of one (1) entry but not more than two (2) substitute Teams in the case of two (2) entries. The substitute Team may compete only if its ISU Member has withdrawn the name of its Team entered for the competition two (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 Coordinator and Regional Event Coordination Assistants**

1. Event Coordinator, Assistant Event Coordinator and Regional Event Coordination Assistants (RECAs) in Figure Skating:  
The ISU Council shall appoint an ISU Event Coordinator for Figure Skating and if necessary and possible an Assistant Event Coordinator as well as a pool of Regional Event Coordination Assistants 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 Sport Manager Figure Skating and/or the Event Coordinator and/or Assistant Event Coordinator shall attend at least one (1) consultation and inspection visit at the site of the Championships, including meetings with the television and advertising companies during the two (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 Sport Manager Figure Skating and/or the Event Coordinator and/or the Assistant Event Coordinator plus one (1) or two (2) Regional Event Coordination Assistants 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 (Sport Manager Figure Skating, Event Coordinator, Assistant Event Coordinator, Regional Event Coordination Assistants) 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), 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 Champion Team captain and Team and then the second and third placed Team captains and Teams are called to the winners' platform 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 (if appointed by the Council) awards the Champion Team captain the gold ISU Synchronized Skating medal, and the silver and bronze ISU Synchronized Skating medal to the second and third Team captain. The Referee, Technical Controller and the representative of the Organizer congratulate the medal winners (see also Rule 134, paragraph 3 b). Representatives of the Organizing ISU Member award the 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 a small ISU gold medal to the first Team, small silver and bronze medals to the second and third Team (except at the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships). See also Rule 134 paragraph 3 b) and c).

### **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 Coordinator 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 Member of the ISU must, annually before April 15th, 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 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 twelve (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 twelve (12) months following April 15th 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) (i) and (ii), 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:
- three (3) names to the lists of Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators,
  - six (6) 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 1st of each year through July 31st 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 two (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 (2) 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:
  - for international service: by the respective Technical Committee,
  - for national service: by the respective ISU Member (when the Official is nominated by an ISU Member),
  - 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 attendance requirements at 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 the following July 31<sup>st</sup>. If these requirements are not fulfilled, the concerned Official remains on the list of International Officials, provided the requirements for this qualification be fulfilled.
  - b) Any International Official, not fulfilling the service and/or seminar attendance requirements at July 31<sup>st</sup> for reappointment to the respective qualification shall be deleted from 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 the following July 31<sup>st</sup>. If these requirements are not fulfilled (or cannot be fulfilled), the concerned Official must fulfill the requirements for first appointment as an International Official and be nominated accordingly.
  - c) However in case the seminar attendance requirement is not fulfilled because of medically verified life threatening illness the actions stipulated in paragraphs a) and b) above shall not be taken for one year and one time only.
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 or Junior national, sectional, divisional championships or competition, with five or more entries.
  - 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 (2) or more ISU Members participating and with five (5) or more entries.
  - 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 Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, 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. Different categories/disciplines of a Competition are not considered as different Competition.

## **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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Background:
    - i) have been included as International Judge in the three (3) 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 thirty-six months (36) preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination:
    - i) as a Referee, in two (2) National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 8.a);
    - ii) as a Judge (or as a Technical Controller for Technical Committee Members only):
      - in three (3) International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b). The Segments judged must include:
      - three times (3x) Short Program,
      - three times (3x) Free Skating,
  - d) Seminar attendance:
    - i) have completed, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination an ISU 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Service: have served, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination as a Referee, Judge, Trial Judge, Technical Controller or OAC Member on site in one (1) International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b).
  - c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st 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 reappointment of International Referees (see Rule 907).

- 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - i) have been included both as ISU Judge and International Referee in the three (3) 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 forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination preceding the nomination
  - i) as a Referee, in two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b). The Segments refereed must include:
    - twice (2x) Short Program,
    - twice (2x) Free Skating,
  - ii) as a Judge (or as a Technical Controller for Technical Committee Members only), in four (4) Segments at ISU Championships or ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup. The Segments judged must include for Synchronized Skating:
    - once (1x) Short Program,
    - once (1x) Free Skating,
- d) Seminar attendance:
  - i) have completed, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination preceding the nomination, an ISU 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination as a Referee, Judge, Trial

- Judge, Technical Controller or OAC Member on site in one (1) International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight (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).
  - 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 (24) but not the age of fifty (50) (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 thirty-six (36) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Judge in two (2) National Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a). The Segments judged must include:
  - twice (2x) Short Program,
  - twice (2x) Free Program,
- 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 (2) 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. Any failed part of the ISU Examination must be retaken by the candidate concerned at the next year examination; otherwise the nomination must be resubmitted.



- 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Service: have served, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination as a Referee, Judge, Trial Judge, Technical Controller or OAC Member on site in one (1) International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 8.b).
  - c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight (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).
  - 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Background: have been included as International Judge in the three (3) consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination.
  - c) Service: have served during the thirty-six (36) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Judge: in three (3) International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) including one (1) Senior and one (1) Junior. The Segments judged must include:
    - twice (2x) Short Program,
    - twice (2x) Free Skating,
  - d) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment of ISU Judges (see Rule 907).
  - e) Examination: pass successfully the written part and practical part of the ISU Examination to become an ISU Judge. Any failed part of the ISU Examination must be retaken by the candidate concerned at the next year examination; otherwise the nomination must be resubmitted.
- 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Service: have served, during the forty-eight (48) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Referee, Judge, Trial Judge, Technical Controller or OAC Member on site in one (1) International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b).

- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight (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).
- 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - i) have been included at least as International Judge in the two (2) 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 twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in two (2) 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in:
  - two (2) 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 thirty-six (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).

- 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - i) have been included as ISU Referee or ISU Judge in the two (2) consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
  - ii) have been included as International Technical Controller in the two (2) 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 twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in two (2) International Competitions (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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the thirty-six (36) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in:
  - two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b), or
  - one (1) ISU Event and one (1) International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or one (1) National Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the thirty-six (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).
- 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 (24) but not the age of seventy (70) 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.
- d) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in two (2) 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 (2) 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in in two (2) 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 thirty-six (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).
- 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Background:
  - i) have been included as International Technical Specialist in the two (2) 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 twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in two (2) International Competitions (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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as Technical Specialist in:
  - two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b), or
  - one (1) ISU Event and one (1) International Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b) or one (1) National Competition (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.a).
- c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the thirty-six (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).
- 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 (70) 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 twenty-four (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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
  - b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination, as Data & Replay Operator in both capacities in:
    - two (2) 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 (70) 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 twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31st 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 (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
- b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, as Data & Replay Operator in both capacities in:
  - two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 901, paragraph 9.b), or
  - one (1) ISU Event and one (1) 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 1st.
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 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 Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee) and the Round Table Discussion of an ISU Championships form together an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Judges, and Referees.
  6. Serving in an ISU Synchronized Skating Championships as a Referee with a mini-seminar:
    - conducted the Initial Judges Meeting and the Round Table Discussion by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee,
    - conducting the pre-event meetings,
    - 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:
    - conducted during the Initial Technical Panel Meeting by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee and a Sports Director prior and after the competition,
    - concluded by a report prepared by the officiating Technical Controllers in consultation the Sports Directors 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:
  - ISU Championships: see Rules 971,
  - 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 5, if possible and a maximum of 9 Judges;
  - c) a Technical Controller;
  - d) a Technical Specialist;
  - e) an Assistant Technical Specialist;
  - f) a Data Operator;
  - g) a Replay Operator.
4.
  - a) For all ISU Events, if possible, 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 (1) 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.
5. 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 (1) national Judge from the Host ISU Member may be used provided that Judge has been trained in the use of the ISU Judging System.

6. 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 (5) 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 Director Figure Skating not later than May 1st.
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:
  - 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;
  - have a satisfactory standard of eyesight, hearing and general physical condition in order to perform their duties;
  - comport themselves with discretion as ISU appointed Officials;
  - not show bias for or against any Team on any grounds;
  - be completely impartial and neutral at all times;
  - base their marks and decisions only on the performance and not be influenced by reputation or past performance;
  - disregard public applause or disapproval;
  - 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;
  - 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;
  - not bring any form of electronic communication system to the panels stand.

## 1. Duties and powers of the Referee

- checks the observance of all eligibility Rules, the ISU clearance certificates and the accuracy of calculation software unless the ISU Event Coordinator is present;
- 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);
- conducts all the draws for the starting order;
- 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;
- 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;
- check the compliance of warm up periods with Rule 964;
- times the duration needed by the Competitors/Team to take the starting position and decide upon subsequent possible withdrawal (see Rules 838 paragraph 3 and 953);
- gives a signal to the person in charge of music to start the music of the Team;
- Time with the assistance of a Timekeeper (see Rule 816) the program as skated, the possible interruptions according to Rule 843 paragraph 1. n);
- 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;
- decides whether the condition of the ice permits the holding of the event;
- decides upon all protests in the event concerned;
- alters the shape and size of the skating surface if unfavorable circumstances arise;
- accepts in agreement with the Organizing ISU Member or affiliated Club, another rink for the holding of the event;
- decides upon the following deductions according to Rule 843 paragraph 1. n) : time violations, interruptions of the program, music violations, part of the costume/decoration falls on the ice;
- together with the Judges Panel decides upon the deductions according to Rule 843, paragraph 1. n) 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;
- judges the complete event;

- suspends skating until the order is restored in case the public interrupts the competition or interferes with its orderly conduct;
- excludes Teams from the event, if necessary;
- removes Judge(s) from the panel, if necessary and based on important and valid reasons;
- 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;
- decides any matter concerning breaches of the ISU Constitution or Regulations;
- participates in the Victory ceremony;
- moderates the Round Table Discussion according to ISU guidelines (See Rule 921);
- prepares the Report on the event according to ISU guidelines (See Rule 923).

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

- use the whole range of Grade of Execution values and Program Component marks;
- mark independently and whilst judging do not converse with one another or indicate errors by action or sound;
- do not use previously prepared marks;
- together with the Referee decide upon the deductions according to Rule 843, paragraph 1.n) 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;
- 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;
- attend the Round Table Discussion moderated by the Referee according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 921).

## **3. 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.

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

- authorizes or corrects the deletion of Elements;
- 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;

- 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;
- authorizes or corrects the identification of illegal Elements / non-permitted Elements / Features / Additional Features / movements;
- 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;
- attends the sufficient practice sessions of the competition to make the necessary preparations;
- 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;
- moderates the Technical Panel Discussion according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 922);
- if possible, assist the Referee in moderating the Round Table Discussion according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 921);
- prepares the Report on the event according to ISU guidelines (See Rule 923);
- participates in the Victory Ceremony.

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

##### **The Technical Specialist**

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

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

#### **The Technical Specialist and the Assistant Technical Specialists**

- attend the sufficient practice sessions of the competition to make the necessary preparations;
- 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;
- attend the Technical Panel Discussion moderated by the Technical Controller according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 922).

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

#### **The Data Operator**

- inputs the called Elements;
- inputs the Levels of Difficulty of the Elements as called;
- inputs the deductions as called;
- corrects Elements or Levels of Difficulty as instructed by the Technical Controller;
- indicates additional Elements identified by the computer to the Technical Specialist and to the Technical Controller.

#### **The Replay Operator**

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

#### **The Data & Replay Operators**

- support the Technical Specialists and the Technical Controller;
- 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;
- attend the Technical Panel Discussion moderated by the Technical Controller according to ISU guidelines (see Rule 922).

### **Rule 921**

#### **Meeting at Competitions for Referees and Judges**

##### **1. Initial Judges Meeting**

Judges of International Competitions, ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games must attend a closed meeting (Initial Judges Meeting) moderated by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee, if present, and the Referee, and, if possible, the Technical Controller, held



before the competition starts. The moderators must draw to the attention of the Judges in brief summary form 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.

At ISU Championships, this meeting must be moderated by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee for the purposes of Rule 907 paragraph 5.

## 2. Round Table Discussion

Judges of International Competitions, ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games must attend a closed meeting (Round Table Discussion) 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 must include video from the competition in the RTD. This is mandatory in all international competitions and ISU events.

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:

- general quality of skating,
- 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),
- application and validity of current regulations,
- 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 Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee and a Sport 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:

- evaluation of teamwork;
- evaluation of service;
- difficult decisions;
- 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 on a standard form of the competition, in which the following areas are to be identified:
  - standard of organization;
  - standard of skating in each Segment;
  - standard of judging and the ability of each judge to communicate his understanding of the rules and their applications;
  - summary of Round Table Discussion;
  - additional remarks (if necessary);
  - proposals for improvement;
  - correctness of the calculation setup (except for ISU Events);
  - 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 report on a standard form of the competition (except for Basic Novice International Competitions), in which the following areas are to be identified:
  - evaluation of Teamwork;
  - evaluation of the Technical Specialist’s work;
  - evaluation of the Assistant Technical Specialist’s work;
  - evaluation of the Data Operator’s work;
  - evaluation of the Replay Operator’s work;
  - summary of Technical Panel Discussions;
  - additional remarks (if necessary);
  - proposals for improvement.
  
3. The Referee and the Technical Controller shall send their respective report within (fourteen) 14 days following the competition to the ISU Secretariat. 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 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 ISU Championships and the Olympic Winter Games two (2) OAC members for the discipline shall be appointed by the ISU President as per Article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution. They shall proceed to the relevant evaluations, if possible on site, immediately after the conclusion of each competition.
- c) For all other ISU Events two (2) OAC members for the discipline shall be appointed by the ISU President as per Article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution. They shall proceed to the relevant evaluation as soon as possible at their respective residence.

#### **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 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 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 subsequent report to the ISU Secretariat as soon as possible. If the Technical Committee disagrees on any determination of errors warranting an Assessment, the OAC must be consulted to achieve a consensus. If a disagreement prevails, the unresolved cases will be finally decided by the respective Sports Directors.

#### **3. Evaluation of the decision of the Technical Panel and of the decisions and conduct of competition of the Referee at ISU Events.**

- a) - the OAC members appointed to the competition (on site or off site) and/or
  - the ISU President and/or,
  - the ISU Council and/or,
  - the respective Sports Director(s), and/or,
  - the respective Technical Committee and/or,

- 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),  
believe that a decision by the Referee or by the Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators) or the conduct of the competition by the Referee may warrant an Assessment, they shall file a report to the Vice-President Figure Skating outlining this identified potential wrong decision or wrong conduct of the competition in consistent and detailed remarks with applicable Rules.
- b) Upon receipt, the Vice-President Figure Skating shall send the report together with the relevant video recordings, if applicable, independently to four (4) Officials, selected by the Vice-President Figure Skating, for review at their residence. Each selected Official shall not be informed of the identity of the other selected Officials. The selected Officials must all be from different ISU Members and shall be as follows:
  - (i) For Technical Panels: one (1) or two (2) ISU Technical Controller(s);  
and one (1) or two (2) ISU Technical Specialist(s);  
For Referees: three (3) ISU Referees, from a different ISU Member than the Skater(s) and Official(s) concerned;
  - (ii) One ISU Technical Committee member of the respective discipline from a different ISU Member than the Skater(s) and Official(s) concerned. If a member of the respective Technical Committee is subject to the evaluation, then no Technical Committee member shall be included in the selected Officials and shall be replaced by a second Technical Controller or Technical Specialist (respectively by a fourth ISU Referee) as per sub-paragraph i) above.
- c) The selected Officials shall forward their conclusion whether an Assessment is warranted independently from each other to the Vice-President Figure Skating. For the issuing of an Assessment to the Official(s) concerned, at least two (2) of the selected Officials must confirm that an Assessment is warranted.
- d) In case an Assessment involving the Technical Panel is warranted, the Vice-President Figure Skating shall check the video recordings including 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.
- e) If applicable the Vice-President Figure Skating shall submit a detailed report to the ISU Council, which finally decides upon an Assessment.

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

- a) The respective Technical Committee shall rate the quality of the reports of the Referees, and of the reports of the Technical Controller, based on documentation delivered, as per Rule 923, as very good, good, acceptable/average, mediocre or poor. These details shall be added to the records of the concerned Referees and Technical Controller.
- b) Unacceptable performance relating to the late submission of a Report or the submission of an incomplete report by a Referee or a Technical Controller is subject to an Assessment decided upon by the respective Technical Committee.
- c) The Technical Committee should provide feedback to the Referees based on their report information.

#### **5. Evaluation of mandatory attendance**

Unacceptable performance relating to not attending sufficient relevant practice sessions, whole or part of a competition, official meeting or draw, as specified in the respective duties of Officials as per Rule 920, without justified cause, is subject to an Assessment decided upon by the respective Technical Committee or, in case the concerned Official is a member of the respective Technical Committee, by the Council upon recommendation of the Vice President, based on reports received from:

- for Technical Panel members: the respective Referee and/or other members of the respective Technical Panel,
  - for Referees: the Organizing Committee and/or members of the respective panel of Judges,
  - for Judges: the respective Referee,
- including credible and verified evidence.

#### **6. Criteria for Assessments**

##### **a) Referees:**

##### **Assessment 1**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4);

##### **Assessment 2**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4) after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) error(s) in conducting a competition (see paragraph 3).

### **Assessment 3**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4) after having received Assessment 2;
- ii) error(s) in conducting a competition, (see paragraph 3) after having received an Assessment 2;
- iii) not or only partly attending the competition/draws or official meetings (see paragraph 5).

### **Assessment 4**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4) after having received Assessment 3;
- ii) error(s) in conducting a competition, (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 3;
- iii) not or only partly attending the competition/draws or official meetings (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2 or 3.

## **b) Judges**

### **Assessment 1**

- i) errors (see paragraph 2);
- ii) not or partly attending official meeting(s).

### **Assessment 2**

- i) errors (see paragraph 2) after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) not or partly attending official meeting(s) after receiving Assessment 1.

### **Assessment 3**

- i) errors (see paragraph 2) after receiving Assessment 2;
- ii) not or partly attending official meeting(s) after receiving Assessment 2;
- iii) not or only partly attending the competition (see paragraph 5).

### **Assessment 4**

- i) errors (see paragraph 2) after receiving Assessment 3;
- ii) not or partly attending official meeting(s) (see paragraph 5) after receiving Assessment 3;
- iii) not or only partly attending the competition (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2 or 3.

## **c) Technical Controller**

### **Assessment 1**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4);
- ii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3);

- iii) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operator (see paragraph 3);
- iv) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions of the competition (see paragraph 5).

### **Assessment 2**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4) after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3); after having received Assessment 1;
- iii) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operators (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 1;
- iv) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 1.

### **Assessment 3**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4) after having received Assessment 2;
- ii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3); after having received Assessment 2;
- iii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a difference of more than 4 points per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3);
- iv) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operator (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 2;
- v) not attending the sufficient relevant practice session (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2;
- vi) not or only partly attending the competition or official meetings (see paragraph 5).

### **Assessment 4**

- i) report submitted late or incomplete (see paragraph 4) after having received Assessment 3;
- ii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3); after having received Assessment 3;
- iii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a difference of more than 4 points per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3);
- iv) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operator (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 3;



- v) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 3;
- vi) not or only partly attending the competition or official meetings (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2 or 3.

#### **d) Technical Specialists**

##### **Assessment 1**

- i) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3);
- ii) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions or not or partly attending official meetings (see paragraph 5).

##### **Assessment 2**

- i) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions or official meetings (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 1.

##### **Assessment 3**

- i) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 2;
- ii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a difference of more than 4 points per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3);
- iii) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2;
- iv) not or only partly attending the competition (see paragraph 5).

##### **Assessment 4**

- i) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a striking difference per Team in a Segment (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 3;
- iii) being part of the majority in a wrong decision of the Technical Panel involving a difference of more than 4 points per Team in a Segment after having received Assessment 2 or 3;
- iii) not attending the sufficient relevant practice sessions or not or partly attending official meetings (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 3;
- iv) not or only partly attending the competition (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2 or 3.

## **e) Data & Replay Operators**

### **Assessment 1**

- i) erroneous operation (see paragraph 3);
- ii) not or partly attending official meetings (see paragraph 5).

### **Assessment 2**

- i) erroneous operation (see paragraph 3) after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) not or partly attending official meetings (see paragraph 5) after receiving Assessment 1.

### **Assessment 3**

- i) erroneous operation (see paragraph 3) after receiving Assessment 2;
- ii) not or partly attending official meetings (see paragraph 5) after receiving Assessment 2;
- iii) not or only partly attending the competition (see paragraph 5).

### **Assessment 4**

- i) erroneous operation (see paragraph 3) after receiving Assessment 3;
- ii) not or partly attending official meetings (see paragraph 5) after receiving Assessment 3;
- iii) not or only partly attending the competition (see paragraph 5) after having received Assessment 2 or 3.

## **7. Demotions**

- a) In the case that an accumulation of “Assessments” for an Official reaching Assessment 4, the Official concerned and his ISU Member shall be notified through the ISU Secretariat about the possible demotion. The Official will have the right to ask within 5 days upon receipt of the notification for a meeting with at least three (3) members of:
  - for Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators: the Figure Skating Branch of the ISU Council,
  - for Judges: the respective Technical Committee,and additional experts as appointed by the Council, to give his explanations for one or several of the “Assessments”. If available, and applicable the Official may use the respective video recordings to support his explanations. Such meeting shall be held as soon as possible at a date and place determined by the Council. Based on a report of the meeting, the Council, respectively the Technical Committee shall decide upon the confirmation or revocation of the Assessments.
- b) Any travel, board and lodging or other expenses incurred by the Official concerned relating to the explanation meeting as per paragraph a) above will be for the Official’s account if all the “Assessments”, despite the

explanations received, are confirmed by the Council, respectively the Technical Committee. The ISU will only reimburse such expenses if at least one of the “Assessments” would be revoked.

- c) In case the Assessment 4, despite the explanation received as per paragraph a) above, is confirmed by the Council, respectively the Technical Committee, or in case the Official concerned has not used his right to ask for an explanation meeting as per paragraph a) above, the concerned Official shall be demoted as follows, with immediate effect:
- (i) For Referees:
- an ISU Referee demoted for service as a Referee shall be transferred to the list of International Referees and to the list of ISU Judges;
  - an ISU Referee demoted for service as a Judge shall be transferred to the list of International Referees but not to the list of ISU Judges;
  - an International Referee demoted for service as a Referee shall be deleted from the list of International Referees and transferred to the list of International Judges;
  - an International Referee demoted for service as a Judge shall be deleted from the list of International Referees but not transferred to the list of International Judges;
- (ii) For Judges, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators:
- a demoted ISU Official shall be transferred to the list of International Officials;
  - a demoted International Official shall be deleted from the list of International Officials.

## **8. Issuing, effectiveness and duration of validity of Assessments and demotion**

- a) The ISU Body which has decided upon an Assessment (see paragraphs 2 to 5) or a demotion (see paragraph 7) shall instruct the ISU Secretariat to notify the Official concerned with a copy to his ISU Member.
- b) An Assessment or a demotion shall be effective only:
- (i) for the qualification, i.e. Referee, Judge, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist or Data & Replay Operator, and
- (ii) in the discipline, i.e.:
- for Referees and Judges: Synchronized Skating;
  - for Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists: Synchronized Skating;
  - for Data & Replay Operators: all disciplines;
- in which the service of the concerned Official was warranted such Assessment or demotion.

- c) Each Assessment shall remain valid for the current season plus additional two (2) seasons and shall count during such period of time towards an accumulation of Assessments.
- d) 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.
- e) 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 (5) years before the decision.

**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 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; no tights are permitted. Accessories, feathers and props are not permitted.  
Clothing that does not adhere to these guidelines will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.n).
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.n).

#### **Rule 952**

##### **Duration of Skating**

1. Short Program:  
Senior and Junior: Two (2) minutes and fifty (50) seconds but may be less.
  - a) Any Element started after two (2) minutes and fifty (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 1n)), from the Total Score for up to every five (5) seconds in excess.

2. Free Skating:
  - a) Senior: Four (4) minutes and thirty (30) seconds.
  - b) Junior: Four (4) minutes.

The Team is allowed to finish the Free Skating within ten (10) seconds plus or minus the required time.

Starting with season 2018-2019:

- a) Senior: Four (4) minutes.
- b) Junior: Three (3) minutes thirty (30) seconds.

The Team is allowed to finish the Free Skating within ten (10) 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.n)) for up to every five (5) seconds lacking or in excess.

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

If the duration of the program is thirty (30) seconds or more under the required time no marks will be awarded. These deductions are not applicable under the Rule 965, paragraph 5.

### **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.n)).
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 (1) or more Skaters of more than 10 seconds, there shall be a deduction (see Rule 843, para 1.n)). 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 (4) or five (5) 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 seven (7) Grades of Execution scale: +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3.

Starting with season 2018-2019 there will be up to 11 Grades of Execution.

##### **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.a) (Short Program) 992, paragraph 2.b) and c) (Free Skating) performed in the program will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.n)).

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 Level”.

#### **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) 992, paragraph 3.b) and c) (Free Skating) performed in the program will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.n)).

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

- Base Level if the requirements for Base Level are fulfilled otherwise the Element will be called “No Level”; if the Non-permitted Element is the Element;
- Element is called + Feature is not counted; if the Non-permitted Movement is included in the Feature;
- 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 (5) 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 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 in SyS);
- 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”, (SyS);
- Spatial awareness between Skaters - management of the distance between Skaters and management of changes of hold (SyS).

**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 (SyS):

\*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 k), 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 - very poor, 2 - poor, 3 - weak, 4 - fair, 5 - average, 6 - above average, 7 - good, 8 - very good, 9 - superior, 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. n)).

**Rules 955 – 959 (reserved)**

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

### **Rule 960 Competition Schedule**

1. When the event is comprised of two (2) Segments it is recommended that they are completed in at least two (2) days but in no more than three (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 four (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 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 seven (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**

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 (1) 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;
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 981), size of Starting Order Groups Free Skating, Table II 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 (2) 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 (6);  
When tied Teams are placed in the same group, if necessary, the immediately preceding group to skate will be smaller by the number of Teams so added to the following group.
  - 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.

3. If one or more Teams having obtained scores that would have qualified them for the next Segment (e.g. Free Skating Group A) decide to withdraw their participation before the beginning of that Segment then the open spot(s) will not be substituted by any other Team(s) and the number of maximum qualified 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 having obtained scores that would have qualified them for the next Segment (e.g. Free Skating Group A) are disqualified before the beginning of that Segment then the open spot(s) will be filled by the first placed Team(s), who, in the concerned Segment, initially had not reached the following Segment. Such Team(s) will receive the first starting numbers in the first starting order group and this starting order group will be complemented with the concerned number of Teams.  
If necessary:
  - (i) The starting order of the added Teams in the first subgroup will be decided by an additional separate draw;
  - (ii) 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 one (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 thirty (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 one (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 ten (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 (1) Team. However, if the maximum number permitted

is exceeded by two or more Teams, the group in question shall be divided into two (2) sub-groups

4. For Synchronized Skating it is recommended that the ice be resurfaced after every six (6) Teams for the Short Program and after every five (5) Teams for the Free Skating. The ice resurface groups will be based on Rules 980-981\_982, however the ISU Event Coordinator and/or ISU Representative may decide to change the ice resurface groups based on the conditions of the ice at ISU Championships.

### **Rule 965** **Allowance of a Delayed Start or Restart**

1. If the tempo or quality of the music is deficient, the Teams may restart their program from the beginning, provided the Referee is informed, by the Team Captain, within thirty (30) seconds after the start of the program.
2. If an interruption or stop in the music or any other adverse condition unrelated to the Team or his/their equipment, such as lighting, ice-condition etc. occurs, the Team must stop skating at the acoustic signal of the Referee. In the event the Referee does not stop the skating with an acoustic signal, the Team Captain should inform the Referee about any music deficiencies (even if happening after thirty (30) seconds). The rest of the Team must continue to skate until they are ordered to stop by an acoustic signal of the Referee. No penalty will be applied to the Captain leaving the team to consult the referee or the referee then stopping the program. The Team shall continue from the point of interruption immediately after the problem has been solved. If, however, the interruption lasts longer than ten (10) minutes, there shall be a second warm-up period according to Rule 964, paragraph 2.
3. If a Skater gets injured during the performance or another adverse condition related to him or his equipment (such as health problems or unexpected damage to his clothing or equipment) impedes their skating, the Skater must stop skating and either this Skater (if possible) or the Team Captain must report to the Referee. The rest of the Team must continue to skate until they are ordered to stop by an acoustic signal of the Referee.
  - a) If the adverse conditions can be remedied without delay, and the rest of the Team has continued to skate their program and the affected Skater(s) resumes skating their program without reporting to the Referee, the Referee will apply a deduction for interruption as per Rule 843, paragraph 1.n) depending on the duration of the interruption. This time period commences immediately after the Skater stops performing the

program or the Team is ordered to do so by the Referee, whichever is earlier.

- b) If the adverse conditions cannot be remedied without delay and the Team Captain (or affected Skater) reports to the Referee within forty (40) seconds, the Referee will order the rest of the Team to stop skating by an acoustic signal and allow an additional up to three (3) minutes period and/or will permit the Team to solve the problem in order for the Team to resume skating. The Team will resume skating as close as possible to the time that the Team Captain reported to the Referee. This additional time period commences at the moment the Team Captain reports to the Referee. The Referee will apply a deduction as per Rule 843 paragraph 1 n) of 5.0 points for the whole interruption.
    - i) If either the whole Team stops skating without being ordered to do so by the Referee or the Referee ordered the Team to stop skating and the Team Captain does not report to the Referee within forty (40) seconds or if the Team does not resume skating their program within the additional three (3) minutes period, they shall be considered withdrawn.
    - ii) The Judges and Technical Panel continue to evaluate the Teams performance until the Referee orders the Team to stop skating with an acoustical signal. The point from where the Team must continue the program shall be decided and communicated to the Team.
    - iii) The Referee in consultation with the Technical Controller will determine whether the interruption has occurred before or during an element. If the interruption occurred during any part of an Element, the Team will begin on the transition following that Element. If the interruption occurred during a transition then the Team will begin after that point and continue into the next Element. The Referee will inform the Judges and Technical Panel where to continue the evaluation of the program.
  - c) 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 three (3) minutes period is not in place.
4. If any Skater/Team between entering the ice and being called to the start is/are injured or any other adverse condition related to him/them or his/their equipment impeding his/their skating occurs and time before the start of the program is not sufficient to remedy the adverse condition, the Referee shall allow the Team up to three (3) additional minutes before he/they is called to the start. The Referee will apply a deduction as per paragraph 3.b) above.
5. 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 Referee first stopping the program, the Team will be disqualified.

6. With respect to adverse conditions related to a Skater or his equipment, only one (1) restart per program is allowed. In case of a second stop of the performance due to an adverse condition related to the Skater/s or his/their equipment, the Team concerned shall be considered withdrawn.
7. If a Team does not complete their program, no marks are awarded and the Team is withdrawn.

**Rules 966-969 (reserved)**



## **C. ISU Championships – Special Technical Rules**

### **Rule 970 Draws for Teams**

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

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

i. If there are more than twelve (12) Teams participating then the following procedures applies:

The participating Teams will be listed based on the result of the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships according to the procedure described below in paragraph 1 a) – e):

- a) For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships based on the results (placement of the Teams by ISU Member) of the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships' first placed ISU Member at first, the second placed ISU Member as second, the third placed ISU Member as third and so on.
- b) For the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships based on the results (placement of the Teams by ISU Member) of the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships or the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup (valid until July 2017), whichever of these two Events was held later. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships' first placed ISU Member as first, the second placed ISU Member as second, the third placed ISU Member as third and so on.
- c) Teams/Countries with no result from the previous year (new countries/ISU Members) respectively countries with a second Team, which did not participate at the last ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup will be placed at the bottom of the list.
- d) In the case that a Country/ISU Member has two (2) Teams qualified for the Worlds, the following procedure will apply: The best nationally ranked Team of the country / ISU Member will be entered as Team 1 for the ISU World

Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup. Team 1 will be listed for a draw according to the last year's best placement of the respective country's/ ISU Member's Team. Team 2 will be listed for the draw according to the placement of the second placed Team of that country/ISU Member.

e) The country ranking will determine the order of the draw. At the draw and during the event Team names will be utilized.

ii. The list of participating Teams will be divided according to Starting Order Groups as follows:

a) The number of Skating Groups will be determined depending on the number of entries (see Size of Skating Groups for Short Program Rule 981).

b) The draw for the Short Program will be divided into two draw groups according to Rule 970, paragraphs 1a) b). Within each draw group, Teams will be listed in alphabetical order by ISU Member. There will be a free draw for the twelve top ranked Teams to form the last two skating groups. The remaining Teams will have a second free draw to form the other skating group(s).

For each draw group:

i) select a Skater from one (1) of the Teams in order to draw for the ISU Member who will start the draw;

ii) draw the starting order proceeding in alphabetical order by ISU Member, beginning with the ISU Member who was drawn to start.

c) Teams/Countries with no result from the previous year will be listed at the bottom of the list in alphabetical country order (see para 1(i)c above).

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

a) According to the results in the Short Program event, the Teams would be divided into two (2) Groups with the Teams placed in Short Program among the first fifteen (15) Teams being drawn in the second part of Free Skating (called Group A "skating later") and Teams placed in the second half in Short Program (starting with the Teams placed as sixteen (16) being drawn in the first part for Free Skating (called Group B "skating earlier").

b) The Free Skating will be according to Teams' placements in the Short Program (see Rule 982 Size of Starting Order Groups Free Skating).

c) Free Skating of Group B will take place before Free Skating of Group A. If such a tie in the Short Program occurs for 15<sup>th</sup> place, all the tied Teams will qualify for the Free Skating for which they will be drawn in the same (first)

group which will be divided into two subgroups in cases specified in Rule 964, paragraph 3.

- d) If two or more Teams receive an equal total in the final result, the best placement shall be decided on the basis of the best placement of the Free Skating. If such placements are also equal, the placements shall be decided on the basis of the best placement of the Short Program. If such placements are also equal, the Teams concerned are tied
- e) The order of skating for the final three groups (i.e. with the best placed Teams) will be drawn in six subgroups.
  - (i) The top three finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the final group and will draw 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 draw 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 draw 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 draw from the fourth subgroup.
  - (v) The eleventh-, twelfth- and thirteenth-place finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the third to last group and will draw from the fifth subgroup.
  - (vi) The fourteenth- and fifteenth-place finishers in the Short Program will be the first to skate in the third last group and will draw from the sixth subgroup.

The procedure is the same as above starting with number sixteen place finisher of the short program and so on.

### **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 1st 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:
  - (i) ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships;
  - (ii) 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 (1) 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, twenty-one (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 1st and November 15th. The draw is open to all ISU Members who may send one (1) 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 (9) Judges but not less than eight (8) 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 (13) ISU Members, are drawn amongst the ISU Members and in addition there will be also a draw of four (4) substitute ISU Members who will stay as stand-by at home and will be called on-site, when a cancellation of some of the nine (9) drawn ISU Members (Judges) arrives or the Team cancels their participation.
- 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 (13) 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 (13) Judges drawn for the respective Championships, to complete the panel of nine (9) Judges.
- e) For the first segment (Short Program) nine (9) Judges will be drawn from all thirteen (13) 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 (4) Judges not drawn for the first Segment will automatically be assigned to be in the panel of nine (9) 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 (9) Judges. A separate draw will be held for the seating order of the nine (9) 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 (9) Judges if needed.

- h) If there still are not enough ISU Members available to draw up to four (4) 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.
6. a) 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.
- b) 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 6  
Junior and Senior Free Skating: maximum of 5

**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. Change of Configuration

When the number of lines, spokes or circles changes during an Element.

##### e. Configuration

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

##### f. 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.

##### g. 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.

##### h. 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.

##### i. Highlighting

A term used when one (1) Skater performs a movement that is away from and in contrast with the rest of the Team.



j.  **Holds**

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

k. **Interlocking**

**Wheel:** A spoke of a wheel must pass in-between at least two-spokes of the other wheel(s)

**Circle:** A Skater in a circle must pass in-between at least two Skaters of the other circle

l. **Interaction between Skaters**

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

m. **Mirror Image Pattern**

A Mirror Image Pattern is shown when one half (½) of the Team simultaneously, uses a combination of both clockwise and anti-clockwise directions.

n. **Point of Intersection**

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

o. **Retgression**

The Team shows a movement in a direction opposite to that of the initial direction. The Team must show a reverse of the first direction, before resuming the starting direction.

p. **Skating direction**

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

q. **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.

r. **Syncopated Choreography**

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

s. **Transitions**

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

- i. In the Short Program, transitions may be comprised of varied and/or complex footwork, linking steps, formations and other movements to link the required Elements, which also include the entrances and exits of Elements. No other connecting Elements are allowed to link the required Elements of a Short Program other than basic Element shapes (level base).
- ii. In the Free Skating, transitions may be comprised of varied and/or complex footwork, linking steps, movements, and formations which also include the entrances and exits of Elements. Other connecting Elements

are permitted to link all of the Well Balanced Program required/optional Elements, (see also Rule 954 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 (2) 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 (1) or two (2) 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 (2) 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 step or sequence of steps (push + cross) in which the free foot crosses the skating foot completely before it is placed on the ice;
- v. **Dance Jump** - A small jump of not more than one (1) revolution used to change feet or skating direction;
- 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 (1) 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 (1) 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 (4) 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, 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 (1) turn/step from the listed turns and steps is required;
  - viii. Turns/steps - is a term used when at least any two (2) turns/steps from the listed turns and steps are required;
  - ix. Turns/steps and linking steps - are terms use when at least any two (2) turns/steps from the listed turns and steps and linking steps are required.

### 3. DEFINITION OF ELEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

All Element requirements are described considering a Team comprised of sixteen (16) Skaters.

#### a. COMBINED ELEMENT

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

- The Combined Element begins when at least two (2) different Synchronized Skating Elements are recognized.
- The Combined Element consists of a choice of least two (2) different Synchronized Skating Elements.
- The two (2) 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 (3) lines and eight (8) Skaters.
  - If using a Circle there must be a minimum of six (6) Skaters.
  - If using an Intersection there must be a minimum of eight (8) Skaters who intersect.
  - If using a Line there must be a minimum of eight (8) Skaters if doing one (1) line or in the case of two (2) lines there must be four (4) Skaters in each line.
  - If using Pair Element there must be a minimum of four (4) Skaters.
  - If using a Wheel there must be either a minimum of two (2) spokes with three (3) Skaters in each spoke or in the case of a one (1) spoke Wheel there must be a minimum of five (5) Skaters in the spoke.
- The Combined Element ends once the transition into another Element or transitional Element begins.

#### **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements**

- There is no minimum requirement or restriction as to the amount of ice coverage the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the Combined Element.

**b. CREATIVE ELEMENT**

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

- The Creative Element begins with the transition from the previous Element (or from the start of the program if placed as first Element) and ends with the transition into the next Element (or until the end of the program if placed as the last Element).
- The Creative Element is a presentation of one (1) or more creative and innovative movements, such as but not limited to: free skating elements and/or moves made in an interesting manner, which reflects the music.
- Synchronized Skating program Element(s) may be incorporated into the Creative Element.
- The use of different levels, sub-grouping and/or highlighting is permitted in order to enhance the choreography and music.
- All Skaters must participate in the Element, but are not required to execute fe/fm.
- The chosen movements may be executed at the same time, in syncopation, or at different times, and may be performed as individual Skaters, pairs, or groups of any size.
- The Skater(s) may stop or become stationary at any time during the Element, however this stopping should be reflective and enhancing of the musical structure. The GOE and/or Program Component marks will be reduced if the amount of stationary time is prolonged.
- The length of time to perform this Element will vary depending on the content and structure of the Element. There is no maximum or minimum amount of time.

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements**

- There is no minimum requirement or restriction as to the amount of ice coverage the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the Creative Element.

**c. GROUP LIFT ELEMENT**

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

- The Group Lift Element begins once the Skaters begin to form their group for the lift.
- 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.
- The Group Lifts may be the same or different when executing two (2) or more group lifts.
- The Group Lifts must ascend at the same time but may exit in a syncopated manner as long as the decent is not to be counted as part of a Feature.
- The Group Lift(s) must meet the definition for group lifts (see Rule 990 paragraph 4. a. vii) b).

- 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.
- The Group Lift Element ends when the lifted Skater is set down.

### **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements**

- There is no minimum requirement or restriction as to the amount of ice coverage the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the Group Lift(s) or free skating element(s).

## **d. INTERSECTION ELEMENT**

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

- The Intersection Element begins once the Skaters begin the preparation 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.
  - Eight (8) Pairs of Skaters passing by each other is not considered to be an Intersection Element.
  - Weaving during a circle in a circle (opposite or same direction) with eight (8) Skaters in each circle is not considered to be an Intersection Element.
  - **Angled Intersection:** an Intersection where two (2) or more 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.
  - **Collapsing Intersection:** an Intersection where Skaters pass each other at different times using at least two (2) different axis. Examples of a collapsing type of Intersection are box and triangle.
  - **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).
  - **Whip Intersection:** an Intersection where there is a whipping action just before the two (2) lines pass each other. The two (2) lines approach each other starting from a true ½ circle curve whereby the Skaters on one (1) end of a line are skating with more speed than the Skaters on the opposite end of the same line.
- The number of Skaters in each line (part) of an Intersection must be as equal as possible.

Examples:

Whip Intersection;

- Each line must have eight (8) Skaters.

- Triangle Intersection;
  - Each line has five (5), five (5) and six (6) Skaters.
- Combined Intersection;
  - There must be at least six (6) Skaters in a circle, three (3) Skaters in a spoke and five (5) Skaters in a line.
- The Intersection Element ends after the exit phase of the intersection (Phase 4) and upon the start of the transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

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

Intersection Elements have been described using four (4) phases. Each of these four (4) phases must be included and executed correctly. There is no required length of time that each phase must be held.

Phase 1 – Preparation

Phase 2 – Approach

Phase 3 – Point of Intersection

Phase 4 – Exit of Intersection

Phase 1: Preparation

- The preparation phase is defined as establishing the shape of the Intersection. The shape of the Intersection must be maintained throughout the Preparation, Approach and Exit Phases of the Intersection.

Phase 2: Approach

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

Phase 3: Point of Intersection (see definition Rule 990 paragraph 1. 1)

Phase 4: Exit of Intersection

- The exit phase of the Intersection is defined as the moment following the Axis of Intersection.

### **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- There is no minimum or maximum amount of ice coverage required.

## **e. MOVE ELEMENT**

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

- The Element begins at the start of the Free Skating Move.
- This Element consists of one (1) Free Skating Move.
  - One part of the Team may perform one (1) type of a Free Skating Move and another part of the Team may perform another type of a Free Skating Move. Up to four (4) different types of Free Skating Moves (either the same or different levels) executed at the same time will be permitted. None of the Free Skating Moves may be repeated if there is a second Move Element included in the Well Balanced Program.

- The Free Skating Move(s) required in a Short Program will be decided annually by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and published in an ISU Communication.
- The Free Skating Move must meet the requirements to be counted.
- 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).
- The Element ends with the completion of the Free Skating Move(s).

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- There is no restriction as to the amount of ice coverage the Skaters cover while executing the Move Element.

f. **NO HOLD ELEMENT (NHE)**

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

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

- The NHE begins when the Skaters form a block consisting of four (4) lines with four (4) Skaters in each line and are in a no hold, no matter where the block is placed on the ice.
- Linking steps, Free Skating Moves and body movements etc. may be different and executed at different times.
- The No Hold Element must be executed in a closed block.
- A change of configuration is not permitted.
- The NHE 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.

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- All Skaters must cover ½ of the length of the ice surface or comparable distance.

g. **PAIR ELEMENT**

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

- The Pair Element begins once the eight (8) pairs are formed.
- The Element consists of Free Skating Elements, Free Skating Moves or Step Sequences or other skating movements.
- In case of injury (see Rule 800 paragraph 2e) seven (7) pairs or seven (7) pairs + one (1) solo Skater would be accepted.
- The pairs must act as a unit.
- All pairs must perform the same movement at the same time.
- The Pair Element ends once the eight (8) pairs break apart.

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements;**



- There is no minimum requirement or restriction as to the amount of ice coverage the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the Pair Element.

## **h. PIVOTING AND LINEAR ELEMENTS**

### **i) BLOCK ELEMENT**

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

- The Block Element begins once the shape is recognized and all Skaters are lined up in the configuration.
- A block configuration must have a minimum of three (3) lines.
- Must be a closed block formation with parallel lines (lined up or staggered).
- 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.

#### **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- During the Block Element all Skaters must cover at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the length of the ice surface, or a comparable distance, for the Block Element to be counted.
- Pattern: Any type of pattern may be used (example: straight line, diagonal, circular, serpentine or any variety thereof).

### **ii) LINE ELEMENT**

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

- The Line Element begins once the shape is recognized and all Skaters are participating in the configuration.
- There may be one (1) line or two (2) lines.
- If there are two (2) lines, these two (2) 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.

#### **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- The Line Element must cover at least the  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the ice surface or comparable distance to be counted.

## **i. SYNCHRONIZED SPIN ELEMENT**

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

- The Synchronized Spin Element begins with the entry edge into the spin.
- Any solo spins can be used.
- All Skaters must perform the same spin at the same time.
- The rotation of the spin can be clockwise, anti-clockwise or a combination of both directions.

- The rotation of the Skaters may be the in same or different rotational directions.
- The movements of the Skaters during all the phases of approaching, spinning and exiting from the spin should be completely synchronized.
- Entry and exit from a spin must be done at the same time by all Skaters and clearly recognizable.
- The Synchronized Spin Element ends when the Skaters stop spinning and exit the spin (exit edge included).

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- There is no minimum requirement or restriction as to the amount of ice coverage the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the Synchronized Spin Element.

**j. 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.
- There may be a maximum of three (3) Circles executed at the same time.
- Each circle must have a minimum of four (4) Skaters.
- The Circle Element ends when the configuration is broken, stops rotating and begins a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- To fulfill the requirement for a Circle Element, all Skaters must rotate a total of at least 360° in one (1) direction or comparable distance if both clockwise and anti-clockwise directions are used.
- There is no restriction of the circle size.

**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 may be a maximum of three (3) separate Wheels executed at the same time.
- There must be at least three (3) 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 define as follows:
  - One (1), two (2) (or “S” wheel), three (3), four (4), or five (5) spoke Wheel

- Interlocking Wheels
- Two (2) - 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.

**Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- To fulfill the requirements for the Wheel Element, a Wheel must rotate at least 360°.

#### **4. 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 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. Dance Jump**

See Rule 990 paragraph 2c. iv.

##### **iv. Jump**

A rotational type of movement of at least one (1) revolution during which both feet leave the ice. For Junior and Senior Free Skating, jumps of any revolutions are permitted.

##### **v. Jump Combination**

Consists of any number of jumps of at least one (1) revolution that may be linked with turns, steps or with a slight touch down.

##### **vi. 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.

## vii. Lifts

An action in which Skater(s) are lifted/elevated to any height either by the lifting Skaters or by the lifted Skater(s) themselves using body support from other Skaters. Stationary or gliding lifts will be counted as a lift when held off the ice for more than three (3) seconds, while lifts that rotate will be counted as a lift independent of time in the air. Lifts should enhance the music chosen and express its character, but not be a display of acrobatics. Undignified actions and poses are forbidden. The lifts are permitted in Senior Free Skating only (see paragraph 4a.vii. a)).

a) **Acrobatic Lifts** are not allowed in Synchronized Skating. 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 head down are considered as expression of acrobatics 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 head down.
- Lifts performed by only one (1) lifting Skater who fully extends their lifting arms above the head are illegal.

b) **Group Lift** used in Synchronized Skating - An action in which one (1) or more Skaters is (are) elevated to any height by two (2) 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** used in the Synchronized Skating is an action in which one Skater is elevated by one other Skater and set down. Pair Lifts performed by only one (1) lifting Skater who fully extends their lifting arms above the head are illegal.

d) **Types of Lifts** (Pair Lift or Group Lift) used in Synchronized Skating

1. **Stationary Lift (no rotation or ice coverage)**

- Stationary Lift is a lift that is executed on the spot (stationary location) by the lifting Skater(s).

2. **Lift(s) that glide** (during the preparation, lift/execution and exit)

- All Skaters in a group lift/both Skaters in pair lift must be skating or gliding as they prepare for the lift.
- The supporting/lifting Skater(s) must continue to 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 lift must be “landed” and continue to glide upon “landing”.

3. **Stationary Lifts that rotates on the spot**

- A lift that remains stationary as it rotates.

- The supporting Skaters in a group lift/lifting Skater in a pair lift may glide without turning or may turn from forwards to backwards or vice versa using a two-footed three turn or two-footed mohawk-like steps.
4. **Rotational Lift that glides and rotate at the same time**
- Rotational lift is a lift in which lifting Skater(s) rotate while gliding/traveling across the ice.
  - 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 glide during the exit of the lift. The lift must be “landed” and continue to glide upon “landing”.
5. **Un-sustained Lift**
- Un-sustained Lift is a group or pair lift in which one (1) Skater is elevated and put down, in a continuous ascending and descending movement. The lifted Skater must be elevated for less than three (3) seconds before being set down. This type of lift may be stationary or gliding. There is no rotation permitted by the supporting Skater(s). The lifted Skater may vault up and or down from the un-sustained lift. Un-sustained Lift(s) are permitted in Junior and Senior Free Skating only.

#### viii. **Pivot**

A pivot may be executed by an individual(s) or by a pair(s). A pivot is executed when one (1) Skater is pivoting. A Pair Pivot is executed by two (2) Skaters where one of the Skaters is pivoting and the supported Skater is gliding around that pivot. The pivot does not have to remain in one place and may be progressing across the ice. Any variation of the pivoting Skater is allowed (backward or forward or a combination of both) as long as she/he keeps their pivot position.

The supported Skater may be gliding using a variety of positions. These positions may include an upright position, spiral or another position that is not upright. The difficulty of this position will determine the difficulty level of the Pair 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 (1) or both hands) and pivot position (backward or forward or a combination of both, with or without the toe pick) are possible.

## ix. Spins

A spinning movement without interruption performed on one (1) 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 (1) foot without interruption.
2. **Spin with a change of foot:** A spin with a change of foot must consist of one (1) change of foot and occur at the same time by all Skaters executing the spin.
3. **Spin combination:** The spin combination must include a minimum of two (2) different basic positions (sit, camel, upright or any variation thereof) and only one change of foot and the change of position must occur at the same time by all Skaters executing the spin.
4. **Pair Spin:** A spin skated by two (2) Skaters performed on the spot around a common axis simultaneously without interruption. This spin must be started and completed on one foot. One or both of the partners may be in different spinning positions, and in any hold. If there are more than one (1) pair executing the spin then the same spinning position(s) must occur at the same time.

### 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.
4. **A-Frame spin:** A spin where the Skater body is bent forward at the waist so that the head is near the skating knee. The free leg is

held near the supporting leg. The free leg and/or the supporting leg may or may not be held

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. **Spiral 135° spin**: A spin where the Skater's body remains upright with the free leg held at a 135° angle to the skating leg. The free leg may be held to the front, to the side or to the back. 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 for three (3) revolutions for the spin to be counted.

x. **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.

xi. **Vault**

A vault of not more than one (1) 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 rotate/revolve. The hands of a Skater(s) providing the passive assistance may rise higher than shoulder level height. Vaults are allowed in Junior and Senior Free Skating only.

b) **FREE SKATING MOVES**

Free Skating Moves such as lunges, spirals, Ina Bauers, spread eagles, hydroblading, Biellmann spiral, Charlotte and shoot the duck are examples of Free Skating Moves permitted in Synchronized Skating. Free Skating Moves are allowed in Elements such as Creative Element, Move Element, or as transitional moves between

Elements, or within an Element, to increase the difficulty of transitions and add variety/complexity to the program.

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.

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 (3) seconds.

A Free Skating Move with one (1) change of edge must be held for a minimum of two (2) seconds on each edge and for a total of four (4) seconds. In the case when Skaters change edges at different times, all Skater(s) must hold the free skating move for at least two (2) seconds on each edge.

**i. 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 centre 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.

**ii. 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.

**iii. 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.

**iv. 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.

**v. Spirals**

A Spiral is a glide on a long 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.



1. **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.

2. **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.

3. **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.

4. **Spiral 135°**

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

5. **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).

vi. **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).

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.

- All Skaters may execute the same turns/linking steps at the Point of Intersection OR if one half of the Team executes the same turns/linking steps at the Point of Intersection then the other half of the Team may execute a different turn/linking steps.
- There are various difficulty groups for the Point of Intersection, which are updated in ISU Communications.

#### **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 4c) used as part of an Element such as the No Hold Element/NHE.

- Use of crossovers must be kept at a minimum and only one (1) cross over in a row may be included.
- 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.
- Linking steps, Free Skating Moves etc. may be different.
  - If required for a Feature, the full Team must execute the Free Skating Move or linking steps (same or different types) etc... at the same time.
- A mirror image pattern is permitted during a Step Sequence Additional Feature. The turns executed during the mirror image pattern will not end a Step Sequence Additional Feature nor be counted towards the level of a Step Sequence Additional Feature.
- Short free skating moves are allowed within Step Sequence Additional Feature but must be held for less than three (3) seconds.
- The requirements for the levels of Step Sequence Additional Feature must be executed correctly in order for the Step Sequence Feature to be counted (see ISU Communication for requirements).

#### **Ice Coverage Requirements**

- The Step Sequence Additional Feature in a No Hold Element has no minimum requirements for ice coverage;

#### **Turn Requirements**

To receive a Step Sequence Additional Feature/Level, the requirements for turns are as follows:

- 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.
- Teams that use a good quality of skating but have shorter and quicker edges, must not be penalized in the GOE.
- 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.

### **5. DEFINITION OF FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS**

#### **a. Back-to-Back Preparation and Approach**

The Skaters' back (including shoulders and hips) are facing towards the Axis of Intersection, independently of the skating direction, during both the end of

the Preparation Phase and the entire Approach Phase. A pivoting entry with backward skating is also considered to be a back-to-back preparation and approach as long as the lines pivot more than 90°.

b. **Balancing 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 during a Free Skating Move**

There must be a change of position executed by all Skaters while executing 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. Each Skater must first be on an individual track/curve before crossing the track of the other Skater with whom they are changing position with and then again establish their individual track/curve after tracks have crossed.

e. **Change of Position of a lifted Skater**

The lifted Skater must rotate a minimum of:

- 180° if using a horizontal axis

- 90° if using a vertical axis

There are no specific requirements if using a combination of both horizontal and vertical axis.

f. **Extra Features**

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

g. **Interacting and pivoting Lines**

An action where two (2) lines both are pivoting and interacting (changing position) with each other at all times.

h. **Pivoting**

A continuous action in one (1) rotational direction where a Pivoting Element such as a Line or Block turns/rotates around a point as the Pivoting Element continues to move over and/or across the ice so that the slow end does not become stationary.

i. **Change of Pivot Point**

In the Block or Line Elements, when the pivot point changes from one end of 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.

**i. 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. All Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns, in the same skating direction, at the same time during traveling.

i. Change of Position of each spoke (Wheel Element):

All Skaters in each spoke must change position at the same time so that the order becomes opposite compared to the start (i.e. Skaters starting on the outside of the spoke must end in the middle of the Wheel etc). In the case that a spoke is comprised of an uneven, number of Skaters (example: five (5) Skaters), the middle Skater will stay in the same place.

ii. Weaving during travel (Circle Element):

All Skaters must change places at the same time. If starting on the outside Circle they must change into the center Circle.

**Rule 991**

**Short Program and Free Skating**

**1. Number of Elements**

a) Senior Short Program consists of a maximum of six (6) required Elements.

Junior Short Program consists of a maximum of six (6) required Elements.

The sequence of Elements is optional.

b) Senior Free Skating consists of a maximum of eleven (11) Elements.

Junior Free Skating consists of a maximum of ten (10) 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 ½ 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) Features and Additional Features must be the same and executed at the same time unless otherwise stated in the regulations for the Element/Feature/Additional Feature or in a current ISU Communication.
- j) Mirror Image Pattern is permitted in the Elements and transitions. (See Rule 990 paragraph 4.d)).
- k) Step Sequences of a complex variety may be used both in the Elements and during transitions.
- l) Turns/steps and linking steps may be used during Element(s).
- m) 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).
- n) The choreography and Elements should be executed facing towards all sides of the ice rink.
- o) 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 n). Basic element shapes (Level Base) 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 n). This deduction will be taken from the Element 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 n). A wrong shape would include examples such

as team executing a 4-spoke instead of a required 3-spoke, or an angled intersection instead of a box intersection.

- f) Any type of Lifts, Vaults, any Jump of one (1) revolution or more and/or Assisted Jumps are not permitted (see also Rule 992 paragraph 2a) and 3a).

#### **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, 4a.vii) a) and b)).
- 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 (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. Combined Element
2. Creative Element
3. Intersection Element

4. Group Lift Element (Senior only when required)
5. Linear Element (Block or Line)
6. Move Element
7. No Hold Element
8. Pair Element
9. Pivoting Element (Block or Line)
10. Rotating Element (Circle or Wheel)
11. Synchronized Spin Element
12. Traveling Element (Circle or Wheel)

**b) Free Skating**

Junior and Senior Free Skating programs may consist of a maximum number Elements which will be selected from each of the following Lists (List of Required Elements and List of Optional Elements).

**i. List of Required Elements**

1. Creative Element
2. Group Lift Element
3. Intersection Element
4. Linear Element (Block or Line)
5. Move Element
6. No Hold Element
7. Pair Element
8. Pivoting Element (Block or Line)
9. Rotating Element (Circle or Wheel)
10. Synchronized Spin Element
11. Traveling Element (Circle or Wheel)

**ii. List of Optional Elements**

1. Creative Element
2. Combined Element
3. Group Lift Element
4. Intersection Element
5. Move Element
6. Pair Element
7. Linear Element (Block or Line)
8. Synchronized Spin Element
9. Rotating Element (Circle or Wheel)

**2. Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features and Movements Short Program and Free Skating**

**a) Senior and Junior Short Program**

- i. illegal lifts as defined in Rule 990, paragraph 4.a. vii) a)

- ii. intersections incorporating back spirals (*including Move Element*)
- iii. flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
- iv. split jump thru the point of intersection

**b) Senior Free Skating**

- i. lifts other as defined in Rule 990, paragraph 4. a. vii)
- ii. intersections incorporating back spirals (*including Move Element*)
- iii. flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
- iv. split jump thru the point of intersection

**c) Junior Free Skating**

- i. acrobatic lifts
- ii. intersections incorporating back spirals (*including Move Element*)
- iii. flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
- iv. split jump thru the point of intersection

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

**a) Junior and Senior Short Program**

- i. lifts of any variety (*including Un-sustained Group Lifts*)
- ii. throw jumps
- iii. vaults
- iv. assisted jumps
- v. any jump of one (1) revolution or more
- vi. prolonged (*longer than three (3) seconds*) lying or kneeling (*on one (1) or both knees*) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program
- vii. jumps at the Point of Intersection

**b) Senior Free Skating**

- i. prolonged lying (*longer than three (3) seconds*) or kneeling (*one (1) or both knees*) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program

**c) Junior Free Program**

- i. pair lifts and group lifts are not permitted
- ii. prolonged lying (*longer than three (3) seconds*) or kneeling (*one (1) or both knees*) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program



### **Rule 993**

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

1. For Novice 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, ISU Junior World Challenge Cup 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>BLR</b>	<b>Belarus</b>	Skating Union of Belarus
<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>BRA</b>	<b>Brazil</b>	Brazilian Ice Sports Federation (Figure)
<b>BUL</b>	<b>Bulgaria</b>	Bulgarian Skating Federation
<b>CAN</b>	<b>Canada</b>	Speed Skating Canada (Speed) Skate Canada (Figure)
<b>CHN</b>	<b>China</b>	Chinese Skating Association
<b>TPE</b>	<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	Chinese Taipei Skating Union
<b>COL</b>	<b>Colombia</b>	<u>Federacion Colombiana de Patnaje (Provisional Member Speed)</u>
<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>PRK</b>	<b>D.P.R. Korea</b>	Skating Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
<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>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>GBR</b>	<b>Great Britain</b>	National Ice Skating Association of UK Ltd.
<b>GRE</b>	<b>Greece</b>	Hellenic <u>Winter Sports Federation</u> (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>ISL</b>	<b>Iceland</b>	Icelandic Skating Association (Figure)
<b>IND</b>	<b>India</b>	Ice Skating Association of India
<b>INA</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>	Persatuan Olahraga Sepatu Roda Seluruh Indonesia (PORSEKASI) (Provisional Member for Figure and Speed)
<b>IRL</b>	<b>Ireland</b>	Ice Skating Association of Ireland (Figure) ( <u>Provisional Member Speed</u> )
<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><u>KGZ</u></b>	<b><u>Kyrgyz Republic</u></b>	<u>Skating Federation of the Kyrgyz Republic (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<b>LAT</b>	<b>Latvia</b>	Latvian Skating Association
<b><u>LIE</u></b>	<b><u>Lichtenstein</u></b>	<u>Liechtensteiner Eislauf Verband (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<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>MAS</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	Ice Skating Association of Malaysia
<b>MEX</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	Federacion Mexicana de Patinaje Sobre Hielo y Deportes de Invierno, A. C. (Figure)
<b><u>MDA</u></b>	<b><u>Moldova</u></b>	<u>Figure Skating Federation of the Republic of Moldova (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
<b>MON</b>	<b>Monaco</b>	Fédération Monegasque de Patinage (Figure)
<b>MGL</b>	<b>Mongolia</b>	Skating Union of Mongolia
<b>MAR</b>	<b>Morocco</b>	Association of Moroccan Ice Sports ( <u>Figure</u> )
<b>NED</b>	<b>Netherlands</b>	Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond
<b>NZL</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	Ice Speed Skating New Zealand Inc (Speed) New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Association (Inc) (Figure)
<b>NOR</b>	<b>Norway</b>	Norges Skøyteforbund

<b>PHI</b>	<b>Philippines</b>	Philippine Skating Union (Figure) ( <u>Provisional Member Speed</u> )
<b>POL</b>	<b>Poland</b>	Polish Speed Skating Association (Speed) Polish Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b><u>QAT</u></b>	<b><u>Qatar</u></b>	<u>Qatar Skating Federation (Provisional Member Speed)</u>
<b>KOR</b>	<b>Rep. of Korea</b>	Korea Skating Union
<b>ROU</b>	<b>Romania</b>	Romanian Skating Federation
<b>RUS</b>	<b>Russia</b>	Russian Skating Union (Speed) The Figure Skating Federation of Russia (Figure)
<b>SRB</b>	<b>Serbia</b>	Serbian Skating Association
<b>SIN</b>	<b>Singapore</b>	Singapore Ice Skating Association
<b>SVK</b>	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	Slovak Speed Skating Union (Speed) Slovak Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>SLO</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>	Slovene Skating Union
<b>RSA</b>	<b>South Africa</b>	South African Speed Skating Association (Speed) South African Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>ESP</b>	<b>Spain</b>	Federacion Española de Deportes de Hielo
<b>SWE</b>	<b>Sweden</b>	Svenska Skridskoförbundet (Speed) Svenska Konstakningsförbundet (Figure) Stockholms Allmänna Skridskoklubb (Club Member)
<b>SUI</b>	<b>Switzerland</b>	Schweizer Eislauf-Verband Internationaler Schlittschuh-Club Davos (Club Member)
<b>THA</b>	<b>Thailand</b>	Figure and Speed Skating Association of Thailand
<b>TUR</b>	<b>Turkey</b>	Turkish Ice Skating Federation
<b>UKR</b>	<b>Ukraine</b>	Ukrainian Speed Skating Federation (Speed) Ukrainian Figure Skating Federation (Figure)
<b>UAE</b>	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	UAE Ice Sports Federation ( <u>Figure</u> )
<b>USA</b>	<b>USA</b>	US Speedskating (Speed) The United States Figure Skating Association (Figure)
<b>UZB</b>	<b>Uzbekistan</b>	Winter Sports Association of Uzbekistan

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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Fax: (+41) 21 612 66 77, E-Mail: info@isu.ch

## OFFICE HOLDERS 2016-2018

### Council:

President:		<u>Jan Dijkema</u>	<u>Netherlands</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Speed Skating:	<u>Tron Espeli</u>	<u>Norway</u>
Vice President:	Figure Skating:	<u>Alexander Lakernik</u>	<u>Russia</u>
Members:	Figure Skating:	Junko Hiramatsu Patricia St. Peter Marie Lundmark Benoit Lavoie <u>Maria Teresa Samaranch</u>	Japan USA Finland <u>Canada</u> <u>Spain</u>
	Speed Skating:	<u>Yang Yang</u> <u>Jae Youl Kim</u> <u>Stoytcho G. Stoytchev</u> Roland Etienne Maillard <u>Sergio Anesi</u>	<u>China</u> <u>Republic of Korea</u> <u>Bulgaria</u> Switzerland <u>Italy</u>
Director General:		Fredi Schmid	Switzerland
Treasurer:		Ulrich Linder	Switzerland
Legal Advisors:		Michael Geistlinger Béatrice Pfister	Austria Switzerland
Figure Skating Sports Directors:		Charles Z. Cyr Krisztina Regöczy	USA Hungary
Speed Skating Sports Director:		Hugo Herrnhof	Italy

### Technical Committees:

<b>Single &amp; Pair</b>	Chair:	<u>Fabio Bianchetti</u>	<u>Italy</u>
<b>Skating:</b>	Members:	Susan Lynch <u>Yukiko Okabe</u> Rita Zonnekeyn	Australia <u>Japan</u> Belgium
	Appointed Skater:	Patrick Meier	Switzerland
	Appointed Coach:	David Paul Kirby	USA
<b>Ice Dance:</b>	Chair:	Halina Gordon-Poltorak	Poland
	Members:	<u>Shawn Rettstatt</u> Alla Shekhovtsova <u>Hilary Selby</u>	<u>USA</u> Russia <u>Great Britain</u>
	Appointed Skater:	Sylwia Nowak-Trebacka	Poland
	Appointed Coach:	<u>Maurizio Margaglio</u>	<u>Italy</u>



# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

<b>Synchronized Skating:</b>	Chair:	Christopher Buchanan	Great Britain
	Members:	Mika Saarelainen	Finland
		<u>Petra Tyrbo</u>	<u>Sweden</u>
		<u>Lois Long</u>	<u>USA</u>
	Appointed Skater:	Helena Ericson	Sweden
	Appointed Coach:	Cathy Dalton	Canada
<b>Speed Skating:</b>	Chair:	<u>Alexander Kibalko</u>	<u>Russia</u>
	Members:	Nick Thometz	<u>USA</u>
		Jae-Seok Choi	Rep. of Korea
		<u>Christian Breuer</u>	<u>Germany</u>
	Appointed Skater:	<u>Vacant</u>	
	Appointed Coach:	Jildou Gemser	Netherlands
<b>Short Track Speed Skating:</b>	Chair:	<u>Nathalie Lambert</u>	<u>Canada</u>
	Members:	Reinier Oostheim	Netherlands
		<u>Xun Xu</u>	<u>China</u>
		<u>Satoru Terao</u>	<u>Japan</u>
	Appointed Skater:	Vacant	
	Appointed Coach:	Vacant	
<b>Disciplinary Commission:</b>			
Chair:		Volker Waldeck	Germany
Members:		Allan Böhm	Slovak Republic
		Susan Petricevic	New Zealand
		<u>Albert Hazelhoff</u>	<u>Netherlands</u>
<b>Medical Commission:</b>			
Chair:		Jane M. Moran	Canada
Members:		Sanda Dubravcic-Simunjak	Croatia
		Joel C. Shobe	USA
		Harm Kuipers	Netherlands
		Hiroya Sakai	Japan
		Ruben Ambartsumov	Ukraine
		Hannu Koivu	Finland
		Eunkuk Kim	Rep. of Korea
Development <u>Commission:</u>		TBA	
<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
<u>Ottavio Cinquanta</u>		<u>Italy</u>	<u>2016</u>

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

## Honorary Vice Presidents:

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
<u>David Dore †</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>2016</u>

## Honorary Secretary:

Georg Häslar †	Switzerland	1975
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## Honorary Members:

		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
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

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

<u>Ulf Lindén</u>	<u>Sweden</u>	<u>2010</u>
<u>Gerhardt Bubník</u>	<u>Czech Republic</u>	<u>2010</u>
<u>James L. Hawkins</u>	<u>USA</u>	<u>2010</u>
<u>Phyllis Howard</u>	<u>USA</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Tjasa André-Prosenc</u>	<u>Slovenia</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>German Panov</u>	<u>Russia</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Lan Li</u>	<u>China</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>György Martos</u>	<u>Hungary</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Peter Krick</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Alexander Gorshkov</u>	<u>Russia</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Ann Shaw</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Olga Gilardini</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>2016</u>

## **Past Presidents**

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

## **Jacques Favart Trophy**

established 1981

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

## **Georg Häslar Medal**

established 1985

<u>Zoltán Balázs †</u>	<u>Hungary</u>	<u>1987</u>
<u>Willi Zipperlen †</u>	<u>Switzerland</u>	<u>1987</u>
<u>F. Ritter Shumway †</u>	<u>USA</u>	<u>1988</u>
<u>Herbert Kunze †</u>	<u>F.R.G.</u>	<u>1989</u>
<u>Assen Pavlov</u>	<u>Bulgaria</u>	<u>1989</u>
<u>W. Thayer Tutt †</u>	<u>USA</u>	<u>1989</u>
<u>Victor Blinov †</u>	<u>U.S.S.R.</u>	<u>1990</u>

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

## **Georg Häslér Medal** (*continued*)

established 1985

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 Häslér	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
<u>David Mitchell</u>	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>2016</u>