



By Mr. Steve BUTCHER, President of the Men's Technical Committee
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GENERAL

1) Question: What is the difference between Repetition and Special Repetition?

Answer: There are Special Repetition details listed for all apparatus, except Vault. Special Repetition means there is a maximum of two related elements permitted in an exercise for value, and only the two of the highest value may be considered for difficulty value (DV) by the D-jury. Whereas, Basic Repetition means two of the same element (or same Code box) are performed for difficulty value (DV) in an exercise. In the case of basic repetition, chronological order determines which element is recognized for difficulty value (DV) by the D-jury. This is the only chronological policy in determining difficulty value (DV) by the D-jury. Note: There are some examples in the Code of Points mentioning chronological order when referring to Special Repetitions; these are inconsistent with the other apparatus and incorrect.

2) Question: If a gymnast does not perform a dismount, how many elements can be counted for difficulty value (DV) in the exercise?

Answer: If no dismount is awarded, 9 elements for Seniors and 7 elements for Juniors are the maximum number of elements to receive difficulty value (DV) by the D-jury.

3) Question: There are two element related compositional requirement in the Code of Points, Floor Exercise- no double salto element (for Seniors only) and Rings- no swing to handstand. Can 10 elements be counted inside an exercise if one of these compositional requirements is outside of the 10 best elements?

Answer: Yes, 10 elements may be counted in an exercise if one of these element related compositional requirements is not fulfilled. If one of these compositional requirements were outside of the 10 best elements, a neutral deduction (ND) of -0.3 would be applied.

4) Question: There are several D-jury deductions listed throughout the Code of Points. How are these deductions applied? Example: No double salto in the exercise for a senior gymnast on Floor Exercise?

Answer: All D-jury deductions are applied as Neutral Deductions. Example: No double salto element in the exercise for a senior gymnast is a -0.3 Neutral Deduction, and not taken directly from the D score or E score. The deduction is applied in the same way as stepping out of bounds on Floor Exercise or Vault.

FLOOR EXERCISE

1) Question: What is the evaluation if a gymnast intentionally performs a salto element with a sideways landing?



Answer: There is no recognition by the D-jury and standard deductions will be taken by the E-jury.

Note: There is no specific deduction for an intentional sideways landing.

2) Question: For element #I.94, Flair hopping with 360° t. bwd. thr. hdst. and back to flair (2 hops), what happens if only one hop of 180° is performed?

Answer: No value by the D-jury for Flair hopping with 180° t. bwd. thr. hdst. and back to flair (1 hop) and standard deductions will be taken by the E-jury. .

3) Question: For element #I.105, Flair with >270 spindle (in 2 circles) directly to handstand. What does this mean exactly?

Answer: This means the gymnast should perform the spindle in 2 flairs, while going to the handstand immediately from the second circle. There is no extra circle after the spindle is completed or the sequence will be separated into 2 elements.

4) Question: For Connection Value (CV), limit of 2 connections total in an exercise, can the gymnast perform more connections which will be applied to connection value (CV)?

Answer: Yes, the gymnast may perform additional connections, but the two highest value connections must be selected for connection value (CV).

5) Question: If the gymnast performs Salto backward with 2/1 in his exercise, and also the same element as the dismount (while attempting a Salto backward, but with 5/2 with insufficient twisting), what is the evaluation?

Answer: Normally the dismount always is counted first on Floor Exercise, but in this case of basic repetition the dismount would be considered repetition and receive no value or EG by the D-jury.

6) Question: There are no Arabian single salto elements in the Code of Points?

Answer: Element III.7, Salto backwards tucked or piked w. ½ t., also contains Arabian tucked or piked in the same box (A value). Element III.8, Salto backwards str. w. ½ t., also contains Arabian stretched in the same box (B value). These Arabian elements will be added in the next CoP edition.

7) Question: There are high level twisting single salto elements not listed as tucked or piked in the Code of Points. What value are they given if performed in a tucked position? Example: Salto forward stretched with 2/1 turns (II.40, D value)

Answer: Any single salto element not listed as tucked or piked will receive a stretched value, but with the appropriate E-jury deduction for “non-distinct position,” small medium or large. Example: Salto forward stretched with 2/1 turns (II.40, D value), performed clearly tucked would receive a D value, but with a -0.5 E-jury deduction for “non-distinct position.”

8) Question: What is the deduction for using the same diagonal more than two times in a row during an exercise?

Answer: No deduction. The new requirement is to perform a tumbling pass to and/or from each corner, or there is a -0.3 neutral deduction. Gymnasts must be careful to include all corners in their exercise when performing tumbling passes to or from the middle sides of the floor.



9) Question: There are many saltos intended to be performed stretched, but the gymnast bends at the hips or knees slightly. When should a tuck or pike position be applied for value?

Answer: If the hip assumes a flexion of greater than 45° from a stretched position in a salto, it will be considered piked. If the knee bend is greater than 45°, also combined with any hip flexion, from a stretched position, it would be considered tucked.

Note: There are no listed single salto elements (forward or backward) in a piked position with twists of 1/1 or more in the Code of Points. If a gymnast is considered piked in a single salto element with twists of 1/1 or more (forward or backward), the gymnast will receive value as a stretched position by the D-jury, but the E-jury will take the appropriate deduction for body position (small, medium, or large) for “Non-distinct positions (tuck, pike, straight).”

-The same evaluation principle applies to single salto elements in a tucked position forward with twists of more than 3/2 and single salto elements in a tucked position backward with twists of more than 1/2. The gymnast will receive value as a stretched position by the D-jury, but the E-jury will take the appropriate deduction for body position (small, medium, or large) for “Non-distinct positions (tuck, pike, straight).”

10. Question: A gymnast completely finishes the landing of a tumbling pass; then uses a jump to prone as a transition. Is there an E-jury deduction for this jump to prone?

Answer: No, there is no deduction for a jump to prone unless it is directly from a tumbling pass with a rebound action or performed in order to avoid the completion of the landing.

POMMEL HORSE

1) Question: There is no longer a Travel fwd. in cross support 1/3 listed in the Code of Points. Where is this element?

Answer: A Travel fwd. in cross support 1/3 is now a version of Element II.14 in the Code of Points, same as Circle in cross support on 1 pommel (from or to ¼ t. fwd.). Step up to pommel, with or without ¼ turn, is a B value; and also counts as the start to a flop or combined sequence. Therefore: no Travel forward in cross support 1/3 can be counted for difficulty.

2) Question: There is no longer a global deduction for lack of circle/flair extension throughout an exercise. How is lack of extension deducted now?

Answer: Ideally circles and flairs must be performed with complete extension. Lack of amplitude in body position is deducted as an individual deduction on for each element, not circle or flair. Circles with a slightly hollow position are permitted.

Hip breaks during individual elements in an exercise should be deducted as separate technical errors on each circle or flair. Hip breaks constitute deviations in extension from a gymnast’s normal position throughout the exercise. It is possible to have both of these deductions on a single element. These deductions are listed in the CoP chart on page 63.



3) Question: Flop sequences and combined elements of flops and Russian Wendeswings must be separated by minimum one circle (flair or listed element) with one hand off of the one pommel. How does a judge evaluate LLSS+LLR180 (4 flops directly to 2 flops with a Russian 180)?

Answer: After a flop sequence or combined elements of flops and Russians, no additional elements on the one pommel can be counted for difficulty, with the exception of a flop to handstand (including Busnari type elements from one pommel). Example: This LLSS+LLR180 only counts as 1 flop sequence of E value. The remaining elements on one pommel are not recognized.

4) Question: If a gymnast performs 3 of the same flop element on one pommel, Stocklis or circles, what is the evaluation by the D-jury? Example: circle on one pommel + circle on one pommel + circle on one pommel + Stockli.

Answer: No element on one pommel after the first of the three performed in succession (repetition) can be counted for difficulty value with the exception of a flop to handstand (including Busnari type elements from one pommel). In this example: Only the first circle on one pommel will receive B value for difficulty in a sequence of LLLS (B+rep+rep+non-recognition).

5) Question: Some gymnasts perform a ¼ turn Czechkehre action before performing a Russian Wendeswing element. What is the start position of the Russian Wendeswing with this Czechkehre entry?

Answer: The start position of the Russian Wendeswing begins in front support after the ¼ turn Czechkehre entry.

6) Question: A Russian Wendeswing to a dismount beginning in cross support facing out must complete Russian(s) as listed before the Wende to receive full dismount value. What is the required start position for a Wende to dismount?

Answer: Wende to dismount always starts from cross support facing in.

7) Question: Page 57 a.9 mentions a full circle must be completed after three types of Tong Fei elements. This is inconsistent with the text regarding the Tong Fei inside the table of elements. Which is the correct text?

Answer: The details inside the table of elements are correct. All Tong Fei elements require completion of a listed in CoP element afterward (circles/flairs, Russian Wendeswings, travels, etc. for difficulty value. In case of a fall after starting the element afterward, the Tong Fei will receive difficulty value (DV).

8) Question: If a fall occurs during Russian Wendeswings, Russian traveling type elements, flops, or combined elements with flops and Russians, how does a judge determine if the element should receive difficulty value (DV)?



Answer: No partial difficulty value can be awarded if a fall occurs during Russian Wendeswings, Russian traveling type elements, flops, or combined elements with flops and Russians.

All Russian wendeswings, Russian traveling type elements, flops and combined elements with flops and Russians require a listed (in CoP) element afterwards (circles, Russian wendeswing, travels est.) for value. In case of a fall after starting the element afterwards, the Russian Wendeswings, Russian traveling type elements, flops and combined elements with flops and Russians will receive difficulty value (DV).

9) Question: Page 59 c.6) All scissors through handstand on one pommel require a change of arm or pommel to receive value. How is this applied?

Answer: Simply this means the gymnast must finish facing the opposite direction from the swing used to enter the handstand. If not, non-recognition of the scissor to handstand and typical E-jury deductions for the element would be applied.

10) Question: On CoP Page 62 #3 Special Repetitions it mentions six travels governed by the rule “A maximum of two (3/3) cross support travels (forwards and/ or backwards).” Are there eight travels governed by this rule?

Answer: Yes, here is the revised text (corrections in red) showing the eight travels governed by this rule.

a) A maximum of two (3/3) cross support travels (forwards and/ or backwards) are permitted during the exercise. This rule applies to the following **eight** travels ONLY:

- III.45 Travel fwd. in cross support with support on leather, pommel, pommel, leather (3/3) (1-2-4-5), C value.
- III.46 Any other travel fwd. in cross support to other end (3/3) (Magyar), D value.
- III.41 3/3 cross support travel fwd. with hop (Driggs), E value
- III.47 3/3 cross support travel fwd. in flairs, E value
- III.59 Any other travel bwd. in cross support to other end (3/3) in flairs, E value
- III.51 Fr. cr. sup. on end, tr. fwd. in 2 circles to 1st p., to 2nd p., with ¼ turn to side sup. on other end (3/3) (Bilozherchev), C value.
- III.57 Travel bwd.in cross sup with support on leather, pommel, pommel, leather (3/3) (5-4-2-1), C value.
- III.58 Any other travel bwd. in cross support to other end (3/3) (Sivado), D value.

i.e. Nin Reyes type elements (3/3 travel with spindle) are NOT considered with this rule.

10) Question: Element III.16- From side support on 1 end., travel backward over both pommels to side support on the other end (3/3) in 2 circles with no pommels (D value). What is the value if this element is performed with use of one pommel to start and the other to finish?

Answer: From side support on 1 end., travel backward over both pommels to side support on the other end (3/3) in 2 circles with pommels (C value) and add to box III.39 in the CoP.



RINGS

1) Question: A maximum of 1 final strength position in each EG may be recognized for difficulty. What elements are considered as final strength positions?

Answer: Final strength hold positions (2 s.) include elements II.1-15 on page 85 of the Code of Points. There is one special exception to consider: Uprise backward to straddled L-sit (2 s.), element I.68, this element can be used as a break to satisfy “not more than 3 elements from groups II and/or III can be presented in direct succession.” Note: The straddle L would not count as a final strength position when performed from a back uprise.

2) Question: Front uprise to L-sit (2 s.), Honma to L-sit (2 s.) and kip to L-sit (2 s.) elements are now in EG III. Do they count under the rule “not more than 3 elements from groups II and/or III can be presented in direct succession?”

Answer: Yes, they are now considered under this rule as swing to strength elements. Note: Back uprise to L-sit (2 s.) counts as two elements (EG I & II). Not all strength elements can be combined with swing to be awarded upgraded values.

3) Question: Are legs required to be vertical in the V-sit position elements (cross or support)?

Answer: Yes, or angular deductions, as well as all other typical execution deductions, will apply.

4) Question: What is the consequence if a swing B value element is not recognized after 3 elements from EG II and/or III in direct succession and between later EG II and/or III element(s)?

Answer: The later EG II and/or III element(s) are not recognized. Note: This swing element of at least a B value must be among the 10 best in the exercise or top 5 counting in an element group for recognition.

5) Question: One Swing to handstand element (2 s. hold) is required in the exercise and must be inside 10 counting elements. What happens if the swing to handstand element (2 s. hold) is performed for value, but outside of the 10 best elements in the exercise?

Answer: The D-score is calculated with the 10 best elements, and without the swing to handstand element. A -0.3 Neutral Deduction would be applied for the missing swing to handstand.

6) Question: How does a judge evaluate an uprise bwd. to cross (2 s.) 50° above horizontal, then pull to Swallow (2 s.)?

Answer: The back uprise to cross (2 s.) will not be recognized and a D value Swallow is awarded by the D-jury. Obviously the Swallow cannot upgrade to an E value because of the high entry position of the cross. The E-jury will deduct -0.5 for the high angle of the cross, this specific deduction does NOT carry over to the Swallow element under the rule “Preceding strength hold high angle- press to strength (also apply to 2nd element).”

This is a unique example, demonstrating a large deduction does not apply to the next element.



7) Question: What is the evaluation of a Salto forward between rings directly to cross / L-cross (2 s.) with an entry 50° above horizontal?

Answer: This entry angle requires non-recognition of the complete element; no partial value may be given for a swing to strength element receiving a large deduction.

VAULT

1) Question: The Vault Value Table contains 2 pages. The 2nd page contains the designated numbers ①, ②, and ③ representing “same” or “similar” 2nd flight phase. How does this work?

Answer: If two vaults performed in Qualification or in Vault-Final have the same designated number in their box, then there is a 2.0 point Neutral Deduction applied to the second vault. For example, Vault #270 Tsukahara Stretched (1st vault) and Vault #370 Yurchenko Stretched (2nd vault), they both have the designated number ① in each of their boxes in the Vault Value Table. This means a 2.0 point Neutral Deduction for the same 2nd flight phase will be applied to the 2nd vault if these two vaults are performed in Qualification or in Vault-Final. Any time the last two digits of two different vaults is the same, there is a possible relationship of same or similar second flight between the 2 vaults.

2) Question: Why have the designated numbers ①, ②, and ③ been omitted from the vaults on the 1st page of the Vault Value Table?

Answer: There is no deduction for same or similar 2nd flight phase for any vault used from the 1st page of the Vault Value Table. Note: The vaults on the 1st page of the Vault Value Table can receive the 2.0 point Neutral Deduction for repeating 1st vault group in Qualification or in Vault-Final.

PARALLEL BARS

1) Question: If a gymnast performs Felge, Felge to one bar (no Healy element afterward), and Felge ½ t., what are the difficulty values awarded and why?

Answer: The two highest value elements are always awarded in cases of Special Repetition. In this case we have two Felge elements (Felge and Felge to one bar) in the same box of the CoP, basic repetition. Regardless, the Felge and Felge 1/2 are awarded for difficulty value (DV).

2) Question: Why was element III.108 not included in the list of “Maximum two Basket Swings to handstand” on page 116 4c in the Code of Points?

Answer: Element III.108 was an accidental omission from the list. The new list for page 116 4c is as follows: Maximum two Basket Swings to handstand (III. 106, 107, 108, 114, 119, 120, 130,136). Also element numbers III.108 and III.114 are numbered incorrectly. These numbers need to be substituted with each other while their element descriptions remain in the same boxes.

3) Question: On all Moy and Giant Bwd. swings, legs may not bend until body is horizontal. How is this deduction applied?



Answer: A small or medium deduction applies for any violations. This needs to be added to the table on page 116 Article 14.3.

HORIZONTAL BAR

1) Question: Any flight element with salto over the bar requires a giant swing afterward, or -0.3 (E-jury deduction). Can you connect a flight element with salto over the bar to another flight element without the -0.3 deduction from the E-jury?

Answer: Yes.

2) Stalder 1/1 to el-grip and mixed grip with reversal of direction, and other similar type elements with reversal of direction, are no longer in the Code of Points. If a gymnast performs one of these elements, what is the value? Example: Stalder with hop 1/1 t. thr. hdst. in el-grip (change of rotation direction).



Answer: Non-recognition and -0.5 deduction by the E-jury for “elements not continuing in their intended direction.”

3) Question: For all Adler elements it is not required to enter from a handstand position. By consequence is there a deduction for entering into an Endo or Stalder element prior to a handstand position (early entry angle) from a giant swing or previous element where achieving a starting handstand is possible?

Answer: Yes, there is an angle deduction for all Endo (including el-grip) and Stalder elements with an early entry angle. The entry angle deduction is governed by “Deviations in swings to or through handstand.” Note: There are two ways to enter an Endo, from a handstand OR from a swing forward as a mount or after a flight element. The later can appear as a more aesthetic replacement for a kip and will not receive a deduction for early entry.

FINAL NOTE: A revised version of the Code of Points in all official FIG languages will be published in early 2017. There are some small errors in the various language versions that will be corrected without changing any rules.

With compliments,

Steve Butcher
FIG MTC President