

USAAS 2023 CONVENTION  
RULE SUBMISSIONS FOR DISCUSSION

**ITEM 1:**

Gender Inclusion

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**CP 3.1.2** **Type and Number of Events:** The Solo, ~~Male Solo~~, Duet, ~~Mixed Duet~~, Trio and Team events consist of both Technical and Free routines, unless otherwise specified. The Acrobatic Routine and Free Combination events consist of a Free routine.

**CP 3.1.2.1** **Definitions:**

**1. Solo events consist of:**

- ⌚ **Girls/Women Solo (an athlete who identifies as a girl/woman);**
- ⌚ **Boys/Men Solo (an athlete who identifies as a boy/man); and**
- ⌚ **Gender Inclusive Solo (open to athletes who do not identify as a girl/woman or boy/man).**

**2. Duet events consist of:**

- ⌚ **Girls/Women Duet (both athletes identify as girls/women);**
- ⌚ **Boys/Men Duet (both athletes identify as boys/men);**
- ⌚ **Mixed Duet (one athlete identifies as a boy/man, one as a girl/woman); and**
- ⌚ **Gender Inclusive Duet (one or more athlete(s) who do not identify as girls/women or boys/men).**

**3. All other events, to include Trio, Team, Acrobatic Routine and Free Combination, are open (no gender restriction).**

**CP 3.1.2.2** Each competitor may compete in 1 routine of each type per competition (i.e., 1 Free Solo and 1 Technical Solo, but not 2 Free Solo routines).

**CP 3.1.2.3** For the Solo **and Duet** events, each competitor may ~~only~~ enter **a Technical and/or Free routine in only one routine** ~~Solo or Male Solo event~~ in each competition **(i.e., Girls/Women Free Solo or Boys/Men Free Solo or Gender Inclusive Free Solo, but no more than one 1 Free Solo.)**

**Exception: A competitor in Girls/Women Duet, Boys/Men Duet or Gender Inclusive Duet can**

**also enter a Mixed Duet event.**

**CP 3.1.2.4** If 2 or more Championships are being held concurrently, competitors may enter the same routine event in each combined Championships.

*Rationale: To align the USAAS Rule Book with the USAAS Gender Inclusion Policy.*

*(Note: Housekeeping if passed to all applicable areas of the Technical Rules and Appendix L).*

**ITEM 2:**

Athlete Reps on Review Panels

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**OD 3.4.3** The Event Referee shall appoint 3 unaffiliated members (~~1 of which shall be an Athlete Representative~~), if possible, which may include themselves for a Jury of Review of Technical Controllers (“DTC/DATC/STC”) decisions.

~~Exception: At National Championships, the Athlete Representative shall be a member of the AEC (or appointed representative).~~

*Rationale: The USOPC initially indicated that athlete representation was required for these review panels. The latest guidance from the USOPC is “As these panels would be functional only in the context of a competition and are tied to the execution of the playing rules of the sport, they are field of play functions and thus are not subject*

to the athlete representation or other composition requirements of NGB committees.” Remove the restriction so that review panels are no longer required to have athlete members. This does not mean that athletes cannot be part of review panels, just that they are not required to be part of the review panels.

**ITEM 3:** Acrobatic Routine Number of Competitor Rule Proposal: (exception to waiver)  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**CP 5.1.4** An Acrobatic Routine shall consist of 4 but no more than 8 competitors who perform the  
Required

Elements described in Appendix L.

**Exception: For U.S. Junior Olympic, Regional Junior Olympic and Association Junior Olympic Championships, an Acrobatic Routine shall consist of 4 but no more than 10 competitors.**

*Rationale: The waiver that was allowed for 10 swimmers in the acrobatic routine demonstrated that the participation of more athletes allowed the required element lifts to be done successfully and with less chance of injuries. The ability level of swimmers in this category requires participation of more swimmers to perform the lifts. In addition, allowing 10 athletes allows swimmers to move up to this age level and learn from older swimmers about the correct techniques for lifts. For grassroots clubs, providing the opportunity to allow the maximum number of swimmers to compete in a routine opens doors that might be otherwise be closed to them. With the move towards eliminating Combos in older age groups, this allows teams more flexibility for their swimmers to participate in JOs without adversely affecting the competition schedule by adding time or events.*

(Note: Housekeeping if passed to OD 4.6.2.8.2 to note Junior Olympic exception.)

**ITEM 4:** Appendix L proposal to change Novice Routine requirements  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

### Appendix L, ARTICLE 3

#### 3.01 Novice Free Routines with Technical Required Elements:

A, B, D, E remain the same.

- C. All Novice routines will only include the Technical Required Elements **and one optional free hybrid. This hybrid will be judged under Artistic Impression and may be placed anywhere in the routine** (no Free Hybrids or Acrobatic Movements permitted).

*Rationale: As novice swimmers progress throughout the swimmer year, they want to be challenged and prepared for a possible move to the intermediate level. Therefore, giving the coaches the option of adding that hybrid will benefit the athletes that need to be challenged. If a novice athlete is not ready, then the coach can choose not to add the extra hybrid. The judging of the one optional free hybrid under artistic impression and synchronization only (which has a cap for novice) prevents the need for generation of a coaches card at this level. It simply allows the athletes that may have progressed quickly an opportunity to try a hybrid if the coach feels they are ready.*

(Note: Housekeeping if passed to Appendix L; add optional hybrid as #8 to Novice chart)

**ITEM 5:** Change to age requirement for Youth Free Combination event.

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**CP 3.4** Youth:

**CP 3.4.1** Championships shall be open to all qualified registered competitors 13 to 15 (for females) and 13 to 16 (for males) years of age based on the year of birth.

**Exception: For Youth Free Combination age exception, see Rule CP 4.1.3.1.2.**

**CP 4.1.3** Youth:

**CP 4.1.3.1** For the U.S. Youth Championship, competition shall consist of Figures and Free routines for Solos, Male Solos, Duets, Mixed Duets and Teams. There shall also be a Free Combination event conducted as a 100% routine event.

1. U.S. clubs and U.S. National Teams may enter more than 1 Free Combination in the U.S. Youth Championship.

**2. Competitors who are 12 years of age and younger, and who have passed Level 4, may participate in the Free Combination event at the U.S. Youth Championships.**

*Rationale: Smaller teams have a challenging time fielding 10 athletes without swimming up their stronger 12U swimmers. Since 12U swimmers are allowed to compete in Youth Combo at JO Championships, the way this rule currently stands means that teams may have to choreograph the routine for less swimmers for Zones and Youth Nationals and then change the choreography to include their 12Us for the JO Track. It is likely that association meets will occur between Zones and Youth Nationals which means the athletes have to switch back and forth between the two choreographies. 12U athletes would be required to pass L4 in order to compete.*

**ITEM 6:** Change to Figure Awards

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**CP 7.2** Figure Awards for Competitions held in Age Divisions:

**CP 7.2.1** **In Age Group figure competition**, when a competitor is entered in multiple **Age Group** divisions (**12&U and Youth**) and multiple Figure competitions, the competitor shall be listed in the results in the youngest age division in which the competitor was entered in a routine and shall have a U.S. Honorary placement in any other age divisions entered. At the discretion of the competition host, the competitor may receive a U.S. Honorary Award. Honorary Placement is indicated by an "H" in the results and does not change the number placement of the competitors in the event.

**New** **CP 7.2.2. In Novice and Intermediate figure competition, when a competitor is entered in multiple age divisions, the competitor shall be listed in the results and receive any award in their actual age division and be listed as Honorary in any other Novice or Intermediate age division in which they swim a routine.**

*Rationale: In Novice and Intermediate figures all swimmers should be awarded in their actual age division. Currently they are only awarded in the age division of their routine, so as an example a category 10&U intermediate competition swimming only on a 13-15 intermediate team would only have a figure placement in 13-15 intermediate figures. Novice and intermediates competitors are new to the sport, and it is difficult to explain to a new swimmer and/or parent that as a 10&U intermediate swimmer they will only be placed in the 13-15 age division. Since all the figures are the same for all age divisions of novice and intermediate, awarding by the competitor's actual age makes sense and will give all new swimmers confidence competing among their peers.*

**ITEM #7:** Change figure requirements for Youth Category  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS REJECTION**

**CP 4.3.3.1** Youth Championships: One group of 2 figures shall be performed. This group of figures shall consist of 2 figures drawn from Section A, B or C from the Youth Figure Selection Groups listed in Figure Rule II.C.

1. The Youth Figure Section A, B or C shall be drawn first, **followed by drawing one of the groups of figures from the chosen Section.** then the order of appearance shall be drawn. The competitor draw list will be divided into 2 equal groups – Group 1 and 2 (if numbers are not equal, Group 1 will have 1 extra competitor). Then 1 of the 2 figure groups of the drawn Section will be assigned by lot to each competitor Group 1 and 2. For example, if Section B is drawn, competitor Group 1 may have Group 4 drawn, and competitor Group 2 may have Group 3 drawn.

*Rationale: Inequitable and unfair advantages and disadvantages present in Youth Figures. Having half of the swimmers perform one Figure Group and the other half perform the other Figure Group within the section is not equitable to all swimmers. Even though the Degree of Difficulty is the same, the figures require different skill sets, therefore giving swimmers either advantages or disadvantages based on what figure was assigned. Further, swimmers are not judged by the same judging panels, which is also not equitable. In order for the results to be valid, swimmers should compete in the same 2 figures and be judged by the same judging panels.*

**ITEM #8:** Redefine how Base Mark is applied  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS REJECTION**

**OD 4.6.2.2** All Free Elements (Hybrids and Acrobatics) have a calculated Base Mark (World Aquatics Appendix VI and VII) that is the minimum Degree of Difficulty (“DD”). **The DD above Base Mark for all free elements will be calculated on the Coach Card.** that will be applied if 1 or more components **if any component** of the element is not performed or is not in conformance to what is declared on the Coach Card, **the DD for that specific component will be deducted from the total DD for the element. If the entire element is not performed or is not in conformance to what is declared on the Coach Card, the Base Mark will be applied.** In the case of detected errors of declared calculation of the Base Mark, the Difficulty Technical Controller will recalculate.

*Rationale: The Pass/Fail system with the Technical Controller is driving the overall scores and results. A team of 8 may have 7 who complete a hybrid but 1 who makes a turn only 95%, but the entire team fails the hybrid. An entire team should not be penalized so severely to not earn their DD.*

**ITEM #9:** Set a maximum DD for different competition levels (new #1 under OD 4.6.2.2)  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS REJECTION**

**OD 4.6.2.2** (remains the same)  
**1. There will be a maximum limit on total DD per routine by age group.**  
**12&U: 15**  
**Youth: 20**  
**Junior/Senior: 25**

*Rationale: Degree of Difficulty in Hybrids and Acrobatics should be progressive through the age groups so that proper development of the athletes occurs. Overloading difficulty may lead to the development of improper habits and also safety concerns from the length of time spent underwater.*

**(Note: Housekeeping if passed to include the maximum DD in the routine requirement charts in Appendix L).**

(NOTE: Items 10 through 20 have been submitted by the new Competition and Innovation Committee)

**ITEM 10:** From C&I – Establish an Advanced Intermediate competitive division for ages 13&Over.  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMENNDS APPROVAL**

NEW CP 1.5 (and renumber following)

**CP 1.5** Advanced Intermediate:  
CP 1.5.1 Regional  
CP 1.5.2 Association

NEW CP 3.6 (and renumber following)

**CP 3.6** Advanced Intermediate:

**CP 3.6.1** Championships shall be open to all qualified registered competitors.

**CP 3.6.2** Determination of Age Divisions:

**CP 3.6.2.1** The age of a competitor shall be based on the year of birth.

**CP 3.6.2.2** At least 1 competitor must be in the proper age division. Any number of competitors may move up to complete the routine.

**CP 3.6.3** Regional Championships:

**CP 3.6.3.1** May be held in Figures, Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio, Team and Free Combination in 5 2 age divisions: ~~10 & under, 11-12, 13-15, 16-17 and 18 & over.~~ **13-15 and 16 & Over.**

**CP 3.6.3.2** Each Region may set its own rules for conduct of their Championships.

**CP 3.6.4** Association Championships:

**CP 3.6.4.1** May be held in Figures, Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio, Team and Free Combination in 5 2 age divisions:~~10 & under, 11-12, 13-15, 16-17 and 18 & over.~~ **13-15 and 16 & Over.**

**CP 3.6.4.2** Each Association may set its own rules for conduct of their Championships.

**CP 4.1.5** Advanced Intermediate and Intermediate: Competitions shall consist of Figures and/or Free Routines with Technical Required Elements. There shall also be a Free Combination event conducted as a 100% routine event.

*Rationale: The figures and technical elements for 13&Over age groups are a large developmental jump from the intermediate figures. This offers athletes who may start in the sport later a more logical progression through our available programs. By using the same technical elements for routines as the intermediates and the same figures as 12&Under Age Group athletes, this additional division is provided with minimal additional burden on meet management capacity. See the [conceptual developmental chart](#) for the progression envisioned.*

(Note: Housekeeping if passed to add reference to advanced intermediate in every location of intermediate in the technical rules (e.g. reference guide, timing, events), and in all locations in Appendix L.)

**ITEM 11:** From C&I - Change Novice figures to one group of four figures, with a lower total DD  
**FIGURES SUBCOMMITTEE AND RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMEND APPROVAL AS AMENDED**

### ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

#### FIGURE RULES, Figure Rule II

##### E. NOVICE FIGURES:

<u>100</u>	<u>Bent Knee, Alternate</u>	<u>1.0</u>
<u>201</u>	<u>Dolphin</u>	<u>1.4</u>
<u>302</u>	<u>Blossom</u>	<u>1.4</u>
<u>316</u>	<u>Kipnus</u>	<u>1.4</u>

Rationale: Having only 4 figures will help athletes and coaches focus more on certain skills instead of working only on a particular set of figures before each meet, which we feel most associations do. If athletes are working on the same sculling techniques, positions and transitions during the entire year, this will lead to better progress overall in the future. The DD needs to be lowered to make sure novice athletes focus on basic skills before trying more advanced transitions. We also believe this aligns very well with skills in the pre-grades level.

**AMENDED PROPOSAL**

**FIGURE RULES, Figure Rule II**

**E. NOVICE FIGURES:**

**COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

100	Bent Knee, Alternate	1.0
<b>302</b>	<b>Blossom</b>	<b>1.4</b>

**SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1**

<b>301</b>	<b>Barracuda</b>	<b>1.8</b>
316	Kipnus	1.4

**Group 2**

344	Neptunus	1.7
201	Dolphin	1.4

Rationale: Barracuda replaced by blossom for lower DD and a development progression of body unroll needed for barracuda. The compulsory figures would have the lower DD associated with the C&I Committee proposal. Barracuda moved to an optional group that could be chosen by the association if it would benefit the athletes.

**ITEM 12:**

From C&I - Change Novice routine technical elements to a lower total degree of difficulty.

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**APPENDIX L, ARTICLE 3**

**NOVICE FREE ROUTINES WITH TECHNICAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS**

**NOVICE SOLO / MALE SOLO / DUET / MIXED DUET / TRIO AND TEAM (1:30)**

Technical Required Elements # 1-5 must be performed in the order listed.

**1. Figure # 310 Somersault, Back Tuck. [DD 1.1]**

**2. Figure # 100 Bent Knee, Alternate. [DD 1.0]**

**3. No-Arm Boost - a rapid, head-first rise, with a maximum amount of the body above the surface of the water. The No-Arm Boost is begun with the body totally underwater or with the back of the head and/or torso flush with the surface. The No-Arm Boost is completed upon total submergence. [DD 1.0]**

**4. Figure # 302 Blossom. [DD 1.4]**

**5. Figure # 316 Kipnus. [DD 1.4]**

Rationale: The DD should be lowered to make sure that novice athletes focus more on basic skills.

**ITEM 13:**

From C&I - Change Intermediate figures to one group of two compulsory figures and two selection groups of two figures each, with a lower total degree of difficulty.

**FIGURES SUBCOMMITTEE AND RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMEND APPROVAL AS AMENDED**

**ORIGINAL PROPOSAL**

**FIGURE RULES, Figure Rule II**

**D. INTERMEDIATE FIGURES:**

**COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
301	Barracuda	1.9

SELECTION GROUPS:

Group 1

359 Front Ariana 2.2 **360 Walkover, Front 1.9**

318 Kip, Bent Knee 1.8

Group 2

344 Neptunus 1.7 **348 Tower 1.9**

406 Swordfish, Straight Leg 2.0 **420 Walkover, Back 1.9**

Group 3

348 Tower 1.9

226 Swan 2.1

*Rationale: Having only 6 figures will help athletes and coaches focus more on certain skills instead of working only on a particular set of figures before each meet, which we feel most associations do. If athletes will work on the same sculling techniques, positions, transitions during the entire year this will lead to better progress overall in the future. The degree of difficulty needs to be lowered to make sure that intermediate athletes focus more on the basic skills before trying more advanced transitions. Together with the proposed changes to novice figures, this provides a strong, logical progression through skills towards the 12&Under Age Group and Youth figures.*

**AMENDED PROPOSAL**

**FIGURE RULES, Figure Rule II**

**D. INTERMEDIATE FIGURES**

**COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

101 Ballet Leg, Single 1.6

301 Barracuda 1.8

**SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1**

359 Front Ariana 2.2

**360 Walkover, Front 1.9**

318 Kip, Bent Knee 1.8

**Group 2**

344 Neptunus 1.7

406 Swordfish, Straight Leg 2.0

**Group 3**

348 Tower 1.9

226 Swan 2.1

**420 Walkover, Back 1.9**

*Rationale: Progression of skills achieved with more selection groups, assisting with transition to (AQUA) figures.*

**ITEM 14:**

From C&I - Change first element in intermediate and advanced intermediate routines

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**APPENDIX L, ARTICLE 3**

INTERMEDIATE **AND ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE** SOLO / MALE SOLO (1:45), DUET / MIXED DUET / TRIO (2:05)  
AND TEAM (2:35)

Technical Required Elements # 1-5 must be performed in the order listed. Requirements # 7-9 placement is optional.

1. Figure # 344 Neptunus. [DD 1.7] **Figure # 348 Tower. [DD 1.9]**

*Rationale: DTCs can struggle to differentiate between fishtail and bent knee positions in the Neptunus due to height levels of intermediate athletes, and therefore cannot confirm the element was performed properly. Use of the Tower as an alternative eliminates this issue and still encourages the same skill development for the athletes.*

**ITEM 15:** From C&I – Establish Advanced Intermediate Figures to match 12&Under Age Group Figures  
**FIGURES SUBCOMMITTEE AND RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

**FIGURE RULES, Figure Rule II**

C. COLLEGIATE TECHNICAL CATEGORY D, **ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE**, AND 12 & UNDER AGE DIVISION FIGURES:

*Rationale: A more logical progression into Youth or 16&Over age group figures and competition. Currently an intermediate athlete has a large jump to Youth figures if they wish to continue a competitive progression.*

**ITEM 16:** From C&I - Zeros for intermediate/advanced intermediate elements not performed correctly.  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS REJECTION**

**OD 4.6.2.4** Additional Penalties in Technical Routines **and Intermediate and Advanced Intermediate Free Routines with Technical Elements:**

Exception: For Masters Technical Routines and Novice ~~and Intermediate-Free~~ Routines with Technical Required Elements, see OD 4.6.2.7.

**OD 4.6.2.7** Additional Penalties and Technical Required Element Penalty procedures in Masters Technical Routines and Novice ~~and Intermediate-Free~~ Routines with Technical Required Elements.

*Rationale: Intermediate athletes are sufficiently advanced in the sport that application of a zero for an incorrect element should be understandable to the athlete. Also, with the higher degrees of difficulty for the intermediate elements compared to the novice elements, the two point penalty has a much lower impact on the final score.*

**ITEM 17:** From C&I - Limit 12&Under routines to 2 Rotation Level 5-9 actions per hybrid.  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**APPENDIX L, ARTICLE 3**

**12&UNDER AGE GROUP ROUTINE REQUIREMENTS**

**\*\*\*\* 12 & Under Hybrid Safety Limits: In 12&Under routines, Rotation (R) movements in levels 5-9 may be counted only two times (2x) per hybrid, always taking the highest values. This restriction is in addition to all stated AQUA hybrid restrictions.**

*Rationale: 12&U Age Group is a very important developmental stage in artistic swimming. At this age athletes must focus more on basic rotations, which will help them to develop proper body alignment and different types of sculling techniques. Overloading hybrids with multiple rotations from level 5-9 will lead to development of improper habits. In addition, this restriction will address a safety concern regarding athletes of this age staying underwater for an inappropriate amount of time.*

**ITEM 18:** From C&I - Require Grade Level 3 for entry into the National 12&Under Invitational  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**GRADE LEVEL MANUAL, PAGE 7**

All athletes must pass **Levels 1, 2, and 3** to participate at the 12&Under National Invitational.

*Rationale: The 12&Under Age Group National Invitational is targeted at elite track athletes. This provides a more logical preparation for the Grade Level 4 requirement to enter the Youth National Championships.*



- ITEM 19:** From C&I - Waive the Team Technical Routine Acrobatic Movement 2.0 DD Requirement for Junior Olympic Competitions.  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

### APPENDIX L, ARTICLE 3

#### JUNIOR / SENIOR TECHNICAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS FOR TECHNICAL ROUTINES

#### TEAM TECHNICAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS

6. The Degree of Difficulty ("DD") for the Acrobatic Movement should not be less than 2.0 nor exceed 2.65.

**Exception: For Junior Olympic Championships, the Degree of Difficulty ("DD") for the Acrobatic Movement should not exceed 2.65, but there shall be no minimum Degree of Difficulty.**

*Rationale: The Junior Olympic competitions (national, regional, and association) have multiple team routines with less than 7 athletes. With less than 7 athletes, there are far fewer options for acrobatics with a DD of 2.0 or higher. With requiring a higher DD for smaller teams, we are also risking more of the possibility of injury.*

- ITEM 20:** From C&I - Realign age groups for Intermediate Competition  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

#### CP 3.7 Intermediate:

**CP 3.7.1** Championships shall be open to all qualified registered competitors.

**CP 3.7.2** Determination of Age Divisions:

**CP 3.7.2.1** The age of a competitor shall be based on the year of birth.

**CP 3.7.2.2** At least 1 competitor must be in the proper age division. Any number of competitors may move up to complete the routine.

**CP 3.7.3** Regional Championships:

**CP 3.7.3.1** May be held in Figures, Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio, Team and Free Combination in ~~5~~ **4** age divisions: 10 & under, 11-12, 13-15, ~~16-17 and 18 & over.~~ **and 16 & Over.**

**CP 3.7.3.2** Each Region may set its own rules for conduct of their Championships.

**CP 3.7.4** Association Championships:

**CP 3.7.4.1** May be held in Figures, Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio, Team and Free Combination in ~~5~~ **4** age divisions: 10 & under, 11-12, 13-15, ~~16-17 and 18 & over.~~ **and 16 & Over.**

**CP 3.7.4.2** Each Association may set its own rules for conduct of their Championships.

*Rationale: For consistency, upper age division for Intermediate should mirror that of Advanced Intermediate and include the 16 & Over division instead of the 16-17 and 18 & Over divisions.*

**ITEM 21:**

Collegiate Committee Proposal, Change Appendix L Junior/Senior Routine Requirements  
**ADDITION OF THE COLLEGIATE TRIO CATEGORY EVENT REQUIREMENTS**  
**COLLEGIATE COMMITTEE AND RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

**JUNIOR / SENIOR ROUTINE REQUIREMENTS**

Event	Time (+/- 5 sec)	Total Elements	Summary
<b>1. Solo Technical</b> Male Solo Technical	2:00	7	Total of 5 Technical Required Elements and 2 Free Hybrids.
<b>2. Solo Free</b> Male Solo Free	2:15	7	Total of 7 Free Hybrids.
<b>3. Duet Technical</b>	2:20	8	Total of 5 Technical Required Elements, 2 Free Hybrids and 1 Pair Acrobatic*. *See Article 1, Section 1.04.
<b>4. Duet Free</b>	2:45	9	Total of 7 Free Hybrids and 2 Pair Acrobatics*. *See Article 1, Section 1.04.
<b>5. Mixed Duet Technical</b>	2:20	8	Total of 5 Technical Required Elements, 2 Free Hybrids (1 which must include a Hybrid connection) and 1 Pair Acrobatic*. *See Article 1, Section 1.04.
<b>6. Mixed Duet Free</b>	2:45	9	Total of 6 Free Hybrids (1 which must include a Hybrid connection) and 3 Pair Acrobatics* (1 Lift, 1 Throw/Jump and 1 free choice) <b>PLUS additional required movements for Mixed Duet Free:</b> 2 connected surface movements with travel. *See Article 1, Section 1.04.
<b><u>7. Collegiate Trio Free</u></b>	<b><u>2:45</u></b>	<b><u>9</u></b>	<b><u>Total of 6 Free Hybrids, 3 Free Acrobatic Movements</u></b>
<b>8. Team Technical</b>	2:50	9	Total of 5 Technical Required Elements, 3 Free Hybrids (1 which must include a Cadence Action*) and 1 Required Team Acrobatic Movement.* *See Article 1, Sections 1.03 & 1.05.
<b>9. Team Free</b>	3:30	11	Total of 7 Free Hybrids and 4 Free Team Acrobatic Movements.* *See Article 1, Section 1.03.
<b>10. Acrobatic Routine</b>	3:00	7	7 Team Acrobatic Movements* (1 of each group = 4 + 3 of free group choice) + Transitions are free, but no difficulty awarded + Hybrids are free, but no difficulty awarded. *See Article 1, Section 1.03.

*Rationale: Collegiate rules still allows participation in the trio event. At the start of the season the new system proposed trios have the same number of elements duets free. However, before competitions started collegiates asked for a waiver for trios to allow it to be different from duet free. The waiver allowed 6 hybrids and 3 acrobatic movements. The collegiate committee felt that the 6 hybrids and 3 acrobatic movements made this event unique for the athletes, and therefore voted to recommend a rule change to allow the collegiate trio requirements to be 6 hybrids and 3 acrobatic movements.*

**ITEM 22:**

Housekeeping Item - Regional JOs qualification to National JOs.

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**CP 3.5.5.4**

No Region shall have more than its proportionate share of the 12. Each Region shall qualify competitors by ranking in the combined Free routine and Figure or Technical routine scores **(12&U and Youth) or by ranking in the Free routines or Technical Routines (15-17 and 18-19/20)** in Regional Championships in the Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team events

*Rationale: In 2022 we passed legislation separating free and technical routine events at National Junior Olympics, but CP 3.5.5.4 incorrectly indicates that 15-17 and 18-19/20 age divisions have to use combined free and technical scores from their regional championship in order to qualify for National JOs.*

**ITEM 23:**

Housekeeping Item - for Classes of Competition

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**UNDER CP 1.3 (Youth)**

**ADD NEW CP 1.3.3 Association**

*Rationale: All classes of competition list Association with the exception of Youth.*