

Clarifications for Free Combination Event

In Appendix V - Required Element #1 it states:

At least two (2) parts must have fewer than three (3) competitors and at least two (2) parts must have **all** competitors.

To clarify, this does not mean that Team Hybrids need to be comprised of all competitors, it could also be transition or acrobatic parts with all of your athletes, at least two times.

Regarding Team Hybrids, since Combo is 4 to 10 athletes, the minimum required for a team hybrid is 4 athletes and this is now stated in Appendix III.

So for Team Hybrids in Combo the minimum required is 4 athletes, however, if you are doing a hybrid with less than your total number of athletes in the Combo routine, you will need to apply factors as per the Difficulty Guide general principles:

*“When a hybrid movement or bonused action is not performed by all team/duet members its value will be factored by *0.5 (half of swimmers included), or by *0.3 (less than half of swimmers included)”*

Examples for Team Hybrids in Combo:

Let's use an example of a Combo comprised of 6 athletes total:

Team Hybrid 1: They have an entire team hybrid with just 4 athletes, whatever they declare for that hybrid, it would get factored by *0.5.

Team Hybrid 2: They do the team hybrid with all 6 athletes and therefore NO factoring is applied because it's ALL the team.

Team Hybrid 3: They start the team hybrid with 6 and 2 athletes do a rotation level 3 (R3). That R3 would be factored by *0.3 (R3*0.3)

Also, we need to take into account the principle of TU and NM when there's different "groups" in the same hybrid, NM and TU must be the same in the two/three etc groups (refer to Difficulty Guide). So for a Combo, a Team Hybrid could start with 3 athletes, then a 4th joins in, and finally it ends with 8 (all in same apnea). But whatever DD content they do in those groups, they would be factored by *0.3, *0.5 or nothing depending on the team configuration.

Example:

In a Combo of 10 athletes, in the last team hybrid, right before music ends, is the following:

- 3 athletes begin the hybrid alone and do an AW2 and R2;
- Then, another 3 athletes join this same hybrid and the 6 athletes now do an F1;
- Then the final 4 join this same hybrid and all 10 athletes do a R3.
- The total time underwater is 14 seconds, and group 1 (of 3 athletes) do a total of 18 moves, group 2 (of 3 more athletes) do a total of 15 moves and the last group added (4 athletes) do a total of 11 moves.
- The declaration would be:

Base Mark	Declared Difficulty	Bonus
NM2 TU2	AW2*0.3 R2*0.3 F1*0.5 R3	PL SY-P