# 2018-2019 RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS JUNIOR OLYMPIC COACHES \& JUDGES HANDBOOK 

Levels 3-8 \& Junior Olympic Group


Apparatus Chart - JO Program (2017-2020) - June 2018 Update

| Level | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Level 3 | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball | Floor <br> Hoop <br> Ball | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l\|} \hline \text { Floor } \\ \text { Hoop } \\ \text { Ball } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| Level 4 | Floor Rope Hoop | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Floor } \\ & \text { Hoop } \\ & \text { Ball } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball |
| Level 5 | Floor <br> Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs | Floor <br> Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs | Floor <br> Rope <br> Hoop <br> Clubs | Floor <br> Rope <br> Hoop <br> Clubs |
| Level 6 | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball <br> Ribbon | Floor <br> Rope <br> Hoop <br> Ribbon | Floor <br> Rope <br> Hoop <br> Ribbon | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball <br> Ribbon |
| Level 7 | Floor <br> Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs | Floor Hoop Ball Clubs | Floor <br> Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs | Floor <br> Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs |
| Level 8 | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball <br> Clubs | Floor <br> Rope <br> Ball <br> Ribbon | Floor <br> Rope <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon | Floor <br> Rope <br> TBA <br> Ribbon |
| Level 9/10 JR | Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon | Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon | Rope <br> Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon | Rope <br> Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon |
| Level 9/10 SR | Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon | Hoop Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon | Hoop Ball Clubs Ribbon | Hoop <br> Ball <br> Clubs <br> Ribbon |


| Beginner Group | Floor <br> Hoop | Floor <br> Ball | Floor <br> Hoop | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { Floor } \\ \text { Ball } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intermediate Group | Floor Hoop | Floor Ball | Floor Hoop | Floor Ball |
| Advanced Group | Floor <br> Clubs / hoops or <br> Balls/hoops* | Floor <br> Clubs /hoops or <br> Balls/ hoops* | Floor <br> Clubs/hoops or Balls/hoops* | Floor <br> Clubs /hoops or Balls/hoops* |
| JR Group | 5-Ropes 5 pair Clubs | 5-Ropes 5 pair Clubs | 5-Hoops 5-Ribbons | 5-Hoops <br> 5-Ribbons |
| SR Group | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 5-Hoops } \\ & \text { 3-Balls/2-ropes } \end{aligned}$ | 5-Hoops <br> 3-Balls/2-ropes | 5-Balls <br> 4-clubs/3-hoops | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 5-Balls } \\ & \text { 4-clubs/3-hoops } \end{aligned}$ |

Note: Duet - 1 hoop/ 1 ball (first year) or 1 pair of clubs (second year);
Trio - 2 hoops/ 1 ball (first year) or 1 pair of clubs (second year);
4 gymnasts -2 hoops/ 2 balls (first year) or 2 pair of clubs (second year);
5 gymnasts -3 hoops/ 2 balls (first year) or 2 pair of clubs (second year)
*Second/ Third Year Advance level groups must do different "mix" apparatus event, than in previous year. For example:
-Groups, who competed at Advance level in 2018: Apparatus for 2019-Clubs/hoops
-Groups, who did not compete at Advance level in 2018: Apparatus for 2019- Balls/ hoops

## Generalities - SPECIFICATIONS

## A. Facility

i. FIG regulation for the interior dimension of the floor area is $13 \times 13$ meters for Individual, Group, Trio and Duet Competition, with a security zone of a minimum of 1 meter wide.
ii. The floor area must be clearly marked showing the outer boundary of the floor so that the material itself is in bounds. In other words, a gymnast must step over the line to receive an out of bounds deduction.
iii. The official FIG ceiling height, unobstructed, is a minimum of 12 meters (39.37 feet); however, a minimum of 8 meters ( 26.24 feet) is required for JO competition.
iv. A physical barrier should be set up with a recommended distance of at least 10 feet from the edge of the carpet (see the Rhythmic Rules and Policies for additional specs).

## B. Routine Regulation

i. In levels 3-4, all routines are optional but compulsory for each club. For example: all Level 3s from the same club perform the same routine. Slight variations in the body difficulty selection are tolerated. This rule applies to all events. For clubs with gymnasts of various ages within one level, one music/composition may be used for children and another for juniors/seniors if deemed appropriate.
ii. In level 3-4, the Meet Director may elect to have gymnasts compete two at a time on the carpet; routines should be choreographed for half of the floor area.
iii. In levels 5-9, gymnasts compete one at a time.
C. Music

CD Regulations:
i. Levels 3-4: A separate CD is required for each club, for each event. Each CD must be marked with the following:
a. Club name
b. Apparatus symbol
ii. Levels 5-8+ Groups: A separate high-quality CD is required for each gymnast, for each event, even if the entire team uses the same music. Each CD must be marked with the following:
a. Gymnast's full name
b. Club name
c. Apparatus symbol

Length of Program: The stopwatch will start when the gymnast begins to move and will stop as soon as the gymnast is totally motionless.

Level 3: 1'15" max
Levels 4-6: 1'00" to 1'30"
Levels 7-8: 1'15" to 1'30"

Music Regulation: The music may be interpreted by one or several instruments, including the voice used as an instrument, without words. Non typical music of Rhythmic gymnastics character is totally forbidden (example: sirens, car engines, etc.).

- Penalty: 0.50 point for Music not conforming to regulations Note: penalty of 0.5 for insufficient CD quality will be implemented

NOTE: In case of incorrect music, it is the responsibility of the gymnast/group to stop the routine immediately; she/they will exit the competition floor and will re-enter and re-start the routine with her/their own music when called to the competition floor. A request to repeat exercise after the completion of the routine will not be accepted. The same rule applies if a gymnast could not hear the signal at the beginning of the routine, but started to perform her routine anyway.

- A gymnast/Group may repeat routine only in case of a « force major» fault (Sound system error, electricity shut down, ect.) only with approval of Meet Ref.


## D. Attire

The USA Junior Olympic Program utilizes all the FIG rules governing attire. A correct gymnastics leotard:

- Must be in non-transparent material; therefore, leotards with some part in lace or sheer material will have to be lined from the trunk to the chest
- Must have a neckline of the front and back of the leotard from no further down than half of the sternum and the lower line of the shoulder blades
- May be with or without sleeves; narrow straps are not allowed
- The skirt must be fitted to the hips (the look of a "ballet tutu" is forbidden; "fluffy" skirts, which are not fitted closely to the hips, or skirts with the "puffy" feathered look that come out beyond the waist and pelvis)

Level 3 and 4 gymnasts must wear 1 leotard for all routines. Level 5 and 6 gymnasts may wear 2 different leotards max. Level 7 and 8 gymnasts may wear up to 4 leotards max.

Group leotards must be identical in style and color. The only exception is in the case of a patterned fabric where slight variations are acceptable.

## E. Apparatus - General Regulation

i. See the Rhythmic Rules \& Policies for specific regulations.
ii. An equipment check may be conducted at all USA Gymnastics sanctioned meets and will be checked officially at Regional and Junior Olympic Championships.
iii. Apparatus specifications can be found in the Rhythmic Rules and Policies.
F. Panel Composition
i. Levels 3 and 4: 1 or 2 judge(s) per panel.

- Level 4: 2 judges per panel (minimum) for State and Regional Meets: all gymnasts of the same age category are judged by the same panel of judges for each event.
- If level 4 gymnasts compete 2 at a time, gymnasts of the same age category must compete on the same side of the floor to ensure the same age category gymnasts are judged by the same judges (Ex: all gymnasts Child B must compete on the same side for all events).

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\text { In the case of } 2 \text { judges per panel: }
$$

Judge 1 evaluates D
Judge 2 evaluates E
In Levels 3-4, two athletes may compete one at a time or two at time on the mat at the discretion of the meet director or organizers. The program encourages one gymnast at a time on the mat.
ii. Levels 5 and 6: 2 judges per panel

Judge 1 evaluates D
Judge 2 evaluates E
iii. Levels 7 and 8: 2 judges minimum per panel:

## Invitational \& State Competitions:

Judge 1 evaluates D
Judge 2 evaluates E
Regional Competitions: 4 Judges per panel:
2 judges on each panel will judge D
2 judges on each panel will judge $E$

## iv. Group Competition

## Invitational \& State Competitions:

Minimum of 2 judges (one per panel) must be used.

## Regional/ National Competitions:

Minimum of 4 judges must be used.
G. Neutral Deductions: Neutral Deductions will be taken by the Meet Referee. In the case that the Meet Referee is an acting panel judge or there is no Meet Referee, the Difficulty Judge (J1) on each panel will be responsible for applying the deductions. The total of these penalties will be deducted from the Final score.

Each exercise will have to be performed entirely on the official floor area:

- Any Difficulty initiated outside the floor area will not be evaluated (during or at the end of the exercise).
- If the Difficulty is started inside the floor area and finished outside the floor area, the Difficulty will be evaluated

| Explanation | Penalty |
| :--- | :--- |
| Length of exercise not conforming to regulations | 0.05 for each <br> second under <br> or over time |
| Attire of gymnast not conforming to regulations (1 time per Group) Note: It is not allowed to <br> wear jewelry or piercings which jeopardize the safety of the gymnast. | 0.30 |
| Apparatus not conforming to official regulations | 0.50 |
| Any part of the body or apparatus touching outside the boundary of the floor area or any <br> apparatus leaving the floor area and returning by itself (two clubs together, which touch <br> outside the boundary at the same time, is penalized one time as one apparatus). | 0.10 each |
| No penalty: | -if the apparatus leaves the floor area after the end of the exercise and the end of the <br> music |
| -if the apparatus is lost at the end of last movement of the exercise. <br> -if the apparatus passes the boundary of the floor area without touching the ground. |  |
| -if the apparatus and/or gymnast touches the line. | 0.30 |
| -If the broken or unusable apparatus is removed outside the floor area |  |$\quad$| For early or late presentation by the gymnast(s) |
| :--- |

## LEVELS 3-6 <br> The Base of Rhythmic Gymnastics

The focus of levels 3-6 in rhythmic gymnastics is basic technique-first with the body and then with the equipment. A gymnast can only successfully approach levels 7-8 with a solid technical foundation.

Parallel to learning this foundation-basic technique-is maintaining physical health. To this end, coaches and gymnast must focus on the development of proper body alignment (square shoulders and hips in all positions) and equal work with the right and left sides of the body and, when using the apparatus, equal work with the right and left hands. Only with a solid technical base and alignment may gymnasts attempt more physically demanding elements in the future.

Body Difficulty (BD): The values of the Body Difficulties will be calculated in accordance with FIG values and then multiplied (in level 3 only) by a factor to obtain the Difficulty score. Some additional Junior Olympic Body Difficulties have been added.

Composition requirements: Since mastering proper basic technique is the goal of the Level 3-6 Program, the fundamental body movements and the apparatus technical groups fundamental to rhythmic gymnastics are the foundation of a composition.

Execution: Learning to coordinate movements with the music and, later, starting to connect with the character of the music, are basic goals of Artistry. Execution will be judged using the FIG technical execution faults. The judge penalizes errors with the body and/or equipment technique, an indication that the gymnast has not yet mastered the basic technique of the body and/or apparatus.

A Progression

- The focus of levels 7-8 is gradual preparation with calculated progressions towards the Elite level. Level 7-8 is a developmental version of the FIG program.
- Differences between the FIG rules and those in Level 7 and/or Level 8 were adjusted to preserve the health of the body according to the age and development level of the gymnast and to support the emphasis on proper body and apparatus technique.


## GENERALITIES: Levels 3-6, Beginner and Intermediate Groups Difficulty and Execution

## BODY DIFFICULTY

- Isolated Difficulties from each group of body movements should be present in the exercise: Jumps/Leaps $\wedge$, Balances T, Rotations $\delta$
- Each difficulty is counted only once within a body group.
- All body difficulty requirements must be present in each routine. Penalty for unauthorized distribution $=0.3$ penalty for each missing or additional difficulty (taken from the final Difficulty score by the Difficulty judge).
Note: see specific requirements for Body Difficulty distribution for each level
- Within a body element group, an identical shape may not be repeated :
- Elements are considered the same shape if they are listed in the same box in the Difficulty Table.
- Elements are considered different if they are listed in different boxes in the Difficulty Table. This includes elements in the same family, but in separate boxes.
- Note: jumps/leaps can be performed with take-off from two feet even when it is not specified in the Table, which does not change the value and will be considered the same jump/leap (unless otherwise mentioned in the Table of difficulties).
- Any additional difficulty above the maximum allowance (regardless of its value) $=0.3$ penalty (one time penalty taken from the final Difficulty score by the Difficulty judge).
- If a gymnast performs a difficulty with a basic value above the allowed limit, the difficulty will not be evaluated. (Note: NO PENALTY applied)
- If a gymnast performs a difficulty with greater amplitude than required, the gymnast will be awarded the allowed value. Example: Level 4: a gymnast performs a $720^{\circ}$ rotation in releve in front arabesque position ( 0.4 value), but she is only allowed to perform 0.3 value difficulties; the judge will award 0.2 for the first $360^{\circ}$ with no penalty for higher amplitude or additional rotations.
- Right/Left leg designation in level 3-8 Floor routines. The "leg" used is determined by:
- Leaps: front leg (switch, scissors, Entrelace - the front leg in the final shape); for jumps around the vertical axis - the side of the leading shoulder during rotation. (Exception: leaps, which involve movement of the free leg through various positions- two or more successive split leaps (\#22 on the table of BD)- can be counted as either Right of Left).
- Balances: raised leg (if the leg is raised to the front or side) or support leg (if the leg is raised to the back). Balances with change of shape: will follow general rules for balances (Exception: balances which involve movement of the free leg through various positions - "ronde" or "fouetté" - can be counted as either Right or Left.)
- Pivots: raised leg (if the leg is raised to the front or side) or support leg (if the leg is raised to the back).
- "Neutral" difficulties: performed either on two legs equally (for example: ring jump with two feet, straddle jump, "butterfly" jump) or on another body part without a split position (chest, knees, elbows, etc).
- Each missing body difficulty on opposite leg/side for level 3-8 Floor routines $=0.3$ penalty (taken from the final Difficulty score by the Difficulty judge).
- Note: Neutral Difficulties may not substitute the opposite leg/side requirement. For example, if a neutral difficulty is used in the floor routine (e.g.: ring jump with two feet, etc.), the remaining number of difficulties must be executed $50 \%$ on the opposite leg/side. Maximum 1 neutral difficulty is allowed per routine.
- Note: Floor routines levels 5-6 ONLY: Minimum 1 leap/jump, 1 balance and 1 pivot/ rotation must be executed on the opposite leg/side
- A difficulty will only be valid if the apparatus is in motion, held on the palm of the hand (Applies to ball only. Ball may not be squeezed) or on another part of the body (simple hanging is prohibited).


## BODY DIFFICULTY NOTES:

1. To be valid all BD must be performed with a defined shape; this means the trunk, legs and all corresponding body segments are in the correct positions to identify a valid BD shape (examples: $180^{\circ}$ split position, ring, stag position, etc) The guiding philosophy for Junior Olympic program is to award the gymnast for an identifiable BD shape, with the following possibilities:
a) Defined shape according to the Tables of Body Difficulty and Notes below without any Technical Execution penalty.
b) Defined shape with up to $20^{\circ}$ deviation of one or more body segments: valid BD with -0.10 or more Technical Execution penalty (see Table of Technical Faults)
c) Shape of a lower value BD when there is more than a $20^{\circ}$ deviation from an identifiable, defined shape: See Downgrading principle+ Technical Execution penalty
d) When there is no BD option to award given the shape performed, BD invalid with relevant technical execution faults
2. In all difficulties with ring, the foot or another segment of the leg should be very close to the head (closed ring position, touching is not required)
3. In all difficulties with back bend of the trunk, the trunk must perform the predominant action and the head must be close to some part of the leg (touching is not required)
4. The support leg whether stretched or bent does not change the value of the difficulty (balance or rotation).
5. All the Difficulties of Jumps/Leaps must have the following basic characteristics:

- Defined and fixed shape during the flight
- Height (elevation) of the jumps or leaps sufficient to show the corresponding shape
- A jump or leap without sufficient height to show the fixed and well-defined shape will not be valid as a Difficulty and will be penalized for Execution.
- The rotation of the whole body during the flight is evaluated after the take-off foot/feet has/have left the floor and before the landing of the foot/feet on the floor
- Jumps or Leaps combined with more than one main action (for example, stag leap with ring), take-off from one or both feet, must be performed in such a way that they create during the flight a single and clearly visible image of a fixed and well-defined shape, rather than 2 different images and shapes (not a kip movement).

5. All Balance Difficulties must have the following basic characteristics:

- Balances on the foot and on other parts of the body must have defined and clearly fixed shape with a stop position:
-a minimum of 1 second fixed in the shape
-if the shape is well-defined but the stop position is insufficient, the balance is valid with a technical execution penalty
- Dynamic Balances must be executed with smooth and continuous movements from one form to another and have a clearly defined shape (all relevant parts of the body are in the correct position in the same moment of time)
- Balances on the foot may be performed on releve or on flat foot. For flat foot, the value is reduced by 0.10 .
- Balances on other parts of the body or Dynamic Balance (except Fouette Balance) may be performed either in releve or flat foot without changing the value.
- It is possible to repeat the same shape within one Fouette Balance but it is not possible to repeat any of these shapes isolated or in another Fouette Balance.
- Fouette Balance is one Balance Difficulty consisting of a minimum 3 same or different shapes performed in releve with heel support between each shape, with or without the help of the hands, with a minimum of 1 turn of $90^{\circ}$ or $180^{\circ}$. Each Balance shape must be shown with a clear accent (clear position).
- In an exercise a gymnast may not perform a Difficulty with "Slow Turn" in relevé or on flat foot. The "slow turn" is also not authorized on the knee, on the arms, or in the "Cossack" position. A penalty of 0.30 (taken by the D judge from the final D score) will apply if the gymnast performs a difficulty with "slow turn".


## 6. All the Rotation Difficulties must have the following basic characteristics

- Minimum basic rotation of $360^{\circ}$
- Have a fixed and well defined shape during the rotation until the end

Note: well-defined shape means that the correct shape taken by the gymnast is held fixed during a minimum basic rotation; slight deviations in the shape = Execution faults. If the shape is not recognizable or held at all, the Difficulty is not valid

- Rotation will be evaluated according to the number of rotations performed. In case of an interruption (hop), only the value of the rotations already performed prior to the interruption will be valid.
- Criteria for development of Rotations value (does not apply for JO Body difficulties- see JO Body difficulty table):
- For additional rotations on flat foot or another part of the body: +0.10 for each additional rotation above the base $360^{\circ}$
- For additional rotations in releve: +0.20 for each additional rotation above the base $360^{\circ}$ ( $180^{\circ}$ base for \#6, 9,17 ). +0.10 for each additional rotation above the base $360^{\circ}$ for all rotation with base value of 0.1 (\#1,2,3, 15, 16,19, 20, 21)

7. Evaluation of all Body Difficulties is determined by the body shape presented regardless of the intended shape (for more examples, please see Tables of Body Difficulties)

|  | Explanation/Example |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intended | Performed | Valid |
| 阴早 |  |  |

## TABLE OF DIFFICULTIES:

In order to facilitate a more gradual, safe progression into the higher level difficulties, additional difficulties have been added to the FIG Code to be utilized in Levels 3-6, Beginner and Intermediate Groups only. These additional JO-specific difficulties are indicated in the separate table of additional JO Difficulties and may be used in addition to the FIG table of difficulties.
Note: In case there is a difference between the textual description of the Difficulty and the drawing in the table of Difficulties, the text prevails.

- A Body Difficulty is valid if executed:

1. According to the technical requirements listed in the Table of Difficulties and the "Body difficulty Notes" in the Generalities section.
2. Without one or more of the following serious Technical faults:

- Major alteration of the basic characteristics specific to each group of BD
- A major technical fault with the apparatus (technical fault of 0.30 or more)
- Loss of balance with support on one or both hands or on the apparatus
- Total loss of balance with fall


## COMPOSITION REQUIREMENTS

1. APPARATUS TECHNICAL GROUPS: the basic apparatus handling movements in rhythmic gymnastics which serve as the composition requirements.

| Apparatus | Technical Groups for each apparatus (Levels 3-6) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $0$ | Passing with the whole or part of the body through the Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side: <br> - Open Rope held by both hands <br> - Rope folded in 2 or more <br> - With double rotations of the rope from Medium or large Throw <br> (Note: without support/help of any part(s) of the body) | $\bigcirc$ Rotations: <br> - Rope folded in two (held at the ends or in the middle) <br> - Rope folded in 3 or 4 <br> - Open, stretched Rope, held by the middle or by the end <br> - Free rotation around part of the body <br> - Mills (rope open, held by the middle, folded in 2 or more) |
|  | M Passing through the Rope of small hops/skips, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side | - Wrapping/unwrapping <br> - Spirals with the rope folded in 2 |
|  | - "Echappé": Must have 2 actions: release and catch of the rope. The ends of the rope must be held by hand(s) or another part of the body at the beginning and at the end. Starting and/or finishing with 1 end of the rope lying on the floor is not valid. <br> - Spirals : <br> - release like "Echappe" followed by multiple (2 or more) spiral rotations of one end of the rope and catch of the end by the hand or another part of the body <br> - open and stretched rope held by one end by 1 hand, from the previous movement (movement of open rope, catch, from the floor, etc.) passed into spiral rotations (2 or more) of one end of the rope, catch with hand or the other part of the body. |  |
|  | Passing through the Hoop with the whole or part of the body | mom Roll of the Hoop on the floor |
|  | 000 Roll of the Hoop over body segment(s) | (1) Rotation(s) of the Hoop around its axis (min. 1): <br> - On the floor |
|  | Rotation(s): <br> - around the hand (min. 1) <br> - around a part of the body (min. 1) |  |
|  | Rotation(s) of the Hoop around its axis: <br> - between the fingers <br> - on the part of the body |  |
|  | 000 Free Roll of the Ball over body segment(s) | ○. "Flip-over" movement of the Ball (ball balancing on the hand) <br> - Swing <br> - Rotation(s) of the hand around the Ball <br> - Free rotation(s) of the ball on a part of the body |
|  | Figures eight of the ball with large circle movements of the entire arm(s) (circumduction) Note: Ample movement of the trunk is encouraged, but not required |  |


|  | Bounces: <br> - high bounce (knee level and higher) <br> - Visible rebound from the floor or a part of the body (any directions) <br> - small bounces(below knee level)- min. 3 <br> Catch of the Ball with one hand (from medium or large throw; not for use with small throw or "thrust") Note: no contact with forearm or body | $\infty$ <br> Roll of the Ball on the floor <br> - Roll of the body on the ball on the floor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\\| \eta$ | Mills: at least 4 small circles of the Clubs with time delay and by alternating crossed and uncrossed wrists/ hands each time <br> Small circles with both Clubs, simultaneously or alternating, one club in each hand (min. 1) | ○ • Free rotation(s) of 1 or 2 Clubs(locked or unlocked) on or around the part of the body or around the other club or on the floor Tapping (min. 1) <br> - Swings |
|  | $\Leftrightarrow$ Small throw(s)/ catch(s) with rotation (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) of 2 Clubs together (unlocked) simultaneously or alternating | Series (min.3) of small circles with 1 Club |
|  | - The asymmetric movements of 2 Clubs (must be different in their shape or amplitude and in the work planes or direction) | mon Roll(s) of 1 or 2 Clubs: <br> - on the part of the body <br> - on the floor |
| $\mathscr{O}$ | Spirals (4-5 loops), tight and same height: <br> - in the air <br> - on the floor | $\infty$ Roll of the Ribbon stick on the part of the body |
|  | Snakes (4-5 waves), tight and same height: <br> - in the air <br> - on the floor | - Rotational movement of the Ribbon stick around the hand <br> - Movement of the Ribbon around a part of the body created when the stick is held by different parts of the body (hand, neck, knee, elbow) during body movements or Difficulties with rotation only <br> - Wrapping/unwrapping <br> - Swing <br> - Medium circle(s) of the ribbon |
|  | Passing: <br> - Through or over the pattern of the ribbon over the pattern of the Ribbon |  |
|  | "Echappe"": full rotation of the stick during its flight, small and medium height | "Boomerang": release of the ribbon (the end of the ribbon is held) in the air or on the floor and catch of the ribbon stick |


| $\nearrow \downarrow$ | Throw(s) or catch(s) <br> Medium throw - one to two heights of the gymnast measured from her head (regardless of the position gymnast on the floor) <br> Large throw - more than two heights of the gymnast measured from the head (regardless of the position gymnast on the floor) <br> Note: Only the height of the boomerang throw of the ribbon, the throw of a fully stretched rope, or the clubs throw with horizontal rotations, may be less. Boomerang throw on the floor is not valid as a medium or large throw. |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\rightarrow$ | Small throw(s)/ catch(s) (close to the body) (for clubs with or without $360^{\circ}$ rotation) Small throw of 2 clubs locked together (with or without $360^{\circ}$ rotation) |
| Q | Unstable balance on the part of the body: apparatus is balanced in a position where there is a risk of loss/on a small surface of the body as long as it is not "squeezed" in the position (thus no risk of loss). During an element of rotation, it is possible for the ball to be placed in the back (the back is a large part of the body but during this element, the ball can be lost). Examples include (but not limited to): the ball on the palm of the hand or the neck without the hands; one club held by the other club on the inner/outer side of the hand. (For additional examples-see pages 36-38) |
| 0 | Apparatus handling (apparatus in motion): <br> - Large circle(s) of the apparatus (including "sail" for Rope) <br> - Figure eight (not for Ball): a movement in which a large " 8 " is created and performed with large movement of the entire arm. Note: Ample movement of the trunk is encouraged, but not required <br> - Rebounds (not for Ball) of the apparatus from different parts of the body or from the floor <br> - "Thrust"/ push of the apparatus from different parts of the body <br> - Sliding of the apparatus on any part of the body <br> - Transmission of the apparatus around any part of the body or under the leg(s) <br> - Passing over the apparatus with the whole or part of the body without a transmission of the apparatus from the hand or a part of the body to another hand or part of the body |

- Series: Any time a "series" is indicated, a minimum of 3 of the required elements (hops, rotations, etc.) is necessary to be valid.

Note for Levels 3-4: If a gymnast performs Required Apparatus Elements above the minimum requirement (see specific requirements for each apparatus), the gymnast will be awarded the minimum Required Apparatus Element. Example: Level 3 gymnast performs 1 unassisted roll of the ball across 2 arms open to the side. (Minimum requirement: 1 unassisted roll of the ball on 1 part of the upper body). Additionally, the minimum Required Apparatus Elements may be performed with or without a body difficulty.

## Note concerning required apparatus elements :

Valid for the Composition requirements:

- an attempt to perform the apparatus element according to it is definition which results, finally, in a loss
Invalid for the Composition requirements:
- Not attempting at all
- Not performing according to the definition


## 2. BODY WAVES:

All required body waves must use the total body. If a gymnast uses a total body wave as one of her difficulties, she needs to perform an additional body wave(s) to fulfill the composition requirements.

## 3. DANCE STEPS COMBINATION

- Dance Steps Combination: A sequence of a minimum 8 seconds coordinated with the music which expresses a rhythm (not only regular timing) and character of the music. All steps must be clear and visible for full duration. The steps may be classical dance steps, folkloric dance steps, etc. The apparatus must be in motion during the steps.
- Dance Steps with travel and change of direction (minimum 8 seconds): Steps defined above with changes of direction of the body (not necessarily changing direction on the floor).

Dance Steps Combination will not be valid with:

- less than 8 seconds
- the entire combination performed on the floor (only partially is possible).
- Major alteration of the basic technique of the apparatus handling (Faults of 0.30 penalty or more by Execution judges).
- Loss of balance with support on one or both hands or on the apparatus
- Total loss of balance with fall
- No relation between the rhythm and character of the music and the body and apparatus movements


## 4. Pre-Acrobatic Elements:

Only the following groups of pre-acrobatic elements are authorized:

- Forward, backward and side rolls without flight
- Walkovers forward, backward, cartwheels without flight
- Walkovers performed with different types of support (on the chest, on the shoulders, on the hand(s)) and/or techniques are considered as different preacrobatic elements.
- «Chest roll/Fish - flop»: walkover on the floor on one shoulder with passing through the vertical of the stretched body

forwards

- "Dive Split Leap": leap with trunk bent forward followed directly by one or more rolls


## LEVEL 3 ONLY:

- "Log" roll ( lateral roll in a stretched body position, legs together)
- Lateral roll in tuck position
- Seated lateral roll (rotation around the vertical axis in a seated position)

The following elements are authorized but not considered as pre-acrobatic elements:

- Dorsal support on the shoulders
- Side or front splits on the floor, without any stop in the position (except JO additional body difficulty value 0.1 for levels 3-4 ONLY)
- Support on one or two hands or on the forearms without any other contact with the floor, without walkover/cartwheels and without stopping in the vertical position.

All groups of authorized pre-acrobatic elements may be included in the exercise and will be valid on the conditions:

- that they are coordinated with a technical element of the apparatus.
- the gymnast should be in contact with the apparatus in the beginning, in the end or during the whole element

PENALTIES by the D JUDGE

| Unauthorized distribution of body difficulties | 0.30 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Additional Body Difficulty above the maximum(1 time penalty) | 0.30 |
| For each missing body difficulty on opposite leg/side | 0.30 |
| For performing "slow turn" with a Body Difficulty | 0.30 |

## EXECUTION

## 1. ARTISTRY

- Logical connections and smooth transitions between movements:

Movements must be logically connected by passing from one movement or a movement sequence to another (and not displaying pauses, abrupt changes, or disconnections between movements). See also page 50.

- Varieties (see also page 52):

The composition of the exercise should demonstrate variety in all areas: traveling/steps; levels; speed; hand, arm, trunk, and head movements; awareness of floor pattern

- Modalities: "ways" in which you do things. For example, different travel modalities would be skipping, hopping, running, walking.
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism): The gymnast shows changes in dynamism by contrasts in the energy, power, speed and intensity of both her body and apparatus movements according to changes in the music. An exercise where the energy, power, speed and intensity are monotonous (without any contrast or change) lacks dynamism and is penalized. See also page 51.
- Variety in Dance Steps combinations

While the theme of the movements in the different Dance Steps Combinations should be unified according to the style and character of the music, each Combination should be different: distinctive movements and poses should be combined in various ways from one Combination to another. Identical movements and poses simply repeated in different Combinations in different places on the floor area do not qualify as "different."
2. MUSICALITY (see also Rhythm on pages 50 and 51)

The primary artistic objective is learning how to coordinate movements to the music:

- The movements of the body as well as the apparatus must correlate precisely with the musical accents, and the musical phrases
- The body and apparatus movements should emphasize the tempo/rhythm of the music.
- Musicality points are "bonus" points. Movements which are performed separate from the accents or disconnected from the tempo established by the music are penalized EACH time. This also applies in case(s) when gymnast loses her apparatus.

3. EXPRESSION (see also page 51-52)

The gymnast's emotional interpretation of the music expressed through her facial and body movement.
Note: Expression points are "bonus points". This means that if a gymnast really has no expression, she would receive 0.00 for expression (no bonus). If a gymnast has complete, genuine expression throughout the entire routine, she can, and should receive full value. Judges are reminded and encouraged to use the entire range to differentiate the gymnasts in the area of expression.

PENALTIES by the Execution JUDGE (Artistic Faults)

| Lack of contact with the apparatus in the beginning and end (composition fault). <br> Unjustified start position | 0.30 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Absence of harmony between music-movement at the end of the exercise | 0.50 |

4. TECHNICAL FAULT refers to how every movement is performed. FIG technical fault penalties are used (see pages 54-56)

Static of the Apparatus: The apparatus must be in motion or in an unstable balance position, not simply held/squeezed for a long time. Static apparatus is apparatus held/squeezed:

- "Apparatus held" means that the apparatus is held firmly with one or two hands and/ or by one part or more than one part of the body (not in unstable position).
- Apparatus held "for a long time" means held for more than 4 seconds.
- A difficulty performed with static apparatus will not be valid.


## SCORE RANGES

There is a maximum of 0.6 difference between the Difficulty scores and 0.50 difference tolerated between the scores in Execution.

## SYMBOLS

All judges are required to use the judging symbols for evaluating routines. The noted symbols will be used to resolve any discrepancies between judges' scores.



Table Jumps/Leaps Difficulty ( $\wedge$ )

| Types of Jumps | Value |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0,10 | 0,20 | 0,30 | 0,40 | 0,50 | 0,60 |
| 1. Tuck Jump | ${ }_{300} 2^{4}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. «Scissors» with bent legs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Jump with streched legs | $300^{\circ} 9$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Passé jump (free leg bent forward or sideways) | $360^{\circ} \text { 早 }$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Jump with free leg stretched in front horizontal position | ${ }_{180} \check{\Gamma}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Jump with free leg stretched in a side horizontal position |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Jump with free leg stretched in horizonta position of Arabesque | $1800 \div$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Jump with free leg in horizontal position of Attitude | $180^{\circ} \mathrm{Y}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. «Cabriolen forward | $113$ | ${ }_{180^{\circ}} \mathrm{F}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 10. «Cabriole» sideways | $l_{11}^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. «Cabriole» backwards or with turn (180 or more) | $\ln e_{e}^{2}$ | $180^{\circ}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { 12. Jump with arch or } \\ \text { with turn (180 or more) } \end{array}$ | $($ | ${ }_{180}$ |  |  |  |  |


|  | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.50 | 0.60 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 13. "Scissors" leaps with switch of legs forward at horizontal; also above horizontal, take-off leg high up, whole foot higher than head, or with switch of legs backward (at horizontal), or with ring |  | (whole foot higher than head) |  |  |  |  |
| 14. Pike jump |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. Cossack, straight leg forward, at horizontal, or with turn ( $180^{\circ}$ or more), or with turn and trunk forward |  |  | $180^{\circ}$ |  |  |  |
| 16. Cossack, straight leg forward, high up, whole foot higher than head, or with turn ( $180^{\circ}$ or more) |  | $4$ |  |  |  |  |
| 17. Cossack, straight leg to the side high up, whole foot higher than head, or with support (Zhukova) and/or with turn ( $\mathbf{1 8 0}^{\circ}$ or more) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18. Ring with one leg, take off with 1 or 2 feet, or with turn ( $180^{\circ}$ or more) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. Ring with both legs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. Split leap, or with ring or with back bend of the trunk, or take-off and landing on the same leg (Zaripova) |  |  |  |  | $\xrightarrow{n}$ |  |

$\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { 21. Split leap, take-off } \\ \text { from 2 feet, or with ring } \\ \text { or with back bend of the } \\ \text { trunk }\end{array}\right)$

|  | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.50 | 0.60 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 30. Switch Stag leap (passing with bent or straight leg leg) |  | $=2$ | $\leftrightharpoons \sum_{i=1}^{T}$ | $\frac{2}{7} \text { 考 }$ |  |  |
| 31. Fouetté (landing on a take-off foot), or with ring with one or both legs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 32. Fouetté split leap, with ring or with back bend of the trunk |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 33. Fouetté stag leap, or with ring or back bend of the trunk |  |  | $y^{3}$ | $\beta$ |  |  |
| 34. «Revoltade» passing one leg stretched over the other |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35. "Entrelacé" |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 36. "Entrelacé " in split |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 37. Turning Stag leap (Jeté en tournant) |  |  |  |  | $\xrightarrow{0}$ |  |
| 38. Turning split leap (Jeté en tournant) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 39. Turning whit Switch split leap (Jeté en tournant) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40. Butterfly (free leg passing through the position close to horizontal, take-off leg passing through horizontal. During the flight, trunk position close to horizontal or below horizontal) |  |  |  |  | $\Delta \frac{1}{c}$ |  |

Table of Balances Difficulty (T)

| Types of Balances | Balances on the foot |  | Value |  | 0,50 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0,10 | 0,20 | 0,30 | 0,40 |  |  |
| 1. Free leg backward, below horizontal, trunk bent backward |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Passé front or side (horizontal position) or with bend of the upper back and shoulders |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Forward: free leg horizontal (straight or bent), or with the trunk back at the horizontal position |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. With change of gymnast level, support leg bending progressively or/and return to stretch position |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Split with and without hand support or trunk backward at horizontal or below |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Side: Free leg horizontal or trunk side at horizontal |  |  |  |  |  |  |



|  | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.50 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18. Balance with support on the chest; with (Kabaeva) or without help of hands | $\mathrm{Kb}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Dynamic Balances |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. Passing from the stomach to the chest |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. Dynamic balances with full body wave in all directions in the standing position (front, side, back) or passing to or from the floor |  | $\uparrow$ |  |  |  |
| 21. Fouetté: min. 3 same or different shapes with the leg at the horizontal for $\min$. 2 shapes; Leg above horizontal for min. 2 shapes |  |  | Leg at the horizontal for min 2 shapes + min 1 turn |  | Leg above horizontal for min 2 shapes + $\min 1$ turn |
| 22. Dynamic balances with support on the forearms with or without the movements of legs (Difficulties are considered the same) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 23. Dynamic Balance with 2 or 3 shapes (Utyacsheva); also with turn |  |  |  |  | with 180 turn in any phase, or vice-versa |
| 24. Dynamic Balance: front split with support passing the free leg into back split balance with support (Gizikova), or; front split with support, half turn of the trunk into back split with hand support (Kapranova) |  |  |  |  |  |

Table of Rotations Difficulty ( $($ )

| Types of Rotations | Value |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.50 |
|  | Rotations on the foot |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Free leg forward, trunk bent forward |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Free leg backward, trunk bent backward |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. "Passé" (forward or side); or with bend of the upper back and shoulders |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Spiral turn ("tonneau") partial wave on 1 leg |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Forward: free leg horizontal (straight or bent) |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Split forward with or without support or trunk horizontal |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Side: Free leg or trunk horizontal |  |  |   |  |  |
| 8. Split side with or without support |  |  |  |  |  |


| Types of Rotations | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.50 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 9. Split side with or without support, trunk horizontal |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. Arabesque: free leg horizontal or trunk horizontal or backward |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Split with or without support |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Split with or without support, trunk horizontal or ring |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. Penché: body bent at the horizontal or below, leg in back split or ring, rotation on flat foot |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. Attitude or ring with support or backward |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. Fouetté: Passé or with leg stretched at the horizontal then the horizontal in front, side, "arabesque", or "attitude" |  |  |  |  |  |


| Types of Rotations | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.50 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 16. Cossack |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. Front split; trunk bent back below horizontal from standing position or from the position on the floor |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. Illusion: trunk bent forward / side; also backward |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rotations on other parts of the body |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. Rotation on the stomach, legs close to ring or legs in split, without support of the hand (Kanaeva) or on the back (Ralenkova) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21. Rotation in a split with help of the hand, without interruption bent forward or backward |  |  |  |  |  |

# LEVEL 3 <br> FLOOR 

DIFFICULTY $=3.0$ max.

- 5 body difficulties (BD):
- Value: 0.1-0.2
- 1 difficulty from each body group and 2 additional difficulties, each from different body groups. Minimum 2 difficulties must be executed on opposite leg/side
- Calculation of Score (5 Difficulties @ values 0.1 and/or 0.2 @ 1.00 max X $1.5=$ 1.5 max)
- Composition requirements $=1.5 \mathrm{max}$
- 3 Dance steps combinations - 0.3 each
- 1 body wave-0.2
- 2 "chaine" turns on releve in a row-0.2
- 1 acro element -0.2


## EXECUTION= 10.00 max:

- Artistry (0.2 each):
- Variety in the use of levels, directions of body movements, modalities of travelling, Dance steps
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Musicality: Connection between movements/steps and music- 0.0-1.0 = 1.0 max
- Expression: Harmony between character of the music and movements/ emotions conveyed by gymnast- 0.0-0.6 $=0.6 \mathrm{max}$
- Technical Faults $=8.0$ max

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=13.0$

# LEVEL 3 <br> APPARATUS 

DIFFICULTY $=3.0 \mathrm{max}$
5 body difficulties (BD):

- Value: 0.1-0.2
- 1 difficulty from each body group and 2 additional difficulties, each from different body groups. Calculation of Score (5 Difficulties @ values 0.1 and/or 0.2 @ 1.00 $\max X 1.5=1.5$ max $)$
- Composition requirements $=1.5$ max.
- Minimum Required Apparatus Elements @ 0.2 each $=1.0$ (Note: Not allowed during Dance Steps)


## Hoop

1. 1 passing through the hoop with any jump/leap/skip
2. 1 roll on the floor (any)
3. 1 series of rotations around hand(s)
4. 1 medium throw (any) Note:valid only if throw and catch executed with straight arm(s)
5. 1 large figure " 8 "

## Ball

1. 1 series of bounces
2. 1 series of swings, each more than $1 / 4$ of a circle, with straight arms passing the ball from hand to hand
3. 1 unassisted 1 roll of the ball on 1 part of the upper body
4. 1 medium throw from straight arm(s) +catch of the ball with the hand(s) and straight arm(s)
5. Unstable balance of the ball (held on the palm of the hand or held on other part of the body) during rotation of the body

- 1 Dance steps combination - 0.3
- 1 acro element-0.2

EXECUTION= 10.00 max.

- Artistry ( 0.2 each)
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Variety in the use of levels, directions of body movements, modalities of travelling
- Musicality $0.0-1.00=1.00 \mathrm{max}$
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6 \mathrm{max}$
- Technical Faults $=8.0$ max

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=13.0$

# LEVEL 4 <br> FLOOR 

DIFFICULTY $=3.0 \max$

- 5 body difficulties $(B D)=1.5 \max$
- Value: 0.1-0.2-0.3
- 1 difficulty from each body group and 2 additional difficulties, each from different body groups. (Minimum 2 difficulties must be executed on opposite leg/side)
- Composition requirements $=1.5$ max
- 3 Dance steps combinations with traveling and change of directions (0.3 each)
- 1 body wave: forward-0.2
- 1 body wave: backward-0.2
- 1 body wave: side- 0.2

EXECUTION= 10.0 max.

- Artistry (0.2 each) :
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Variety in shapes of Body Difficulties
- Variety in Dance steps
- Variety in directions of body movements, in the use of levels, modalities of travelling
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Logical transitions and smooth connections between movements (penalty applies after 2 illogical connections)
- Musicality $0.0-1.0=1.0$ max
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6$ max
- Technical Faults $=7.0$ max

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=13.0$

# LEVEL 4 <br> APPARATUS 

## DIFFICULTY =3.0 max

- 5 body difficulties $(B D)=1.4$ max.
- Value: 0.1-0.2-0.3
- 1 difficulty from each body group and 2 additional difficulties, each from different body groups.
- Composition requirements $=1.6$ max.
- Minimum Required Apparatus Elements @ 0.2 each = 1.0
(Not allowed during Dance Steps)
Ball:

1. 1 roll over minimum 2 large body segments
2. 1 bounce with part of the body (except hands)
3. 1 large roll across 2 arms opened to the side
4. 1 large figure " 8 "
5. 1 medium throw from straight arm + catch of the ball with 1 hand,straight arm

Rope:

1. 1 jump through the rope rotating backward (from 1 foot, 2 feet, ect.)
2. 1 series of skips/hops through the rope
3. 1 JO Figure " 8 " ( 1 series of rotations of the rope folded in half alternating side to side with the action of the wrist)
4. 1 toss of 1 end of the rope ("échappé"- see page 10)
5. 1 throw (any, with minimum height above the head)

- 2 Dance Steps combinations (0.3 each)

EXECUTION= 10.0 max.

- Artistry (0.2 each)
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Variety in the use of levels, directions of body movements, modalities of travelling
- Variety in Dance Steps
- Variety in the use of apparatus work
- Logical transitions and smooth connections between movements (penalty applies after 3 illogical connections)
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Musicality $0.0-1.0=1.0 \mathrm{max}$
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6$ max
- Technical Faults $=7.0 \mathrm{max}$

TOTAL $=(D+E)=13.0$

## LEVEL 5

## FLOOR

## DIFFICULTY = 4.0 max .

- 7 body difficulties (BD) $=2.5$ max.
- Value: 0.1-0.2-0.3-0.4
- 2 difficulties from each body group and 1 additional difficulty. Minimum 1 leap/jump, 1pivot/rotation and 1balance must be executed on the opposite leg
- Composition requirements $=1.5 \mathrm{max}$
- 3 Dance steps combinations with change of direction and traveling (0.3 each)
- 1 body wave: forward-0.2
- 1 body wave: backward-0.2
- 1 body wave: side-0.2

EXECUTION= 10.0 max.

- Artistry (0.2 each) :
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Variety in shapes of Body Difficulties
- Variety in Dance steps
- Variety in directions of body movements, in the use of levels, modalities of travelling
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Logical transitions and smooth connections between movements (penalty applies after 2 illogical connections)
- Musicality $0.0-1.0=1.0$ max
- Expression 0.0-0.6 = 0.6 max
- Technical Faults $=7.0$ max

TOTAL $=(D+E)=14.0$

# LEVEL 5 <br> APPARATUS 

DIFFICULTY $=5.0 \mathrm{max}$.

- $\underline{5 \text { body difficulties }(B D)=2.0 ~ m a x . ~}$
- Value: 0.1-0.2-0.3-0.4
- 1 difficulty from each body group and 2 additional difficulties, each from different body groups.
- Composition requirements $=3.0 \mathrm{max}$.


## Apparatus:

- Technical Groups: 6 different Apparatus Elements @ 0.2 each $=1.2$ (identical apparatus elements may not be repeated) -see Table for specific requirements on next page)
- 3 different medium throws with different techniques $=0.3$ each
- After one of those 3 medium throws, 1 catch must be with at least 1 criteria- 0.3 additional (see table of criteria for Levels 5-6)
- 2 Dance steps combinations with change of direction and traveling- 0.3 each

EXECUTION = 10.0 max.

- Artistry ( 0.2 each):
- Logical transitions and smooth connections between movements (penalty applies after 3 illogical connections)
- Variety in the use of levels, directions of body movements, modalities of travelling
- Variety in the use of apparatus work
- Variety in Dance Steps
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Musicality 0.0-1.0 $=1.0 \mathrm{max}$
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6 \mathrm{max}$
- Technical Faults $=7.0 \mathrm{max}$

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=15.0$

| Apparatus | Apparatus Technical Groups for Level 5 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Passing through the Rope with a Jump/Leap, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side | 1 |
|  | $\sim$ Passing through the Rope with series (min.3) of small hops, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side | 1 |
|  | Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand from Medium or Large Throw (Note: without support/ help of any part(s) of the body) | 1 |
|  | Series (min. 3) of Rotations Open, stretched Rope, held by the middle or by the end (including "mills") | 1 |
|  | "Echappe"/ Spirals (one of each required) | 2 |
|  | 000 Roll of the Hoop over minimum 2 large body segments | 1 |
|  | com Roll of the Hoop on the floor | 1 |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Series (min. 3) of rotations around the hand | 1 |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Free rotation (min. 1) around a part of the body | 1 |
|  | $\bigcirc$ One free rotation between the fingers around the axis | 1 |
|  | -- Passing through the Hoop with the whole or part of the body | 1 |
|  | 000 2 different Rolls of the Ball over minimum 2 large body segments each | 2 |
|  | Bounces: Series (min.3) of small bounces (below knee level) or One high bounce (knee level and higher) | 1 |
|  | $\checkmark$ Visible rebound from the floor or a part of the body | 1 |
|  | 8 Figures eight of the ball with large circle movements of the arm(s) | 1 |
|  | ป Catch of the Ball with one hand from Large or Medium Throw (Note: no contact with forearm/body) | 1 |
|  | Mills: at least 4 small circles of the Clubs with time delay and by alternating crossed and uncrossed wrists/ hands each time | 1 |
|  | (1) 2 different Series (min.3) of small circles with both Clubs | 2 |
|  | - 2 different asymmetric movements of 2 Clubs must be different in their shape or amplitude and in work planes or direction | 2 |
|  | $\Longleftrightarrow$ Small throw(s)/catch(s) with rotation (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) of 2 Clubs together (unlocked) simultaneously or alternating | 1 |

## LEVEL 6 FLOOR

DIFFICULTY $=$ FIG value -5.00 max.

- 7 body difficulties $(B D)=3.5$ max.
- Value: 0.1-0.2-0.3-0.4-0.5-0.6
- 2 difficulties from each body group and 1 additional difficulty. Minimum 1 leap/ jump, 1 balance and 1 pivot/rotation must be executed on the opposite leg
- Composition requirements $=1.5$ max
- 3 Dance steps combinations with change of direction and traveling ( 0.3 each)
- 1 body wave: forward -0.2
- 1 body wave: backward-0.2
- 1 body wave: side-0.2

EXECUTION= 10.0 max .

- Artistry (0.2 each) :
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Variety in shapes of Body Difficulties
- Variety in Dance steps
- Variety in directions of body movements, in the use of levels, modalities of travelling
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Logical transitions and smooth connections between movements (penalty applies after 2 illogical connections)
- Musicality $0.0-1.0=1.0 \max$
- Expression $0.0-0.6=0.6 \mathrm{max}$
- Technical Faults $=7.0 \mathrm{max}$

$$
\text { TOTAL }=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=15.0
$$

# LEVEL 6 <br> APPARATUS 

DIFFICULTY = 7.0 max


- Value: 0.1-0.2-0.3-0.4-0.5-0.6
- 1 difficulty from each body group and 2 additional difficulties, each from different body groups.
- Composition Requirements $=4.0 \mathrm{max}$

Apparatus:

- Technical Groups: 8 different Apparatus Elements @ 0.2 each $=1.6$ max. (Identical apparatus elements may not be repeated) Note: additional large or medium tosses may not be used to fulfill the apparatus element requirement. Exception: echappe and boomerang for ribbon)- see Table with specific requirements on next page.
- 3 different Apparatus Combinations (AC)@ 0.2 each= 0.6 (see requirements on next pages)
- 3 different technique/type of throws- 0.3 each:
- 1 throw with 1 Rotation of the body (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) around any axis during the flight of the apparatus
- After a throw, 1 catch with at least 1 criteria (see table of criteria for Level 6) $=0.3$ for throw+ additional 0.3 for catch with criteria=max.0.6
- 1 throw with 1 different Rotation of the body (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) around any axis during the flight of the apparatus
- Note: please see specific throws requirements for ribbon below. 2 of the throws must be minimum medium height and 1 throw-large
- 2 Dance steps combinations with traveling and change of direction ( 0.3 each)


## EXECUTION = 10.0 max .

- Artistry ( 0.2 each):
- Logical transitions and smooth connections between movements (penalty applies after 3 illogical connections)
- Variety in the use of levels, directions of body movements, modalities of travelling
- Variety in the use of apparatus work
- Variety in Dance Steps
- Variety and Use of the entire floor area
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Musicality $0.0-1.0=1.0 \mathrm{max}$
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6 \mathrm{max}$
- Technical Faults $=7.0 \mathrm{max}$

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=17.0$

- Ribbon : 3 different technique/type of throws- 0.3 each:
- 1 throw with 1 Rotation of the body (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) around any axis during the flight of the apparatus (Note: not valid for boomerang)
- 1 throw, with at least 1 criteria (see table of criteria for Level 6) $=0.3$ for throw+ 0.3 for additional value of the criteria during the throw $=$ max. 0.6
- 1 throw

Note: If a boomerang throw is used to fulfill the above requirement, the same throw may not be used as a base for AC. 2 of the throws must be minimum medium height and 1 throw-large

## APPARATUS COMBINATIONS (AC)- level 6

- Each combination: Value 0.2
- Element combinations must be different (no repetition)
- Consists of the following:
- Apparatus BASE (see allowed Bases for each apparatus below in the table) +a minimum 2 criteria. (Example: $(\boldsymbol{k} \boldsymbol{\downarrow}$ )=0.2)
- Note: if a gymnast performs more than the minimum 2 criteria, the Apparatus Combination is OK/valid- $(\Varangle \neq \boldsymbol{\neq})=0.2$
- Apparatus Combinations must be made with a different Base each time (no repetition of the Base). Repetitions of rotation / pre-acrobatic elements are not allowed.
- Bases performed during Apparatus Combinations may not be used to fulfill the 8 apparatus element requirements or 3 different throw requirements.
- If the Base or any one of the 2 criteria is not performed (skipped) or not performed according to definitions listed in the technical explanations (see pages 26-27) or total loss of balance with Fall of the gymnast- the Apparatus Combination is not valid
- Apparatus Combinations may not be performed during Body Difficulty or Dance steps combinations

| Apparatus | Apparatus Technical Groups for Level 6 + Apparatus combinations (AC) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\int$ | Passing through the Rope with a Jump/Leap, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side <br> Note: Valid Base for AC | 1 |
|  | $\sim$ Passing through the Rope with series (min.3) of small hops, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side | 1 |
|  | Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand from Medium or large Throw (Note: without support/ help of any part(s) of the body) | 1 |
|  | Series ( min. 3) of Rotations Open, stretched Rope, held by the middle or by the end (including "mills") | 1 |
|  | "Echappe"/ Spirals ( One of each required) Note: Valid Base for AC | 2 |
|  | 2 additional different apparatus elements (see table on pages 9-11) | 2 |


| $0$ | 0002 different Rolls of the Hoop over minimum 2 large body segments each Note: Valid Base for AC | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Series (min. 3) of rotations around the hand | 1 |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Free rotation (min. 1) around a part of the body | 1 |
|  | One free rotation around the axis: between the fingers or on the part of the body. Note: Valid Base for AC | 1 |
|  | -- Passing through the Hoop with the whole or part of the body | 1 |
|  | 2 additional different apparatus elements (see table on pages 9-11) | 2 |
|  | 0002 different Rolls of the Ball over minimum 2 large body segments each Note: Valid Base for AC | 2 |
|  | Bounces: Series (min.3) of small bounces (below knee level) or One high bounce (knee level and higher) or Visible rebound from the floor or a part of the body Note: Valid Base for AC. | 1 |
|  | 8 Figures eight of the ball with large circle movements of the arm(s) | 2 |
|  | ป Catch of the Ball with one hand from Large Throw (note: no contact with forearm/ body) | 1 |
|  | 2 additional different apparatus elements (see table on pages 9-11) | 2 |
| $19$ | 2 different Mills: at least 4 small circles of the Clubs with time delay and by alternating crossed and uncrossed wrists/ hands each time | 2 |
|  | (1) Series (min.3) of small circles with both Clubs | 1 |
|  | $\pm 2$ different asymmetric movements of 2 Clubs must be different in their shape or amplitude and in work planes or direction <br> Note: Valid Base for AC | 2 |
|  | $\Longleftrightarrow$ Small throw(s)/catch(s) with rotation (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) of 2 Clubs together (unlocked) simultaneously or alternating. Note: Valid Base for AC | 1 |
|  | 2 additional different apparatus elements (see table on pages 9-11) | 2 |
| $\ddot{\theta}$ | 2 different Spirals (4-5 waves), tight and same height Note: Valid Base for AC | 2 |
|  | 2 different Snakes (4-5 waves), tight and same height Note: Valid Base for AC | 2 |
|  | -- 2 different Passing through or over the pattern of the Ribbon ( pattern for each must be different) | 2 |
|  | 2 additional different apparatus elements (see table on pages 9-11) <br> Note: Valid to fulfill the apparatus element requirement <br> Note: Valid to fulfill the apparatus element requirement and valid base for AC | 2 |

Additional Bases for Apparatus Combinations- Valid For All Apparatus

| $\nearrow$ | Medium or Large Throw |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\downarrow$ | Catch from Medium or Large Throw |
| $\rightarrow$ | Small throw/ catch (close to the body) |

Table of Criteria for AC for level 6 and catches criteria for levels 5-6

| O | Outside of visual control |
| :--- | :--- |
| Catch with rotation with the arm (hoop) and mixed catch (rope, clubs) |  |

Explanation and Examples (see page 45)

## GENERALITIES: LEVELS 7-8 and Advance Groups

## DIFFICULTY

There are four components of the Difficulty score: Body Difficulty (BD), Dance Steps Combinations (S), Dynamic Elements with Rotation (R), and Apparatus Combinations (AC). Note: the Floor Difficulty score is comprised only of Body Difficulties (BD).

## BODY DIFFICULTY (BD)

- Difficulties from each group of body movements should be present in the exercise: Jumps/Leaps ^, Balances T, Rotations $\delta$
- Each difficulty is counted only once within a body group
- «Same shape»:
- Elements are considered the same shape if they are listed in the same box in the Difficulty Table
- Elements are considered different if they are listed in different boxes in the Difficulty Table, including elements in the same family but in separate boxes
- A repetition of the same shape - within each group of body difficulties regardless of the number of body rotations or slow turn- is not counted. Exception: in the case of a series (2 or more) of the same Leaps/Jumps or Pivots, connected with heel support. Note: each jump/leap or pivot in the series is evaluated independently
- For details regarding Right/Left leg designation in level 7/8 floor routines, please see page 6 in the Generalities for Levels 3-6.
- A Body Difficulty is valid if executed:
- According to the technical requirements listed in the Table of Difficulties and the "Body Difficulty Notes" on page 6 in the Generalities section for Levels 3-6, Beginner and Intermediate Groups.
- With a minimum of 1 Fundamental Technical element specific to each apparatus and/or Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical element during:


## - the isolated Difficulty

- During any component of Pivot with change of shape
- For Rotations (Pivots): the declared apparatus technical element can be performed during any part of the rotations
- Regardless of the form, every 2 fouettes and every 2 illusion must have one different Fundamental technical element or Non-Fundamental apparatus element, which can be performed at any point during each set of two rotations
- Note: identical apparatus elements performed on two different body difficulties(from the same or different Body Groups) are not considered
"different" apparatus elements. If an Apparatus Technical element is performed identically during Body Difficulty, the Difficulty is not valid (no penalty). Only during a series (identical pivots or jumps/leaps): if the gymnast performs a Fundamental or Non- fundamental apparatus technical element, the same apparatus element may be repeated on each difficulty (ex: 2 turning leaps with identical spirals of the ribbon or hoop passing under the leg) and each jump/leap or pivot in the series is evaluated separately.
In case one or more jumps/leaps or pivots in the series is performed at a lower value, the value of the performed shape(s) will be valid even with the identical handling
- Different Apparatus Elements means, that they are performed:
-On different planes
-In different directions
-On different levels
-With different amplitude
-On different parts of the body
Note: identical apparatus elements performed on two different body groups are not considered "different" apparatus elements.
- Without one or more of the following serious Technical faults:
- Major alteration of the basic characteristics specific to each group of Body Difficulties
- Loss of balance with support on one or both hands or on the apparatus
- Total loss of balance with fall
- A major technical fault with the apparatus (technical fault of 0.30 or more)

A Difficulty is in valid connection with a throw, roll of the apparatus on the floor or rotation(s) of the hoop around the axis on the floor:

- if the apparatus is thrown or rolled on the floor at the beginning, during, or towards the end of the Difficulty
A Difficulty is in valid connection with a catch of the apparatus:
- if the apparatus is caught at the beginning, during, or towards the end of the Difficulty
- Note regarding Series of Jumps: it is possible to perform the throw of the apparatus on the first leap and catch of the apparatus on the $3^{\text {rd }}$ Leap. The second Leap which is performed under the flight of the apparatus (without a Technical element of the apparatus) is counted as a Difficulty


## A Difficulty is in valid connection with Bounce of the apparatus:

- If the action of a bounce or the catch of bounce take place during the Difficulty
- Any Difficulty performed with a value lower than entered on the form will be counted.
- Evaluation of Body Difficulty is determined by the body shape presented regardless of the intended shape.

| Explanation/Examples |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intended | Performed | Valid |
|  |  |  |
| Intended | Performed | Valid |
|  |  |  |

*Rotation difficulties: in case of incomplete rotations compared to the amount of rotations indicated on the form, the Difficulty is evaluated according to the number of executed rotations (must have a minimum basic rotation)

* If a Body Difficulty is performed with greater amplitude than mentioned in the Table of difficulties, the Body Difficulty value does not change
- Any additional difficulty above the maximum allowance (regardless of its value) $=0.3$ penalty (taken from the final Difficulty score by the Difficulty judge).
- If a gymnast performs a difficulty with a basic value above the allowed limit, the difficulty will not be evaluated. (0.00 points) (Note: NO PENALTY applied)


## BODY DIFFICULTY NOTES:

1. See Notes concerning Body difficulties on pages 7-9
2. The repetition of Jump/Leaps with the same shape is not valid except in the case of a series. Same shape: take-off from one or two feet (unless otherwise mentioned in the table), number of rotations during flight.
3. The Technical Apparatus elements (Fundamental or Non-Fundamental) must be counted from the moment when the shape of Balance has been fixed with a stop position of a minimum of 1 second (Note: if the shape is well-defined and the apparatus element is executed correctly but the stop position is insufficient, the balance is valid with a technical execution penalty).
4. In an exercise a gymnast may perform 1 Difficulty with "Slow Turn" in "relevé" or on flat foot. Value: 0.10 point for flat foot / 0.20 point for relevé + Difficulty element value. A penalty of 0.30 (taken by the D judge from the final "D" score) will apply if the gymnast performs and declares more than 1 difficulty with "slow turn".

* The "slow turn" is not allowed on the knee, on the arms, or in the "Cossack" position. (Difficulty not valid- no penalty)

5. Balances on flat foot will include an arrow symbol ( $\downarrow$ ) on the form.
6. Balances on other parts of the body or Dynamic Balances (except Fouette balance) may be performed either in releve or flat foot without changing the symbol.
7. Balance with change of gymnast's level (support leg bending progressively or/and return to stretch position):

- The first shape determines the base value
- It is necessary to maintain vertical position of the trunk and horizontal position of the free leg.
- The transition from one shape - "support leg straight" to another shape "support leg bent" (or/and vice versa) must be slow and obviously gradual, during which the gymnast from the beginning to the end must maintain a releve position.
- It is necessary to add an arrow (arrows) specifying a direction of change of gymnast's level to the right of a symbol:
* support leg bending progressively;
! support leg return to stretch position;
${ }^{i}$ : support leg bending progressively and return to stretch position or vice versa

8. "Fouette" rotation
*Counts as 1 Difficulty

- 2 or more identical or different shape "Fouette" connected with heel support (no bonus given for connection)
- Various shapes may be performed:
- isolated
o combined (consecutively or alternating) within the same "Fouette but none of those shapes may be repeated in another Fouette Rotation.
- During every two "Fouettés," one different Fundamental technical element or Non-Fundamental apparatus element is required

Examples:

- $\quad($ ( 221$)=0.50$ point
- $\left(\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{0}_{22}\right)=0.80$ point

9. Pivots with change of shape
*Count as 1 Difficulty

- 2 or more Rotations with different shapes (each shape included must have a minimum basic rotation)
- Connected without heel support and as directly as possible: value of this connection between the two shapes is +0.10
- Calculation: value of the first Pivot base + value of the second Pivot base (only in the case that the minimum basic rotation in each shape is complete without a technical fault of 0.3 or more). +0.10 bonus given for connection.
- Examples:
- Inscription: on the official form after the symbol of each pivot, indicate the number of rotations: $\binom{$ よ }{ よ 2$)}=0.20+0.20+0.10=0.50$ point
- In case the gymnast fails to execute the minimum basic rotation in the second of the shapes but correctly executes the minimum basic rotation in the first shape, the correctly executed Rotations will be valid.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (\stackrel{5}{6} \text { 1 }=0.20+0.00=0.20 \text { point } \\
& (\stackrel{5}{\circ} 2.1)=0.40\left(720^{\circ}\right)+0.10\left(360^{\circ}\right)+0.10=0.60 \text { point }
\end{aligned}
$$

10. For all Rotations: the shape must be achieved before the end of the minimum basic rotation.

## FUNDAMENTAL APPARATUS TECHNICAL GROUPS REQUIREMENTS:

- There are "Fundamental" Technical Groups which are basic/essential to each apparatus
- Each routine must have a certain number of Fundamental Technical Elements (See pages 58-59 for Level 7 and pages 61-62 for Level 8.) These elements may be performed in any way, including during Body Difficulties, Dance Steps Combinations, Apparatus Combinations, Dynamic Elements with Rotation criteria or connecting elements and must be declared on the form
- A gymnast may perform more than the minimum number of Fundamental Handling Requirements
- NOTE concerning validating Fundamental Technical Groups Requirements:
- Valid:
- Correct execution of the apparatus element according to its definition
- An attempt to perform the apparatus element according to its definition but with execution fault and/or a loss
- Invalid:
- Not attempting at all
- Not performing according to its definition

FUNDAMENTAL AND NON-FUNDAMENTAL APPARATUS TECHNICAL GROUPS

- Every apparatus ( $\mathcal{U}, \mathrm{O},-1 \mathrm{ll}, 18$ ) has 4 Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups. Each Group is listed in its own box
- Every apparatus ( $\mathrm{U}, \mathrm{O},-1 \mathrm{ll}, 18$ ) has Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups. Each Group is listed in its own box


## Summary Tables of Fundamental and Non-Fundamental Technical Groups specific to each apparatus

## Rope $U$

## Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups

Passing with the whole or part of the body ,through the open Rope or folded in 2 or more, turning forward, backward, or to the side; also with double rotation of the rope
W Passing through the Rope with skips/hops

- Series (min. 3): Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side.
- Double rotation of the rope or folded rope (min. 1 hop)

$\Omega$
Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand from medium or large throw (note: without support/help of any body part(s))

Release and catch of one end of the rope, with or without rotation (ex: echappe)

- Rotations of the free end of the Rope, Rope held by one end (ex: spirals)

Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups
*Rotation (min. 1), Rope folded in two (in 1or 2 hands)

- Rotations (min.3), Rope folded in three or four (Not valid for AC)
- Free rotation (min. 1) around a part of the body
- Rotation (min. 1) of the stretched, open Rope, held by the middle or by the end
- Mills (Rope open, held by the middle, folded in two or more) See: "Clubs" also
(Not valid for AC)
- Wrapping or unwrapping around a part of the body
- Spirals with the rope folded in two

| Explanations |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Note: the rope can be held open, folded in 2, 3 or 4 times (by 1 or 2 hands), but the basic technique is when the unfolded rope is held by two hands at the ends during Jumps/ Leaps and skips/ hops which must be performed in all directions: forward, backward, etc. |  |
| Elements such as wrapping, rebounding and mills movements, as well as the movements with the folded or knotted Rope, are not typical of this apparatus; therefore, they must not overwhelm the composition |  |
| Note: - | - A minimum of two large segments of the body (example: head+trunk; arms+trunk; trunk+legs, etc.) must pass through. <br> - The passing may be: the whole body in and out, or passing in without passing out, or vice versa. |
| Note: Echappe is a movement with 2 actions | - release of one end of the rope <br> - catch the end of the rope by the hand or the other part of the body after half-rotation of the rope <br> - $B D$ is valid if either release or catch (not both) performed during the $B D$ |
| Note: Spiral $\qquad$ has different variations: | - release like "Echappe" followed by multiple (2 or more) spiral rotations of one end of the rope and catch of the end by the hand or another part of the body <br> - open and stretched rope held by one end, from the previous movement (movement of open rope, catch, from the floor, etc.) passed into spiral rotations (2 or more) of one end of the rope, catch with hand or the other part of the body. <br> - BD is valid if either the release or catch or multiple spiral rotations (2 or more) are performed during the $B D$ |
| Note: Wrapping $\infty$ | - It is possible to "wrap" or "unwrap" during BD; these actions are considered different apparatus handlings (this rule applies to Ribbon as well) |

HOOP

Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups
Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups
Passing through the Hoop with the whole or part of the body
000 Roll of the Hoop over minimum 2 large body segments
O

- Rotation(s) (min. 1) of the Hoop around the hand
- Free rotation (min. 1) of the Hoop around a part of the body

Rotation(s) of the Hoop around its axis:

- One free rotation between the fingers
- One free rotation on the part of the body
(D) Rotation(s) (min.1) around the axis on the floor Note: gymnast's hand may be in contact or free of contact with the hoop.
Not valid for AC.
Roll of the Hoop on the floor

| Explanations |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| The Technical movements with Hoop (without and with throw) must be performed in various planes, <br> directions and axes | - A minimum of two large segments of the body (example: arms+trunk; <br> trunk+legs, etc.) must pass through. <br> The passing may be: the whole body in and out, or passing in without <br> passing out, or vice versa. <br> Note: -  |

## Ball

## Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups

Bounces:

- Series (min.3) of small bounces (below knee level)
- One high bounce (knee level and higher)
- Visible rebound from the floor or a part of the body (any directions)
000 Roll of the Ball over min. 2 large body segments

Figures eight of the Ball with circle movements of the entire arm(s)

Catch of the Ball with one hand (note: no contact with forearm/ body)

## Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups

O Not valid for AC, except Free rotation(s)

- "Flip-over" movement of the Ball
- Rotations of the hand(s) around the Ball (no min. \# required)
- Series (min.3) of assisted small rolls
- Free rotation(s) of the ball on a part of the body (no min. \# required)
con - Not valid for AC
- Roll of the Ball on the floor (no min. \# required)
- Roll of the body on the ball on the floor


## Explanations

Handling of the ball held with 2 hands is not typical for this apparatus; therefore, it must not overwhelm the composition.
The execution of all Technical Groups with Ball supported on the hand is correct only when fingers are joined in a natural manner and the Ball does not touch the forearm.

| Note: $\downarrow$ | Must be from a large throw (not from a small/ medium throw or thrust). |
| :--- | :--- |
| Note: $\mathbf{\infty} \boldsymbol{l}$ | These Rolls may be small, medium or large |

Clubs
11

## Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups

X
Mills: at least 4 small circles of the clubs with time delay and by alternating crossed and uncrossed wrists/ hands each time

+ The asymmetric movements of 2 Clubs
$\Leftrightarrow$ Small throw(s)/ catch(s) with rotation (min. $360^{\circ}$ ) of 2 clubs together (unlocked) simultaneously or alternating

Small circles with both Clubs, simultaneously or alternating, one club in each hand (min. 1) Not valid for AC

## Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups

- Series (min.3) of small circles with one Club Not valid for AC
$\infty$
- Tapping (min.1)- Not valid for AC
- Small circles of both clubs held in one hand (min. 1) (Not valid for AC)
- Free rotations of 1 or 2 Clubs (unlocked or locked) on or around a part of the body or around the other club
$\infty$ Roll(s) of 1 or 2 Clubs on the part of the body or on the floor


## Explanations

The typical technical characteristic is handling both Clubs together: therefore, this technical work should be predominant in the composition; any other forms of holding the Clubs - example: by Club's body or neck or two clubs joined together - must not predominate.
Tapping, rolling, rotating, rebounding, or sliding movements also must not overwhelm the composition Note: +

- Must be performed with different movements of each club with shape or amplitude AND work planes or direction.
- Small rotations with time delay or performed in different directions are not considered asymmetric movements because they have the same shape and the same amplitude


## Ribbon

| Groups | ps |
| :---: | :---: |
| - Passing through or over the pattern of the Ribbon | $\infty$ <br> - Rotational movement of the Ribbon stick around the hand <br> - Wrapping (unwrapping)- not valid for AC <br> - Movement of the Ribbon around a part of the body created when the stick is held by different parts of the body (hand, neck, knee, elbow) during body movements or Difficulties with rotation only (not during "Slow Turn") <br> - Medium circle(s) of the ribbon |
| Spirals (4-5 loops), tight and the same height in the air or on the floor |  |
| $\xi$ Snakes (4-5 waves), tight and the same height in the air or on the floor | $\ldots$ Roll of the Ribbon stick on the part of the body |
| of "Echappe":full rotation of the stick during its flight, small and medium height | "Boomerang": release of the ribbon (the end of the ribbon is held) in the air or on the floor and catch |

## Explanations

All elements not specific to the technique of the Ribbon (wrapping (unwrapping), sliding of the stick, thrust/ push) must not overwhelm the composition

| Note: | -A throw of the stick in airfloor, the end of the ribbon is held by hand(s) or other part of the <br> body, and push back with or without rebound of the stick from the floor (for the "Boomerang" <br> in air), and catch <br> BD is valid if either throw or catch (both actions not required) is performed during the BD <br> - <br> The ribbon generally must be caught by the end of the stick. However, it is permitted to <br> intentionally catch the Ribbon by its material within a zone of approximately 50 cm . from <br> the attachment, provided that this catch is justified for the next movement or the final pose <br> $e^{\prime \prime}$ <br> BD is valid if either throw or catch (both actions not required) is performed during the BD |
| :--- | :--- |

## Summary Tables of Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups Valid For All Apparatus

| 0 | Apparatus handling (apparatus in motion): <br> - Large circles of the apparatus (including "sail" for Rope) <br> - Figure eight (not for Ball) a movement in which a large " 8 " is created and performed with large movement of the entire arm. <br> Note: Ample movement of the trunk is encouraged, but not required <br> - Rebounds (not for Ball) of the apparatus from different parts of the body or from the floor <br> - "Thrust"/ push of the apparatus from different parts of the body <br> - Sliding of the apparatus on any part of the body (Not valid for AC) <br> - Transmission of the apparatus around any part of the body or under the leg(s) <br> - Passing over the apparatus with the whole or part of the body without a transmission of the apparatus from the hand or a part of the body to another hand or part of the body |
| :---: | :---: |


| Explanations |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Note: <br> Thrust/push of the apparatus from <br> different parts of the body | The action of release or of catch (not both release + catch) must take <br> place during BD in order to be valid |
| Note: <br> apparatus around any part of the <br> body or under the leg(s) | Trafferent transmissions: <br> -around different parts of the body (regardless of the BD group of <br> leap, balance or rotation) <br> -if plane of the apparatus is different in relation to the body position |


| $\mathbf{X}$ | Unstable balance of apparatus on a part of the body |
| :--- | :--- |


| Explanations |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Note: Clubs | If one club is held in a position of "unstable balance", and a second club is doing a technical movement, is considered as an "unstable balance". |  |  |
| 8 | Apparatus held without the help of the hand(s) either: <br> 1) on a small surface of a body segment (for Ball and Clubs) or (only during rotation) on a second club <br> - Exception: The open palm is considered a small surface only during a Rotation on one leg (on releve - Pivot or flat foot - Example. Penche; Illusion) <br> - One club balanced on the other club is considered unstable during a BD with rotation <br> 2) with risk of loss of the apparatus with or without body rotation |  |  |
| 1) Examples | asor |  |  |
| 2) Examples: Ball only | ots | -260 |  |
| 8 | Apparatus squeezed in a difficult body-apparatus relationship with risk of loss of the apparatus during body rotation |  |  |




| $\rightarrow$ Small throws/ catches (for clubs with or without $360^{\circ}$ rotation) <br> Small throw of 2 clubs locked together (with or without $360^{\circ}$ rotation) <br> Note: $\rightarrow$ Explanations Small throw must be close to the body <br> - |
| :--- |


| 7 | Large or medium throw (for 2 Clubs unlocked $/ 7$ ) |
| :--- | :--- |


| Explanations |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Note: $\boldsymbol{7}$ | • Medium throw - one to two heights of the gymnast. |


| $\downarrow$ | Catch of the apparatus (for 2 Clubs $\Downarrow$ ) |
| :--- | :--- |

Note: An apparatus element can only validate one BD even if there are 2 actions of the apparatus element

Static Apparatus- see explanation on page 14 (in level 3-6 section)

## DANCE STEPS COMBINATION (S)

Continuous, connected dance steps (from ballroom, folklore, modern or classical dance, etc.) showing different rhythmical patterns with the apparatus in motion during the entire combination and performed:

- Minimum of 8 seconds in accordance with the tempo, rhythm, musical character and accents of the music
- To convey the character and emotional response of the music through body and apparatus movements
- The actual dance steps must have variety in the levels, directions, speed and modalities of movement according to the tempo, rhythm, music character and accents. (Note: not simple movements across the floor (like walking, stepping, running) with apparatus handling)
- The transitions from one movement to another should be logical and smoothly connected, without unnecessary stops or prolonged preparatory movements in accordance with the tempo, rhythm, music character and accents
- With partial or complete traveling
- For Apparatus: Coordinated with Fundamental and the Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical group(s):
- From the same and/or different groups, or series
- Minimum 1 Fundamental apparatus group is required
- With a minimum 1 Technical Apparatus element (Fundamental or Nonfundamental) with the non-dominant hand (use of both hands in the apparatus handling). Notes:
- not applicable for Rope and Clubs
- not required for group exercises
- With a minimum 2 different varieties of movement:
- modalities (step, hop, skip, run, etc.),
- rhythm
- directions (body facing different directions, body moving in different pathways)
- levels
- Only Fundamental Apparatus Groups must be declared on the forms before the symbol S
- The following are possible during S :
- BD with a value of 0.10 point max (Example: "cabriole" jump, "passé" balance).
- Throws (small, medium, large) if they support the idea of the dance or helps increase amplitude and variety in the movement


## Guide for creating Dance Steps Combinations:

Movements of both the body and apparatus during the Dance Steps Combinations should show variety in the following:

- Planes/axis of the apparatus
- Levels of the body and apparatus movement
- Directions in the steps and apparatus movements
- Speed in the body and apparatus movements in harmony with the music
- Modalities of handling the apparatus and of moving the body through the dance steps
- missing a minimum 1 Fundamental apparatus Technical element
- less than 8 seconds of dance
- the entire combination performed on the floor (only partially is possible).
- Major alteration of the basic technique of the apparatus handling (Faults of 0.30 penalty or more by Execution judges).
- Loss of balance with support on one or both hands or on the apparatus
- Total loss of balance with fall
- No relation between the rhythm and character of the music and the body and apparatus movements
- Without a minimum 2 different varieties of movement: modalities, rhythm, directions, or levels in each Dance Steps Combinations
- Missing a minimum 1 Apparatus Technical element with the non-dominant hand (Note: Not applicable for group exercises)


## DYNAMIC ELEMENTS WITH ROTATION (R)

Basic requirements for $\mathbf{R}$ : the R will be valid only when all three of the basic requirements (below) are met:

| Symbol | Base value | Actions | Description of the base |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R | 0.20 | Throw of the apparatus | Large or medium throw. |
|  |  | Min. 2 base rotations of the body | 2 base complete rotations of the body performed: <br> - $360^{\circ}$ each rotation <br> - without interruption <br> - round any axis <br> - With or without passing to the floor <br> - With or without change of the axis of body rotation <br> The first base rotation may be performed during the throw or under the flight of the apparatus |
|  |  | Catch of the apparatus | Catch at the end of the base rotations or according to the criteria |

- The base value of $\mathbf{R}$ can be increased by using additional criteria. Additional criteria may be performed during the throw of the apparatus, during the body rotation under the throw and during catch of the apparatus
- $\quad \mathbf{R}$ value is determined by the number of rotations and executed criteria: if the final rotation is executed after the catch, this rotation and the criteria belonging to this rotation (possibly level or axis) are not valid. Other criteria which is correctly executed on the catch is valid, even if the final rotation is not.
- All $\mathbf{R}$ must be different, regardless of the number of rotations

| Explanations: <br> Catch at the end of the rotations | Valid |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\nearrow$ ee $\downarrow$ | Yes (R) |
| $\pi=\frac{\downarrow}{a}$ | No (interruption between 2 base rotations) |
| el $\downarrow$ <br> Catch after the music | No |

- Each rotation (pre-acrobatic elements, chainee, illusion, etc.) may be performed either isolated or in a series, maximum 1 time. Repetition of any of these rotations (isolated or in a series) in another $\mathbf{R}$ is not valid Note: "in a series" means- one after another directly. This applies to chainee and pre-acrobatic elements.


## Summary Table of Additional Criteria for R

| During the flight of apparatus |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| Symbol | Additional Criteria $\mathbf{R + 0 . 1 0}$ each time |
| $\mathbf{R}_{3}, \mathbf{R}_{4}$ etc. | Additional rotation of the body around any axis during the flight of the apparatus |
| $Z$ | Change of body rotation axis or change of level during rotations (in each $\mathbf{R}$ only one criteria <br> is valid: the change of axis or the change of level - not both). |


| During throw of apparatus |  |  | During catch of apparatus |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Symbo | General Criteria For All Apparatus +0.10 each time |  |  |
| $\varnothing$ | Outside of visual control |  |  |
| \# | Without the help of the hands (Note: not valid for direct catch with rotation with the arm (hoop) and mixed catch (rope, clubs) |  |  |
| $\downarrow$ | Catch during a rotation |  |  |
| 7 | Under the leg/ legs |  |  |
| Symbol | Specific Criteria of the throw +0.10 each time | Symbol | Specific Criteria of the catch +0.10 each time |
| $\bigcirc$ | Passing through the apparatus during throw (U,O) (Note: A minimum of 2 large segments of the body) | $\underset{\rightarrow}{\star}$ | Passing through the apparatus during catch (U) , O) (Note: A minimum of 2 large segments of the body) |
| $V$ | Throw after bounces on the floor/ throw after rolling on the floor | $\square$ | Direct re-throw/ re-bound without any stops from different parts of the body or floor - all apparatus |
| - | Throw of the open and stretched U (held by one end or the middle) | 0 | Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand (without support on another part of the body) |
| $\ominus$ | Throw with rotation around its axis Hoop or rotation in the horizontal plane- Club(s) d! | $\downarrow$ | Direct catch with rolling of apparatus over the body |
| $\mathbb{T}$ | Throws of 2 Clubs unlocked ( $\left.{ }^{\mathbf{l}}\right)$ : simultaneous, asymmetric, "Cascade" (double or triple)* | $\downarrow$ | Catch of the Ball ( with one hand |
| ¢ | Throw on oblique plane $\bigcirc$ | $Q$ | Direct catch of the O in rotation |


|  | $\downarrow$ | Mixed catch of U, J? (note: cannot be <br> combined with \# criteria) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\longmapsto$ | Catch of the open and stretched U (held by one <br> end) with continuous movement of the Rope <br> after the catch |

## Clubs ( $\mathbb{7}$ )

- Asymmetric throws may be performed with one or 2 hands at the same time. The movements of the two clubs during flight must be of different shape or amplitude (one throw higher than the other), and of different plane or direction
- "Cascade" throws (double or triple). Two clubs must be both in the air during the part of cascade throw


## *Note: Direct re-throw/ re-bound without any stops ( $V$ ) - all apparatus

- The re-throw/ re-bound is the main part of $\mathbf{R}$ (part of the initial throw for $\mathbf{R}$ ); in this case, it is necessary to catch the re-throw/ re-bound for $\mathbf{R}$ to be valid (including ribbon stick at the end of the exercise)
- Criteria performed during the re-throw/ re-bound are valid.
- Criteria during catch of the apparatus after the re-throw/ re-bound is not evaluated as part of $\mathbf{R}$ because in most cases, the height of the re-throw/ re-bound is not the same height as the initial throw.


## Explanation and Example: recording R elements

$$
\not \#_{R 3} \downarrow=0.50
$$

Throw without the hands (0.10) and three rotations ( 0.20 base +0.10 additional rotation), catch the ball with one hand (0.10)

- It is possible to use Body Difficulties with Rotations only of a value of 0.10 point during any phase of $\mathbf{R}$ without writing them on the official Difficulty form and without taking them into consideration during the calculation of the total value of Body Difficulty.
- During throw or catch of the apparatus in $\mathbf{R}$ it is possible to use Body Difficulty with Rotation (jumps/leaps and rotations of $180^{\circ}$ and more) of a value more than $\mathbf{0 . 1 0}$ with taking them into consideration during the calculation of total number of rotations in $\mathbf{R}$ and as Body Difficulty. This BD must be declared.

Writing the official form when BD leap is used as one of the rotations:


- It is possible to perform a body difficulty without rotation during the throw of the $\mathbf{R}$ as long as the 2 Base rotations begin immediately after the difficulty without intermediate steps.

- A gymnast may only declare the maximum number of apparatus elements (Dynamic Elements with Rotation (R) on the form. For $\mathbf{R}$ declared above the maximum, the judge will only judge up to the maximum allowance and will cross of the remaining declared elements.


## Pre-acrobatic elements:

- All pre-acrobatic elements must be performed in passing without stopping in the position, except for a short pause in order to catch the apparatus during the element
- Only the following groups of pre-acrobatic elements are authorized:
- Forward and backward rolls without fixed position and without flight (incorrect technique: penalty by Execution judge)
- Walkovers forward, backward, cartwheels without flight and without fixed position (incorrect technique: penalty by Execution judge)
- «Chest roll/Fish - flop»: walkover on the floor on one shoulder with passing through the vertical of the stretched body

- "Dive Leap": leap with trunk bent forward followed directly by one or more rolls is valid for R. "Dive Leap" may be performed for $\mathbf{R}$ and Apparatus Combinations. (Example: "Dive Leap +roll" followed directly by another 2 rolls $=\mathbf{R 3}$. Criteria "change of level" $Z$ is applied for the "Dive Leap" during R )
- Walkovers and cartwheels are considered different:
- forward or backward or sideways
- on the forearms, on the chest or the back
- with and without switch of the legs
- starting and landing positions: on the floor or standing
- The following elements are authorized but not considered as pre-acrobatic elements:
- Dorsal support on the shoulders
- Side or front splits on the floor, without any stop in the position
- Support on 1 or 2 hands or on the forearms without any other contact with the floor, without walkover/cartwheels and without stopping in the vertical position.
- Note: the same rotational element (pre-acrobatic, chainée, illusion, etc.) can be performed one time in $\mathbf{R}$ and one time in Apparatus Combination.


## APPARATUS COMBINATIONS (AC)

- AC elements will not be valid with
- A Base or criteria not performed according to its definition
- Total loss of balance with Fall
- Major alteration of the basic technique of the apparatus (technical fault of 0.30 or more)
- Each combination: Value 0.2 (except combination with Catch of the apparatus after Medium/Large throw- 0.3 value)
- Element combinations must be different (no repetition). Repetitions of rotation/preacrobatic elements are not allowed (2nd AC not valid)
- Consists of and written on the form as follows:
- BASE: Fundamental and/or Non-Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups + a minimum 2 criteria (the same or different) Example: $\downarrow(\& \neq)=0.3$ OR
- 2 BASES: Fundamental and/or Other Apparatus Technical Groups + minimum 1 criteria. Example: $\sqrt{000}$ ( 8 ) $=0.2$
- Note : if a gymnast performs more than the minimum 2 criteria, the Apparatus Combination is OK- $\downarrow(\neq \boldsymbol{\neq})=0.3$
- Combinations of each Apparatus Combination must be made with a different Base each time (no repetition of the Base. Exceptions:

1. AC with medium/ large Throw and Catch from medium/ large throw $\downarrow$ - Max. 2 times per routine each)- for levels 7-8
2. AC with roll over a minimum of 2 large body segments $\mathcal{O 0 0}$, small throw and catch of 2 unlocked clubs $\Longleftrightarrow$, transmission without the help of the hands with at least 2 different body parts ( not the hands) $\infty$, boomerang throw of the ribbon $\lll$ - Max. 2 times per routine each- for level 8 only

- If the Base or any one of the 2 criteria is not performed (skipped) or not executed correctly (Technical fault), or not performed according to definitions listed in the technical explanations, or total loss of balance with Fall of the gymnast- the Apparatus Combination is not valid
- Apparatus Combinations can also be performed during Body Difficulty (BD). Note: not allowed during Dance Steps Combinations.


## Table of Criteria for Apparatus Combinations

| \& | Outside of visual control |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\neq$ | Without help of the hand(s) (Notes: in case of a roll, the impulse comes without use of the hand(s). Not valid for direct catch with rotation with the arm (hoop) and mixed catch (rope, clubs) |
| $\downarrow$ | Passing through the apparatus during throw or catch U ( Note: minimum of 2 large segments of the body) |
| $\bigcirc$ | Double (or more) rotation of the apparatus during jumps/leaps or skips/hops. |
| $\leftarrow$ | *Passing through the apparatus rotating backwards 'U' (open or folded)/ O (Note: only valid for jumps/leaps, skips/hops) <br> * Rope - arms crossed during jumps/leaps or skips/hops |
| $\delta$ | With a rotation (360 degree and more) |
|  | Position on the floor (also valid with support on the knee). (Note: Only valid for Large/ medium throws, catches and large rolls over the body) |
| \# | Transmission without the help of the hands with at least 2 different body parts. Note: "Handling" is the base for this criteria. Cannot be combine with $\neq$ criteria) |
| $3 \rightarrow$ | Performed in series (min. 3) without interruption. <br> Applies for Large rolls of O and ; small throws $\\|$ (unlocked) |
| $\downarrow$ | Direct catch with rolling of the apparatus on the body Note: for Ball- possible to combine with $\downarrow$ criteria) |
| $\Omega$ | Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand from Medium or Large throw (Note: without support/help of any part of the body) |
| Q | Direct catch of the apparatus in rotation O |
| $\downarrow$ | Mixed catch of 'U", ll (Note: cannot be combine with \# criteria) |
|  | Catch of the Ball with one hand from Large Throw |
| $\xrightarrow{\uparrow}$ | Asymmetrical throw of 2 Clubs (Note: see definition on page 42) |
| 7 | Under the leg/legs |
| $\checkmark$ | Direct re-throw/ re-bound without any stops from different parts of the body or floor - all apparatus |
| $\bigcirc$ | Throw with rotation around its axis (Hoop) |
| \# | Throws of 2 Clubs unlocked ( $\mathbf{d}$ ): simultaneous, asymmetric, "Cascade" (double or triple)* Note: 2 clubs must both be visible in the air during the part of the cascade throw |
| - | Throw of the open and stretched Rope (held by one end or middle of the Rope) <br> Catch of the open and stretched $\mathrm{U}_{\text {(held by one end) with continuous movement of the Rope after the }}$ catch |

## Explanation and Examples




## Levels 7-8: Score Forms

- Prior to the start of competition, start of the rotation, or routine, the Judge will check the Body Difficulty symbols and values
- No form deductions will be taken, but body difficulties repeated will not be counted/given credit. Judges will mark mistakes on the official forms during all competitions leading to the Junior Olympics.
- Some examples for a symbol written incorrectly when the Body Difficulty is still valid (no penalty):
- Declare: $\operatorname{mT}^{\circ}$ Perform: $\mathcal{W T}^{0}$ (incorrect symbol for apparatus handling)
- apparatus work performed could be counted toward fundamental apparatus requirement
- Declare: T'Perform: $\mathcal{W} T^{0}$ (no apparatus handling declared)
- Declare: $\xrightarrow[\longrightarrow]{\infty}$ Perform : (incorrect symbol of body difficulty) - "new" correct value will be given
- Declare $\downarrow$ on body difficulty and performs $\downarrow$ during the difficulty but catch with 2 hands or help of one hand or the body (incorrect apparatus handling declared as these are different Apparatus Technical Groups).
- $\quad \measuredangle$ Missing number of rotations does not mean wrong symbol: no penalty. Judge will give what the gymnast executes
- In the case of an incorrect value, the judge will apply the correct value and amend the final total
- If the exercise accidentally stops for a long time (serious execution fault) and the gymnast has no time to perform the elements declared on the form, there is no penalty for missed Difficulties
- During the competition the judge should validate all Difficulties/criteria performed by the gymnast, regardless of what is declared on the form. This rule applies to BD, R, $\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{A C}$ and apparatus Fundamental technical requirements. The final $D$ value of the exercise cannot exceed the maximum allowed value for each level.


## SCORE RANGES

Difficulty: There is a maximum tolerated difference between the scores of 0.9 maximum.
Execution: There is a maximum of 0.50 difference tolerated between the scores in Execution (artistic and technical faults)

## Penalties by the D Judges (Levels 7-8)

| Penalty | 0.30 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | - Exercise consists of less than 1 Body Difficulty of each Body Group, penalty for each missing Difficulty <br> - Any additional Body Difficulty above the maximum allowance (regardless of its value) All Difficulties, in the order of their execution above norms, are cancelled. (Note: except Difficulty of 0.1 value during Dance Steps Combination, Apparatus Combination or R) <br> - Note: If the exercise accidently stops for a long time (serious technical execution fault) and the gymnast have no time to perform the elements declared on the form, there is no penalty for missed Difficulties. <br> - Note: If the BD is repeated or the Apparatus Technical element is performed identically during BD (exceprt series), the Difficulty repeated is not valid (no penalty). |
|  | More than one "slow turn" Difficulty per exercise |
|  | Exercise is missing 2 Dance Steps Combination (S), penalty for each missing $\mathbf{S}$ (Applicable for routines with apparatus only.) |
|  | Exercise is missing 1 Apparatus Combination (AC). |
|  | Exercise is missing 1 Dynamic Elements with Rotation (R). |
|  | Exercise has more than 4 Dynamic Elements with Rotation (R) (for level 8 apparatus routines), more than 3 Dynamic Elements with Rotation (R) (for level 7 apparatus routines) |
|  | For each missing required Fundamental Apparatus element |
|  | For each missing body difficulty on opposite leg/side (Floor routine) |

## INDIVIDUAL EXERCISES - EXECUTION (E)

## Evaluation by the Execution Judge

- The Execution Judge demands that elements be performed with aesthetic and technical perfection.
- The gymnast is expected to include in her exercise only elements that she can perform with complete safety and with a high degree of artistic and technical mastery. All deviations from that expectation will be deducted by the E-judge.
- The E-judge is not concerned with the difficulty of an exercise. The judge is obligated to deduct equally for any error of the same magnitude regardless of the difficulty of the element or the connection.
- E-Judge (and the D-judge) must remain up-to-date with contemporary rhythmic gymnastics, must know at all times what the most current performance expectation for an element should be, and must know how standards are changing as the sport evolves. In this context they must also know what is possible, what is reasonable to expect, what is an exception, and what is special.
- All deviations from correct performance are considered artistic or technical errors and must be evaluated accordingly by the judges. The amount of the deduction for small, medium, or large errors is determined by the degree of deviation from the correct performance. The following deductions will apply for each and every discernible artistic or technical deviation from the expected perfect performance. These deductions must be taken regardless of the difficulty of the element or exercise.
- Small Error 0.10: any minor or slight deviation from the perfect artistic or technical execution
- Medium Error 0.20-0.30: any distinct or significant deviation from the perfect artistic or technical execution
- Large Error 0.50+: any major or severe deviation from the perfect artistic or technical execution

EXECUTION (E) of the Individual exercises consists of:


## ARTISTIC COMPONENTS :

## 1. UNITY OF COMPOSITION

## - Guiding Idea: Character

a) A composition should be developed to create a unified artistic image or guiding idea from the beginning to the end, expressed through the body and apparatus movements.
b) The character of the music should be chosen in respect to the age, technical level of the gymnast, and ethical norms.
c) The music should be in harmony with the exercise and the gymnast. The composition should not be a series of Body Difficulties or apparatus elements without connection to the character of the music
d) The different parts in the music should be harmoniously combined even if there are changes in character or speed.
e) Style of the movements that express the character of the music and guiding idea:
*The style and type of the movements should reflect the character or idea of composition, for example but not limited to:
-Arm movements

## -Stylized connecting steps

## -Body waves

-Apparatus connecting elements emphasizing the rhythm and character
*This character of movement should be expressed:
-During the Dance Steps Combinations: steps which have a style specifically related to the music and are not simply walking, skipping or running to the beat
-In the connecting elements between or during the Difficulties, for example but not limited to:

- Preparations for Body Difficulties or throws
- During Body Difficulties
- Transitions between Difficulties
- Under the throws / during the catches
- During rotational elements
- Changes of levels
- Style of the apparatus elements
f) Changes in the character in the music should be reflected by changes in the character of the movements; these changes should be harmoniously combined
g) Parts of the composition or an entire composition which is a series without any character in the movements or connecting elements lacks unity-and is penalized.
- Connections
a) The composition should be developed by technical, aesthetic and connecting elements, where one movement passes logically and smoothly into the next without unnecessary stops or prolonged preparatory movements.
b) The use of different levels and directions of the body movements and directions and planes of the apparatus should be linked together with a clear purpose.
c) Connections between movements which disrupt the unity of the composition are penalized each time, for example but not limited to:
- Transitions between movements which are illogical, abrupt including changes in directions or levels between Difficulties
- Prolonged préparatory movements before Difficulties (i.e "walking" preparation steps, which do not support the idea or character of the composition)
- Unnecessary stops between movements which are not related to the rhythm or character
d) In the beginning and in the end of the composition, the gymnast has to be in contact with the apparatus. The position of the gymnast in the beginning of the exercise should be justified and used for the initial movement of the apparatus. Start and final positions should not be extreme.


## 2. MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

- Rhythm
a) The movements of the body as well as the apparatus must correlate precisely with the musical accents, and the musical phrases; both the body and apparatus movements should emphasize the tempo/pace of the music.
b) Movements disconnected to the accents are penalized (examples):
- When movements are visibly emphasized before or after the accents
- When a clear accent in the music is "passed through" and not emphasized by movement
- When movements are unintentionally behind the musical phrase
- When the tempo changes and the gymnast is in the middle of slower movements and cannot reflect the change in speed (off the rhythm)
c) An exercise which is connected to the music only in the beginning and the end is considered as the use of a "background music."


## Explanations

Objectives for music and movement:

- create a variety of movements to avoid monotony and repetition
- use the music in different ways even when the tempo and the beat are the same Coaches and judges are encouraged to study and understand basic musical structure and rhythmical patterns to guide the creation and evaluation of the movements according the music.

The following are important concepts for understanding how to fit the movements with the musical/rhythmic structures and how to consider positioning specific movements on specific accents or beats to create specific artistic 'effects:'

- Musical phrase: a melodic part, a succession of notes forming a distinctive sequence
- Melody: A rhythmically organized sequence of single tones so related to one another as to make up a particular phrase or idea
- Dynamic Changes
a) The energy, power, speed and intensity of the movements must correspond to the dynamic shifts and changes in the metronomic speed.
b) The gymnast shows changes in dynamism by contrasts in the energy, power, speed and intensity of both her body and apparatus movements according to changes in the music.

| Dynamic change in music | $\longrightarrow$Dynamic change in movement <br> Change in volume, tempo and/or style$\quad$ Change in speed, style or intensity |
| :--- | :--- |

c) An exercise where the energy, power, speed and intensity are monotonous (without any contrast or change in speed, style or intensity in respect to musical changes) lacks dynamism and is penalized.
d) For music lacking identifiable Dynamic Changes, the gymnast creates her own change by visibly changing the speed, style or intensity of her body and/or apparatus movements

## 3. BODY AND FACIAL EXPRESSION

a) The gymnast's emotional interpretation of the music expressed through her facial and body movement
b) Should be union of strength, beauty and elegance of movements
c) Ample participation of the body segments (head, shoulders, trunk, hands, arms, legs, including the face) to create supple, plastic movements which convey character, communicate feeling, emphasize the accents, create subtlety and finesse, and create amplitude.

- The facial expressions must also communicate the theme of the music and the message of the composition
- The ability to express the character and emotional responses to the music through body movements and continuous apparatus work
d) Segmentary, rigid or underdeveloped body movements are penalized according to the degree of prevalence in the exercise
Note: A minimum of 2 different body waves, partial (arms or half body) or full body waves should be part of the composition to increase the expressivity and create elegant movements.

The absence of the aspects of Body Expression described in "c" (above) are penalized as insufficient participation of the body segments, including the face

Note for Levels 3-6 (all routines) and 7-8 (Floor routines):
The Judge awards from 0.0 to 0.6 ( 0.6 awarded only in the case that the facial and body expression is consistent and predominant throughout the entire routine). The judge awards 0.0 if there is no facial and body expression throughout the entire routine.
4. VARIETY
a) Directions and trajectories (forward, backwards, arcs, etc.): creating different patterns to use the entire floor area in a varied and complete manner
b) Levels and modalities of traveling: gymnast in flight, standing, on the floor, running, skipping, stepping, etc.
c) Apparatus Elements: the apparatus elements should be performed on various planes, in different directions, on different parts of the body, with different techniques, etc. When the apparatus elements are repeated or the all performed on the same plane without any changes, this lack of variety is penalized. Example: all throws of the Hoop with the hand on the oblique plane Example: all bounces of the Ball on the floor by the hand Example: all catches of the clubs: one club stops the other on the floor

Note: For Level 7/8 apparatus routines, penalties for Artistic and Technical faults are added together and then deducted from 10.00 points to determine the final execution score. For other execution score calculations, please see the score breakdown page for each level.

| Artistic Faults | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.50 | 1.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CONNECTIONS <br> Logical and smooth transitions from one movement to the next ( applies for levels 7-8) | Isolated interruption, each time up to 1.00 |  |  |  | Entire exercise is a series of disconnected elements |
|  |  |  | For lack of contact with the apparatus in the beginning and end (composition fault). <br> Unjustified start position |  |  |
| RHYTHM (applies for levels 7-8 ) Harmony between movements and: Musical accents, phrases, and tempo | Isolated interruption, each time up to 1.00 |  |  |  | Entire exercise is disconnected from the rhythm (background music) |
|  |  |  |  | Absence of harmony between music-movement at the end of the exercise |  |
| DYNAMIC CHANGES (applies for levels 7-8 apparatus routines only) Energy, power, speed and intensity of movement corresponds to dynamic changes in music |  |  | The gymnasts movements do not respect dynamic changes OR The music itself is entirely monotonous without any dynamic change |  |  |
| BODY AND FACIAL EXPRESSION (applies for levels 7-8 apparatus routines only) | Isolated moments where not all segments participate fully | Insufficient participation of the body segments, including the absence of a minimum 2 different body waves (partial or full) | Segmentary, rigid movements in the entire exercise | Total absence of body (segmentary movements) and facial expression |  |
| VARIETY(applies for levels 7-8 apparatus routines only) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Directions and Trajectories | Insufficient variety in the use of directions and trajectories |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Movements performed in one place on the floor area for a long time |  |  |  |
|  |  | Entire floor area is not used |  |  |  |
| Levels and traveling |  | Insufficient variety in the use of levels and modalities of traveling |  |  |  |
| Apparatus elements |  | Lack of variety in the planes, directions, technique of Apparatus elements |  |  |  |


| Penalties | 0.10 | 1, 0.30 | 0.50 or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Body movements |  |  |  |
| Generalities | Incomplete movement or lack of amplitude in the shape of jumps, balances and rotations |  |  |
|  | Travelling without throw: adjusting the body position |  |  |
| Basic technique | Body segment incorrectly held during a movement (each time) including the incorrect foot and/or knee position, bent elbow, raised shoulders | Asymmetrical position of the shoulders and/or trunk during a body difficulty |  |
|  | Loss of balance: additional movement without travelling | Loss of balance: additional movement with travelling | Loss of balance with support on one or both hands or on the apparatus |
|  |  |  | Total loss of balance with fall: $\mathbf{0 . 7 0}$ |
| Leaps/Jumps | - Heavy landing <br> - Incorrect shape with small deviation (up to $10^{\circ}$ ) | - Incorrect landing: clearly arched back during the final phase of landing <br> - Incorrect shape with deviation more than $10^{\circ}$ |  |
| Balances | Incorrect shape with small deviation (up to $10^{\circ}$ ) | - Incorrect shape with deviation more than $10^{\circ}$ <br> - Shape not held for a minimum 1 second |  |
|  | - Incorrect shape with small deviation (up to $10^{\circ}$ ) | - Shape neither fixed nor held during the base rotation |  |
| Rotations | - Support on the heel during a part of the rotation when performed in "relevé" <br> - Hop(s) without traveling | - Axis of the body not at the vertical and ending with one step <br> - Hop(s) with traveling <br> - Incorrect shape with deviation more than $10^{\circ}$ |  |
| Pre-acrobatic Elements | Heavy landing | - Unauthorized technique pre-acrobatic/ non preacrobatic elements *Walking in the handstand position |  |


| Apparatus | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.50 or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Loss of the apparatus (for the loss of 2 Clubs in succession: the judge will penalize one time based on the total number of steps taken to retrieve the farthest clubs) |  |  | Loss and retrieval without traveling |
|  |  |  | - Loss and retrieval after 1 - <br> 2 steps: $\mathbf{0 . 7 0}$ <br> - Loss and retrieval after 3 or more steps: 1.00 <br> - Loss outside the floor area (regardless of distance): $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ |
|  |  |  | Loss of the apparatus which does not leave the floor area and use of the replacement apparatus: $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ |
|  |  |  | Loss of the apparatus (no contact) at the end of the exercise: 1.00 |
| Technique | Imprecise trajectory and catch in flight with 1 step | Imprecise trajectory and catch in flight with 2 or more steps/ "Chasse" steps in R | Unusable apparatus: $0.70$ |
|  | Catch with the involuntary help of the other hand (Exception for ball: catches outside the visual field) | Incorrect catch with involuntary contact with the body |  |
|  |  | Static apparatus ** |  |
| Rope |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Incorrect handling or catch: amplitude, shape, work plane, the rope not held at both ends (each time) |  |  |
|  |  | Loss of one end of the rope without interruption in the exercise | Loss of one end of the rope with interruption in the exercise |
|  |  | Passing through the rope: feet caught in the rope | Involuntary wrappings around the body or part of it with interruption in the exercise |
|  |  | Knot without interruption in the exercise | Knot with interruption in the exercise |


| Hoop |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basic technique | - Incorrect handling or catch: alteration in the work plane, vibrations, irregular rotation on the vertical axis (each time) |  |  |
|  | Catch after throw: contact with the forearm | Catch after throw: contact with the arm |  |
|  | - Involuntary, incomplete roll over the body <br> - Incorrect roll with bounce |  |  |
|  | Sliding on the arm during rotations |  |  |
|  |  | Passing through the hoop: feet caught in the hoop |  |
| Ball |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Incorrect handling or catch: ball held against the forearm ("grasped") or visibly squeezed by the fingers (each time) |  |  |
|  | - Involuntary, incomplete roll over the body <br> - Incorrect roll with bounce |  |  |
|  | Catch with the involuntary help of the other hand (Exception: catches outside the visual field) |  |  |
| Clubs |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Incorrect handling or catch: irregular movement, arms too far apparat during mills, etc., (each time) |  |  |
|  | Alteration of synchronization in the rotation of the 2 clubs during throws and catches |  |  |
|  | Lack of precision in the work planes of the clubs during asymmetric movements |  |  |
| Ribbon |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Alteration of the pattern formed by the ribbon (snakes, spirals insufficiently tight, not the same height, amplitude, etc.) (each time) |  |  |
|  | Incorrect handling or catch: imprecise passing/transmission, ribbon stick involuntarily held in the middle, incorrect connection between the patterns, snap of the ribbon (each time) |  | Involuntary wrappings around the body or part of it with interruption in the exercise |
|  | Small knot without interruption in the exercise | Large visible knot with interruption in the exercise |  |
|  | The end of the Ribbon stays on the floor involuntarily during the performance of pattern, throws, echappes, etc. | Half of the Ribbon stays on the floor involuntarily during the performance of pattern, throws, échappés, etc. |  |

**Static apparatus (see page 14)

## LEVEL 7

## FLOOR

## DIFFICULTY

- 8 body difficulties (BD) :
- Maximum Value of the following Body Difficulties - 0.7 each $=5.5$ max
- The exercise must be represented by all body movement groups: Min 1. from each body group. Minimum 2 Body Difficulty must be executed on opposite leg/side.
- Composition requirements $=1.5 \mathrm{max}$
- 3 Dance Steps Combinations -0.3 each
- 1 body wave front -0.2
- 1 body wave back-0.2
- 1 side body wave -0.2

EXECUTION= 9.0 max.

- Artistry (0.2 each):
- Variety in Dance steps
- Variety in the use of levels, modalities of travelling
- Variety in the shapes of difficulties
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Sufficient use of entire floor area
- Variety in the use of directions and trajectories of body movements
- Rhythm 0.0-1.0 $=1.0$ max
- Connections 0.0-1.0=1.0 max.
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6$ max
- Technical faults $=5.0 \max$

TOTAL $=(D+E)=16.0$

## LEVEL 7 <br> APPARATUS

DIFFICULTY: 6.00 points maximum consisting of:

- BODY DIFFICULTY: Maximum 6 body difficulties
- Maximum Value of the following Body Difficulties- 0.7 each
- The exercise must be represented by all body movement groups: Min. 1 from each body group


## - APPARATUS:

- FUNDAMENTAL TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: Minimum 8 different required in each routine (see table below).
- For each missing required fundamental apparatus elements: 0.3 penalty

| Apparatus | Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $U$ | - Passing with the whole or part of the body through the open Rope or folded in 2 or more, turning forward, backward, or to the side; also with double rotation of the rope: <br> - 1 of them must be during Jump/ Leap Note: A minimum of 2 large body segments | 2 |
|  | $\mathcal{W}$ Passing through the Rope with series (min.3) of small hops, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side | 2 |
|  | A. Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand from Large/Medium Throw (Note: without support/ help of any part(s) of the body) | 1 |
|  | $\mathscr{C l}^{\prime}$ Spirals OR "Echappe" | 3 |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\widetilde{000}$ Roll of the Hoop over minimum 2 large body segments | 3 |
|  | O Series (min. 3) of rotations around the hand | 1 |
|  | - Passing through the Hoop with the whole or part of the body (Note: A minimum of 2 large body segments) | 1 |
|  | $\ominus$ Rotations of the Hoop around its axis (one of each minimum): <br> - One free rotation between the fingers <br> - One free rotation on the part of the body | 3 |
|  | 000 Roll of the Ball over minimum 2 large body segments | 3 |
|  | $\vee$ Bounces: <br> - Series (min. 3) of small bounces (below knee level) or One high bounce (knee level and high) <br> - Visible rebound from the floor or a part of the body | 2 |
|  | 8 Figures eight of the Ball with circle movements of the arms | 2 |
|  | $\downarrow$ Catch of the Ball with one hand from Large Throw (note: no contact with forearm/ body) | 1 |



- APPARATUS COMBINATIONS- minimum 1 required
- DANCE STEPS (S): Value 0.3 each (minimum 2 required)
- Dynamic Elements with Rotation (R): Minimum 1, Maximum 3 per routine. Maximum value for each R-1.0 (Each Rexceeding 1.00 point will not be valid ( 0.00 point), no penalty applied)

EXECUTION $=10.0$ max (artistic and technical faults)

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=16.00$

## LEVEL 8 <br> FLOOR

## DIFFICULTY

- 8 body difficulties (BD):
- Maximum Value of the following Body Difficulties - 0.9 each $=6.5$ max
- The exercise must be represented by all body movement groups: Min. 1 from each body group. Minimum 2 Body Difficulty must be executed on opposite leg/side
- Composition requirements $=1.5 \max$
- 3 Dance steps combinations (0.3 each)
- 1 body wave: front-0.2
- 1 body wave back-0.2
- 1 side body wave -0.2

EXECUTION= 9.0 max.

- Artistry (0.2 each):
- Variety in Dance steps
- Variety in the use of levels, modalities of travelling
- Variety in the shapes of difficulties
- Variety in the speed and intensity during the whole exercise (dynamism)
- Sufficient use of movement with hands, arms, neck, trunk, and head
- Sufficient use of entire floor area
- Variety in the use of directions and trajectories of body movements
- Rhythm 0.0-1.0 $=1.0$ max
- Connections 0.0-1.0=1.0 max.
- Expression 0.0-0.6 $=0.6$ max
- Technical faults= 5.0 max

Total $=(D+E)=17.0$

## LEVEL 8 <br> APPARATUS

## DIFFICULTY: 7.00 points maximum consisting of:

- BODY DIFFICULTY: Maximum 6 body difficulties
- Maximum Value of the following Body Difficulties - 0.9 each
- The exercise must be represented by all body movement groups: Min. 1 from each body group
- APPARATUS:
- FUNDAMENTAL TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: Minimum 10 different required in each routine (see table below).
- For each missing required fundamental apparatus elements: 0.3 penalty

| Apparatus | Fundamental Apparatus Technical Groups |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $U$ | - Passing with the whole or part of the body through the open Rope or folded in 2 or more, turning forward, backward, or to the side; also with double rotation of the rope. <br> - 2 of them must be during Jump/ Leap Note: A minimum of 2 large body segments | 3 |
|  | $\mathcal{W}$ Passing through the Rope with series (min.3) of small hops, Rope turning forward, backward, or to the side | 3 |
|  | $\mathscr{C l}^{\prime}$ Spirals | 3 |
|  | ก. Catch of the Rope with one end in each hand from Large/Medium Throw Note: without support/ help of any part(s) of the body | 1 |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc 00$ Roll of the Hoop over minimum 2 large body segments | 3 |
|  | O Series (min. 3) of rotations around the hand | 2 |
|  | - Passing through the Hoop with the whole or part of the body Note: A minimum of 2 large body segments | 2 |
|  | $\ominus$ Rotations of the Hoop around its axis (one of each minimum): <br> - Free rotation on the part of the body <br> - Free rotation between the fingers | 3 |
|  | 000 Roll of the Ball over minimum 2 large body segments | 4 |
|  | $\checkmark$ Bounces: <br> - Series (min. 3) of small bounces ( below knee level) or One high bounce (knee level and higher) <br> - Visible rebound from the floor or a part of the body (min. 1) | 3 |
|  | 8 Figures eight of the Ball with circle movements of the arms | 2 |
|  | $\downarrow$ Catch of the Ball with one hand from Large Throw (note: no contact with forearm/ body) | 1 |



- APPARATUS COMBINATIONS: minimum 1 required
- DANCE STEPS (S): Value 0.3 each (minimum 2 required)
- DYNAMIC ELEMENTS with ROTATION (R): Minimum 1, Maximum 4 per routine. Maximum value for each R-1.0 (Each $\mathbf{R}$ exceeding 1.00 point will not be valid ( 0.00 point), no penalty applied)

EXECUTION = 10.0 max

TOTAL $=\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E}=17.00$

## JUNIOR OLYMPIC GROUP PROGRAM

## PURPOSE OF GROUP

The purpose of the group program is to introduce the gymnast to ensemble work. Cooperation is an essential part of a successful group experience. The program allows all ages and abilities to participate in group exercises.

- The group program consists of three levels:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced

- Group exercise may be performed as Duet, Trio, 4 gymnasts or 5 gymnasts.

All groups of the same level will be judged the same regardless of the number of participants. The groups may be split into categories based on number of participants when the number of groups participating exceeds 3 of one type. For example, if there are 4 groups competing Beginner group- 2 Duets, a 4 group and a 5 group, they will all compete in the same category. However, if there were 10 Beginner groups competing - 5 duets, 4 trios, a 1 group of 5 , then the groups may be split into Beginner Duets, Beginner Trios and Beginner Group of 5.

- Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Groups will compete one Apparatus Exercise and one Floor Exercise as indicated on the Apparatus chart.
- A gymnastics club may enter more than one team; however, at least $50 \%$ of the group must be different members.
- Apparatus must all be of the same size. The size of the apparatus is determined by the majority of the age group of the group.
See the Rhythmic Rules and Policies.
- Leotards must be identical in style and color. The only exception is when a patterned material is used, slight variations are tolerated.


## MUSIC

Beginner Group 1'30" to 2'00"
Intermediate Group 2'00" to 2'30"
Advanced Group 2'00" to 2'30"


## JUDGING THE GROUP EXERCISE

- Group will be judged by 2 Panels:
- Difficulty Panel and an Execution Panel
- Each group exercise must be judged by a minimum of 4 judges at Regional/National competition. Local/ Invitational/ State competitions may be judged by a minimum of 2 judges.
- For a panel of 4 judges the maximum difference between the two scores is 0.50 .
- All Neutral deductions apply.


## Exchanges:

- An exchange is only valid if the apparatus changes from one gymnast to another.
- Exchanges are only valid by throwing (passing and rolling are not exchanges).
- Exchanges may not contain Difficulties.
- Only Exchanges by medium or large throws of the apparatus between the gymnasts are valid.
- Exchange with minimum 6 meters refers to a distance between gymnasts during the throw and/or during the catch
- In order to be valid, Exchange must be performed by all gymnasts without any of the following serious technical faults:
- Loss of apparatus, including 1 or 2 clubs (Note: loss of 1 end of the ropeExchange is valid)
- Loss of balance with support on the hand or apparatus or fall of the gymnast
- Collision of the gymnasts or apparatus


## Body Difficulty:

- Difficulties must be completed and validated by all gymnasts for the Difficulty to receive credit.
- Difficulties of different values may be performed simultaneously, however the lowest value will be the value of the Difficulty.
- Difficulties must be performed simultaneously or in succession because all gymnasts must perform the Difficulty to receive value.
- All requirements for BD in individual program are valid for Group program
- Minimum 1 BD from each Body group should be present


## Collaboration:

Elements with Collaboration imply:

- All gymnasts must participate in the Collaboration action(s), even if with different roles, otherwise the Collaboration is not valid.
- All gymnasts, together or in subgroups (couple, trio, etc.) must be in contact either directly or by means of the apparatus
- Performed with different modalities by one or several gymnasts (with or without throw of apparatus by one or more gymnasts, different directions, variety of traveling and formations, etc.)
- The elements of cooperation are well-organized with the apparatus work
- The same rotation (pre-acrobatic elements, chaine, ect.) may be used one time in Collaboration.
- Collaborations are possible during Dance steps combinations, which do not interrupt the continuity of the $\mathbf{S}$
- Collaborations are valid if performed by all gymnasts without any of the following serious faults:
- Loss of apparatus, including 1 or 2 clubs
- Loss of balance with support on the hand or apparatus or fall of the gymnast
- Collision of the gymnasts or apparatus
- Immobile gymnast(s) or apparatus/gymnast(s) without apparatus, each for more than 4 seconds.
- With a prohibited element
- Repetition of the same rotation (pre-acrobatic element, chainee, illusion, ect)
- Pre-acrobatic elements with unauthorized technique (Ex: roll with flight)
- Prohibited elements with Collaboration:
- Action or positions by leaning on 1 or several partners without contact with the floor, maintained for longer than 4 seconds
- Carrying or dragging a gymnast over the floor for more than 2 steps
- Walking-with more than 1 support- over 1 or several gymnasts grouped together
- Forming pyramids
- Side or front splits on the floor, with a stop in the position;
- Support on one or two hands or on the forearms without any other contact with the floor, without walkover/cartwheels and with stopping in the vertical position.


## GROUP EXERCISES - EXECUTION (E)

## Artistic Component

- Contact with the apparatus and gymnasts:
- At the beginning or during the exercise, one or several gymnasts cannot remain without apparatus for longer than 4 seconds
- If the apparatus and the gymnasts do not start moving simultaneously, the various moves must follow each other rapidly within a maximum of 4 seconds to avoid one or several immobile gymnasts/apparatus.
- During the Collaborations, it is possible for one or several gymnasts to be in possession of two or more apparatus while their partners have none, under the condition that such a situation is 4 seconds or less
- At the end of the exercise, each gymnast may hold or be in contact with one or several apparatus. In this case, one or several gymnasts may be without apparatus in the final position.
- It is possible to begin or end an exercise "lifting" one gymnast or several gymnasts with support on the apparatus and/or the gymnasts; for the start position, the gymnasts must transition out from the lift not more than 4 seconds after the music begins.
- Formations (Variety): - minimum 6


## Explanations

Formations should be created with a variety in the following:

- Placements in different areas of the floor area: center, corners, diagonals, lines,
- Distribution of the positions within the formations (facing forward, back, one another, etc.)
- Design: circles, lines in all directions, triangles, etc.
- Amplitude: size/depth of the design (wide, closed, etc.).
- Body and Facial Expression:
- The collective work of the Group should include the same beauty, elegance and intensity of movements by all gymnasts
- All the norms mentioned in Individual exercises are valid for Group exercises
- Rhythm - all the norms mentioned in Individual exercises are valid for Group exercises
- Apparatus elements: the apparatus elements should be performed on various planes, in different directions, on different parts of the body, with different techniques, etc. When the apparatus elements are repeated or the all performed on the same plane without any changes, this lack of variety is penalized


## Additional Artistic components for Intermediate and Advance group only:

- Dynamic changes: all the norms mentioned in Individual exercises are also valid for Group exercises
- Organization of the Collective Work:
- The typical character of the Group Exercise is the participation of each gymnast in the homogeneous work of the group in a spirit of cooperation.
- Each composition should have various types of organization in the collective work with a minimum 1 of each of the following types of collective work. There should be balance between the different types of organization in the collective work, so that one type does not overwhelm the composition (ex: majority of the exercise in synchronization)


## Explanations : Guide for collective work

1. Synchronization: simultaneous execution of the same movement with the same amplitude, speed, dynamism, etc.
2. "Choral" execution: simultaneous execution of different movement (by the all gymnasts or in subgroups) with different amplitude or speed or direction
3. Rapid succession or "cannon": execution by the all gymnasts (or subgroups) one after the other. The movement begins immediately after or during the same movement by the previous gymnast or the subgroup.
4. Contrast: execution by the all gymnasts (or subgroups) in contrast by speed (slow-fast) or intensity (with force-softly) or level (standing-floor) or direction or movement (pause-continue)

Note: Artistic and technical deductions entered separately for the final execution score (for Intermediate and Advance group-apparatus only)

| Technical Faults: All penalties listed are given each time, regardless of the number of gymnasts at fault (overall penalties), unless otherwise specified in bold letters (these faults are given for each gymnast) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Penalties | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.50 or more |
| Body movements |  |  |  |
| Generalities | Travelling without throw: adjusting the body position on the floor |  |  |
| Basic technique | Body segment incorrectly held during a movement including the incorrect foot and/or knee position, bent elbow, raised shoulders during a body element | Asymmetrical position of the shoulders and/or trunk during a body difficulty |  |
|  | Loss of balance: additional movement without travelling (each gymnast) | Loss of balance: additional movement with travelling (each gymnast) | Loss of balance with support on one or both hands or on the apparatus (each gymnast) |
|  |  |  | Total loss of balance with fall - 0.70 (each gymnast) |
| Leaps/Jumps | - Heavy landing <br> - Incorrect shape with small deviation (up to $10^{\circ}$ ) | - Incorrect landing: clearly arched back during the final phase of landing) <br> - Incorrect shape with deviation more than $10^{\circ}$ |  |
| Balances | - Incorrect shape with small deviation (up to $10^{\circ}$ ) | - Shape not held for a minimum 1 second *Incorrect shape with deviation more than $10^{\circ}$ <br> Shape not held for a minimum 1 second |  |
|  | - Incorrect shape with small deviation (up to $10^{\circ}$ ) | Incorrect shape with deviation more than $10^{\circ}$ |  |
| Rotations | - Support on the heel during a part of the rotation when performed in "relevé" <br> - Hop(s) without traveling | - Axis of the body not at the vertical and ending with one step <br> - Hop(s) with traveling <br> - Shape neither fixed nor held during the base rotation |  |
| Pre-acrobatic Elements | Heavy landing | *Unauthorized technique pre-acrobatic/ non pre-acrobatic elements <br> *Walking in the handstand position |  |
| Synchronization | Lack of synchronization between individual movement and that of the group |  |  |
| Formations | Imprecise line(s) within the formation |  |  |

[^0]| Apparatus | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.50 or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| For loss of apparatus: the judge will penalize one time, <br> regardless of the number of gymnasts, based on the total number of steps taken to retrieve the farthest apparatus | Collision between the gymnasts/apparatus (+ all the consequences) |  | Loss and retrieval without travelling <br> Loss and retrieval after 1-2 steps-0.70 |
|  |  |  | Loss and retrieval after 3 or more steps: 1.00 <br> Loss outside the floor area (regardless of distance): 1.00 |
|  |  |  | Loss of the apparatus which does not leave the floor area and use of the replacement apparatus: $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ |
|  |  |  | Loss of the apparatus (no contact) at the end of the exercise: 1.00 |
|  | Imprecise trajectory and catch in flight with 1 step | Imprecise trajectory and catch in flight with 2 or more steps(including "Chasse" steps in Exchange, Collaboration) | Unusable apparatus (0.70) |
|  | Catch with the involuntary help of the other hand (Exception for ball: catches outside the visual field) (each time). For Exchange and Collaboration only one time penalty regardless of the number of gymnasts. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Basic technique |  Rope <br> rect handling or catch: amplitude, shape, work  |  |  |
|  |  | Loss of one end of the rope without interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) | Loss of one end of the rope with interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) |
|  |  | Involuntary wrappings around the body or part of it with interruption of the exercise (each gymnast) |  |
|  |  | Passing through the rope: feet caught in the rope (each gymnast) |  |
|  |  | Knot in the rope without interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) | Knot in the rope with interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) |


| Hoop |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basic technique | Incorrect handling or catch: alteration in the work plane, vibrations, irregular rotation on the vertical axis |  |  |
|  | Catch after throw: contact with the forearm | Catch after throw: contact with the arm |  |
|  | - Involuntary, incomplete roll over the body <br> - Incorrect roll with bounce |  |  |
|  | Sliding on the arm during rotations |  |  |
|  |  | Passing through the hoop: feet caught in the hoop (each gymnast) |  |
| Ball |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Incorrect handling: ball held against the forearm ("grasped") or visibly squeezed by the fingers |  |  |
|  | - Involuntary, incomplete roll over the body <br> - Incorrect roll with bounce |  |  |
|  | Catch with the involuntary help of the other hand (Exception: catches outside the visual field) |  |  |
| Clubs |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Incorrect handling or catch: irregular movement, arms too far apart during mills, interruption of the movement during small circles |  |  |
|  | Alteration of synchronization in the rotation of the 2 clubs during throws and catches |  |  |
|  | Lack of precision in the work planes of the clubs during asymmetric movements |  |  |
| Ribbon |  |  |  |
| Basic technique | Alteration of the pattern formed by the ribbon (snakes, spirals insufficiently tight, not the same height, amplitude, etc.) |  |  |
|  | Incorrect handling or catch: imprecise passing/transmission, ribbon stick involuntarily held in the middle, incorrect connection between the patterns, snap of the ribbon |  | Involuntary wrappings around the body or part of it with interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) |
|  | Small knot without interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) | Large visible knot with interruption in the exercise (each gymnast) |  |
|  | The end of the Ribbon stays on the floor involuntarily during the performance of pattern, throws, echappes, etc. | Half of the Ribbon stays on the floor involuntarily during the performance of pattern, throws, échappés, etc. |  |
| USA Gymnastics - Rhythmic Program Junior Olympic Program |  |  |  |

Artistic Faults-valid for ALL Groups

| Penalties | 0.10 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 0.50 or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Contact with apparatus / gymnast(s) |  |  | *At the beginning or during the exercise, one or several gymnasts are without apparatus for more than 4 seconds <br> *None of the gymnasts are in contact with any apparatus in the final position. <br> *At the start of the exercise, one gymnast remains in a lift position for longer than 4 seconds <br> * During the Collaboration visible immobility of one or several apparatus for more than 4 seconds (each time, regardless the number of the gymnasts) |  |
| Formations |  | Lack of variety between amplitude /design in formations. | Less than 6 formations (one time penalty) |  |
|  |  | Long stop in formation |  |  |
| Collaborations |  | One type of Collaboration overwhelms the composition | Prohibited elements with collaboration |  |
| Variety |  | Lack of variety in Dance Steps |  |  |
|  |  | Lack of variety in directions of body movements, in the use of levels, modalities of traveling |  |  |
| Apparatus Elements |  |  | Lack of variety in the planes, directions, types of Apparatus elements |  |
| Rhythm: Harmony between movements and: Musical accents, phrases, and tempo | Isolated interruption, each time up to 1.00 |  | A musical introduction longer than 4 seconds without movement | * Entire exercise is disconnected from the rhythm (background music)- 1.00 <br> * Absence of harmony between music-movement at the end of the exercise (one time, regardless of the number of gymnasts) |
| Body and Facial Expression | Isolated segmentary movements | Lack of expressivity (beauty, elegance and intensity) of the body movements by all the gymnasts | Absence of body and facial expression in the majority of the exercise | Total absence of body (segmentary movements) and facial expression |


| Additional Artistic Faults for Intermediate and Advance Groups only |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\mathbf{0 . 3}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 2}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 5}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Penalties | $\mathbf{0 . 1}$ |  | The gymnasts movements do not respect <br> dynamic changes OR The music itself is <br> entirely monotonous without any dynamic <br> changes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ennamic Changes: <br> movement corresponds to dynamic <br> changes in music |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organization of the collective work |  | One type of collective work <br> overwhelms the composition |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## BEGINNER GROUP: Floor Routine

## DIFFICULTY $=4.0$ max

- 5 Body Difficulties ( $0.1,0.2$ and/or 0.3 value only) $=1.5$ max
- 5 Collaborations @ 0.20 each $=1.0$ max
- 1 must be with acrobatic element (min. 1 gymnast)
- Composition requirements $=1.5 \mathrm{max}$
- 3 Dance steps combinations with change of direction and traveling (0.3 each)
- 3 different body waves ( 0.2 each)


## EXECUTION (Artistic and technical faults) $=\mathbf{1 0 . 0 0}$

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=14.00$

## BEGINNER GROUP: Apparatus Routine

## DIFFICULTY $=5.00$ max

- 5 Body Difficulties (0.1, 0.2 and/or 0.3 value only) $=1.2$ max
- 5 Collaborations @ 0.20-0.3 each = 1.2 max
-1 must be with acrobatic element (min. 1 gymnast) - 0.2
-2 must be the throw- 0.3 each
- 2 Exchanges (by throwing) @ 0.50 each = 1.0 max.

Note: All throws for Exchanges must be different type/ technique

- Composition requirements $=1.6$ max:
- Minimum Required Apparatus Elements 5 @ 0.2 each = 1.0 (identical handling may not be repeated. All gymnasts in the Group must perform in order to be considered present. May not be performed during Dance Steps)
Ball:

1. 1 series of small bounces
2. 1 bounce with part of the body (except hands)

3-4. 2 different rolls over 2 large parts of the body each
5. 1 large figure " 8 "

Hoop:

1. 1 passing through the hoop with any jump/leap/skip
2. 1 roll on the floor (any)
3. 1 series of rotations around hand(s)
4. 1 free rotation between the fingers around the axis
5. 1 unassisted roll on 1 part of upper part of the body

- 2 Dance steps Combinations with traveling and change of directions (0.3 each)

EXECUTION (Artistic and Technical faults) $=10.0$

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=15.00$

## INTERMEDIATE GROUP: Floor Routine

DIFFICULTY $=7.0 \max$

- 7 Body Difficulties (0.1-0.2-0.3- 0.4, 0.5 and/or 0.6 value) $=4.1$ max
- 7 Collaborations @ 0.20 each $=1.4$ max
- 1 must be with acrobatic element (min. 1 gymnast)
- $\underline{\text { Composition requirements }}=1.5 \mathrm{max}$
- 3 Dance steps combinations with change of direction and traveling (0.3 each)
- 3 different body waves ( 0.2 each)

EXECUTION (Artistic and Technical faults) $=10.0 \mathrm{max}$.

$$
\text { TOTAL }=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=17.0
$$

## INTERMEDIATE GROUP: Apparatus Routine

## DIFFICULTY = $7.0 \max$

- 5 Body Difficulties (0.1-0.2-0.3- 0.4, 0.5 and/or 0.6 value) $=2.4$ max
- 6 Collaborations @ 0.20-0.3 each = 1.5 max
- 3 must be with throw ( 0.3 each)
- 1 must be with acrobatic element (min. 1 gymnast) - 0.2
- 3 Exchanges (by throwing) @ .50 each $=1.5$ max Note: All throws for Exchanges must be different type/ technique
- Composition requirements $=1.6 \mathrm{max}$
- Minimum Required Apparatus Elements 5 @ 0.2 each $=1.0$ (identical handling may not be repeated. All gymnasts in the Group must perform in order to be considered present) - see Table on Pages 33-38
- minimum 1 from each Fundamental technical group
- 2 of the Fundamentals must be on Body Difficulty
- 2 Dance steps combinations with traveling and change of directions (0.3 each)

EXECUTION (Artistic and Technical Faults) $=10.0 \mathrm{max}$

TOTAL $=(D+A+E)=17.00$

## ADVANCED GROUP: Floor Routine

## DIFFICULTY $=9.0 \max$

- 8 Body Difficulties (0.1-0.2-0.3-0.4-0.5-0.6-0.7 and 0.8 value) $=5.5$ max
- 10 Collaborations @ 0.20 each $=2.0$ max
-1 must be with acrobatic element (min. 1 gymnast)
- Composition requirements $=1.5 \mathrm{max}$
- 3 Dance steps combinations (0.3 each)-see pages 38-40
- 3 different body waves ( 0.2 each)

EXECUTION (Artistic and Technical Faults) $=10.0 \mathrm{max}$

$$
\text { TOTAL }=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=19.0
$$

## ADVANCED GROUP: Apparatus Routine

DIFFICULTY $=9.00$ max.

- 5 Body Difficulties (0.1-0.2-0.3-0.4-0.5- 0.6-0.7 and 0.8 value) $=3.4$ max
- 8 Collaborations @ 0.20-0.3 each = 2.0 max
- 1 must be with multiple transmission (min. 2) using different techniques (with or without throw) - 0.3
- 3 with throw (with or without body rotation) - 0.3 each
- 1 with acrobatic element (min. 1 gymnast) - 0.2
- 4 Exchanges (by throwing) @ 0.50 each $=2.0$ max
(Note: All throws for Exchanges must be different type/ technique):
-2 Exchanges with minimum 6M distance
-2 additional Exchanges
- Composition requirements $=1.6 \max$
- Minimum Required Apparatus Elements 5 @ 0.2 each $=1.0$ (identical handling may not be repeated. All gymnasts in the Group must perform in order to be considered present) - see Tables on pages 33-38:
-minimum 1 from each Fundamental technical group;
-2 of the Fundamentals must be on Body Difficulty.
- 2 Dance steps combinations (0.3 each)-see pages 38-40

EXECUTION (Artistic and Technical Faults) $=10.0$ max

TOTAL $=(\mathrm{D}+\mathrm{E})=19.0$

Individual Exercise (Levels 7-8)

$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Difficulty (D)

## Gymnast

 Name
$\qquad$


[^0]:    USA Gymnastics - Rhythmic Program
    Junior Olympic Program

