

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

SPECIAL REGULATIONS & TECHNICAL RULES

SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

2012

as accepted by the 54th Ordinary Congress
June 2012

See also the ISU Constitution
and General Regulations

In the ISU Constitution and Regulations, the masculine gender used in relation to any physical person (for example, Skater/Competitor, Official, member of a Member etc. or pronouns such as he, they, them) shall, unless there is a specific provision to the contrary, be understood as including the feminine gender.

INTERNATIONAL SKATING FEDERATION

Regulations laid down by the following Congresses:

1 st	Scheveningen	1892	28 th	Tours	1959
2 nd	Copenhagen	1895	29 th	Bergen	1961
3 rd	Stockholm	1897	30 th	Helsinki	1963
4 th	London	1899	31 st	Vienna	1965
5 th	Berlin	1901	32 nd	Amsterdam	1967
6 th	Budapest	1903	33 rd	Maidenhead	1969
7 th	Copenhagen	1905	34 th	Venice	1971
8 th	Stockholm	1907	35 th	Copenhagen	1973
9 th	Amsterdam	1909	36 th	Munich	1975
10 th	Vienna	1911	37 th	Paris	1977
11 th	Budapest	1913	38 th	Davos	1980
12 th	Amsterdam	1921	39 th	Stavanger	1982
13 th	Copenhagen	1923	40 th	Colorado Springs	1984
14 th	Davos	1925	41 st	Velden	1986
15 th	Luchon	1927	42 nd	Davos	1988
16 th	Oslo	1929	43 rd	Christchurch	1990
17 th	Vienna	1931	44 th	Davos	1992
18 th	Prague	1933	45 th	Boston	1994
19 th	Stockholm	1935	46 th	Davos	1996
20 th	St. Moritz	1937	47 th	Stockholm	1998
21 st	Amsterdam	1939	48 th	Québec	2000
22 nd	Oslo	1947	49 th	Kyoto	2002
23 rd	Paris	1949	50 th	Scheveningen	2004
24 th	Copenhagen	1951	51 st	Budapest	2006
25 th	Stresa	1953	52 nd	Monaco	2008
26 th	Lausanne	1955	53 rd	Barcelona	2010
27 th	Salzburg	1957	54 th	<u>Kuala Lumpur</u>	<u>2012</u>

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I. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

Rule 700 Disciplines of Figure Skating

International Figure Skating consists of:

1. Single Skating
2. Pair Skating
3. Ice Dance
4. Synchronized Skating

Rule 701 Synchronized Skating

1. Synchronized Skating consists of:
 - a) Short Program for Senior and Junior categories
 - b) Free Skating for Senior, Junior and Novice categories
2. The Short Program and Free Skating must be included in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and all International Senior and Junior Synchronized Skating Competitions.
3. A Synchronized Skating Team must consist of the following number of Skaters and may include both ladies and men (see paragraph 3 e); the object of a Team is to perform as one unit.
 - a) In all International Synchronized Skating Competitions:
Senior: a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters,
Junior: a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters,
Novice Advanced: a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters.
 - b) In the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters.
 - c) In the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships a Team shall consist of sixteen (16) Skaters.
 - d) Each Team may have up to a maximum of four (4) alternates listed as such on the Team roster.
 - e) Exceptions to the paragraph a), d) of this Rule may be decided by the Council for multi-sports events sanctioned by the ISU.

f) Injury at the International Competitions/Championships:

If an injury/illness should occur during practice or competition, at either the Championships or practice venue(s), the Team will be permitted to skate with not less than fourteen (14) Skaters. At the Championships, injury/illness must be certified by the ISU Medical Advisor assigned to the Championships.

g) Teams of a Member may enter more than one event using a different program, with minimum change of 50% of the Skaters.

4. Synchronized Skating Teams will be permitted to use individual Team names, provided that they do not conflict with the ISU sponsors. If the ISU deems a name inappropriate at any time, it will notify the Member Federation which will then be required to file a name change for the Team in question.

5. Age limits for Synchronized Skating - See Rule 108, paragraph 3.

Rule 702

Behavior of Teams, Officials and others

1. Encouragement or advice of any kind, especially prompting during the skating, by Officials or other persons, is not permitted.
2. Before skating the Short Program or Free Skating program in an International Competition or ISU Synchronized Skating Championships, Teams are not allowed to bow to the spectators. Bows may be made to thank the public for applause given at the end the performance.

Rules 703 – 717 (reserved)

REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITIONS IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

A. General

Rule 718 Composition of events

1. Synchronized Skating Competitions may consist of the following categories:
 - a) Senior;
 - b) Junior;
 - c) Novice;
 - d) The Short Program and Free Skating must be included in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and all International Senior and Junior Synchronized Skating Competitions conducted under the Rule 107, paragraph 1, 4, 8 and 9.

Rule 719 Officials

1. The Member holding an International Competition in Synchronized Skating is entitled to appoint the Officials. For exceptions in the case of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, see Rule 770 and 972 and for ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup see Rule 720, paragraphs 1 and 2.
2. The category of Officials (“ISU” or “International”) able to officiate at the different ISU sanctioned events is in accordance with Rule 121 of the General Regulations.
 - a) A member of the immediate family of a Synchronized Skating Team member shall not be permitted to serve as an Official (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Referee and/or Judge) in the same event at the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Synchronized Skating Competitions in which such Team member is entered.
 - b) Members of the same family or close relatives shall not be permitted to serve as Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Referee, Referee and/or Judges in the same panel of the same event at the ISU World

Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Synchronized Skating Competitions, even if they represent different Members.

- c) A member of the immediate family of an ineligible person (as defined in Rule 102, paragraph 2) shall not be permitted to serve as an Official (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Referee, and/or Judge) at the same event of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Synchronized Skating Competitions in which a pupil of such ineligible person is entered.
 - d) A member of the immediate family of a remunerated coach shall not be permitted to serve as an Official (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Referee and/or Judge) at the same event of any ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Competitions in which a pupil of the said coach is entered.
3. a) The following Officials are necessary:
- (i) a Referee
 - (ii) a panel of a maximum of nine (9) Judges
 - (iii) a Technical Controller
 - (iv) a Technical Specialist
 - (v) an Assistant Technical Specialist
 - (vi) a Data Operator
 - (vii) a Replay Operator
- b) The following competition personnel designated by the Organizing Committee are necessary:
- (i) an announcer to summon the Teams and to read the scores and results (see Rule 737);
 - (ii) two (2) timekeepers for the programs;
 - (iii) supplementary Officials (if necessary) to guarantee the orderly conduct of the competition in other respects.
 - (iv) Referee's Assistant at ice level
4. The names of all Officials mentioned in paragraph 3 a) shall be published as soon as possible before the beginning of the competition.
5. a) For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the names of the Referee, the

Judges, the Technical Controller, the Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators actually serving, must be announced in the Referee's Report of the event to the ISU Secretariat within two (2) weeks after the conclusion of the Championships.

- b) For International Synchronized Skating Competitions, the names of the Referee, the Judges, the Technical Controller, the Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators actually serving at International Competitions as well as the names of the Judges present but not drawn must be announced in the Referee's Report, of the event to the ISU Secretariat within two (2) weeks after the conclusion of the competition.

6. Organizing Committee must assign a person (International or National level Synchronized Skating Official) as the Referee's Assistant at ice level, near the entrance with the following functions/duties:

- makes notes of all matters which call for comment;
- permits (verifying the competing Skaters) the first and each additional Team to enter the ice for their warm-up;
- monitors the ice conditions and report problems to the Referee;
- directs a registered alternate to enter the ice for the express purpose of picking up objects on the ice considered hazardous to the Skaters;
- Referee's Assistant at ice level shall not Judge or take notes during the Team performance. For safety reasons, the full attention of the Referee's Assistant at ice level must be on the Team;
- does not participate in the Victory Ceremony.

7. Judges shall be positioned at or near center ice along the long axis and sufficiently above the ice surface, (approximately at barrier height) so as to afford the best possible position to observe the competitive performances.

Rule 720

Composition of the panels of Officials

1. Referees and Judges for International Competitions must be so designated on the ISU list, except as stated in Rule 720, paragraph 5. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, if possible, the Referee, the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same Member and all must be designated ISU. For all International Competitions, if possible, the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same Member and all must be designated ISU.

As an exception in extenuating circumstances for International Competition one

(1) National Technical Specialist from the host Member may be used as Assistant Technical Specialist. In this case this Assistant Technical Specialist must be designated as his ISU Member.

- i) A Technical Specialist and an Assistant Technical Specialist from the published ISU list of International Technical Specialists for the International Events may work in all International Competitions.
- ii) The host Member of all International Competitions will appoint a Technical Controller, a Technical Specialist and an Assistant Technical Specialist from the published ISU lists of International / ISU Technical Specialists and Technical Controllers.

2. For the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the Referee and the panel of Judges shall consist only of Referees and Judges on the current list of ISU Referees and ISU Judges for Synchronized Skating and all must be designated ISU. However, the ISU Judges or International Referees may also act as Referee's Assistant at ice level.

A Technical Specialist and an Assistant Technical Specialist from the published ISU list of the ISU Technical Specialists for the ISU Events will be appointed and the ISU Technical Controller to supervise the work of the ISU Technical Specialists.

3. The seating order of the Judging Panel shall be conducted manually by the Referee of the event in the Judges room for each segment of the event.

4. An organizing Member of an International Competition still may, if the equipment available at the competition allows and if authorized by the ISU, use the same sealed computer program and procedure as described in Rules 737-738 for the Championships.

5. ISU Members organizing International Synchronized Skating Competitions must do their utmost, in composing the panels of Judges, to secure representation on the panels of Judges from as many participating Members as possible. However, no Member may have the majority of the Judges in any panel.

As an exception in extenuating circumstances, if the number of the Judges present is insufficient to compose the panel, one (1) National Judge from the host Member may be used provided that Judge has been trained in the use of the ISU Judging System.

Rules 721 – 722 (reserved)

Rule 723

Required rinks

1. The available skating area for Short Program and Free Skating must be rectangular and if possible, shall measure sixty (60) meters in one direction and thirty (30) meters in the other, but not larger, and not less than fifty-six (56) meters in one direction and twenty-six (26) meters in the other.
2. For International Synchronized Skating Competitions and ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, at least one (1) covered and preferably heated rink is required. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships (Senior and Junior) two (2) covered, closed and heated rinks are required.

Rule 724

Music reproduction system

1. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and International Synchronized Skating Competitions, all Teams shall furnish competition music of excellent quality on CD, MD or in any other approved format.
 - a) The music covers/discs must show the exact running time of the music (not skating time), which shall be certified by the Team and by the coach, when submitted at the time of registration.
 - b) Each program (short/free) must be recorded on one track and on a separate disc.
 - c) Teams must provide a back-up drive for each program.
2. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and all International Competitions, all music used for competitive events must be played on high quality electronic recorders, e.g. MP3 player or similar, computer, MD or CD player, one or two of which shall be used during the competition. The organizer shall furnish, for each rink used for the competition and practice, adequate facilities for the reproduction and playback of music. The facilities to be provided by the organizer must be set forth in the Announcement of the competition.
3. For Synchronized Skating, CD, MD or any other approved format, must be played at the same speed and on the same type of equipment during official practice and competition.

4. Precautions must be taken to prevent frequency and/or voltage variations.
5. An allowance of one half a second per minute for all competitive programs will be permitted while playing the music.
6. The volume level of the music as determined by the ISU Medical Advisor in either the practice or competition rinks must not exceed 85–90 dB Sound Pressure Level in any part of the arena.

Rules 725– 736 (reserved)

Rule 737 **ISU Judging System**

General

- a) For Single Skating and Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating competitions the ISU issues a Scale of Value for each and every Element that currently compose the events of Figure Skating, i.e. Short Program, Free Skating, Pattern Dance(s), Short Dance, Free Dance, for single Skaters, Pairs, Couples and Teams;
- b) Each Skater, Pair, Couple, Team, will present an official form indicating the "planned program content", including the Elements with an approximate time code, for each event of the competition;
- c) The Members will annually submit to the ISU (before April 15th) their lists of qualified Judges recommended to be recognized by the ISU. The Members may propose candidates for Technical Specialists and Technical Controllers to the ISU for consideration and possible appointment;
- d) The Vice President, upon recommendation of the Technical Committees, will create and publish a list of qualified ISU and International Referees and Judges for the ISU Judging System. The composition of the panels of Judges in ISU Events will be according to the procedure described in a separate Rule. A list of Technical Specialists, for whom eligibility restrictions as per Rule 102 will not apply, as well as a list of Technical Controllers will be published;
- e) At the competitions the following Officials have to attend:
A maximum of nine (9) Judges selected from the published ISU list of Judges and Referees will be used for the selection and composition of the panel for each category of a competition;
A Referee from the published ISU list of Referees will be appointed to take care

of the panel and oversee the event based on all applicable ISU Rules and Regulations.

The nine (9) Judges and the Referee will all be seated at the rinkboard or in Synchronized Skating in an elevated position and will judge the entire competition;

A Technical Specialist and an Assistant Technical Specialist from the published ISU list of Technical Specialists, will be appointed and used to determine whether an Element and which Element has or has not been performed. A Technical Controller from the published list of Technical Controllers will be appointed in each event to supervise the work of the Technical Specialists in that event;

The appointed Technical Specialist, Assistant Technical Specialist, Technical Controller and Referee of each event of each competition must be from different ISU Members, if possible (see Rules 121 and 720). For ISU Events (ISU Championships, ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating and Final Senior and Junior, ISU World Team Trophy in Figure Skating) as well as the Olympic Winter Games, Winter Youth Olympic Games and the Qualifying Competition for the Olympic Winter Games, the Referee, the Technical Specialists and the Technical Controllers are appointed by the President from the official ISU list. For all other International Competitions the Referee, the Technical Specialists and Technical Controllers are appointed by the organizing Member from the official ISU list. For details see Rule 720;

f) In ISU Events (ISU Championships, Senior Grand Prix of Figure Skating events and other events where available) and the Olympic Winter Games, the Judge will be equipped with a touch screen computer with the video replay system;

g) An Officials' Assessment Commission (OAC) will be appointed by the ISU Council. The OAC will consist of a pool of ISU Referees, ISU Judges and ISU Technical Controllers of different nationalities, who will examine evident judging anomalies and report their findings to the respective Technical Committee and ISU Secretariat/Sports Directorate in line with Rule 825.

Scoring Systems

1. The results must be calculated using electronic computers at the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup.

2.
 - a) In the case of International Competition if an electronic computer is used, the Organizing Member is responsible for the accuracy of the results including the computer software program and shall provide experienced, competent operators who shall be responsible for the entry of data into the computer and the generating of official results.
 - b) In the case of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the ISU is responsible for the accuracy of the results including the computer software program and shall provide experienced, competent operators who shall be responsible for the entry of data into the computer and the generating of official results.
3. Electronic Scoring and Display system
 - a) Judges Screen

Each Judge on the panel operates independently using a touch screen or similar system which could be equipped with a built-in video replay system. The marks as input by each individual Judge are connected to a calculation computer, including, if possible, a complete back-up system.
 - b) Video Replay System

A video Replay System approved by the ISU may be used in each segment of an event.
 - c) Electronic marks display/Scoreboard

In the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships an electronic mark display system must be used.
The Results Display Information (scoreboard) must show:
place in previous segment (Short Program), current place in this segment including Technical Score, points for Program Components Score and Total Segment Score, Final Score (total points) and current place.
4. Manual Marking (off-line marking)

When electronic equipment and electronic communication systems are not complete, Judges will operate with a paper version of the "Judges Marking Sheet", one for each Team.

If the Panel of Judges does not exceed five (5) Judges and no Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialist) is appointed, the following procedure will be valid:

- (i) The panel needs to be split in the "Technical Judge(s)" (maximum two (2) Judges) and the "Performance Judges" (if possible not more than

three (3) Judges). The "Technical Judge", acts as a Referee in case the panel consists of only three (3) Judges. If the panel exceeds three (3) but not more than five (5) Judges, one of the two "Technical Judges" will operate as Referee.

- (ii) The "Technical Judge(s)" records all Elements and awards the GOE for each Element, the "Performance Judges" award the Program Components only. The "Performance Judges" will operate independently, while the "Technical Judges" may confer to agree on decision about the identified Elements. Necessary deductions will be made by the Judge who fulfills the obligation as the Referee and/or the Technical Controller.
- (iii) The "Judges Marking Sheets" need to be collected after each performance. The data is either transferred into a computer to calculate the current ranking or the calculation is done manually.

If an electronic communication system or a Technical Panel (Technical Controller and Technical Specialist(s)) are used or if the Panel of Judges exceeds five (5) Judges the following procedure will be applied:

- (iv) If an electronic communication system is used or a Technical Panel (Technical Controller and Technical Specialist(s)) is in place or if the panel consists of more than five (5) Judges and the "Technical Judges/Technical Panel" includes more three (3) persons a communication chain needs to be established (headsets etc.) between the Judges and the Technical Judges/Technical Panel. With the communication chain it is guaranteed that the Judges operating in the panel are aware of the identified and called Elements.
In this case the Judges in the panel will be responsible to mark the GOE of each Element as well as the Program Components, while the Technical Judges/Technical Panel is responsible for verifying the Elements and verifying any well-balanced program violations.
- (v) One Judge either from the Technical Judges or the Judges panel should act as Referee unless a separate Referee has been assigned to the event. The Technical Panel includes a Technical Specialist, an Assistant Technical Specialist (if possible) and the Technical Controller.
- (vi) The calculation of results will be done according to Rules 738.

Rule 738
Determination and publication of results

1. Basic principles of calculation

- a) Every Required Element (Configuration) of the Short Program and Free Skating has a certain Base Value indicated in the Scale of Value (SOV) chart published in the ISU Communication.
- b) The Base Values for the Levels of Elements is determined by combining the Difficulty Groups of Elements and the Difficulty Groups of Features. Each Synchronized Skating Element/configuration belongs to a Difficulty Group of Elements, which may contain the Additional Features that are specific for the respective Element and increase the difficulty of an Element.
- c) Each Judge identifies for each Element one of the seven (7) Grades of Execution. Each grade has its own + or - numerical value also indicated in the SOV chart.
- d) For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the panel's Grade of Execution (GOE) is determined by calculating the trimmed mean of the numerical values of the Grades of Execution awarded by the maximum of nine (9) scoring Judges.
- e) The trimmed mean is calculated by deleting the highest and the lowest values and calculating the average of the remaining values. In the case when there are between five (5) and nine (9) judges, the highest one and lowest one values are deleted from the calculation. In the case when there are fewer than five (5) judges, the highest and lowest values are not deleted from the calculation.
- f) This average will become the final Grade of Execution of an individual Element. The panel's GOE is rounded to two (2) decimal places.
- g) The panel's score for each Element is determined by adding the trimmed mean GOE of this Element to its base value.
- h) If the value of the Element (after taking any missing requirement, deductions and reductions) is less than zero, the Element shall be awarded a value of 0.00.
- i) In the Short Program and Free Skating, each Element (Block, Circle, Intersection, Wheel etc.) will be evaluated separately and given a GOE. In the Short Program and Free Skating, each Step Sequence (Block Step Sequence, Circle Step Sequence), will be evaluated separately and given a GOE.
- j) The panel's scores for all the Elements are added giving thus the Total Technical Score.

- k) Any additional Element or Elements exceeding the prescribed numbers will not be counted in the result of a Team. Only the first attempt (or allowed number of attempts) of an Element will be taken into account.
- l) Each Judge also marks the Program Components on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with 0.25 points increments.
- m) The panel's points for each Program Component are obtained by calculating the trimmed mean of the maximum of nine (9) scoring Judges results for that Program Component. The trimmed mean is calculated in the manner described above in sub-paragraph e). The trimmed mean of each Program Component Score is rounded to two (2) decimal places,
- n) The panel's points for each Program Component are then multiplied by a factor as follows (same for Junior and Senior):

Short Program	0.8
Free Skating	1.6

 If necessary, the factors can be updated in an ISU Communication. The factored results are rounded to two (2) decimal places and added. The sum is the Program Component Score.
- o) Deductions, Reductions – see Rule 906 paragraph 8 and Rule 912 paragraph 8.

2. Determination of Results in each part of the Competition

- a) The Total Segment Score for each Team in each part of a competition (Short Program and Free Skating) is calculated by adding the Total Technical Score and the Program Component Scores (multiplied by corresponding factors), subtracting any program deductions.
- b) The Team with the highest Total Segment Score is placed first; the Team with the next highest Total Segment Score is placed second and so on.
- c) If two or more Teams will have the same result, the Total Technical Score will break the tie in the Short Program and the Program Components Score will break the tie in the Free Skating. If these results are also equal, the Teams concerned will be considered as tied.
- d) For any segment where a segment factor is applied, the factored segment scores are rounded to two (2) decimal places.

3. Determination of the Final Result

- a) The Total Segment Score of the Short Program and Free Skating are added and the result constitutes the Final Score of a Team in an event. The Team with the highest Final Score is first, etc.
- b) In cases of ties in the Final Result, the Team with the highest score for the last skated segment is placed first etc. If there is a tie in the highest score, the better placement will decide the better place.

- c) If there is a tie for this segment, the placement of the previously skated segment will count for the better place etc. If there is no previous segment, the Teams are tied.

4. Publication of Results

- a) In the publication of the overall results of an event, the eliminated Teams (Teams who do not qualify for the next segment either due to the insufficient scores or due to withdrawal) shall be listed following the Teams who have successfully finished the competition and such eliminated Teams will be listed in order of their placement after their last completed segment.
Disqualified Teams will lose their placements and be officially noted in the intermediate and final results as disqualified (DSQ). Teams having finished the competition and who initially placed lower than the disqualified Teams(s) will move up accordingly in their placement(s).
- b) The placing in each segment of each competition must be published immediately after a segment has been completed by all Teams.
- c) Following each segment the Total Technical Score, the Panel's points obtained in each Program Component, the Program Component Score, the deductions and the Total Segment Score of every Team must be published.
- d) Following each segment a printout "Judges' Details for each Team", which indicates the Base Values of all the Elements and the GOE and points for the Program Components from every Judge will be issued. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the Judges' scores are listed in a random sequence without any reference to specific Judges' names (anonymity).
- e) The final result must be published as soon as possible after the conclusion of the event. This must include for each Team:
 - the final place;
 - separately, the placing in each segment of an event.
- f) On conclusion of the event the total points (Final Score) of each Team must be published.
- g) Items in sub-paragraphs a) – f) must be included in the protocol of a Competition or Championships.

Rules 739 – 744 (reserved)

Rule 745

Awards

1. Awards are made for the combined results of all parts of each competition.
2. Medals are awarded only to members of Synchronized Skating Teams including registered alternates actually taking part in the competition.
3. The Organizing Member may make additional awards for placement in any part of the competition.
4. Members of the ISU may not award for other competitions any medals which resemble the ISU Championships Medals for other competitions.

Rule 746

Exhibitions during Competitions

A Team in an International Synchronized Skating Competition may not give an additional performance until all parts of the competition have been completed and the results of the competition in question announced.

Rules 747 – 751 (reserved)

Rule 752

Protocol

1. A protocol for Synchronized Skating competitions must be published after each competition. This must include the general and special items, as well as for each Team the final place, separately, the placing in each segment of an event.
2. The protocol of each competition must include the following general items:
 - a) the place of the event and the name of the ice rink;
 - b) the date and time when the event was held;
 - c) for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup only: a list with the ISU Council, Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance Technical Committee members, Synchronized Skating Technical Committee members, ISU Director General, ISU Sports Directorate members, Treasurer and Legal Advisors;
 - d) the attending ISU Office Holders;
 - e) participating ISU Members and Entries;
 - f) the composition of the Organizing Committee;

- g) the event schedule (on ice and off-ice schedule);
- h) the ISU Event Officials;
- i) the type of rink (heated or unheated);
- j) the size of the skating area/ice surface;
- k) the ice conditions;
- l) the number of entries, followed by the number of Teams who took part;
- m) the special conditions of the segments, the factors and duration;
- n) the names of the Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist, Data & Replay Operators for each segment (if applicable);
- o) the composition of the panels of Judges for each segment (if applicable).

3. Protocols of competitions in Synchronized Skating must include the following special item:

- the names of the Team members of the first three placed Teams with the Team captain designated.

4. Protocols of competitions in Synchronized Skating must indicate:

- a) Final result (placements);
- b) Results (placements) of segments;
- c) Performed Elements and the Base Value of these Elements;
- d) “Judges Details” print-outs for each Team in each segment. “Judges Details” basically include the following:
 - Judges GOE and individual Program Component Scores in seating order except for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup in random order;
 - the Total Factored Technical Score;
 - the Total Factored Program Component Score;
 - the Total Segment Score;
 - the Final Score.

5. A protocol must be signed by the Referee and the Technical Controller.

6. Protocol for International Competitions must be sent in electronic form to the ISU Secretariat for publication on the ISU website, not later than two (2) weeks after the International Competition according to Rule 135.

7. For the International Competitions the inclusion of photographs of the Teams placed first, second and third is not mandatory.

Rule 753

New Systems

1. New methods and technical amendments may be tried out in International Competitions (with the exception of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup) provided the following directions are observed:

- a) An application must be sent at least three (3) months in advance to the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and the approval of the latter obtained.
- b) In the announcement of the competition a remark must be made as to the kind of innovation to be tried out.
- c) The Technical Committee will appoint a competent person to oversee the competition and report on the new method.
- d) On conclusion of the competition the Organizing Member must report on the new method to the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.

2. Modifications of a technical nature may be implemented by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee on a trial basis in International Competitions. Members shall be notified of such modifications through an ISU Communication or Circular letter.

Rule 754

Comments to the public

No Officials participating in an International Synchronized Skating event in any capacity may make negative comment to the public concerning such event.

Rules 755 – 764 (reserved)

B. ISU Synchronized Skating Championships – Special Rules

Rule 765 Allotment

For Regulations concerning the allotment and dates of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships (see Rules 127 and 128). Two (2) covered, closed and heated rinks are required.

Rule 766

Schedule/Duration of Championships

1. The ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup must not exceed four (4) days, with a minimum of two (2) days. At least one day of practice at the site of the Championships, for all Teams, must be provided by the Organizing Member prior to any ISU Synchronized Skating Championships.
2. The Short Program must be skated before the Free Skating and must not be on the same day. If possible it should be skated on the preceding day.
3. The competition event should not begin before 9.00 a.m.
4. Evening competitions should be planned to finish by 11.00 p.m.
5. After registration at accreditation for an event, Teams may not practice at a rink other than the official rink.
6. The Organizer must provide to each competing Team on the competition arena ice surface, 10 minutes of practice ice, free of charge before the Short Program event and 12 minutes of practice ice before the Free Skating event but after Short Program event. At the official practices for Short Program and Free Skating, the competitive music of the Team will be played twice, each time without interruption. At one of the official practices, the Team is obliged to skate the whole (entire) competition program (Short Program and Free Skating respectively) or one half first and then the other half of the program, for the purpose of the Technical Panel observations. No other music will be played during the official practice segments.

Rule 767

Participation in Championships

Participation in the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships is open to all Skaters of Teams who belong to an ISU Member (see also Rule 109, paragraph 2 d).

Rule 768

Entries in ISU Synchronized Skating Championships

1. At the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, the entries of Teams must reach simultaneously the Sport Director Figure Skating and the Organizing Committee at the latest twenty one (21) days before the first day (opening and first draws) of the Championships.

For post entries, Rule 115, paragraph 6 of the General Regulations applies.

2. a) In the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, each Member, except Special Clubs, may enter one (1) Team.

b) The top five (5) Members which have participated in the immediately preceding respective Championships may enter two (2) Teams. See also Rule 926.

3. Team members for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships must comply with the age requirements as stated in Rule 108, paragraph 4 a) and for the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships 4 b).

4. Team members for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, must comply with rules governing Team composition as stated in Rule 701, paragraph 3 c) and for the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships 3 b).

5. Entries for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships must be announced simultaneously to the Organizer and to the Sports Director Figure Skating.

6. Each Member, may enter one (1) substitute Team in the case of one (1) entry but not more than two (2) substitute Teams in the case of two (2) entries. The substitute Team may compete only if its Member has withdrawn the name of its Team entered for the competition two (2) weeks before the first draw. However, the names of all Teams' Skaters, including alternates may be finally announced at the time of registration.

7. The title of the music for the Short Program and the Free Skating and the names of the composers must be submitted with the entries for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships. If possible this should be printed in the program.

Rule 769 (reserved)

Rule 770

Appointment of Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists

1. The Referee, the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialist(s) for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup shall be appointed according to Rule 129 paragraph 4 of the General Regulations.
2. The Organizing Member may recommend, to serve not more than one (1) of their own Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, including those that are also ISU Office Holders. Such recommendation must be submitted to the Sport Director Figure Skating not later than May 1st.
3. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the Organizing Member must contact the selected Referee, Technical Controller and Technical Specialists not less than 60 days before the start of the Championships.
4. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, all other Officials required (other than the ISU Representative, ISU Event Coordinators, Referee, Judges, Technical Controller, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators) shall be appointed by the Organizing Member.
5. A member of the Organizing Committee of the World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup may not serve as a Referee, Judge, Technical Controller and Technical Specialist(s) at the Championships concerned.

Rule 771

ISU Event Coordinator and Regional Event Coordination Assistants

1. Event Coordinator and Assistant Event Coordinator in Figure Skating:

The ISU Council shall appoint an ISU Event Coordinator for Figure Skating and if necessary and possible an Assistant Event Coordinator who both report to the Sports Directorate. The Event Coordinator and Assistant Event Coordinator shall be remunerated by the ISU. They shall monitor in cooperation with the ISU Secretariat the preparations, organization and conduct of ISU Figure Skating Events. For ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and other ISU Events for which an ISU Representative is appointed, they shall closely cooperate on-site of the Event with the appointed ISU Representative who remains the responsible ISU Office Holder during the Event.

2. Regional Event Coordination Assistants in Figure Skating:

The Sports Directorate is responsible to maintain a pool of Regional Event Coordination Assistants composed of individuals knowledgeable in Figure Skating/Synchronized Skating, but also having good people, organizational and computer skills. The Regional Event Coordination Assistants identified by the Sports Directorate and available to act in such function, shall be trained by the Sports Directorate and/or the Event Coordinator and/or Assistant Event Coordinator and subsequently assist the ISU Event Coordinator and/or Assistant Event Coordinator in the organization and conduct of ISU Figure Skating Events in their region. The remuneration for such Regional Event Coordination Assistants shall be proposed by the Sports Directorate within a yearly budget and shall be decided annually by the ISU Council.

3. Consultation and inspection visit for ISU Figure Skating Championships, ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships (except the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup), and ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final:

For each Figure Skating Championships the Event Coordinator and/or Assistant Event Coordinator shall attend at least one consultation and inspection visit at the site of the Championships, including meetings with the television and advertising companies during the two (2) years before the Championships/Final.

4. On site monitoring of ISU Figure Skating Championships and ISU Synchronized Skating Championships:

For each Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final the Event Coordinator and/or the Assistant Event Coordinator plus one (1) or two (2) Regional Event Coordination Assistants shall be present at the Championships/Final. At least one of them must be present from the beginning of the official training of the Championships/Final and may not serve in another

capacity except in an emergency. They shall represent the ISU in all technical matters concerning the condition, adequacy and scheduling for use of all skating facilities and services used in connection with the Championships/Final. In addition, as necessary, they will act as a liaison between the Referee and other Officials and the Organizers. The composition of each ISU Event Coordination team (Event Coordinator, Assistant Event Coordinator, Regional Event Coordination Assistants) shall be proposed by the Sports Directorate through its annual budget and shall be decided by the ISU Council.

5. Monitoring and on-site attendance of other ISU Figure Skating Events:
For other ISU Figure Skating Events (including the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships), an ISU Event Coordination team shall monitor and possibly be present on site of the Event as necessary and as proposed by the Sports Directorate within its annual budget and as decided by the ISU Council.

Rules 772 – 779 (reserved)

Rule 780

Anti-Doping

(See General Regulations, Rule 139)

Rule 781

Presentation of medals

The ceremonies for awarding medals at the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup shall be as follows:

1. When the final results have been calculated, first the Champion Team captain and Team and then the second and third placed Team captains and Teams are called to the winners' platform on the ice. The Team captains shall stand on the podium and the respective Teams shall be lined up behind their captain on the ice.

2. The ISU Representative (if appointed by the Council) awards the Champion Team captain the gold ISU Synchronized Skating medal, and the silver and bronze ISU Synchronized Skating medal to the second and third Team captain. The Referee, Technical Controller and the representative of the Organizer congratulate the medal winners (see also rule 134, paragraph 3b). Representatives of the Organizing Member award the medals to the members of the Teams and registered alternates taking part in the Championships.

3. After the completion of each part of every event (Short Program and Free Skating), the Referee shall present a small ISU gold medal to the first Team, small silver and bronze medals to the second and third Team (except the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships). See also Rule 134 paragraph 3 b, c).

Rule 782

Medals

The Organizing Member must order the Championships Synchronized Skating Medals from the Director General.

Rule 783

Protocol

1. Protocols for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup must be sent in electronic form to the ISU Secretariat for publication on the ISU website, not later than two (2) weeks after the Championships according to Rule 135.

2. In the protocols of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the photographs of the Teams placed first, second and third must be included. Only Team Skaters may be pictured in this photograph.

Rule 784

Advertisement of ice shows

At the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, no advertising of ice shows are allowed inside or outside the ice rinks or in the program sold or given to the public. If such advertisements exist, the Referee and/or the Organizing Committee must intervene immediately.

Rule 785

Communications during Championships

All official communications during the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup must be published in English (see Rule 132).

Rules 786 – 793 (reserved)

C. Exhibitions

Rule 794

1. Negotiations concerning exhibitions of any kind cannot be conducted with a Synchronized Skating Team, but only with the Member to which the Team belongs.
2. Notice of exhibitions in a foreign country must be sent by both Members involved to the Director General of the ISU. A Member holding exhibitions in a foreign country must apply for consent from the Member for that country. All financial arrangements must be approved by the Members concerned.
3. If a Synchronized Skating Team stays for a period of more than two months in a foreign country, the Member of the Team may provide the foreign Member with a general authorization for exhibitions and so delegate to such Member the responsibilities for the application of the eligibility rules of the ISU and of the foreign Member. The Team must, in such case, announce to the foreign Member each request for exhibitions.
4. The provisions of Rule 109, paragraph 2 and 3 (membership), also apply to exhibitions.
5. Eligible persons may take part in ice shows, exhibitions, commercial motion pictures or television shows, in which ineligible persons (as defined in Rule 102, paragraph 2) constitute the majority of the participants, only with the prior approval of the Member concerned.
6. In exceptional cases, the ISU Sports Directorate may permit eligible persons (Teams) to take part in exhibitions in countries in which there is no ISU Member.
7. No exhibitions by a Team in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup may be given at the site of the Championships or within 200 km of the site of the Championships, within a period of fourteen (14) days before the beginning of the Championships.
8. For exhibitions during Synchronized Skating competitions see Rule 746.
9. Teams in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup invited to participate in the ISU Exhibition Tour

may not exhibit more than twenty (20) times in the immediately following forty (40) days. Exceptions may be made by the ISU Council. No exhibition tours which include such competitors (Teams) may take place during such periods unless organized and/or approved by the ISU.

10. Only the ISU or ISU Members have the right to organize or authorize exhibitions tours in which eligible Skaters take place.

11. Eligible persons are permitted to appear in only one skating exhibition within one day. If the period covered by a series of exhibitions exceeds a week, there should be a day without an exhibition every three or four days. However, special arrangements may be approved by the ISU Sports Directorate for exhibitions in a foreign country which is geographically isolated and which has little opportunity otherwise to see such exhibitions.

12. The Council of the ISU may make financial arrangements for the benefit of the ISU with Members organizing a series of exhibitions.

13. Teams may receive money for Synchronized Skating exhibitions at the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup but only with the approval of the Member to which the Team belongs and to be paid to the Team only through the responsible Member.

14. The provisions of Rule 137 (reimbursement of expenses) also apply to exhibitions.

15. For exclusion from exhibitions, see Rule 104, paragraph 16, and Rule 125, paragraph 4.

Rules 795 – 805 (reserved)

REGULATIONS FOR OFFICIALS IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

A. Selection and Duties of Event Officials

Rule 806

The category of Officials (“ISU” or “International”) able to officiate at the different ISU sanctioned events is in accordance with Rule 121 of the General Regulations.

1. Referee

Duties and powers of the Referee:

- keeps himself fully informed about all matters concerning the Judging and Refereeing of Synchronized Skating in the current ISU General Regulations, Special Regulations, Technical Rules, ISU Communications and Manuals, Handbooks, and Booklets and all updates published on the ISU website;
- conducts himself in a fair and unbiased manner at all times and adheres fully to the ISU Code of Ethics;
- checks all eligibility Rules and the ISU clearance certificates unless the ISU Event Coordinator is present;
- conducts all the draws for the starting order;
- manages the panel of Judges (including ensuring that they do not, while on the Judges stand, bring notes from previously awarded scores or any form of electronic communication, nor communicate with one another or indicate errors by action or sound, nor look at marks being inputted by Judges sitting along side them) and acts as the responsible spokesperson of the panel of Judges should the need arise;
- conducts a Meeting with the Judges prior to every segment of an event according to the ISU guidelines;
- gives a signal to the person in charge of music to start the music of the Team;
- instructs the Timekeeper (volunteer) to take the time of the program as skated and to time possible interruptions according to Rule 906 paragraph 8 e) and Rule 912 paragraph 8 e);
- allows a Team to restart under Rule 936;
- decides whether the condition of the ice permits the holding of the event;
- decides upon all protests on the event concerned;
- alters the shape and size of the skating surface if unfavorable circumstances arise;

- accepts in agreement with the Organizing Member or affiliated Club, another rink for the holding of the event;
- decides upon the following deductions according to Rule 906 paragraph 8 and Rule 912 paragraph 8: time violations, interruptions of the program, music violations, hold deductions ;
- together with the Judges Panel decides on costume, props (including feathers/headpiece), excessive sub-grouping, excessive division into small groups (except for the Creative Element and transitions in Free Skating) and make up violations; the corresponding deductions are applied according to the opinion of the majority of the Panel which includes all the Judges and the Referee. No deduction is made in case of a 50:50 split vote;
- judges the complete event;
- suspends skating until the order is restored in case the public interrupts the competition or interferes with its orderly conduct;
- excludes Teams from the event, if necessary;
- removes Judge(s) from the panel, if necessary and based on important and valid reasons;
- forbids any coach at any time during the course of the Championships or Competitions to be on any part of the ice surface of the rink on which the Championships or Competitions is taking place;
- decides any matter concerning breaches of the ISU Constitution or Regulations;
- participates in the Victory ceremony;
- moderates the Round Table Discussion together with the Technical Controller according to ISU guidelines (with the purpose of feed back among the Judges in regards to the application and validity of current regulations and discussions on the general quality of skating); the Referee provides mainly the input regarding the Grade of Execution of the Elements and the Program Component Score;
- prepares the Report on the event.

2. Judges

Duties and powers of the Judges:

- must be fully informed on all matters concerning the judging of Synchronized Skating in the current ISU General Regulations, Special Regulations, Technical Rules, ISU Communications, Judges Manuals, Handbooks and Booklets, and all updates published on the ISU website;
- must have a satisfactory standard of eyesight, hearing and general physical condition in order to perform their duties;
- adheres fully to the ISU Code of Ethics;

- comport themselves with discretion as ISU appointed Officials;
- not show bias for or against any Team on any grounds;
- must be completely impartial and neutral at all times;
- must disregard public applause or disapproval;
- must mark only the performance and not be influenced by reputation or past performance;
- must use the whole range of Grade of Execution values and Program Component Marks;
- must mark independently and whilst judging shall not converse with one another or indicate errors by action or sound;
- must not discuss their own or others scores, during the competition, with any person other than the Referee of the part of the competition of which they are judging;
- may not serve as television commentator nor engage in communications with the Media, television, or others except through the Referee of the part of the event in which they are judging;
- must not use previously prepared marks;
- must not bring any form of electronic communication system to the Judges stand.
- must together with the Referee decide on costume, props (including feathers/headpiece), excessive sub-grouping, excessive division into small groups (except for the Creative Element and transitions in Free Skating) and make-up violations; the corresponding deductions are applied according to the opinion of the majority of the Panel which includes all the Judges and the Referee. No deduction is made in case of a 50:50 split vote.

3. Technical Controller

The Technical Controllers are recruited from ISU Referees and ISU Judges and International Referees list, qualified in the ISU Judging System based on nominations received from Members and confirmed by the respective Technical Committee and who:

- have the highest knowledge of Synchronized Skating with regard to technical aspects;
- must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
- must possess good communication skills;
- must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
- must have completed an ISU seminar and successfully passed an Examination.

The Vice President will confirm and publish the ISU list of Technical Controllers based on the recommendations of the Technical Committee.

For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the ISU Technical Controllers will be appointed by the President (which will take into account written recommendations from the Vice President Figure Skating prepared in consultation with the Sports Directorate and the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee) from the official ISU list.

For all other International Competitions, the Technical Controllers will be appointed by the organizing Member from the official ISU list.

Duties of the Technical Controller

- authorizes or corrects the deletion of Elements;
- supervises the Technical Specialists and Data Operators and proposes corrections, if necessary, respecting any performed Element and level of difficulty (the difficulty groups of Elements and the difficulty groups of Features), identified by the acting Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist;
- however, if both Technical Specialists disagree with a correction asked by the Technical Controller the initial decision of the Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist stands;
- in the case of a disagreement about an Element and/or level of difficulty exists between the Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist, the decision of the Technical Controller prevails;
- the Technical Controller, is responsible to verify that the performed Elements and levels of difficulty identified in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure are correctly introduced into the system by the Data Operator and the performed Elements and levels of difficulty may be validated only upon formal confirmation by the Technical Controller that such verification has been completed;
- supervises and corrects the call of the Technical Specialist and the input of deductions identified by the Technical Specialist;
- authorizes or corrects the identification of illegal Elements / non-permitted Elements / Features / Additional features / movements;
- authorizes or corrects the identification of a fall, which occurred in any part of the program; However, if both Technical Specialists disagree with a correction on illegal Elements or falls asked for by the Technical Controller, the initial decision of the Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist stands;
- confirms the deletion of additional Elements;
- moderates the Round Table Discussion together with the Referee (with the purpose of feed back among the Judges in regards to the application

and validity of current regulations and discussions on the general quality of skating); the Technical Controller provides mainly the input regarding Technical Content;

- prepares the Report on the event;
- participates in the Victory Ceremony;
- adheres fully to the ISU Code of Ethics.

4. Technical Specialist / Assistant Technical Specialist

The Technical Specialists and the Assistant Technical Specialists are recruited from the group of Coaches, Skaters no longer competing in ISU Events and International Competitions, ISU/International Judges or ISU / International Referees, based on nomination received by Members and who:

- have the highest knowledge Synchronized Skating with regard to technical aspects;
- are involved on at least a regular basis for this discipline on site;
- must be a former high level Skater (as a minimum at national level)
- must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
- must possess good communication skills;
- must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
- must have completed an ISU seminar and successfully passed an Examination;
- adheres fully to the ISU Code of Ethics.

The Vice President will confirm and publish the ISU list of Technical Specialists based on recommendations of the Technical Committee.

For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the ISU Technical Specialists will be appointed by the President (which will take into account written recommendations from the Vice President Figure Skating prepared in consultation with the Sports Directorate and Synchronized Skating Technical Committee) from the official ISU list.

For all other International Competitions, the Technical Specialists will be appointed by the organizing Member from the official ISU list.

Duties of the Technical Specialist:

- identifies and calls the performed Elements;
- identifies and calls correct Levels of Difficulty of the performed Elements (the difficulty groups of Elements and the difficulty groups of Features);
- identifies and calls deductions;

- identifies illegal Elements, Non-permitted Elements/Features/Additional Features/movements (see Rule 906 paragraph 9 and 10, and Rule 912 paragraph 9 and 10);
- identifies a fall, which occurred in any part of the program;
- identifies and deletes additional Elements;
- adheres fully to the ISU Codes of Ethics.

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

A Referee or Judge, confirmed as a Technical Specialist cannot act as a Judge in the same season.

5. Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialists

The appointed Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Assistant Technical Specialist and Referee of each competition must be from different ISU Members if possible (see Rule 720 for exceptions).

6. Data & Replay Operator

The Data & Replay Operators are recruited from Skaters, Coaches, Judges, Referees (national or international), who

- have the highest knowledge of Synchronized Skating with regard to technical aspects;
- must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
- must possess good communication skills;
- must have good computer skills and be familiar with touch screen computers;
- must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
- must have completed an ISU seminar and successfully passed an Examination;
- adheres fully to the ISU Code of Ethics.

Duties of the Data Operator:

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

Duties of the Replay Operator:

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

Duties of the Data & Replay Operators:

- support the Technical Specialists and the Technical Controller;
- attend the meeting of the Technical Specialists before each portion/segment of the competition.

The Vice President will confirm and publish the ISU list of Data & Replay Operators based on recommendations of the Technical Committee.

For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the ISU Data & Replay Operators will be appointed by the President (which will take into account written recommendations from the Vice President Figure Skating prepared in consultation with the Sports Directorate and the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee) from the official ISU list.

For all other International Competitions, the Data & Replay Operators will be appointed by the Organizing Member from the official ISU list.

B. Event Officials / Technical Panel

Rule 807

Nominations and appointments of Referees

1. Each Member shall guarantee that the Referees nominated by it for appointment as ISU or International Referees are eligible persons in accordance with Rule 102. In cases of violations of the foregoing, the Member concerned shall lose the right to nominate Referees for the immediately succeeding year, and the Referee in question shall be removed from the lists.

2. Every Member of the ISU must, annually before April 15th (received by April 15), announce to the Director General of the ISU, the names of those individuals whose employment as Referees is recommended as follows (with no limitation in numbers):

- a) ISU Referees (for 1st appointment only; following annual re-nominations will be done by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 3.c) of the Constitution);
- b) International Referees

3. Nominations must be submitted separately for the different groups. ISU Referees may also referee International Synchronized Skating Competitions. It is not necessary to include their names in the list of International Referees.

In the case of national activities required for promotion to International Referee, the Member must submit the respective documents with the applications such a List of Panel of the event refereed.

4. Referees nominated by a Member shall have the citizenship of the country of the nominating Member.

5. If a Member nominates a Referee of foreign citizenship, the Referee must have had a permanent residence in the country of that Member for at least twelve (12) months preceding the nomination. In addition, the Member in the country of which the Referee is a citizen, must give its approval. The name of the Referee shall be entered in the list of the nominating Member.

6. a) A Referee who has already been on the list of any Member, can be nominated by another Member only under the following conditions:

- (i) the Referee has acquired the citizenship of the nominating Member and has also taken up permanent residence in the country of such Member, or

- (ii) the Referee has had dual citizenship and has taken up permanent residence in the country of the nominating Member of which he is also a citizen,
- (iii) the Member on whose list the Referee was entered before gives its approval.

- b) If a Referee who has already been on the list of any Member,
 - (i) acquires a new citizenship without changing the country of his permanent residence, or
 - (ii) has had a dual citizenship and agrees to be nominated by the Member in the country of his second citizenship, but does not change the country of his permanent residence, or
 - (iii) if the Member on whose list the Referee was entered before does not give its approval, he can be nominated by another Member only after expiration of 12 months following April 15th, of the year during which he was entered on the list of the original Member.

7. Exceptions to paragraph 5 of this Rule may be granted by the Sports Directorate if insisting on satisfying all stated requirements would result in a serious hardship to the Referee concerned due to special circumstances of his case.

8. For interpretation of the terms "citizenship" and "residence" as well as for documents by which citizenship and residence can be proved, reference is made to relevant Communications issued by the Council.

9. Referees must fulfill the following requirements:

- a) *Present International Referees:*
 - (i) must have acted satisfactorily as a Judge, Trial Judge or Referee at least once in an International Synchronized Skating Competition (Senior or Junior) conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraphs 4, 8, 9 during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination;
 - (ii) must have acted satisfactorily as Judge or Referee at least once in a National/Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competition, during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination.
- b) *Present ISU Referees:* must have acted as a Judge, Trial Judge, Referee or Technical Controller or OAC Member, at least once in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Synchronized Skating Competition (Senior or Junior) conducted in accordance with Rule 107,

paragraph 1, 4, 8, 9 during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination;

c) *Present ISU Referees and International Referees:*

must have attended an ISU sponsored / recognized Referees and Judges seminar during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination and passed a Referees examination or have been a Moderator in an ISU Judges/Referees seminar in Synchronized Skating.

The application for the seminar participation should be made for International Referees by the concerned Members and for the ISU Referees by the concerned Members or by the Referees themselves.

A one (1) year exemption will be allowed, in the case of a medically verified life-threatening illness, to the requirement of seminar attendance. However, the Referees shall remain on the list of Referees but may not act as a Referee until they have fulfilled the seminar attendance requirements.

For ISU and International Referees, special topic seminars may be recognized by the ISU as an official seminar.

Participation in the Initial Judges Meeting (if conducted by a Member of the respective Technical Committee) and Round Table Discussion at ISU Championships will be considered as meeting the requirements of seminar attendance.

- d) Referees who have not been able to meet the requirements (see paragraph 9b) and 9c) of acting at least once during the said 48 months in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Synchronized Skating competition, because, although nominated to serve, have not been drawn, shall not be disqualified from re-nomination if, in the case of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, they have fulfilled the trial judging requirements (referred to in Rule 818, paragraph 9 e).
- e) (i) Any ISU Referee not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraphs a-d) above shall be transferred to the list of International Referees. The Referee then must fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to April 15th the following year in order to be eligible for reinstatement to the position formerly held. If these requirements are not fulfilled the Referee will be removed entirely from the lists by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.
- (ii) Any International Referee not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph a) above shall be deleted from the lists.
- f) (i) Any ISU Referee who has been removed by the Member or has been demoted for incompetence by the ISU must fulfill the

provisions of Rule 807 paragraph 12 a)-f) in order to be eligible for reinstatement to the place formerly held.

- (ii) Any International Referee who has been removed by the Member or has been demoted for incompetence by the ISU must fulfill the provisions of Rule 807 paragraph 11 a)-g) in order to be eligible for reinstatement to the position formerly held.
- iii) If a Referee wishes to be removed from the list, a written notification must be sent to the Director General before April 15th in the year of re-appointment.

10. Members of the ISU must exercise the utmost care to nominate as Referees only experienced, reliable and impartial individuals who possess a thorough knowledge of the appropriate ISU Rules as well as a good working knowledge of English. A Referee who has reached or will reach the age of 70 in the calendar year of the nomination shall not be eligible for re-nomination that year or thereafter.

11. *To be eligible for appointment as an International Referee the candidate recommended must:*

- a) have been recognized as an International or ISU Judge in the three (3) consecutive lists immediately preceding the nomination;
- b) have officiated twice as a Referee at two (2) different national Senior or Junior Synchronized Skating championships the 48 months preceding the nomination. The activity of the candidate both as a Judge and as a Referee must have been considered as acceptable by the nominating Member for 36 months preceding the nomination.
The Member must submit the respective documents confirming the activities as a Referee, which must include the names of Referees and Judges or the list of panel verified by the Member;
- c) have judged at least three (3) times in ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Senior or Junior Synchronized Skating Competitions or Trial Judging conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraph 1, 4, 8, 9 in which Teams from at least two (2) Members have participated, during the 48 months preceding the nomination. The competitions judged must have included the Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating with a minimum of six (6) Teams and at least two (2) of the events must be Senior events;
- d) activity as a Technical Controller for one of the three (3) required competition shall be accepted to fulfill the requirements;
- e) have attended an ISU Sponsored/Recognized Referees and Judges seminar and passed a Referees examination within 24 months preceding the first nomination;

- f) have been nominated by a Member or the Sports Directorate;
- g) the activity of the candidate as a Judge must have been acceptable during the 36 months preceding the nomination. The Synchronized Skating Technical Committee shall decide upon the competence of the candidate;
- h) possess a good working knowledge of English.

12. To be eligible for promotion to *ISU Referee* the candidate recommended must:

- a) have been recognized both as an ISU Judge and as an International Referee in the three (3) consecutive lists immediately preceding the nomination;
- b) have officiated twice as a Referee in International Synchronized Skating Competitions, Junior or Senior, conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraphs 4, 8, 9 in which at least three (3) Members have participated during the 48 months preceding the nomination. The two (2) events refereed must be at different competitions and must have included the ISU Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating and the events (Junior or Senior) must have a minimum of six (6) Teams;
- c) have served as a Judge but not Trial Judge (Rule 818, paragraph 9e) in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup during the 36 months preceding the nomination;
- d) have attended an ISU Sponsored/Recognized Referees and Judges seminar and passed a Referees examination within 36 months preceding the first nomination;
- e) have been nominated by a Member or by the Sports Directorate;
- f) the activity of the candidate as a Referee and as a Judge must have been acceptable during the 36 months preceding the nomination. The Synchronized Skating Technical Committee shall decide upon the competence of the candidate;
- g) possess a very good working knowledge of English.

13. Each nomination of a Referee made for the first time and each re-nomination after an interruption of such appointment, no matter for which class it is made, must be accompanied by the completed official form. A separate form for each category must be completed and sent in.

14. The appointment of Referees from among persons nominated as aforesaid requires the initial approval of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee which prepares a list of the individuals it recommends for appointment and submits that list to the Vice President. The appointment of the individuals on

that list to the position of Referee is subject to the further approval of the Sports Directorate (see Article 20, paragraph 3 c) of the Constitution). If a nominated person is not included on the Technical Committee's approved list an appeal may be made by the nominating Member to the Vice President/ Council whose decision shall be final. Only Referees finally approved by the Technical Committee and the Vice President (or the Council for cases involving an appeal) will be recognized as such. When a nominated person is not approved by the ISU, the reason for such non-approval will be communicated to the nominating Member.

15. The Vice President of the ISU may, following consultation with the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee, add a maximum of three (3) names to the list of Referees. Persons added by the Vice President must satisfy all qualification requirements under this Rule.

16. ISU Referees are automatically entitled to act as Referees and/or Judges in all categories of International Synchronized Skating events without being counted in the quota fixed in Rule 818, paragraph 2.

17. International Referees are automatically entitled to act as Judges for International Synchronized Skating Competitions without being counted in the quota fixed in Rule 818, paragraph 2.

18. The full list of Referees approved by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and the Vice President must be communicated to the Members by the Secretariat by August 1st of each year. The list will be published together with the list of approved Judges and the appointments shall be effective on August 1st of each year through July 31 of the following year.

19. Members and ISU Referees must check the list of Referees as soon as they receive it. Any request for correction must be made within two (2) months. After that period the list is deemed to be correct. Objections to any such list must be lodged by Members or ISU Referees, within two months, with the Vice President/Council, whose decision, after consideration of any such objection, shall be final.

Rule 808 (reserved)

Rule 809
Meeting before competition/Round Table Discussion

1. The Referee is also the Chair of the panel of Judges.
2. At a Judges' meeting before a competition starts, the Chair or a member of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee, if present and the Referee, must draw to the attention of the Judges in brief summary form the rules relating to the duties of Judges and the marking of Synchronized Skating, with special attention being paid to any changes in Rules or in their interpretation or clarification that have been officially published.
3. Before and during a competition, the Referee should refrain from any comment with respect to the Teams which could have an influence on the judging of the present and future competitions.
4. Round Table Discussion
 - a) After each event, the Technical Controller and the Referee will moderate a "Round Table Discussion" with the Judges on the panel. In the discussion the general quality of skating and the range of points for Elements and each of the Program Components of selected Teams will be discussed. The purpose of the discussion is to reach a consensus to assist the Officials for future judging guidance. The Round Table Discussion will not establish an acceptable range of scores. This will be established by the Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) in accordance with the procedure approved by the Council.
 - b) During the discussion the Judges will be encouraged to express their opinions. The discussion will not be used to criticize individuals judging the event in question. The discussion will result in a summary of the timing and handling of the judging in the event, possible improvements to the equipment, the print-outs for the Judges and the flow of information both internally and externally.

Rule 810 (reserved)

Rule 811
Referees/Technical Controllers and Technical Committee Members acting as Judges

Rule 121 of the General Regulations applies.

Rule 812
Referees/Technical Controllers shall not compete

Rule 121 Paragraph 3 c) of the General Regulations applies.

Rule 813
Nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers

1. In accordance with Rules 121 and 122, every Member of the ISU must annually before April 15th, announce to the Director General the names of those individuals whose service as Technical Controllers is recommended in the individual disciplines (Single, Pairs, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating) as follows (with no limitation in numbers):
 - a) for examination to become an ISU Technical Controller (appointment after passing the examination and following annual re-appointments will be done by the Vice President following the proposal of the respective Technical Committee);
 - b) for examination to become an International Technical Controller (appointment after passing the examination);
 - c) for the annual re-nomination of International Technical Controllers (confirmation of appointment by the Vice President following the proposal of the respective Technical Committee).
2. Nominations must be submitted separately for the different groups and the different disciplines.
3. Technical Controllers nominated by the Members shall have the citizenship of the country of the nominating Member.
4. If a Member nominates a Technical Controller of foreign citizenship, the Technical Controller must reside at least permanently in the country of that Member during the preceding 12 months prior to the nomination or re-nomination. For interpretation of terms “citizenship” and “residence” as well as documents by which citizenship and residence can be proved, reference is made to relevant Communications issued by the Council.
5. a) To be eligible for appointment as an ISU Technical Controller the candidate recommended:
 - i) must have been included as ISU Referee, ISU Judge or International Referee in the two (2) consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;

- ii) must have been nominated by the Member or the respective ISU Technical Committee or the Sports Directorate;
 - iii) must have been recognized as International Technical Controller in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
 - iv) must have acted as a Technical Controller at least twice (2x) in national championships and/or International Competitions in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
 - v) must have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
 - vi) must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
 - vii) must possess good communication skills;
 - viii) must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
 - ix) must complete an ISU Seminar for Technical Controller in the discipline concerned;
 - x) must pass successfully the ISU examination for ISU Technical Controller;
 - xi) must not have reached the age of 70 in the calendar year of nomination/re-nomination.
- b) To be eligible for the annual re-nomination and re-appointment as ISU Technical Controller in Synchronized Skating to be included in the annual ISU Communication, the ISU Technical Controller:
- i) must have served at least twice (2x) in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup at least once (1x) in such an event indicated above and once (1x) in any of the following competitions(International Senior or Junior competition, National/Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competition, which satisfies the specific requirements as Technical Controller during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination;
 - ii) must have participated in an ISU Seminar for Technical Controllers in the Synchronized Skating or have served in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup with a compulsory mini-Seminar prior and after the event (Report should be sent to the ISU Secretariat), which would substitute the participation in an ISU Seminar during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination. A one (1) year exemption will be allowed only once, in the case of medically verified life-threatening illness, to the requirement of seminar attendance;

- iii) have served as a Moderator in an ISU recognized or sponsored Seminar for Judges, Technical Controllers/ Technical Specialists in Synchronized Skating in the function of a Technical Controller respectively a Technical Specialist during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination;
 - iv) serving according to criteria in paragraphs indicated above counts only for Synchronized Skating;
 - v) must not have reached the age of 70 in the calendar year of re-nomination.
 - c) Any ISU Technical Controller not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph b) above shall be transferred to the list of International Technical Controllers. The concerned Technical Controller then must fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31st the following year in order to be eligible for reinstatement as ISU Technical Controller, without the requirement to pass an examination conducted by the ISU. If these requirements are not fulfilled, the Technical Controller remains on the list of International Technical Controllers provided the requirements of this qualification be fulfilled.
6. a) To be eligible for appointment as an International Technical Controller the candidate recommended:
- i) must have been included at least as International Judge in the two (2) consecutive annual ISU Communications listing such Officials positions immediately preceding the nomination;
 - ii) must have been nominated by the Member or the respective ISU Technical Committee or the Sports Directorate;
 - iii) must have acted as a Technical Controller at least twice (2x) in national championships and/or national competitions in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
 - iv) must have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
 - v) must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
 - vi) must possess good communication skills;
 - vii) must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
 - viii) must complete an ISU Seminar for Technical Controller in the discipline concerned;
 - ix) must pass successful the ISU examination for International Technical Controller.
- b) To be eligible for the annual re-nomination and re-appointment as International Technical Controller in Synchronized Skating to be

included in the annual ISU Communication, the International Technical Controller:

- i) must have served at least twice (2x) in International Competitions (Senior or Junior) or in National/ Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competitions satisfying the special requirements or have served at least once (1x) in such an event as indicated above and once (1x) in a National Senior or Junior championships, in which at least four (4) Junior or four (4) Senior Teams have participated as Technical Controller during the 24 months preceding each annual re- nomination;
 - ii) must have participated in an ISU recognized or sponsored seminar for Technical Controllers in Synchronized Skating or have served as a Moderator in an ISU recognized or sponsored seminar for Judges, Technical Controller and/or Technical Specialists in the function of a Technical Controller respectively a Technical Specialist, during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination. A one (1) year exemption will be allowed only once, in the case of medically verified life-threatening illness, to the requirement of seminar attendance;
 - iii) serving according to criteria in paragraphs indicated above counts only for Synchronized Skating;
 - iv) must not have reached the age of 70 in the calendar year of re-nomination.
- c) Any International Technical Controller not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph b) above shall be removed from the ISU Communication listing International Technical Controllers. The Technical Controller then must have served satisfactorily once in national championships / competitions within 12 months preceding the re-nomination and fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31st the year following the removal in order to be eligible for reinstatement to the position held, without the requirement to pass an examination conducted by the ISU. After July 31st of the year following the removal, the candidate must again fulfill the requirements as per Paragraph 6.a) above. The Member must request the re-nomination.
7. The ISU Examination for Technical Controllers will result in a final notification scale between 1.0 and 6.0. The candidates for the examination to become eligible as ISU Technical Controller must have passed the examination in a notification range between 1.00 (excellent) and 2.50 (good). The candidates for the examination to become eligible as International Technical Controller must have passed the examination in a notification 2.51 (average) and 4.50 (satisfactorily). A notification of 4.51 or higher is considered to have failed the examination.

8. The appointment of Technical Controllers for participation in an ISU seminar and the examination among persons nominated by the Members as aforesaid requires the initial confirmation of the individual Technical Committee which needs to be presented to the Vice President for final decision.
9. Acting as a Moderator in an ISU Seminar for Technical Controllers/Technical Specialists in Synchronized Skating counts as an activity or as a participation in an ISU seminar for Technical Controllers and/or Technical Specialists or Referees. Serving as Technical Controller in the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup is valid also as a participation in an ISU seminar for Technical Controller.

Rule 814

Nomination and appointment of Technical Specialists

1. In accordance with Rules 121 and 122, every Member of the ISU must annually before April 15th, announce to the Director General the names of those individuals whose service as Technical Specialists is recommended in the individual disciplines (Single, Pairs, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating) as follows (with no limitation in numbers):
 - a) for examination to become an ISU Technical Specialist (appointment after passing the examination and following annual re-appointments will be done by the Vice President following the proposal of the respective Technical Committee);
 - b) for examination to become an International Technical Specialist (appointment after passing the examination);
 - c) for the annual re-nomination of International Technical Specialist (confirmation of appointment by the Vice President following the proposal of the respective Technical Committee);
2. Nomination must be submitted separately for the different groups.
3. Technical Specialists nominated by the Members shall have either the citizenship of the country of the nominating Member or must reside in the country of the Member for at least a period of 12 months.
4. a) To be eligible for appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist the candidate recommended:

- i) must have been nominated by the Member or the Sports Directorate or the respective ISU Technical Committee;
 - ii) are recruited from the group of Coaches, ISU/International Judges, former competitive Skaters having at least National or International participation or ISU/International Referees;
 - iii) are involved on at least a regular basis for the discipline concerned on site;
 - iv) must have been a former high level Skater (as a minimum at national level);
 - v) must have been recognized as an International Technical Specialist in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
 - vi) have acted as a Technical Specialist at least twice (2x) in national championships and/or International Competitions in the 24 months preceding the nomination; (for Synchronized Skating, one of the two (2) competitions must be an International Competition).
 - vii) have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
 - viii) must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
 - ix) must possess good communication skills;
 - x) must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
 - xi) must complete an ISU Seminar for Technical Specialists in the discipline concerned;
 - xii) must pass successful the ISU examination for ISU Technical Specialist;
 - xiii) must have reached the age of 24 but not the age of 65 in the calendar year of nomination/re-nomination;
 - xiv) a minimum of two (2) season waiting period must be given between the end of the competitive skating career and the first nomination as Technical Specialist.
- b) To be eligible for the annual re-nomination and re-appointment as ISU Technical Specialist in Synchronized Skating to be included in the annual ISU Communication, the ISU Technical Specialist:
- i) must have served at least twice (2x) in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or at least once (1x) in such an event indicated above and once (1x) in any of the following competitions International Senior or Junior competition, National/Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competition, which satisfies the specific requirements as Technical Specialist during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination;

- ii) must have participated in an ISU Seminar for Technical Specialists in the Synchronized Skating or have served in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup with a compulsory mini-Seminar prior and after the event (Report should be sent to the ISU Secretariat), which would substitute the participation in an ISU Seminar during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination.
A one (1) year exemption will be allowed only once, in the case of medically verified life-threatening illness, to the requirement of seminar attendance;
 - iii) have served as a Moderator in an ISU recognized or sponsored Seminar for Judges, Technical Controllers/Technical Specialists in Synchronized Skating in the function of a Technical Controller respectively a Technical Specialist during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination;
 - iv) serving according to criteria in paragraphs indicated above counts only for Synchronized Skating;
 - v) must not have reached the age of 65 in the calendar year of re-nomination.
- c) Any ISU Technical Specialist not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph b) above shall be transferred to the list of International Technical Specialists. The concerned Technical Specialist then must fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31st the following year in order to be eligible for reinstatement as ISU Technical Specialist, without the requirement to pass an examination conducted by the ISU. If these requirements are not fulfilled, the Technical Specialist remains on the list of International Technical Specialists provided the requirements of this qualification be fulfilled.
5. a) To be eligible for appointment as an International Technical Specialist the candidate recommended:
- i) must have been nominated by the Member or the Sports Directorate or the respective ISU Technical Committee;
 - ii) are recruited from the Group of Coaches, former competitive Skaters, ISU/International Judges or ISU/International Referees;
 - iii) are involved on at least a regular basis for the discipline concerned on site;
 - iv) must have been a former high level Skater (as a minimum at national level);

- v) must have acted as a Technical Specialist at least twice in National Championships and/or national competitions in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
 - vi) must have the highest knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
 - vii) must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
 - viii) must possess good communication skills;
 - ix) must be able to take directions and work within a Team environment;
 - x) must complete an ISU Seminar for Technical Specialists in the discipline concerned;
 - xi) must pass successful the ISU examination for International Technical Specialists.
- b) To be eligible for the annual re-nomination and re-appointment as International Technical Specialist in Synchronized Skating to be included in the annual ISU Communication, the International Technical Specialist;
- i) must have served at least twice (2x) in International Competitions (Senior or Junior) or in National/Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competitions satisfying the special requirements or have served at least once (1 x) in such an event as indicated above and once (1 x) in a Senior or Junior championships, in which at least four (4) Junior or four (4) Senior Teams have participated as Technical Specialist during the 24 months preceding each annual re-nomination;
 - ii) must have participated in an ISU recognized or sponsored seminar for Technical Specialists in Synchronized Skating or have served as a Moderator in an ISU recognized or sponsored seminar for Judges, Technical Controller and/or Technical Specialists in the function of a Technical Controller respectively a Technical Specialist, during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination.
A one (1) year exemption will be allowed only once, in the case of medically verified life-threatening illness, to the requirement of seminar attendance;
 - iii) serving according to criteria in paragraphs indicated above counts only for Synchronized Skating;
 - iv) must not have reached the age of 65 in the calendar year of re-nomination.
- c) Any International Technical Specialist not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph b) above shall be removed from the ISU Communication listing International Technical Specialists. The

Technical Specialist then must have served satisfactorily once in national championships/competitions within 12 months preceding the re-nomination and fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31st the year following the removal in order to be eligible for reinstatement to the position held, without the requirement to pass an examination conducted by the ISU. After July 31st of the year following the removal, the candidate must again fulfill the requirements as per Paragraph 5.a) above. The Member must request the re-nomination.

6. ISU Examination for Technical Specialists will result in a final notification scale between 1.0 and 6.0. The candidates for the examination to become eligible as ISU Technical Specialist must have passed the examination in a notification range between 1.00 (excellent) and 2.50 (good). The candidates for the examination to become eligible as International Technical Specialist must have passed the examination in a notification 2.51 (average) and 4.50 (satisfactorily). A notification of 4.51 or higher is considered to have failed the examination.
7. The appointment of Technical Specialists for participation in an ISU seminar and the examination among persons nominated by the Members as aforesaid requires the initial confirmation of the individual Technical Committee which needs to be presented to the Vice President for final decision.
8. Acting as a Moderator in an ISU Seminar for Technical Controllers/ Technical Specialists in Synchronized Skating counts as an activity or as a participation in an ISU seminar for Technical Controllers and/or Technical Specialists.
Serving as Technical Specialist in the ISU Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup is valid also as a participation in an ISU seminar for Technical Specialists.

Rule 815

Nomination and appointment of Data & Replay Operators

1. In accordance with Rules 121 and 122, every Member of the ISU must annually before April 15th, announce to the Director General the names of those individuals whose service as Data & Replay Operators is recommended as follows (with no limitation in numbers):
 - a) for participation in an ISU seminar to become an ISU Data or Replay Operator (the annual re-appointments will be done by the Vice

President following the proposal of the respective Technical Committee);

- b) for participation in an ISU seminar to become an International Data & Replay Operator;
- c) for the annual re-nomination of International Data & Replay Operator (confirmation of appointment by the Vice President following the proposal of the respective Technical Committee).

2. Nomination must be submitted separately for the different groups (Data & Replay Operator).

3. a) To be eligible for appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator the candidate recommended:

- i) must have been nominated by the Member or Sports Directorate or the Technical Committee;
- ii) are recruited from the group of Coaches, ISU/International Judges, former competitive Skaters, persons involved in Figure Skating in any capacity with a good knowledge of Data operations and video system;
- iii) have acted in such capacity on national Level in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
- iv) have a good knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
- v) must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
- vi) must possess good communication skills;
- vii) must be able to take directions and work within a team environment;
- viii) must complete an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators and must be recommended from the ISU Sports Directorate for this "ISU" qualification;
- ix) must not have reached the age of 65 in the calendar year of nomination/re-nomination.

b) To be eligible for the annual re-appointment as ISU Data & Replay Operator in to be included in the annual ISU Communication, the ISU Data & Replay Operator:

- i) must have served at least twice (2x) in both capacities in any of the following events (the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or at least once (1x) in such an event as indicated above and once (1x) in any of the following competitions (International Senior or Junior competition, National/Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competition, which satisfies the specific

- requirements as Data & Replay Operator during the 36 months preceding each annual re-nomination);
 - ii) all disciplines will count for service;
 - iii) must not have reached the age of 65 in the calendar year of re-nomination.
 - c) Any ISU Data & Replay Operator not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph b) above shall be transferred to the list of International Data & Replay Operator. The concerned Data & Replay Operator then must fulfill the lacking requirement(s) prior to July 31st the following year in order to be eligible for reinstatement as ISU Data & Replay Operator. If these requirements are not fulfilled, the Data & Replay Operator remains on the list of International Data & Replay Operator provided the requirements of this qualification be fulfilled.
- 4. a) To be eligible for appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator the candidate recommended:
 - i) must have been nominated by the Member or Sports Directorate or the Technical Committee;
 - ii) are recruited from the group of Coaches, ISU/International Judges, former competitive Skaters, persons involved in Figure Skating in any capacity with a good knowledge of Data operations and video system;
 - iii) must have acted in such capacity on national level in the 24 months preceding the nomination;
 - iv) have a good knowledge of the discipline concerned with regards to the technical aspects;
 - v) must have a good knowledge of spoken English language;
 - vi) must possess good communication skills;
 - vii) must be able to take directions and work within a team environment;
 - viii) must complete an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators must be recommended by the ISU Sports Directorate for this "International" qualification;
 - ix) must not have reached the age of 65 in the calendar year of nomination/re-nomination.
- b) To be eligible for the annual re-appointment as International Data & Replay Operator to be included in the annual ISU Communication, the International Data & Replay Operator:
 - i) must have served at least twice (2x) in both capacities in any of the following events (International Competitions (Senior or Junior) competition, National/Sectional/Regional Senior or Junior competitions satisfying the special requirements or have served at

- least once (1 x) in such an event as indicated above and at least once (1 x) in a National Senior or Junior championships, in which at least four (4) Junior or four (4) Senior Teams have participated during the 24 months preceding each annual re-nomination (each function qualifies separately);
 - ii) all disciplines will count for service;
 - iii) must not have reached the age of 65 in the calendar year of re-nomination.
- c) Any International Data & Replay Operator not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph b) above shall be transferred to the list of National Data & Replay Operator. The concerned Data & Replay Operator then must participate again in an ISU seminar and fulfill the criteria mentioned under 3 a) or 4 a).
- 5) Acting as a Moderator in an ISU Seminar for Data & Replay Operators counts as an activity or as a participation in an ISU seminar for Data & Replay Operators.
Serving as a Technical Specialist or Technical Controller in an ISU Event counts also as activity for Data & Replay Operator.

Rule 816 **Report**

1. The Referee shall prepare a Report on a standard form of the competition, in which the following areas are to be identified:
 - standard of organization;
 - standard of skating in each segment;
 - standard of judging and the ability of each Judge to communicate his understanding of the rules and their applications;
 - timing of the event;
 - remarks for Judges in relation to their ability to operate the ISU Judging System;
 - additional remarks (if necessary);
 - proposals for improvement.

The Referee shall send the report without delay (i.e. within 14 days following the competition) to the ISU Secretariat.

2. The Technical Controller shall prepare a Report on a standard form of the competition, in which the following areas are to be identified:
 - evaluation of the Technical Specialist work;
 - evaluation of the Assistant Technical Specialist work;

- evaluation of the Data Operator work;
- evaluation of the Replay Operator work;
- additional remarks (if necessary);
- proposals for improvement.

The Technical Controller shall send the Report without delay (i.e. within 14 days following the competition) to the ISU Secretariat.

3. The ISU Secretariat shall send copies of the report as soon as possible to the following persons:

- a) the Chair and each member of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee;
- b) the Sports Director Figure Skating.

4. The Synchronized Skating Technical Committee will rate the service of the Referee based on the Report(s) and documentation(s) delivered as Very Good, Good, Acceptable/Average, Mediocre or Poor. These details will be added to the records of that Referee. On the first occasion that the Referee's service has the standard graded as Mediocre or Poor a notification will be forwarded to the Referee informing him of the failures. In case of any subsequent Referee's service rated as Mediocre or Poor, the Referee in question will not be considered for re-appointment until he/she has attended an ISU Sponsored Referees seminar or a Referee section of an ISU Sponsored Judges Seminar and been given a successful rating by the Moderator(s).

5. The Technical Committee will also rate the quality of the Technical Controller's Report as Very Good, Good, Acceptable/Average, Mediocre or Poor. These details will be added to the records of that Technical Controller.

Rule 817 (reserved)

C. Judges

Rule 818

Nomination and appointment of Judges

1. Each Member shall guarantee that the Judges nominated by it for the examination to become ISU Judges and for appointment as International Judges are eligible persons in accordance with Rule 102. In cases of violation of the foregoing, the Member concerned shall lose the right to nominate Judges for the immediately succeeding year and the Judge in question shall be removed from the lists.

2. Every Member of the ISU must announce to the Director General those individuals whose employment as Judges is recommended as follows:

- a) the candidates for examination to become ISU Judges (appointment after passing the examination and following annual re-nominations will be done by the Technical Committee in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 3c) of the Constitution); annually before November 1st (received November 1).
- b) International Judges annually before April 15th (received April 15).

Nominations must be submitted separately for the different groups. ISU Judges may also judge International Competitions. It is not necessary to include their names in the list of International Judges.

3. Judges nominated by a Member shall have the citizenship of the country of the nominating Member.
4. If a Member nominates a Judge of foreign citizenship, the Judge must have had a permanent residence in the country of that Member for at least twelve (12) months preceding the nomination. In addition, the Member in the country of which the Judge is a citizen, must give its approval. The name of the Judge shall be entered in the list of the nominating Member.
5.
 - a) A Judge who has already been on the list of any Member, can be nominated by another Member only under the following conditions:
 - (i) the Judge has acquired the citizenship of the nominating Member and has also taken up permanent residence in the country of such Member, or
 - (ii) the Judge has had dual citizenship and has taken up permanent residence in the country of the nominating Member of which he is also a citizen.
 - (iii) the Member on whose list the Judge was entered before gives its approval.
 - b) If a Judge who has already been on the list of any Member,

- (i) acquires a new citizenship without changing the country of his permanent residence, or
- (ii) has had a dual citizenship and agrees to be nominated by the Member in the country of his/her second citizenship, but does not change the country of his/her permanent residence, or
- (iii) if the Member on whose list the Judge was entered before does not give its approval, he/she can be nominated by another Member only after expiration of twelve (12) months following April 15th, of the year during which he/she was entered on the list of the original Member.

6. Exceptions to paragraph 5 of this Rule may be granted by the Sports Directorate if insisting on satisfying all stated requirements would result in a serious hardship to the Judge concerned due to special circumstances of his case.

7. For interpretation of terms "citizenship" and "residence" as well as documents by which citizenship and residence can be proved, reference is made to relevant Communications issued by the Council.

8. ISU Members are responsible for the training and knowledge of their Judges and should exercise the utmost care to nominate as Judges only competent, reliable, tested and impartial individuals, who are able and willing to act both at home and abroad and who possess a working knowledge of English. The Members are urged to require their Judges to attend properly authorized Judges' seminars and to test the Judges' knowledge of the Rules and the methods of judging. Members are therefore required to apply for and to organize an ISU Recognized seminar, either alone or in conjunction with another Member or Members, when necessary. The application for organizing Sponsored or Recognized seminars must be made by the organizing Member to the Director General with a copy to the Chair of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.

9. a) *Present International Judges:*

- (i) must have acted as a Judge or Trial Judge, (Trial Judge only at a designated International Synchronized Skating Competition under the supervision of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee or person designated by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee) at least once (1) in an International Synchronized Skating Competition (Senior or Junior) conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraph 1, 4, 8, 9 during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination.

- (ii) must have acted as a Judge at least once (1) in a national Senior or Junior championship during the 48 months preceding each annual nomination.
- b) *Present ISU Judges*: must have acted as a Judge or Trial Judge, Referee or a Technical Controller at least once (1) in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or International Synchronized Skating Competitions (Senior or Junior) and conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraphs 1, 3, 6, 7 during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination.
- c) *Present ISU and International Judges*: Present Judges must have attended an ISU Synchronized Skating Judges sponsored or recognized seminar during the 48 months preceding each annual re-nomination. The application for the seminar participation should be made for International Judges by the concerned Members and for ISU Judges by the concerned Members or by the Judges themselves. A one-year exemption will be allowed only once, in the case of a medically verified life-threatening illness, to the requirement of seminar attendance, However the Judges may not Judge until they have fulfilled seminar attendance requirement.
Participation in the Initial Judges meeting (if conducted by Member of the respective Technical Committee) and Round Table Discussion at ISU Championships will be considered as meeting the requirements of seminar attendance.
- d) Judges who have not been able to meet the requirements of acting at least once during the said 48 months in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships or International Synchronized Skating Competition because, although nominated to serve, have not been drawn, shall not be disqualified from re-nomination if, in the case of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, they have fulfilled the trial judging requirements (referred to in Rule 818, paragraph 9 e) below).
- e) ISU Judges not drawn to officiate at the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships shall be invited to trial judging the whole event as a member of a separate unofficial panel. The trial judging will be under the direction of a member of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee or their nominee who shall submit a report on the trial judging of the separate unofficial panel to the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee. The Trial Judges may attend, but not participate in, the Round Table Discussions held by the Referee at the conclusion of the event. Trial judging will fulfill the requirements of paragraph 9 b).

- f) (i) Any ISU Judge not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph a-d) above shall be transferred to the list of Judges for International Competitions. The Judge then must fulfil the lacking requirement(s) prior to April 15th of the following year in order to be eligible for reinstatement to the position formerly held, without the requirements to pass a written and practical examination conducted by the ISU. If these requirements are not fulfilled, the Judge will be removed from the lists by the Technical Committee.
 - (ii) Any International Judge not fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph a) above shall be removed from the lists by the Technical Committee.
 - g) A Judge who has reached or will reach the age of 70 in the calendar year of the nomination shall not be eligible for re-nomination that year or thereafter in accordance with paragraph 2 above.
10. a) An individual announced as a Judge for the first time may be nominated only for International Synchronized Skating Competitions, see paragraph 2 b).
- b) To be eligible for first appointment as an *International Judge in Synchronized Skating*, the candidate must have reached the age of 24 but not the age of 50 in the calendar year of the nomination.
 - c) The candidate must have Judged twice at two (2) different national Synchronized Skating championships or qualifying national competitions in which more than five (5) Teams have participated (each category judged must have at least five (5) Teams) and as well as served as a Trial Judge in accordance with Rule 818 paragraph 9 a) (i) during the 36 months preceding the nomination and the judging must have been acceptable. The categories judged must have included the ISU Senior or Junior Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating. The Member must submit the respective documents with the applications confirming these activities, such as either a copy of the classification list of the Senior and/or Junior events Judged which includes the names of the Judges or the list of the panel verified by the Member. In case that there is not enough Teams at national Synchronized Skating championships or qualifying national competitions, the candidate may participate in two (2) different Trial Judging events which will be counted as the national activities.
 - d) An application for Trial Judging a Synchronized Skating Competition must be submitted to the Chair of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee. The Trial Judging must have been considered as acceptable by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.
 - e) Candidates nominated by the Members to the ISU must have attended seminars in Synchronized Skating recognized by the Member at least once in the 48 months preceding the nomination. International and ISU

seminars in Synchronized Skating must be included in the number required for nomination

- f) Possess a working knowledge of English.
- g) Must have passed Judges' Examination:

11. To be eligible for promotion to the class of *ISU Judge* the candidate recommended must:

- a) have been recognized as an International Judge in the three (3) consecutive lists immediately preceding the nomination;
- b) have Judged at least two (2) different national Synchronized Skating championships (the events Judged to have included ISU Senior or Junior Short Program and Free Skating) during the 36 months preceding the nomination;
- c) have Judged at least three (3) different International Senior or Junior Synchronized Skating Competitions conducted in accordance with Rule 107, paragraphs 4, 8, 9 and in one of them at least three (3) Members have participated during the 36 months preceding the nomination (the application to take the examination). The panels must have consisted of at least five (5) Judges, the events must include the Short Program and Free Skating events with a minimum of six (6) Teams and at least one event must be a senior event;
- d) candidates must have attended at least one Judges' seminar in Synchronized Skating sponsored or recognized by the ISU during the 48 months preceding the nomination;
- e) the judging of the candidate must have been acceptable during the 36 months preceding the nomination. The Synchronized Skating Technical Committee shall decide upon the competence of the candidate;
- f) possess a working knowledge of English;
- g) have passed the Judge's Examination;
- h) candidates having passed the examination will immediately be added to the current list of ISU Judges of the Members concerned, if the candidates fulfill the provisions stated in Rule 818 paragraph 11 a)-f).

12. Candidates nominated by Members to take the practical and written Judges Examination, conducted by the ISU, for ISU Judges must:

- a) fulfill the requirements specified in 818 paragraph 11 a)-f);
- b) the application to take the examination must be sent to the Director General with a copy to the Chair of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee before November 1st (received November 1);
- c) any failed part of the Judge's examination must be retaken by the candidate concerned at the next year examination, otherwise the application must be resubmitted.

13. National Judges' Seminars organized by a Member may be recognized by the ISU as official seminars for the purposes of this Rule. Such Seminars must

be conducted by a Moderator designated by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee. The application for organizing sponsored or recognized seminars must be made by the Organizing Member to the Director General with a copy to the Chair of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee before January 1st.

14. The Member must verify in accordance with paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of this Rule the qualifications of the individual recommended as a Judge by attesting to his participation in the required Synchronized Skating competitions. In addition the Member must guarantee his qualification for the class applied for.

15. Each nomination of a Judge made for the first time and each re-nomination after an interruption of his appointment, no matter for which class it is made, must be accompanied by the completed official form. A separate form for each category must be completed and sent in.

16. The appointment of Judges from among persons nominated as aforesaid requires the initial approval of the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee which prepares a list of the individuals it recommends for appointment and submits that list to the Council. The appointment of the individuals on that list to the position of Judge is subject to the further approval of the Sports Directorate (see Article 20 paragraph 3 c) of the Constitution). If a nominated person is not included on the Technical Committee's approved list an appeal may be made to the Vice President whose decision shall be final. Only Judges finally approved by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and the Sports Directorate will be recognized as such. When a nominated person is not approved by the ISU, the reason for such non-approval will be communicated to the nominating Member.

17. The Vice President may, after consultation with the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee, add a maximum of six names to the list of Judges. A Judge nominated by Vice President does not count in the quota of the Member of the country of which he is a citizen or resident. Persons added by the Vice President must satisfy all qualification requirements under this Rule.

18. ISU Judges are automatically entitled to act as Judges in all in all categories of International Synchronized Skating events. International Judges are automatically entitled to act as Judges in International competitions.

19. The full list of Judges who have been approved by the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee and the Vice President must be communicated to the Members by the ISU by August 1st of each year. The list will be published together with the list of approved Referees and the appointments shall be effective August 1st of each year through July 31 of the following year.

20. Members must check the list of Judges as soon as they receive it. Any request for correction must be made within two (2) months with the Vice President. After that period the list is deemed to be correct. Objections to any such list must be lodged by Members, within two (2) months, with the Council, whose decision, after consideration of any such objection, shall be final.

21. Events that do not follow the normal format for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and International Competitions will not count for the purposes of activity credits.

Rules 819 – 822 (reserved)

Rule 823

Judges shall not compete

Rule 121 Paragraph 3 c) of the General Regulations applies.

Rule 824

Meeting after Competition/Round Table Discussion

Judges of International Synchronized Skating Competitions, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup or the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, including those of the respective qualifying rounds, must attend a closed meeting (Round Table Discussion) with the Referee and the Technical Controller. This meeting should be held as soon as possible after conclusion of each event but not later than the next morning following the conclusion of the competition. See also Rule 809, paragraph 5.

D. Evaluation of judging and technical content decisions, penalties

Rule 825

1. Evaluation Process for Judges

- a) After each segment (i.e. Short Program, Free Skating, Pattern Dance, Short Dance, Free Dance) of each discipline each Judge will receive a printout (Judges' Details for each Team/Skater) that shows the "Grade of Execution" (GOE) of every Element, all indicated deductions and the points for the Program Components from all Judges in a random sequence (for ISU Championships, the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating (Senior) the Qualifying Competition for the Olympic Winter Games and the Olympic Winter Games without any reference to specific Judges' names);
- b) An Officials' Assessment Commission (OAC) will be appointed by the ISU Council. The OAC shall consist of a pool of ISU Referees, ISU Technical Controllers and ISU Judges of different nationalities, who shall evaluate evident anomalies in the Judges scores and deductions identified based on a predetermined criteria, including mathematical criteria, confirmed by the ISU Council. The OAC shall also evaluate the officiating of the Referee and Technical Panel as per paragraph 2 of this Rule;
- c) For ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships this evaluation shall take place, if possible on site of the Events, immediately after the conclusion of each competition by two (2) OAC members appointed by the President. For all other ISU Events the evaluation shall take place as soon as possible by two (2) OAC members for each discipline (Single and Pair Skating, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating);
- d) The OAC shall prepare a report for each competition including all identified cases of serious errors by the Judges of the respective competition. The report for each competition shall be made available without delay to the respective Technical Committee. The respective Technical Committee shall proceed with its evaluation of the OAC reports and immediate subsequent report to the Sports Directorate as soon as possible in line with the applicable Rules for "Assessment". If the Technical Committee disagrees on any determination of serious errors, the OAC must be consulted. If a disagreement prevails, the unresolved cases will be finally decided by the Sports Directorate.

2. Evaluation process for the Referee and the Technical Panel

- a) For the evaluation of the Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialists as well as the Data & Replay Operators), the appointed OAC to the competition (on site or off site) and/or the acting

Referee as per the outcome of the Judges Round Table Discussion (Judges or the Referee noticed some discrepancies) and/or the President and/or the ISU Council and/or the Sports Directorate (based on a common opinion of Sport Directorate members qualified in Figure Skating) and/or the respective Technical Committee may believe that an Assessment is warranted, file a report to the Vice President Figure Skating outlining in consistent and detailed remarks with applicable rules the identified wrong decisions by these Officials.

- b) Upon receipt of a report concerning wrong decisions by the Technical Panel including the Data & Replay Operators, the Vice President Figure Skating will send the report(s) together with the relevant DVDs independently to 4 Officials, selected by the Vice President Figure Skating, for review at their residence (not on site of the competition). Each selected Official will not be informed of the identity of the other selected Officials. The selected Officials must all be from different Members and will be as follows:
 - (i) one or two ISU Technical Controller(s) of a different nationality than the Team(s)/Skater(s) and Officials concerned;
 - (ii) one or two ISU Technical Specialist(s) of a different nationality than the Team(s)/Skater(s) and Officials concerned;
 - (iii) one ISU Technical Committee member of the respective discipline of a different nationality than the Teams(s)/Skater(s) and Officials concerned. If a TC member was acting in the competition subject to an evaluation as Referee, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist, then no Technical Committee member shall be included in the selected Officials and shall be replaced by a second Technical Controller or Technical Specialist as per sub-paragraph i) & ii) above.
- c) The selected Officials shall forward their conclusion whether an Assessment is warranted independently from each other to the Vice President Figure Skating. For the issuing of an Assessment to the Official(s) concerned, at least two of the selected Officials must confirm that an Assessment is warranted.
- d) In case an Assessment involving the Technical Panel is warranted, the Vice President Figure Skating will check the DVD recordings including the audio records of the Technical Panel discussions in order to establish if such decision has been made as a majority or split decision of the Technical Panel or if the decision was due to an erroneous data input by the Data & Replay Operator. Based on these

findings the Vice President Figure Skating will submit a detailed report to the ISU Council, which finally decides upon an Assessment. The ISU Council shall instruct the ISU Secretariat to issue the Assessment Letter(s) to the Official(s) concerned.

- e) For the additional evaluation of the Referee (other than the evaluation obligations of the Technical Committees), the appointed OAC of the competition and/or the Council and/or the Sports Directorate (based on a common opinion of Sport Directorate members qualified in Figure Skating) may, if they believe that an Assessment is warranted, file a report to the Vice President of Figure Skating outlining in detail and consistent with the applicable rules the wrong decision(s) by the Referee.

Upon receipt of a report concerning wrong decisions by the Referee, or inappropriate conduct of the competition (draws, interruptions of performance(s), meetings, etc.), the Vice President Figure Skating will send the report(s) together with the relevant DVDs (if applicable) independently to four (4) Officials, selected by the Vice President Figure Skating, for review at their residence (not on site of the competition). Each selected Official will not be informed of the identity of the other selected Officials. The selected Officials must all be from different Members and will be as follows:

- i) three ISU Referees of a different nationality than the Team(s)/Skater(s) and Referee concerned;
- ii) one Technical Committee member of the respective discipline of a different nationality than the Team(s)/Skater(s) and Referee concerned. If a TC member was acting in the competition subject to an evaluation as Referee, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist, then no Technical Committee member shall be included in the evaluation group and shall be replaced by a fourth ISU Referee as per subparagraph i) above.

The selected Officials shall forward their conclusion whether an Assessment is warranted independently from each other to the Vice President Figure Skating. For the issuing of an Assessment to the Official(s) concerned, at least two of the selected Officials must confirm that an Assessment is warranted.

If applicable, the Vice President Figure Skating will submit a detailed report to the ISU Council, which finally decides upon an Assessment. The ISU Council shall instruct the ISU Secretariat to issue the Assessment Letter to the Referee concerned.

3. Disciplinary decisions for misconduct (as opposed to performance evaluations)

- a) Article 24 of the ISU Constitution identifies disciplinary-type matters as being within the jurisdiction of the ISU Disciplinary Commission (DC) and distinguishes “performance evaluations” as not being disciplinary in nature.
- b) Article 24 of the ISU Constitution, paragraphs 8 and 9 explicitly states that appointment of a person to an official position and the continued assignment of that person to such position is not a matter of right but a function entrusted to the designated body or Official of the ISU, and further, that performance evaluations of Officials, including “Assessments”, warnings, criticism, letters of advice, as well as appointment or removal of ISU Officials from positions, are not disciplinary but technical decisions. Officials’, appointments, “Assessments” and removals accordingly are not subject to the jurisdiction of the ISU Disciplinary Commission or the Appeals Commission.
- c) Expressions respecting "sanctions", "suspensions", "demotions", "penalties", etc as used in this Rule or in any correspondence related to the evaluation procedure are to be distinguished from, and shall not refer to, any type of disciplinary sanction for misconduct or violation of the ISU Ethics Code, for example as such disciplinary type references are used in Rule 104, paragraph 16, Rule 125 paragraph 4 and 5 in Article 24 of the Constitution.
- d) Favoritism for or prejudice (bias) against any Member or Skater/Couple/Team or influencing, directly or indirectly any decision of other Officials are considered as misconduct. The Disciplinary Commission may suspend or exclude any Officials who has committed misconduct within the meaning of Rule 104, paragraph 16, Rule 125, paragraphs 2, 4 a and 5) of the General Regulations, the ISU Code of Ethics as published in an ISU Communication or of any other ISU Rule. For reinstatement after a suspension due to misconduct paragraph 4 of this Rule applies.

4. Reinstatement on ISU Officials Lists after suspension for misconduct

- a) An Official suspended by the ISU Council, under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Rule, for a specified period of time, will be reinstated at the end of that time unless a request to the contrary is received from the Member of the Official.
- b) For Referees, the reinstated Referee will have to fulfill the requirements of Rule 807, paragraph 9 a)-c) for Synchronized Skating, if lacking prior to April 15th of the following year. However, an ISU Referee or International Referee suspended for a period of thirty-six

- (36) months or more shall be reinstated as an International Judge only.
- c) For Technical Controllers, the reinstated International Technical Controller must have participated in a national seminar for Technical Controllers, must have served satisfactorily at least once in a national Championships/competition within 12 months preceding the re-nomination. Furthermore the candidate must have participated in an ISU Seminar and must have passed the examination. The reinstatement is only valid for the qualification as International Technical Controller.
 - d) For Technical Specialists, the reinstated International Technical Specialist must have participated in a national seminar for Technical Specialists, must have served satisfactorily at least once in a national Championships/competition within 12 months preceding the re-nomination. Furthermore the candidate must have participated in an ISU Seminar and must have passed the examination. The reinstatement is only valid for the qualification as International Technical Controller.
 - e) For Judges, (or Referee when acting as Judge) the reinstated Judge/Referee will have to fulfill the requirements of Rule 818, paragraphs 9.a) i), ii) and paragraph 9.b), c) for Synchronized Skating, if lacking prior to April 15th of the following year. However, an ISU Judge/Referee suspended for a period of thirty-six (36) months or more shall automatically be reinstated as a International Judge only. The Judge shall be reinstated on the list of ISU Judges only, after he has fulfilled the requirements of Rule 818, paragraphs 11.b)-d) for Synchronized Skating in case of thirty-six months suspension. In case of a longer suspension Rule 818, paragraph 11.a)-g) for Synchronized Skating.

5. Performance evaluations - Consequence of receiving an Assessment 4

- a) for Referees, Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists
In the case that an accumulation of "Assessments" for a Referee, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist is reaching "Assessment 4" as per the criteria in paragraph 7 below, the Referee, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist concerned shall be notified through the ISU Secretariat about the possible demotion. The Referee, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist will have the right to ask within 5 days upon receipt of the notification for a meeting with at least 3 Figure Skating ISU Council members and additional experts as appointed by the Council, to give his explanations for the relevant "Assessments". If available, the Referee, Technical Controller or Technical Specialist may use the respective video tapes to support his explanations relating to officiating errors. Such meeting shall be held as soon as possible at a date and place determined by the Council.

b) for Judges

In the case that an accumulation of “Assessments” for a Judge is reaching “Assessment 4” as per paragraph 4 below, the Judge concerned shall be notified through the ISU Secretariat about the possible demotion. The Judge will have the right to ask within 5 days upon receipt of the notification for a meeting with at least 3 Technical Committee members of the respective Technical Committee, to give his explanations for the relevant “Assessments”. If available, the Judge may use the respective video tapes to support his explanations relating to officiating errors. Such meeting shall be held as soon as possible at a date and place determined by the Council.

c) Expenses related to explanation meeting requested by an Official

Any travel, board and lodging or other expenses incurred by the Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist or Judge concerned relating to the explanation meeting will be for the Referee’s, Technical Controller’s, Technical Specialist’s or Judge’s account if all the “Assessments”, despite the explanations received, are confirmed by the Council respectively the Technical Committee after the meeting. The ISU will only reimburse such expenses if at least one of the “Assessments” would be revoked.

6. Performance evaluations - Consequences of confirmed demotions

a) *Referees*

If after completion of the procedure mentioned under paragraph 3 an Assessment 4 has been confirmed and

- (i) an ISU Referee has been demoted, he will be included in the lists of ISU Judges and of International Referees of his Member.
- (ii) an International Referee has been demoted will be included in the lists of ISU Judges (if eligible) or International Judges of his Member.
- (iii) an ISU Referee has been demoted he shall be reinstated on the lists of ISU Referees after having fulfilled the requirements of Rule 807, paragraph 13.a)-g).
- (iv) an International Referee has been demoted he shall be reinstated on the lists of International Referees, after having fulfilled the requirements of Rule 807, paragraph 11, a)-h).

b) *Technical Controllers*

If after completion of the procedure mentioned under paragraph 3 an Assessment 4 has been confirmed and

- (i) an ISU Technical Controller has been demoted, he will be included in the list of International Technical Controllers of his Member.

- (ii) an International Technical Controller has been demoted, he will be deleted from the ISU list of Technical Controllers.
- (iii) an International Technical Controller has been demoted and deleted from the ISU list of Technical Controllers, in order to be reinstated as International Technical Controller he must have participated in a national seminar for Technical Controllers, must have served satisfactorily at least once in a national Championships/competition within 12 months preceding the re-nomination. Furthermore the candidate must have participated in an ISU Seminar and must have passed the examination. The reinstatement is only valid for the qualification as International Technical Controller.

c) *Technical Specialists*

If after completion of the procedure mentioned under paragraph 3 an Assessment 4 has been confirmed and

- (i) an ISU Technical Specialist has been demoted, he will be included in the list of International Technical Specialists of his Member.
- (ii) an International Technical Specialist has been demoted will be deleted from the ISU list of Technical Specialists.
- (iii) an International Technical Specialist has been demoted and deleted from the ISU list of Technical Specialists, in order to be reinstated as International Technical Specialist must have participated in a national seminar for Technical Specialists, must have served satisfactorily at least once in a national Championships / competition within 12 months preceding the re-nomination. Furthermore the candidate must have participated in an ISU Seminar and must have passed the examination. The reinstatement is only valid for the qualification as International Technical Specialist.

d) *Judges*

If after completion of the procedure mentioned under paragraph 3 an Assessment 4 has been confirmed and

- (i) an ISU Judge or Referee (when acting as Judge) has been demoted, he will be included in the lists of International Judges or Referees of his Member.
- (ii) an International Judge or Referee (when acting as Judge) has been demoted, he will be deleted from the lists of ISU International Judges or International Referees.
- (iii) Any demoted ISU Judge or Referee (when acting as Judge) shall be reinstated on the list of ISU Judges only after he has fulfilled the requirements of Rule 818, paragraph 11 a)-h).

- (iv) Any International Judge or Referee (when acting as Judge) demoted, shall be reinstated on the list of International Judge or Referee only after he has fulfilled the requirements of Rule 818, paragraph 10. a)-f)
- (v) If the majority Judges (or Referees when acting as Judges) of a Member have been suspended and/or demoted over a period of several years, although they have been informed, the Council may decide that the Member with whom these Judges/Referees are affiliated will be warned or shall lose the right to nominate Judges for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and/or Olympic Winter Games and/or International Competitions for such a period as the Council may decide. In its exercise of its powers, however, the Council shall not generally take into consideration cases of unacceptable judging by a Member's Judges occurring more than five years previously.

7. Performance evaluations - Criteria for Assessments

a) *Referees*

The following criteria for “Assessments” apply for Referees whose performance as Referee has been considered as unacceptable. Unacceptable performance relating to the submission of the Report are determined by the respective Technical Committee while unacceptable performance relating to cases of errors in conducting the event are determined by the assigned Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) and the Council in line with the criteria established by the Council in an ISU Communication (Communication No 1631 or any further update of this Communication):

Assessment 1

- i) report submitted late
- ii) report submitted incomplete

Assessment 2

- i) report submitted late after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) report submitted incomplete after having received Assessment 1;
- iii) error(s) in conducting an event, i.e. not or improperly fulfilling the Referee duties as per Rule 806

Assessment 3

- i) report submitted late after having received Assessment 2
- ii) report submitted incomplete after having received Assessment 2
- iii) error(s) in conducting an event, i.e. not or improperly fulfilling the Referee duties as per Rule 806 after having received an Assessment 2;
- iv) serious striking error(s) in conducting an event, i.e. not or only partly attending the competition/draws or official meetings.

Assessment 4

- i) report submitted late after having received Assessment 3
- ii) report submitted incomplete after having received Assessment 3
- iii) error(s) in conducting an event, i.e. not or improperly fulfilling the Referee duties as per Rule 806 after having received Assessment 3
- iv) serious striking error(s) in conducting an event, not or only partly attending the competition/draws or official meetings after having received Assessment 3.

b) Technical Controller

The following criteria for “Assessments” apply for Technical Controllers whose performance as Technical Controller has been considered as unacceptable. Unacceptable performance relating to the submission of the Report are determined by the respective Technical Committee while unacceptable performance relating to cases of errors in conducting the event are determined by the assigned Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) and the Council in line with the criteria established by the Council in an ISU Communication (Communication No 1631 or any further update of this Communication).

Cases of not making the necessary preparations through attendance of the relevant practice sessions of the event are determined by the Council based on reports received from the respective Referee and/or other members of the respective Technical Panel including credible and verified evidence:

Assessment 1

- i) report submitted late;
- ii) errors in applying the required deductions;
- iii) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operator;
- iv) error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution;
- v) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of the relevant practice sessions of the event;

Assessment 2

- i) report submitted late after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) error(s) in applying the required deductions after having received Assessment 1;
- iii) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operators after having received Assessment 1;
- iv) error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution after having received Assessment 1;
- v) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of relevant practice sessions of the event after having received Assessment 1.

Assessment 3

- i) report submitted late after having received Assessment 2;
- ii) error(s) in applying the required deductions after having received Assessment 2;
- iii) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operator after having received Assessment 2;
- iv) error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution having received Assessment 2;
- v) error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution involving a difference of more than 4 points per Skater/Couple/Team and segment;
- vi) serious striking error(s) in conducting an event, i.e. not or only partly attending the competition/s or official meetings;
- vii) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of relevant practice sessions of the event after having received Assessment 2.

Assessment 4

- i) report submitted late after having received Assessment 3;
- ii) error(s) in applying the required deductions after having received Assessment 3;
- iii) not properly checking and confirming the data input performed by the Data Operator after having received Assessment 3;
- iv) error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution after having received Assessment 3;
- v) serious error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution involving a difference of more than 4 points per Skater/Couple/Team and segment after having received Assessment 3;
- vi) serious striking error/s in conducting an event, i.e. not or only partly attending the competition/s or official meetings after having received Assessment 3;
- vii) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of relevant practice sessions of the event after having received Assessment 3.

c) Technical Specialists

The following criteria for “Assessments” apply for Technical Specialists whose performance as Technical Specialist has been considered as unacceptable. Unacceptable performance relating to cases of errors in conducting the event are determined by the assigned Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) and the Council in line with the criteria established by the Council in an ISU Communication (Communication No 1631 or any further update of this Communication).

Cases of not making the necessary preparations through attendance of the relevant practice sessions of the event are determined by the Council based on reports received from the respective Referee and/or other members of the

respective Technical Panel including credible and verified evidence:

Assessment 1

- i) errors in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution;
- ii) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of the relevant practice sessions of the event;

Assessment 2

- i) error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution after having received Assessment 1;
- ii) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of relevant practice sessions of the event after having received Assessment 1;

Assessment 3

- i) errors in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution after having received Assessment 2;
- ii) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of relevant practice sessions of the event after having received Assessment 2;
- iii) serious error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution involving a difference of more than 4 points per Skater/Couple/Team and segment;

Assessment 4

- i) errors in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution after having received Assessment 3;
- ii) not making the necessary preparations through attendance of relevant practice sessions of the event after having received Assessment 3;
- iii) serious error(s) in calling Elements/levels of difficulty of execution involving a difference of more than 4 points per Skater/Couple/Team and segment after having received Assessment 3;

d) Judges

The following criteria for “Assessments” apply for Judges, (or Referees when acting as Judges) whose performance has been considered as unacceptable. Unacceptable performance relating to cases of errors in judging the event are determined by the assigned Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) and the respective Technical Committee in line with the criteria established by the Council in an ISU Communication (Communication No 1631 or any further update of this Communication).

Assessment 1

- i) errors
- ii) non-attendance at a meeting before the competition and/or Round Table Discussion without justified cause;

Assessment 2

- i) errors after receiving Assessment 1;
- ii) non-attendance at a meeting before the competition and/or Round Table Discussion without justified cause after receiving Assessment 1;

Assessment 3

- i) errors after receiving Assessment 2;
- ii) non-attendance at a meeting before the competition and/or a Round Table Discussion without justified cause after receiving Assessment 2;

Assessment 4

- i) errors after receiving Assessment 3.
- ii) non-attendance at a meeting before the competition and/or a Round Table Discussion without justified cause after receiving Assessment 3;

8. Duration of validity of Assessments

Each Assessment remains valid for the current season plus additional two (2) seasons and counts during such period of time towards an accumulation of Assessments.

9. Application of demotions and suspensions to other disciplines

Any demotion of an Official shall be effective only in the discipline in which the Assessments leading to the demotion have been confirmed while a suspension due to misconduct shall apply to all disciplines the Official was listed for.

Rules 826 – 899 (reserved)

II. TECHNICAL RULES SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

A. General

Rule 900-901 (reserved)

Rule 902

Definition of the skate blade and clothing

1. Figure skating blades used during competitions must be sharpened to produce a flat to concave cross section without change to the width of the blade as measured between the two edges. However, a slight tapering or narrowing of the cross section of the blade is permitted.

2. At the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and all International Synchronized Skating Competitions, the clothing of the competitors must be modest, dignified and appropriate for athletic competition. Costumes and head pieces may not be overly theatrical in nature (i.e. excessive beading and adornment, but may reflect the composition and character of the program).

- a) The clothing must not give the effect of excessive nudity for an athletic sport;
- b) Ladies may wear skirt or body suit, or full length trousers. Unitards without skirts are permissible;
- c) Men must wear full length trousers; no tights are permitted;
- d) Clothing and make-up must not be theatrical. Feathers are not allowed on any part of the costume or head piece;
- e) Headdresses must be kept to a minimum. Any ornamentation attached to clothing or head must be firmly fastened so as not to fall off while skating under normal competitive conditions.
There can be no props on the ice and hand props such as banners, canes or pompons are not permitted;
- f) Clothing or make-up not meeting the foregoing requirements will be penalized. The deduction will be made from the Total Score.

Rule 903

Synchronized Skating Definitions

1. General Terms

a) **Additional Features/Extra Features**

A term used for describing technical content that increases the difficulty of an Element within a specified Difficulty Group of an Element. Additional Features/Extra Features are components, which may become part of the Difficulty Groups of Elements and Step Sequences Feature. Some Additional Features/Extra Features may be required in a Short Program. Additional Features/Extra Features are optional in the Free Skating.

- Examples of Additional Features are: body movement, change of configuration, change of rotational direction, pivoting, traveling etc.
- Examples of Extra Features are: weaving (during travelling in a Circle Element). Toe Steps or Dance Jumps (during No Hold Element) etc.

The Additional Features/Extra Features for each Element will be updated annually and published in the ISU Communication.

b) **Axis**

Axis refers to the imaginary line(s) which divide the ice surface (long axis, short axis, diagonal axis, continuous axis). A turn(s) or pattern(s) is executed on an axis.

c) **Axis of the Point of Intersection.**

Refers to the axis where the Skaters are passing/intersecting with one another.

d) **Configuration (Arrangement / Form)**

A configuration is the arrangement and/or form of the Element. By Arrangement it is meant that the Skaters must change the Team member beside whom they skate. By Form it is meant the number of lines in an Element (for example Block or Wheel etc.).

e) **Difficulty Groups of Elements**

All Elements in Synchronized Skating are divided into groups of difficulty based on the number of Additional Features included. The Synchronized Skating Technical Committee will each or every second year prepare lists with Difficulty Groups of Elements that will be issued as the ISU Communication.

f) **Element**

An Element is a component that is part of a Synchronized Skating Short Program and Free Skating. Elements are divided into groups of difficulty.

g) **Fall**

A fall is defined as loss of control by a Skater with the result that the majority of his own body weight is on the ice being supported by any other part of the body other than the blades. e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.

h) Features

A term used for describing a technical content that increases the difficulty of an Element. Features such as Step Sequences, Free Skating Moves, Free Skating Elements and Point of Intersection are divided into groups according to their difficulty (see Rule 906 paragraph 5 and Rule 912 paragraph 5).

i) Highlighting

A term used when a Skater(s) performs a movement that is in contrast with of the rest of the Team. Highlighting movements are permitted in the Creative Element and during transitions in the Free Skating only.

j) Mirror Image Pattern

A Mirror Image Pattern is shown when any part of the Team or division of Skaters simultaneously, uses a combination of both clockwise and anti-clockwise directions. The Mirror Image Pattern may appear in transitions and Elements in Free Skating and the Short Program.

k) Point of Intersection

The Point of Intersection is defined as the exact point where Skaters pass each other. In the case of a collapsing Intersection (box, triangle etc.) the Point of Intersection is defined as being the area within the shape once the corners have started to intersect and before the Skaters exit the Intersection and pass through at the final corners.

l) Retrogression

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

m) Skating direction

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

n) Sub-grouping

Sub-grouping refers to a subordinate or smaller group(s) without close relationship to the rest of the Team; a division of the Team into several smaller groups.

o) Transition

In the Short Program, transitions may be comprised of varied and/or complex footwork, linking steps and movements to link the required Elements, which also include the entrances and exits of Elements. No other connecting Elements are allowed to link the required Elements of a Short Program.

In the Free Skating, transitions may be comprised of varied and/or complex footwork, linking steps, movements, formations and other connecting Elements linking all of the Well Balanced Program required Elements, which also include the entrances and exits of Elements (see also Rule 906 for Short Program and Rule 912 for Free Skating).

2. DEFINITIONS OF STEPS AND TURNS

Steps – The visible tracing on the ice that is executed on one foot. It may consist of an edge, change of edge, a turn such as a three turn or counter, or a flat (which is usually not acceptable).

- a) *Edge* - The visible tracing on the ice produced by a Skater skating on one foot that is on a distinct curve;
- b) *Flat* – The visible double tracing on the ice that is straight (imprinted by the Skater skating on one foot on both edges of the blade);
- c) *Turn* – A rotational movement in which the Skater moves from forward to backward or backward to forward using either just one foot or two feet, and on an edge and axis;
- d) *Turning Method* - A technique in which a rotational movement occurs using either the same/one lobe (bracket, three turn, twizzle) or using two different lobes (counter, rocker) during the entry and exit of each turn. See the respective turns in para 2e) – 2 j) and 2o) – 2p) below;
- e) *Three turn* – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an inside edge or an inside edge to an outside edge, with the exit curve continuing on the same lobe as the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction of the curve;
- f) *Bracket* – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an inside edge or an inside edge to an outside edge, with the exit curve continuing on the same lobe as the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction opposite to the curve;
- g) *Rocker* – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an outside edge or an inside edge to an inside edge, with the exit curve on a different lobe from the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction of the entry curve;
- h) *Counter* – A turn executed on one foot from an outside edge to an outside edge or an inside edge to an inside edge, with the exit curve on a different lobe from the entry curve. The Skater turns in the direction opposite to the entry curve (i.e. in the direction of the exit curve);
- i) *Swing Rocker or Swing Counter* – A type of rocker or counter in which the free foot swings smoothly past and close to the skating foot before the turn and after the turn is either moved past the skating foot and held behind over the tracing or allowed to swing forward;
- j) *Twizzle* - A traveling turn on one foot with one or more rotations which quickly rotates with a continuous (uninterrupted) action. The weight remains on the skating foot with the free foot in any position during the turn then placed beside the skating foot to skate the next step. A series of checked three turns is not acceptable, as this does not constitute a continuous action. If the traveling action stops during the execution, the twizzle becomes a solo spin;
- k) *Linking Steps* - The visible tracing on the ice that is executed on one or two feet. They may consist of an edge, change of edge, chasses, cross

rolls, crossovers, progressives, toe steps moving, dance jumps and small hops. Linking steps may be used as connecting steps between turns in the required Step Sequence Elements, Step Sequence Features and in some Additional Features:

- l) *Loop* – A one foot movement where the Skater skates an oval pattern using the same edge. The entry and exit of the loop must cross. The loop must be clean cut without scrapes or points;
- m) *Change of Edge* - The visible tracing on the ice that changes from one distinct curve to another distinct curve with no change of foot;
- n) *Chasse* – A series of two edges (usually outside, inside) in which on the second edge the free foot is placed on the ice beside the skating foot, but not ahead of it, and the free foot is lifted with the blade parallel to the ice;
- o) *Choctaw* - A turn from one foot to the other in which the curve of the exit edge is opposite to that of the entry edge. The change of foot is from outside edge to inside edge or inside edge to outside edge. The entry and exit edge are of equal depth;
- p) *Mohawk* - A turn from one foot to the other in which the entry and exit curves are continuous and of equal depth. The change of foot is from and outside edge to and outside edge or and inside edge to an inside edge;
- q) *Cross Roll* - A roll started with the action of the free foot approaching the skating foot from the side so as to strike the ice almost at right angles to the skating foot, started forward with the feet crossed in front or backward with the feet crossed behind;
- r) *Dance Jump* - A small jump of not more than one-half (1/2) revolution used to change feet or skating direction;
- s) *Small Hop* – A small jump without revolution;
- t) *Progressive / Run* – A step or sequence of steps in which the free foot passes the skating foot before it is placed on the ice, thereby bringing the new free foot off the ice trailing the new skating foot;
- u) *Toe Steps Moving* – A step where the Skaters move from one toe to the other without jumping as they travel down the ice.

3. DEFINITION OF ELEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

See the Criteria for Elements in Short Program and Free Skating Rules (Rule 911, paragraph 3).

4. DEFINITION OF FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS

a) **STEP SEQUENCE FEATURE**

A combination/series of different turning methods such as three turn, bracket, choctaws, counter, loop, mohawk, rocker, twizzle, linking steps (see Rule 903 paragraph 2) and short free skating moves (see Rule 903 paragraph 4c) used as part of an Element such as the No Hold Element/NHE.

- Use of crossovers must be kept at a minimum and only one (1) cross over in a row may be included.
- A Step Sequence Feature may be used several times during the whole Element however, only the first Step Sequence Feature that fulfills the requirements for Step Sequence Features will determine the difficulty.
- During the Step Sequence Feature all Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns/edges in the same skating direction at the same time, except during free skating moves and to initiate or end a mirror image pattern.
- A mirror image pattern is permitted during a Step Sequence Feature. The turns executed during the mirror image pattern will not end a Step Sequence Feature nor be counted towards the level of a Step Sequence Feature.
- Short free skating moves are allowed within Step Sequence Feature but must be held for less than 3 seconds.
- The requirements for the levels of Step Sequence Feature must be executed correctly in order for the Step Sequence Feature to be counted. (see ISU Communication for requirements).

i) **Ice Coverage Requirements**

The ice coverage requirements for the Step Sequence Features are as follows:

- The Step Sequence Feature in a No Hold Element has no minimum requirements for ice coverage.
- The Block Step Sequence and the Circle Step Sequence are Elements without a Step Sequence Feature (for ice coverage see Rule 911 paragraph 3, II, V).

ii) **Turn Requirements**

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

- Turns that do not have sustained edges due to a quicker tempo shall be counted as long as they are executed with clear/clean entry and exit edges.
- Teams that use a good quality of skating but have shorter and quicker edges, must not be penalized in the GOE.

- Turns and linking steps are used in a Step Sequence. The turns and linking steps must be balanced in their distribution throughout the Step Sequence Feature.

b) FREE SKATING ELEMENTS

Free skating elements such as jumps, jump combinations, jump sequences, assisted jumps, spins, lifts, death spirals, pair pivot, vaults are examples and are permitted in Synchronized Skating.

Free skating elements are allowed in Elements such as Creative Element, Group Lift Element and Pair Element or as a transitional move between Elements to increase the difficulty of transitions and add variety/ complexity to the program. To get credit for the free skating element(s), each Element must be executed correctly.

1. Assisted Jump
A jump, of not more than one (1) revolution, in which a Skater(s) provides passive assistance to another Skater(s) in a non-supportive manner. The take off must be done by the Skater who jumps. In this action there is a continuous ascending and descending movement. The hands of a Skater(s) providing the passive assistance may rise higher than shoulder level height. Assisted jumps are allowed in Free Skating only.
2. Butterfly (pair or individual)
The body is already in a nearly horizontal position at the take-off. The free leg makes a wide, powerful rotational swing upwards so that it is higher than the upper part of the body and head. During the flight and on the landing, the body remains in a horizontal position. There is no number of revolutions required after the landing.
3. Dance Jump
A small jump of not more than one-half (1/2) revolution used to change feet or direction.
4. Jump
A rotational type of movement of at least one (1) revolution during which both feet leave the ice. For Junior, only jumps of one (1) revolution and for Senior, jumps of maximum of one and one-half (1 ½) revolutions are permitted.
5. Jump Sequence
Consists of any number of jumps of no more than 1 or 1½ revolutions that may be linked with small hops and dance jumps, immediately following each other while maintaining the jump rhythm (knee); there can be no crossovers or stroking between jumps during the sequence.
6. Jump Combination
Consists of any number of jumps of no more than 1 or 1½ revolutions that may be linked with turns, steps or with a slight touch down.

7. Lifts

An action in which Skater(s) is elevated to any height and set down by the lifting Skaters or an action in which Skater(s) are elevated to any height by themselves using body support from other Skaters. Lifts may be executed stationary or while gliding. Any rotations and/or positions and changes of positions during the lift are permitted. The lifting/supporting Skaters may rotate but not more than three and one half (3 ½) revolutions. Lifts should enhance the music chosen and express its character, but not be a display of acrobatics. Undignified actions and poses are forbidden. The lifts are permitted in Senior Free Skating only.

- a) *Pair Lift* used in the Synchronized Skating is an action in which one Skater is elevated by one other Skater and set down. Pair Lifts performed by only one (1) lifting Skater who fully extends their lifting arms above the head are illegal.
- b) *Group Lift* used in Synchronized Skating - An action in which one (1) or more Skaters is (are) elevated to any height by two (2) or more Skaters and set down. A lifting Skater(s) must have at least one skate on the ice at all times.
 - Group Lift with 2 supporting Skaters.
 - Group Lift with 3 supporting Skaters.
 - Group Lift with 4 supporting Skaters.
- c) *Types of Lifts (Pair Lift or Group Lift)* used in Synchronized Skating
 - i. Stationary Lift is a lift that is executed on the spot (stationary location) by the lifting Skater(s).
 - ii. Lift that glide during the preparation, lift/execution and exit
 - All Skaters in a Group Lift/both Skaters in Pair Lift must be skating or gliding as they prepare for the lift,
 - The supporting/lifting Skater(s) must continue to glide as the lift is executed.
 - All Skaters in a Group Lift/both Skaters in Pair Lift must continue to glide during the exit of the lift. The lift must be “landed” and continue to glide upon “landing”.
 - iii. Stationary lifts that revolves on the spot (rotation of at least 180° and no more than three and one half (3 ½) revolutions).
 - A lift that remains stationary as it rotates.
 - The lifted and supporting Skater(s) in a group lift / pair lift must rotate at least 180° and no more than three and one half (3 1/2) once the lifted Skater is in the elevated position.
 - The supporting Skaters in a group lift/lifting Skater in a pair lift may glide without turning or may turn from forwards to backwards or visa versa using a two-footed three turn or two-footed mohawk like steps.

iv. Rotational Lift that glides and rotate at the same time

Rotational lift is a lift in which lifting Skater(s) rotate in clockwise or anti-clockwise direction while gliding/traveling across the ice.

- All Skaters in a group lift / both Skaters in a pair lift must be skating or gliding as they prepare for the lift. The lift must glide during the rotation. There is no minimum amount of ice coverage required for gliding either before, during or after the rotation.
- The lifted and supporting Skater(s) in a group lift / pair lift must rotate at least 180° and no more than three and one half (3 ½) revolutions once the lifted Skater is in the elevated position.
- The supporting Skaters in a group lift /lifting Skater in a pair lift must turn from forwards to backwards or visa versa using a two-footed three turn or two-footed mohawk like steps.
- All Skaters in a group lift / both Skaters in a pair lift must continue to glide during the exit of the lift. The lift must be “landed” and continue to glide upon “landing”.

d) *Acrobatic Lifts* are not allowed in Synchronized Skating. Acrobatic Lifts are defined as:

Moves in which the Skater is held only by either the blade(s), foot (feet), leg (s) or arm(s) and swung around.

- All lifts where the lifted Skater(s) is in a totally vertical sustained position with the head down are considered as expression of acrobatics and therefore illegal.
- Lifts where the lifted Skater is rotating around herself / himself are allowed, provided there is no sustained, totally vertical position with the head down.
- Lifts performed by only one (1) lifting Skater who fully extends their lifting arms above the head are illegal. However lifts where there are two (2) or more lifting Skaters (group lifts) that use full extension of their lifting arms are allowed.

8. Pair Pivot

A Pair Pivot is executed by two (2) Skaters where one of the Skaters is pivoting with the toe pick in the ice and the supported Skater is gliding around that pivot. Both Skaters must rotate for at least 360°. Any variation of the pivoting Skater is allowed (backward or forward) as long as she/he keeps the pivot position (toe pick in ice) for a minimum of 360°. The supported Skater may be gliding using a variety of positions. These positions may include an upright position, spiral or another position that is not upright. The difficulty of this position will determine the difficulty level of the Pair Pivot.

i. Death Spiral

The Skater executing the Death Spiral must skate on a clean edge with her/his body and head close to the ice surface; however, the Skater must not touch the ice with their head or assist themselves with the free hand or any part of the body. Variations of arm hold and pivot position (backward or forward) are possible.

9. Spins

A spinning movement with at least three (3) revolutions without interruption performed on one (1) foot on the spot (except a cross foot spin) and in the correct position.

a) *Types of Spins*

i. Solo spins:

The Skaters are spinning as individuals on one (1) foot without interruption.

ii. Spin with a change of foot or position:

A spin with a change of foot or position must consist of one (1) change of foot or of one (1) change of position with not less than three (3) revolutions on each foot respective in each position.

iii. Spin combination:

The spin combination must include all three (3) basic positions (sit, camel, upright or any variation thereof) with at least two (2) revolutions in every basic position and only one change of foot with not less than three (3) revolutions on each foot. The change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump. The change of foot and the change of position may be made either at the same time or separately.

iv. Pair spin:

A spin skated by two (2) Skaters performed on the spot around a common axis simultaneously for three (3) revolutions without interruption. This spin must be started and completed on one foot. One or both of the partners may be in different spinning positions, and in any hold.

b) *Types of Spinning Positions*

i. Camel spin:

The Skater remains in a spiral position while rotating. The free leg (including the knee and foot) must be held at hip level or higher.

ii. Sit spin:

The Skater remains in a sit position while rotating. The supporting leg must be bent at least a 90° angle. The thigh of the skating foot must be parallel to the ice surface.

iii. Upright spin:

The Skater is in an upright position spinning a minimum of three (3) revolutions. The arms and free foot may be held in a variety of positions.

c) *Variations of an Upright Spin*

i. Cross foot spin:

An upright spin position where both of Skater's feet are on the ice while spinning. The feet may be crossed in front or behind.

ii. Layback spin:

The Skater must be leaning backwards with the head leaning away from the core axis of the body.

The body must show a definite arch in the back.

iii. Sideways Leaning spin:

The sideways leaning spin must have at least a 45° angle from the torso to be credited.

d) *Difficult Variation of an Upright Spin*

A difficult variation is a movement of the free leg which requires more physical strength, flexibility of the upright spin and therefore has an effect on the balance of the main body core.

i. Biellmann spin (Biellmann position in a spin)

A spin where the Skater's free foot is pulled, by one hand or both, from behind, to a position higher than the head and towards the top of the head close to the central axis of the Skater.

ii. Spiral 135° spin

A spin where the Skater's body remains upright with the free leg held at a 135° angle to the skating leg. The free leg may be held to the front or to the side. The free leg and skating leg should be straight. The free leg may be supported or unsupported.

e) *Flying Spins*

This spin must "fly" during the entry of the spin. No previous rotation on the ice before take-off is permitted. The "flying position" may be executed in any position but all Skaters must be in the same flying position. A three turn executed before the flight does not demonstrate a flying spin. After landing, all Skaters must be in the same and correct spinning position for three (3) revolutions for the spin to be counted.

10. Throw Jumps

Throw Jumps are partner assisted jumps in which one of the Skaters is thrown into the air by another Skater on the take-off and lands without assistance from the partner on a backward outside edge and are considered an Illegal Element.

11. Vault

A vault of not more than one (1) revolution, in which a Skater(s) provides passive assistance to another Skater(s) in a non-lifting manner. The take off must be done by the Skater who vaults. In this action there is a continuous ascending and descending movement, (the vaulting Skater is held off of the ice for less than three (3) seconds), where the vaulting Skater may or may not rotate/revolve. A vault does not resemble a jump. The hands of a Skater(s) providing the passive assistance may rise higher than shoulder level height. Two (2) vaults are allowed in Junior and Senior Free Skating only.

c) **FREE SKATING MOVES**

Free skating moves such as lunges, spirals, Ina Bauers, spread eagles, hydroblading, Biellmann spiral, Charlotte and shoot the duck are examples of free skating moves permitted in Synchronized Skating. Free skating moves are allowed in Elements such as Creative Element, Moves Element, Moves in the Field, or as transitional moves between Elements, or within an Element, to increase the difficulty of transitions and add variety/complexity to the program.

To get credit for performing free skating move(s), each move must be held in the correct position and on the correct edge for at least three (3) seconds.

A free skating move with one (1) change of edge must be held for four (4) seconds. In this case the leading Skater (s) must hold the free skating move for at least two (2) seconds on each edge.

1. *Hydroblading*

The Skaters must show a low sit-like position that is counter balanced, where the supporting leg is bent to at least 90° (parallel to the ice) and the free leg and hands are not resting on the ice surface. The Skaters' torso, including the shoulders, are leaning far in towards the centre of the circle and the free leg is placed to the outside of that circle. The move must be executed on an edge and on one foot.

2. *Ina Bauer*

An Ina Bauer is a two-footed movement in which the Skater travels along the ice with one foot on a forward edge/tracing and the other on a matching backward edge on a different but parallel edge/tracing. An Inside Ina Bauer is considered to be different than an Outside Ina Bauer.

3. *Lunges (forward or backward)*

A Lunge is a movement either forward or backward on an edge or a flat in which a Skater travels along the ice with one supporting leg bent (with at least 90° between the thigh and shin of the skating leg) and other leg directly behind with the boot/blade touching the ice. The Skater's torso may be upright, bent forward, leaning backwards or to the side. The free leg may be straight or bent and may be held to the back or side. The free foot may be in any position.

4. *Shoot the Duck*

The Skaters must show a low position, where the supporting leg is bent to at least 90° (parallel to the ice) and the free leg is not resting on the ice surface. The Skaters' torso may be upright, bent forward. The free leg may be straight or bent and may be held to the front or to the side. The move must be skated on an edge and on one foot.

5. *Spirals*

A Spiral is a glide on a long forward or backward, inside or outside edges in arabesque position. To be counted as a Spiral, the free leg (including knee and foot) must be held at least at hip level or higher than hip level. The position of free leg may be backward, forward or sideways. Spirals executed on a forward edge shall be considered different than Spirals skated on a backward edge.

i. *Biellmann Spiral*

To be called as Biellmann position, the Skater's free foot is pulled from behind to a position higher than the head and towards the top of the head close to the central axis of the Skater. The position needs to be held and maintained for at least 3 seconds. A Biellmann skated on a forward edge shall be considered different than a Biellmann skated on a backward edge.

ii. *Charlotte*

A Charlotte is a glide either forwards or backwards on an edge or a flat. The Skaters' body must bend forward (minimum of 135°) from upright so that the head and chest is "close" to the supporting leg. The free leg and supporting leg should be straight with the free leg extended behind and held at a minimum of 135°. The free leg may be supported or unsupported.

iii. *Spiral with a Change of Edge and Free Leg Position*

A Spiral with a change of edge and free leg position, the free leg must remain at least at hip level or higher as it changes position. The free leg position may change from front, to side, or to the back, or any combination thereof.

iv. *Spiral 135°*

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

v. *Spiral Variation*

A Spiral position either to the front, side or to the back where the free leg is bent and supported (either by the same or another Skater) or unsupported. The free leg must be held higher than hip level (including the knee and foot).

6. *Spread Eagle*

A Spread Eagle is a curving, two-footed movement in which the Skater skates with one foot on a forward edge and the other on a matching backward edge on the same curve (e.g. outside and outside). An Inside Spread Eagle is considered to be different than an Outside Spread Eagle.

d) **POINT OF INTERSECTION**

- The Point of Intersection is defined as the exact point where Skaters pass each other. In the case of a collapsing Intersection (box, triangle etc.) the Point of Intersection is defined as being the area within the shape once the corners have started to intersect and before the Skaters exit the Intersection and pass through at the final corners.
- There are various difficulty groups for the Point of Intersection which are updated in ISU Communications.

5. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES

a) *Back to Back Preparation and Approach*

The Skaters' back (including shoulders and hips) are facing towards the Point of Intersection. Skaters may be skating either forward or backwards. When the Skaters are skating backwards and their shoulders are twisted to face forwards towards the Point of Intersection, the preparation and/or approach will not be considered to be back to back. A pivoting entry with backward skating is also considered to be a back to back preparation and approach as long as the lines pivot more than 90°.

b) *Body Movement*

Body Movement is the use of the body parts (arms, legs, head, torso) when executing the turns and linking steps. The body core must visibly move away from its vertical axis and must be clearly recognized as having an influence on the balance on the blade.

c) *Change of Rotational Direction*

Change of rotational direction refers to such Elements as, a Wheel or a Circle changing from clockwise to anti-clockwise directions. Change of rotational direction must be executed at the same time by all Skaters. The same linking steps/turns, holds and free skating moves must be executed during the change of rotational direction.

- d) *Change of Configuration during a free skating move*
An action where the Skaters must change their arrangement while executing a free skating move. Definition for Configuration – see para 1 b).
- e) *Difficulty of Holds*
A change of hold that will increase or decrease the length of a line, spoke or the size of a circle.
Basket weave, catch, hand, elbow, shoulder and no hold are some examples of different holds that may be used during Synchronized Skating routines.
- f) *Interacting Lines*
An action where two lines change their position in relationship to each other.
- g) *Interacting and Pivoting Line*
Both lines must pivot and interact with each other at all times.
 - All Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns/edges, in the same skating direction, at the same time during pivoting. Small variances/difference in linking steps are only permitted in order to change rotational direction (clockwise or anti-clockwise) when executing turns/linking steps in a mirror pattern.
- h) *Pivoting*
A continuous action where an Element such as a Line or Block turns/rotates around a point. The pivot point may change from one end of a line to the other end. In this case as the pivot point changes ends, it is permitted to progress through the line. All Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns/edges, in the same skating direction, at the same time during pivoting.
- i) *Travel*
An action where a rotating Element such as a Circle or Wheel is caused to move in a given direction or path for a required distance. The rotation and travel must occur at the same time. The path may be curved or straight. All Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns, in the same skating direction, at the same time during traveling.

Rule 904

Duration of Skating

- 1. Short Program:
 - a) Senior and Junior: Two (2) minutes and fifty (50) seconds but may be less.

- b) The timing must be reckoned from the moment that a Skater begins to move (arms, head etc) or to skate until arriving at a complete stop at the end of the program.
 - c) Any Element started after two (2) minutes and fifty (50) seconds will be considered in the marking as omitted and no evaluation will be done.
 - d) If the Team fails to finish the Short Program within the time limit, there shall be a deduction from the Total Score for every five (5) seconds in excess. The deduction will be done by the Referee. The timekeepers must inform the Referee.
2. Free Skating:
- a) Senior: Four (4) minutes and thirty (30) seconds.
 - b) Junior: Four (4) minutes.
 - c) The Team is allowed to finish the Free Skating within ten (10) seconds plus or minus the required time. The timing must be reckoned from the moment that a Skater begins to move (arm, head etc) or to skate until arriving at a complete stop at the end of the program. If the Team fails to finish their program within the allowed range of time, there shall be a deduction from the Total Score for every five (5) seconds lacking or in excess. The deduction will be done by the Referee. The timekeepers must inform the Referee. If the duration of the program is thirty (30) seconds or more under the required time no marks will be awarded. These deductions are not applicable under the Rule 936, paragraph 5. All the Elements started after the required time (plus 10 sec allowed) must not be counted by the Technical Panel and will have no value.
3. For the Short Program and Free Skating, the timing must be reckoned from the moment that a Skater begins to move (arm, head etc) or to skate until arriving at a complete stop at the end of the program. The deduction will be done by the Referee.
4. In the case of a disagreement between the timekeeper, Referee and the Scoreboard time, the time given by the Referee will be the official time.

B. Short Program

Rule 905

Short Program Senior and Junior

1. a) Senior Short Program consists of a maximum of six (6) required Elements.
Junior Short Program consists of a maximum of six (6) required Elements. The sequence of Elements is optional.
- b) In the Short Program, Block Step Sequence Element/BSS and Circle Step Sequence Element/CSS must include and meet the requirements for Step Sequence Element. The No Hold Element/NHE must include and meet the requirements for the Step Sequence Feature (see Rule 903 paragraph 4 a) i).
- c) Free skating moves (such as lunges, spirals, Ina Bauers, spread eagles, hydroblading, shoot the duck) are not considered as linking steps but may be used as identifiable / recognizable connecting movements during transitions and as a short free skating move (less than 3 sec) during the Step Sequence Elements and Step Sequence Feature.
- d) The Team must use a variety of holds. A minimum of three (3) different clearly recognizable holds is required in Junior and Senior Short Programs. The holds may be done either in Elements or transitions.
- e) Any music including vocal music using lyrics is permitted. However, the Teams must skate the program in time to the music. Additions of the sounds of applause or cheers are not permitted.
- f) Un-prescribed or additional Elements or repetitions, of Elements which have failed, are not allowed and will not be marked and a deduction must be made from the total score if any of those Elements are included.
- g) Transitions necessary to link the required Elements are permitted.
- h) Some Features and Additional Features/Extra Features will be prescribed for each Element in a Short Program. Features and Additional Features/Extra Features other than those required for each Element in Short Program may not be taken into consideration when determining the level of an Element. Features, Additional Features and Extra Features that are not permitted will receive a deduction if included. This deduction will be taken from the Element score. (See current ISU Communication).
- i) Creative innovations and variations are not Additional Features/Extra Features and are permitted in the transitions and required Elements in the Junior and Senior Short Program; Creative innovations will be reflected in the Program Components.

- j) The choreography and Elements should be executed facing towards all sides of the ice rink and not excessively facing one side only.
- k) Mirror Image Pattern is permitted in the Elements and transitions in the Short Program. (See Rule 903 paragraph 4.a)

2. **Junior and Senior Short Program**

The required Elements for the Junior and Senior Short Program will be selected each season from the following list of Synchronized Skating Elements and will be published annually in an ISU Communication not later than April 1st.

- I. Block Element
- II. Block Step Sequence Element
- III. Choreographic Element
- IV. Circle Element
- V. Circle Step Sequence Element
- VI. Creative Element (*replaces Movements in Isolation*)
- VII. Intersection Element
- VIII. Line Element
- IX. Moves in the Field Element
- X. No Hold Element
- XI. Pair Element
- XII. Spin Element
- XIII. Moves Element
- XIV. Wheel Element

3. **Criteria for Junior and Senior Short Program Elements**

The detailed Criteria for the requirements of Short Program Elements will be updated together with Features and Additional Features/Extra Features annually by August 15th and published in an ISU Communication.

Rule 906 Scoring of Short Program

1. **Technical Score**

In the Synchronized Skating Short Program the first score is the Technical Score. The total of the Elements' Base Values, taking into consideration all Features and Additional Features/Extra Features including the Grade of Execution will give the Technical Score (see Rule 903 paragraph 4, 5).

2. **Scale of Value of Elements (SOV) / Base Values for Levels of Elements**

The Scale of Values Table of the Synchronized Skating Elements will be updated and published in ISU Communications. The Scale of Values (SOV) Table contains Base Values of all the Elements with their respective Features

(Base Values for Levels of Elements) and adjustments for the quality of their execution (Grade of Execution).

3. Levels of Elements

The Base Values of Levels are measured in points and increase with increasing of the Elements and features difficulty.

The Base Values for the Levels of Elements is determined by combining the Difficulty Groups of Elements (with their Additional Features/Extra Features) and the Difficulty Groups of the Features. There are several Levels for each Element, except for the Choreographic Element and the Creative Element. Technical Specialists will determine the name and the difficulty group of every Element with their Additional Features/Extra features and the Difficulty Group of Features included in that Element (see Rule 906 paragraph 4, 5). The Choreographic Element and Creative Element will be awarded a fixed Base Value as long as the criteria is met. The Technical Specialist determines if the Choreographic Element and the Creative Element met the criteria and will be awarded the fixed Base Value. The description of characteristics that give an Element a certain Level of difficulty is updated and published in ISU Communications.

4. Grade of Execution (GOE)

Every Judge will mark the quality of execution of each performed Element including Step Sequence Elements depending on the positive features of the execution and errors on the seven (7) grades of execution scale: +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3. For this, he evaluates first the positive features of the Element that might increase the Base Value to a + Value and then reduces the result because of errors if any of these are committed.

Each + or - grade has its own + or - numerical value indicated in the Scale of Value (SOV) chart. This value is added to the Base Value of the Element (or deducted from it).

The guidelines for the GOE determination will be updated and published in ISU Communications.

5. Features/Additional Features/Extra Features

The Features (Step Sequences, free skating moves/elements, Point of Intersection) are divided into the groups according to their difficulty (see Rule 903 paragraph 4.)

Examples of some Features are included in the difficulty levels for the following Elements in Short Program and called by the Technical Specialists:

ELEMENTS

Intersection:

Moves in the Field:

No Hold Element:

FEATURES

Point of Intersection

Free Skating Moves

Step Sequence

Additional Features:

Examples of some Additional Features are body movement, change of configuration, change of rotational direction, pivoting, traveling etc. (See Rule 903 paragraph 5)

Extra Features:

Examples of some Extra Features are: weaving (during traveling in a Circle), Toe Steps or Dance Jumps (during No Hold Element) etc.

6. Scale of Values (SOV) of the Synchronized Skating Elements

Scale of Values Table in Short Program will be yearly updated and published in the ISU Communication.

7. Program Component Score

a) Definition of Program Components

In addition to the Technical Score, each of the Judges will evaluate the Team's whole performance which is divided into five (5) Program Components: Skating Skills, Transitions (Linking Steps and Formations), Performance/ Execution, Choreography/Composition, Interpretation of the music.

i) Skating Skills:

Overall skating quality: edge control and flow over the ice surface demonstrated by a command of the skating vocabulary (edges, steps, turns etc), the clarity of technique and the use of effortless power to accelerate and very speed.

In evaluating Skating Skills, the following must be considered:

- Balance, rhythmic knee action and precision of foot placement
- Flow and effortless glide
- Cleanness and sureness of deep edges, steps and turns
- Power/energy and acceleration
- Multi directional skating
- One foot skating
- Balance in skating ability of individual Skaters

ii) Transitions (Linking Steps, Formations and other connecting Elements):

The varied and/or intricate footwork (steps) and formations linking all Synchronized Skating Elements which also include the entrances and exits of Elements. The transitions can also be seamless and fast.

In evaluating the Transitions, the following must be considered:

- Variety

- Difficulty
- Quality (including Unison)
- Complexity
- Variation of speed of linking steps/formations
- Variation of changes of directions and holds
- Difficulty and Variety of entrances/exits from Elements/
preparation phase

iii) Performance/Execution:

Performance: is the involvement of the Teams (Skaters) physically, emotionally and intellectually as they translate the intent of the music and choreography.

Execution: is the quality of movement and precision in delivery. This also includes a harmony of movements.

In evaluating the Performance/Execution, the following must be considered:

- Physical, emotional and intellectual involvement
- Carriage and body alignment
- Style and Teams personality
- Clarity of movements
- Variety and Contrast
- Projection
- Unison, Synchronization and spatial awareness
- Balance in performance within a Team; relationship between Skaters

iv) Choreography/Composition:

An intentional, developed and/or original arrangement of all types of movements, transitions and Elements according to the principles of proportion, unity, space, pattern, structure and phrasing.

In evaluating the Choreography/Composition, the following must be considered:

- Purpose (idea, concept, vision)
- Proportion (equal weight of parts)
- Unity (purposeful threading)
- Utilization of personal and public space
- Pattern and ice coverage
- Phrasing and form (movements and parts structured to match the phrasing of the music)
- Originality of purpose, movements and design
- Shared responsibility in achieving purpose

- Excessive facing towards one side of the rink. The choreography must be prepared so that Elements will be executed facing all sides of the rink and not excessively facing only one side of the rink

v) Interpretation of the music:

The personal and creative translation of the music to movements on ice.

In evaluating the Interpretation of the music, the following must be considered:

- Effortless movements in time to the music (timing)
- Expression of the music style, character and rhythm
- Use of *finesse to reflect the nuances of the music
- Relationship between the Skaters reflecting the character of the music

*Finesse is the Team's refined, artful manipulation of nuances. Nuances are the personal artistic ways of bringing subtle variations to the intensity, tempo, and dynamics of the music made by the composer and/or musicians.

b) Marking of Program Components

Program Components are evaluated by Judges after completion of a program on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with increments of 0.25. Points given by the Judges correspond to the following degrees of the Components:

1 - very poor, 2 - poor, 3 - weak, 4 - fair, 5 - average, 6 - above average, 7 - good, 8 - very good, 9 - superior, 10 - outstanding. Increments are used for evaluation of performances containing some features of one degree and some of the next degree.

Guidelines for judging are updated and published in ISU Communications.

8. Deductions, Reductions in Short Program:

Deductions and Reductions for the Short Program will be updated yearly and published in an ISU Communication.

- a) Reductions for breaks, stumbles, falls and collisions in the required Elements in Short Program will be made by Judges in the Grade of Execution (GOE).
- b) Further deductions for a fall in any part of the program (required Elements and transitions) will be identified and confirmed by the Technical Panel.

Deduction -1.0 for every fall of one Skater and -2.0 for every fall of more than one Skater; if the fall causes interruptions to the program that exceed 10 seconds, additional deductions will be applied (see paragraph 8 e).

For an interpretation of paragraph 8a) and 8b), a fall is defined as the loss of control by a Skater with the result that the majority of his own body weight is on the ice being supported by any other part of the body other than the blades, e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.

- c) Elements, which do not fulfill the requirements, will be penalized. Deductions/Reductions for "not according to requirements" will be made from the total points for the respective Element or from the Grade of Execution (GOE). Those deductions will be identified and given by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller. The reductions will be identified and given by the Judge. Features, Additional Features, Extra Features, incorrect configurations and Variations which are not permitted will receive a deduction that will be published in an ISU Communication for Deductions and Reduction Guidelines.
- d) Deductions for the non-permitted movements (See rule 906 paragraph 10), un-prescribed Elements, Additional Elements or repetition of Elements and Illegal Elements will be made from the Total Score by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller. The deduction for non-permitted movements, un-prescribed Elements, Additional Element or repetition of Elements is -1.5 and for an Illegal Element is -2.0.
- e) Deductions made by the Referee (for costume excessive sub-grouping, excessive division into small groups and make-up together with the Judges Panel) from the Total Score for each violation will be as follows:
- Costume (including use of feathers as part of the costume and headpieces) and Make-up violation: -1.0
 - Music violation: -1.0
 - Program time violation: -1.0 for every five (5) seconds in excess
 - Holds (not according to requirements) according to Rule 905 paragraph 1 d): -1.0 up to -2.0
 - Excessive division into small groups (Except for the Creative Element and transitions in Free Skating) and sub-grouping more than ½ of the program: -2.0
 - The choreography and Elements excessively facing one side; -2.0
 - Deductions for an interruption of a program (caused by a stumble or fall) :
deduction -1.0 (for 11 - 20 seconds interruption) and
deduction -2.0 (for 21 - 30 seconds interruption) etc.
- f) Every failure in the required Elements must be reflected only in the Technical Score according to the importance of the Element failed or

omitted and the gravity of the mistake itself, since there is no direct relationship between the Technical Score and the Program Component Score. However, deductions for failures must be made in the Program Component Scores if other Program Components are involved.

An Element and Feature and Additional Feature/Extra Feature is omitted when it is not tried.

9. Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features and Movements

Senior and Junior Short Program

- i. throw jumps
- ii. illegal lifts as defined in Rule 903, paragraph 7 d
- iii. intersections incorporating back spirals (*including Moves in the Field and Moves Element*)
- iv. flying camel spin executed by the entire Team

When Illegal Elements, Features, Additional Features and movements are included, a deduction will be made from the Total Score by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller (see Rule 906 para 8d).

10. Non- permitted Elements / Features, Additional Features / Extra Features and movements in a Junior and Senior Short Program

- i. lifts of any variety
- ii. vaults
- iii. assisted jumps
- iv. any jump of one (1) revolution or more performed by the entire Team
- v. prolonged (*longer than three (3) seconds*) lying or kneeling (*on one (1) or both knees*) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program
- vi. jumps at the point of intersection
- vii. highlighting (*see Rule 903, paragraph 1i)*) (*permitted only in the Creative Element and during transitions in the Free Skating only*)

When Non-permitted Elements, Features, Additional Features / Extra Features or movements are included, a deduction will be made from the Total Score by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller (see Rule 906 paragraph d).

Rules 907–910 (reserved)

C. Free Skating

Rule 911

Free Skating Senior, Junior and Novice

1. General:

- a) Free Skating consists of a Well Balanced program composed of Elements and other linking movements reflecting the character of the music and/or expressing a concept, story, theme or idea of the Team's own choice. A good program contains Elements such as Blocks, Circles, Creative Element, Intersections, Lines, Moves in the Field, Pair Element, Spin Element and Wheels etc. linked together harmoniously by a variety of transitions and executed with a minimum of two footed skating. Synchronized Skating refers to the quality of skating, importance of unison, the accuracy of formations and preciseness of the Team, all incorporated into a program of a specified time limit.
- b) Other Elements may be incorporated into the Free Skating program and will be judged as transitions and / or choreography components.
- c) Features and Additional Features/Extra Features are optional in a Free Skating Well Balanced program. In order to increase the difficulty of the required Elements in Free Skating, Features and Additional Features/Extra Features may be incorporated into the Free Skating Elements and will be called by the Technical Panel and evaluated by the Judges. Step Sequence Feature is permitted in Elements (including Block and Circle) but the turns used will not be counted towards the levels of the Elements. Only Step Sequence in the Step Sequence Elements (Block Step Sequence/BSS, Circle Step Sequence/CSS) will be counted towards the levels of those Elements.
- d) Step Sequences of a complex variety may be used both in the Elements and during transitions. Those Step Sequences must be clearly recognizable and may not incorporate more than one (1) cross-over in a row (see Rule 903 paragraph 4. a).
- e) Turns and linking steps may be used during Element.
- f) During the Step Sequence all Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns/edges in the same skating direction at the same time.
- g) Adding Additional Features to a Step Sequence will move a Step Sequence to a higher group of difficulty.
- h) Mirror Image Pattern (is permitted in Elements and transitions in Free Skating).
 - Step Sequence Elements/Feature - Mirror Image Pattern is permitted at any time during a Step Sequence in a Block Step Sequence Element, Circle Step Sequence Element and during the Step Sequence Feature in a No Hold Element. The turns

executed during the Mirror Image Pattern will not be counted as part of the level of the Block Step Sequence Element, Circle Step Sequence Element and No Hold Element. A Mirror Image Pattern will not interrupt the Step Sequence Feature or Step Sequence Element.

- i) The Team must use a variety of holds. Three (3) different clearly recognizable holds are required in Junior Free Skating and four (4) different clearly recognizable holds in Senior Free Skating. The holds may be done either in Elements or transitions.
- j) Lifts may be used in Senior Free Skating but limited to a maximum of three (3) lifts. One (1) of those three lifts may be a pair lift where and the remaining two (2) lifts may be group lifts or all (3) lifts may be group lifts. (See Rule 903 4b), 7a) and b).
- k) Vaults may be used in Senior and Junior Free Skating but limited to a maximum of two (2) Vaults.
- l) The choreography and Elements must be executed facing towards all sides of the rink and not excessively facing one side, otherwise the deduction -2.0 will be done by the Referee.
- m) The Team must predominately act as one unit. Division of the Team into several units is allowed during the Creative Element and transitions. Additionally several units can be used as short transitions if the Element following the transition so requires (i.e. preparation for an Intersection or beginning of a Creative Element). Excessive division into small groups without the reasons mentioned above is not according to the requirements and deduction -2.0 will be given by the Referee together with the Judges Panel. Also deduction -2.0 should be applied by the Referee together with the Judges Panel, if more than ½ of the program is sub-grouping.
- n) Syncopated choreography may be used (other than in the Step Sequence Feature and Step Sequence Elements or Additional Features where correctly executed turns/edges are required to determine the difficulty level). (Syncopating choreography means that the Skaters are performing the same moves but with time delay, for example half of the Team at one music phrase and the second half at the next music phrase).
- o) Any music including vocal music using lyrics is permitted. However, the Teams must skate the program in time to the music. Additions of the sounds of applause or cheers are not permitted.
- p) The programs not fulfilling the above mentioned requirements will be penalized.
- q) Creative innovations and variations are not Additional Features/Extra Features. Creative innovations are permitted in transitions and Elements during Free Skating and will be reflected in the Program Components.

2. Novice, Junior and Senior Well Balanced Program

Novice, Junior and Senior Free Skating programs may consist of a maximum number of the following Elements as published annually in an ISU Communication no later than April 1st.

<u>Senior:</u>	<u>Maximum of eleven (11) Elements</u>
<u>Junior:</u>	<u>Maximum of ten (10) Elements</u>
<u>Novice:</u>	<u>Maximum of nine (9) Elements</u>

- I. Block Element
- II. Block Step Sequence Element
- III. Choreographic Element
- IV. Circle Element
- V. Circle Step Sequence Element
- VI. Creative Element (*replaces Movements in Isolation*)
- VII. Group Lift Element
- VIII. Intersection Element
- IX. Line Element
- X. Moves Element
- XI. Moves in the Field Element
- XII. No Hold Element
- XIII. Pair Element
- XIV. Spin Element
- XV. Wheel Element

3. Element descriptions and Criteria for Junior and Senior Short Program (see Rule 905 paragraph 2) and Novice, Junior and Senior Free Skating Well Balanced program Elements

The detailed Criteria for the requirements of Novice, Junior and Senior Free Skating Well Balanced program Elements will be updated together with Features and Additional Features/Extra Features, annually by August 15th and published in an ISU Communication.

I. BLOCK ELEMENT

a) The Block Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Block Element begins once the shape is recognized and all Skaters are lined up in the configuration.
- A block configuration must have a minimum of three (3) lines.
- Linking steps/turns may be included.
- Different heights and free leg extensions may be used.
- Dance jumps and free skating moves are allowed but not required.
- Free skating moves, if used, must be done at the same time in all lines but need not be the same by all Skaters.

- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted during the Block Element (see Additional Features for requirements).
- Variety of different holds may be used. The holds may be the same or different at the same time.
- All Skaters must be attached (for most of the time).
- The Block Element ends when the block configuration is broken by the transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

During the Block Element all skaters must cover at least ½ of the length of the ice surface, or a comparable distance, for the Block Element to be counted.

Pattern: Any type of pattern may be used (example: straight line, diagonal, circular, serpentine or any variety thereof).

II. BLOCK STEP SEQUENCE ELEMENT / BSS

a) The Block Step Sequence Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Element begins when all Skaters are in the block configuration.
- The BSS must not be skated as part of or attached to the Block Element.
- The block configuration must be a closed block.
- The block must consist of at least three (3) lines.
- There must be at least three (3) Skaters in a line.
- Any configuration is permitted as long as they meet the above criteria.
- Pivoting is permitted.
- Changes of configuration are permitted.
- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted but the turns used during the Mirror Image will not be counted towards the level of the Block Step Sequence Element.
- All Skaters must be using a hold while executing the Block Step Sequence Element. The hold may be the same hold or different at the same time.
- All Skaters must be attached or re-grasp following each turn (for most of the time).
- For requirements of Step Sequence see Rule 903 paragraph 4.a).
- The Block Step Sequence Element ends when the block configuration is broken by the transition into a different Element or if two (2) crossovers in a row are executed.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern requirements:

- There is no minimum amount of ice coverage required.
- Must not resemble the No Hold Element in a block configuration.

III. CHOREOGRAPHIC ELEMENT

a) The Choreographic Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Choreographic Element will be selected from other basic Synchronized Skating Elements and communicated each season with the requirements.
- The Choreographic Element will have a fixed base value and evaluated by the judges with GOE only.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern requirements:

- See Communication for the selected Element details.

IV. CIRCLE ELEMENT

a) The Circle Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Circle Element begins once the circle is recognized and starts to rotate with all Skaters participating in the configuration.
- Any configuration may be used.
- There may be a maximum of three (3) circles.
- A circle must have a minimum of four (4) Skaters.
- Linking steps/turns may be included.
- Dance jumps and free skating moves are allowed but not required.
- Variety of different holds may be used. The holds may be the same or different at the same time.
- The Circle Element ends when the configuration is broken, stops rotating and begins a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

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

V. CIRCLE STEP SEQUENCE ELEMENT / CSS

a) The Circle Step Sequence Element must meet the following criteria:

- The CSS must not be skated as part of or attached to the Circle Element.
- Turns must be executed while the Skaters are in the required configuration which will be written in an ISU Communication when the CSS is the selected Element for the season.
- Other configurations (a maximum of three (3) circles) are permitted but turns executed within the other circles will not be counted.
- The CSS may be executed either with a hold or with a no hold or a combination of both.

- The holds may be the same or different. ie: some of the Skaters may be attached to each other while others are not. (ie in pairs, or in lines of 4 Skaters etc.)
- The Skaters/pairs/lines may pass each other.
- The Circle Step Sequence Element begins when all Skaters are in the circle configuration.
- The Circle Step Sequence Element may rotate in either a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction or a combination of both.
- Change of rotational direction is permitted.
- All Skaters may or may not be attached following each turn.
- Mirror image Pattern is permitted, however those turns executed while in a Mirror Image Pattern will not be counted towards the level of the Circle Step Sequence Element.
- For requirements of Step Sequence (see Rule 903 paragraph 4.a).
- The Circle Step Sequence Element ends when the circle configuration is broken by the transition into a different Element, or if two (2) crossovers in a row are executed.

b) Ice Coverage / Pattern Requirements:

- There is no minimum amount of ice coverage required.
- There is no restriction of the circle size.

VI. CREATIVE ELEMENT

a) The Creative Element must meet the following criteria

- The Creative Element begins with the transition from the previous Element and ends with the transition into the next Element.
- The Creative Element is a presentation of one (1) or more creative and innovative movements, free skating elements and/or moves made in an interesting manner which reflects the music. Any Synchronized Skating program Elements may be incorporated into the Creative Element.
- The use of different levels, sub-grouping and/or highlighting is permitted in order to enhance the choreography and music.
- All Skaters must participate in the Element, but all Skaters are not required to execute an fe/fm.
- The chosen movements may be executed at the same time, in syncopation, or at different times, and may be performed as individual Skaters, pairs, or groups of any size.
- The Skater(s) may stop or become stationary at any time during the Element, however this stopping should be reflective and enhancing of the musical structure. The GOE and/or Program Component marks will be reduced if the amount of stationary time is prolonged.

- The length of time to perform this Element will vary depending on the content and structure of the Element. There is no maximum or minimum amount of time.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements

The Team may use the entire ice surface to prepare and execute the fe/fm's in the Creative Element. There is no minimum amount of ice coverage required.

Junior: Group Lifts / Pair Lifts are not permitted

Novice: Group Lifts / Pair Lifts and Vaults are not permitted

VII. GROUP LIFT ELEMENT

a) The Group Lift Element must meet the following criteria

- Group Lift Element will consist of either:
 - one (1) group lift plus free skating element(s) executed by all of the remaining Skaters
 - or two (2) group lifts plus free skating element(s) executed by all of the remaining Skaters
 - or three (3) group lifts plus free skating element(s) executed by all of the remaining Skater
 - or four (4) group lifts
- The Group Lift Element begins once the Skaters begin to form their group for the lift.
- All Skaters must participate in a Group Lift Element either by being the lifted Skater, by supporting the lifted Skater or by executing a free skating element.
- There must be at least three (3) Skaters in a group lift.
- The group lifts may be the same or different when executing two (2) or more group lifts:
 - In all group lifts the position of the lifted Skater may be the same or different
 - The group lifts must ascend at the same time but may exit in a syncopated manner
 - The group lifts may be stationary or gliding
 - The group lifts may or may not rotate. The rotations if included may be executed in a Mirror Image Pattern
 - Additional Features and Extra Features are permitted
 - If the group lifts includes Additional or Extra Features then all lifts must execute them at the same time
- The group lift must meet the definition for group lifts (see Rule 903 paragraph 4.b) 7).
- The free skating element(s), executed by the remaining Skaters not participating in the lift, may be the same or different and executed at approximately the same time as the lift.

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

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements

- Any pattern may be skated.
- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted.
- The Element may begin and end anywhere on the ice surface.
- There is no minimum requirement or restriction as to the amount of ice the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the Group Lift(s) or free skating element(s).

VIII. INTERSECTION ELEMENT

a) The Intersection Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Intersection Element begins once the Skaters begin the preparation phase of the Intersection.
- The Skaters may pass each other simultaneously or separately as long as every Skater is involved in the Intersection.
- Collapsing Intersections are Intersection Elements where Skaters pass each other at different times. All Skaters must intersect. Examples of a collapsing type of Intersection are box and triangle. When using multiple lines the number of Skaters in each of the lines must be as equal as possible.

Examples:

- Whip intersection
- On a Team of sixteen (16) Skaters each line must have eight (8) Skaters.
- Triangle intersection
- On a Team of sixteen (16) Skaters each line has five (5), five (5) and six (6) Skaters.
- Combined Intersection. An intersection that combines rotating Element(s) such as a circle(s) and/or wheel(s) either with line(s) or rotating Element(s) such as a circle(s) and/or wheel(s). There must be at least six (6) Skaters in a circle, three (3) Skaters in a spoke and five (5) Skaters in a line.
- All Skaters may execute the same turns/linking steps at the point of intersection OR if one half of the Team executes the same turns/linking steps at the point of intersection then the other half of the Team may execute a different turn/linking steps.
- Back spirals during intersection are illegal.
- The Intersection Element ends after the exit phase of the intersection (Phase 4) and upon the start of the transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

b) Phases of an Intersection Element:

Intersection Elements have been described using four (4) phases. Each of these four (4) phases must be included and executed correctly.

Phase 1 – Preparation

Phase 2 – Approach

Phase 3 – Point of Intersection

Phase 4 – Exit of Intersection

Phase 1: Preparation

- The preparation phase is defined as establishing the shape of the Intersection. The shape of the Intersection must be maintained before the Point of Intersection. There is no required length of time that each shape must be held.

Phase 2: Approach

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

Phase 3: Point of Intersection (see definition Rule 903 paragraph 1. 1)

Phase 4: Exit of Intersection

- The exit phase of the Intersection is defined as the moment following the Point of Intersection.
- The shape of the Intersection must be maintained after the Point of Intersection.

c) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

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

IX. LINE ELEMENT

a) The Line Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Line Element begins once the shape is recognized and all Skaters are participating in the configuration.
- Line(s) may move horizontally, diagonally and/or vertically.
- Some minor deviation in the straight line(s) is permitted when changing from horizontal, vertical or reverse.
- There may be one (1) line or two (2) lines.
- If there are two (2) lines, these two (2) lines may be joined or separate and may pass by each other.
- The number of Skaters in each line must be as equal as possible.
- Dance jumps and free skating moves are allowed but not required.
- Variety of different holds may be used. The holds may be the same or different at the same time.
- The Line Element ends when the line(s) breaks apart upon the start of a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

- The Line Element must cover at least the $\frac{1}{2}$ of the ice surface or comparable distance to be counted.
- The Line may begin anywhere on the ice surface.
- Retrogression, Mirror Image Pattern etc. is permitted.

X. MOVES ELEMENT

a) The Move Element must meet the following criteria:

- This Element consists of one (1) free skating movement that will be determined each season when this Element is selected. See ISU Communication for requirements.
- All Skaters must execute the same free skating move, in the same skating direction, on the same edge at the same time (forwards or backwards, inside or outside edge, feet may be different if using Mirror Image Pattern) (including free skating moves with changes of edge).
- The free skating move must meet the requirements to be counted.
- Any formation(s) is permitted.
- Any transition, including transitions resembling an Intersection are permitted even during the free skating move (see Rule 906 paragraph 9 and Rule 912 paragraph 9 for Illegal Elements).
- Variety of different holds may be used. The holds may be the same or different at the same time.
- Any Additional Features are permitted.
- The Element ends with the completion of the free skating move.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

- Any curved pattern may be skated.
- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted.
- The Element may begin and end anywhere on the ice surface.
- There is no restriction as to the amount of ice the Skaters cover while executing the Move Element.

XI. MOVES IN THE FIELD ELEMENT

a) Moves in the Field Element must meet the following criteria:

- This Element is a sequence of free skating moves that must not be repeated and which may be connected with linking steps/turns. (See ISU Communication)
- A free skating move on an inside edge is considered as a different free skating move than the same free skating move on an outside edge.
- Forward and backward free skating moves are considered as different.
- A free skating move with one (1) change of edge is considered different than a free skating move with two (2) changes of edge.
- The Element begins with the first free skating move.
- Any formation(s) is permitted.

- Any transition, including transitions resembling an Intersection are permitted even during the free skating move. (see Rule 906 paragraph 9 and Rule 912 paragraph 9 for Illegal Elements).
- All Skaters must perform a free skating move at the same time.
- One part of the Team may perform one (1) type of a free skating move and another part of the Team may perform another type of a free skating move. Up to four (4) different free skating moves (either the same or different levels) executed at the same time will be permitted. In this case, the lowest level free skating move will be counted and none of the free skating moves may be repeated.
- Variety of different holds may be used. The holds may be the same or different at the same time.
- The Moves in the Field Element ends with the completion of the final free skating move.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

- Any pattern is permitted.
- The Element may begin and end anywhere on the ice surface. There is no restriction as to the amount of ice the Skaters cover while preparing for and executing the free skating move.
- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted (see paragraph a) above).

XII. NO HOLD ELEMENT (NHE)

The No Hold Element includes a Feature (Step Sequence Feature) executed with a no hold. The No Hold Element may be executed in either a block or circle configuration which will be chosen each season and written in an ISU Communication.

a) The No Hold Element must start and end in a no hold.

- During the No Hold Element, all Skaters must execute the same linking steps/turns/edges in the same skating direction, at the same time, except during free skating moves.
- Creative innovations and variations are permitted within the No Hold Element.

i) The No Hold Element executed in a block configuration must meet the following criteria:

The No Hold Element begins once the block configuration is formed at one end of the ice surface in a no hold. The block configuration must start at any place along and close to the short barrier at one end of the ice surface and ends at any place along and close to the opposite short barrier.

- The No Hold Element executed in a block configuration must be a closed block.

- The closed block must consist of four (4) Skaters in four (4) lines on a Team of sixteen (16) Skaters.
- A change of configuration is not permitted in the block configuration.
- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted, but the turns used during the Mirror Image Pattern will not be counted towards the level of the Step Sequence Feature.

ii) The No Hold Element executed in a circle configuration must meet the following criteria:

The No Hold Element begins once the circle configuration is formed and all Skaters are in a circle configuration without a hold and ends when there is a hold or when the circle configuration breaks apart upon the start of a transition into a different Element or transitional Element.

- The No Hold Element in a circle configuration, if included in the Well Balanced Program, must be executed in the configuration which will be chosen and written in the ISU Communication.
- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted in the No Hold Element.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

- Mirror Image Pattern is permitted, but the turns used during the Mirror Image Pattern will not be counted towards the level of the Step Sequence Feature.

i) The No Hold Element executed in a block configuration:

- All Skaters must cover ½ of the length of the ice surface or comparable distance. The Element begins at any place along one end of the ice surface, close to the short barrier and ends any place along and close to the opposite short barrier.
- The Step Sequence Feature in a block configuration has no minimum ice coverage requirement.

Pattern

The pattern is the Teams choice but must start and end as described above.

- Changes of axis are permitted
- Retrogression is permitted

ii) The No Hold Element executed in a circle configuration:

- All Skaters must rotate at least a minimum of 360° in one (1) direction or comparable distance if both clockwise and anti-clockwise directions are used
- The circle may rotate in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction or a combination of both
- The Step Sequence Feature has no minimum requirement for ice coverage.

XIII. PAIR ELEMENT

a) The Pair Element must meet the following criteria:

- This Element consists of eight (8) pairs on a Team of sixteen (16) Skaters
- In case of injury (see Rule 701 paragraph 3.(f)) - a minimum of seven (7) pairs or seven (7) pairs + one (1) solo Skater would be accepted.
- The Pair Element begins once the eight (8) pairs are formed.
- The pairs must act as a unit.
- The pairs are permitted to intersect or pass each other.
- If three (3) pairs fail to attempt the Element then the Pair Element will not be counted.
- The Pair Element ends once the eight (8) pairs break apart.

b) **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- There is no minimum or maximum ice coverage requirement.
- Any configuration / formation is allowed.
- Any pattern is allowed.

XIV. SPIN ELEMENT

a) **The Spin Element must meet the following criteria:**

- The Spin Element begins with the entry edge into the spin.
- Any solo or pair spins can be used.
- All Skaters must perform the same spin at the same time.
- Variations of the head, arms or free leg as well as fluctuations of speed are permitted as long as it is executed at the same time by all Skaters.
- Each Skater / pair must rotate at least three (3) revolutions (or meet the criteria established for the spin).
- The rotation of the spin can be clockwise, anti-clockwise or a combination of both directions.
- The movements of the Skaters during all the phases of approaching, spinning and exiting from the spin should be completely synchronized.
- Entry and exit from a spin must be done at the same time by all Skaters and clearly recognizable.
- Flying camel spins are illegal when executed by the entire Team.
- The Spin Element ends when the Skaters stop spinning and exit the spin (exit edge included).

a) **Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:**

- There is no minimum or maximum ice coverage requirement.
- Any formation is permitted.

XV. WHEEL ELEMENT

a) The Wheel Element must meet the following criteria:

- The Wheel Element begins once the configuration is recognized and starts to rotate with all Skaters participating in the configuration.
- Skaters may leave and rejoin the Wheel (for creativity) as long as the number of required Skaters in a spoke is maintained and the Wheel continues to rotate. ALL Skaters must be joined to a spoke during Additional or Extra Features for these to be counted.
- Only one (1) Wheel may be executed to a maximum of three (3) separate Wheels executed at the same time.
- If there are two (2) or more Wheels, there must be at least three (3) Skaters in each spoke for a Team of sixteen (16) Skaters.
- In a basic wheel shape the Skaters nearest the pivot point may or may not be joined at the centre of the wheel.
- Variety of different holds may be used. The holds may be the same or different.
- The Skaters within the spokes may or may not be joined.
- Spokes may be straight, curved or of different lengths.
- A variation of a wheel configuration is defined as: a deviation of a basic wheel shape where Skaters are attached to the wheel or a spoke and rotating around a pivot point.
- Basic Wheel shapes are defined as follows:
 - One (1), two (2) (or “S” wheel), three (3), four (4), or five (5) spoke Wheel
 - Interlocking Wheels
 - Two (2) - line parallel Wheel
- Dance jumps and free skating moves are allowed but not required.
- The Wheel Element ends when the wheel configuration is broken, stops rotating and begins a transition into a different Element.

b) Ice Coverage/Pattern Requirements:

- To fulfill the requirements for the Wheel Element, a Wheel must rotate at least 360°.
- A Wheel must rotate after a change of rotational direction.
 - It is not necessary to maintain the same wheel configuration after a change of rotational direction if changing the configuration at the same time.
 - It is necessary to keep the same wheel configuration after a change of rotational direction if there is no change of configuration.

Rule 912

Marking of Free Skating

1. Technical Score

In the Synchronized Skating Free Skating the first score is the Technical Score. The total of the Elements' values including the Grade of Execution and Features and Additional Features/Extra Features (applicable in Synchronized Skating) will give the Technical Score (see Rule 903 paragraph 4, 5).

2. Scale of Value of Elements (SOV) / Base Values for Levels of Elements

The Scale of Values Table of the Synchronized Skating Elements will be updated and published in ISU Communications. The Scale of Values (SOV) Table contains Base Values of all the Elements with their respective Features (Base Values for Levels of Elements) and adjustments for the quality of their execution (Grade of Execution).

3. Levels of Elements

The Base Values of Levels are measured in points and increase with increasing of the Elements and features difficulty.

The Base Values for the Levels of Elements is determined by combining the Difficulty Groups of Elements (with their Additional Features/Extra Features) and the Difficulty Groups of the Features.

There are several Levels for each Element, except for the Choreographic Element and Creative Element. Technical Specialists will determine the name and the difficulty group of every Element with their Additional Features/Extra Features and the Difficulty Group of Features included in that Element (see Rule 912 paragraph 5). The Choreographic Element and Creative Element will be awarded a fixed Base Value as long as the criteria is met. The Technical Specialist determines if the Choreographic Element and the Creative Element met the criteria and will be awarded the fixed Base Value.

4. Grade of Execution (GOE)

Every Judge will mark the quality of execution of each performed Element depending on the positive features of the execution and errors on the seven (7) Grades of Execution scale: +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3.

For this, he evaluates first the positive features of the Element that might increase the Base Value to a + Value and then reduces the result because of errors if any of these are committed.

Each + or - grade has its own + or - numerical value indicated in the Scale of Value (SOV) Chart. This value is added to the Base Value of the Element (or deducted from it).

The guidelines for the GOE determination will be updated and published in ISU Communications.

5. Features / Additional Features / Extra Features

Features:

Step Sequences, free skating moves/ elements, Point of Intersection are divided into the groups according to their difficulty (see Rule 903 paragraph 4).

Examples of some Features that are included in the difficulty levels for the following Elements in Free Skating and called by Technical Specialists:

ELEMENTS

Intersection:

Moves in the Field:

No Hold Element:

Pair Element:

FEATURES

Point of Intersection

Free Skating Moves

Step Sequence

Free Skating Elements

Additional Features:

Examples of some Additional Features are body movement, change of configuration, change of rotational direction, pivoting, travelling, etc. (See Rule 903 paragraph 5).

Extra Features:

Examples of some Extra Features are: weaving (during traveling in a Circle),

Toe Steps or Dance Jumps (during the No Hold Element) etc

6. Scale of Values (SOV) of the Synchronized Skating Elements

Scale of Values chart in Free Skating will be updated and published yearly in the ISU Communication.

7. Program Component Score

a) Definition of Program Components

In addition to the Technical Score, each of the Judges will evaluate the Team's whole performance which is divided into five (5) Program Components: Skating Skills, Transitions (linking steps, formations and other connecting Elements), Performance/ Execution, Choreography/ Composition, Interpretation of the music.

i) Skating Skills

Overall skating quality: edge control and flow over the ice surface demonstrated by a command of the skating vocabulary (edges, steps, turns etc), the clarity of technique and the use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed.

In evaluating Skating Skills, the following must be considered:

- Balance, rhythmic knee action and precision of foot placement
- Flow and effortless glide
- Cleanness and sureness of deep edges, steps and turns

- Power/energy and acceleration
- Multi directional skating
- One foot skating
- Balance in skating ability of individual Skaters

ii) Transitions (linking steps, formations and other connecting Elements):

The varied and/or intricate footwork (steps) and formations linking all Synchronized Skating Elements which also includes the entrances and exits of Elements. The Transitions can also be seamless and fast.

In evaluating the Transitions, the following must be considered:

- Variety
- Difficulty
- Quality (including Unison)
- Complexity
- Variation of speed of linking steps/formations
- Variation of changes of directions and holds
- Difficulty and Variety of entrances/exits from Elements/
Preparation phase

iii) Performance/Execution

Performance: is the involvement of the Teams (Skaters) physically, emotionally and intellectually as they translate the intent of the music and choreography.

Execution: is the quality of movement and precision in delivery. This also includes a harmony of movements.

In evaluating the Performance/Execution, the following must be considered:

- Physical, emotional and intellectual involvement
- Carriage and body alignment
- Style and Teams personality
- Clarity of movements
- Variety and contrast
- Projection
- Unison, synchronization and spatial awareness
- Balance in performance within a Team; relationship between Skaters

iv) Choreography/Composition

An intentional, developed and/or original arrangement of all types of movements, transitions and Elements according to the principles

of proportion, unity, space, pattern, structure and phrasing. In evaluating the Choreography/Composition, the following must be considered:

- Purpose (idea, concept, and vision)
- Proportion (equal weight of parts)
- Unity (purposeful threading)
- Utilization of personal and public space
- Pattern and ice coverage
- Phrasing and form (movements and parts structured to match the phrasing of the music)
- Originality of purpose, movements and design
- Shared responsibility in achieving purpose
- Excessive facing towards one side of the rink. The choreography must be prepared so that Elements will be executed facing all sides of the rink and not excessively facing only one side of the rink.

v) Interpretation of the music

The personal and creative translation of the music to movements on ice.

In evaluating the Interpretation, the following must be considered:

- Effortless movements in time to the music (timing)
- Expression of the music style and character and rhythm
- Use of *finesse to reflect the nuances of the music
- Relationship between the Skaters reflecting the character of the music

*Finesse is the Team's refined, artful manipulation of nuances. Nuances are the personal artistic ways of bringing subtle variations to the intensity, tempo, and dynamics of the music made by the composer and/or musicians.

b) Marking of Program Components

Program Components are evaluated by Judges after completion of a program on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with increments of 0.25. Points given by the Judges correspond to the following degrees of the Components:

1 - very poor, 2 - poor, 3 - weak, 4 - fair, 5 - average, 6 - above average, 7 - good, 8 - very good, 9 - superior, 10 - outstanding. Increments are used for evaluation of performances containing some Features of one degree and some of the next degree.

Guidelines for judging are updated and published in ISU Communications.

8. Deductions, Reductions in Free Skating:

Deductions and Reductions for the Free Skating Well Balanced Program will be updated annually and published in an ISU Communication

- a) Reductions for breaks, stumbles, falls and collisions in the required Elements in Free Skating will be made by Judges in the Grade of Execution (GOE).
- b) Further deductions for a fall in any part of the program (required Elements and transitions) will be identified and confirmed by the Technical Panel. Deduction -1.0 for every fall of one Skater and -2.0 for every fall of more than one Skater; if the fall causes interruptions to the program that exceed 10 seconds, additional deductions will be applied (see paragraph 8 f).

For an interpretation of paragraph 8a) and 8b), a fall is defined as the loss of control by a Skater with the result that the majority of his/her own body weight is on the ice being supported by any other part of the body other than the blades, e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.

- c) Elements, which do not fulfill the requirements, will be penalized. Deductions/Reductions for "not according to requirements" will be made from the total points for the respective Element or from the Grade of Execution (GOE). Those deductions will be identified and given by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller. The reductions will be identified and given by the Judge.
- d) Deductions for the non-permitted movements (see rule 912 paragraph 10) and Illegal Elements will be made from the Total Score by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller. The deduction for non-permitted movements or repetitions of Elements is -1.5 and for Illegal Element is -2.0.
- e) Deductions made by the Referee (for costume, excessive sub-grouping, excessive division into small groups, and make-up together with the Judges Panel) from the Total Score for each violation will be as follows:
 - Costume (including use of feathers as part of the costume and headpieces) and Make-up violation: -1.0
 - Music violation: -1.0
 - Program time violation: -1.0 for every five (5) seconds lacking or in excess
 - Holds (not according to requirements) according to Rule 905 paragraph 1 d): -1.0 up to -2.0
 - Excessive division into small groups (except for the Creative Element and transitions in Free Skating) and sub-grouping more than 1/2 of the program: -2.0
 - The choreography and Elements excessively facing one side; -2.0

- Deductions for an interruption of a program (caused by a stumble or fall):
 - deduction -1.0 (for 11 - 20 seconds interruption) and
 - deduction -2.0 (for 21 - 30 seconds interruption) etc.
- f) Every failure in the required Elements must be reflected only in the Technical Score according to the importance of the Element failed or omitted and the gravity of the mistake itself, since there is no direct relationship between the Technical Score and the Program Component Score. However, deductions for failures must be made in the Program Component Scores if other Program Components are involved. An Element and Feature and Additional Feature/Extra Feature is omitted when it is not tried.

9. Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features/Movements

- a) Senior Free Skating
 - i) lifts other as defined in Rule 903, paragraph 4. b)
 - ii) throw jumps
 - iii) intersections incorporating back spirals
 - iv) flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
- b) Junior Free Skating
 - i) throw jumps
 - ii) intersections incorporating back spirals
 - iii) flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
- c) Novice Free Skating
 - i) throw jumps
 - ii) intersections incorporating back spirals
 - iii) flying camel spin executed by the entire Team

When Illegal Elements, Features, Additional Features / Extra Features and movements are included, a deduction will be made from the Total Score by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller (see Rule 912, paragraph 9.d)).

10. Non-permitted Elements/Features, Additional Features / Extra Features and movements

a) Senior Free Skating

- i) additional lifts (*more than three (3)*)
- ii) additional vaults (*more than two (2) vaults*)
- iii) assisted jumps of more than one (1) revolution
- iv) jumps of more than one and one-half (1 ½) revolutions

- v) prolonged lying (longer than three (3) seconds) or kneeling (one (1) or both knees) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program
- vi) jumps through the point of intersection
- vii) highlighting (permitted only in the Creative Element and during transitions)

b) Junior Free Program

- i) lifts of any variety
- ii) additional vaults (more than two (2) vaults)
- iii) assisted jumps of more than one (1) revolution
- iv) jumps of more than one (1) revolution
- v) prolonged lying (longer than three (3) seconds) or kneeling (one (1) or both knees) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program
- vi) jumps through the point of intersection
- vii) highlighting (permitted only in the Creative Element and during transitions)

c) Novice Free Program

- i) lifts of any variety
- ii) vaults of any variety
- iii) assisted jumps of more than one (1) revolution
- iv) jumps of more than one (1) revolution
- v) prolonged lying (longer than three (3) seconds) or kneeling (one (1) or both knees) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program
- vi) jumps through the point of intersection
- vii) highlighting (permitted only in the Creative Element and during transitions)

When non-permitted, Features, Additional Features / Extra Features and movements are included, a deduction will be made from the Total Score by the Technical Specialist and verified by the Technical Controller (see Rule 912, paragraph 8.d)).

Rules 913 – 920 (reserved)

TECHNICAL RULES FOR COMPETITIONS IN SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

Rule 921 Competition Schedule

1. The date, time and place of the first Judges meeting and the latest date and time of the Round Table Discussion for each category must be announced by the Organizing Member in the official announcement (see Rule 112, paragraph 4).
2. In competitions, Synchronized Skating events with only Free Skating may last one day. When there is a Short Program and Free Skating, it is recommended that the event should last at least two days.

Rule 922 Hours and maximum duration of competitions

1. The competition event should not begin before 9:00 a.m.
2. If possible all of the skating events should be completed within two (2) consecutive days.
3. Evening competition should be planned to finish by 11:00 p.m.
4. After registration at accreditation for an event, Teams may not practice at a rink other than the official rink. (for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, see Rule 766, paragraph 5).
5. In Synchronized Skating events with a Short Program, the Short Program must be skated before the Free Skating and not on the same day.
6. At all International Competitions, the Organizer must provide to each competing Team on the competition arena ice surface, 10 minutes of practice ice, free of charge before the Short Program event and 12 minutes of practice ice before the Free Skating event but after Short Program event. At the official practices for Short Program and Free Skating, the competitive music of the Team will be played twice, each time without interruption. At one of the official practices, the Team is obliged to skate the whole (entire) competition program (Short Program and Free Skating respectively) or one half first and then the other half of the program, for the purpose of the Technical Panel observations. No other music will be played during the official practice segments.

Rules 923 – 924 (reserved)

Rule 925

Draws

1. The draws for the starting order of all events are made in public by the Referee. The Referee should ask the Organizer to check the correct spelling of the names of the Teams and all Officials.
2. Starting numbers shall be drawn by competitors if present, or by official representatives of their Member or by members of the Organizing committee.
3. The official announcement of the entries and of the panel of Judges is made by the Referee of each event at the time of the first starting order draw of that event. Preliminary unofficial announcements of entries and Judges may be made by the Organizers at any time after the closing of entries.

Rule 926

ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup

1. a) In the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, each Member except Special Clubs, may enter one (1) Team;
 - b) For the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, the top five (5) placed Members in the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships may enter two (2) Teams. If no ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships were held during the two (2) previous seasons but an ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup was held during one (1) or both of the previous two (2) seasons, then the top five (5) placed Members in the last held ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup may enter two (2) Teams.
 - c) For the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, the top five (5) placed Members in the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships or the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, whichever of those two Events was held later, may enter two (2) Teams.
2. Junior Team members for the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships and ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup must comply with the age requirements as stated in Rule 108, paragraph 3 b).

3. Junior Team members for the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships and ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup must comply with rules governing Team composition as stated in Rule 701, paragraph 3 b).
4. Each Member, may enter one (1) substitute Team in the case of one (1) entry and two (2) substitute Teams in the case of two (2) entries. The substitute Team may compete only if its Member has withdrawn the name of its Team entered for the competition two (2) weeks before the first draw. For post entries see Rule 115, paragraph 6.

Rules 927 – 931 (reserved)

Rule 932

Starting order of Short Program

The Short Program is skated in accordance with drawn starting numbers, as obtained according to Rule 925.

Rule 933

Starting order of Free Skating

1. The starting order of Teams in Free Skating is determined from the result of the Short Program (see Rule 969, paragraph 3 and 5).
2. As soon as possible after the determination of the results of the preceding part, the Referee, in the presence of at least one Team shall divide the Teams for the purpose of the draw for the next succeeding part (in the order in which they finished in the previous part) into the smallest possible number of equal groups (see Table I / II of the Technical Rules). If the number of Teams is not equally divisible, the last group to skate (and as many preceding groups as necessary) must contain one more Team than the first group. The lowest placed group must skate first, the next lowest second and so on. However, in the event of ties, the following procedures shall be followed:
 - a) If two or more Teams are tied for the same place at the end of the Short Program, they shall be drawn in the same group. The maximum number of teams to be drawn in the same group is six (6).
 - b) When tied Teams are drawn in the same group, if necessary, the immediately preceding group to skate will be smaller by the number of Teams so added to the following group.
3. The order of skating in each group shall be determined by lot and each Team shall be drawn in the order of placement in the preceding part of the

competition, that is, with the best placed Team being drawn first and including those tied. The order of the draw between tied Teams shall first be determined by a separate draw prior to the main draw.

4. If one or more Teams having obtained scores that would have qualified them for the next segment (e.g. Free Skating Group A) decide to withdraw their participation before the beginning of the following segment then the open spots will not be substituted by any other Team(s) and the number of maximum qualified Teams for the next segment will be reduced by the number of withdrawn Teams. If the withdrawal(s) is announced after the draw for the starting order of the following segment, then the starting order and the warm-up groups will not be changed and the spot of the withdrawn Team(s) remains empty.

5. If one or more Teams having obtained scores that would have qualified them for the next segment (e.g. Free Skating Group A) are disqualified before the beginning of the following segment then the open spot(s) will be filled by the first placed Team(s), who, in the concerned segment, initially had not reached the following segment. Such Team(s) will receive the first starting numbers in the first warm-up group and this warm-up group will be complemented with the concerned number of Teams.

Rule 934

Warm-up periods

1. Warm-up periods must be allotted to all Teams. For the maximum size of each warm-up group see Tables I and II.

- a) In the Short Program, each Team shall be allowed one (1) minute of warm-up (without music) on the competition ice surface immediately prior to their performance. Warm-up time must be reckoned from the moment the Team is announced;
- b) In the Free Skating, each Team shall be allowed one (1) minute of warm-up (without music) on the competition ice surface immediately prior to their performance. Warm-up time must be reckoned from the moment the Team is announced;
- c) A Team must not take more than thirty (30) seconds for exiting from the ice surface for both the Short Program and Free Skating.

2. In the case of an interruption in the competition due to unforeseen circumstances of more than ten (10) minutes, the Teams concerned will be permitted to a second warm-up period of one (1) minute for both the Short Program and Free Skating.

3. In the event one or more tied Teams are included in the same group, the maximum number permitted to warm-up may be exceeded by one Team. However, if the maximum number permitted is exceeded by two or more Teams, the group in question shall be divided into two (2) sub-groups.

4. For Synchronized Skating it is recommended that the ice be resurfaced after every six (6) Teams for the Short Program and Novice Free Skating, and after every five (5) Teams or six (6) Teams (in the case of ties) for the Free Skating of Seniors and Juniors. The ice resurface groups will be based on Rule 933, however the ISU Event Coordinator and/or ISU Representative may decide to change the ice resurface groups based on the conditions of the ice.

Rule 935

Call to the start

1. Prior to each performance, the names of those Teams about to compete must be clearly called on the ice and in the dressing rooms.

2. Prior to the announcement, the next Team to skate must enter the ice surface at the sign of the Referee's Assistant at ice level and stand quietly near to the barrier. The Team is then announced and the time one (1) minute is reckoned from this point.

3. Every Team must begin each part of the competition (Short Program and Free Skating) at the latest two (2) minutes after their name has been announced, failing which the Team shall be considered as withdrawn.

Rule 936

Allowance of fresh start

1. In the case of the Short Program and Free Skating:
 - a) If circumstances arise which jeopardize the safety of the Team on account of unexpected damage to its clothing or equipment which impedes his skating, the Team must stop skating at the signal of the Referee;
 - b) The Team then shall continue immediately from the point of interruption, if the circumstances, which caused the Team to stop, can be rectified without delay;
 - c) If that is not possible, a period of up to three (3) minutes before the continuation will be allowed to correct the equipment problem or replace the Skater having a problem with an alternate before continuing

- the program from the point of interruption. The three (3) minutes time period commences immediately after the Referee has stopped the performance with a loud signal;
- d) The same applies to the situation when the Team interrupts the program on account of unexpected damage to his clothing or equipment without the signal of the Referee;
 - e) If, in the opinion of the Referee, medical attention is required, the Referee must stop the performance, replace the injured Skater with an alternate and allow the Team to continue immediately from the point of interruption or, if that is not possible, allow a period of up to three (3) minutes before the continuation;
 - f) In case of Skater's injury, which requires Skater's evacuation by the medical personal from the ice surface and/or new ice resurfacing is needed after the accident, this three (3) minutes period is not in place.
- 2.
 - a) If the tempo or quality of the music is deficient, no restart may be made if the Team fails to inform the Referee within 30 seconds after the start.
 - b) However, if there is an interruption or stop in the music or any other problem such as lighting, ice etc. not caused by the Team and which needs a time to be repaired, the three (3) minutes period will not be in place.
 - 3. No restarts of the whole program are allowed (for exceptions due to deficient music, see paragraph 2 a) of this Rule).
 - 4. Once a Short Program or Free Skating has started, no substitution of personnel will be permitted. However, registered Team alternates may be substituted if the Team's program is stopped by the Referee due to injury or equipment problems. If a Team substitutes a Skater without the Referee first stopping the program, the Team will be disqualified.
 - 5. If a Team is unable to complete the program, no marks are to be awarded. The same applies to the situation in which a Team has been given the opportunity to continue the program from the point of interruption and once more is unable the complete the program.

Rules 937 – 968 (reserved)

Rule 969

Draws for Teams

The ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships and ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup will consist of the Short Program and the Free Skating independent on the number of entries.

1. The draw's procedure will be in accordance with Rule 925, paragraph 1.
2. The draw for the Short Program will be made as follows:
 - a) The list as basis for the draw will be arranged as follows:
 - i. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships' first placed Member at first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on.
 - ii. For the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships' first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on. If no ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships were held during the two (2) previous seasons but an ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup was held during one (1) or both of the previous two (2) seasons, then the list will be based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the last held ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup' first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on.
 - iii. For the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships or the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, whichever of those two Events was held later. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating

Championships respectively the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on.

- b) Teams/countries with no result from the previous year (new countries/ISU Members) respectively countries with a second Team, which did not participate at the last ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup will be placed at the bottom of the list in alphabetical country order.
 - c) In the case that a country/ISU Member has two (2) Teams qualified for the Worlds, the following procedure will apply: The best nationally ranked Team of the country / ISU Member will be entered as Team 1 for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup. Team 1 will be listed for a draw according to the last year's best placement of the respective country's/ ISU Member's Team. Team 2 will be listed for the draw according to the placement of the second placed Team of that country/ISU Member.
 - d) The participating Teams will be split in two (2) equal parts with the higher placing Teams being drawn in the second part (called "skating later") and the lower placing Teams and Teams/countries with no result from the previous year being drawn in the first part (called "skating earlier"). If the number of participating Teams is not equally divisible, the "skating later" group will contain one additional Team.
 - e) The number of starting order groups will be determined depending on the number of entries (see Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 933) (one of the starting order groups might comprise of Teams from both the "skating earlier" and "skating later" parts)
 - f) The draw for a Short Program will be done within each draw group according to the listing (see Rule 969 paragraph 2a)) of the "skating earlier" and the "skating later" parts.
3. The draw for the Free Skating will be according to the placements of Teams in the Short Program. If such placements are equal, the Teams concerned are tied and shall be drawn in the same group.
- a) According to the results in the Short Program event, the Teams would be divided into two (2) Groups with the Teams placed in Short Program among the first sixteen (16) Teams being drawn in the second part of Free Skating (called Group A "skating later") and Teams placed in the second half in Short Program (starting with the

Teams placed as seventeen (17) being drawn in the first part for Free Skating (called Group B “skating earlier”).

- b) The draw for Free Skating will be according to placements of the Short Program for Group A and B separately. The draw will be done within each skating order group; the teams placed best in the Short Program will be drawn in the last skating group (see Rule 933 Table ii. Size of Starting Order Groups for Free Skating).
- c) Free Skating of Group B will take place before Free Skating of Group A and a short break between those two (2) Groups will be scheduled. If such a tie in the Short Program occurs for 16th place, all the tied Teams will qualify for the Free Skating for which they will be drawn in the same (first) group which will be divided into two subgroups in cases specified in Rule 934, paragraph 3.

4. If two or more Teams receive an equal total in the final result, the best placement shall be decided on the basis of the best placement of the Free Skating. If such placements are also equal, the placements shall be decided on the basis of the best placement of the Short Program. If such placements are also equal, the Teams concerned are tied.

Rules 970 – 971 (reserved)

Rule 972 Judges Draws

- 1. For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, the panel of Judges shall consist only of Judges on the current lists of ISU Judges and all Judges must be designated ISU.
- 2. a) Each ISU Member, entering Teams in the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, must enter annually by October 1st Judges by a number only (not by names), provided the Member fulfills the requirements as to paragraph 3. a) of this Rule.
- b) The draw procedure of the panels of Judges for all ISU Championships will take place annually between October 1st and November 15th. The draw is open to all Members who may send one (1) Representative at their own expense. The draw shall take place in Lausanne in the presence of a certified Swiss auditor. The President will appoint the person(s) who will conduct the draw.

3. Principles of entries and restrictions

- a) Each ISU Member may enter a Judge by number (not by name) in the discipline in which the Judges of this Member are qualified to judge and in which they have participated with at least one (1) Team in the preceding year, who has finished at least one segment of the competition.
- b) The ISU Members will enter with their Judges' name(s) for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships including a substitute Judge, in which they have been drawn, 45 days prior to the Judges Meeting of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships.
- c) Any necessary changes of the Judges nominated must be communicated by the fastest electronic means to the Vice President for Figure Skating, to the ISU Secretariat and to the Organizing Committee.
- d) A Judge nominated by the Member, who is present and available, must serve if drawn.
- e) The President or the Vice President Figure Skating may update this restriction for any Championships in which not enough Judges are available to compose the panels of Judges.

4. ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships

- a) All ISU Members who have entered according to the rules with Judges for the respective Championships will participate in the draws for the composition of the panel of Judges (see paragraph 2 a), b) above).
- b) On the site of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships, the open random draw will be conducted by the Referee 45 minutes prior to the skating of each segment in the presence of all thirteen (13) Judges drawn for the respective Championships, to complete the panel of nine (9) Judges.
- c) For the first segment (Short Program) nine (9) Judges will be drawn from all thirteen (13) Judges drawn for the respective Championships. The seating order will be identical to the order the Judges are drawn.
- d) For the second segment (Free Skating), the four (4) Judges not drawn for the first segment will automatically be assigned to be in the panel of

nine (9) Judges for the second segment and all other Judges serving already in the first segment will participate in the draw to complete the panel of nine (9) Judges. A separate draw will be held for the seating order of the nine (9) Judges.

- e) If at the time of the Championships, if Judges drawn and entered by name are not present, they will not be considered to serve. A separate draw amongst all Judges present and available for the discipline concerned, but not already represented in the particular panel, will complete the panel to the possible maximum of nine (9) Judges.
 - f) If there are not enough ISU Members available to draw up to four (4) Judges for the second segment as to paragraph 4 c), only those Judges, who are remaining, will be considered and the draw on site for the completion of the panel of Judges will be made accordingly.
5. a) The President may, in exceptional cases, authorize modifications in the application of this Rule. If the President is not reachable in a timely fashion, the Vice President for Figure Skating may authorize such modifications in exceptional circumstances. On site of a Championships, if both the President and the Vice President for Figure Skating are not present, then the ISU Representative may authorize such modifications in exceptional circumstances.
- b) For post entries relating to all deadlines included in this Rule, Rule 115, paragraph 6 applies.

Rules 973-999 (reserved)

I. Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 933Number
of Teams**Synchronized Skating**

Short Program (and Free Skating if Ties)

Novice Free Skating

maximum of 6

2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	5 + 6
12	6 + 6
13	4 + 4 + 5
14	4 + 5 + 5
15	5 + 5 + 5
16	5 + 5 + 6
17	5 + 6 + 6
18	6 + 6 + 6
19	4 + 5 + 5 + 5
20	5 + 5 + 5 + 5
21	5 + 5 + 5 + 6
22	5 + 5 + 6 + 6
23	5 + 6 + 6 + 6
24	6 + 6 + 6 + 6
25	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
26	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6
27	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
28	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
29	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
30	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
31	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6
32	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
33	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
34	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
35	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
36	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6

II. Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 933

Number of Teams	Synchronized Skating
	Free Skating
	maximum of 5
2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	3 + 4 + 4
12	4 + 4 + 4
13	4 + 4 + 5
14	4 + 5 + 5
15	5 + 5 + 5
16	4 + 4 + 4 + 4
17	4 + 4 + 4 + 5
18	4 + 4 + 5 + 5
19	4 + 5 + 5 + 5
20	5 + 5 + 5 + 5
21	4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 5
22	4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5
23	4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5
24	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
25	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
26	4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5
27	4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5
28	4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
29	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
30	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
31	4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5
32	4 + 4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
33	4 + 4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
34	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
35	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Founded: July 23rd, 1892, at Scheveningen (Netherlands)

MEMBERS

AND	Andorra	Federacio Adorrana d'Esports de Gel (Figure)
ARG	Argentina	Argentine Ice Speed Skating Union (Speed) Federacion Argentina de Patinaje Sobre Hielo (Figure)
ARM	Armenia	Armenia Skating Federation
AUS	Australia	Australian Ice Racing Inc. (Speed) Ice Skating Australia Incorporated (Figure)
AUT	Austria	Österreichischer Eisschnellauf Verband (Speed) Österreichischer Eiskunstlauf Verband (Figure)
AZE	Azerbaijan	The Skating Federation of Azerbaijan Republic
BLR	Belarus	Skating Union of Belarus
BEL	Belgium	Fédération Royale Belge de Patinage de Vitesse (Speed) Fédération Royale Belge de Patinage Artistique (Figure)
BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Skating Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
BRA	Brazil	Brazilian Ice Sports Federation
BUL	Bulgaria	Bulgarian Skating Federation
CAN	Canada	Speed Skating Canada (Speed) Skate Canada (Figure)
CHN	China	Chinese Skating Association
TPE	Chinese Taipei	Chinese Taipei Skating Union
CRO	Croatia	Croatian Skating Federation
CYP	<u>Cyprus</u>	<u>Cyprus Skating Federation (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
CZE	Czech Republic	Czech Speed Skating Federation (Speed) Czech Figure Skating Association (Figure)
DEN	Denmark	Dansk Skøjte Union
PRK	D.P.R. Korea	Skating Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
EST	Estonia	The Estonian Skating Union
FIN	Finland	Suomen Luisteluliitto (Speed) Suomen Taitoluisteluliitto (Figure)
FRA	France	Fédération Française des Sports de Glace
GEO	Georgia	Georgian Figure Skating Federation
GER	Germany	Deutsche Eisschnellauf-Gemeinschaft (Speed) Deutsche Eislauf Union e.V. (Figure)
GBR	Great Britain	National Ice Skating Association of U. K. (Limited)

GRE	Greece	Hellenic Ice Sports Federation
<u>GRN</u>	<u>Grenada</u>	<u>Grenada Figure Skating Association (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
HKG	Hong Kong/ China	Hong Kong Skating Union Ltd
HUN	Hungary	Hungarian National Skating Federation
ISL	Iceland	Icelandic Skating Association (Figure)
IND	India	Ice Skating Association of India
IRL	Ireland	Ice Skating Association of Ireland
ISR	Israel	Israel Ice Skating Federation
ITA	Italy	Federazione Italiana Sport del Ghiaccio
JPN	Japan	Japan Skating Federation
KAZ	Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan Skating Federation
LAT	Latvia	The Latvian Skating Association
LTU	Lithuania	Lithuanian Speed Skating Association (Speed) Lithuanian Skating Federation (Figure)
LUX	Luxembourg	Union Luxembourgeoise de Patinage de Vitesse (Speed) Union Luxembourgeoise de Patinage (Figure)
MAS	Malaysia	Ice Skating Association of Malaysia
MEX	Mexico	Federacion Mexicana de Patinaje Sobre Hielo y Deportes de Invierno, A. C.
MON	Monaco	Fédération Monegasque de Patinage (Figure)
MGL	Mongolia	Skating Union of Mongolia
MNE	Montenegro	Skating Association of Montenegro
<u>MAR</u>	<u>Morocco</u>	<u>Association of Moroccan Ice Sports (Provisional Member Figure)</u>
NED	Netherlands	Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond
NZL	New Zealand	Ice Speed Skating New Zealand Inc (Speed) New Zealand Ice <u>Figure</u> Skating Association (Inc) (Figure)
NOR	Norway	Norges Skøyteforbund
PHI	Philippines	Philippine Skating Union (Figure)
POL	Poland	Polish Speed Skating Association (Speed) Polish Figure Skating Association (Figure)
PUR	Puerto Rico	<u>Puerto Rico</u> Figure Skating Federation (Figure)
KOR	Rep. of Korea	Korea Skating Union
ROU	Romania	Romanian Skating Federation
RUS	Russia	Russian Skating Union (Speed) The Figure Skating Federation of Russia (Figure)

SRB	Serbia	<u>Serbian Skating Association</u>
SIN	Singapore	Singapore Ice Skating Association
SVK	Slovak Republic	Slovak Speed Skating Union (Speed) Slovak Figure Skating Association (Figure)
SLO	Slovenia	Slovene Skating Union
RSA	South Africa	South African Speed Skating Association (Speed) South African Figure Skating Association (Figure)
ESP	Spain	Federacion Española de Deportes de Hielo
SWE	Sweden	Svenska Skridskoförbundet (Speed) Svenska Konstakningsförbundet (Figure) Stockholms Allmänna Skridskoklubb (Club Member)
SUI	Switzerland	Schweizer Eislauf-Verband Internationaler Schlittschuh-Club Davos (Club Member)
THA	Thailand	Figure and Speed Skating Association of Thailand
TUR	Turkey	Turkish Ice Skating Federation
UKR	Ukraine	Ukrainian Speed Skating Federation (Speed) Ukrainian Figure Skating Federation (Figure)
USA	USA	US Speedskating (Speed) The United States Figure Skating Association (Figure)
UZB	Uzbekistan	<u>Winter Sports Association</u> of Uzbekistan

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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OFFICE HOLDERS 2010-2016

Council:

President:		Ottavio Cinquanta	Italy
1 st Vice President:	Figure Skating:	David M. Dore	Canada
Vice President:	Speed Skating:	Jan Dijkema	Netherlands
Members:	Figure Skating:	Marie Lundmark	Finland
		Junko Hiramatsu	Japan
		Phyllis Howard	USA
		Tjasa André-Prosenč	Slovenia
	Speed Skating:	György Martos	Hungary
		German Panov	Russia
		Lan Li	China
		Roland E. Maillard	Switzerland
Director General:		Fredi Schmid	Switzerland
Treasurer:		Ulrich Linder	Switzerland
Legal Advisors:		<u>Béatrice Pfister</u>	<u>Switzerland</u>
Chair Sports Directorate:		Peter Krick	Germany
Figure Skating Sports Director:		<u>Krisztina Regöczy</u>	<u>Hungary</u>
Speed Skating Sports Director:		Hugo Herrnhof	Italy

Technical Committees:

Single & Pair Skating:	Chair:	Alexander Lakernik	Russia
	Members:	Fabio Bianchetti	Italy
		Rita Zonnekeyn	Belgium
		Susan Lynch	Australia
	Appointed Skater:	Patrick Meier	Switzerland
	Appointed Coach:	David Paul Kirby	USA
Ice Dance:	Chair:	Halina Gordon-Poltorak	Poland
	Members:	Robert Joseph Horen	USA
		Gilles Vandenbroeck	France
		Alla Shekhovtsova	Russia
	Appointed Skater:	Sylvia Nowak-Trebacka	Poland
	Appointed Coach:	John Dunn	Spain
Synchronized Skating:	Chair:	Christopher Buchanan	Great Britain
	Members:	Mika Saarelainen	Finland
		Karen Wolanchuk	USA
		Philippe Maitrot	France
	Appointed Skater:	Helena Johansson	Sweden
	Appointed Coach:	Cathy Dalton	Canada

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Speed Skating:	Chair:	Tron Espeli	Norway
	Members:	Nick Thometz	USA
		Alexander Kibalko	Russia
		Jae-Seok Choi	Rep. of Korea
	Appointed Skater:	Christian Breuer	Germany
	Appointed Coach:	Jildou Gemser	Netherlands

Short Track Speed Skating:	Chair:	Andy Gabel	USA
	Members:	Stoytcho G. Stoytchev	Bulgaria
		Reinier Oostheim	Netherlands
		Ji-Hoon Chae	Rep. of Korea
	Appointed Skater:	Satoru Terao	Japan
	Appointed Coach:	Nathalie Lambert	Canada

Disciplinary Commission:

Chair:	<u>Volker Waldeck</u>	<u>Germany</u>
Members:	Allan Böhm	Slovak Republic
	Fred Benjamin	USA
	Egbert Schmid	Austria
	<u>Susan Petricevic</u>	<u>New Zealand</u>

Medical Commission:

Chair:	Jane M. Moran	Canada
Members:	David Mitchell	Great Britain
	Sanda Dubravcic-Simunjak	Croatia
	Joel C. Shobe	USA
	Harm Kuipers	Netherlands
	Hiroya Sakai	Japan
	Ruben Ambartsumov	Ukraine
	<u>Hannu Koivu</u>	<u>Finland</u>

Development Coordinator:	György Sallak	Hungary
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Honorary Presidents:

		Year of election
Viktor Gustaf Balck †	Sweden	1925
Emerich von Szent Györgyi †	Hungary	1933
Herbert J. Clarke †	Great Britain	1955
James Koch †	Switzerland	1967
Jacques Favart †	France	1982
Olaf Poulsen †	Norway	1994

Honorary Vice Presidents:

Sven Låftman †	Sweden	1971
Hendrik Roos †	Netherlands	1977
John R. Shoemaker †	USA	1980
Hermann Schiechtl	F.R.G.	1984
Georg Pettersson †	Sweden	1986
Jean Heckly†	France	1992
Josef Dedie †	Czech Republic	1994
Lawrence Demmy M.B.E.	Great Britain	1998
Gerhard Zimmerman	Germany	2010

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Honorary Secretary:

Georg Häslar †	Switzerland	1975
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Honorary Members:

		Year of election
Hans Pfeiffer †	Austria	1939
Gustavus F. C. Witt †	Netherlands	1953
Marcel Nicaise †	Belgium	1959
Friedrich Kachler †	Austria	1959
Walter S. Powell †	USA	1961
Reginald J. Wilkie †	Great Britain	1963
Georg Krog †	Norway	1969
Ernest Labin †	Austria	1969
Harald Halvorsen †	Norway	1969
Ernest J. G. Matthews †	Great Britain	1977
Heinz Dragunsky †	G.D.R.	1980
Oskar Madl †	Austria	1980
George Blundun †	Canada	1980
Emil Skákala †	Czechoslovakia	1980
Viktor Kapitonov †	U.S.S.R.	1984
Arne Kvaalen †	Norway	1984
Icilio Perucca †	Italy	1988
Elemér Tertak †	Hungary	1988
Donald H. Gilchrist	Canada	1992
Herman J. van Laer †	Netherlands	1992
Benjamin T. Wright	USA	1992
John Hurdis †	Canada	1992
Charles A. De More	USA	1994
Hans Kutschera†	Austria	1996
Jean Grenier	Canada	1996
Jürg Wilhelm †	Switzerland	1998
Lars-Olof Eklund †	Sweden	1998
Jan W.P. Charisius †	Netherlands	1998
Wolfgang Kunz	Germany	1998
Joyce Hisey	Canada	2002
Walburga Grimm	Germany	2002
John Hall †	Great Britain	2002
Maria Bialous-Zuchowicz	Poland	2006
Claire Ferguson	USA	2006
Monique Georgelin	France	2006
Myong-Hi Chang	Rep. of Korea	2010
Courtney J.L. Jones O.B.E.	Great Britain	2010
Ulf Lindén	Sweden	2010
Gerhardt Bubník	Czech Republic	2010
James L. Hawkins	USA	2010

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Past Presidents

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

Jacques Favart Trophy

established 1981

Year of award

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

Georg Häslér Medal

established 1985

Zoltán Balázs †	Hungary	1987
Willi Zipperlen †	Switzerland	1987
F. Ritter Shumway †	USA	1988
Herbert Kunze†	F.R.G.	1989
Assen Pavlov	Bulgaria	1989
W. Thayer Tutt †	USA	1989
Victor Blinov †	U.S.S.R.	1990
Andrea Ehrig	G.D.R.	1990
Radovan Lipovscak†	Yugoslavia	1990
Courtney J. L. Jones O.B.E.	Great Britain	1991
Milan Duchon	Czechoslovakia	1992
Klaas Schipper	Canada	1992
Lysiane Lauret	France	1993
Anna Sinilkina †	Russia	1993
George Howie†	USA	1993
Pamela E.L. Davis, M.B.E. †	Great Britain	1994
Jurjen Osinga	Netherlands	1994
Ivan Mauer	Slovak Republic	1995
Florea Gamulea	Romania	1996
David E. Morgan	Australia	1996
Beat Häslér	Switzerland	1998

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Georg Häslér Medal

established 1985

Mitsuo Matsumoto	Japan	2000
Robert Moir	Canada	2002
Valentin Piseev	Russia	2002

ISU Gold Award of Merit

established 2004

Lysiane Lauret	France	2006
Lucy Brennan	USA	2007
Susan Johnson	USA	2007
Joachim Franke	Germany	2008
Ann Shaw	Canada	2008