

Communication No. 2495

Synchronized Skating

Changes in Special Regulations and Technical Rules accepted by the 58th ISU Congress 2022

I. General Regulations

Proposal 20

Rule 107 new paragraph 7

7. Challenger Series in Synchronized Skating.

The Challenger Series in Synchronized Skating is a series of International Synchronized Skating Competitions (senior and junior) as an opportunity for many Teams to get prepared for qualifying and competing in ISU Championships. The series is financially supported by the ISU in accordance with the conditions annually decided by the Council and published through an ISU Communication.

Proposal 22

Rule 108 Age limit

4. Age Limits for Synchronized Skating

- a) i) For the season 2022/23, in International Senior Synchronized Skating Competitions and the ISU Senior World Synchronized Skating Championships a Senior team comprises Skaters all of whom must have reached at least the age of fifteen before July 1 preceding the Championships or Competition.
- ii) For the season 2023/24, in International Senior Synchronized Skating Competitions and the ISU Senior World Synchronized Skating Championships a Senior team comprises Skaters all of whom must have reached at least the age of sixteen before July 1 preceding the Championships or Competition.
- ii) From the season 2024/25 onwards, in International Senior Synchronized Skating Competitions and the ISU Senior World Synchronized Skating Championships a Senior team comprises Skaters all of whom must have reached at least the age of seventeen before July 1 preceding the Championships or Competition.

II. Special Regulations

Proposal 158

Rule 843 paragraph 1. I)

ISU Judging System - determination and publication of results Basic Principles of Calculation

The panel's points for each Program Component are then multiplied by a factor such that the Program Component Score is as equivalent as possible to the Total Elements Score as follows (same for Junior and Senior):

Short Program: 1.33 Free Skating: 2.67

The factored results are rounded to two decimal places and added. The sum is the Program Component Score.

Proposals 169/171/173/175/177/181/182/183

Rule 902 para 2c), 4c), Rule 903 para 2c), 4c), Rule 904 para 2c), 4c), Rule 905 2c), 4c)

c) Seminar attendance: have completed, during the 24 months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Judges/Referees/Technical Controllers/Technical Specialists (see Rule 417). An ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Officials may also be a webinar organized and controlled by the respective Technical Committee(s).

III. Technical Rules

Proposal 201

Rule 954 paragraph 3

Marking of Short Program and Free Skating

3. Program Component Score

a) Definition of Program Components

The Skater's/Pair's/Couple's/Team's whole performance is evaluated by three Program Components: Composition, Presentation, and Skating Skills.

For Synchronized Skating, there must be equal demonstration of the criteria by all skaters.

Composition

The intentional, developed and/or original arrangement of the repertoire of all types of movements into a meaningful whole according to the principles of proportion, unity, space, pattern, and musical structure. In evaluating the Composition, the following must be considered:

- Unity
- Connections between and within elements
- Pattern and ice coverage;
- Multidimensional movements and use of space;
- Choreography reflecting musical phrase and form.

Presentation

The demonstration of engagement, commitment and involvement based on an understanding of the music and composition.

In evaluating the Presentation, the following must be considered:

- Expressiveness and projection;
- Variety and contrast of energy and of movements;
- Musical sensitivity and timing;
- Unison, oneness and awareness of space (SyS).

Skating Skills

The ability of the Skater to execute the skating repertoire of steps, turns, and skating movements, with blade and body control.

In evaluating the Skating Skills, the following must be considered:

- Variety of edges, steps, turns, movements and directions;
- Clarity of edges, steps, turns, movements and body control;
- Balance and glide;
- Flow;
- Power and speed.

Proposal 222

Rule 800 para 2

2. A Synchronized Skating Team must consist of the following number of Skaters and may include both women and men (see paragraph 2. e); the object of a Team is to perform as one unit.

a) In all International Synchronized Skating Competitions:

Senior Elite 12: a Team shall consist of twelve Skaters,

Senior: a Team shall consist of sixteen Skaters,

Junior: a Team shall consist of twelve to sixteen Skaters,

Novice Advanced: a Team shall consist of twelve to sixteen Skaters.

- b) In all ISU Synchronized Skating Championships a Team shall consist of sixteen Skaters.
- c) Each Team may have up to a maximum of four alternates listed as such on the Team roster.
- d) Exceptions to the composition of a Team, paragraph a), b), c) of this Rule may be decided by the Council for multi-sports events sanctioned by the ISU.
- e) Synchronized Skating Teams for the purpose of the Olympic Winter Games, shall consist of 12 Skaters. A Team may have a maximum of two alternates. A Team may include women and men (if the ISU so decides). The maximum number of entries for the Olympic Winter Games will be defined by the International Olympic Committee.
- f) Injury at International Competitions: If an injury/illness should occur during practices or during Competition, at either the competitions or practice venue(s), the Team will be permitted to skate with not less than:
 - Senior Elite 12: eleven Skaters,
 - Senior: fourteen Skaters
 - Junior and Novice Advanced: eleven Skaters.
 Any injury/illness occurring at a Competitions, must be certified by the Medical Advisor assigned to the respective Competition or the Team' Physician.
- g) Injury at Championships: If an injury/illness should occur during practices or competition, at either the Championships or practice venue(s), the Team will be permitted to skate with not less than fourteen Skaters. At the Championships, injury/illness must be certified by the ISU Medical Advisor assigned to the Championships.
- h) Teams of an ISU Member may enter more than one event using a different program, with minimum change of 50% of the Skaters. (Alternates are not included in the calculation of 50% of the Team).

Urgent proposal #4

Rule 910 paragraph 1 add paragraph c).

- B. Appointment of Officials to International Competitions (general)
 - 1. As per Rule 121, paragraph 2, the ISU Member holding an International Competition is entitled to appoint the Officials, with exceptions for:
 - a) ISU Championships: see Rules 971,
 - b) other ISU Events: see article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution,
 - c) Challenger Series for Synchronized Skating

Proposal 229

Rule 954, paragraphs 1 f) to amend

f) Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features/Movements

Every Illegal Element/Feature/Additional Feature/Movement as defined in Rules 992, paragraph 2 performed in the program will be penalized by a deduction (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m)).

If an Illegal movement is performed during the execution of any Element or connecting Element, the Element/Feature/Additional Feature/Movement will be called as follows:

The Element will be called "No Value" and a deduction is applied; if the illegal Movement is the Element (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).

The Element is called + Feature is not counted and a deduction is applied; if the illegal Movement is included in the Feature (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).

The Element is called + Additional Feature, is not counted and a deduction is applied; if the Illegal Movement is included in the Additional Feature (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).

Deduction is called if the Illegal Movement is included during a Connection (see Rule 843, paragraph 1.m).

Proposal 230

Rule 954 para 1 g) delete: Non-permitted Features, Additional Features and Movements has been combined and amended with the existing rule of Illegal Element.

Proposal 231

Rule 964 para 1 c)

c) The first Team of each starting group is granted a 2 minute warm up period before their call to start.

Rule 990, paragraph 2

2. TURNS/STEPS/LINKING STEPS – amend and renumber accordingly

a) One Foot Turns

A rotational movement in which the Skater moves from forward to backward or backward to forward using one foot and on an edge and axis

- i) 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;
- ii) 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);
- iii) 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;
- iv) 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;

b) Two Foot Turns

A rotational movement from one foot to the other foot in which the Skater moves forward to backward or backward to forward

- i) 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;
- ii) 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.

c) Twizzle - A traveling turn on one foot with one or more rotations that quickly rotate with a continuous (uninterrupted) action. The weight remains on the skating foot with the free foot in any position during the turn. 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.

d) Steps

The visible tracing on the ice that is executed on one or two feet. It may consist of an edge, change of edge, or loop.

- i) Edge - The visible tracing on the ice produced by a Skater skating on one foot that is on a distinct curve;
- ii) Change of edge - The visible tracing on the ice that changes from one distinct curve to another distinct curve with no change of foot;
- iii) 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;

e) Linking steps

Linking steps may be used as connecting steps between turns in the Step Sequence Additional Features and in Features.

- i) 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 or behind it, and the free foot is lifted with the blade parallel to the ice;
- ii) 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;
- iii) Crossover - A sequence of two steps (push + cross) in which the free foot crosses the skating foot completely before it is placed onto the ice;
- iv) Dance Jump - A small jump of not more than one revolution;
- v) 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);
- vi) 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;
- vii) Small Hop - A small jump without revolution;
- viii) Toe Steps - A step where the Skaters move from one toe pick to the other toe pick without jumping with or without using rotations as they travel down the ice.

- f) Terms used to describe turns, steps and linking steps
- i) Different turns/steps - includes each of the listed types of turns and steps plus the four different methods of execution;
 - ii) Different types of turns and steps - is a term that includes each of the listed turns and steps;
 - iii) Difficult turns/steps – consists of Rocker, Counter, Bracket, Loop, Twizzles with 1/2 or more rotation;
 - iv) Listed turns and steps - consists of Three Turn, Mohawk, Choctaw, Twizzle, Rocker, Counter, Bracket, Loop;

Proposal 239

Rule 990, paragraph 5 a) (ii) and (iv) to amend

- (ii) Artistic Circle: A Circle or multiple Circles configuration ~~with a minimum of four Skaters in each Circle.~~
- (iv) Artistic Wheel: A Wheel or multiple Wheels configuration ~~with a minimum of three Skaters in each Spoke.~~

Proposal 240

Rule 990, paragraph 5 b) (iii) to amend

- (iii) The Creative Element ends when the requirements for the Element are met. Element breaks apart with the transition into the next Element (or until the end of the program if placed as the last Element).

Proposal 241

Rule 990, paragraph 5 e) (iii) to amend

The two or more different Shapes / Configurations having interaction with each other. The Shapes / Configurations may cross paths, intersect, circle, mirror, pass by and / or be connected to each other etc.

- Choice of shapes / Configuration are: Block, Circle, Line and Wheel. etc.
- If using a Block there must be a minimum of three lines ~~and eight Skaters.~~
- If using a Circle – the Circle shape must be recognizable ~~a minimum of six Skaters.~~
- ~~— If using an Intersection there must be a minimum of eight Skaters who intersect.~~
- If using a Line there must be a minimum maximum ~~of eight Skaters if doing one two Lines. or in the case of two Lines there must be four Skaters in each Line.~~
- If using Pairs Element there must be a minimum of four Skaters two pairs.
- If using a Wheel there must be either a minimum of one two spokes with at least three Skaters ~~in each spoke or in the case of a one spoke Wheel there must be a minimum of five Skaters in the spoke~~
- ~~— If using a Move Element there must be at least six free skating moves.~~
- ~~— If using a Synchronized Spin Element there must be at least eight individual Spins or four two pair Spins or two Group Spins~~

Proposal 243

Rule 990, paragraph 5 h) (i) to amend

- (i) The Pair Element begins once the ~~eight~~ pairs are formed by the entire Team.

Proposal 249

Rule 992, paragraphs 2 and 3

Combine these 2 paragraphs in paragraph 2 and delete paragraph 3

- 2. Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features and Movements Short Program (Junior and Senior) and Free Skating (Novice, Junior and Senior)
 - a) All categories (SP and/or FS)
 - Illegal lifts as defined in Rule 990, paragraph 3.a. vi) a) and b)
 - Intersections incorporating back spirals
 - Flying camel spin executed by the entire Team
 - Split jump through the point of intersection
 - b) Junior and Senior Short Program
 - Lifts and un-sustained lifts of any variety unless required ~~(including Un-sustained Group Lifts)~~
 - c) Novice
 - Lifts and un-sustained lifts of any variety ~~(including Un-sustained Group Lifts)~~
 - Vaults

IV. ISU Communications 2261, 2458, 2470, 2471, 2482, 2486

The content of these Communications was subject to 58th ISU Congress decisions. It is now confirmed that the Communications are valid and can be found on the ISU website.

Seoul,
July 5, 2022
Lausanne,

Jae Youl Kim, President
Fred Schmid, Director General