

Communication No. 2655

SINGLE & PAIR SKATING

Changes in Special Regulations and Technical Rules accepted by the 59th ISU Congress 2024

I. General Regulations

Rule 108, paragraph 3, and 4.

3. Age Limits for Single & Pair Skating / Ice Dance

In International Senior Competitions, ISU Senior Championships and the Olympic Winter Games, only Skaters may compete who have reached at least the age of seventeen before July 1 preceding the Events.

- b) In International Junior Competitions and ISU Junior Championships a Junior is a Skater who has met the following requirements before July 1 preceding the event:
 - i) has reached at least the age of thirteen;
 - ii) has not reached the age of nineteen for Women and Men in singles competition; and
 - iii) has not reached the age of twenty one for Women and the age of twenty-three for Men in Pair Skating. A maximum age gap of 7 years is allowed between the two partners.
 - iv) has not reached the age of twenty-one for Women and the age of twenty-one for Men in Ice Dance competition. A maximum age gap of 7 years is allowed between the two partners.
- c) In International Novice Competitions a Novice is a Skater who has met the following requirements before July 1 preceding the competition:
 - i) Basic Novice – has not reached the age of fourteen;
 - ii) Intermediate Novice – has not reached the age of sixteen;
 - iii) Advanced Novice – has reached the age of ten and has not reached the age of sixteen for girls (Singles/Pairs Skating/Ice Dance) and boys (Singles) and eighteen for boys (Pair Skating/Ice Dance).

II. Special Regulations

Rule 413 paragraph 1 a)

- 1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Judge, the Official must fulfill the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four but not the age of sixty in the calendar year of the nomination. If a judge is already on the ISU list of International or ISU Judges/Referees for another ISU figure skating discipline, the age limit of 60 does not apply.

Rule 412 paragraph 1. 2. 3. 4. and Rule 413 paragraph 1. 2. 3. 4.

Seminars in person validity and requirements to take Judge and Referee examination

Seminars attended in person will be valid for 4 seasons for reappointments.

Seminars in person will be necessary to be attended within 4 seasons before any examination to become international or ISU Judge and/or Referee.

Rule 413, paragraph 3. c).

Service requirements for first appointment ISU Judge

Service: have served, during the ~~36 months~~ 4 seasons preceding July 1st ~~31st~~ of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Judge:

Rules 414, paragraph 2. b); Rule 415, paragraph 2. b), 4. b);

Service for re-appointment as Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Data & Replay Operator

Service: have served, during the ~~twenty-four months~~ 3 seasons preceding July 1st ~~31st~~ of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller or Technical Specialist

Rule 414, paragraph 3. b)

Special requirements for nomination and appointment of ISU Technical Controllers

- i) have been included as International Judge, International Referee, ISU Referee or ISU Judge in the four consecutive annual ISU Communications of Officials (see Rule 122, paragraph 2) immediately preceding the nomination or have been included as ISU Technical Specialist in the four consecutive annual ISU Communications of Officials immediately preceding the nomination;

Rule 415, paragraph 1. a);

Age for first appointment to International Technical Specialist

Age: have reached the age of 24 but not the age of 60 before July 1st of the calendar year of the nomination.

Rule 416, paragraph 1. a);

Age for first appointment to International Data & Replay Operator

Age: have reached the age of 24 but not the age of 60 before July 1st of the calendar year of the nomination.

Rule 430 f)

- Any form of electronic communication devices such as mobile phones, tablets or smart watches must be switched off while the officials are on the officials' stand. There will be an exception when the Technical Panels need to refer to the Digital Version of the Technical Handbook. Devices such as tablets may be used but all electronic communication functions must be disabled.

III. Technical Rules

Rule 504 paragraph 3 a) and b):

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:

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

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 (Pair Skating, Ice Dance).

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
- Unison (Pair Skating, Ice Dance)

b) Marking of Program Components

After completion of a program, as per Rule 353, paragraph j), each Judge marks the Program Components 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 Program Components: less than 1 – extremely poor, 1-1.75 - very poor, 2 - 2.75 - poor, 3-3.75 - weak, 4 - 4.75 – fair below average, 5 - 5.75 - average, 6 - 6.75 - above average, 7 -7.75 - good, 8 -8.75 - very good, 9 – 9.75 excellent, 10 outstanding. Increments are used for evaluation of performances containing some features of one degree and some of the next degree.

Rule 513, paragraph 2

2. Free Skating/Free Dance

- a) For the Free Skating / Free Dance the starting order will be the reverse order of the result after the Short Program/ Rhythm Dance or Pattern Dance(s).

Rule 515, paragraph 4. b)

b) Up to 3 minutes

If the Competitor does not resume skating within 40 seconds, the Referee shall instruct the music technician to stop the music and allow the Competitor 3 additional minutes. If the Competitor resumes skating within this additional period, the Referee will apply a deduction of 5.0 points as per Rule 353, paragraph 1.n) or no deduction if medical attention is required as per Rule 515, paragraph 5. This deduction also covers an interruption of up to 40 seconds immediately preceding the allowance of 3 additional minutes.

Rule 515, paragraphs 5

5. If medical attention is required (including nose bleeding), the Referee must stop the performance by an acoustic signal, follow the Medical Protocol (Communication 2267 or any update thereof) and instruct the music technician to stop the music.

Rule 610

Illegal/Elements Movements are:

- ~~-somersault type jumps;~~
- lifts with wrong holds

Rule 611, paragraph 3

The Junior Short Program shall consist of the following required elements,

2024-2025

Men

- a) Double or triple Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Flip jump;
- c) Jump combination consisting of a double and a triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying camel spin;
- e) Sit spin with only one change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

Women

- a) Double Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Flip jump;
- c) Jump combination consisting of two double jumps or one double and one triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying camel spin;
- e) Layback / sideways leaning spin or sit spin without change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

Rule 620**Short Programs Pairs**

2. The Senior Short Program shall consist of the following required elements, which form three groups. The groups that are effective on July 1st of each year are:

2024-2025

- a) Any hand to hand lift take-off (Group Four);
- b) Twist lift (double or triple);
- c) Throw jump (double or triple);
- d) Solo jump (double or triple);
- e) Solo spin combination with only one change of foot;
- f) Death spiral backward outside;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface;

3. The Junior Short Program shall consist of the following required elements, which form three groups. The groups that are effective on July 1st of each year are:

2024-2025

- a) Any hand to hand lift take-off (Group Four);
- b) Twist lift (double or triple);
- c) Double or triple Salchow throw jump;
- d) Double Flip or double Axel solo jump;
- e) Solo spin combination with only one change of foot;
- f) Death spiral backward outside;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

IV. ISU Communication 2623 and 2624

The content of these Communications was subject to 59th ISU Congress decisions. They are now updated following the Congress decisions.

July 15, 2024

Jae Youl Kim, President

Colin Smith, Director General