



By Acrobatic Technical Committee President Tonya Case and Secretary Karl Wharton.

FIG Office Lausanne (SUI), 31.05.2010

The Acrobatic Technical Committee just finished five days of intense meetings hosted by the Polish Federation. The meetings took place in Wroclaw, the site of the upcoming World Age Group Competition and the Senior World Championships. The TC had the opportunity to visit the competition venue, meet with the city sponsor, and review the final drafts of the workplans for both events. Our Polish friends have a long history of running competitions that are expertly organized. We are more than satisfied that this event will be no exception!

The TC meetings covered a wide big agenda including technical items, review of proposals for the age group program as well as preparation for the Round Table scheduled to take place on July 15 during the World Championships. The focus on development continues. It is exciting to see that progress has already been made with the number of federations registered for the upcoming World Championships increased by almost 50% over Glasgow from 17 to 25. And for age group, 32 federations plan to attend.

During the meetings the TC welcomed the opportunity to visit with Dr. Pat Wade as well as Konrad Zelinski and his wife Gizela via Skype. It was wonderful to see all three of them, and to include them in our meetings.

On behalf of the ACRO TC, much appreciation to the Polish Federation, especially Urszula Wojtkowiak and Arek Szymczak for their warm hospitality. It seems that Arek is a miracle worker extraordinaire! Thanks also to TC member Wieslawa Milewska for her work in the preparation of our TC meetings. The TC had a wonderful visit in Poland.

Competitions:

All Federations are reminded that the guidelines for hosting an ACRO World Cup in 2011 have been distributed. Now organizers are needed! Countries have until June 20 to submit applications to the FIG office. Please contact Tonya Case @ trcase2@yahoo.com for further information. The expenses have been minimized in order to give us a chance to have the series. If you plan to host an international competition in 2011, please consider making it a World Cup.

We are also looking for a host country for the 2012 World Championships. Time is getting short. We cannot be a competitive event if we don't have competitions. Please give the possibilities serious consideration and contact Tonya if you might be interested in hosting this important event.

Tables of Difficulty (ToD) and Code of Points (CoP) – Clarifications, Questions and Answers and information.

During the Technical Committee meeting held in Wroclaw, Poland 27th May – 2nd July all questions arising from competitions that were submitted to the TC by way of official correspondence were considered.



CODE OF POINTS

Clarifications to the code of Points:

Re: Artistry Judging

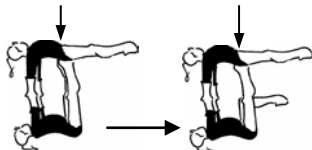
- Code of Points: p53: 49.4.9 – “Repeated use of similar catch positions or landing positions.”
With reference to the landings: *Three (3) are allowed for dismounts and three (3) are allowed for dynamic elements **without** artistry deduction.*

However, if the shape or rotation of the element is similar, the deduction for repetition of the same salto shape (49.4.8) would be taken.

- Add **START** to article 49.4.9: i.e. Repeated use of similar **start**, catch or landing positions.
- Article 49.4.6: Remove **TWO** – should only state ‘three similar’.

Question: *When there is change of point of support in women’s group do we count both base positions when they exist in the tables of difficulty?*

Not for Category 1 or 2 base positions, but you can count all the base positions for category 3, 4, 5 and 6 balances. However, as published in the April 2009 Newsletter, an artistry penalty will be applied for such a simple change. (The artistry deduction is **0.3.**)



Question: *It is allowed for a difficulty judge and a panel judge to be from the same country?*

Yes – see Acro specific rules for judges, Article 7, point 2 and point 5. However, in this instance, the DJ can not work as a panel judge at any time during the competition.

Pairs - Balance

In the Tables of difficulty, page 57, line 47 indicates balances performed on one foot of the base. However the majority of the line is green with no values given. This is because the line above, line 46, indicates the values both for skills performed on two feet and on one foot. These values should be used and correctly identified using row 46. For example, 1:1 straddle performed on one foot of the base has a value 22 using the ID 46 11.

11-16 Age Group Programme

11-16 Balance Rules

Question: *In the 11- 16 programme are the restrictions for the number of the same positions (e.g. straddle lever in trio) applied?*

Yes – the general principle is that unless an exception is specifically noted, the rules for seniors are applied to the age group competition.



Question: In 11 – 16 and 12 – 19 Men's group what is the definition of a column?

A column is a vertical balance where the 2nd middle and 3rd middle stand in a vertical position on the shoulders of the base and the top performer's weight is transmitted through the vertical balance.

Women's Group – Dynamic 11 -16 Compulsory Table

Question: On page 10 in the Age group compulsory table Row IV, element 2 and 3 – is it possible to perform the skills in a pike or layout (straight) position.

Yes – pike or straight are both allowed.

11 – 16 Dynamic Rules

Question: Page 7, point 6.6 states that two dismounts can be performed from the compulsory tables and one optional. Can gymnasts choose to do two dismounts for both optional elements and only one compulsory dismount?

No – As the rule states gymnasts may perform two dismounts from the compulsory tables and **only one** as an optional element.

Clarification: Please change the wording of article 6.6 on page 7 and 8.4 on page 10 in the age group document to the following:

Only 2 dismounts are allowed for difficulty. One additional dismount can be performed as an optional element. The landing of all valued dynamic elements and valued dismounts must be supported. If the landing is performed without support, a 1.0 penalty is applied for each occurrence.

11 – 16 Individual Element Rules

Question: Individual elements **MUST** show flexibility, holds and agility – what if one or more are missing?

According to the Age Group Rules, 9.4, all three partners must perform all three types or a special requirement penalty applies. This type of special requirement deduction would be taken only one time. However, additional special requirement deductions would apply if there are missing the correct total number of individual elements.

Question: For category 2 pyramids, when the middle is acting as a top and holding a position for 3 seconds does it count for the number of repetitions of a skill during the whole exercise?

If the top and the middle perform the same skill at the same time then this is counted as **ONE** element and both get the value for the position. However, if the top and middle perform the same skill at different times then it is counted as **TWO** elements – both receiving difficulty value.



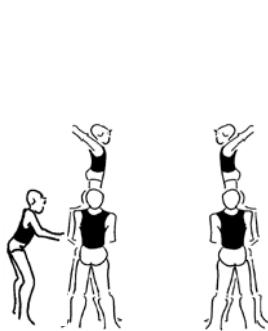
Correction: Motion Tables – For example - pages 112 – 115

Extra values are given for rings, planch on wide arms etc. – but these extra values disappear on some tables.

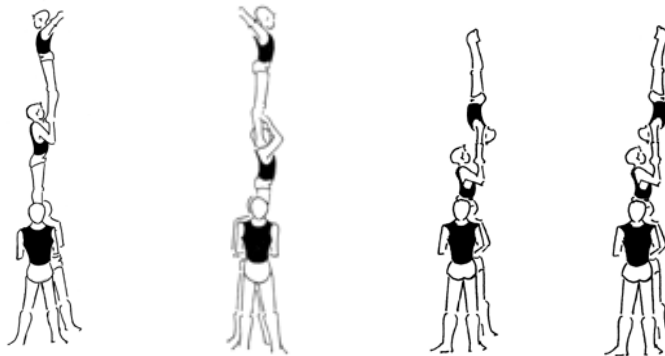
The same principle should be applied to all motion circles.

Men's Group Dynamic

Question: *From an artistry point of view, is a single platform considered the same element as a double platform?*



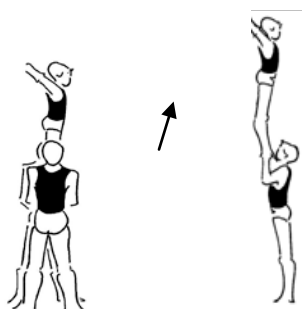
Examples of Single platform



Examples of Double Platform Positions

No.

They are not considered as the same platform element and no artistry penalty should be taken when different types of platforms are used. A platform also may be used as a point of entry to a base position and no artistry penalty should be applied unless this type of entry is repeated several times. See example below.

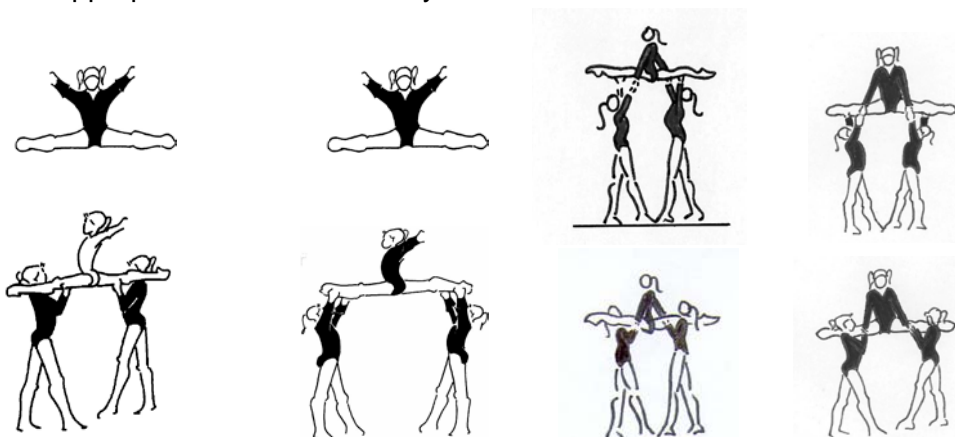




Women's Group Dynamic

Please clarify the catch position for splits in women's group balance.

The following catch positions for split are **ALL allowed** (and minor stylistic variations will be accepted e.g. holding the hand or arm and leg or shin – support points optional) and should be added to the appropriate tables of difficulty:



All disciplines:

Question: *What is the deduction for a handstand when the legs are below horizontal?*

When the legs are horizontal there is no deduction.



If the legs drop below horizontal there will be a technical deduction between 0.1 – 0.3

Question: *“When mounts are performed to one arm – must the top arrive on one hand before the arm of the base is straight for difficulty credit to be given?”*

Yes. (See newsletter 38 – 2008 which is still available on the FIG website.)

Clarification: *In all exercises where elements are restricted by repetition of start position, finish position, number of dismounts, links, etc, only the first three elements / links will be evaluated for difficulty.*

Example: In the group balance exercise, only 3 x 3” static holds in one pyramid are allowed. If a group performs more than 3 in a single pyramid then only the first three will be evaluated for difficulty regardless of whether the 4th, etc have greater difficulty.



Correction and addition to Pairs Mounts – Effective September 1, 2010 (The new values cannot be used during the WAGC or the WCH in Poland in July.)

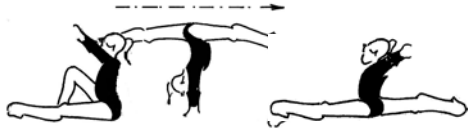
| | | A | | | B | | | C | | | D | | | E | | |
|-------|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Start | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| D | 360° | 10 | 12 | 14 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 12 | | 16 | 11 | 13 | |
| | 720° | 15 | 17 | 19 | 17 | 19 | 21 | 17 | 19 | 21 | 17 | | 21 | 16 | 18 | |

| | | A | | | | | B | | | | | C | | | | | D | | | | | E | | | | |
|-------|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Start | | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |
| D | 360° | 14 | 17 | 22 | 20 | 26 | 16 | 19 | 27 | 22 | 29 | 16 | 19 | 27 | 22 | 29 | 16 | | 27 | | 29 | 15 | 18 | | 21 | |
| | 720° | 18 | 25 | 30 | 28 | 34 | 24 | 27 | 35 | 30 | 37 | 24 | 27 | 35 | 30 | 37 | 24 | | 35 | | 37 | 23 | 26 | | 29 | |



Question: *How are individual elements evaluated for difficulty when they have more than one constituent part?*

The general rules on page 166 in the tables of difficulty should be applied – see the examples below:



Valdez (2v) + Split (1v) = 3v (counted as one element)



Backward walkover (1v) to handstand 180° (1v) to splits (1v) = 3v (counted as one element)

We look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Championships in Poland.

Tonya CASE
ACRO-TC President

Karl WHARTON
ACRO-TC Secretary