



The ACRO Technical Newsletter

Nr 4 April 2011

By Acrobatic Technical Committee President Tonya Case.

FIG Office Lausanne (SUI), 13.04.2011

December TC Meeting

The Acrobatic Technical Committee finished four days of intense meetings in December 2010 having fought their way through some of the worst snow Europe had seen in many years. The agenda covered a wide range of topics including proposed changes to the Age Group Program and a detailed analysis of artistry judging. Meetings with both the FIG President Bruno Grandi and General Secretary Andre Gueisbuhler were informative and appreciated.

The meeting culminated in a tribute to Dr. Patricia Wade, who lost her battle with cancer in November 2010. The TC members watched a DVD of an interview with Pat, during which she shared her love of Acrobatic Gymnastics and her hopes for the future of the discipline.



Dr, Patricia Wade

The Technical Committee planted a climbing red rose in the garden of the FIG Headquarters in Pat's memory. The day was cold and snowy and it was impossible to stop the tears. But just as Pat would have wanted, the tears were mixed with smiles as moments of shared laughter and times together were remembered. Those are the memories that we keep close in our hearts and that will last forever.

Age Group Programme

The TC Identified 5 Goals for Implementation in 2012

1. Simplify Competition Rules
2. Shorten the length of the competition
3. Create more Interesting finals
4. Encourage the development of Men's Group
5. Eliminate tie break rules



Important information effective for 2012

The following TC proposals were accepted at the February Executive Meeting of the FIG and will take effect from January 1st 2012:

11ys – 16yrs Age Group Programme:

1. *Simplify the rules:*

- A New Document with a reduction in number of pages of rules from 15 to 8
- Repetitions eliminated
- Structure similar to COP
- Provide all information required for 11-16 competition within one document

This revised document will be much easier for new countries to use and follow. The new document will be available on the internet soon.

2. *Shorten the length of the competition*

The length of the balance and dynamic exercises at 11yrs – 16yrs will be reduced from 2m 30 sec to a **maximum of 2 minutes**.

3. *Create more interesting finals for the 11-16 Age Group*

In the final, pairs and groups will present one exercise, as pre-determined by category, either Balance or Dynamic. The exercise to be presented in the final will be rotated between categories every two years as follows:

Discipline	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
WP	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic	Balance	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic
MxP	Dynamic	Balance	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic	Balance	Balance
MP	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic	Balance	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic
WG	Dynamic	Balance	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic	Balance	Balance
MG	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic	Balance	Balance	Dynamic	Dynamic

4. *Encourage the development of Men's Groups*

The rules now allow seven (7) years age difference between **men's group** partners for the 12-19 age group. **Note: This was accepted by the FIG EC during the February meetings, but it must be ratified by the FIG Council in May because it requires a Technical Regulation change.**

5. *Eliminate Tie Break Rules for Finals*

There will be no tie break rules for the finals for the World Age Group Competition or Senior World Championships. **This was approved by the FIG EC in February 2011, but must be ratified by the FIG Council in May 2011 because it will be a change of Technical Regulations.** (For implementation January 2012.)



March TC Meeting

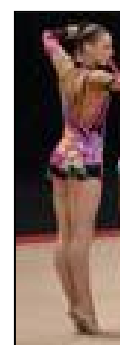
The TC returned to Lausanne for their March meeting where many issues and proposals for the future development of the sport were discussed. A complete review of the current Code of Points was undertaken and notes made for future revisions. The opinions expressed by federations during the Symposium in Russia and the Round Table in Poland were taken into consideration during the discussion. Respecting the wish for stabilization of the Code, no major revisions are predicted for the next cycle, except in the area of Artistry Judging. However, the ACRO TC looks forward to the opportunity to discuss the 2013 Code of Points with federations during a Symposium later this year. (Details to be agreed and published by the FIG Secretariat.)

Competition attire

As requested by member federations, the TC discussed the issue of leotards with skirts. The decision was to allow the use of leotards with skirts on a trial basis from now until the end of 2012. Then a decision will be made for the next Code of Points. The rules concerning the use of skirts will be identical to that found in the Rhythmic Code of Points as follows:

A skirt that does not fall further than the pelvic area over the leotard or tights. The style of the skirt (cut or decoration) is free, but the skirt must always fall back on the hips of the gymnast. (The look of "ballet tutu" is forbidden.)

As a reminder to all gymnasts, coaches and judges, please carefully observe Code of Points Article 39.8.



Code of Points and Tables of Difficulty 2013

Proposals by Member Federations regarding the Code of Points and Tables of Difficulty 2013 - 2016 are welcomed by the ACRO TC. These proposals should be discussed during the Symposium planned for September 2011. Please submit your proposals to the ACRO TC Secretary Karl Wharton, with a copy to the TC President, Tonya Case, by August 1 at the very latest. Your opinions and proposals are very important to the future of the sport and will be given serious consideration. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



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

During the Technical Committee meetings held in Lausanne, Switzerland, all questions arising from competitions that were submitted to the TC by way of official correspondence were considered.

Question: *What is the value and identification code of the following trio balances?*



Page 91 A4 – 11
= 15V



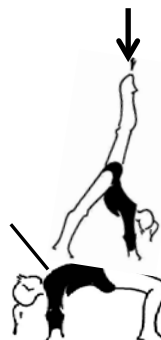
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The support may be on the foot or calf (gastrocnemius muscle) and is regarded a minor stylistic variation.

Question: *In the example below, do the athletes receive difficulty value for both base positions since they can be found in separate boxes with different ID's in the Tables of Difficulty.*



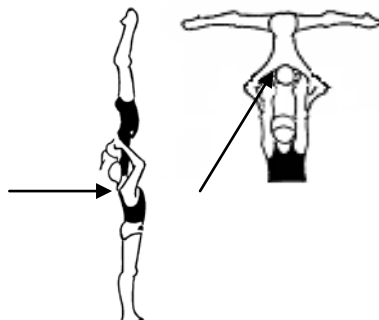
91-A4-11 =
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91-A2-11 =
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Yes – However as a release of just hands, feet, one hand or one foot is allowed and difficulty credit will be given to the second base position there would be an artistic deduction for such a simple change in position. (N.B. article 20.8 still applies).

Question: *In the example below. what is the deduction for a catch on the upper arm and not the shoulder?*



If the catch is not made on the shoulders then there would be a technical deduction of 0.3



Acrobatic Gymnasts promote the sport!

British Gymnastics is delighted that the skills of some of Britain's best acrobatic gymnasts have been recognised through the achievements of Acrobatic gymnastics group, 'Spelbound', the winners of 'Britain's Got Talent 2010'.

Jane Allen, CEO of British Gymnastics said: *'Spelbound's' fantastic achievement is appropriate recognition of their remarkable talent and dedication, and reflects the depth of World Class gymnastic talent in Great Britain. This victory, following on the heels of the outstanding results at the recent European and World Championships, will be a further boost to the profile of the sport*".



Viva Elvis

Michael Rodrigues and Kirsten Allen – the 2010 Senior Mixed Pair World Champions from the USA have been lured to the bright lights of Las Vegas. They have retired from competition and are now performing twice a day in the Cirque du Soleil show – Elvis.



Pilipchuk Konstantin, Dudchenko Alexey – Men's Pair – World medalists and European Champions – RUS

The men's pair have made it to the finals of the Russian Program "Minuta Clavy" or Minute of Glory. The final will take place at the end of the year.

Luck Alexey and Konstantin!

"Portugal's got Talent"

The mixed pair from the Portuguese National Team were selected for the final of Portuguese TV show. The final will take place in May. Good Luck Gonçalo e Sofia.



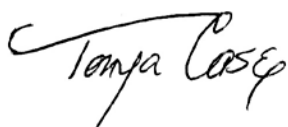
Do you have News? The ACRO TC would like to have information from our member federations about their activities to promote the sport or about athletes, coaches and judges who are well known to us. If you have any information you would like to share, please send it by email to Karl Wharton, ACRO TC Secretary, kwacro@aol.com.



Acrobatic Gymnastic Competitions / Events:

Event	Dates	City / Country	Notes
World Cup	14 th – 16 th April, 2011	Puurs – BEL 	
ACRO TC Meeting	3 rd – 9 th May, 2011	Montreal, Canada 	Hosted by Canada Gymnastics and Cirque du Soleil
Training Camp	20 th – 25 th June, 2011	Russia, Omsk Region 	By invitation only, for Developing Countries that are Russian Speaking
Training Camp and Introductory Course	13 th – 18 th July, 2011	Hong Kong  <i>To be Confirmed</i>	Hosted in cooperation of the FIG and AGU, for all AGU member federations
World Cup	2 nd - 3 rd September, 2011	Zielona Gora, POL 	
Acro Symposium	4 th – 8 th September, 2011	Berlin, GER  <i>To be Confirmed</i>	The goal of the acrobatic symposium is to discuss with coaches the changes they would like to see in the Code of Points for 2013 - 2016
World Cup	14 th – 18 th September, 2011	Vityazevo, RUS 	
World Cup (Final)	12 th – 13 th November, 2011	Forli, ITA 	Bruno Grandi – the President of the FIG will host this fantastic event in his home town of Forli, Italy. The Technical Committee would like to request the support of all Federations by sending as many seniors as possible to this event and showcase our sport.
World Championships 2012	TBD March – May 2012	USA 	The event has been awarded to the USA, pending determination of location and dates.
World Championships 2014	May 2014	France 	

We are looking for host countries for future World Championships, and World Cups. We cannot be a competitive sport if we don't have competitions. We are also looking for hosts for ACRO Academies. See the FIG website for a list of Academies that require a host country. This is a great way to promote development of the discipline! Please give any possibilities serious consideration and contact ACRO TC President Tonya Case, trcase2@gmail.com if you might be interested in hosting an event.



Tonya CASE
ACRO-TC President



Karl WHARTON
ACRO-TC Secretary