

Judging Updates for 2014-2015 USA Gymnastics Season

Notes from Region 8 Congress - Compiled by Brenda Eberhardt, SJD - Effective August 1, 2014

General Judges' Info

- ◆Judges receiving a new rating should practice judge at the new level before being assigned.
- ◆Judges are allowed to receive gifts which cannot exceed a retail value of \$20.
- ◆At State Meets and above, when the competition requires a video analysis (Base Score) in addition to the judges' meeting, the paid judging time starts with the scheduled meeting time, up to one hour prior to the scheduled march in time.
- ◆Effective August 1, 2014, judges will receive a 3% increase in the hourly rate.
- ◆Scoring Requirements
 - Each judge must independently submit their score electronically or in writing on a separate score slip.
 - Both scores (or all 4) should be entered in the scoring system.
 - In order to ensure accurate scoring, both vaults should be entered into the scoring system. The system can select the best vault.
 - There must always be a paper trail backup sent to the score table.
- ◆Training Aids for Judges
 - The WTC is updating the Level 10 PJ and Technique DVD scripts from the National & Brevet Course will have the DVD/script available for purchase from the USA Gymnastics online store At the end of the summer.
- ◆Consistency
 - Judges are reminded that all rules should be applied consistently throughout the season, regardless of the type of meet (including invitationals). It is important that the athletes have an accurate assessment of their performance, especially at the beginning of the season.
 - It is improper for Meet Directors to encourage judges to score leniently in order to ensure that clubs return to their meet the following year.

New Elements - Floor Exercise

Sheep Jump with 1/1 turn	Dunn	#1.311	"C" Value
1 ½ Twisting Double Back Tucked	Jones	#8.503	"E" Value

New Elements - Balance Beam

- #1.405 "D" Value *Whitney* Mount: Switch Leg Leap (180° split) to Cross Split Sit
 - #7.403 "D" Value *Marinez* Side Aerial, Swing back (Free) Leg Forward-Upward to stand on one foot with let held above 140° with the hand
 - #1.109 "A" Value Mount: A Hip Pullover has been added to the JO Code of Points
- Note:** Mounts MUST be listed in the JO Code of Points to receive VP credit

Compulsory Vault

- ◆Level 1 - A gymnast is allowed to stand on the board after the stretch jump to perform the Handstand fall to straight lying position on the back - NO deduction for stepping back onto the board.
- ◆Allowable Runway for Levels 1-5 is a Minimum of 60' and a Maximum of 80"

Optional Vault

- ◆Level 9: Add #5.301 Yurchenko ½ on - Front Salto Tucked off SV 10.00

Compulsory Beam & Floor - New Deductions

- ^0.10** Failure to contract &/or extend on the sequential wave in the Level 5 Beam and the Levels 4 & 5 Floor routines
- 0.20** Failure to perform the ¼ turn in the Level 3-5 Dismount - Cartwheel to Side HS with ¼ turn

Compulsory Floor Clarification

- ◆Level 5 - The ending poses after the sequential fall were designed to allow for creativity. There is NO deduction for adding movements which could be viewed as elements, i.e. back spin, shoulder roll, splits, etc.

Optional Uneven Bars

#2.102 - A cast to squat on is considered one "A" element for JO and Xcel

#7.103 - Sole circle forward or backward around the bar, also with grip change to hang on high bar is one "A" element.

Therefore, a gymnast that performs a cast to squat on, sole circle, jump to high bar receives two "A" skills.

◆Level 6

- Change the Special Requirement of One Element from Groups 3,6,7 to *One 360° CLEAR circling element from Groups 3,6,7.*

•**NOTE:** A front or back hip circle will NOT fulfill this requirement.

◆Level 9 & 10

•At State Meet and above - timed warm-ups on BARS ONLY is 2.5 minutes per athlete for Levels 9 & 10 ONLY. For formats that allow for a touch, the athlete also gets a 30 second touch on the competitive equipment.

•Composition: Change of Direction Deduction Update

^**0.10** Insufficient Change of Direction

0.10 Deduction

- No elements with a minimum of 180° turn

0.05 Deduction

- Only one element with 180° or 540° turn
- Only one element with 360° turn
- Both elements with 360° turn

No Deduction

- Two elements with 180° &/or 540° turn
- One element with 180° or 540° turn & one element with 360° turn

◆Clarification

•The Weiler Kip elements (#3.207 & #3.407) may be performed with legs straddled (hips bent) or together (hips extended) to receive a "B" or "D" respectively at the JO level.

◆NEW

•Whenever a "B" release element with flight over the LB is directly connected with no counterswing to a "D" or "E" release element on HB, the "B" release will receive "C" VP credit.

Optional Balance Beam

◆Level 6 - In order to fulfill the acro element special requirement, the skill must achieve or pass through vertical. If a kick-up to Handstand is used, it must be held 2 seconds

◆Composition Clarification

- Silivas type mounts, #1.208 & #1.308 will be considered sideward skills for composition
- A kick to Handstand with pirouette to step down is NOT considered a forward/sideward element for composition (Group 5)

Optional Balance Beam & Floor Exercise

◆Level 7 gymnasts are allowed to perform ONE "C" dance skill for "B" credit on BB and FX

- Additional "C" skills would be considered unallowable and receive a 0.50 deduction
- Stag Split Jump and Split Jump are considered the same element.
- Stag Split Leap and Split Leap are considered the same element

Floor Exercise Matting

- ◆When additional matting is used that overlaps the boundary, it is recommended that athletic tape (provided by the coach) be used to mark the mat.
- ◆Chalk may be used but should be removed before the next competitor.
- ◆A towel should be provided by the Meet Director to facilitate the removal of the chalk marks.

Floor Exercise

- ◆Coach stepping onto the floor:
 - Coach on FX Mat (Levels 6-10) = CJ deducts 0.50 from average
 - No deduction for the coach stepping into the corner of the FX mat when placing, adjusting, or removing a mat
 - No deduction for a coach stepping on FX mat to remove an object that may impede or endanger the athlete.

Series Requirement on Floor Exercise

- ◆The addition or deletion of a FF will not make a series different
 - Example
 - 1st Series - RO, FF, Back Salto
 - 2nd Series - RO, Back Salto
 - The 2nd Back Salto does not receive VP credit and the series cannot be used for SR
- ◆Level 6 Floor Series
 - Example:
 - 1st Series - RO, FF, Back Salto
 - 2nd Series - RO, FF, FF, Back Salto
 - A skill can be given VP credit twice if in a different connection
 - The 3rd FF is not given VP credit therefore cannot fulfill SR credit of an Acro Series with 3 directly connected elements.

Landing Deductions - Vault, Bars, & Beam Dismounts

- ◆Athletes are permitted to land with their feet a Maximum of hip-width apart, **provided** they join (slide) the heels together on the controlled extension (salute) - **NO Deduction**
- ◆When landing with feet a maximum of hip-width apart, if the entire foot/feet slide or are lifted off the floor to join, it is considered a small step - **Deduct ^0.10**
- ◆Landing with feet wider than hip-width - **Deduct ^0.10**
- ◆Landing with feet staggered - **Deduct ^0.10**
- ◆A small step backward to a controlled lunge after **acro** elements is acceptable - **NO deduction**