



Changes from 2014 ISU Congress – Singles and Pairs

As previously communicated to all skaters, coaches and officials any rule changes that eventuated as a result of proposals presented at the 2014 ISU Congress will be effective from the 1st July 2014. These changes are **summarised** below.

This communication is a summary of changes and does not replace the official ISU Communications and Regulations that will be released in due time.

Call to Start

All competitors must take their starting position at the latest **30 seconds** after their name has been announced. The first skater in a warm up group is allowed 60 seconds to take the starting position.

If the competitor is between 1 and 30 seconds late to take their position the Referee shall apply a 1.0 deduction. If the competitor is greater than 31 seconds late, the competitor is withdrawn.

Well Balanced Program – Repetitions

As per ISU Rule 512, Paragraph 2, all Junior and Senior singles skaters need to ensure that their Free Skating programs meet the new well balanced programs requirements for repetitions of **double** jumps as described below:

- Any **double** jump including (double Axel) cannot be included more than twice in total in a Free Skate Program (as a Solo Jump or a part of Combination/Sequence). Of all the triple and quadruple jumps only two (2) can be executed twice.
- If a third repeated jump is executed in a combination or sequence, the entire combination or sequence will be treated as an additional element and therefore not considered (but this element will occupy a jump element box if one is empty).

Example:

Element 1 2T
Element 2 2T + 2T (as a combo or sequence)

The elements will be recorded as follows:

Element 1 2T
Element 2 2T* + 2T*

The entire second element will be “thrown out” and manually asterisked in the IJS.

Age limits – Junior Pairs and Dance Couples

The proposed changes to the upper age for the male partner in Junior Pair and Dance Couples that was to take effect from the 1st July will **no longer** come into effect, the upper age remains as described below:

A couple for International Junior Competitions and ISU Junior Championships has met the following requirements before July 1st preceding the event:

- Has not reached the age of nineteen (19) for Ladies and the age of **twenty-one (21)** for Men in Pair Skating and Ice Dance.

Age limits – Novice Singles

The proposed changes to the upper age for Novice Singles that was to take effect from the 1st July will **no longer** come into effect, the upper age remains as described below:

In International Novice Competitions, a Novice skater has met the following requirements before July 1st preceding the event:

- Has not reached the age of **fifteen (15)**.

Singles – Definition of Choreographic Sequence

The definition of a Choreographic Sequence has been updated for **Singles** as follows:

A Choreographic Sequence consists of any kind of movements like steps, turns, spirals, arabesques, spread eagles, Ina Bauers, hydroblading, any jumps with maximum of 2 revolutions, spins, etc. Listed elements included in the Choreographic Sequence will not occupy a box. The pattern is not restricted, but the sequence must be clearly visible.

The Technical Panel identifies the Choreographic Sequence which commences with the first skating movement and is concluded with the preparation to the next element (if the Choreographic Sequence is not the last element of the program). It can be performed before or after the Step Sequence.

This element has a fixed based value and will be evaluated by the judges in the GOE only.

Jump combination – Updated definition

Revised requirements for Jump Combinations is as follows:

In a jump combination the landing foot of a jump is the take-off foot of the next jump. One full revolution on the ice between the jumps (free foot can touch the ice, but no weight transfer) keeps the element in the frame of the definition of a jump combination.

Spin combination – Updated definition

Revised requirements for Spin Combinations is as follows:

Must include a minimum of two different basic positions with 2 revolutions in each of these positions anywhere within the spin: the number of revolutions in positions that are non-basic is counted in the total number of revolutions. Changing to a non-basic position is not considered as a change of position. A change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump. The change of foot and the change of position may be made either at the same time or separately.

Flying Spin – Junior Short Program Singles – Updated requirements

There must be a minimum of eight (8) revolutions in the landing position which must be the same as the flying position. No previous rotation on the ice before the take-off is permitted.

When the flying sit spin is required in the short program, only the prescribed "Flying" position or its variation is permitted, this position must be attained in the air, and changing foot on landing is permitted.

Spin combination – Short Program Singles – Updated requirements

The spin combination must include a minimum of two different basic positions with 2 revolutions in each of these positions (if there are less than three basic positions with 2 revolutions in every position, this will be reflected in the Level of the spin) and only one change of foot with not less than six (6) revolutions on each foot. The change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump. The change of foot and the change of position may be made either at the same time or separately.

Pairs – Definition of Choreographic Sequence

The definition of a Choreographic Sequence has been updated for **Pairs** as follows:

A Choreographic Sequence consists of any kind of movements like steps, turns (except twizzles), spirals, arabesques, spread eagles, Ina Bauers, hydroblading, any jumps with maximum of 2 revolutions, spins, small lifts etc. Listed elements included in the Choreographic Sequence will not occupy a box. The pattern is not restricted, but the sequence must be clearly visible.

The Technical Panel identifies the Choreographic Sequence which commences with the first skating movement and is concluded with the preparation to the next element (if the Choreographic Sequence is not the last element of the program). It can be performed before or after the Step Sequence.

This element has a fixed based value and will be evaluated by the judges in the GOE only.

Pairs – Elements performed in the second half of the Free Skate Program

For all Junior and Senior Pairs, ISU Rule 353, paragraph 1 h) v) has changed and skaters and coaches need to aware that in the Free Skate program all Throw Jumps, Jump Elements, Lifts and Twist Lifts started in the 2nd half of the program **will no longer** be multiplied by the special factor of 1.1.

Pairs – Junior Pairs Short Program

For all Junior Pairs Short Programs, skaters are now able to perform either a Double or Triple Twist Lift.

Pairs – Choreography Restrictions

All Junior and Senior Pair Teams are reminded of the new choreography restrictions as described below

To avoid similarities between Pairs and Ice Dance programs the number of small lifts performed in isolation is limited to one in the Short Program and two in the Free Program.

In violation of this restriction 1.0 deduction (per program) will be applied according to the opinion of the majority of the panel which includes all the Judges and the Referee. No deduction is made if there is 50:50 split vote.

However small lifts are unrestricted when used in preparation for listed elements in the Short or Free Program.

Pairs – Twist Lifts – Updated requirements

The Lady must be caught in the air at the waist by the Man prior to landing and be assisted to a smooth landing on the ice on a backward outside edge on one foot. In the twist lift, a split position by the Lady, prior to rotating, is not mandatory

Pair Spin combination – Free Skating – Updated requirements

In the pair spin combination there must be a least one change of foot of both partners, not necessarily executed by both partners at the same time. The pair spin combination must include at least two (2) different basic positions by both partners.

Pairs Well Balanced Free Skate Program – Lifts

As per ISU Rule 521, the content of a well balanced free skate program in regards to the lifts is now:

Senior

- Maximum of 3 lifts not all from Group 5, with full extension if the lifting arm/s

Junior

- Maximum of 2 lifts, not all from Group 5, with full extension of the lifting arm/s

Free Skate Program Length – Junior and Senior

The proposed changes to the Free Skate Program Length **did not pass** and remains as described below:

Senior

Men 4 ½ Minutes

Ladies 4 Minutes

Pairs 4 ½ Minutes

Junior

Men 4 Minutes

Ladies 3 ½ Minutes

Pairs 4 Minutes

Authorised by:

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Authorisation date:

15th June 2014