

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

## Communication No. 1528

### Synchronized Skating

#### GUIDELINES FOR NOVICE COMPETITIONS

*(replaces ISU Communications No. 1398 and 1423)*

Novice competitions in Synchronized Skating are open to all Members of the ISU in accordance with Rule 107, paragraph 8.

#### **Age Requirements**

In International Novice competitions, Novice teams are composed of skaters all of whom must have reached the age of ten (10) and have not reached the age of fifteen (15), before July 1st preceding the competition.

#### **Team Composition**

A team shall consist of 16 skaters. Novice teams may include both boys and girls without any restrictions and maximum number of alternates is four (4).

At the National level, Members may permit a different team composition, for example 12 to 20 skaters.

#### **Program**

International Novice competitions consist of a Free Skating program only, which may be skated more than once in different rounds.

The Free Skating program must be a well-balanced program, which must include the following six (6) required elements:

- a) One (1) Block
- b) One (1) Circle
- c) One (1) Intersection
- d) One (1) Line
- e) One (1) Movement in Isolation
- f) One (1) Wheel

*Elements with 4 levels:* Novice permitted to have up to and including Level 3.

*Elements with 3 levels:* Novice permitted to have up to and including Level 2.

*Features with 4 levels (Steps Sequence):* Novice permitted to have up to and including Level 3.

*Features with 3 levels (Free Skating Moves and Free Skating Elements and Point of Intersection):* Novice permitted to have up to and including Level 2.

Other elements may be incorporated into the Free Skating program and will be judged as transitions and/or choreography components. The program content sheet should indicate which extra elements are transition elements.

- Definitions/criteria of recommended elements and features are in accordance with Rules 903 and 911.
- Difficulty levels for Elements and Features are in accordance with the valid (corresponding) ISU Communication.
- The illegal elements are following the restrictions in Junior Free Skating, Rule 912 para 10 b) and other deductions are in accordance to Rule 912 para 9.
- The program component factor for all rounds in Novice Free Skating is 1.0.

### **Duration of Program**

The length of the program is 3 minutes 30 seconds +/- 10 seconds.

The time must be reckoned from the moment that the Team begins a skating movement (glide) or skating until arriving at a complete stop at the end of the program

### **Music**

Vocal music using lyrics is permitted.

### **Holds**

Minimum of three (3) different recognizable holds are required. There will be a deduction made by the Referee if there is not the required number of holds in the program.

### **Competition Groups**

In accordance with Rule 933 para i) the ice resurfacing should be done after every six (6) teams.

Milan,  
11 September, 2008  
Lausanne,

**Ottavio Cinquanta**, President

**Fredi Schmid**, Director General