

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1423

SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

CLARIFICATIONS and CORRECTIONS TO ISU COMMUNICATIONS No. 1393 AND 1395

A. CORRECTIONS / CLARIFICATION TO ISU COMMUNICATION No. 1393

The following correction has been made to Difficulty Groups of Features (Appendix B and C)

Page 6 and 17 respectively / Additional Feature: One (1) Change of rotation 360° or more.

The text should read as follows:

The purpose of the additional feature, change of rotation 360°, is to show the skaters ability to rotate a minimum of 360° in first one direction and quickly change to rotate a minimum of 360° in the opposite direction.

- A rotation of 360° must be continuous
- A rotation of one or two turns that rotate in the same direction with no linking steps between
- A rotation is counted when the skater (top of the head, torso, and feet) has rotated 360° in one direction with either one turn of 360° or two turns of 180° each
- If using two turns of 180° each, these two turns must be executed with no linking steps in between and without interruption.
- A rotation 360° may include turns from other levels
- A minimum of one (1) turn from the level that you are trying to achieve must be included in one (1) of the 360° rotations
- There may not be any linking steps between a rotation in one direction and the rotation in the opposite direction except for a change of edge or change of foot.
 - *Change of Edge:* The exit edge, from the first rotation of 360° in one direction, may change without the assistance or push from the free foot and the new edge must be the entry edge for the next rotation 360°.
 - *Change of Foot:* The skater may complete a 360° rotation on one foot and change feet in order to execute the next 360° rotation in the opposite direction as long as the entry of the next rotation is on the new foot. Skaters may hop from the exit foot after the first rotation 360° to the other foot, which is the entry of the rotation 360° in the opposite direction. There can not be another step or push assisting this hop.
- **For example, a step forward from the backward exit of the first rotation 360° onto the next foot does not count as a turn of 180°. The rotation 360° in the opposite direction will be counted once the rotation begins on the new foot.**

Page 11 / Group 3 of the Free Skating Elements:

GROUP 3

Death spirals rotation of 360°

Lifts that glide and rotate at the same time

Spin combination with change of foot and/or direction (solo or pair)

Flying Spins (flying camel in MI only)

Butterfly (individual)

Biellmann Spin or other difficult variations of an upright spin

The following correction has been made to Difficulty Groups of Elements (Appendix C)

Page 13

CIRCLE – Additional Feature 2: Change of Rotational Direction (cd) / 1st line

- **Change of rotational direction must be done at the same time by all skaters.**

Page 13

LINE – Additional Feature: **Pivoting**

- A line that pivots at least 90° and no more than 180°
- The pivoting of a skater on the outside end (on the fastest end) will determine the ½ of the ice coverage
- In Line, step sequences and pivoting must occur at the same time, **with the exception of the 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) in Junior short program**
- ~~During the step sequence all skaters must cover ½ of the length of the ice~~
- **The level of the step sequence being executed during the pivoting, will be counted with the exception of the 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) in Junior short program**
- **All turns must be executed while the line pivots**
- **If the 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) in Junior short program pivots without steps, pivoting will be counted/credited, as long as the line pivots a minimum of 90 degrees.** Pivoting in 2 Lines (Parallel) Line (**not follow the leader**) will not be counted for increasing the level in Junior Short Program

Page 18

Spin Free Skating

GROUP 3

Flying Spins

Biellmann Spin or other Difficult variations of an upright spin

Spin combination ~~with change of Foot and Position~~

Page 19

WHEEL – Additional Feature 2: Change of Rotational Direction (cd) / 1st line

- **Change of rotational direction must be done at the same time by all skaters.**

B. CORRECTIONS / CLARIFICATIONS TO ISU COMMUNICATION No. 1395

Page 6 / Rule 703 paragraph 11. This paragraph should read as follows:

11. Movements in Isolation (MI):

MI is an element where **no more than ½ of the team** is isolated from the rest of the team performing free skating move(s) and or element(s) **as individual skaters or pairs**. Teams acting eight (8) pairs regardless of free skating moves or elements performed are not a MI. These movements must show a relationship to the overall elements and enhance the musical interpretation. Movements in isolation (provided these movements are not illegal movements) such as short spins, jumps, spirals etc. and other unique or innovative movements are allowed in free skating only. Group and pair lifts (allowed only in senior free skating) are always counted as MI. The difficulty of the element depends on the difficulty of the free skating elements and moves that are performed. **Free skating moves/elements in the Movements in Isolation must be executed with the skaters remaining within one half (½) of the ice surface. However, the preparation for the free skating moves / elements may take up more than ½ of the ice surface.**"

Page 8 / Rule 703 paragraph 21. This paragraph should read as follows:

21. Interacting and Pivoting Line

The two (2) lines will cover at least one half (½) of a circle in close proximity to each other and during this movement, one or the other lines pivots. The pivoting may occur at the same time as the interacting

however, pivoting then interacting or interacting then pivoting will be allowed. The angle between the two lines must change as one of the lines pivots at least 90 degrees. The lines must stay in close proximity to each other as they change positions, during the whole element.

The following clarification has been made to the Remarks Senior and Junior Short Program Page 8 Rule 703 para 25. This paragraph should read as follows:

25. Modest Body Movement:

Modest Body Movement is the visible use of the body parts (arms, legs, head, torso) to the rhythm of the music when executing the turns and steps. Levels in space are divided into high, medium and low levels.

High level: is the area above the shoulders (high kicks and use of the arms over the head or hops with arms over the head **plus movement of the torso** will meet the requirements for a high level).

Medium level: the area of space between the shoulders and waist (spiral or spiral like positions with the majority of the skater's body filling the medium level in space **plus movement of the torso** will meet the requirements for a medium level).

Low level: is the area of space below the waist (lunges, **plus movement of the torso such as** bending over at the waist and other such movements with the majority of the skater's body trying to fill the low level in space will meet the requirements for a low level).

- Skaters must execute **modest** body movement during a step sequence at least two (2) times in order to receive this feature. Skaters must **also** use two (2) body parts **at the same time as the movement of the torso**, in order to receive a credit. **The same level or a variety of levels may be used by the body parts and torso during the modest body movement(s)**

Page 10 and page 13 / Rule 705

BLOCK

The first sentence should read as follows:

- The block must travel at least the full length of the ice surface **or comparable distance if using a circular or complex pattern.**

Last sentence should read as follows:

- Pivoting may be included **and will be counted/credited as long the block pivots a minimum of 90 degrees and no more than 180 degrees. Pivoting must occur during one configuration of a block at one time.**

And add the following sentence:

- **Pivoting and Step sequences may, but do not need to occur at the same time.**
- **Block must have a minimum of two (2) configurations. Changing only to a No Hold and keeping the same formation will not be considered as a different configuration even when the block changes axis.**

Page 11 and page 14 / Rule 705

CIRCLE – add the following sentence:

- **Change of rotational direction must be done at the same time by all skaters.**

The following clarification has been made to the Remarks Junior Short Program

Page 14 / Rule 705

WHEEL – add the following sentence:

- **Change of rotational direction must be done at the same time by all skaters.**

The following clarifications has been made to the LINE in the Junior Short Program

Page 12 and 13 / Rule 705

2 b) Line:

- Must have one (1) 2 Lines (Parallel) (**not follow the leader**) and one (1) 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical)
- Must travel the full length of the ice surface and moves in either a horizontal, diagonal and/or longitudinal direction

- iii) Must have one (1) step sequence in 2 lines (Parallel) (not follow the leader)
- iv) Pivoting in 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) is permitted and will be counted

LINE

- Line Element must include two (2) shapes.
- The maximum number of lines is two (2). The lines may have different numbers of skaters.
- The Line element can go from 2 Lines (Parallel) (not follow the leader) to 1 Line or vice versa.
- The Line element must start parallel to one short barrier and end parallel to and close to the opposite short barrier, travelling the full length of the ice surface. The first step of the line must be progressive towards the opposite barrier (not along the starting short barrier) where the line element ends.
- Lines may move horizontally, diagonally and/or vertically once they have completed the required features.
- Retrogression is permitted. Some minor deviation in the straight line(s) is permitted when changing from horizontal to vertical or reverse.
- Lines may be joined or separate and may pass by each other when going from either one line to two lines or two lines to one line.
- Steps can be used during whole Line element however, only the first step sequence in 2 Lines (Parallel) Line (not follow the leader) that fulfills the requirements for step sequence will determine the difficulty.
- All the skaters must execute the same steps/turns and use the same hold except during the change of direction and free skating moves.
- The step sequence may be executed on opposite feet and the skaters may be skating in either a forward or backward direction.
- Different heights and different free leg extensions may be used.
- Dance jumps and free skating moves are allowed but not required.
- Free skating moves, if used, must be done at the same time in all lines but need not be the same by all skaters.
- Short free skating move (less than 3 seconds) may be included during the required step sequence, and must be done at the same time by all skaters.
- Variety of different holds may be used.

2 Lines (Parallel) (not follow the leader);

- The lines must start and remain parallel to the short barrier as it fulfills the features.
- Parallel line may also pivot to change axis after the lines have completed the requirements for the step sequence and ice coverage but will not be counted for increasing the level.
- The lines must be in close proximity to each other. One of the lines may be slightly forward of the red hockey line at the start and /or end of the element.
- To fulfill the requirement for a step sequence in 2 Lines (Parallel) Line (not follow the leader), the step sequence must cover a minimum of ½ length of the ice surface or comparable distance (if retrogression is used).

One Line Horizontal or Vertical;

- If the 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) is the first line to be performed then it must start parallel to the short barrier.
- A step sequence in the 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) will be called as s1, even if the team meets the requirements for s2, s3 or s4.
- The 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) may pivot at any time without steps (this exception is only for 1 Line Horizontal or Vertical in Junior Short Program).
 - Pivoting in 1 Line (Horizontal or Vertical) will be counted / credited, as long as the line pivots a minimum of 90 degrees.
 - 1 Line must cover at least 1/3 of the ice surface while pivoting.
 - The pivoting of a skater on the outside end (on the fastest end) will determine the 1/3 of the ice coverage.

The following clarification has been made to the Senior and Junior Well Balanced Program

Page 19 / Rule 711 para 2 – to add the 2nd sentence:

If the element chosen from paragraph 2 i) will be a Line or a Circle, these elements may occur separately or as a sequence of two (2) different elements. **Two Circles or Lines which are not sequenced may have the**

same shape/configuration. In Free Skating, a sequence of two (2) different elements is evaluated separately. Each element will be separately judged with a GOE.

Page 19 / Rule 711 para 3 – to add the following sentences:

If the element chosen from paragraph 2h) will be a Line, Circle or a Wheel, these elements may occur separately or as a sequence of two (2) different elements. Two Circles, Line or Wheels which are not sequenced may have the same shape/configuration. In Free Skating, a sequence of two (2) different elements is evaluated separately. Each element will be separately judged with a GOE.

The following correction has been made to the Remarks for Well Balanced Program

Page 20 / Rule 711 para 4

a) BLOCK

(v) Additional Features – Add the following sentences:

- *Pivoting and Step sequences may, but do not need to occur at the same time.*
- *Pivoting must occur during one configuration of a block at one time.*

Page 20 / Rule 711

b) LINE

iii) Additional Features:

- Pivoting may be used but lines must pivot at least 90 degrees and no more than 180 degrees.
- Pivoting and step sequence feature in the Line must occur at the same time to be counted.
- *The pivoting of a skater on the outside end (on the fastest end) will determine the ½ of the ice coverage for step sequence. The step sequence must cover ½ of the length of the ice or comparable distance.*

Page 20 / Rule 711

c) CIRCLE

ii) Additional Features 4th line should read as follows:

- *Change of rotational direction must be done at the same time by all skaters.*

~~The majority of the team must execute the change of rotational direction.~~

Page 21 / Rule 711

d) WHEEL

ii) Additional Features 4th line should read as follows:

- *Change of rotational direction must be done at the same time by all skaters.*

~~The majority of the team must execute the change of rotational direction.~~

Page 21 / Rule 711 paragraph f). This paragraph should read as follows:

f) MOVEMENTS IN ISOLATION

Senior free skating programs must include two (2) Movements in Isolation.

Junior free skating programs must include one (1) Movement in Isolation.

The Movement in Isolation element must meet the following criteria:

- The Movement in Isolation element begins with the transition from the previous element and ends with a transition into a different element.
- The free skating elements or free skating moves must be executed within one half (½) of the ice surface. The preparation of the move or element may cover more than one half (½) of the ice surface.
- The same free skating move and free skating element must be completed by at least three (3) skaters to a maximum of no more than half of a team (eight (8) skaters is a maximum on a team with sixteen (16) skaters).
- The number of pairs allowed to execute pair moves, pair spins and pair lifts in Movements in Isolation element may be 3 - 4 pairs.
- Group Lifts are always considered as MI - there must be at least two (2) groups lifts executed at the same time (group size may vary) with the same position in the air for the lifted skater.
- The team may perform one or two free skating moves / free skating elements.
- Only one (1) free skating element / move will be evaluated at one time.

- When two (2) free skating moves / free skating elements are executed at the same time only the most difficult free skating move/element will be counted for technical points and evaluated by the Technical Specialist.
- The difficulty of the element depends on the difficulty of the free skating elements and free skating moves performed.
- The free skating move(s) and free skating element(s) ~~Two (2) different and the most difficult free skating moves/elements~~ counted for evaluation *should* be marked on the program content sheet.

Illegal Elements – Senior Free Skating

Page 26 / Rule 712 para 10

a) Senior Free Skating

Add the following sentence:

x) *flying camel spin executed by the entire team*

C. CLARIFICATION TO ISU COMMUNICATION No. 1398 NOVICE COMPETITIONS

The factor for the Novice Programs using the ISU Judging System is 1.0.

D. OTHER CLARIFICATIONS

When the 2006 Synchronized Skating Technical Regulations are published they will have been updated with the corrections contained in this Communication.

A Clarification of some Calls made by the Technical Specialist and to be confirmed by the Technical Controller will be posted on the ISU website in October 2006.

Milan

October 4th, 2006

Lausanne

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General