

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



**Rules for the FIG
World Challenge Cup Series**

2017, 2018, 2019, 2020



in Artistic Gymnastics

ART. 1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The FIG World Challenge Cup Series will be run every year and begins with the 1st event of the year and ends with the last event of the year.

The events shall take place between May and November.

The Series consists of a minimum of 3 events. The maximum number of World Challenge Cup events in total shall be 4.

The Programme of the World Challenge Cup Series will be for individual gymnasts only and consist of a qualification and finals per apparatus.

The World Challenge Cup events are major FIG events with a broader participation. They are aimed at supporting the affiliated federations in developing gymnastics worldwide through the organisation of high standard FIG international events.

At each event, the gymnasts have the opportunity to win prize money and World Challenge Cup points which will count towards the World Challenge Cup Ranking List for each apparatus.

ART. 2 RIGHTS AND ADVANTAGES OF FIG WORLD CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITIONS

- Each event will use the official title of “FIG World Challenge Cup Competition”
- Each event will contribute points to the World Challenge Cup
- Will be considered as an official FIG event
- Each event will be listed in the official FIG calendar of events
- The event dates will be protected by FIG
- Each event will be announced in the FIG *World of Gymnastics* magazine
- Each event will be published on the FIG official website (www.fig-gymnastics.com)
- Each event (calendar) will be published and updated regularly on all FIG communication platforms
- The Organizing Committee of each event will be entitled to use the services of the FIG Offices to send information to all FIG Member Federations by mail and/or through the official FIG website
- The Organizing Committee of each event will be entitled to use the FIG logo on official communications, posters and programme. This does not apply for any selling item (i.e. T-shirts, souvenirs, etc.)
- The Organizing Committee of each event will be entitled to require assistance from the official MAG and WAG Technical Delegate
- Each event will be included in the official FIG result service system (publication of the results on the FIG website).

ART. 3 CANDIDATURES AND APPLICATIONS

Art. 3.1 Criteria for approval

Bids for the World Challenge Cup competitions must be received at the FIG Offices by 30th June of the previous year for the following year. The World Challenge Cup competitions for the next season will be assigned by the FIG Executive Committee.

Should the Executive Committee not be in a position to approve at least three bids, the FIG World Challenge Cup Series in Artistic Gymnastics for the following year will not take place.

Candidatures can only be submitted by FIG Member Federations. To be approved, the following minimum requirements must be met:

- All World Challenge Cup competitions must offer competitions for MAG and WAG.
- World Challenge Cup competitions may not be combined with any other competitions.
- Venue capacity of min. 2'500 seats
- FIG Member Federations interested in Organizing a World Challenge Cup competition must apply in writing to the FIG Offices and complete the appropriate Directives and forms provided to them by the FIG as soon as possible, but by no later than 30 June for the following season. Information on the date, the location, the name of the event, the additional federations which will be invited, the prize money, and the apparatus supplier* for the competition must be completed.

*in addition, a detailed list of certified equipment (as well as the name of the products with reference number or article number, as defined on the FIG website) to be used must be completed and submitted to the FIG Offices no later than 6 months before the competition.

- Applications must include the name and contact address of the Event Manager and the Media Officer.
- Television production: applications must include the name and address of the Host Broadcaster and the name of the person in charge of the production.
- Applications must include the name and contact address of the official Hospital.
- The Organizing Member Federation for World Challenge Cup events must offer minimum three different hotel categories, including the Official Hotel and one of them being a "low cost hotel". The prices charged for the hotel rooms cannot exceed the usual hotel rates.
- The Organizing Member Federation must pay a non-refundable application fee to the FIG of CHF 3'000.-. This fee must accompany the invitation letter and forms. The application fee will be returned in full, should the application not be considered by the FIG Executive Committee.
- The Organizing Member Federation must pay a deposit of CHF 5'000. This deposit must accompany the Directives and forms. The deposit will be returned in full, should the FIG decide not to assign the event to the Member Federation. The deposit will also be returned in full after the event, provided all conditions of these Rules are fulfilled. Infractions and/or non-fulfilment of conditions set out in these Rules will result in the deposit being lost partly or in full. The deposit will be lost in full (i.e. stay with FIG) if the dates, the city, or the venue of the event are changed by the Organizing Member Federation or if the event cannot be organised.
- Late applications, applications which are not complete, or are not accompanied by the application fee and the deposit are refused

Art. 3.2 Assignment of World Challenge Cup competitions by the FIG Executive Committee

A first right of opportunity to host being given to previous World Challenge Cup Organisers, followed by leading tournaments with:

- the highest media and public impact
- the highest prize money and other advantages provided to the gymnasts and participating member federations
- experienced and reliable Organizing Member Federations and Organizing Committees
- traditional and worldwide established tournaments
- a good integration in the FIG Competition Calendar
- attractive and large venues, located in famous leading cities of the world
- television coverage
- venue capacity.

Upon confirmation of the proposed Directives and forms from the FIG Office, the Organizing Member Federation must invite, at least four months prior to the date of the event, the eligible Member Federations.

The respective Technical Committees will propose at least 3 months prior to the date of the event one MAG and one WAG Technical Committee member or one MAG and one WAG judge cat. 1 (to be approved by the FIG President) to serve as MAG and WAG Technical Delegates. These Technical Delegates must receive all information from the Organizing Committee and they must be present at the event. The MAG and WAG Technical Delegates will serve as President of the Superior Jury.

ART. 4 RULES AND REGULATIONS

The competition must be organised under the following FIG rules, as valid in the year of the competition, except for any deviation mentioned in these World Challenge Cup Rules:

- Statutes
- Code of Ethics
- Technical Regulations
- License Rules
- Code of Points and relevant Newsletters
- General Judges' Rules
- Specific Judges' Rules for Artistic Gymnastics
- Medical Organisation of the Official FIG Competitions
- Anti-Doping Rules
- Media Rules
- Apparatus Norms
- Advertising and Publicity Rules

- Accreditation Rules
- Regulations for Awards Ceremonies

and subsequent decisions of the FIG Executive Committee

ART. 5 COMPETITION FORMAT AND PARTICIPATION

The World Challenge Cup competitions consist of:

- Qualifications
- Apparatus Finals

Qualifications:

- Participation is limited to 2 gymnasts per NF on each apparatus.
- In addition, the Organizing Member Federation is allowed to name a max. of “4 hors concours” competitors (from the Organizing Member Federation) in Women’s Artistic Gymnastics and a max. of “4 hors concours” competitors in Men’s Artistic Gymnastics for a total of 8 “hors concours” gymnasts (i.e. while one “hors concours” gymnast can compete on more than one apparatus, not more than one “hors concours” gymnast can compete on an apparatus). They must be named at the time of the closing of the nominative registration and they cannot qualify for the Finals. They are not eligible to receive World Cup points, they must not appear on the official results lists and they will have to start first at every apparatus.
- FIG Apparatus Finals rules will be applied for vault.
- In case of a tie at any place, the tie-breaking rules as set up for the Olympic Games shall be applied (Technical Regulations, Section 2).

Finals:

- The best eight gymnasts per apparatus from the qualifications qualify for the Finals
- Participation is limited to 2 gymnasts per NF and each apparatus.
- In addition to the 8 finalists, if the Organizing Member Federation is not represented in the Finals (men or women), it has the right of maximum 2 wild cards as follows (1 man and 1 woman gymnast only at one apparatus each).
- These “Wild Card Gymnasts” must have participated at the respective apparatus in the qualification.
- “Wild Card Gymnasts” will receive medals prize money and World Cup Points.
- FIG Competition III rules will be applied for vault.
- In case of a tie at any place, the tie-breaking rules as set up for the Olympic Games shall be applied.

ART. 6 INVITATION

The Organizing member federation may invite FIG member federations in good standing at their discretion, but must invite at least all Member Federations which had:

- gymnasts ranked 1-50 in the qualification competitions per apparatus at the last World Championships (respectively Olympic Games 2016 for the 2017 World Challenge Series) preceding the respective World Challenge Cup Series.

This provision must be mentioned in the invitation letter for FIG approval.

ART. 7 REGISTRATIONS AND DELEGATIONS SIZE

On-line registrations will only be accepted from FIG Gymnastics Member Federations. Only senior gymnasts in good standing with the correct age and holding a valid FIG License at the date of nominative registration until the end of the event may participate.

The maximum size of delegation see Accreditation rules.

ART. 8 REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Registrations must be made exclusively on-line via the FIG registration platform.

Provisional registration*	4 months prior to the competition
Definitive registration	2 months prior to the competition
Nominative registration	4 weeks prior to the competition

**Note: it is not compulsory for the Organizing Member Federation to request a Provisional Registration.*

Late registrations are subject to fines as follows:

Fine for missing or late Provisional registration (if any)	CHF 500.-
Fine for missing or late Definitive registration	CHF 750.-
Fine for missing or late Nominative registration	CHF 500.-

Registrations made after the gymnasts' drawing of lots will not be accepted and the Delegation members concerned will not be authorised to participate.

ART. 9. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS FOR THE PARTICIPATING FEDERATIONS, THE ORGANIZING MEMBER FEDERATION AND FIG

Unless stated otherwise in the invitation letter and forms, the **invited participating federations must pay for:**

- Travel costs for the delegation members
- Accommodation expenses for the delegation members
- Meals expenses for the delegation members
- Entry fees, if requested by the LOC and approved by the FIG.

Federations which have not fulfilled their financial obligations towards the FIG (e.g. annual membership fees, unpaid invoices, etc.) will not be allowed to participate in these World Challenge Cups.

Federations which have not fulfilled their financial obligations towards the Local Organizing Committee by the given deadline in the Invitation/Directives may still have the possibility to participate, but the LOC will not guarantee the hotel booking, meals and local transportation. Federations which have not fulfilled their financial obligations towards the Organizing Member federations upon arrival will not be accredited.

The **Organizing member federation must pay for:**

- All costs for the preparation and the running of the event.
- Application fee and deposit to the FIG
- International transportation travel expenses and per diem costs (including travel days), local travel expenses as well as the accommodation costs (single room incl. breakfast) for the MAG and WAG Technical Delegates.
- International and local travel, accommodation and meals costs for any invited neutral judges approved by FIG.
- FIG regular competition fee as decided by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Council 2002 (5% of the prize money).
- Prize money

ART. 10 PRIZE MONEY

The Organizing member federation must pay the following minimum Prize Money of a total of CHF 28'000.- for World Challenge Cup events as follows:

Event Type	World Challenge Cup events
Individual Apparatus	CHF 2'800.- (per apparatus)

The Prize Money will be distributed as follows:

Ranking	World Challenge Cup events
1	CHF 800
2	CHF 600
3	CHF 400
4	CHF 300
5	CHF 250
6	CHF 200
7	CHF 150
8	CHF 100

The prize money and its distribution per rank must be mentioned in the Directives.

No prize money, medals and World Cup Ranking Lists points will be given, if there are less than 4 participating federation per apparatus. This provision must be mentioned in the Directives.

In case of a tie at any rank, the prize money of the equal ranks are added and divided by the number of ties.

ART. 11 JUDGES' PANELS

Each Judges' Panel must be composed as follows:

- 2 D judges (min. cat. 2), min.
- 4 E judges (min. cat. 3)
- 1 Supervisor (min. cat. 2).

The number of Judges' Panels may be decided by the Organizing member federation depending on the number of participating competitors and judges. Not more than one judge per Federation per panel will be permitted (except for Time and Line Judges).

The Judges' Panels are set up by a draw from the judges present at the event. The draw must be directed by the MAG and WAG Technical Delegates. The participating Member Federations must send minimum one qualified judge for MAG if they participate with male gymnasts and one qualified WAG judge if they participate with female gymnasts. The Organizing Member Federation is entitled to apply a fine of CHF 2'000 per missing judge (to be paid to the LOC) should a federation fail to bring the required number of judges. This provision must be mentioned in the invitation letter.

The Organizing Member Federation is responsible that there are enough FIG brevetted judges present with the appropriate valid category of brevet for their function. Should there not be sufficient judges as per the on-line nominative registration, the Organizing Member Federation must propose to the FIG for approval the name of neutral additional judges to complete the panels (plus 2 reserves, 1 man and 1 woman). These judges, once approved, have to be invited at the cost of the Organizing Member Federation.

Such invitation must be made through the respective Member Federation. Should the Organizing Member Federation fail to propose names for additional judges, the FIG Office in consultation with the TC Presidents concerned will invite these judges at the cost of the Organizing Member Federation.

Video control system

Should IRCOS not be available, the Organizing Member Federation must provide another video control system which allows to treat inquiries and records all exercises of the competition in a quality which allows to judge the exercises. The videos must be sent to the FIG office within one week after the competition.

ART. 12 MEDIA REQUIREMENTS

Art. 12.1 Media Rights across all means and Marketing Rights

Media Rights across all means and reproduction rights together with publicity and marketing rights concerning the World Challenge Cup events are the property of the FIG.

Art. 12.2 Media Rights across all means – Definition

The right during the Term to Exploit Footage of the Event throughout the Territory in any format and by all means, media and technologies (whether now known or invented) via any service and in any form for any purpose that FIG shall determine (including, without limitation, free and pay services, in the form of or via services which include any enhanced or interactive functionality and whether linear or on-demand and in whole and in part (including without limitation in the form of clips and highlights).

Art. 12.3 Television right and production

For the World Challenge Cup competitions television coverage is compulsory.

The Organizing Member Federation must guarantee the production of a basic feed (international signal). The International signal must be available for the FIG and its Right holders free of charge at the international Broadcasting Centre or at the Gateway without any limitations and free of any access fees.

FIG releases all National Media Rights across all means to the Organizing Member Federation. The Media rights are released free of charge and granted exclusively for a period of one week after the competition and then on a non-exclusive basis until one year after the event. Then the rights are back with the FIG.

The release of the Rights shall only be effective under the condition that:

- That the Organizing Member Federation submits National Rights contracts to the FIG for written approval prior to signature.
- Each Organizing Member Federation undertakes to provide the FIG Office with the contact details of the Host-Broadcaster at least six months prior to the event.
- Each Organizing Member Federation undertakes to provide the FIG Office with a Beta tape copy (Digital Beta PAL Format) of the basic feed (international signal) immediately after the end of the competition on site to the FIG representative or agent. These footages are supplied to FIG free of charge. Production costs and postage are at the cost of the Organizing Member Federation. FIG may use the footage at its discretion.

The International Media Rights across all means remain with the FIG. The Rights will be offered as a package to the broadcasters worldwide (all events together for the series of 2013-2016) by the FIG Office or through an agent.

The total net revenue of the International Media Rights sales will be shared with the Organizing Member Federations. 90% of the revenue for the Organizing Member Federations and 10% for the FIG.

Art. 12.4 International TV signal- Definition

The International TV Signal shall be produced in accordance with the following:

- the International TV Signal shall be an integrated, complete, uninterrupted and continuous Live television feed produced to a first class professional sports broadcasting standard, using a minimum of six cameras in 16:9 format (but 4:3 protected and explicitly excluding letterbox format) and include coverage not only of the competition but also of any award ceremonies;
- the International TV Signal shall include slow motion replays, full graphics with all graphics text in English, including but not limited to starting numbers, starting lists, names of competitors, results, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, international sound with necessary related background sound effects on at least two audio tracks;
- the International TV Signal shall not include any domestic elements which would not be acceptable for international broadcast such as commercial elements, in-vision presenters, talking heads, interviews, commercial breaks and black holes or any other elements which may hinder ability to exploit the Rights;
- The International TV Signal must include full duration coverage of the Finals with award ceremonies and shall start at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the commencement of the competition.

Art. 12.5 Marketing Rights

For the 2017 - 2020 series the FIG releases all Marketing rights (including the publicity space on the apparatus) free of charge to the Organizing Member Federation. It is understood that the FIG Advertising and Publicity Norms must be respected.

Art. 12.6 Results

The Technical Delegate is responsible that the results of the competition, signed by the respective Technical Delegate, are sent by e-mail to the FIG Offices immediately after the end of the respective competitions.

The Results and the updated World Cup Ranking List will be published on the FIG web site within 24 hours after the end of the respective competitions to the conditions that the Organizing Member Federation respects the following process:

Art. 12.6.1 Before the competition (7 days):

The FIG Office will send the event's ID, the list of registered gymnasts with their respective license number and a template of the electronic results file (empty) to the federation who organizes the competition.

Art. 12.6.2 After the competition:

The organizer must return to the FIG at the end of the competition:

A copy of all detailed results (qualifications & finals) in PDF format and duly signed by the respective MAG and WAG Technical Delegates for archival purposes only.

The organizer must also return to the FIG maximum 24 hours after the competition:

An electronic file in XLS or CSV format, using the same structure as the template previously sent by the FIG Office including necessary information for automatic processing of results and awarding points for the World Challenge Cup Ranking List.

If the above deadlines are not respected or if the FIG does not receive any electronic results file in the format specified above, the Organizing Member Federation's deposit will be lost in full.

ART. 13 MEDICAL INJURY REPORT FORM AND DOPING CONTROLS

The organizing member federation must provide a Gymnast injury summary report and all related injury reports or a written confirmation that no injury occurred. This report must be sent to the FIG Secretariat under medical confidentiality within 3 days after the event. Failure to do so after the first reminder will result in a deposit being lost in full.

The Organizing Member Federation must provide at its own charge a minimum of 6 doping controls, 3 for Women and 3 for Men. Failure to do so will result in the deposit being lost in full.

Doping control forms must be sent to FIG Secretariat by Doping control officer within 3 days after the event. Failure to do so after the first reminder will result in a deposit being lost in full.

ART. 14 ASSIGNMENT OF POINTS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL APPARATUS WORLD CUP RANKING LIST

Separate men’s and women’s World Challenge Cup are established for Individual Apparatus Competitions (i.e. for each apparatus). These lists begin with the first World Challenge Cup event of the year and end with the last World Challenge Cup event of the year as follows:

Individual Apparatus Competitions	
Floor	Vault
Pommel Horse	Uneven Bars
Rings	Balance Beam
Vault	Floor
Parallel Bars	
Horizontal Bar	

The World Challenge Cup points are assigned to the competitors by name.

Rank	World Challenge Cup competitions
1	30
2	25
3	20
4	18
5	16
6	14
7	12
8	10
9	8
10	7
11	6
12	5

In case of a tie at any rank, the number of points of the equal ranks are added and divided by the number of ties.

In case that less than four federations participating per apparatus, no World Challenge Cup points, no medals and no prize money will be given.

ART. 15 WINNER OF THE ANNUAL WORLD CHALLENGE CUP SERIES

The winner of the annual Individual Apparatus World Challenge Cup Series is the gymnast with the highest number of points for each apparatus after the last event of the year as follows:

- If 4 World Challenge Cup Competitions take place per year, the best 3 are counted
- If 3 World Challenge Competitions take place per year all 3 are counted

A special award ceremony must be held at the last World Challenge Cup competition of the year in which the World Challenge Cup winners shall receive a Cup.

Should there be a tie after the last competition, it will be broken as follows:

The number of ranks of the counting competitions achieved by the respective gymnast will be added and the gymnast with the lowest total will prevail.

If there is still a tie, the gymnast who has participated in the greater number of Finals of the counting competitions will prevail.

If there is still a tie the total score of the counting exercises will be added and the gymnast with the highest total will prevail.

If there is still a tie, the total execution score of the three counting exercises will be added and the gymnast with the highest total execution score will prevail.

If there is still a tie, the tie will not be broken.

ART. 16 DRAWING OF LOTS

The gymnasts' drawing of lots for all Individual Apparatus World Challenge Cup events will take place at the FIG Office in Lausanne (SUI) within two weeks after the closing date of the nominative registration (Appendix I).

These Rules have been approved by the FIG Presidential Commission on 10 March 2016 based on the discussions and decisions of the Executive Committee 25 February 2016 in Lausanne (SUI).

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



Prof. Bruno GRANDI

President



André F. GUEISBUHLER

Secretary General

Appendix I

PROCEDURES FOR DRAWING OF LOTS – FIG WORLD CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITIONS

Qualifications for MAG and WAG

- To prepare bowl #1 with the names of the gymnasts competing on MAG FX
- To prepare bowl #2 with numbers from 1 and onwards (i.e. starting order), according to the number of registered gymnasts on MAG FX
- To draw alternately from bowl #1 and from bowl #2 until all gymnasts are assigned their starting order on FX
- To repeat the same procedure for MAG PH-SR-VT-PB-HB and WAG VT-UB-BB-FX

Finals for MAG and WAG

- To prepare bowl #1 with: “gymnast ranked 1 after CI” - gymnast ranked 2 after CI - gymnast ranked 3 after CI - gymnast ranked 4 after CI, etc. on MAG FX
- To prepare bowl #2 with numbers from 1-8 (i.e. starting order).
- To draw alternately from bowl #1 and from bowl#2 until all gymnasts are assigned their starting order on MAG FX
- To repeat the same procedure for MAG PH-SR-VT-PB-HB and WAG VT-UB-BB-FX