FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



Revised 21.5.2013

2013 FIG General Judges' Rules

The following FIG Judges' Rules apply to all FIG competitive disciplines. Specific rules for each discipline have been developed to clarify and take into account the special differences amongst the disciplines.

ARTICLE 1: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1.1 There are four categories of FIG judges – Categories IV, III, II and I for all disciplines. Category IV being the lowest and Category I the highest.

Their eligibility for the various functions is defined in Article 5. In principle:

- Category IV Judges are new international judges with no or little international experience or judges who have not reached a higher standard at the examination. They are not used as judges in major competitions.
- Category III Judges are defined as experienced judges with good results in Execution and Artistic. They are designated to judge Execution and Artistic in major competitions.
- Category II Judges are experienced judges with Very Good results in Difficulty. They
 are designated to judge Difficulty as well as Execution and Artistry. They can also
 function as Reference Judges (see T.R. 7.8.4).
- Category I Judges are very experienced judges with Excellency in Difficulty who function as members of the Superior Jury, Chair of Judges' Panel and Difficulty Judges and are also designated to judge Execution and Artistry. They can also function as Reference Judges (see T.R. 7.8.4).
- 1.2 The FIG international judges' brevet is valid during the judge's entire career, in accordance with 7.6 of the Technical Regulations.
- 1.3 To be considered as active during an Olympic cycle, the judges have to attend an official FIG Judges' course at the beginning of or during each respective cycle. The function of international judge is specific to the categorization mentioned under Article 2.
- 1.4 To be eligible to participate in an Intercontinental or International Judges' Course, the candidates have to meet the following criteria:
 - Be a member of a national gymnastics federation affiliated to the FIG
 - Must hold a valid citizenship (passport) of the national gymnastics federation they represent
 - Be designated by this national federation to participate in the Intercontinental or International Judges' Course
 - Not be under the effect of a sanction as foreseen under point 6.3.2 (Sanctions as per FIG Statutes Art. 43.2, except point a).
 - Know one official FIG language
 - Pay a registration fee of CHF 150.-.
 - For subsequent courses or repeating examinations during the cycle the fee is CHF 150.-.

- To participate in an Intercontinental Judges' Course see also point 4.1
- 1.5 Each Technical Committee determines the detailed rules for its discipline. These rules must be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
- 1.6 A judge who does not renew his/her brevet during a cycle and wishes to continue his/her career as a judge after the interruption, has to start the whole procedure again from the beginning (cat. IV). An exception is made for a former Cat. I and Cat. II judges. They can obtain Cat. III, provided they have passed the examination with the results required for Cat. III.
- 1.7 Minimum requirements for judges to be eligible are according to Article 5 hereafter and the specific rules of each discipline.
- 1.8 In order to move up one category, e.g. from Category IV to Category III, from Category III to Category II and from Category II to Category I, the judges have to meet the relevant criteria as laid down in point 2 below.
 - In order to reconfirm the category, the judge, in some instances, will need to pass the examination.
- 1.9 Each judge officiating at each competition is assessed for:
 - Integrity of decisions (morality, justice, non-bias)
 - Competence to apply the rules (the Code of Points, Technical Regulations and Statutes)
 - Correctness of behaviour (punctuality, respect of others; respect of rules)

Continuous assessment is made during and after each competition (see 6.2-6.3).

ARTICLE 2: CATEGORIES

2.1 Requirements to obtain maintain and upgrade a category

Category	Requirements to obtain Category	Requirements to maintain Category
	(see also Article 1.4)	(see also Article 1.4)
IV	 Must hold highest national brevet Attend an International Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirements set out by the Technical Committee concerned 	 Attend an International Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirements set out by the Technical Committee concerned or (if available) have obtained an "Excellent" result in the official FIG Judges' overall evaluation (FIG Judges' Evaluation program ("Fairbrother"), JEP) of the entire cycle just completed
III	 Must hold Category IV Attend an International or Intercontinental Judges' Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirements set out by the Technical Committee concerned Have successfully judged 2 international competitions* in the cycle just completed OR (for judges without a Cat. IV Brevet) Pass the examination with the minimum requirements of Category I or II The judge shall first receive a Cat. IV and after having successfully judged a minimum of 2 international competitions* in the current cycle, the judge shall receive a Cat. III Brevet** OR (for judges with a Category in XII Cycle) A judge who obtains the examination result for 	 Have successfully judged 2 international competitions* in the cycle just completed Attend an Intercontinental or International Judges' Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirements set out by the Technical Committee concerned or (if available) have obtained an "Excellent" result in the official FIG Judges' overall evaluation (JEP) of the entire cycle just completed

	Category I or II but is awarded Category IV due to an insufficient number of competitions shall first receive Category IV Brevet After having successfully judged a minimum of 2 international FIG registered competition in the XII and XIII cycles combined, the judge shall receive Category III Brevet **	
II	 Must hold Category III or IV Have successfully judged a minimum of 3 international competitions*, (including two of them from group 1-3, in the cycle just completed, except for ACRO) Attend an Intercontinental or International Judges' Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirement set out by the Technical Committee concerned 	 Have successfully judged a minimum of 3 international competitions*, (including two of them from group 1-3, in the cycle just completed, except for ACRO) Attend an Intercontinental or International Judges' Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirements set out by the Technical Committee concerned or (if available) have obtained an "Excellent" result in the official FIG Judges' overall evaluation (JEP) of the entire cycle just completed
I	 Must have held a Category III Brevet for minimum 6 years or be in possession of a Cat. II Brevet Have successfully judged a minimum of 4 international competitions*, including one of them from group 1-2, in the cycle just completed Attend an Intercontinental Judges' Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirement set out by the Technical Committee concerned 	 Have successfully judged a minimum of 4 international competitions*, including one of them from group 1-2, in the cycle just completed Attend an Intercontinental Judges' Course Pass the examination with the minimum requirement set out by the Technical Committee concerned Judges Category I who do not take part in the examination shall be downgraded to Category II

^{*} FIG approved competitions

2.2 Time and Line judges, and members of Superior Juries

If international judges function as Time or Line judges, or members of the Superior Jury at an FIG approved competition, this will be considered for upgrades of the category as well as for the number of competitions counting for the maintenance and/or the upgrade of the category.

ARTICLE 3: JUDGES' BREVET AND JUDGES' LOGBOOK

The FIG list and database of the international judges, as well as the list of International Judges' Courses are regularly updated by the Technical Committee's, in co-operation with the FIG Office and are published on the FIG website.

Each FIG judge receives a brevet card (or license) signed by the President of the FIG and a judge's logbook which is issued and signed by the Secretary General, as well as the President of the relevant discipline. The brevet contains the name, the date of birth, the nationality of the judge, the year in which the brevet was issued and the discipline. The logbook will be updated at each judges' course and each competition.

The judge's category and all competitions in which a judge has been actively judging will be noted in the logbook, as well as any comments with respect to his/her work during international competitions. The President of the Superior Jury or the Chair of the Judges' Panel or designated official is

^{**} To receive the upgrade to Category III, the judge National Federation must send a written request to FIG together with the judge's log book (original)

responsible for accurate entries in the logbook. Only international competitions approved by the FIG may be registered in the logbook. FIG shall keep an electronic logbook based on the approved competitions and the results received. Should the FIG not receive the results or should an international competition not be approved, the international competition shall not be taken into account.

Each judge has to bring his/her logbook and the brevet to each international competition approved by the FIG. Furthermore, each judge should also possess and bring the Code of Points of the relevant discipline, the Technical Regulations, and the Symbol booklet (where applicable).

ARTICLE 4: OFFICIAL FIG JUDGES' COURSES

4.1 Intercontinental Courses

- 4.1.1 An Intercontinental Judges' Course for each discipline is organised every four years by FIG. All subsequent courses are patterned after this course.
- 4.1.2 The aim of the Intercontinental Judges' Course is:
 - to ensure that all participants have a common understanding of the new rules and changes in the Code of Points and the Technical Regulations;
 - to organise theory and practical examinations so the participants may obtain the judges' categories based on standards, as set by each respective discipline;
 - to set the minimum score (or deviations allowed) required for each category of result (excellent, very good, good, pass, fail) in the examinations held at the end of each Intercontinental and International Judges' Course; these will be fixed by the Technical Committees at the conclusion of their respective Intercontinental Course. The score, once fixed, will remain unchanged for the remainder of that cycle.
- 4.1.3 Only judges of Category III and higher are permitted to participate in the Intercontinental Judges' Course. The registration has to be made by the relevant national federation of the judge and needs the approval of the FIG.
- 4.1.4 The Intercontinental Judges' Course is carried out according to the directives of the respective Technical Committee. All judges who participate in this course must pass an obligatory examination.
 - Exception: Category III and II judges who have obtained an "Excellent" result in the official FIG Judges' Evaluation (JEP, if available) in the overall evaluation of the entire cycle just completed, are exempt from taking the examination, but they must participate in the course to maintain their category.
- 4.1.5 The conditions, duration and format of the course, the number of participants as well as the form of the examination, are proposed by the Technical Committee's. These need to be approved in principle by the Presidential Commission of the FIG for each discipline. The Executive Committee will be informed.
- 4.1.6 If a Federation registers a President of a Continental Union's Technical Committee to participate at the Intercontinental Judges' Course, this registration shall not count within the quota of the respective Federation.
- 4.1.7 A judge who has been sanctioned based on point 6.3.2 may not participate in an Intercontinental Course. (Sanctions as per FIG Statutes Art. 43.2, except point a).
 (e.g. judges sanctioned during the cycle 1.1.2009-31.12.2012 are not allowed to participate in the Intercontinental Judges' Course qualifying for a brevet for the cycle 1.1.2013-31.12.2016)
- 4.1.8 The highest ranked judges of Category I, having shown total integrity during the whole preceding cycle, may be exempted from taking an examination based on approval by the Executive Committee, following a proposal of the Technical Committee concerned. However,

- in order to update their knowledge, they will have to participate fully in the intercontinental course.
- 4.1.9 Technical Committee members holding a Category I brevet in the past cycle shall automatically maintain this Category for the current cycle.
- 4.1.10 Technical Committee members, who are not re-elected at the end of a cycle or are not presenting themselves as candidates, will only maintain the same category for the following cycle, as they had as a Technical Committee member.
- 4.1.11 Newly elected Technical Committee members holding a Category I or II brevet are exempted from taking the examination. They must attend the Intercontinental Judges' Course.
- 4.1.12 Newly elected Technical Committee members will be invited to participate in addition to the quotas defined in the specific judges rules

4.2 International Judges' Courses

- 4.2.1 National Federations and the Continental Unions may organise an International Judges' Course, if they obtain the permission from the Technical Committee, after having applied in writing to the FIG Secretary General (at least 4 months prior to the date of the course). The limit for the number of participants is 30 judges per Expert Instructor, with a maximum of 90 participating judges for 3 Expert Instructors.
- 4.2.2 Each International or Continental Judges' Course has to be conducted by a member of the relevant Technical Committee/FIG and/or by another Expert (judge holding a Category I Brevet, or in exceptional cases Category II), as nominated by the Technical Committee/FIG. The Technical Committee member or his/her representative, as well as the expert(s), may not hold citizenship of the country in which the course is being held or in which significant number of judges from the country of the Technical Committee representative and the expert(s) participate. The Technical Committee member or his/her representative, as well as the expert(s), have to be present throughout the whole course.

Courses with over 60 participants require the presence of a Technical Committee member and 2 Experts. 1 of the 2 Experts may be from the country in which the course is held.

They have to send a written report about the course to the FIG within 2 weeks after the conclusion of the course. The costs for the Experts and a daily fee are required to be paid by the organizers.

- 4.2.3 The International Judges' Course is carried out according to the directives of the Technical Committee. It includes a theoretical and practical examination on the Code of Points and the Technical Regulations, as these relate to competitions.
- 4.2.4 The conditions, duration and format of the course, as well as the content and the form of the examination, are approved by the respective Technical Committee.
- 4.2.5 Judges will be qualified by category, in accordance with the criteria (e.g. percentage) designated for each category by the relevant Technical Committee. Those who have failed or have been downgraded or wish to improve their Category may repeat the course and the entire examination. Judges will receive the Category corresponding with the second examination percentage (results) achieved. Such repetition is only allowed once per cycle.

4.3 Special rule for Coaches who have participated in FIG Academies Level 3

4.3.1 To allow the participants of FIG Academy Level 3 Coaches to be eligible as Technical Committee members (see Art. 18.4 of the FIG Statutes) – upon request of their federation they may participate at an international or intercontinental judges' course and shall have the opportunity to obtain directly a Category II brevet provided they have passed the examination obtaining the results requested for Category II judges.

4.4 Examination principles

The following minimum requirements are defined for all disciplines. It is understood that the respective Technical Committee can include additional requirements in their Specific Judges' Rules. To guarantee a judges' education that is in accordance with the Judges' categorization and their functions as defined in Art. 1.1 and Article 5, judges' examinations must be made in the following areas:

4.4.1 Artistic Gymnastics:

- Theoretical examination
- Practical examination: Execution
- Practical examination: Difficulty

4.4.2 Rhythmic Gymnastics:

- Theoretical examination
- Practical examination: Execution Practical examination: Difficulty

4.4.3 Trampoline Gymnastics:

- Theoretical examination
- Practical examination: Execution
- Practical examination: Difficulty

4.4.4 Aerobic Gymnastics and Acrobatic Gymnastics:

- Theoretical examination
- Practical examination: Execution
- Practical examination: Artistic
- Practical examination: Difficulty
- Practical examination: Chair of Judges' Panel

4.5 Examinations

4.5.1 Theoretical examination

The theoretical examination consists of minimum 25 and max. 100 multiple choice questions.

4.5.2 Practical examination

The practical examination consists of minimum one exercise (to be judged on video) per apparatus/category and group and in each specific area.

- 4.6 As mentioned in Article 6.1.2 the judges' examination will be evaluated according to 5 criteria:
 - Excellent
 - Very Good
 - Good
 - Pass
 - Unsatisfactory (Fail)

The respective Technical Committees shall determine the number of points or percentages defining the five criteria mentioned above.

- 4.7 To pass the examination and receive a category the following minimum requirements must be met:
 - Cat. IV must achieve minimum: Pass in all parts of the examination
 - Cat. III must achieve minimum: Good in Execution and Artistic
 - Pass in all other parts of the examination
 - Cat. II must achieve minimum: Very Good in Difficulty
 - Very Good in CJP
 - Very Good in Execution and Artistic
 - Pass in all other parts of the examination

- Cat. I must achieve minimum: Ex
- Excellent in Difficulty and CJP
 - Good or Very Good in all other parts of the

examination

ARTICLE 5: COMPETITION GROUPS AND ELIGIBILITY

Groups	Competitions	Criteria	FIG TC /	App. Sup.	TD	RJ	Dif.	Exe / Art	T/L	CJP
			Sup-J.					+ Synchro and		in TRA, AER
								Ass. in TRA		and ACRO
Group 1	Olympic Games	For the draw priority is given to	FIG TC or	FIG TC or	FIG TC Pres.	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I
		the higher ranked judges **	Cat. I	Cat. I		Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	
									Cat. III	
									Cat. IV	
Group 2	World Championships	For the draw priority is given to	FIG TC or	FIG TC or	For Youth	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I
	Test Events for Olympic Games	the higher ranked judges **	Cat. I	Cat. I	Olympic Games	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	
	Youth Olympic Games	For Youth Olympic Games only:			only: FIG TC			Cat. III	Cat. III	
	World Games	max age is 35 (except for TC)			Pres.				Cat. IV	
	All other Multi-Sport Games *	For the draw priority is given to	Cat. I	Cat. I	FIG TC Pres.	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I
	Continental Championships	the higher ranked judges **	Cat. II	Cat. II	or FIG TC	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	
Group 3	World Cup competitions	***			member			Cat. III	Cat. III	
	World Age Group Competitions				(exceptionally				Cat. IV	
	Test Events for World Games				Cat I. Judges)					
Group 4	All other FIG approved	For the draw priority is given to	Cat. I	Cat. I	By appointment	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I	Cat. I
	international tournaments and	the higher ranked judges **	Cat. II	Cat. II	of FIG if	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II	Cat. II
	competitions		Cat. III	Cat. III	needed			Cat. III	Cat. III	
								Cat. IV	Cat. IV	

Experts for Judges' courses TC Members or Cat. I Judges

After each competition, the following documents must be sent to the FIG:

- Detailed results with Judges' Assignments
- Report of the President of the Superior Jury/Chair of Judges' Panel
- 5.1 If, on the day of the competition, there are not sufficient number of judges in the requested categories, the Technical Delegate may take whatever action needed to secure the running of the event.

ARTICLE 6: RECOGNITION/AWARDS, SANCTIONS AND RIGHTS OF APPEAL OF JUDGES – FOR FIG OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS UNDER JURISDICTION OF THE RESPECTIVE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 The Technical Committee members are responsible for the education, control and supervision of the work of the judges. They investigate and take any action necessary during the competition, and following the event conduct an analysis of the competition videos. Sanctions during the competition (removal of a judge from the competition) may be appealed to the Jury of Appeal. Its decision is final.
- 6.1.2 The assignment of sanctions and awards are the same for all disciplines. The work of the judges is evaluated according to 5 criteria:
 - Excellent, Very Good, Good, Pass, Unsatisfactory (Fail).
 - As soon as available, the official FIG JEP program will have to be used for the evaluation of the judges' work during and after the competition.
- 6.1.3 During the competition, Reg. 7.8.1 of the Technical Regulations applies. The actions taken during a competition are without prejudice to any possible sanction pronounced after the analysis of the judges' work following the competition. After the competition and after the judges' analysis, written warnings and/or sanctions may be submitted to the Disciplinary Commission (via the Secretary General) against judges, whose behaviour or work is assessed

^{* =} Multi-Sport Games such as Continental and Regional Games, Commonwealth Games, University Games, etc

^{** =} For Artistic Gymnastics: see Technical Regulations 7.10.3 a)

^{*** =} For the WAGC Cat IV judges may judge Exe / Art in TRA, DMT, TUM, AER and ACRO.

as unsatisfactory. (Art. 19 of the FIG Statutes). All cases where a judge who has received the result "Unsatisfactory" or has been deemed as having been significantly biased in JEP (confirmed by the Technical Committee) must be brought to the Disciplinary Commission.

- 6.1.4 The judges who are sanctioned may appeal to the FIG Appeal Tribunal (Art. 20 of the FIG Statutes) against the measure taken. Appeals for verbal warnings are not permitted.
- 6.1.5 The federations are also responsible for the actions and behaviour of their judges (see Art. 6.4).

6.2 Recognitions and awards

A judge can be rewarded for the following:				
 Excellent and very good judgement during Olympic Games and World Championships 	Letter to the judge (copy to his/her federation)Publication in the FIG Bulletin			
 Excellent and very good judgement at a minimum of 2 competitions (Olympic Games, World Championships, World Games) 	 FIG Cycle Diploma award A relevant award letter to the judge's federation In an exceptional case, the judge may be given the next higher Category, if so proposed by the Technical Committee and approved by the Executive Committee 			
 Judges who are breveted for a minimum of 5 active Olympic cycles, with minimum 8 World Championships, Olympic Games and / or World Cup Finals, World Games having judged without sanction 	 FIG Honorary Diploma with special insignia pin at the end of the judge's career 			

6.3 Sanctions against Judges

Judges are expected to work honestly, with respect of the rules and effectively at all competitions. A judge can be warned once, at most a second time and then may be excluded from the competition. However, in case of a very serious mistake, the Technical President can exclude a judge immediately, without previous warning.

6.3.1 Sanctions for actions during the competition:

Action	Consequences
A judge can be warned for the following: Repeated deviations below or above the deductions for errors, as stated in the Code of Points Showing favouritism or disfavour toward an individual gymnast or a team Taking part in obvious discussions and/or agreements with other judges with the intent to collaborate Unsatisfactory evaluation	Consequences ■ Verbal warning If a judge receives a warning during the competition, the following may take place after the competition: ■ Notation in Judge's Log Book
 Instances of obviously incorrect judging decisions during competition Incorrect uniform 	
 Not having the Code of Points and official updates 	

Action	Consequences			
 A judge can be removed and replaced for the following: Showing favouritism or disfavour toward an individual gymnast or a team, after a warning Continued unjustified large deviations below or above the deductions for errors as stated in the Code of Points or in the specific judges' rules, after having been given a verbal warning Having spoken with other judges and/or given some signs following verbal warning Having used means of communication which are not permitted (e.g. mobile phone) Cheating or proven corrupt behaviour Not attending the official activities and instructions (according with the Codes and the TR) during the official period of the competition Abusive behavior Obstructing the operation of the competition The exclusion of a judge during a competition can be followed by further sanctions depending on the severity of the problem (refer to art. 6.3.2) 	If a judge is removed from the competition or has committed an infringement as mentioned beside, one or more of the following additional actions may be taken after the competition by the FIG Disciplinary Commission Written warning Suspension Downgrade of Category Removal of brevet Publication in FIG Bulletin Federation receives warning letter Federation is denied a judge at one or more FIG competitions (OG, WC, WG) Notation in Judge's Log Book Any other action deemed necessary by the Disciplinary Commission (refer to art. 6.3.2)			

The judge may appeal the sanctions pronounced during the competition

6.3.2 Sanctions after a competition

Within a maximum 6 month period (whenever possible), after the conclusion of the competition, the sanctions will be decided by the Disciplinary Commission, following the analysis of the judges' scores and video review of the exercises, by the Technical Committee. All cases where a judge who has received the result "Unsatisfactory" or has been deemed as having been significantly biased in JEP (confirmed by the Technical Committee) must be brought to the Disciplinary Commission. The Disciplinary Commission will take a decision according to point 8 of the Code of Discipline.

The possible sanctions are mentioned in Art. 43.2 of the FIG Statutes.

The details of the sanction will be stated in the decision which is subject to appeal.

The sanctions taken against judges by the Continental Unions during their own competitions must be communicated to the FIG Secretary General who shall forward this information to the authorities concerned. All proposals for sanctions <u>after</u> the competition must be referred to the FIG Disciplinary Commission - through the FIG Secretary General - as mentioned in Art. 6.1.3 and 6.3.2 here above.

6.4 Sanctions against Federations

- 6.4.1 The federations are informed about the sanctions against their judges (except in case of verbal warnings).
- 6.4.2 For sanctions against judges as described in 6.3.2 above, according to the Statutes, Reg. 43.2, federations will be informed and, depending of the seriousness of the case, will not be permitted to send judges to the next Olympic Games, World Championships and/or World Games of the discipline concerned.
- 6.4.3 All written sanctions against judges and national federations will be communicated and signed by the President of the respective FIG Disciplinary Commission.

6.5 Levels of Appeals

- 6.5.1 Jury of Appeal: Judges who were sanctioned during competition have the right to appeal to the Jury of Appeal. Such appeals must be treated immediately. The decision of the Jury of Appeal is final and valid for the relevant competition.
- 6.5.2 Disciplinary Commission: The FIG Disciplinary Commission examines, investigates, and decides sanctions related to the cases submitted to them according to Reg. 6.3.2.
- 6.5.3 Appeal Tribunal: The Appeal Tribunal is the final FIG appeal level for sanctions decided by the FIG Disciplinary Commission.

ARTICLE 7: JUDGES' DRAW

The details of the procedure for the judges' draw, based on the principles mentioned in the Technical Regulations (Reg. 7.10), must be presented by each Technical President to the Executive Committee for approval.

FINAL PROVISIONS

These General Judges Rules have been approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting in May 2012 and modifications to the Rules have been accepted in the Executive Committee meeting in May 2013.

Concerning the experience requirements, the criteria of the cycle 2009-2012 and all competitions judged after 01.01.2013 until the concerned judges courses will be taken into consideration.

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE

Bruno Grandi President André Gueisbuhler Secretary General

Lausanne, May 2013