



Technical Notification 43

Dated: April 9, 2009

RE: IJS Calculation Method

U.S. Figure Skating rules 3433, 3435, 3437 and 3439 describe the IJS calculation method. The text for these rules in the 2008/09 Rulebook was adopted from ISU rule 353 following the 2006 ISU Congress.

ISU rule 353 was revised at the 2008 ISU Congress and the new description of the calculation method was inadvertently omitted when preparing the 2008/09 Rulebook.

This Technical Notification provides corrected text to Rules 3433, 3435, 3437 and 3439 to insure it is clear that the ISU calculation rules passed at the 2008 ISU Congress, and revised in ISU Communications 1535, are the current calculation rules for IJS scoring.

These rules have also been edited for clarity and consistency with other U.S. Figure Skating rules passed at the 2008 U.S. Figure Skating Governing Council.

3433 IJS - Scoring for All Skating Disciplines - Generally

- A. Technical score for each segment (short program, free skate, compulsory dance, original dance, free dance)
 1. Judges mark each element as identified by the technical panel (or each section in compulsory ice dances) of the program skated. The mark is known as the grade of execution and ranges from +3 to -3 for each element or section.
 2. The trimmed mean (calculated by dropping the high and low marks from the panel and calculating the average of the remaining marks) shall be calculated for each element or section skated, except when a simple mean of all mark is permitted as specified elsewhere in the rules.
 3. The value of the trimmed mean (or simple mean) for each element authorized by the technical panel or section of the compulsory dance in ice dancing will be added to the base value of the element or section and will constitute the technical score for that element or section.
 4. The panel's technical scores for all elements or sections are added together and constitute the skater/couple/team's total technical score for the segment.
- B. Program component score for each segment
 1. There are a maximum of five program components (four in the marking of a compulsory ice dance).
 2. Each program component receives a mark from the judge on a scale of .25 to 10.00, in increments of .25.
 3. The trimmed mean, calculated by dropping the high and low marks from the panel and calculating the average of the remaining marks shall be calculated for each program component and shall constitute the score for that component except when a simple mean of all marks is permitted as specified elsewhere in the rules.
 4. The panel's trimmed mean (or simple mean) score for each program component is then multiplied by a set factor and the results are added. The sum is the skater/couple/team's total program component score for the segment.
- C. Total segment score and segment results
 1. The total segment score for each skater/couple/team in each part of a competition (short program, free skate, compulsory dance, original dance and free dance) is calculated by adding the total technical score and the total program component score, subtracting any deductions for violations in accordance with the rules of the particular discipline. The result is the total segment score.
 2. In ice dance, for events with two compulsory dances the total score for each dance will be multiplied by a factor documented on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link
 3. The skater/couple/team with the highest total segment score is placed first, the skater/couple/team with the next highest total segment score is placed second, and so on.
 4. If two or more skaters/couples/teams have the same total segment score:
 - a. The total technical score will break the tie in the short program and the compulsory dance. If the total technical scores are also equal, the skaters/couples/teams concerned will be considered tied.

- b. The total program components score will break the tie in the free skate, original dance and free dance. If the program component scores are also equal, the skaters/couples/teams concerned will be considered tied.
- D. Combined and final result
 - 1. The total segment score for each segment is multiplied by the current segment factor and then added. The result constitutes the final score of a skater/couple/team in an event.
Note: The list of current segment factors is included in the IJS Factor table for Singles and Pairs on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org under the Accounting Central link.
 - 2. The skater/couple/team with the highest final score is first, etc.
 - 3. In case of a tie in total segment score for any combined result or final result, the skater/couple/team with the highest place for the last segment skated will prevail.
 - 4. If there is a tie for the last skated segment, the placement of the next previously skated segment will determine the better place, etc. If there is no previous segment, the skaters/couples/teams are tied.
 - 5. In ice dance, if two compulsory dances are to be skated, both dances are even in value. There are no tie-breaking criteria for the combined result after the second compulsory dance.
 - 6. No final placements shall be recorded for competitors or team who do not complete an event. The only placement recorded for such competitions will be the placement earned for the part of the event they completed and for which placements were determined.

3435 IJS - Calculations of Results - Singles and Pairs

- A. Basic principles of calculation
 - 1. Calculations are done as follows:
 - a. Every element has a base value indicated in the Scale of Value (SOV) chart in an ISU Communication.
 - b. Each judge identifies for each element a grade of execution. Each grade has its own plus or minus numerical value as indicated in the SOV chart.
 - c. The panel's Grade of Execution (GOE) is determined by calculating the trimmed mean of the numerical values of the GOEs awarded by the panel of judges.
 - d. The trimmed mean is calculated by deleting the highest and the lowest values and calculating the average of the remaining maximum values.
Note: A simple mean is permitted in nonqualifying competitions as provided for elsewhere in the rules.
 - e. The average is rounded to two decimal places. This rounded average is the panel's GOE of an individual element.
 - f. The panel's score for each element is determined by adding the panel's GOE of an individual element to its base value.
 - g. The panel's scores for all the elements are added giving the Total Technical Score (TES).
 - h. In Single and Pair Skating:
 - i. Jump combinations are evaluated as one unit by adding the base values of the jumps included and applying the GOE with the numerical value of the most difficult jump. The factored base value of the jump combination will be rounded to two decimal places.
 - ii. Jump sequences are evaluated as one unit by adding the base values of the two highest value jumps, multiplying the result by 0.8 and after that applying the GOE with the numerical value of the most difficult jump. The factored base value of the jump sequence will be rounded to two decimal places.
 - iii. Any additional element or elements exceeding the prescribed numbers will not be counted in the result of a participant. Only the first attempt (or allowed number of attempts) of an element will be taken into account.
 - iv. An innovative element, movement or transition may be granted with a special bonus of two points. This bonus can only be obtained once for a program.
 - v. The bonus (if obtained) will be added to the sum of the panel's score for all the elements giving thus the total technical score.
 - vi. In the free skate of singles skating the base values (but not the GOEs) for all jump elements started in the second half of the program will be multiplied by a special factor 1.1 in order to give credit for even distribution of difficulties in the program. In pairs skating the base value (but not the GOEs) for all throw jumps, jump elements, lifts and twist lifts, started in the second half of the program will be multiplied by a special factor 1.1. Each factored base value for all jump elements (singles skating) and for all throw jumps, jump elements, lifts and twist lifts (pair skating) performed in the second half of the free skate program will be rounded to two decimal places. The second half commences in the middle of the required time without taking into account plus or minus 10 seconds allowance.
 - i. Each judge also marks the program components on a scale from 0.25 to 10.00 with 0.25 points increments.
 - j. The panel's points for each program component are obtained by calculating the trimmed mean of the judges' marks for that program component. The trimmed mean is calculated in the manner described above in subparagraph d.
 - k. The trimmed mean of each program component score is rounded to two decimal places. Note: A simple mean is permitted in non-qualifying competitions as provided for elsewhere in the rules.
 - l. The panel's points for each program component are then multiplied by a factor and then rounded to two decimal places. The sum is the Program Component Score (PCS).

Note: The list of current program component factors is included in the IJS Factor Table for Singles/Pairs/Dance and Adult Singles/Pairs/Dance posted on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link.

- m. Deductions are applied for each violation as follows:
 - i. Time violations: -1.0 for every five seconds lacking or in excess
 - ii. Music violations: -1.0 for vocal music
 - iii. Illegal element violation: -2.0 for every illegal element
 - iv. Costume and prop violation: -1.0
 - v. Falls: -1.0 for every fall (in pair skating -1.0 for a fall of one partner and -2.0 for a fall of both partners). For interpretation of this rule, a fall is defined as loss of control by a skater with the result that the majority of the skater's own body weight is on the ice supported by any other part of the body other than the blades e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.
 - vi. Deductions will be applied for interruptions to the program as follows: -1.0 for 11-20 seconds interruption; -2.0 for 21-30 seconds interruption, etc.
 - vii. Deduction of -2.0 will be applied when appropriate in case of a fresh start.
- B. Determination of results in each segment of a competition
 - 1. Refer to rule 3433 C.
- C. Determination of combined and final result
 - 1. Refer to rule 3433 D.

Note: The list of current segments factors used to determine combined and finals results is included in the IJS Factor Table for Singles/Pairs/Dance and Adult Singles/ Pairs/Dance posted on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link.

3437 IJS — Calculations of Results — Ice Dancing

A. Basic Principles of Calculation

1. Calculations are done as follows:

- a. Every section of a compulsory dance and every element of the original and free dance has a certain base value indicated in the Scale of Value (SOV) chart in an ISU Communication.
- b. Each judge identifies for each section/element a grade of execution. Each grade has its own plus or minus numerical value as indicated in the SOV chart.
- c. The panel's grade of execution (GOE) is determined by calculating the trimmed mean of the numerical values of the GOE awarded by the panel of judges.
- d. The trimmed mean is calculated by deleting the highest and the lowest values and calculating the average of the remaining maximum values.
Note: A simple mean is permitted in nonqualifying competitions as provided for elsewhere in the rules.
- e. The average is rounded to two decimal places. This rounded average is the panel's GOE of an individual section/element
- f. The panel's score for each section/element is determined by adding the panel's GOE of an individual section/element to its base value.
- g. The panel's scores for all the sections/elements are added giving the total technical score (TES).
- h. In ice dance, combination lifts are evaluated as one unit by adding the base values of the two first-executed types of lifts, multiplying the results by 0.8 and afterwards applying the GOE with the numerical value of the most difficult lift. The factored base value of the combination lift will be rounded to two decimal places.
- i. Each judge also marks the program components on a scale from 0.25 to 10.00 with 0.25 increments.
- j. The panel's points for each program component are obtained by calculating the trimmed mean of the judges' marks for that program component. The trimmed mean is calculated in the manner described above in sub paragraph d.
- k. The trimmed mean of each program component score is rounded to two decimal places.
Note: A simple mean is permitted in nonqualifying competitions as provided for elsewhere in the rules.
- l. The panel's points for each program component are then multiplied by a factor and then rounded to two decimal places. The sum is the Program Component Score (PCS)

Note: The list of current program component factors included in the IJS Factor Table for Singles/Pairs/Dance and Adult Singles/Pairs/Dance on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link.

m. Deductions are applied for each violation as follows:

- i. By the event referee:
 - Program time violation: -1.0 for every five seconds lacking or in excess;
 - Costume and prop violation: - 1.0;
 - Lifts exceeding permitted duration: - 1.0 per lift.
- ii. By the technical panel:
 - Extra elements: -1.0 per violation
 - Illegal element/movement violation: -2.0 per violation
 - Falls: -1.0 for every fall of one partner and -2.0 for every fall by both partners. For interpretation of this rule, a fall is defined as loss of control by a skater(s) with the result that the majority of the skater's

own body weight is on the ice supported by any other part of the body other than the blades e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.

- iii. For compulsory dances:
 - If a fall occurs during the introductory and/or concluding steps/movements, only the technical panel makes an appropriate deduction.
 - If a fall occurs during a section of the dance, the technical panel and judges make an appropriate deduction
- iv. For the original and free dance only:

If a stumble or fall causes interruptions to the program that exceed five seconds, an additional deduction will be applied by the event referee as follows:

 - -1.0 (for 6-15 seconds interruption)
 - -2.0 (for 16-30 seconds interruption)

Note: A fall on a required element/section may be further reflected in the judges' assessment (GOE and components) and by the technical specialists' assignment of the level for that element/section.

- B. Determination of results in each segment of the competition
 1. Refer to rule 3433 (C)
- C. Determination of combined and final result
 1. Refer to rules 3433 (D)

Note: The list of current segment factors used to determine combined and final results is included in the IJS Factor Table for Singles/Pairs/Dance and Adult Singles/Pairs/Dance posted on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only web site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link.

3439 IJS — Calculation of Results — Synchronized Skating

- A. Basic principles of calculation
 1. Calculations are done as follows:
 - a. Every element has a base value indicated in the Scale of Values (SOV) chart in an ISU Communication
 - b. The base values for the levels of elements is determined by combining the difficulty groups of elements and the difficulty groups of the features. Each synchronized skating element/configuration belongs to a difficulty group of elements, which may contain the additional features that are specific for the respective element and increase the difficulty of an element.
 - c. Each judge identifies for each element a grade of execution (GOE). Each grade has its own plus or minus numerical value as indicated in the SOV chart.
 - d. The panel's grade of execution (GOE) is determined by calculating the trimmed mean of the numerical values of the grades of execution awarded by the panel of judges.
 - e. The trimmed mean is calculated by deleting the highest and the lowest values and calculating the average of the remaining maximum values.
 - Note:** A simple mean is permitted in nonqualifying competitions as provided elsewhere in the rules.
 - f. The average is rounded to two decimal places. This rounded average is the panel's GOE of an individual element.
 - g. The panel's score for each element is determined by adding the panel's GOE of an individual element to its base value.
 - h. If the value of the element (after taking any missing requirement, deductions and reductions) is less than zero, the element will be awarded a value of 0.0.
 - h. In a short program and free skate, a sequence of two element's configurations in the circle, intersection, wheel and line is evaluated separately. Each configuration will be separately judged with a GOE.
 - i. In a short program each configuration of the circle, intersection, and wheel will be evaluated separately and given a GOE. In the free skate each element will be evaluated separately and given a GOE. In the short program and the free skate each step sequence will be evaluated separately and given a GOE.
 - j. The panel's scores for all the elements are added giving the total technical score (TES).
 - k. Any additional element or elements exceeding the prescribed numbers will not be counted in the result of a team. Only the first attempt (or allowed number of attempts) of an element will be taken into account.
 - l. An innovative element, movement or transition may be granted with a special bonus of two points. This bonus can only be obtained once for a program.
 - m. The bonus (if obtained) will be added to the sum of the panel's score for all the elements, thus giving the total technical score.
 - n. Each judge also marks the program components on a scale from 0.25 to 10.00 with 0.25-point increments.
 - o. The panel's points for each program component are obtained by calculating the trimmed mean of the judges' marks for that program component. The trimmed mean is calculated in the manner described above in subparagraph e. The trimmed mean of each program component score is rounded to two decimal places.
Note: A simple mean is permitted in nonqualifying competitions as provided elsewhere in the rules.
 - p. The panel's points for each program component are multiplied by a factor and then rounded to two decimal places. The sum is the program component score (PCS)

Note: The list of current program component factors is included in the IJS Factor Table for Synchronized Skating on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link.

2. Deductions and reductions

Note: Deductions and reductions for the short program are updated yearly and are published in ISU Communications.

- a. Reductions for breaks, stumbles, falls and collisions in the required elements in the short program will be made by judges in the grade of execution (GOE).
- b. Further deductions for a fall in any part of the program (required elements and transitions) will be identified by the technical specialist and confirmed by the technical controller.
 - i. Falls: 1.0 for every fall of one skater and -2.0 for every fall of more than one skater.
 - ii. If the fall causes interruptions to the program that exceed 10 seconds, additional deductions will be applied
 - iii. A fall is defined as the loss of control by a skater with the result that that majority of the skater's own body weight is on the ice being supported by any other part of the body other than the blades, e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.
- c. Elements, which do not fulfill the requirements, will be penalized. Deductions/reductions for "not according to requirements" will be made from the total points for the respective element or from the GOE. Those deductions will be identified and given by the technical specialist and verified by the technical controller. The reductions will be identified and given by the judge.
- d. Deductions for the additional elements and illegal elements will be made from the total score by the technical specialist and verified by the technical controller. The deduction for an additional element is -1.0 and for an illegal element is -2.0.
- e. Deductions made by the referee from the total score for each violation will be as follows:
 - i. Costume and make-up violation: -1.0
 - ii. Music violation: -1.0
 - iii. Program time violation: -1.0 for every five seconds lacking or in excess
 - iv. Holds (not according to requirements): -1.0 up to -2.0
 - v. Excessive use of ice (during a transition/between elements): -1.0 (short program only)
 - vi. Excessive use of ice (during an element): -1.0
 - vii. Excessive division into small groups and sub-grouping more than 1/2 of the program: -2.0
 - viii. Interruption of a program (caused by a stumble or a fall):
 - deduction -1.0 (for 11-20 seconds interruption)
 - deduction -2.0 (for 21-30 seconds interruption) etc.
 - ix. Choreography excessively facing one side of the rink: -2.0
- f. Deductions for interruption of a program will be done by the referee from the total score as follows: deduction -1.0 for 11-20 seconds interruption, deduction -2.0 for 21-30 seconds interruption, etc.
- g. The choreography and elements must be executed facing towards all sides of the rink and not excessively facing one side, otherwise the deduction -2.0 will be done by the referee.
- h. Every failure in the required elements must be reflected only in the technical score according to the importance of the element failed or omitted and the gravity of the mistake itself, since there is no direct relationship between the technical score and the program component score. However, deductions for failures must be made in the program component scores if other program components are involved. An element and feature and additional feature is omitted when it is not tried.

B. Determination of results in each part of a competition

1. The total segment score of each team in each part of a competition (short program and free skate) is calculated by adding the total technical score and the total program component score, subtracting any program deductions. The result is the total segment score.
2. The team with the highest total segment score is placed first; the team with the next highest total segment score is placed second and so on.
3. If two or more teams have the same total segment score:
 - a. In the short program the total technical score will break the tie. If the total technical scores are also equal, the teams concerned will be considered tied.
 - b. In the free skate the program component score will break the tie. If the program component scores are also equal, the teams concerned will be considered tied.

C. Determination of combined and final results

1. The total segment score for each segment is multiplied by the current segment factor and then added. The result constitutes the final score of a team in an event.

Note: The list of current segment factors is included in the IJS Factor Table for Synchronized Skating on the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only site at www.usfsaonline.org, under the Accounting Central link.

2. The team with the highest final score is first, etc.
3. In case of a tie in total segment score for any combined result or the final result, the team with the highest score for the last segment skated will prevail.
4. If there is a tie for the last skated segment, the placement of the next previously skated segment will determine the better place, etc. If there is no previous segment, the teams are tied.
5. No final placement will be recorded for teams who do not complete an event. The only placement recorded for such competitors will be the placement earned for the part of the event they completed and for which placements were determined.