



Lausanne (SUI), October 2016

It's official: Acrobatic Gymnastics will be part of the 2018 Youth Olympic Games

Come 2018, Acrobatic Gymnastics will be a Youth Olympic discipline.

Acro was accepted by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board as a new discipline for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games at the board's recent meeting in Rio de Janeiro (BRA). It will be **MIXED PAIR**, because of gender equality.

The IOC Executive Board also confirmed the following as a medal event:

A new Multidiscipline Event in which all gymnasts (156) from all continents will be divided into 12 groups, with each group containing 13 gymnasts and competing as a multinational, multidiscipline team.

This Multidiscipline Event will also serve as qualification for the:

- Artistic Gymnastics All-around Final
- Artistic Gymnastics Individual Apparatus Finals
- Rhythmic Gymnastics Individual All-around Final
- Trampoline Final
- **Acrobatic Gymnastics Final**

The third edition of the Youth Olympic Games will be held October 1-12, 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The Age for the Junior Mixed Pair will be 15 – 18 and use our Junior rules.

It's now up to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Community to adapt to this great new situation in 2018.

We have to provide Mixed Pairs of the highest quality, matching this level of competition!

We have to show we can do it in 2018!!!!



The American Mixed pair at the 2016 Worlds

Acrobatic Gymnastics puts on a fantastic display at the FIG Olympic Gymnastics Gala in Rio.

The Chinese Men's Group from China and the Mixed Pair from Russia (both World Champions along with a trio from Great Britain did out sport proud when they put on a fantastic display of acrobatic skill in the gymnastic gala in Rio – well done to all.



Mozambique added to the list of FIG Academy host countries

The Gymnastics Federation of Mozambique became the 71st FIG member federation to host an Academy. It was a Level 1 Academy for Acrobatic Gymnastics that was held at the Faculty of Physical Education & Sport in the capital city of Maputo.

Mozambique had formerly hosted training sessions for the FIG Age Group Programme but this is the first time for an Academy. It was the 236th Academy overall and the 48th to be held in Africa.

This Academy was approved and organised on short notice in an effort to support the discipline of Acrobatic Gymnastics and the development of Gymnastics in Mozambique and the countries of Africa Zone 3. However, none of the other federations were able to attend.



Academy participants

Ten coaches from Mozambique attended this 14th Acrobatics Academy and brought the total number of different coaches to have attended Acrobatic Academies to 180. The Academy was officially held in the Spanish and English languages, but it turned out that all of the teaching was done in Portuguese because the three experts were fluent in that language as well.

The course leader was **Andrea João** (centre) of Brazil who has served many times as FIG expert at Academies in all disciplines. She taught all of the theory lectures. Two other experts came to teach at this Academy from Portugal. **Lourenço França** who coaches the Portuguese National Team and is also a frequent Academy expert. He was joined by first-time Academy expert **Ana Úrsula Martins** who coaches with the Portuguese Acrobatic team members and recently attended the special seminar hosted by FIG for music and artistry.



The examination at the end of the Academy consisted of a three-part examination that includes a theory examination and two practical examinations involving the teaching of an individual and a pairs acrobatic skill. The results were relatively low which reflected the lack of experience of the participants with this discipline. However, several coaches had good results. The top three results were achieved by **Belarmina Uatura**, **Aristides Nandza**, and **Keke Munguambe**.

Thanks go to the Mozambique Gymnastics Federation of Mozambique for its interest in Acrobatic Gymnastics and for its willingness to host an Academy for the very first time.

Acrobatic Gymnastics in the spotlight at SportAccord convention in Lausanne

LAUSANNE (SUI), FIG Office, April 19, 2016 Fresh off their golden performances at the Acrobatic Gymnastics Worlds in Putian, China, two World champion Acrobatic Groups demonstrated their beauty and technical merit before the eyes of the sports public at the SportAccord convention opening ceremony in Lausanne.

Between presentations from the celebrated Béjart Ballet of Lausanne, the Russian Women's Trio and the Chinese Men's Group took part in the festivities, which gathered more than 100 international sports federations, both Olympic and non-Olympic, for several days of meetings and exchanges.

"It is important to us to increase the visibility of Acrobatic Gymnastics," FIG President **Bruno Grandi** said during the recent Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships, which concluded April 4 in Putian, China. "It's easier to convince IOC members that Acrobatic Gymnastics deserves a place in the Olympic Games if we can open this small door and show them what a fantastic sport it is."

The FIG has been organising coaches education programmes and channelling funding through its continental unions for the development of Acro all over the world. "We are in close discussions with the IOC and are trying our best to possibly lead this sport to the Youth Olympic Games," said FIG Secretary General **André Gueisbuhler**. The next step, according to the FIG, is to show the discipline off -- "And I am sure your Men's Group will had the necessary effect," he told the Chinese media assembled in Putian.



The Chinese Men's group at the 2016 Worlds



Twenty one nations, including first-time participant Iran, took part at the World Championships, which are held every two years, but 34 competed in the World Age Group competitions, reserved for junior gymnasts.

"Everyone loves Acro as soon as they know what it is," said **Rosy Taeymans**, President of the FIG Acrobatic Technical Committee.

"The problem is that most people don't know what it is."



The Russian Women's Trio at the 2016 Worlds

Clarifications, Questions and Answers

Question: In the TOD P7 it indicates that the Planche receives a +2 on straight arms. So when a planche is on other parts of the body, does it also receive a +2 when it is done on other parts of the body?

Answer: Yes, because all elements Value 6 or higher use the grey bubbles in the TOD

Question: In the CoP, Article 23.3 re: the repetition of "horizontal" catch positions – For pairs, does this just mean basket repetition or ALL horizontal positions?

Answer: All horizontal positions. The Table on page 10 are examples.

Question: Length of music – the question is about whether the timing continues until the final pose is held OR until the music ends, whichever is longer?

Answer: The timing of the exercise starts with the beginning of the music until the end of the music.

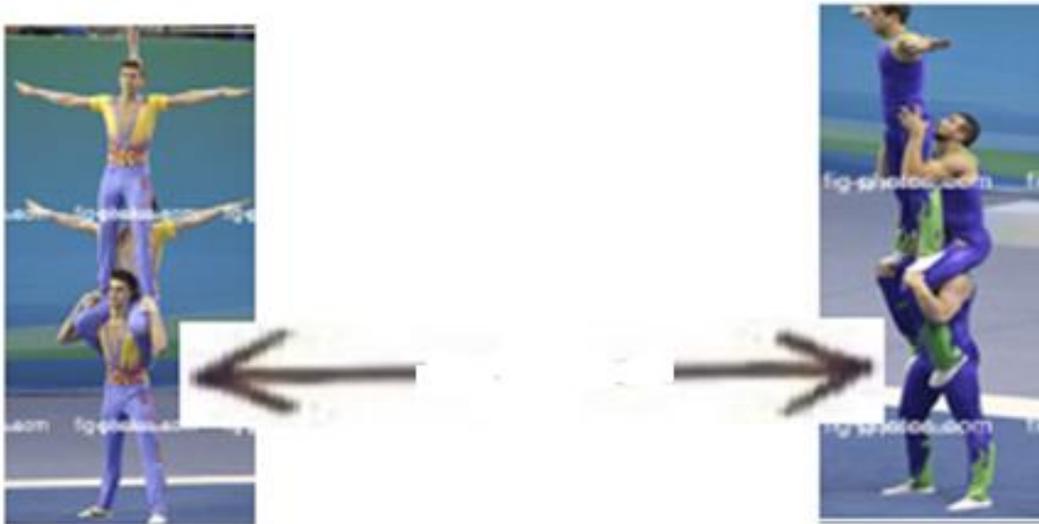
CJP deduction (43.1) will be applied as per the article.

Question: In the Age group programme if the total difficulty is 80, and 80 values are performed, the score is 0.80. If 78, 0.78. If they go 20 values over, does this give them extra difficulty?

Answer: No – the difficulty is capped in the Age Group Programme.



Question: What is the correct position of the feet for the middle in this base position and what is the deduction if any?



Answer: The feet must be wrapped around the back of the base as in the left picture. If the feet rest against the thighs of the base there is a deduction 0.5 for additional support.

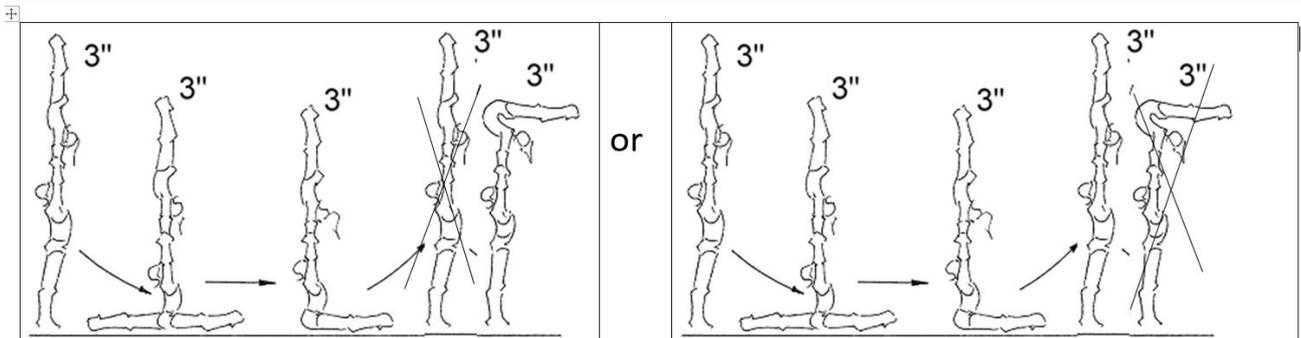
Question: Now that the plunch has been moved into the miscellaneous box in the category of elements does this mean we have to use the white circles instead of the grey ones reserved for the handstands?

Answer: No - All elements with Value 6 or more receive the value in the grey bubble (handstands/foot to hand(s)/miscellaneous) Pg 16 in the TOD.

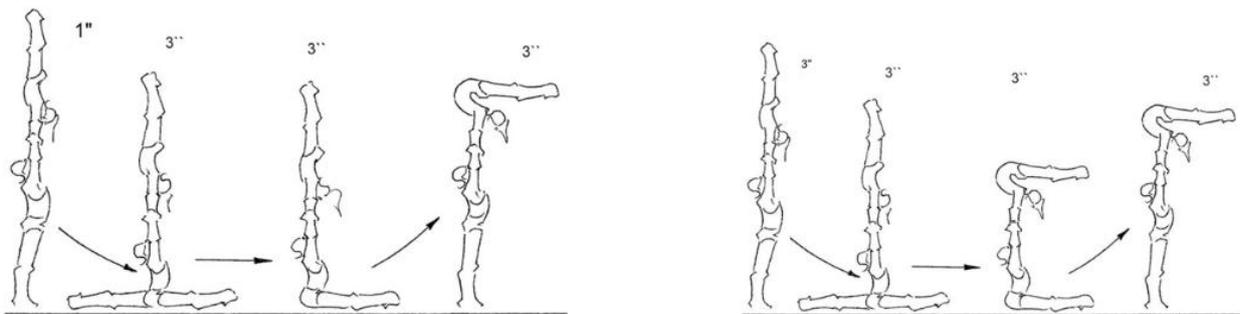
Question: We now have a maximum of 8 elements in one exercise (for difficulty). Besides these, can we do simple elements such as entries, motions, links, catches and dismounts (and not claim difficulty value)?

Answer: Yes - you can do these simple elements (low value elements not for difficulty) and you **don't** put them on the Tariff sheet.

Question: Can the following elements be performed in a pair exercise?



Answer: NO, this is not allowed. You can only claim value for a static position 2X in a static hold and 2X during a motion. Art 19.4 COP. The following are good examples of how this is performed.



Question: In age Group combined, if a round off flic salto (Tumbling only) is performed that is the 3 individuals and no further individual is required for Special requirements.

Answer: That is correct as only three individuals can be performed.

Question: On Page 61 the chest balance position (tab.5 11) is only shown in the code on two hands or two feet however this is normally done on one foot/hand etc. Can this still be performed?

Answer: Yes – it will be found on page 64 with the following values: 1-1-2-2

Question: In article 5.4 Age Group Rules it states that the coefficient normally applied to WP Balance and dynamic does not apply for 11-16 is this referring to page 9 General Rules in CoP, if so what about for Women's groups at 11-16 as the additional difficulty is now for both WP and WG?

Answer: It will be adjusted to include WG.



Page 131 TOD

Please add the following correction to the twisting table:

Clarification: The deep arch (Mexican) receives a +2 for difficulty BUT it is considered as the same element as a horizontal arch (Mexican). Therefore it can only be performed TWO times as a static hold and TWO times during the motion of the base (regardless of it is a deep arch or a horizontal arch).

Clarification: Are the following base positions in MG balance considered new base positions?

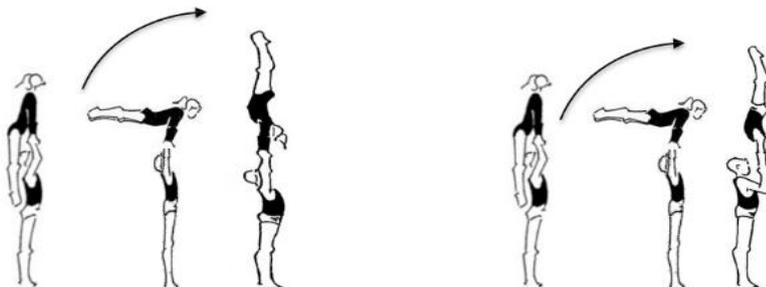


No – they are considered a variation of the base positions on page 108 – A5 and A6.

New Element Requests

The following elements will be eligible for performance and have the value indicated from 1st January 2017.

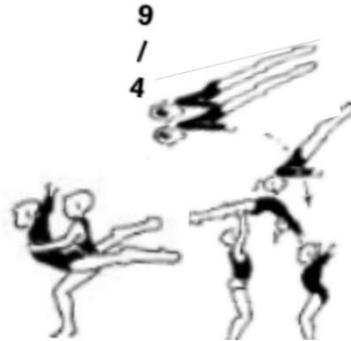
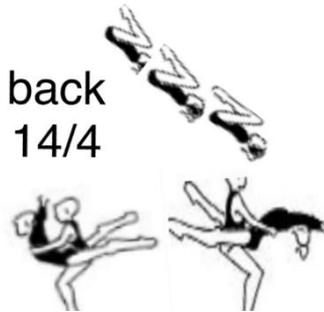
Pair Mount – This is considered a variation of – Page 30 – C (THE VALUES IN TOD INCLUDING THE STATIC HOLD AND THE BASE POSITION).





Pair Dynamic – Back 14/4 = 38v

Pair Dynamic – 9/4 Straight = 20v, piked = 15v



Note from Blythe Lawrence - member of the media team at the FIG:

When something happens in the World of Acro, we totally want to hear about it. We'll do articles for the FIG website. We'll work with you to arrange interviews. We'll share the news on Face book and Twitter. Sending us news of **honours gymnasts receive**, of cool things they're doing when they aren't in the gym, their special projects, anything unusual would be excellent. Please contact me at: blawrence@fig-gymnastics.org

FIG Acrobatic Calendar

World Cup – Rzesow, POL. 5th – 10th October, 2016

International competition, 24- 27 February 2017 – VINNITSA, Ukraine

Approved World Cups 2017

BEL	Puurs	07. – 09.04.2017
SUI	Geneva	25.05. – 27.05.2017
POR	Maia	01. – 05.03.2017
POR	Lisbon	07. – 10.09.2017

Rosy TAEYMANS,

President of the Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee.

Karl Wharton,

Secretary