



## **Stoke on Trent (GBR), November 2013**

### **Acrobatic Gymnastics - The discipline turns 40!**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Acrobatic Gymnastics celebrated the 40th anniversary of its foundation in 1973. The anniversary was recognised by FIG President Prof. Bruno Grandi (ITA), in his opening remarks on the second day of the November meeting of the FIG Executive Committee at its seat in Lausanne (SUI).



It was on November 22, 1973 that IFSA (International Federation of Sports Acrobatics) was created in Moscow (RUS). IFSA counted 54 national federations among its members before merging with the FIG in 1999, becoming Acrobatic Gymnastics.

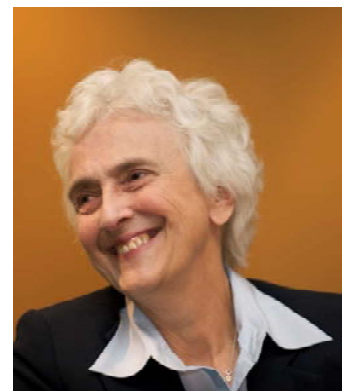


*Stoil Sotirov (BUL), 1st President*



*Konrad Zielinski (POL), 1st TC VP*

The discipline, whose technical committee is presided over today by Rosy Taeymans (BEL) has continued its development on all five continents and has become well known, in part thanks to social media, where videos of the World Championships have made acrobatic fans by the thousands. Performances at the 2012 World Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships in Orlando (USA), featuring the popular mixed pairs and women's trio, have surpassed more than one million views on the FIG's Youtube channel.



The FIG Executive Committee also took a moment to remember Patricia Wade (GBR), a former President of Acrobatic Technical Committee who passed away in 2010. For the first time this year, British Gymnastics organised a tournament in her memory, The Pat Wade Classic, which was held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in Stoke on Trent (GBR).

### **The 2013 Pat Wade Classic**



Some of the world's greatest acrobatic gymnasts competed on the 23/24th November at Fenton Manor, Stoke-on-Trent for the inaugural Pat Wade Classic.

The event saw over 260 gymnasts from 30 clubs, both British and from overseas, competing in this most dynamic and artistic gymnastics discipline, which requires an extraordinary amount of courage and trust amongst gymnasts. Britain is a world leader in the sport with many medal winners fresh from competition at the 2013 European Championship returning to action.



Dr. Melanie Sanders, Chairman of the British Acrobatic Technical Committee said: "This first Pat Wade Classic included International Gymnastics Federation sanctioned events for the senior competition. In addition to the GBR home grown acrobatic talent there were many distinguished guests who travelled from America, Australia, Belgium, France and Russia to support this prestigious event in Pat's honour."

Professor Patricia Wade MBE was one of the founding members of Acrobatic Gymnastics. She devoted her entire life to the sport, fostering participation, education and gymnastics in its many forms. The death of Pat left the British and International gymnastics community with a loss and a legacy equally immeasurable. Her wisdom, judgement, humour, dedication and enthusiasm gave a spirit for life to aspire to and it is this memory that the Pat Wade Classic is dedicated to.

You can see all the medal winning performances on [BGtv's YouTube channel](#)

**Very Important Information that will be published in December 2013 and effective from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2014**

The Technical Committee put forward the following Proposals to the FIG Executive Committee meeting held in November 2013 and the following proposals have all **been approved**:

- To change the additional value above 10 from 0,015 to **0,01**
- To adjust the deductions in Execution of some big mistakes and /or falls from 0,5 **to 1.0** (see specific points below).
- To adjust and reword some deductions in Artistry (see specific points below).

**The following are the Approved Corrections in the tables of deductions:**

**Article 47.1 (Artistry)**

Correction: Delete 0.1 and change to 0.5

Correction: Add definitions of few (1-2) and several (3-4)

**Article 47.4.2 (Artistry Table of Faults)**

**Correction:** Delete "elements uncharacteristic of discipline"

Replace with the following: "Creativity of pair/group elements"

**Article 47.4 Dynamic 2 (Artistry Table of Faults)**

**Correction:** Add - start position

**Article 47.5 (Artistry Table of Faults)**

**Correction:** Delete 4 and replace with:

"Lack of sufficient time to develop the relationship between partners because the exercise is devoted to elements of difficulty"



## Article 48.10: criteria 3, 5 and 6 (Execution Table of Faults)

**Correction:** Change the penalties from 0.5 to 1.0

**Clarifications, Questions and Answers on the WAGC, Tables of Difficulty and Code of Points**

**Page 27 in ToD -** Table 27 – The values from I to J – switch the 3 and 1 to 1 and 3

## WAGC Rules - Page 10 – Article 7.3

**Question:** Is it possible to join 1 compulsory pyramid with one optional pyramid.

**Answer:** No – see article 7.1

**WAGC Rules - Reminder:** The Optional elements cannot be taken from the Compulsory Element Table.

## WAGC Rules – Women’s Group

On the tariff sheet it says 3 x free cartwheel but the gymnasts perform 2 x free cartwheel and 1 x R F step out. Because all three elements are Cat 1 agility, the special requirement is met. There is no penalty for incorrect tariff sheets.

## WAGC – Individual Elements

Individual elements must be included in the specific exercise as indicated in the Age Group rules. Category 1 and 2 choreographic elements CAN NOT be used to fulfil Individual Element Special Requirements but may be used for difficulty in 12 – 18 / 13 to 19.

**Article: 23.7 Question:** Please clarify if a straight jump is a motion for Category 2 elements?

**Answer:** No, it is not considered as a motion.

**Question:** A category 1 element is performed to two feet in the balance exercise and does not exist as an element in the TOD. What is the deduction by the DJ – For example, flick to two feet?

**Answer:** This is not considered as a cat 1 element and therefore receives no value. If the exercise does not have 3 cat 1 elements (age group) then 1.0 SR deduction is also taken.

## Leotard Questions:

Transparent material must be lined for men as well as women or the CJP deduction of 0.5 will apply.

## Tables of Difficulty

Individual Element Number 134 – handspring with 180 ° was included by mistake and should therefore be deleted from the ToD.

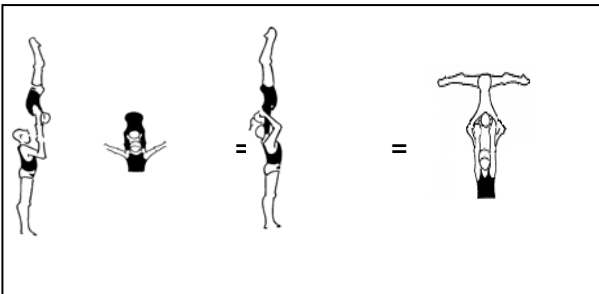


Page 28 – Please explain why the +1 can only be claimed one time.

The +1 is for the motion of the base only. It has nothing to do with the static holds of the top before or after the motion.

Catch in side split or middle split with additional support of hands in women's group – the picture is not in the TOD but it is allowed to catch with additional support of the hand(s) and receives the same value as without hands e.g. Page 84 – I and J.

Add the following pictures to page 13:



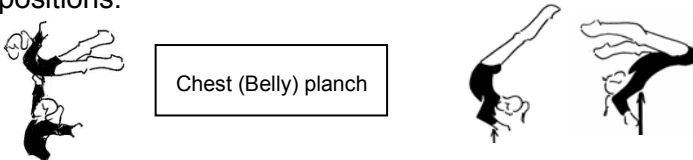
The following catch position receives -2



Add the following base position to page 23 in the ToD and give it a new box number 10:

No. 10		V1
--------	--	----

Chest planch / belly (stomach) planch has the same coordinates and value as the following two positions:



A	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	

NB: The following position is considered a different element from chest / belly planch as the

base supports the arm of the top (not on the belly / stomach):



Please add the following changes to pages 100, 102 and 104 in the Tables of Difficulty.



The following base position can be performed with **straight legs** (stylistic variation) but the value is taken as a 'table' position and NOT a bridge position.



=



Table Position

Bridge Position

### New Element Requests:

The TC has received a number of new element requests since the closing date of 1st June 2013. These elements will be evaluated over the next few meetings and will be published in the Autumn of 2014 for inclusion in the competition programme from 1st January 2015. All future new element requests must be received by 1st June 2014 to be evaluated and published with the above. Please send all requests to the TC secretary: Karl Wharton – [Kwacro@aol.com](mailto:Kwacro@aol.com)

### Reminder: March on and off the floor before and after the exercise

Please take note that gymnasts should come to the floor / leave the floor in an appropriate and simple manner. In recent competitions several competitors have started to use 'choreographic' march on / off. Remember, article 36.2 states that choreography should not be used! In addition, Article 36.3 states that gymnasts must present to the spectators and judges before the start of the exercise. This must be done before coming onto the floor.

### FIG Academy for Acrobatic Gymnastics Level 1 - Panama City (PAN), August 31 – September 7, 2013



The eighth Academy for Acrobatic Gymnastics was held in Panama in early September. Twenty-one coaches representing six countries – Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Puerto Rico – participated in this the Academy.

This Academy was funded by the FIG Development Fund for the Pan-American Gymnastics Union (PAGU) and all Spanish speaking FIG member

federations were invited. There is increasing activity in PAGU in this discipline and many of the participating countries plan on hosting a national championship for the first time in 2014.

The course leader in Panama was Andrea João of Brazil who has served as FIG expert at Academies in all disciplines. She taught most of the theory lectures and artistic preparation. Two other experts came to teach at this Academy from Portugal - Lourenço França and Vanda Videira who both coach the Portuguese National Team and had earned an FIG Coaching brevet a few years ago.

The three-part examination proved quite challenging because not many participants were very familiar with acrobatic gymnastics. However, most achieved satisfactory results and some received excellent results. The highest results were achieved by Axel





Eduardo Ruiz Lopez of Mexico with 88% overall. The next two highest results went to Jaime Antonio Perez Moreira of Panama and Sheerimar Garcia of Puerto Rico.

Thanks go to the Panama Gymnastics Federation and to Camilo Amado, the President of the Panama Gymnastics Federation and President of the Panama Olympic Committee for providing everything necessary to host this camp successfully. Thanks also for the constant hard work before and during the academy of Teresita Medrano.

### **Acrobatic Calendar 2014:**

- **Stars Above the Boug River**, – Vinnitsa (UKR), 27<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2014  
(*Sanctioned FIG Event*)
- **World Cup (Cat B)**, - Maia (POR), 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2014
- **World Cup (Cat B)**, - Aalen (GER), 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014
- **WAGC and WCH**, Levallois (FRA), 2014
  - 29<sup>th</sup> June – 6<sup>th</sup> July – WAGC
  - 6<sup>th</sup> July – 13<sup>th</sup> July – WCH
- **World Cup – The Pat Wade Classic**, Venue (GBR), - TBC, 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014

**Rosy TAEYMANS**

*President of the Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee.*

**Karl WHARTON**

*Secretary*