



# Technical Regulations Acrobatic Gymnastics

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# Section 1 - General Regulations

## 1.1 Objectives

The objectives of the Technical Programs of Gymnastics Canada (GymCan):

- a) coordination and supervision of technical aspects of all national and international gymnastic activities of GymCan;
- b) establishment and elaboration of technical regulations for Canada in accordance with the technical rules of the Federation Internationale de Gymnastique;
- c) planning and conducting of competitions, clinics, courses and schools relating to the program of GymCan;
- d) conducting and determining the scope of examinations for instructors, coaches, judges and other officials at the national and international level;
- e) introducing, approving and promoting articles or literature of technical content and instructional materials to be published under the authority or with the sanction of GymCan;
- f) establishment of and full conduct of the National Team program.

## 1.2 Purpose of the Technical Regulations

The purpose of the Acro Technical Regulations is to ensure a common understanding and consistent application of the regulations related to the conduct of acrobatic gymnastics in Canada and to outline the structure and functioning of the GymCan Technical Programs.

These regulations apply to the national championship level of acrobatic gymnastics in Canada:

- JO Level 6 (USAG)
- JO Level 7 (USAG)
- JO Level 8 (USAG)
- JO Level 9 (USAG)
- JO Level 10 (USAG)
- Youth (Appendix A)
- FIG 11-16 (AG1)
- FIG 12-18 (AG2)
- FIG 13-19 (Junior)
- FIG Senior

Any levels outside the national championship levels mentioned above will be subject to separate guidelines defined by the applicable provincial or territorial organization.



## 1.3 Categories

Acrobatic Gymnastics is made up of five event categories:

- a) Women's Pairs
- b) Men's Pairs
- c) Mixed Pairs
- d) Women's Groups
- e) Men's Groups

## 1.4 Acrobatic Program Documents

In addition to the FIG Rules, Code of Points and these technical regulations, the Acro Program also follows the documents listed below which are available on the GymCan website:

- a) GymCan Acro Judge Regulations
- b) USAG JO Code of Points (applicable to JO Levels 6-10 only)
- c) Hosting Requirements for GymCan Acro Events

# SECTION 2 - Eligibility

## 2.1 Athlete Eligibility

- a) Athletes competing in GymCan competitions or activities must:
  - i. Be an amateur as outlined by the regulations of GymCan, FIG and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) governing amateur status
  - ii. Be duly affiliated member of his/her P/T association and of GymCan; membership must be with the province of residence
  - iii. Be a member in good standing (not currently being sanctioned) with GymCan and P/T Association
  - iv. Be a Canadian citizen OR Permanent Resident
  - v. Not compete or not have competed internationally for a country other than Canada.
- b) A Canadian citizen living outside Canada who wishes to compete at National level competitions must be a member of a club affiliated with a Provincial/Territorial Organization (P/TO). The athlete must follow the provincial and national rules regarding participation at the National level competitions.
- c) A Canadian citizen who has dual citizenship and competes internationally for a foreign country may not receive National Team status. Upon request from the foreign country, he/she may compete out-of-competition in the Qualification of the Canadian Championships only.



- d) A foreign athlete not representing or not having represented his/her own country at an international competition and who has resided in Canada for at least 12 months in a row but has not yet resided for at least two years before his/her request may compete out-of-competition at the Canadian Championships provided that he/she has:
- i. submitted a written request to the GymCan office
  - ii. satisfied the requirements of his/her P/T related to qualification for the competition
- e) Gymnasts are permitted to compete in only one category and level per GymCan championship event.

## 2.2 Athlete Age Eligibility

GymCan national level competitions will be in accordance with the following age specifications within each of the five event categories:

Level	Age Requirements	Year of Birth (2019 competition year)	Maximum age discrepancy within the unit
<b>JO Level 6 Showcase</b>	Aged 9 - no max*	2010 or earlier	maximum of 8 years
<b>JO Level 7</b>	Aged 9 - no max*	2010 or earlier	maximum of 8 years
<b>JO Level 8</b>	Aged 9 - no max*	2010 or earlier	maximum of 8 years
<b>JO Level 9</b>	Aged 9 - no max*	2010 or earlier	maximum of 8 years
<b>JO Level 10</b>	Aged 9 - no max*	2010 or earlier	maximum of 8 years
<b>Youth</b>	Aged 9-16	2010 or earlier	maximum of 8 years
<b>FIG 11-16 (AG1)</b>	Aged 9-16	2003-2010	NA
<b>FIG 12-18 (AG2)</b>	Aged 10-18	2001-2009	NA
<b>FIG 13-19 (Junior)</b>	Aged 11-19	2000-2008	NA
<b>FIG Senior</b>	Aged 13+	2006 or earlier	NA

\*These levels may be further divided by age depending on the number of registered participants within the event. If there are more than 20 units registered in a level and category, the units will be divided into smaller competition groups of equal (or approximately equal) size according to the age of the oldest gymnast within the unit. Age divisions within a level and category will be announced after the deadline for nominative registration. Any withdrawals received after this time will not affect the previously announced divisions.

Competitive age is defined as the age of the athlete on December 31st of the competition year (competition year = the calendar year the competition is scheduled to take place).

Out of age partnerships are not permitted to compete in GymCan National Championship events.



## 2.3 Coach Eligibility

Coaches must be current, registered members in good standing with their P/TO. The coaching certification requirements to attend GymCan national level competitions are as follows:

- NCCP Level 2 Certified in Trampoline Gymnastics; or
- NCCP Comp 1 Certified in Artistic Gymnastics (MAG or WAG); or
- Gymnastics Foundations Trained\* (in either Artistic or Trampoline) together with a gymnastics coaching certification from a country recognized by Gymnastics Canada as a country with reputable coach education training. The foreign coaching certification can be in either Acrobatic Gymnastics, Trampoline Gymnastics, or Artistic Gymnastics (MAG or WAG).

\*Note: In order for a coach to attain the required Gymnastics Foundations Trained status, they must complete the following courses:

- Gymnastics Foundations Introduction; and
- Gymnastics Foundations Theory; and
- Gymnastics Foundations Artistic OR Gymnastics Foundations Trampoline.

**NCCP Acro Coach Certification:** The coach qualification requirements will be re-evaluated upon completion of the NCCP Acro specific coaching course.

## 2.4 Judge Eligibility

Judges must be current, registered members in good standing with their PTO.

Qualifications to Judge at GymCan National Level Events/Activities:

- a) CJP and DJ1 must be FIG Brevet in the current cycle
- b) DJ2 must be provincially trained and certified
- c) A and E must be provincially trained and certified
- d) Any judge assigned to the Canadian Championships must attend the “National Judge Course” which takes place on the day immediately preceding the first official competition day.



## SECTION 3 – GymCan Competitions and Events

### 3.1 Introduction

The GymCan national level Acro competitions are annual national acro gymnastics events in Canada. These competitions showcase the talents of Canadian gymnasts in the following events:

Category	Level
Women's Pairs (WP) 1 unit = 2 female gymnasts	JO Levels 6-10 Youth FIG 11-16 (AG1) FIG 12-18 (AG2) FIG 13-19 (Junior) Senior
Men's Pairs (MP) 1 unit = 2 male gymnasts	JO Levels 6-10 Youth FIG 11-16 (AG1) FIG 12-18 (AG2) FIG 13-19 (Junior) Senior
Mixed Pairs (MxP) 1 unit = 1 female gymnast and 1 male gymnast	JO Levels 6-10 Youth FIG 11-16 (AG1) FIG 12-18 (AG2) FIG 13-19 (Junior) Senior
Women's Groups (WG) 1 unit = 3 female gymnasts	JO Levels 6-10 Youth FIG 11-16 (AG1) FIG 12-18 (AG2) FIG 13-19 (Junior) Senior
Men's Groups (MG) 1 unit = 4 male gymnasts	JO Level 6-10 Youth FIG 11-16 (AG1) FIG 12-18 (AG2) FIG 13-19 (Junior) Senior





## 3.2 Event Objectives

The main objectives of the Canadian Acro Gymnastics Championships are:

- a) To act as the mechanism for the declaration of National Champions
- b) To promote and increase visibility of Acrobatic Gymnastics in Canada
- c) To serve as a celebration of the Gymnastics Community
- d) To provide an athlete centered environment allowing competitors the opportunity to achieve their personal best.
- e) To serve as a mechanism for:
  - i. National Team Selection
  - ii. International Event Selection

## 3.3 Hosting a National Event

Event location and venue selection will be made based on a bid format. Any club or P/TO wishing to place a bid to host a national competition must be a registered member in good standing and have the support of their respective P/TO. Host selection will be made by GymCan.

Specifications related to bid requirements (venue, safety, resources, equipment, etc.) are included in the applicable request for proposal (RFP) document distributed by GymCan.

## 3.4 Event Format and Scheduling

The Canadian Acro Gymnastics Championships is ideally hosted in the month of June each year and may be hosted in conjunction with another event (while ensuring sessions remain separate).

Event format is typically:

- 0.5 day for set-up
- 2-3 days of training and competition
- 0.25 days for tear-down

It is recommended that the competition does not start earlier than 9:00 each day and does not go later than 21:00 each evening. (Training may begin earlier in the day and run later in the evening.)

If the competition is delivered using a 2 day format, the first two exercises must be performed on the first day of competition with maximum recovery time scheduled between competing. The final exercise must be scheduled on the second day.



### 3.5 Qualification and Entry Quotas

Each Provincial/Territorial Organization (P/TO) will be allotted 12 entries/units per level and it is up to the P/TO to determine the athlete qualification process specific to their membership.

GymCan will provide the P/TO's with a recommended minimum score for each level every year. The scoring recommendations are meant to help the organization's make a decision re: appropriate/readiness for the athletes to compete at Canadians (i.e. these scores are not mandatory):

Level	Entry Quotas: Total # of Units per Level per Province*	Recommended Minimum Score
JO Level 6	12 (max of 7 per category)	25.0
JO Level 7	12 (max of 7 per category)	30.5
JO Level 8	12 (max of 7 per category)	31 per routine (62 total, B+D)
JO Level 9	12 (max of 7 per category)	31 per routine (62 total, B+D)
JO Level 10	12 (max of 7 per category)	31 per routine (62 total, B+D)
Youth	12 (max of 7 per category)	21.5
FIG 11-16	12 (max of 7 per category)	22 per routine (44 total, B+D)
FIG 12-18	12 (max of 7 per category)	67
FIG 13-19	12 (max of 7 per category)	68
FIG Senior	12 (max of 7 per category)	69

\*It is up to the P/TO to determine the allocation of units per category (i.e. how many WP, WG, MP, MG and MxP units per level up to a max of 7 units per category).

**Example** - Province "X" may decide to send:

Level	# of WP units	# of WG units	# of MxP units	# of MP units	# of MG units	Total # units
JO Level 6	7	2	1	1	1	12
JO Level 7	3	3	3	3	0	12
JO Level 8	0	0	2	5	5	12
JO Level 9	1	2	3	4	2	12
JO Level 10	4	7	0	1	0	12
Youth	2	2	2	2	4	12
FIG 11-16	5	5	1	1	0	12
FIG 12-18	7	1	1	1	2	12
FIG 13-19	6	3	1	1	1	12
FIG Senior	1	1	7	2	1	12



### 3.6 Rights of Competitors

- a) To compete in only one category of events in national championships.
- b) To be provided with safe training facilities, in conditions comparable to those which will be used during the competition. At least one training session to be provided on the podium floor in the competition venue with exercise music.
- c) To be informed by the coach and Head of Delegation of the training schedule.
- d) To warm up before performance of each exercise, according to the schedule, on a regulation floor with comparable conditions to those of the podium floor, with no more than 8 units on the floor at one time.
- e) To restart an exercise when, due to reasons beyond their control, the exercise cannot be completed (e.g. the electricity shuts off during performance).

### 3.7 Obligations of Competitors

- a) To know, observe and adhere to the prevailing policies, technical regulations, Anti-Doping Regulations, the applicable Codes of Points and the Athletes' Oath.
- b) To meet the prevailing age regulations for the particular event, defined by the Technical Regulations.
- c) To be polite to officials, coaches, volunteers, other competitors and the spectators, and to behave with dignity, integrity, and sportsmanship at all times.
- d) To know and adhere to the training and competition schedule.
- e) To be ready for the competition, in the correct attire, at least one hour before the time indicated in the program and to be ready for performance at the scheduled time. The event organizers, with the permission of the Jury of Appeals, has the right to bring a session forward in time if withdrawals occur.
- f) To follow all the instructions of the competition officials.
- g) To make no marks on the competition floor to assist performance.
- h) To present to the medal ceremony on time and in the correct attire.
- i) To present for size measurement at the designated time and place.

### 3.8 Sanctions (Competitors)

- a) Failure of a competitor to adhere to any of the regulations will result in a warning or sanction from the Chair of the Jury of Appeals.
- b) Failure to present for a medal ceremony or to willfully disregard the rules for presentation on the podium will result in the following sanctions:
  - The unit will be withdrawn from the competition
  - The competition ranking will be revised.
  - The medals will be awarded according to the new rankings.



- c) For exceptional circumstances, such as illness, the Chair of the Jury of Appeals may excuse absence from a medal ceremony without penalty.
- d) A second offence of any kind will result in sanctions.
- e) Competitors who do not appear for measuring at the requested time or who obstruct measuring (try to cheat) by not following instruction for measuring or try to obtain favorable measurement by any means, will be disqualified from the competition.

### 3.9 Rights of Coaches

- a) To be informed of the order of performance for competitors as determined by draw.
- b) To be provided with safe training facilities, with equipment comparable to that which will be used during the competition.
- c) To receive documentation concerning training and competition schedules and to have access to scores daily during competitions. The registered coach also has the right to a designated place, close to the podium, to observe the exercise of his/her competitor during competition.
- d) At National Championships, to be informed before the start of competition, at a designated time and place, of any problems with Tariff Sheets that could affect Special Requirements or difficulty value of an exercise.

### 3.10 Obligations of Coaches

- a) To act at all times honestly, with integrity, and good sportsmanship, and in the best interest of the sport of Acrobatic Gymnastics.
- b) To behave towards all competitors, judges, coaches and officials in a respectful, courteous and polite way and to operate in accordance with Human Rights, Child Protection Laws, GymCan and P/TO Codes of Ethics and Conduct.
- c) To ensure the safety of their own and other competitors.
- d) To know and strictly adhere to the prevailing policies, technical regulations, Anti-Doping Regulations and the applicable Codes of Points.
- e) To make no verbal, electronic or other contact with any judges during the warm-up periods or competitions. Infringement will result in the immediate disqualification of the judge(s) concerned from officiating for the particular competition session, accompanied by formal warning to both the judge and the coach.
- f) It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that the Tariff Sheets are correct before submission.
- g) To inform the Difficulty Judges for the event category for exceptional reasons of any minor adjustments to the content of the exercise, through drawings, with values, at least 30 minutes before the start of the competition segment.

### 3.11 Sanctions (Coaches)

- a) Coaches who do not abide by the rules either by cheating, influencing a judge's score, using abusive behavior or speech towards gymnasts, other coaches, judges or officials or



distracting attention away from athletes' performances, will be banned immediately from the competition hall by the Chair of the Jury of Appeals. An official warning is issued to the coach and to the province. Return is at the discretion of the Jury of Appeals.

- b) A second offence will result in sanctions.
- c) Warnings are carried throughout the cycle for all official National events. For example, if a coach receives a warning for a serious violation of rules at National championships and a second warning in another GymCan or PTO sanctioned event/activity, the second warning is an automatic proposal to the Disciplinary Commission for sanction.
- d) Coaches who are not in Club, Provincial, or National uniform during competition will be required to leave the arena. Return is at the discretion of the Superior Jury.
- e) Sanctions are made to coaches in accordance with GymCan Policy

### 3.12 Competitive Attire, Accessories and Aids - Athletes

Competitive attire, accessories and aids (on the field of play) as outlined by FIG Code of Points (Article 34) for the applicable competitive cycle.

### 3.13 Competitive Attire – Judges and Coaches

All judges and coaches are to be dressed appropriately in the competition venue.

- a) **Judges:** as per FIG judge's regulations
- b) **Coaches:** Provincial or club team t-shirt, golf shirt, track suit pants with or without track suit jacket.
- c) **Penalties:** Coaches - not allowed on the floor; Judges - not permitted to judge

### 3.14 Judge Panel Composition

The panel structure used to officiate at the national level acro competitions will be a modified version of the FIG recommended panel:

- 1 Chair of Judges' Panel (CJP) – enters CJP penalties and A score
- 2 Difficulty Judges (D1 + D2) – enters D score and E score
- 3 Execution (Technical) Judges (E) – enters E score
- 3 Artistry Judges (A) – enters A score



### 3.15 Judge Panel Assignments

The judges assigned to officiate at any GymCan national level competition will be invited as follows:

- a) CJP – Invited by GymCan directly based on a national ranking system. Must be current FIG Brevet judge.
- b) Difficulty Judges (“D1”) – Invited by GymCan directly based on a national ranking system. Must be current FIG Brevet judge.
- c) Difficulty Judges (“D2”) – Selected by their home P/TO. Should have appropriate level of experience and training in relation to the DJ role.
- d) Execution Judges – Selected by their home P/TO
- e) Artistry Judges – Selected by their home P/TO

No panel may include more than two members from a single P/TO (excluding the Chair of Judges’ Panel and the Difficulty Judges). The Difficulty Judges must not be from the same P/TO. Exceptions may be made only for extenuating circumstances which would prohibit the panel from being filled.

Draw for panel assignment will be at the discretion of GymCan upon receipt of anticipated numbers from the P/TOs. Cross-country representation while maintaining a high standard of judging will be the goal when assigning panels for each event.

### 3.16 Athletic Measurement – Height Discrepancies

All competitors will be required to report for measurement according to the published schedule within the official competition documentation. The “Procedure for Athletic Measurement” is in accordance with FIG Code of Points, 2017-2020.

The difference in height allowed between gymnasts within a unit is 30 cm (with a tolerance up to 30.9 cm). Within groups, the measurement is relative to the difference between the tallest gymnast and the next tallest gymnast (and applies to each gymnast in the unit thereafter).

Units receive a penalty for height intolerance from the final score of each exercise performed as follows:

- a) Difference of 31 cm or more
  - JO Levels 6–10: –0.2
- b) Difference of 31–34.9 cm
  - FIG 11–16 and Youth: –0.1
  - FIG 12–18: –0.3
  - FIG 13–19/Senior: –0.5
- c) Difference of 35 cm or more
  - FIG 11–16 and Youth: –0.3
  - FIG 12–18: –0.5
  - FIG 13–19/Senior: –1.0



### 3.17 Training

At least one training session will be provided to all units in the competition venue (warm-up and podium floors) the day of, or one day prior to the start of the event. Training will include music on the podium floor. Every unit will be given the opportunity to train with their full music for each of their exercises on the podium floor. This may take place over two separate podium trainings for levels with 3 different exercises (B, D, C) depending on the timing allocations/scheduling for the event.

### 3.18 General Warm-Up and Stretching Area

Units will be assigned 30 minutes in the general warm-up and stretching area prior to each training and competition segment.

### 3.19 Warm-Up Floor

Units will be assigned a time on the official warm-up floor (sprung gymnastics floor, 12x12m) immediately preceding each podium training and competition segment as follows:

- Training: 30 minutes on the official warm-up floor
- Competition: 25 minutes (JO and Youth Levels)
- Competition: 35 minutes (FIG Levels)

During training, a maximum of 6 units at a time will be allowed on the warm-up floor. Units cycle through the floors as a “training group” or “flight”.

During competition, a maximum of 8 units at a time will be allowed on the warm-up floor. Units cycle through the floors individually according to their competition time.

### 3.20 Start Orders

Start orders will be determined by random draw for each routine (B, D, C). GymCan will conduct the draws and publish the starting orders no later than 10 days preceding the start of the event.

Start orders for all finals will be conducted in accordance with FIG Technical Regulations 2019 (Section 5, Article 3.2(c)).

### 3.21 Music

Music must be sent electronically to the event organizers in MP3 or wav format by the date specified in the event directives. Files must be clearly labelled with the following information:

Age Group\_Exercise (B,D,C)\_Category (W2,M2,Mx2,W3,M4)\_province/territory\_last names.

(Example: Junior\_B\_W2\_ON\_Smith-Johnson)



Pairs/Groups must also make arrangements to bring a CD copy on-site as backup in case of a technical problem during competition or training.

## 3.22 Competition Structure

Units will compete according to the following competition structure at GymCan championships events:

- a) JO Level 6 Showcase will perform one Combined exercise, twice. No scores will be flashed and units will not receive an official ranking or winner will be declared in any of the JO Level 6 categories. Units will receive a detailed score card for each of their combined exercises (C + C).
- b) JO Level 7 and Youth compete one Combined exercise, twice. The winner in each category is determined by the total score, which is the sum of the final scores from both combined exercises (C + C).
- c) JO Levels 8, 9, 10 compete one Balance exercise and one Dynamic exercise. The winner in each category is determined by the total score, which is the sum of the final scores from the Balance and Dynamic exercises (B + D).
- d) FIG 11-16, 12-18, 13-19 and Senior compete one Balance and one Dynamic exercise. The qualification to finals in each category is determined by ranking of the total score, which is the sum of the final scores from the Balance and Dynamic exercises (B + D). The winner in each level and category will be determined by the score of the final exercise (i.e. final start from zero):
  - FIG 11-16 compete one Balance OR one Dynamic exercise in the final (the type of exercise, Balance/Dynamic, is in accordance with the FIG specifications for the applicable category and year).
  - FIG 12-18, 13-19, Senior compete one Combined exercise in the final.
- e) Any category with a single entry may award the Canadian Championship title as long as the pair/group meets the minimum score requirement determined annually as outlined in regulation 3.4.

## 3.23 Finals

The quota for finals in the FIG 11-16, 12-18, 13-19 and Senior categories is dependent on the total number of entries registered in the applicable category:

- a) 8 units or less registered = Top 6 units qualify to finals
- b) 9-15 units registered = Top 8 units qualify to finals
- c) 16-20 units registered = Top 10 units qualify to finals
- d) 21+ units registered = Top 12 units qualify to finals





### 3.24 Ties

- a) JO Levels 7-10: As outlined by USAG Rules and Policies for the applicable competitive cycle.
- b) FIG 11-16, 12-18, 13-19, Senior: As outlined by FIG Code of Points for the applicable competitive cycle.
- c) Youth: As outlined in Appendix A.

### 3.25 Evaluation of Exercise and Scoring

- a) JO Levels 6-10: As outlined by USAG JO Code of Points for the applicable competitive cycle.
- b) FIG 11-16, 12-18, 13-19, Senior: As outlined by FIG Code of Points for the applicable competitive cycle.
- c) Youth: As outlined in Appendix A.

### 3.26 Appeals

- a) Appeals may be made based on the difficulty score, equipment failure, and/or mathematical error only.
- b) A coach may review the difficulty slip completed by the CJP and DJ without submitting an official appeal if there is a question about the difficulty score and/or penalties applied by the CJP/DJ. (The difficulty slips will be available in a designated area after judges' scores have been entered and posted.) There is no fee to request a difficult slip review.
- c) Only the coach who has been officially registered with the unit may initiate a difficulty slip review and/or appeal on behalf of their athletes. Requests for difficulty slip reviews and/or appeals related to the score posted for a unit from anyone other than the unit's registered coach will not be accepted.
- d) After reviewing the difficulty slip, a coach may file an official appeal if there is concern regarding an error that is eligible for appeal (see item a. above)
- e) The appeal must be filed within 10 minutes of the posting of the score for the exercise in question.
- f) There is no cost to submit an appeal.
- g) The following process will be followed when resolving an appeal:
  - The coach must submit the appeal in writing (in English or French) to the designated member of the Jury of Appeals using the Appeals Form (see Appendix B).
  - The appeal must clearly detail the elements or values that are in question.
  - Upon receiving the appeal, the designated member convenes the Jury of Appeals.
  - The Jury of Appeals makes every effort to resolve the appeal immediately, but may need to wait until a break in competition (i.e.; the end of the rotation or session).



- The Jury of Appeals will review the appeal and decide about changing the original score.
- To resolve the appeal, the Jury may choose to consult the judging panel and/or use video review
- There must be clear and conclusive evidence in the review to overturn the original decision of the panel.
- CJP and/or DJ penalties may be reconsidered (positively or negatively) if there is a change in the difficulty score after an appeal.
- The execution and/or artistry scores given by the panel cannot be changed based on an appeal.
- Should an appeal be sustained, an adjustment of the score will be made by the CJP, the designated member of the Jury of Appeals will inform the coach and the adjusted score is entered on the official score sheets and displayed to the public.
- If the appeal is denied, the designated member of the Jury of Appeals will notify the coach and there is no change to any score.
- The decision of the Jury of Appeals is final.

### 3.27 Jury of Appeals

The Jury of Appeals is the ultimate decision-making body of the competition. The Jury acts on appeals and other competition controversies not resolved by the judging panel and/or event organizers.

The Jury may remove any judge for committing obvious errors in judging and/or bias.

All decisions made by the Jury are final. The Chair of the Jury may add members to the panel based on need if applicable.

The following individuals will make up the Jury of Appeals:

- CJP
- DJs from applicable panel
- GymCan Program Manager, Sport Development (Chair of Jury and Designated Member for submission of appeals)

## Section 4 – Judges

### 4.1 General

- a) The regulations covered in this document apply to Gymnastics Canada's National and FIG Brevet level judges. Provincial level judges are regulated by their Provincial Associations. It is recommended that the Provincial Associations follow the regulations stated in this document.



- b) Anyone assigned to a judging role at an acrobatic gymnastics event (including minor officials: Timer and Line Judges) must comply with these regulations.
- c) Judges must follow the FIG Code of Points, the Canadian Acro Technical Regulations and the USAG JO Code of Points. These documents must be in their possession while judging at all GymCan events.

## 4.2 Rights and Obligations of Judges

### a) Rights

- i) All judges have the right to be respected for their knowledge and expertise as judges in the areas of responsibility adopted, provided they work according to the GymCan and FIG Codes of Ethics and Code of Discipline and other rules.

### b) Obligations of Judges before competition

- i. Complete the necessary training and exams (written and practical) required to judge at the applicable level every four (4) years.
- ii. Maintain and submit a record of all judging activities (competitions, courses and workshops) to their applicable provincial organization for certification maintenance and/or judging level upgrades.
- iii. Prepare for competition through study of the Code, Technical Regulations, Judges Rules and Codes of Ethics and Discipline.
- iv. Assist their own club and/or provincial coaches with Tariff Sheet reviews and revisions prior to officially submitting the sheets for competition.
- v. Bring copies of the official GymCan execution and artistry forms to the competition for recording exercises.
- vi. Attend all scheduled seminars, practical judging sessions and meetings before, during and after the competition. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from officiating, unless extenuating circumstances have been agreed upon by the CJP.

### c) Obligations of Judges during competition

- i. Know the Judges' Oath, support its values and be present at its public declaration during the opening ceremony.
- ii. Strictly observe the Technical Regulations, Code of Points, Judges Rules' and Judges' Oath. Failure to do so will result in a verbal warning from the CJP. In the case of a second offence at this competition or any subsequent competitions within the cycle, the judge will be sanctioned in accordance with the prevailing GymCan and/or FIG Judges' Rules and Codes of Ethics and Discipline.
- iii. Wear the official uniform as defined in Regulation 4.4.
- iv. Hold no other responsibility during the competition.
- v. Do not make contact with any coach or athlete by any method during warm-up or competition sessions. Contact will result in immediate dismissal from judging the particular competition session, and will be accompanied by formal warning.
- vi. Follow all directives of the CJP and official organizing committee (GymCan).



- vii. Be in place for judging on time and do not leave their places, nor speak or signal in any way to other judges, spectators, coaches or competitors during a competition. Any infringement will be challenged and result in an immediate warning or sanction.
- viii. Keep a written record, including shorthand notation, of how each exercise was evaluated. It must be submitted to the CJP on request.
  - Request will be made when there is a serious difference between the mark of a judge or panel and to assist analysis following the competition.
  - If justification cannot be provided when requested, a warning or sanction, depending on the seriousness, will be given to the offending judge(s).
- ix. Register all scores immediately after the end of an exercise.
  - Judges may not change their scores after they have been registered, unless the CJP gives permission. (All changes are registered by the CJP and are considered during the competition analysis).
  - Permission or request to reconsider a score may be made if there was an error in the registration of a mark.
- x. Stay in judging places at the end of a round of competition and during award ceremonies until dismissed by the CJP.

### 4.3 Roles and Responsibilities of the Judging Panel

- a) The judging panel will be comprised of the following roles:
  - Chair of the Judges' Panel
  - Difficulty Judge
  - Execution Judge
  - Artistry Judge
  - Technical Personnel (Timer, Line Judge, Runner, Scorekeeper)
- b) Judges will be expected to adhere to the detailed responsibilities outlined in accordance to their role(s) assigned for all GymCan events:
  - i. **Chair of Judges Panel (CJP)**
    - There is one CJP per judging panel
    - Should be unaffiliated whenever possible
    - Must be a FIG Brevet Judge
    - Work with the Difficulty Judges to review and evaluate tariff sheets submitted by the P/TO's prior to a competition and immediately inform the GymCan Manager, Sport Development of any deficiencies found in the tariff sheets.
    - Act as the superior judge of the panel.
    - Be responsible for the organization and activity of the judges on the panel during competition, and including their entry and exit from competition



- Signal permission for the competitors to enter the competition arena and to start their competition performances
  - Keep a record of what was performed, through shorthand notation
  - Time the exercise and note steps over the floor boundary. (Assistance may be given by Time and Line Judges/volunteers)
  - Determine an execution score and artistry score for each exercise. Records own scores (on judging slips or electronic entry) before receiving scores from the panel judges
  - Input an official Artistry score to be factored into the overall A-score
  - Watch for discrepancies in the judges' evaluations and calls the judges together if necessary to resolve problems
  - Work with the DJ to complete the Difficulty Slip
  - Take appropriate CJP deductions from the total score
  - Be responsible for the calculation and display of the final score at the panel
  - Sign the master score sheet to verify that individual judges' marks are accurately entered
  - Assist with official Appeals as a member of the Jury of Appeals
- ii. **Difficulty Judge (DJ)**
- There are two DJs per judging panel (DJ1 and DJ2)
  - At least one DJ must be a FIG Brevet judge (the other DJ may be nominated by their P/TO as an experienced and knowledgeable provincial level judge)
  - Work with the CJP to review and evaluate tariff sheets submitted by the P/TO's prior to a competition and immediately inform the GymCan Manager, Sport Development of any deficiencies found in the tariff sheets.
  - Determine the difficulty value and D-score based on the exercise performed
  - Record DJ penalties according to the applicable Code of Points
  - Work with the DJ to complete the Difficulty Slip
  - Input an official Execution score to be factored into the overall E-score
  - Assist with official Appeals as a member of the Jury of Appeals
- iii. **Panel Judges (A/E Judges)**
- There are three Artistry (A) Judges and three Execution (E) Judges per panel
  - Must be a current provincial/territorial level judge or higher
  - Attend all meetings of judges, prior, during and after competition
  - Follow all instructions given by the CJP on panel and in meetings
  - Help evaluate exercise tariff sheets if requested to do so by the CJP
  - Evaluate the performed exercise in strict accordance with the rules:



- Artistry judges evaluate the choreographic structure and design, variety, relationship between partners, and musicality of the exercise
  - Execution judges evaluate the quality of the technical performance of the exercise
  - Keep written record, including shorthand notation, of how each exercise was evaluated, using the respective artistry and execution judging forms and submit forms to the CJP at the end of the competition.
  - Has the right to appeal, in writing, to the Jury of Appeals against unjust actions of the CJP
  - Assist with official Appeals as a member of the Jury of Appeals (if applicable)
- iv. **Technical Personnel - Timer**
- There is one Timer per panel
  - This role may be filled by a judge, volunteer or staff member
  - Must be a minimum age of 16 years
  - Positioned on panel near the CJP
  - Times the duration of all exercises
  - Records and submits the official time of each exercise to the CJP
- v. **Technical Personnel – Line Judge**
- There is one or two Line Judges per panel
  - This role may be filled a judge, volunteer or staff member
  - Must be a minimum age of 16 years
  - Positioned in opposite corners of the podium floor
  - Signals, by lifting a hand if there is a boundary fault
- vi. **Technical Personnel – Runner**
- There is one runner per panel
  - Must be a minimum age of 12 years
  - Collect the marked score sheets from the panel judges and deliver to the CJP
  - Collect the recorded score sheets from the CJP and deliver to the Scorekeeper
- vii. **Technical Personnel – Scorekeeper**
- There is one scorekeeper per panel
  - Must be a minimum age of 16 years
  - Collect the score sheets from the runner and records them to determine the final score
  - Post (and save) the scores immediately to athletes, coaches and audience. This may be done using a computer for scoring calculations but a back-up must be created



- Obtain the CJP's signature on the official results

## 4.4 Uniform

- Judges must wear the official uniform when officiating at a competition. For the current cycle, Acrobatic Gymnastic judges will wear:
  - Black jacket.
  - Black skirt or full length trousers.
  - White shirt or blouse.
  - CJP will wear light blue shirt or blouse.
  - Black shoes (not sandals) or clean track shoes if required by organizers. Heels which will damage gymnastic floor covering must be avoided.
  - Hair must be neat and not inhibit vision.
  - Jewelry, if worn, must be professional in appearance.
- Judges will not be allowed to officiate if they are not in the correct uniform.

## 4.5 Remuneration

- No remuneration is available for GymCan hosted events. GymCan does however provide transportation and accommodation expenses for these events for a number of judges determined by the Sport Development Department and budget priorities.

## 4.6 Acrobatic Judges List

- The purpose of this list is to make public, on a yearly basis, the names of the certified judges who are eligible to officiate at all levels of acrobatic events.
- The provincial associations will work collaboratively with GymCan to develop and maintain one centralized, Canada-wide judging list.
- GymCan has the right to make adjustments to the list.

## 4.7 Inter-Provincial Communication

- Each province must submit to GymCan the name of their official contact person for the purposes of Inter-Provincial judging communication.
- Each province should compile a list for annual circulation, of competitions that could incorporate judges from other provinces.
- Both the provincially named contact person and the list of competitions should be submitted by October 15<sup>th</sup> each year.
- All correspondence sent to provincial judges should be copied to the named contact person.





- i) All judges must receive approval from their provincially named contact person to officiate outside of their province/territory.
- ii) A list of the designated contact person in each province will be circulated to all provinces annually.

## Section 5 – Hosting Requirements

### 5.1 Venue Requirements

- a) **Size of Competition Venue:**
  - i. 7,000 square feet (100 feet long by 70 feet wide), column free. These dimensions are only for the field of play (competition and training) and **does not include** seating or any ancillary spaces. Competition and training spaces can be in separate spaces.
  - ii. Competition floor 12x12 metres with a minimum of 1 meter border clear of obstructions, AG sprung floor
  - iii. Warm-up floor 12x12 metres, AG sprung floor
  - iv. General warm-up and stretching area 12x12 metres
- b) **Ceiling Height:** 23 feet or 7 metres from lowest hanging point
- c) **Lighting:** Lighting should be indirect with halogen or halide being the best; fluorescent is not great; avoid sodium or mercury vapour; 540 lux (or 50 foot-candle) is much too low; 100 foot-candle is good. A space without windows is preferable; if there are windows, they should not be on the west side and preferably covered.
- d) **Preferable Temperature:** Appropriate ventilation system to keep temperature between 21° and 23° C.
- e) **Seating:** minimum 400
- f) **Rooms / ancillary facilities:**
  - 1 LOC headquarter (accommodate LOC, media and VIP's)
  - 1 meeting room (judges and GymCan) for a minimum of 20 people
  - 1 volunteer room
  - 1 protocol area (awards)
  - 1 hospitality room – coaches and judges (can be the same as the VIP)
  - Storage room or storage area for GymCan equipment
  - Vendor space at spectator entrance
  - Additional meeting rooms may be required depending on schedule
- g) **Electrical Power:** Multiple power sources will be needed for the event. The amount of power connections, extensions cords and power bars will depend on the floor plan. At a minimum power will be required at the judges table, GymCan /Competition Operations





table, scoring, music/announcer and webcast table.

- h) **Internet Connection:** a dedicated internet line of at least 10Mbps is required to run the webcast and scoring systems.
- i) **Parking:** 150+ (free if possible)

## 5.2 Technical Requirements

### a) Scoring System

Gymnastics Canada will provide the scoring system. However, some items are still required from the organizing committee. The quantities of these items are dependent on the site plan:

- Internet connection dedicated to scoring to ensure live results. DSL (hard line connection) highly preferred and more stable than wireless.
- Projection screen(s) to project results to spectators (minimum 9'x11') and athletes, coaches and CJP
- Projector (rear projection preferred)
- 6 tables for scoring area
- 12 chairs for scoring area
- Printer/copier
- Scoring stationary: paper, paperclips, pencils, pens, stapler, staples, file folders, etc.
- Power bars and extension cords (power required at the head technical, operations and scoring tables)

- b) **Floor Manager:** Main responsibilities are to ensure the competition runs on-time, as well as to ensure the competition is presented in the most professional way possible. This includes, but is not limited to, coordinating the rotations, ensuring only properly accredited individuals are on the field of play, coordination with GymCan's staff for competition related issues, ensuring the field of play is kept clean at all times, etc.

- c) **Minor Officials:** The following individuals are required throughout each competition session. Ideally these positions are filled by off-duty judges when possible but can also be filled by volunteers.

- Timer
- Line Judges (x2)

### d) Technical Meetings

There are numerous meetings that will take place throughout a GymCan event. The Technical Manager will work closely with GymCan in the preparation and delivery of all meetings. Here is a list of the standard meetings that occur during a GymCan event. Note that additional meetings may be added.

#### Technical Meeting for Coaches

The Coaches' Technical Meeting usually takes place prior to the start of the first "General Warm-Up" and before the start of competition. A space within the



competition venue that is big enough to accommodate all of the registered coaches, team managers and chefs de mission should be set aside for this meeting. It should also have a sound system. In some cases a screen and projector may be needed.

### Judges Meeting

A meeting room should be dedicated to the judges throughout the entire event. The assigned room is also where the judges' hospitality and meals should be served.

This room must be large enough to hold approximately 15 judges in a classroom, boardroom or u-shape set-up, have a screen and projector and be a short distance from the field of play.

Additional meetings and/or courses may occur throughout the event. The Canadian Chair of Judges Panel and GymCan's Director – Events will work with the Technical Manager to complete the schedule.

## 5.3 Non-Technical Equipment Requirements

Table numbers based on 6 feet tables. All tables on the competition floor and in the view of the public must be covered. White table cloth and black skirt are preferred.

All risers must meet the provincial safety regulations. At a minimum the podium must have a rail at the back and a step or stairs if more than 12" high.

Numbers may vary depending on venue.

AREA	WHAT IS NEEDED	TOTAL REQUIRED
<b>COMPETITION FLOOR</b> (1 meter border, free of obstructions on all 4 sides)	9 Chairs for Judges / 6 tables	<b>14 chairs &amp; 6 tables</b>
	1 Chair for Timer	
	1 Chair for Runner	
	1 Chair for Scorekeeper	
	2 Chairs for Line Judges	
<b>Location of tables</b>	Side by side 1m from the border of floor	
<b>Kiss and Cry</b>	Seating for 4 with pipe and drape backdrop (couch/bench/chairs)	



<b>Location of Kiss and Cry</b>	Side on from the audience, full view of scores required (or smaller screen provided for Kiss and Cry)	<b>4 chairs &amp; 1 section of 10' wide X 8' tall pipe and drape</b>
<b>GymCan Head Table</b>	4 chairs / 2 tables	<b>4 chairs &amp; 2 tables</b>
	Podium minimum 1 m	
<b>Scoring Table</b>	2 chairs / 2 tables	<b>2 chairs &amp; 2 tables</b>
<b>Announcer and Music Table</b>	2 chairs / 2 tables	<b>2 chairs &amp; 2 tables</b>
<b>Judges meeting room</b>	20 chairs / 7 tables	<b>20 chairs &amp; 7 tables</b>
<b>Miscellaneous (medical, security, kiosk, volunteer room, registration)</b>	30 chairs / 20 tables	<b>30 chairs &amp; 20 tables</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>76 chairs &amp; 39 tables</b>

#### Other non-technical equipment required from LOC:

- 1 good quality sound system that can play music from a CD, iPod and a computer. The system must be adapted for one music device and microphone to operate simultaneously.
- 1 microphone (wireless preferred)
- 8-12 walkie-talkie for key members of the LOC
- Awards podium that must be approved by GymCan to fit up to 4 athletes on each level
- 15 rolls of facility approved tape to cover all wires
- Big garbage cans for athlete waiting area, scoring and head table
- Flags of each participating Provinces/Territories (can be provided by GymCan if requested in advance)
- Bilingual event signage throughout venue
- Trays for awards (can be provided by GymCan if requested in advance)
- Mailbox for each participating P/T
- General office supplies: staplers, staples, scissors, markers, pens and pencils, scratch pads, glue sticks, three hole punch, white-out, paper clips, elastics, scotch tape, pins for athletes numbers
- 2 stop watches
- Chalk and 2 chalk buckets



- Areas to post results for public and for coaches on the competition floor.
- Cleaning supplies for equipment: vacuum, mop, etc.

## 5.4 Ceremonies

- a) **Opening:** The opening ceremonies can be as creative and glamorous as the organizing committee wishes it to be but they must be conducted in Canada's official languages (English and French).

It is the organizing committee's responsibility to design and conduct the opening ceremony. At a minimum the opening ceremony must include the following the protocol.

- i. **Entrance of Delegations:** The number of delegates participating to the entrance of delegations is at the discretion of the organizing committee. (Entire delegation, one male and one female athlete (chosen by their delegation), one person (chosen by their delegation) or no delegate (LOC volunteers) etc.).

All participating delegations must be announced and led by their respective flag (carried by a member of the delegation or a volunteer). The order of entry must follow the Canadian Flag Etiquette. When provincial and territorial flags are flown with the National Flag of Canada, the order is based on the date of entry into Confederation of the provinces followed by the territories.

In a grouping of flags that includes the National Flag of Canada and all of the flags of the provinces and territories, the order of precedence is:

National Flag of Canada

Ontario (1867)

Quebec (1867)

Nova Scotia (1867)

New Brunswick (1867)

Manitoba (1870)

British Columbia (1871)

Prince Edward Island (1873)

Saskatchewan (1905)

Alberta (1905)

Newfoundland (1949)

Northwest Territories (1870)

Yukon (1898)

Nunavut (1999)

- ii. **Canadian National Anthem:** Playing or singing of the bilingual or instrumental Canadian national anthem.



- iii. **Presentations:** When Welcome speeches are included in the ceremony they should be given following this order:
1. Chair of the LOC
  2. Municipal/Provincial/Federal Politicians (if applicable)
  3. Title sponsor (if applicable)
- iv. **Judge’s and Athlete’s Oaths:** It is at the discretion of the LOC to have Oaths recited during the opening ceremony. If the LOC chooses to have oaths recited, it is to be done in the following manner:

The organizing committee is responsible for finding 2 judges (English and French) and 2 athletes (English and French) to swear the oaths in that respective order. A bilingual judge or athlete is also acceptable to recite the oath in both languages.

### Judge’s Oath

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*«Au nom de tous les juges et officiels, je promets que nous remplirons nos fonctions pendant ces Championnats en toute impartialité, en respectant et suivant les règles qui les régissent, dans un esprit de sportivité»*

*“In the name of all judges and officials, I promise that we shall officiate in these Championships with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship”*

### Athlete’s Oath

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*«Au nom de tous les gymnastes, je promets que nous prendrons part à ces championnats en respectant et suivant les règles qui les régissent, en nous engageant pour un sport sans dopage et sans drogues, dans un esprit de sportivité, pour la gloire du sport et l’honneur des gymnastes.»*

*“In the name of all gymnasts, I promise that we shall take part in these Championships, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, committing ourselves to a sport without doping and without drugs, in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honour of the gymnasts.”*

### b) Closing

The closing ceremony is not mandated but highly encouraged. It is recommended to be held after the last event of the competition and include closing remarks for the GymCan President or designate.

A Closing Social/Banquet may be hosted by the organizing committee and all accredited participants must be invited, including sponsors, GymCan staff, GymCan board members, GymCan life members and any other designated VIPs as identified by GymCan and the LOC.



## 5.5 Awards

Award ceremonies should take place immediately following the completion of each competition category.

The following awards are given to the first 8 ranked groups/pairs in all finals:

1st rank - 1 gold medal

2nd rank - 1 silver medal

3rd rank - 1 bronze medal

4th to 8th rank - 1 ribbon

Only the podium awards will only be presented to the medal winners. All athletes have to be dressed in their competitive attire on the podium for award ceremonies.

Ribbons for positions 4 through 8 will be distributed to the respective gymnasts at the information desk along with their official result sheets.



## Appendix A – Youth

The Youth level of competition will be offered for each category at GymCan championship events.

Youth perform one Combined exercise, maximum duration of 2 minutes (no minimum duration).

The Youth Combined exercise must consist of the following:

- Pairs: 2 balance elements chosen from the FIG 11-16 difficulty tables + 1 optional element from FIG tables and 2 dynamic elements from 11-16 difficulty tables + 1 optional element from FIG tables (OPTIONAL can be from 11-16 difficulty tables but not the same ROWS used on the compulsory elements).
- Groups: 1 pyramid chosen from the FIG 11-16 difficulty tables + 1 optional pyramid from FIG tables (only 2 static holds of 3” are required in the routine) and 2 dynamic elements from the FIG 11-16 difficulty tables + 1 optional element from FIG tables (OPTIONAL can be from 11-16 difficulty tables but not the same ROWS used on the compulsory elements).
- Individual: 3 individual elements must be executed – no matter if is cat1 or cat2 (NO SALTO REQUIRED).

The Difficulty score is calculated in accordance with FIG 11-16 (i.e. Difficulty Value of the exercise is calculated according the difficulty Value of the performed elements up to a max of 0.5).

The total score is determined by adding together:

- 2X the average mark for Technical merit (Execution or E score)
- The average mark for Artistic merit (Artistry or A score)
- The Difficulty Value of the Compulsory elements (D Score).

Penalties are taken from the Total Score by the Chair and DJ in accordance with the current FIG Code of Points.

E score + A score + D score = Total Score – Penalties = Final Score

If four execution and four artistry judges are used, the average is determined by eliminating the high score and the low score, and taking the average of the middle two scores.

If two or three E/A judges are used, all scores are used to determine the average.

Ties are not broken. In case of a tie, duplicate awards will be given, and the next place(s) will be skipped.



## Appendix B - Appeals Form

1. Appeals may be made based on the difficulty score, equipment failure, and/or mathematical error only.
2. Only the coach who has been officially registered with the unit may initiate a difficulty slip review and/or appeal on behalf of their athletes.
3. The appeal must be filed within 10 minutes of the posting of the score for the exercise in question.
4. There is no cost to submit an appeal.
5. To resolve the appeal, the Jury may choose to consult the judging panel and/or use video review
6. The decision of the Jury of Appeals is final.

<b>Appeal for:</b>	
P/G#: _____	Athlete Names:
Province/Territory: _____	1. _____
Category: WP MP MxP WG MG	2. _____
Level/Age Group:	3. _____
Routine: BAL DYN COMB	4. _____
Coach's Name: _____	Time of Appeal Submission: _____
Coach Appeal: _____	
	Coach Signature: _____
Jury's Decision/Response: _____	
	Chair of the Jury Signature: _____
<b>Result of Appeal:</b>	
Change as follows: <input type="checkbox"/>	No change to score: <input type="checkbox"/>
New Difficulty Value: _____	
New D-Score: _____	
Adjustment to CJP/DJ Penalties: _____	

