

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



FONDÉE EN 1881

2009 FIG General Judges' Rules

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

ARTICLE 1: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- 1.1 There are four categories of FIG judges – Categories IV, III, II and I for all disciplines. Category IV is the first level for beginners. All judges, who participate for the first time in an International Judges' course, can obtain the brevet and Category IV.
- 1.2 The FIG international judges' brevet is valid during the judge's entire career, in accordance with 7.6 of the Technical Regulations.
- 1.3 To be considered as active during an Olympic cycle, the judges have to attend an official FIG Judges' course at the beginning of each respective cycle. The function of international judge is specific to the categorization mentioned under Article 2.
- 1.4 To be eligible to participate in an Intercontinental or International Judges' Course, the candidates have to meet the following criteria:
 - Be a member of a national gymnastics federation affiliated to the FIG
 - Be designated by this national federation to participate in the Intercontinental or International Judges' Course
 - Not be under the effect of a sanction as foreseen under point 6.3.2 b) and c). (Sanctions as per FIG Statutes Art. 42.2, except point a).
 - Know one official FIG language
 - Pay a registration fee of CHF 150.-.
 - For subsequent courses or repeating examinations during the cycle the fee is CHF 150.--.
 - To participate in an Intercontinental Judges' Course see also point 4:
- 1.5 Each TC determines the detailed rules for its discipline. These rules must be submitted to the Executive Committee FIG for approval.
- 1.6 A judge who does not renew his/her brevet during a cycle and wishes to continue his/her career as a judge after the interruption, has to start the whole procedure again from the beginning (cat. IV). An exception is made for a former Cat. I judge. He/she can obtain Cat. III, provided he/she has passed the examination with the results required for Cat. III.
- 1.7 Minimum requirements for judges to be eligible are according to Article 5 hereafter and the specific rules of each discipline.
- 1.8 In order to move up one category, e.g. from Category IV to Category III, from Category III to Category II and from Category II to Category I, the judges have to meet the relevant criteria as laid down in point 2 below.

In order to reconfirm the category, the judge, in some instances, will need to pass the examination.

ARTICLE 2: CATEGORIES

Category	Requirements to Obtain Category	Requirements to Maintain Category
IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must hold highest national brevet and proposed by his/her Federation • Attend International Course • Pass examination with the minimum requirements set out by the TC concerned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend International Course
III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must hold Category IV and proposed by his/her Federation • Attend International or Intercontinental Judges' Course • Pass the examination with the minimum requirements set out by the TC concerned • Have judged 2 international competitions in the cycle just completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have judged 2 international competitions in cycle just completed • Attend Intercontinental or International Judges' Course
II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must hold Category III and proposed by his/her Federation • Have judged a certain number of international competitions in cycle just completed (to be determined by the TC concerned) • Attend Intercontinental or International Judges' Course • Pass examination with minimum the requirement set out by the TC concerned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have judged 4 international competitions in cycle just completed • Attend Intercontinental or International Judges' Course
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must hold Category II and proposed by his/her Federation • Have judged 4 international competitions in cycle just completed, 1 must be a FIG Competition (OG, WG, WC) • Attend Intercontinental Judges' Course • Pass the examination with the minimum requirement set out by the TC concerned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have judged 4 international competitions in cycle just completed, 1 must be major FIG Competition (OG, WC, WG) • Attend Intercontinental Judges' Course • Pass the examination with the minimum requirement set out by the TC concerned

ARTICLE 3: JUDGES' BREVET AND JUDGES' LOGBOOK

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

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

Each judge has to bring his/her logbook and the brevet to each competition registered with the FIG. Furthermore, each judge should also possess and bring the Code of Points of the relevant discipline, the Technical Regulations, and the Symbol booklet.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICIAL FIG JUDGES' COURSES

4.1 Intercontinental Courses

- 4.1.1 An Intercontinental Judges' Course for each discipline is organised every four years. All subsequent courses are patterned after this course.
- 4.1.2 The aim of the Intercontinental Judges' Course is:
- to ensure that all participants have a common understanding of the new rules and changes in the Code of Points and the Technical Regulations;
 - to organise theory and practical examinations so the participants may obtain the judges' categories based on standards, as set by each respective discipline.
 - to set the minimum score (or deviations allowed) required for each category of result (excellent, very good, good, pass, fail) in the examinations held at the end of each Intercontinental and International Judges' Course will be fixed by the Technical Committees at the conclusion of the Intercontinental Course held at the beginning of each Olympic cycle. The score, once fixed, will remain unchanged for the remainder of that cycle.
- 4.1.3 Only judges of Category III and higher are permitted to participate in the Intercontinental Judges' Course. The registration has to be made by the relevant national federation of the judge and needs the approval of the FIG.
- 4.1.4 The Intercontinental Judges' Course is carried out according to the directives of the respective TC. All judges who participate in this course and wish to obtain a higher category or maintain Category I, must pass an obligatory examination.
- 4.1.5 The conditions, duration and format of the course, the number of participants as well as the form of the examination, are proposed by the TC's. These need to be approved in principle by the Presidential Commission of the FIG for each discipline. The Executive Committee will be informed.
- 4.1.6 A judge who has been sanctioned based on point 6.3.2 b) and c) may not participate in an Intercontinental Course. (Sanctions as per FIG Statutes Art. 42.2, except point a). (e.g. judges sanctioned during the cycle 1.1.2005-31.12.2008 are not allowed to participate in the Intercontinental Judges Course qualifying for a brevet for the cycle 1.1.2009-31.12.2012)
- 4.1.7 The highest ranked judges of category I, having shown total integrity during the whole preceding cycle, may be exempted from taking an examination based on approval by the Executive Committee, following a proposal of the TC concerned. However, in order to update their knowledge, they will have to participate fully in the intercontinental course.

4.2 International Judges' Courses

- 4.2.1 National Federations and the Continental Unions may organise an International Judges' Course, if they obtain the permission from the TC, after having applied in writing to the General Secretary, FIG (at least 4 months prior to the date of the course). The limit for the number of participants is 30 judges per Expert Instructor, with a maximum of 90 participating judges for 3 Expert Instructors.
- 4.2.2 Each International or Continental Judges' Course has to be conducted by a member of the relevant TC/FIG and/or by a judge holding a Category I Brevet, as nominated by the TC/FIG. The TC representative, as well as the expert(s) have to be present throughout the whole course. They have to send a written report about the course to the FIG within 2 weeks after the conclusion of the course. If a course is taking place in the country of a TC/FIG member, another member of the TC/FIG or a Category I Brevet judge from another country, as

designated by the respective TC, is required to be present. The costs for the Experts and a daily fee are required to be paid by the organizers.

- 4.2.3 The International Judges' Course is carried out according to the directives of the TC. It includes a written and practical examination on the Code of Points and the Technical Regulations, as these relate to competitions. All judges who participate in this course, to obtain the International Judges' Brevet or to obtain a higher category, must pass an obligatory examination. Judges may only move up from category II to category I by attending an Intercontinental Judges' Course and pass the examination.
- 4.2.4 The conditions, duration and format of the course, as well as the content and the form of the examination, are approved by the respective TC.
- 4.2.5 Judges who pass the examination(s) will be qualified by category, in accordance with the criteria (e.g. percentage) designated for each category by the relevant TC. Those who have failed the examination may repeat it once during the cycle, as per the criteria designated by the relevant TC.

ARTICLE 5: COMPETITION GROUPS AND ELIGIBILITY

Groups	Competitions	Minimum requirement
Group 1	Olympic Games	Cat. I Cat. II Priority is given to higher ranked judges
Group 2	World Championships, Asian Games, Pan-American Games, European Championships	Cat. I Cat. II Cat. III Priority is given to higher ranked judges
Group 3	World Games, Commonwealth Games, University Games	as per FIG TC decision / Specific Judges' Rules
Group 4	Continental Championships (Except European Championships), World Cup/Series Competitions, Multi-sport Games (except those mentioned above)	as per FIG TC decision / Specific Judges' Rules
Group 5	International / Continental Age Group Competitions, all other international competitions and tournaments under the FIG rules	as per FIG TC decision / Specific Judges' Rules

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

- *Detailed results with Judges' Assignment,*
- *Report of the Chair of Judges' Panel*

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

6.1 General

6.1.1 The TC members are responsible for the education, control and supervision of the work of the judges. They investigate and take any action necessary during the competition, and following the event conduct an analysis of the competition videos. Sanctions during the competition (removal of a judge from the competition) may be appealed to the Jury of appeal. Its decision is final.

6.1.2 The assignment of sanctions and awards are the same for all disciplines. The work of the judges is evaluated according to 5 criteria:

- Excellent, Very Good, Good, Weak (Pass), Unsatisfactory (Fail).

As soon as available, the official FIG Programme (Swiss Timing / Fairbrother) will have to be used for the evaluation of the judges' work during and after the competition.

6.1.3 During the competition, Reg. 7.8.1 of the Technical Regulations applies. The actions taken during a competition are without prejudice to any possible sanction pronounced after the analysis of the judges' work following the competition. After the competition and after the judges' analysis, written warnings and/or sanctions may be submitted to the Disciplinary Commission (via the Secretary General) against judges, whose behaviour or work is assessed as unsatisfactory. (Reg. 19 of the FIG Statutes).

6.1.4 The judges who are sanctioned may appeal to the FIG Appeal Tribunal (Reg. 20 of the FIG Statutes) against the measure taken. Appeals for verbal warnings are not permitted.

6.1.5 The federations are also responsible for the actions and behaviour of their judges.

6.2 Recognitions and awards

A judge can be rewarded for the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent and very good judgement during Olympic Games and World Championships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to the judge (copy to his federation) • Publication in the FIG Bulletin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent and very good judgement at a minimum of 2 competitions (Olympic Games, World Championships, World Games) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIG Cycle Diploma award • A relevant award letter to the judge's federation • In an exceptional case, the judge may be given the next higher qualification, if so proposed by the TC and approved by the EC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judges who are breveted for a minimum of 5 active Olympic cycles, with minimum 8 World Championships, Olympic Games and / or World Cup Finals, World Games having judged without sanction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIG Honorary Diploma with special insignia pin at the end of the judge's career

6.3 Sanctions against Judges

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

6.3.1 Sanctions during the competition	
Action	Consequences
<p>A judge can be warned for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated deviations below or above the deductions for errors, as stated in the Code of Points • Showing favouritism or disfavour toward an individual gymnast or a team • Taking part in obvious discussions and/or agreements with other judges with the intent to collaborate • Weak evaluation • Instances of obviously incorrect judging decisions during competition • Incorrect uniform • Not having the Code of Points and official updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal warning <p>If a judge receives a warning during the competition, the following may take place after</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notation in Judge's Log Book
Action	Consequences
<p>A judge can be removed and replaced for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing favouritism or disfavour toward an individual gymnast or a team, after a warning • Continued unjustified large deviations below or above the deductions for errors as stated in the Code of Points or in the specific judges' rules, after having been given a verbal warning • Having spoken with other judges and/or given some signs following verbal warning • Having used means of communication which are not permitted (e.g. mobile phone) • Cheating or proven corrupt behaviour • Not attending the official activities and instructions (according with the Codes and the TR) during the official period of the competition • Abusive behavior • Obstructing the operation of the competition • The exclusion of a judge during a competition can be followed by further sanctions depending on the severity of the problem (Refer to art. 6.3.2) 	<p>If a judge is removed from the competition, the following may take place after</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written warning • Suspension • Downgrade of Category • Removal of brevet • Publication in FIG Bulletin • Federation receives warning letter • Federation is denied a judge at one or more FIG competitions (OG, WC, WG) • Notation in Judge's Log Book <p>(Refer to art. 6.3.2)</p>
<p>The judge may appeal the sanctions pronounced during the competition</p>	

6.3.2. *Sanctions after a competition*

Within a maximum 6 month period after the conclusion of the competition, whenever possible, the sanctions will be proposed by the Disciplinary Commission to the Presidential Commission, following the analysis of the judges' scores and video review of the exercises, by the TC. The Presidential Commission will make a decision according to the reg. 8 of the Code of Discipline.

The possible sanctions are mentioned in Reg. 42.2 of the FIG Statutes.

The details of the sanction will be stated in the decision which is subject to appeal. The sanctions proposed or pronounced against judges, by the Continental Unions for their own competitions, must be communicated to the FIG.

6.4 Sanctions against Federations

- 6.4.1 The federations are informed about the sanctions against their judges (except in case of verbal warnings).
- 6.4.2 For sanctions against judges as described in 6.3.2 above, according to the Statutes, Reg. 42.2, federations will be informed and, depending of the seriousness of the case, will not be permitted to send judges to the next Olympic Games, World Championships and/or World Games of the discipline concerned.
- 6.4.3 All written sanctions against judges and national federations will be communicated by the FIG. They are signed by the Secretary General and the President.

6.5 Levels of Appeals

- 6.5.1 Jury of Appeal: Judges who were sanctioned during competition, have the right to appeal to the Jury of Appeal. The decision of the Jury of Appeal is final and valid for the relevant competition.
- 6.5.2 Disciplinary Commission: The Disciplinary Commission examines, investigates, and proposes sanctions related to the cases submitted to them according to Reg. 6.3.2.
- 6.5.3 Presidential Commission: The Presidential Commission is the decision making body for all sanctions. They may accept or alter the proposals submitted by the Disciplinary Commission.
- 6.5.4 Tribunal Appeal: The Appeal Tribunal is the final FIG appeal level for sanctions decided by the Presidential Commission.

ARTICLE 7: MISCELLANEOUS

- 7.1 The FIG list and database of the international judges, as well as the list of International Judges' Courses are regularly update by the TCs, in co-operation with the FIG Office and are published on the FIG website.
- 7.2 Only Category I judges may lead International Judges' Courses. Under special circumstances a Category II judge may lead an International Judges' Course, if so designated by the relevant TC.
- 7.3 TC members, who are not re-elected at the end of a cycle or are not presenting themselves as candidates, will only maintain the same category for the following cycle, as they had as a TC member.
- 7.4 Newly elected TC members must pass an exam and be Cat. I or II.

7.5 Continuous assessment:

Each judge officiating at each competition is assessed for

- Integrity of decisions (morality, justice, non-bias)
- Competence to apply the rules (Statutes, Technical Regulations and Code)
- Correctness of behaviour (punctuality, respect of others; respect of rules)

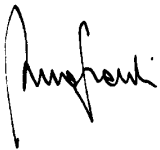
Continuous assessment is made during and after each competition (see 6.3.2).

7.6 Judges' Draw: the details of the procedure for the judges' draw, based on the principles mentioned in the Technical Regulations, must be presented by each Technical President to the EC for approval. The procedures for MAG and WAG must be identical.

FINAL PROVISIONS

The principles of the FIG General Judges' Rules have been approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting in Cape Town (RSA) in May 2008. The details of the Specific Rules for each discipline were developed by the Technical Committees and have been modified by the Statutes Commission and the Presidential Commission following the authorization of the EC. They enter into effect on November 1st, 2008 and replace all previous rules.

Fédération internationale de Gymnastique



Bruno Grandi
President



André Gueisbuhler
Secretary General

Lausanne, October 2008