NEWSLETTER – N° 7 – July 2026

1) 2026 World Cup Series

The 2026 World Cup Series in Acrobatics concluded with the final three events in Burgas, BUL; Baku, AZE; and Rzeszow, POL. Congratulations to the World Cup Champions crowned in each of the five disciplines:

Women's Pair - Shiraz Sokolovsky & Rony Cohen (ISR)

Men's Pair - Yaroslav Ossolodkov & Vsevolod Ossolodkov (USA)

Mixed Pair - Yevfrosyniia Kryvytska & Ivan Labunets (UKR)

Women's Group - Nazrin Zeyniyeva, Anahita Bashiri & Zahra Rashidova (AZE)

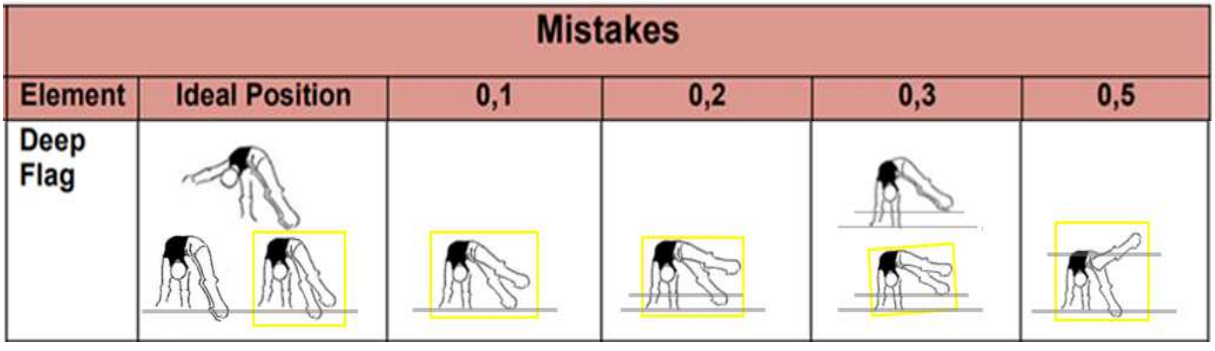
Men's Group - Volodymyr Repetii, Mykola Soroka, Dmytro Borshchevskyi & Mykolai Khasanov (UKR)

Best of luck to athletes preparing for the upcoming World Championships in Pesaro, ITA!

2) Clarifications

Flag and Deep Flag Positions

There are two acceptable techniques for flag position – one using complete flexibility/bend from the side body and another using side and back flexibility together to achieve the flag position. However, it is not an acceptable flag position to use back flexibility only. When using side flexibility technique to perform deep flag, one leg must be below the level of the hands, but it is acceptable to have the other leg slightly higher. See below for updated drawings for the CoP Appendix 1: Guidelines for Execution Judging #3 Deep Flag.

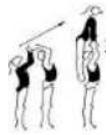


ToD Pg. 119 – Motion Preceding Tumbling Individual Elements

"Tumbling elements must be preceded by motion…". Motion refers to the clear and intentional displacement of the entire body in preparation for the individual element. Tumbling elements which start from a static position will not receive difficulty value and/or SR.

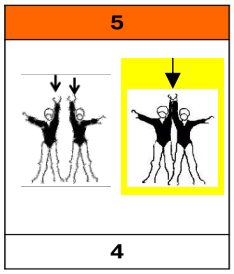
ToD Pairs Mount - Pg 28-D

There is a change to the clarification from Newsletter #6 (March 2026). This mount can be performed:

	OR		OR		OR	
						
○ From the floor, with or without a brief pause when the top is in support on the base.		○ From a start position with the top in support on straight arms of the base.		○ From a start position with the top lying horizontal on the shoulder of the base.		○ From the floor with the top rolling up the chest of the base.

WG Balance Pyramid – ToD Pg 59

Pyramid with 2 bases standing on the floor, using one hand from each base together. This element should be included in box pg. 59-B5 since the element has been performed in competition in the past and seems to have been left out of ToD. ID 59-B5, DV=4



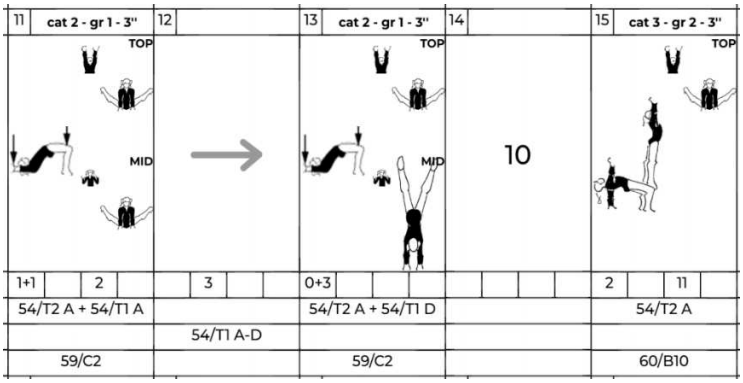
3) Questions & Answers

Q: In pairs, if there is a fall on a mount (not held for 1"), but the pair repeats the static hold (of the mount), can this element be used for special requirements?

A: Yes, the repeated static hold may be used to fulfill SR, as long as the same SH is not a repetition of another element in exercise. No difficulty value for the SH and no other penalty for "different/other element".

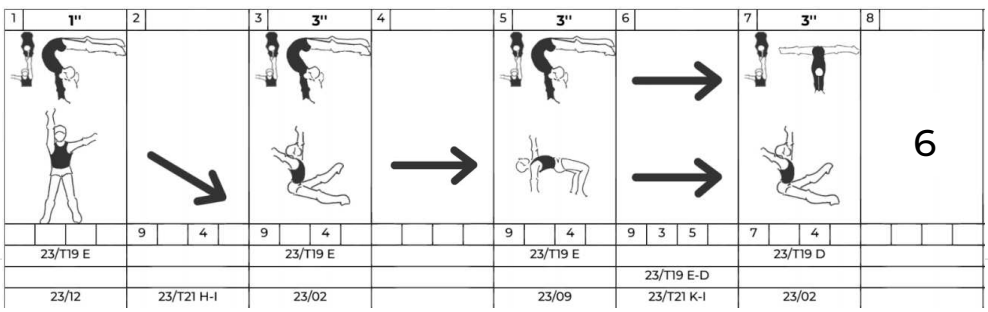
Q: In WG: can this be performed?

A: According to CoP 20.12, the top performs straddle 3" in box 11 (v1), stays in straddle 3" (no value) while middle changes position in box 13. Therefore, the straddle with NO VALUE in box 13 does not count for repetition and the top may perform one additional straddle static hold in the exercise, as shown in this example (box 15).



Q: In Pairs, can a series be performed in this way?

A: According to CoP 19.3, the following example is possible in an exercise. The Mexican position is counting for difficulty 2 times during a motion of the base and 2 times in a static hold.



4) New Element Requests

Pair Mount – ToD Pg. 32

Cannonball mount with base AND top in one-arm, mount to one-arm handstand.



Accepted as a new element. ID = Pg 32, E2

Add new row to pg. 32 – row E2:

Pairs — **Mounts (V static hold included)**

	Start	A			B			C			D			E			A					B					C					D					E				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
A	Front or Back OR	6	10	14	10	14	18	10	14	18	10		18				11	16	23	22	31	15	19	30	26	36	15	19	30	26	36	15		30		36	17	22		25	
B	OR	7	11	15	11	15	19	11	15	19	11		19				13	18	25	24	33	17	21	32	28	38	17	21	32	28	38	17		32		38	19	24		27	
C		7	11	15	11	15	19	11	15	19	11		19				13	18	25	24	33	17	21	32	28	38	17	21	32	28	38	17		32		38	19	24		27	
D	5/4 back	7	11	15	11	15	19	11	15	19	11		19				13	18	25	24	33	17	21	32	28	38	17	21	32	28	38	17		32		38	19	24		27	
E 1			13	17		17	21		17	21			21							27	36				31	41				31	41					41				30	
E 2				21			25			25			25								40					45					45					45					

New elements may be used in competition 6 months after publication.

5) Reminders

Judges Preparation for 2026 WYC/WJCH and WCH

New judges' education PowerPoint presentations will be available on the STS platform beginning August 20. Judges participating in the 2026 WYC/WJCH and WCH are expected to spend time with these slides before arriving to the judges meeting in Pesaro. The presentations will include element clips for execution practice and full exercises for artistry practice focusing on criteria-by-criteria feedback.

To find these presentations, judges can log into their account on STS. From the dropdown menu near the WG logo at the top left, select TC Content/TC Presentations. Then select the "2026" button to see the buttons for WCH Execution and WCH Artistry presentations.

Real-time Judging Functionality on STS

A new feature on STS provides the ability for judges to practice real-time judging in execution. This functionality, which is now available, can be used with any of the videos in the competition videos archive. When a judge selects a competition video, there will be a blue button centered beneath the video called "E-jury Dots". Click this button to open the real-time judging functionality, which allows judges to watch the exercise and apply execution deductions for each element (captured on the video timeline) as the exercise plays. Instructions for this new process can be found under "Help" once the judge clicks the "E-jury Dots" button.

6) Events

17-20 Sept 2026	**2nd Acrobatics Junior World Championships and 14th World Youth Competition (Pesaro, ITA)**
24-27 Sept 2026	**30th Acrobatics World Championships (Pesaro, ITA)**
24-28 March 2027	**2027 Senior European Championships (Pesaro, ITA)**
24-28 March 2027	**2027 Junior European Championships (Pesaro, ITA)**
16-27 June 2027	**2027 European Games (Istanbul, TUR)**

In Memoriam – Stoil Sotirov

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Stoil Sotirov at the age of 88.



Mr. Sotirov was one of the founders of the International Federation of Sports Acrobatics (IFSA) and served as its President for 25 years, from its establishment in 1973 until 1998, when Acrobatics was integrated into the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG).

His vision, leadership and dedication played a fundamental role in the development of Acrobatics and in establishing the international structure of our sport. Following the integration into FIG, he continued to contribute to the international governance of gymnastics, leaving a lasting legacy for future generations.

On behalf of the FIG Acrobatics TC, we extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him.

Respectfully,

Nikolina HRISTOVA
President,
Acrobatics Technical Committee
Nikolina.hristova.fig@gmail.com

Carisa Laughon
Secretary,
Acrobatics Technical Committee
Carisalaughon.fig@gmail.com