

**FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE**



**RULES**

for the

**INTERNATIONAL AGE GROUP COMPETITIONS  
IN ACROBATIC GYMNASTICS  
(AGC-ACRO)**

**2004**



*Approved by the FIG Executive Committee  
at its Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003 in Budapest (HUN)*

## Introduction

The FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics' Age Group Competitions aim specifically to:

- Increase the education of novice and more experienced athletes who are working towards participation in senior World Events.
- Provide a context for coach and judge education in the preparation of young athletes, with world novices and experts working collaboratively for the growth and development of Acrobatic Gymnastics.
- Provide rules for all other International competitions which offer Age Group or Junior competitions.
- Offer spectators and media a stimulating spectacle of developing talent and an education in the competitive rules for Acrobatic Gymnastics.
- Identify the stars of the future and to educate them in the responsibilities which the positions demand.
- The FIG Acrobatics' Technical Committee wishes all participants success, joy and hope in their involvement.

Patricia Wade

*on behalf of the FIG Technical Committee for Acrobatic Gymnastics*

## PARTICIPATION

1. Athletes per National Team may not exceed 30
2. National teams may include no more than two pairs or groups in a particular discipline category in any Age Group Event.
3. Each athlete may compete in one discipline only and one Age Group only.
4. Pairs and Groups who have, or will compete in the World Championships, World Cup, World Games or senior Continental Union Championships in the same year may not compete in the World Age Group Competitions. Individuals who have competed as seniors, but are now in newly formed groups or pairs, are eligible.
5. Maximum size of delegation:

Head of delegation	1	
Team manager	1	
Coaches	3	
Gymnasts	30	No more than 2 per category and age group
Doctor	1	
Physiotherapist	1	
Judges	2	(with FIG brevet and excluding Char appointed by the FIG ACRO-TC)
Total	39	

## THE EVENTS

1. There will be two age group events: 11-16 and 12-19.
2. Ages will be those in the year of competition.
3. The age difference between partners in Pairs and Groups cannot exceed 6 years.
4. Each Age Group event will include 5 disciplines:
  - Women/Girls' Pairs
  - Men's/Boy's Pairs
  - Mixed Pairs
  - Women's /Girl's Trios
  - Men's/Boys Fours
5. The emphasis of performance is on perfecting technical and artistic performance rather than on difficulty.

## JUDGES

1. Two (2) Chairs of Judges' Panel and two (2) expert Difficulty Judges will be appointed for the FIG AGC-ACRO, following draw by the FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee from eligible Category I judges. Exceptionally, Category II judges will be appointed as Difficulty Judges. The appointees will be regarded as independent of national teams and cannot officiate in any other role during the AGC.
2. Each participating Federation is entitled to present two judges, Category I, II or III, of good standing, one of which will be drawn as a Technical judge, the other as an Artistic Judge.
3. Federations with qualified FIG Brevet Judges **MUST** present a minimum of one judge. If none, the Federation has to pay a fine, in accordance with Technical Regulations 2002.
4. When a Federation has only Category IV judges, following written request, the FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee may allow ONE Category IV judge from the federation.
5. All judges are guaranteed to judge once, as either a Technical or Artistic judge.
6. Judges not drawn to officiate at a specific session can be appointed to other responsibilities.

## AGE GROUP 11-16

### 1. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

#### Qualifications


- 1.1 Each pair and group presents one Balance and one Tempo exercise, which must be choreographed and performed to music.
- 1.2 The exercise is composed of compulsory and optional elements.
- 1.3 Places after the qualifications are determined by the sum of scores from the two exercises, Balance and Tempo.
- 1.4 The top 8 proceed to a Final. If there are less than 12 entries to a category, only 6 will proceed to the Final.
- 1.5 If there are less than 4 countries participating in a category, no medals will be awarded; tokens of participation will be given.

#### Finals

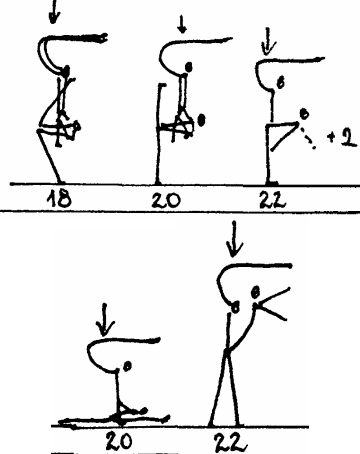
- 1.6 One Balance **OR** Tempo Exercise of the Pair or Group's choice.
- 1.7 Marking starts from zero

### 2. EXERCISE COMPOSITION AND EVALUATION

- 2.1 In the qualifications, each participant must present two exercises, Balance and Tempo, which must be choreographed and performed to music.
- 2.2 Exercise length must not exceed 2' 30". There is no minimum length.
- 2.3 Each Pair/Group, in one exercise, must perform the compulsory elements and the number of optional elements, illustrated in the Compulsory Element Table. *(This is provided in the supplementary book: Age Group 11-16 programme, 2003).* Additional elements are not permitted.
- 2.4 For each missing element, there is a deduction of 1.0
- 2.5 For each additional element there is a deduction of 1.0
- 2.6 The following elements are **forbidden** for 11-16 year olds and if performed will result in a penalty of 2.0

1. A column of three or four high
2. Stands on shoulders with base in splits without hands on the floor
3. Stands on bases' hips and chest, with base in bridge support
4.  Handstand on glutei with base in exaggerated curvature of the spine (lordosis)

5. Triple back saltos

6.  Middle standing in Mexican without support (free), while top is performing a stand on the middle

### Pairs: Balance and Tempo

2.7 Each Pair exercise, Balance and Tempo, must include 6 pair elements and 3 individual elements:

- Four (4) compulsory pair elements, each selected from a different row I, II, III and IV of the Compulsory Element Table. i.e. one from Row I; one from Row II etc.

*A penalty of 1.0 is given for each missing element.*

- A maximum of two (2) optional pair elements selected from the FIG Tables of Difficulty with minimum value one (1)

*A penalty of 1.0 is given for each additional or missing element.*

- In Balance Exercises, optional element difficulty must not be less than value 1 and a maximum of 10.
- In the Tempo exercise only 2 dismounts are allowed for difficulty.
- The difficulty of entries and motions must not exceed value 5; they are not counted in the Difficulty Value of exercises.

- Minimum three (3) optional individual elements selected from the specified Category of the FIG Tables of Difficulty.
- *A penalty of 1.0 will be given for any missing element*
- The exercises, with 6 pair elements and 3 individual elements, are judged for Technical and Artistic merit, in accordance with the FIG Code of Points.

### **Women's Group: BALANCE**

2.8 Women's Group Balance exercises must include:

- Two (2) pyramids, each selected from a different row I, II and III of the Compulsory Element Table. The pyramids must be performed separately. (They may not be joined).

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for any missing or additional group element.*

- Minimum 3 Individual elements selected from the specified category of the FIG Tables of Difficulty.

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for each missing element*

- A maximum of one (1) optional pyramid selected from the FIG Tables of Difficulty, with a minimum difficulty value of 4 and a maximum difficulty value of 16.

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for any missing or additional group element of difficulty*

- The exercises, with 3 pyramids and 3 individual elements, are judged for Technical and Artistic merit, in accordance with the FIG Code of Points.

### **Men's Group: BALANCE**

2.9 Men's Group balance exercises must include:

- Two (2) pyramids, each selected from a different row I, II and III; (One pyramid from Row I, one from Row II or III from the Compulsory Element Table). The pyramids must be performed separately. (They may not be joined).

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for each missing or additional element.*

- A maximum of one (1) optional pyramid, selected from the FIG Tables of Difficulty, with a minimum difficulty value of 4 and a maximum difficulty value of 16.

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for each missing or additional element of difficulty.*

- Minimum 3 individual elements, selected from the specified category of the FIG Tables of Difficulty.

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for any missing element of difficulty.*

- The exercises, with 3 pyramids and 3 individual elements, are judged for Technical and Artistic merit, in accordance with the FIG Code of Points.

## **Women AND Men's Group: TEMPO**

2.10 The group Tempo exercises must include:

- Four (4) group elements each selected from a different row I, II, III and IV of the Compulsory Element Table.

*A penalty of 1.0 is taken for each missing or additional element.*

- Only 2 dismounts are allowed and evaluated for difficulty
- A maximum of two (2) optional group elements selected from the FIG Tables of Difficulty with a minimum difficulty value of 1 and a maximum difficulty value of 10.

*A penalty of 1.0 is taken for each missing or additional element.*

- Minimum 3 Individual elements selected from the specified category of the FIG Tables of Difficulty.

*A penalty of 1.0 will be given for any missing element of difficulty.*

- The exercises, with 6 group elements and 3 individual elements, are judged for Technical and Artistic merit, in accordance with the FIG Code of Points.

## **Individual Elements**

- Each partner of a pair or group must perform 3 individual elements together or in immediate succession. They can do more.
- The individual elements are selected from the FIG Tables of Difficulty, as specified in the Compulsory Element Table.
- No individual element can be less than 1 value and no more than 5 in value.
- Individual elements do not count toward the Difficulty Mark
- *Choreographic elements do not count towards the difficulty mark nor as 'Individual' elements. Their use is encouraged to enhance artistry.*

- Individual elements may be performed separately or in a series, but must be performed simultaneously or in immediate succession by the partners.

*If an element is missing or exceeds 5 in value a penalty mark of 1.0 is taken for failing to observe the Special Requirement rule.*

### **3. DIFFICULTY**

#### **Qualifications and Finals**

- 3.1 The difficulty of the selected COMPULSORY elements, chosen from each of the Rows, I, II, III and IV of the Compulsory Difficulty Tables, is added to the score for Technical Execution and Artistry, to a maximum of 0.5.
- 3.2 No additional difficulty is given for the elements chosen from the FIG Tables of Difficulty. They only satisfy the Special Requirement for composition.

### **4. JUDGING**

- 4.1 Technical and Artistic judging will be in accord with the prevailing FIG Sports Acrobatics Code of Points 2002.
- 4.2 Panels will composed of
  - 3-4 Technical Judges
  - 3-4 Artistic judges
  - 1 Difficulty Judge
  - 1 Chair

### **5. SCORES**

- 5.1 A score is determined by adding together:
  - the average mark for Technical merit using the middle 2 of 4 marks or all 3 of 3 marks.
  - the average mark for Artistic Merit using the middle 2 of 4 marks or all 3 of 3 marks
  - the mark for Difficulty (maximum 0.5).
- 5.2 Any penalties for excessive size differences, special requirements or time faults, are taken by the Chair from this score

## AGE GROUP 12-19

### 6. STRUCTURE OF COMPETITION

#### Qualifications:

- 6.1 Each pair and group performs one Balance and One Tempo exercise.
- 6.2 The places after qualifications are determined by the sum of scores from the two exercises, Balance and Tempo.
- 6.3 The top 8 proceed to a Final. If there are less than 12 entries to a category, only 6 may proceed to the final.
- 6.4 Competitors cannot participate in a Final without competing in both the Balance and Tempo events.

#### Finals

- 6.5 One Combined Exercise
- 6.6 Marking starts from zero
- 6.7 If there are less than 4 countries in a category, no medals will be awarded; tokens of participation will be given.

### 7. COMPOSITION OF EXERCISES

- 7.1 All exercises, Balance, Tempo and Combined, are composed in accordance with the FIG Technical Regulations and Code of Points, except that a maximum Difficulty Mark will be awarded and there will be no team score.
- 7.2 The following elements are **forbidden** for 11-16 year olds and if performed will result in a penalty of 2.0 (As for article 2.6)
  - A column of three or four high
  - Stands on shoulders with base in splits without hands on the floor
  - Stands on bases' hips and chest, with base in bridge support
  - Handstand on glutei with base in exaggerated curvature of the spine (lordosis)
  - Triple back saltos
  - Middle standing in Mexican without support (free), while top is performing a stand on the middle

## 8 DIFFICULTY

- 8.1 The maximum Difficulty Mark for the elements performed in the exercises will be calculated taking into account the maximum Difficulty values allowed for calculation of Difficulty. These are shown in the following Table A :

**Table A**

	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Tempo</b>	<b>Combined</b>
<b>WP</b>	100	70	100
<b>MP</b>	100	80	100
<b>MXP</b>	110	90	110
<b>WG</b>	110	90	110
<b>MG</b>	110	90	100

Up to 20 values more than that given for the maximum difficulty mark may be performed, but no more. **No difficulty value will be given.** If exceeded, a penalty of 1.0 will be given.

The maximum range of difficulty that may be performed therefore is:

**Table B**

	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Tempo</b>	<b>Combined</b>
<b>WP</b>	100-120	70-90	100-120
<b>MP</b>	100-120	80-100	100-120
<b>MXP</b>	110-130	90-110	110-130
<b>WG</b>	110-130	90-110	110-130
<b>MG</b>	110-130	90-110	100-120

## 9. JUDGING

All exercises are judged in accordance with the FIG Code of Points and Technical Regulations, except that Difficulty is restricted.

## Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique

Bruno Grandi  
President

Norbert Bueche  
Secretary General

Budapest, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003