



Ice Skating Australia Incorporated

Affiliated to the International Skating Union

ISA Communication 129 Online National Best of Elements Synchronized Skating Competition 2021

Date Approved:	23 rd March 2021	Effective Start Date:	12 th April 2021
Communication no:	129	Version Number:	1.0
Review Date:			
Related Policies/Procedures/Forms	ISA 124		

1 Purpose of the Communication

This online competition will provide the opportunity for Synchronized teams (Senior, Junior, Advanced Novice, Basic Novice, Adult, Advanced Adult and Mixed Age) to compete in a **Best of Elements** competition via video submission. It will also allow officials from all States and those who reside overseas an opportunity to participate.

2 Technical Requirements

Refer to relevant ISU Regulations and Communications and ISA By-Laws.

Teams may select a maximum of 3 elements from the table below which are included in the Season 2020-2021 Well Balanced Program (Short or Free) applicable to their division.

	Angled I	Whip I	Any I	ME	NHE	TW	PB	TE	TC	W	L	SySp
Senior	x			x	x		x	x	x			
Junior		x		x	x	x	x	x				x
Advanced Novice			x	x	x		x	x	x			
Basic Novice			x	x			x		x	x	x	
Adult			x				x		x	x		
Advanced Adult			x		x							
Mixed Age			x	x	x		x	x	x			

- Short transitions before and after the elements are permitted.
- Features if included will be evaluated by the Technical Panel.
- Technical Panel will apply a level to the performance as per ISU requirements for Season 2020-2021
- Elements will be judged with a GOE only, using the ISU guidelines and criteria for each element

3. Conducting the Competition

- States need to send the list of entries to ISA by **1st May 2021** - this will be forwarded to the Judging Convenor so that panels can be formed. States must also obtain permission from each competitor for their video to be published on the ISA website should they place. Each State is responsible for informing ISA in writing if any skater cannot be published.
- There is no restriction on the no. of teams in a division that States can nominate. Where a team is overseas training, the State should endeavour to ensure these teams are included.
- States may have an entry fee which can then be used to ensure that the teams can skate their programs on clean ice. States may choose to try to simulate an event giving the teams a chance to have a small audience and run through on clean ice. **However cleared ice is not mandatory.**
- Nominated teams skate their elements between **15 – 22 May, 2021**, with a State official or a Judge present who will be responsible for verifying the time and date the program was skated. A signed skating order is acceptable.
- Teams are only allowed one official chance to skate the element after a warm up period.
- If a State official cannot be present then any ISA Referee, Controller from that discipline, or another ISA approved person, can watch the event via zoom to verify it.

4. General Comments on Videoing (see also ISU Communication 2351)

- The State will be responsible for organizing the videoing of the program or giving the coach(es) permission to organise a video person.
- All videos should start from just before the team is announced with their **Division, Team name, State and Element** clearly displayed on a clipboard/sheet.
- High resolution videos are best (720p or 1080p where possible) in MP4 Format. Refer to additional tips below.
- The files must be sent to administration@isa.org.au by WeTransfer.com by **5pm 2nd May**.
- Name the file follows: **Division-team name-state-element**
Eg **Senior-Knightmoves-ACT-Travelling Wheel**
- Only those videos and accompanying PPC electronically received by this date will be considered as entered.

5. Additional Tips for Videoing Synchronized Skating Elements

CAMERA / LENS RECOMMENDATIONS

- iPhone 12 or comparable android phone with 3 lenses. **Film in landscape mode**. Using a tripod will allow for steady film and easier ability to zoom in and out to allow for capturing all skaters during the elements. The settings should be HD 60 (Check the camera settings before filming)
- DSLR or video camera
 - a. 18mm to 55mm lens (this is often the standard lens on a DSLR) **OR** 24mm to 75mm lens
 - b. **Do not** use multiple focal points in your viewfinder. This will ensure the camera stays in focus on the skaters. With multiple focal points active it increases the chance of the camera refocusing on the boards behind the group skating.
- iPhone/iPad or comparable android phone or tablet preferably with wide angle video lens and at least 720p at 30fps (Check the camera settings before filming)

VIDEO LOCATION AND HEIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Centre rink or blue line 8 to 9 rows (high enough to minimize top of glass in video)
- Centre rink or blue line on a platform or ladder to give the height closer to the boards if you cannot get 8 to 9 rows back

VIDEO FILE MANAGEMENT

- Format – Video must be high or recognizable resolution, .MOV or .MP4 File Formats only. Please use 720 or 1080p no need for 4k videos to minimize file size. Technical panel will determine any videos that are deemed “unreviewable”.
- Files MUST be the original file from the camera. Using a video file that was sent to you via text or email, or opening the file in any editing software can significantly reduce the video resolution.
- Video submissions will not contain any editing, splicing and must be recorded from one angle.
- Any videos that are deemed edited including adding graphics will be automatically disqualified and no refunds given.
- It is recommended to use an external music source rather than the sounds in the arena. Playing the music over the program video will be allowed to ensure better quality sound.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- When your team is at the start position start the video and please have your captain or coach announce the name of the team, team division and the element.
- Your goal is to get most of the team most of the time. Now that most elements are required to take ½ the ice you should be able to get these elements in your video.
- Make sure all the lights are on in the rink. Most rinks will not keep all the lights on so you will need to arrange with the rink to have the lights on when you are videoing your program.
- While the skaters and camera are moving it may cause motion blur. Camera should pause for a split second from panning as the team is crossing through or intersecting to limit the blur to give the judges a clear view of the pass. Zooming in or out can have the same effect so avoid zooming at key parts in your program.
- Please record in landscape mode (not vertical).
- Skaters should wear their competition attire or matching team gear as they would in a standard competition to help set the tone that this is a video that will be presented to a panel of judges, and will help the skaters to be in a competitive mindset.
- Do your best to make sure the music is loud enough for the officials to hear when they replay the videos during the judging process. We recommend you overlay the music or if you cannot then turn up the music in the rink when you record the program being skated on the ice.

ELEMENT SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

General: Do not attempt to zoom in on individual skater(s) faces or feet/skates. The goal is to capture all the skaters from head to blade during the elements and transitions. Some leeway is given for transitions as there are no ice restrictions.

- **Angled Intersection**

While zoomed out, follow one line keeping the end of the line at the edge of your view. As the lines move together the second line will begin to show in the view. When both lines are in view you can then zoom in as needed to capture the rotations prior to the pi.

- **Moves**

Capture all fm’s starting with the spirals and their features. Maximum zoom out to half ice, keeping all skaters in view as much as possible to evaluate all fm’s. Features cannot be awarded if all skaters are not in view.

- **Rotating Circle, Rotating Wheel, Synchronized Spin**

Capture all skaters in the shape or formation. Centre the element within view.

- **No Hold, Traveling Circle, Traveling Wheel, Block, and any Artistic Elements**

Capture all skaters in the shape or formation and follow the formation as the element moves across the ice.

- **Group Lift**

Do not zoom in on the lifted skater only, or just one lift. Panels will need to view all the Lifts for the

difficult entry and exit features.

- **Pair Element**

Capture all pairs so timing and unison can be evaluated, including any difficult entry or exit features.

- **Creative Element**

Capture all movements and fe's - adjust zoom as necessary

- **Collapsing Intersections**

Centre all skaters in view during approach and through the pi and exit phase.

6. Judging of the Competition. (Refer Appendix 1 for a suggested time line)

- The OD for Judges/Officials will call for availability and construct the panels from officials available as soon as possible after receipt of the list of entries. There will be 3 to 5 judges per event.
- Each event will be assigned Technical Panels and Judging Panels with a designated accountant.
- OD Judges will organize a video meeting for all technical panel members and referees in the week prior to the event.
- An initial judges meeting will be held for each panel in the week preceding the event at a time designated **by each referee who will organize a video meeting for their panel.**
- Upon receipt of the list of teams each Controller will then **use the ISA Template** (which will be emailed to them by the OD Technical regulations) to input the list of teams in the event spreadsheet (alphabetically) and organize a zoom meeting to view the event.
- The Controller and the panel watch the **elements together via video meeting** within 2 days of receiving the list of teams. OR if this is not possible asks the Technical panel to view the elements and then holds a video meeting to gain consensus.
- The controller plays the video and the panel watch the video and write down their calls. At the end of each video the Controller goes through the list discussing each element and ensures consensus.
- **Any elements that cannot be viewed in their entirety will be called BASE.**
- The Controller writes the calls on their spreadsheet (if possible have the accountant on the video meeting to input live).
- The spreadsheet with the calls (minus the levels) will be sent to the Referee
- The Controller then sends the spreadsheet to their designated accountant with all the levels which the accountant who inputs into the computer and liaises with the Controller for verification. This is the Controller authorising the input. This must be done within 3 days of the Controller receiving the list of entries.
- The Referee distributes the ISA spreadsheet (minus the levels) to all the judges on the panel with the link to the videos.
- The judges have 2 days to watch each team and record their GOE and component scores for each element electronically **on the spreadsheet that was provided** which they send back electronically to the Referee. Any judge that does not return their spreadsheet or fill in the correct spreadsheet to the Referee within 3 days of receipt will be deemed as not participating and their results will not be used.
- The Referee inputs all the judge's marks (by cut & paste of the sent judges spreadsheet) onto one spreadsheet which is sent to the accountant for input. (Refer Appendix 3)
- After input the Referee is responsible for checking all the input Judges marks.

7. Results of the Competition.

- After the completion of each event the accountant sends the final checked results to Kim Wilson who organizes for the result and the videos of the top three placed skaters to be posted on the ISA website.
- ISA will announce the results of the events on June 15, 2021
- ISA will then send out medals to the place winners.

APPENDIX 1

An example of a timeline for this event is:

- Monday- Joint Referee & Tech Panel Meeting
- Tuesday-Referee has IJM
- Thursday- Controller receives files and entry
- Friday/Saturday-Tech panel call event via zoom and Controller send calls to accountant
- Friday/Saturday – Referee receives calls from Tech Panel and distributed to Judges
- Sunday-Controller checks all input calls from the accountant.
- Tuesday- Referee receives marks from Judges and then compiled and sent to Accountant
- Thursday - Protocol from Accountant received by Referee for checking, processed corrections and then approved
- Friday-Accountant sends checked results to Kim Wilson for posting on ISA website
- Saturday - RTD

APPENDIX 2 -Sample Spreadsheet from Controller ISA will provide a template

Sample spreadsheet from Controller to Accountant

Team Debbie is a Star -NSW

NHE3 + st1

PB2

W3

Falls =0

Sample spreadsheet from Controller to Referee

Same Team

Debbie is a Star - NSW		Ref	J1	J2	J3	
NHE						
PB						
W						
Falls =0						

APPENDIX 3 -Sample Spreadsheet from Referee to Accountant

Debbie is a Star - QLD		Ref	J1	J2	J3	
NHE		-1	0	-1	-2	
PB		-3	-3	-3	-4	
W		0	+1	0	0	
Falls = 0						

Version	Approval Date	Change
1.0	23 rd March 2021	New Communication