



Apparently there has been some confusion regarding several issues that the JO and Technical Committees would like to clarify.

1. **VAULT RUNWAY:** According to the *JO Code of Points*, page 25, I.E. Use of tape or excessive chalk is not permitted on the vault table or runway. A chalk line to mark the take-off spot is permitted.
The use of a Velcro strip to mark the take-off line is now being questioned since it is not mentioned specifically in the *JO Code of Points* or the *Rules and Policies*. **THE COMMITTEES HAVE VOTED TO ALLOW THE USE OF A VELCRO STRIP ON THE VAULT RUNWAY.** The Velcro strip **MUST** be removed after the gymnast has completed her two vaults.
2. **VAULTING WITHOUT A SIGNAL FROM CHIEF JUDGE:**
Clarifications on procedures:
 - A. If, on her first or second vault the gymnast runs and vaults (or touches the springboard) without a signal from CJ, the vault (or vault attempt) will not be considered as a vault (or a vault attempt) and will not be scored.
 - B. On the next vault the Chief Judge deducts 0.50 from the average.
 - C. The 0.50 penalty for performing before the signal may or may not affect the gymnast's final vault score.
3. **BARS: LEVEL 7 AND 8:** The following three C elements may be performed by Level 7 or 8 athletes, but will received B value part credit:
 - Cast to handstand with $\frac{1}{2}$ turn;
 - Clear hip circle to handstand; and
 - Clear hip circle to handstand with $\frac{1}{2}$ turn.The *JO Code of Points* is very clear on this issue, as is the Optional Requirement Chart posted on the USAG web site. However, the Level 7/8 Score sheet (far right column) indicates that specific C elements are allowed-then with an asterisk indicated cast HS with $\frac{1}{2}$ turn, clear hip circle and clear hip circle with $\frac{1}{2}$ turn. The reference "to HS" is not included with the clear hips (although since it mentions "C" value, it is implied). Therefore, the **Level 7/8 Score sheet HAS BEEN REVISED** to include the "HS" with the descriptions of the clear hip "C's" to avoid further confusion and is now posted on the USAG website, under Women: Rules: Optionals.
4. **BEAM: ELEMENT #2.108 (A)** – Clarification on awarding "A" value part credit:
Stretched jump in place (like compulsory) = no VP
Stretched jump moving forward = "A"
Arch jump in place or moving forward = "A"
The 2nd and 3rd variations shown in the Code- Stretched jump with 180° turn and stretch jump change/beat of legs are not required to move forward to receive "A" credit.
5. **FLOOR EXERCISE:** Falls on dismount element (last salto performed as the last isolated salto or within the last salto connection): Use the same principle as for Bars and Beam:
 - a. If the salto was initiated, but was not completed to land on the feet first, deduct 0.50 for not meeting the "The salto performed as the last isolated salto or within the last salto connection" Special Requirement, plus 0.5 for the Fall.
 - b. If the salto was NOT initiated and a fall occurs, deduct 0.5 for missing the above Special Requirement as well as 0.30 for no dismount.

6. **FLOOR EXERCISE DANCE PASSAGE SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** The clarification regarding what constitutes a break in the dance passage that was printed in the November 2009 JO Committee meeting (and quoted below) failed to mention that Pivot Turns would also break the passage since they are stationary (this was printed in the JO Code of Points and is still in effect).

Revised Clarification regarding the breaking of a dance passage: **A dance passage on floor is considered broken ONLY when there is a pause, stop, pivot turn, 1/1 turn or more on one foot, or an acro element between the dance elements. Scooching or bouncing out of control between elements would be considered execution errors and deducted, but credit for the dance passage may still be given.**

In order to receive Connection Value bonus, the element must be directly connected

7. **2010 IRS MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT** for judges has been announced as \$0.50 per mile. Judges will be reimbursed at that rate for all meets after January 1, 2010.
8. **CARPOOL CLARIFICATION**, as stated in the current *Rules and Policies* book: All drivers must deduct 30 miles round trip UNLESS you are the DESIGNATED carpool driver, in which case you are reimbursed for all miles driven.

Example A: Judge #1 and Judge # 2 each drive (separately) 40 miles RT to meet a third judge who will drive 200 miles round-trip as the designated carpool driver. Judge #1 and #2 both are reimbursed for 10 miles (\$5 each) while the Judge #3 (the carpool driver) is reimbursed \$100.

Example B: Judge # 1 drives 5 miles to meet Judge #2.
Judge #2 drives herself and judge #1 for 40 miles RT to meet Judge #3, the designated carpool driver who will drive 200 miles RT.
Judge #1 receives NO mileage reimbursement since she must deduct 30 miles RT.
Judge #2, since she is driving a "carpool" is reimbursed \$20 for the 40 miles RT.
Judge #3, as the designated carpool driver, is also reimbursed \$100 for the 200 miles RT.

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