

**USAAS 2022 CONVENTION**  
**Rules Recap following Committee Meetings**  
**September 9, 2022**  
**Patricia Jones, Chair**

**Items Recommended for Approval**

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 25, 26, 27-B (originally rejected), 28, 29, 31, 34, 35  
Late Submissions requiring 90% BOD approval - Items 37, 38, 39, 40  
Figure Subcommittee Addendum to Rules Packet - All Items (Figure Item 1 through Figure Item 25)

**Items Recommended for Rejection**

10, 12, 13, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 27-A (originally approved), 32  
Late Submission requiring 90% BOD approval – Item 36 (originally approved)

**Items Recommended for Approval as Amended**

21, 30, 33,

**ITEM 21:** Removal of Zero for Technical Routines other than Junior and Senior  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL AS AMENDED**

**Original**

**OD 3.6.2.3 Additional Penalties and Required Technical Element Zero procedures in Junior and Junior Olympic 16-17 and 18-19 Age Divisions; Senior and Masters Technical Routines, and Intermediate Free Routine with Required Technical Elements:**

**Amended**

**OD 3.6.2.3 Additional Penalties and Required Technical Element Zero procedures in Junior, Junior Olympic 16-17 and 18-19 Age Divisions, and Senior and Masters Technical Routines, and Intermediate Free Routine with Required Technical Elements:**

**OD 3.6.2.3.1** If 1 or more competitor(s) omits all or part of an element, or performs an incorrect action in an element, the Elements judges shall award a zero score for that particular element.

**Delete 3.6.2.3.2 and renumber after**

~~**OD 3.6.2.3.2** Any change in the order of the elements results in a zero score from the Elements judges for the element not placed in the correct order.~~

~~Example: Element 1, 2, 4, 3, 5 (incorrect order).~~

~~The Elements judges shall award a zero score for Element # 3.~~

**OD 3.6.2.3.3** If 1 or more Elements judge(s) enters a score for an incorrect element, the Event Referee shall check the official video and make sure it was incorrect. If incorrect, the Event Referee shall change the Elements judges' scores to zeros.

**OD 3.6.2.3.4** If 1 or more Elements judge(s) enters a zero score for a correct element, the Event Referee shall review the official video and proceed according to Rule OD 4.1.2.4.1.1.

**OD 3.6.2.3.5** A Half-Point Penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for violations of required elements of Appendix L as follows:

~~–Masters Solo required element # 6.~~

~~–Intermediate Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio and Team required element # 6.~~

- Junior and Senior Duet required elements # 6 and 7.
- Junior and Senior Mixed Duet and Masters Duet and Trio required elements # 6, 7 and 8.
- Junior and Senior Team required elements # 6, 7, 8 and 9.
- ~~· Masters Team required elements # 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.~~

(Note: Will require housekeeping once Junior and Senior required elements are confirmed by FINA and in consideration of the separate difficulty controllers instead of element judges)

~~OD 3.6.2.3.6~~ — In Solos, Duets, Mixed Duets and Trios, a Half-Point Penalty shall be deducted from the Elements score if an element (# 1-5) is not performed parallel to the sides of the pool where the panels of judges have been placed.

~~OD 3.6.2.4~~ — Additional Penalties for Novice: A Half-Point Penalty shall be deducted for violations of Novice required elements of Appendix L.

**(New OD 3.6.2.4)**

#### **Original**

OD 3.6.2.4 Additional Penalties and Required Technical Element Penalty procedures in Junior Olympic 16-17 and 18-19 Age Divisions, Masters Technical Routines, and Novice and Intermediate Free Routine with Required Technical Elements:

#### **Amended**

OD 3.6.2.4 Additional Penalties and Required Technical Element Penalty procedures in Junior Olympic 16-17 and 18-19 Age Divisions, Masters Technical Routines, and Novice and Intermediate Free Routine with Required Technical Elements:

OD 3.6.2.4.1 If 1 or more competitor(s) omits all or part of an element, or performs an incorrect action in an element, the Elements judges shall penalize that particular element with a 2 point deduction.

OD 3.6.2.4.2 Any change in the order of the elements performed.

Example: Element 1, 2, 4, 3, 5 (incorrect order).

The Elements judges shall penalize an incorrect element with a 2 point deduction for that element.

(Needs clarification of who is doing elements in a required order)

OD 3.6.2.4.3 If 1 or more Elements judge(s) enters a score with a 2 point deduction for an incorrect element, the Event Referee shall check the official video and make sure it was incorrect. If incorrect, the Event Referee shall deduct 2 points for each of the Elements judges' scores.

OD 3.6.2.4.4 If 1 or more Elements judge(s) penalizes a score with a 2 point deduction for a correct element, the Event Referee shall review the official video and proceed according to Rule OD 4.1.2.4.1.1.

OD 3.6.2.4.5 If an element is missing from the routine, the Element Judges shall award a zero for the missing element.

OD 3.6.2.4.6 A Half-Point Penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for violations of required elements of Appendix L as follows:

- Masters Solo required element # 6.
- Novice and Intermediate Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio and Team required element # 6.
- Masters Duet and Trio required elements # 6, 7 and 8.
- Masters Team required elements # 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

(Note: Will require housekeeping once Appendix L required elements are confirmed and in consideration of the separate difficulty controllers instead of element judges)

**OD 3.6.2.4.7 In Novice and Intermediate Free Routines with Required Technical Elements, a Half-Point Penalty shall be deducted from the Elements score if an element (# 1-5) is not performed parallel to the sides of the pool where the panels of judges have been placed.**

*Rationale: A zero for a mistake in an element during a routine affects all athletes participating in the routine. It exacerbates a pressure environment for all athletes and causes friction between teammates. It is too harsh for the majority of infractions at the Regional, Junior Olympic and Masters levels. A 2 point penalty results in a significant overall deduction and seems more reasonable than a zero.*

Additional Housekeeping if Item 21 is approved

Fix OD 4.1.2.4 to address only Junior, Junior Olympic 16-17 and 18-19 age divisions, and Senior Technical Routines receiving 0s

Consider a new OD 4.1.2.5 to address all other levels receiving penalties and then renumber the current 4.1.2.5 through 4.1.2.7 as 4.1.2.6 through 4.1.2.8.

**ITEM 30:** Split JO Free and Technical Routines

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL AS AMENDED**

#### **Original**

**CP 3.5.5.5** All 12 & under and 13-15 competitors in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team shall compete in the Figure competition. ~~All 16-17 and 18-19 competitors in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team shall compete in the Technical routine event.~~ **For 12 & under and 13-15 competitors** ~~t~~The Figure ~~or Technical routine~~ results shall be added to the Preliminary Free routine score to determine the top 12 Duets, Mixed Duets and Teams that qualify for the Final Free routine competition. Number 13 shall be the pre-swimmer.

1. **For 12 & under and 13-15 competitors** ~~t~~The Figure ~~or Technical routine~~ results shall be added to the Solo Free Final results to determine final placement.
2. The Free Combination event shall be a Final event and shall not include Figure or Technical routine scores.

**CP 6.6.2** The Regional Junior Olympic Championship and Association Junior Olympic Championship Free routine events shall be considered Final events. All **12 & under and 13-15** competitors shall perform figures ~~or Technical routines~~. **For 12 & under and 13-15 competitors** ~~t~~The figure ~~or Technical routine~~ scores shall be added to the Free routine scores to determine the competitors who advance to the next level. **For 16-17 and 18-19 competitors Tech routine events shall be considered Final events.** The order of events shall be arranged by the respective Technical Chair and the organizing Meet Manager.

#### **Amended**

##### **CP 3.5.5.5**

**New numbering of CP 3.5.5.5.1 (and including sub-numbers 1 and 2 in this)** All 12 & under and 13-15 competitors in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team shall compete in the Figure competition. ~~All 16-17 and 18-19 competitors in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team shall compete in the Technical routine event.~~ **For 12 & under and 13-15 competitors** ~~t~~The Figure ~~or Technical routine~~ results shall be added to the Preliminary Free routine score to determine the top 12 Duets, Mixed Duets and Teams that qualify for the Final Free routine competition. Number 13 shall be the pre-swimmer. ~~1. For 12 & under and 13-15 competitors~~ ~~t~~The Figure ~~or Technical routine~~ results shall be added to the Solo Free Final results to determine final placement. ~~3-~~The Free Combination event shall be a Final event and shall not include Figure ~~or Technical~~ routine scores.

**New CP 3.5.5.5.2 All 16-17 and 18-19 competitors in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team may compete in the Technical routine and/or Free routine events. Technical routine events shall be considered Final events. The Preliminary Free**

**routine score will be used to determine the top 12 Duets, Mixed Duets and Teams that qualify for the Final Free routine competition. Number 13 shall be the pre-swimmer. The Free Solo, Free Combination and Acrobatic Routine events shall be Final events.**

**CP 6.6.2** The Regional Junior Olympic Championship and Association Junior Olympic Championship Free routine events shall be considered Final events. All **12 & under and 13-15** competitors shall perform figures or Technical routines. ~~For 12 & under and 13-15 competitors~~ The Figure or Technical routine scores shall be added to the Free routine scores to determine the competitors who advance to the next level. **For 16-17 and 18-19 competitors Technical routine events shall be considered Final events.** The order of events shall be arranged by the respective Technical Chair and the organizing Meet Manager.

*Rationale: Allow coaches more flexibility when choosing routines for their club. For example, this allows a club to experiment with giving an athlete a technical solo without requiring the athlete to also choreograph and compete a free solo.*

Housekeeping if approved for CP 3.5.5.2

**ITEM 33:** Add proposed FINA 12 & under Free Combination and 16-19 Acrobatic routines, and maintain Free Combination routine in 16-19 age divisions at JO and Regional levels.  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL AS AMENDED**

#### **Original**

##### **CP 3.5.5 U.S. Junior Olympic Championship**

**CP 3.5.5.2** May be held once a year in Figures and Free Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 12 & under and 13-15. May be held once a year in Junior Technical and Free routines in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 16-17 and 18-19. A Free Combination event may be held in ~~three two~~ age divisions: **12 & under**, 13-15 and 16-19. **An Acrobatic Routine event may be held in one age division: 16-19.** The Free Combination, **Acrobatic Routine** and Solo events shall be Final events.

##### **CP 3.5.6 Regional Championships:**

**CP 3.5.6.1** May be held once a year in Figures and Free Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 12 & under and 13-15. May be held once a year in Junior Technical and Free routines in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 16-17 and 18-19. A Free Combination event may be held in ~~three two~~ age divisions: **12 & under**, 13-15 and 16-19. **An Acrobatic Routine event may be held in one age division: 16-19.** See CP 3.5.5.3-4.

#### **Amended**

##### **CP 3.5.5 U.S. Junior Olympic Championship**

**CP 3.5.5.2** May be held once a year in Figures and Free Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 12 & under and 13-15. May be held once a year in Junior Technical and Free routines in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 16-17 and 18-19. A Free Combination event may be held in ~~three two~~ age divisions: **12 & under**, 13-15 and 16-19. **An Acrobatic Routine event may be held in one age division: 16-19. No athlete may enter the Free Combination event in more than one age division. No athlete may enter both the Free Combination event and the Acrobatic Routine event in the 16-19 age division.** The Free Combination, **Acrobatic Routine** and Solo events shall be Final events.

##### **CP 3.5.6 Regional Championships:**

**CP 3.5.6.1** May be held once a year in Figures and Free Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 12 & under and 13-15. May be held once a year in Junior Technical and Free routines in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet and Team in two age divisions: 16-17 and 18-19. A Free Combination event may be held in ~~three two~~ age divisions: **12 & under**, 13-15 and 16-19. **An Acrobatic Routine event may be held in one age division: 16-19.** See CP 3.5.5.3-4.

Rationale: To add the Free Combination Routine to 12 & under and Acrobatic Routine to the 16-19 age divisions as proposed by FINA, but still allow a Free Combination Routine in 16-19 age divisions at JO and Regional levels for less high-risk events.

**LATE ITEM, #37 (90% BOD VOTE)**

**Athlete with Disability Tier Proposal Change**  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**AD 4 ROUTINE COMPETITION:**

**AD 4.1 Free Routines:**

**AD 4.1.1** The competition shall consist of Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Trio and Team events in each competition.

**AD 4.1.2** Maximum time requirements for routines shall be as follows:

<u>Tier</u>	<u>Solo</u>	<u>Duet/Mixed</u> <u>Duet</u> <u>Trio</u>	<u>Team</u>
<b>1</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>1:00</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>1:00</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>1:30</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>2:00</b>	<b>2:30</b>	<b>3:00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>2:15</b>	<b>2:45</b>	<b>3:15</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>2:30</b>	<b>3:00</b>	<b>3:30</b>

Rational: AWD figures added 2 more tiers to accommodate more athletes so the routine tier times reflect the corresponding routine times.

**LATE ITEM, #38A to #38-D (90% BOD VOTE)**

**Athlete with Disability Rule Proposal Changes**  
**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF 38-A through 38-D**

**Item 38-A.** Replacement of the AWD figures below in section 3 for the new quad

**F. ATHLETES WITH DISABILITES - PHYSICAL AND COGNITIVE FIGURES:**

**TIER 1 COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

100 ~~Bent Knee, Alternate~~ 1.0 **A** Back Layout Position\*  
 302 Blossom 1.4 **460 Oyster** 1.2\*

**TIER 1 SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1 (Odd year)**

361 Prawn 1.5 **475 Tub** 1.1\*

310 Somersault, Back Tuck 1.1 **O** Split Position

**Group 2 (Even year)**

323 Somersault, Front Pike 1.4 **K** Front Layout Position  
 362 Surface Prawn 1.3 **I** Bent Knee Vertical Position

**TIER 2 COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

101 Ballet Leg, Single 1.6 **100 Bent Knee Alternate** 1.0\*  
 306 Barracuda, Bent Knee 1.8 **302 Blossom** 1.4\*

**TIER 2 SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1 (Odd year)**

~~360 Walkover, Front 1.9~~     310 Somersault, Back Tuck 1.1\*  
~~316 Kipnus 1.4~~     **Split to Close at Ankles**

**Group 2 (Even year)**

~~348 Tower 1.9~~     1 Front Pike Position to Assume (BM/Transition)  
201 Dolphin 1.4

**TIER 3 COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

~~106 Ballet Leg, Straight 1.6~~     101 Ballet Leg, Single 1.6  
~~301 Barracuda 1.9~~     306 Barracuda, Bent Knee 1.8

**TIER 3 SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1 (Odd year)**

~~420 Walkover, Back 1.9~~     316 Kipnus 1.4  
~~327 Ballerina 1.8~~     360 Walkover, Front 1.9

**Group 2 (Even year)**

~~311 Kip 1.6~~     344 Neptunus 1.7  
~~355 Porpoise 1.8~~     **Crayfish\*\***

**TIER 4 COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

~~423 Ariana 2.2~~     106 Ballet Leg, Straight 1.6  
~~301d Barracuda, Spinning 180° 2.1~~     301 Barracuda 1.9

**TIER 4 SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1 (Odd year)**

~~140 Flamingo, Bent Knee 2.4~~     311 Kip 1.6  
~~240 Albatross 2.2~~     359 Front Ariana 2.2

**Group 2 (Even year)**

~~312 Kip, Split 2.3~~     348 Tower 1.9  
~~355a Porpoise, Half Twist 2.2~~     420 Walkover, Back 1.9

**TIER 5 COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

140 Flamingo, Bent Knee 2.4  
301d Barracuda, Spinning 180° 2.1

**TIER 5 SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1 (Odd year)**

154 London 1.9

423 Ariana 2.2

**Group 2 (Even year)**

355a Porpoise 2.2

240 Albatross 2.2

TIER 6 COMPULSORY FIGURES:

140 Flamingo, Bent Knee , Spinning 360° 2.5

301h Barracuda, Spin Up 180° 2.5

TIER 6 SELECTION GROUPS:

Group 1 (Odd year)

313 Kip Split, Closing 180° 2.3

407 Swordfish Straight Leg Ariana Rotation 2.6

Group 2 (Even year)

356 Whip \*?

240c Albatross, Twirl 2.3

**Note:** These figures need not be performed in the order listed.

*Rationale: FINA figures and all figures are changing with this quad. Therefore, it was time to change the AWD figures. The increase in the number of tiers resulted from a desire to include more athletes with challenging disabilities and a discussion from the international community that has more tiers to allow increased participation. The feedback from coaches of AWD provided input to allow the progression of these levels. The levels progress as tiers increase as well as skills performed each year.*

*The body positions and body movements will be defined according to the corresponding descriptions in Figure Rule IV and Figure Rule V of the USAAS rulebook.*

*\*Please note that the DD for the body positions, body movements (transitions) are still be developed and adjusted since changes in FINA have occurred.*

**Item 38-B:** Insertion of a new Body movement (transition) verbiage and graphics into Figure Rule V.

Split Close to Vertical at Ankles.

A **Split Position** is assumed. The legs join symmetrically to assume a **Vertical Position** at ankle level. Maintaining the **Vertical Position**, the body descends along its longitudinal axis until the toes are submerged.

(graphics are being completed, but it would will be similar to the end of the Prawn, beginning at the split to close)

**Item 38-C.** Insertion of new figure description, verbiage and graphics in Figure Rule VI. In addition it will be added to the alphabetical and categorical lists.

418 Crayfish

DD to be determined

From a Back Layout Position, the head leads downward as a Dolphin (201) is initiated. The hips move along the surface to the point occupied by the head at the beginning of this action. The hips, legs and feet continue moving along the surface as the back is arched more to assume a Surface Arch Position. One leg is lifted in a 180° arc over the surface to a Split Position. The legs join symmetrically to assume a Vertical Position at ankle level. Maintaining the Vertical Position, the body descends along its longitudinal axis until the toes are submerged.

Graphics added later, but similar to Back Walkover and Prawn.

*Rationale:* Insertion of this figure allows for development and progression of the category 4, back arch figures and elements.

**Item 38-D.** Insertion of new figure description, verbiage and graphics in Figure Rule VI. In addition it will be added to the alphabetical and categorical lists.

356 Whip

DD to be determined

From a Front Layout Position, as the trunk moves downward to assume a Surface Front Pike Position, the buttocks, legs and feet travel along the surface until the hips occupy the position of the head at the beginning of this action. Without movement of the trunk, the legs are raised to a Vertical Position. One leg is lowered rapidly to a Fishtail Position and without a pause is lifted rapidly

to a Vertical Position. Maintaining the Vertical Position, the body descends along its longitudinal axis until the toes are submerged.

Note: Base figure for a proposed FINA 13-15 figure 356f Whip Cont. Spin 720°

Graphics added later but similar to Whip.

*Rationale:* Insertion of this figure allows for development and progression of the between tiers.

**LATE ITEM, #39 (90% BOD VOTE)**

**Collegiate Figure Proposal 2022-2025**

**RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

**B. COLLEGIATE TECHNICAL CATEGORY C FIGURES:**

**COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

423 Ariana	2.2	<u>140e Flamingo, Bent Knee 360°</u>	<u>2.5</u>
143 Rio	3.1	<u>308 Barracuda Airborne Split</u>	<u>2.7</u>

**SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1**

<del>351 Jupiter</del>	<del>2.8</del>	<u>240 Albatross</u>	<u>2.2</u>
<del>437 Oceanea</del>	<del>2.1</del>	<u>356f Whip Cont. Spin 720°</u>	<u>3.0</u>

**Group 2**

<del>240a Albatross, Half Twist</del>	<del>2.2</del>	<u>407 Swordfish, Straight Leg Ariana</u>	<u>2.6</u>
<del>403 Swordtail</del>	<del>2.3</del>	<u>311j Kip, Combined Spin (360° + 360°)</u>	<u>2.3</u>

**Group 3**

<del>355f Porpoise, Continuous Spin 720°</del>	<del>2.1</del>	<u>343 Butterfly</u>	<u>2.5</u>
<del>315 Seagull</del>	<del>2.1</del>	<u>441 Saturn</u>	<u>2.5</u>

**C. COLLEGIATE TECHNICAL CATEGORY D AND 12 & UNDER AGE DIVISION FIGURES:**

**COMPULSORY FIGURES:**

106 Ballet Leg, Straight	1.6
301 Barracuda	1.9

**SELECTION GROUPS:**

**Group 1**

<del>420 Walkover, Back</del>	<del>1.9</del>	<u>359 Front Ariana</u>	<u>2.2</u>
327 Ballerina	1.8	<u>348 Tower</u>	<u>1.8</u>

**Group 2**

<del>311 Kip</del>	<del>1.6</del>	<u>363 Water Drop</u>	<u>1.8</u>
<del>401 Swordfish</del>	<del>2.0</del>	<u>401 Swordfish</u>	<u>2.1</u>

**Group 3**

<del>226 Swan</del>	<del>2.1</del>	<u>311 Kip</u>	<u>1.6</u>
<del>363 Water Drop</del>	<del>1.5</del>	<u>227d Swanita Spinning 180°</u>	<u>1.9</u>



H. COLLEGIATE SELECTION GROUP ROTATION CHART:

Year	For Categories C and D in All Collegiate Competitions
2023	Group 1
2024	Group 2
2025	Group 3

**LATE ITEM, #40 (90% BOD VOTE)**

**Separate Figures and Free Routine Events in AWD  
RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF BOTH 40-A&b**

**Item 40-A**

**AD 2 COMPETITION REGULATIONS:**

**AD 2.1** Competitions shall consist of Figures and Free routines as separate events for the physical and cognitive categories, respectively. ~~All competitors shall perform Figures.~~

*Rationale: Remove the barrier of figures for those athletes that may not be able to perform figures.*

**Item 40-B:**

**AD 6 JUDGING AND SCORING**

~~AD 6.2 The routine figure average shall be computed using the figure score of the competitors who actually swam in the routine.~~ **AD 6.2 The total figure score shall be used to determine the Final placement in the category.**

~~AD 6.3 The average Figure score shall be added to the~~ **Free routine score shall be used to determine the Final score for placement in the category.**