



FIG General Judges' Rules



Cycle 2017-2020

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1. INTRODUCTION

Gymnastics is a judgement sport. As a result, the rules for officiating must be transparent, fair and must maintain sport justice for all gymnasts. Judges are trained within their own federation gaining valuable experience before entering the international scene. The FIG is responsible to provide educational courses and a fair examination process to achieve the Brevet level of Certification.

Judges officiating at competition have to:

- maintain integrity of all decisions showing no preference or bias
- possess competence to apply the Code of Points and other rules of the FIG
- demonstrate moral and ethical behaviour
- show respect to others by being punctual and respecting all rules
- respect the judges' oath and the FIG Code of Ethics.

Any close family relative to a competitive gymnast may not judge in that category at any FIG sanctioned event. Therefore judges shall recuse themselves if:

- they are or were married to, or live in a registered partnership or co-habit with a gymnast
- they are related to a gymnast by birth or marriage in direct or in collateral line, including the following persons: grandparent, parent, uncle, aunt, brother, sister, child, grandchild, nephew and cousin.

2. GENERALITIES

General Judges' Rules apply to all FIG competitive disciplines. Specific rules for each discipline have been developed to clarify the differences. Judges' Rules are approved by the FIG Executive Committee.

The FIG International Judges' Brevet is issued for the judge's entire career, in accordance with Art. 7.6, Section 1, of the Technical Regulations.

To be considered as active during an Olympic cycle, the judges have to attend an official FIG Judges' course at the beginning of or during each respective cycle.

The intercontinental and all international Judges' courses, including the Federation based courses (C-Courses) are carried out according to the protocols listed in this document. Specific operational directives have been established to ensure consistency amongst the disciplines as well as a high level of educational delivery.

The details of the procedure for the judges' draw, based on the principles mentioned in the Technical Regulations (art. 7.10, Section 1), are outlined in the Specific Judges' Rules.

3. JUDGES' REGISTRATION, DATABASE AND INFORMATION

Names, brevet category and nationality of all judges with a valid brevet are available on Internet.

In consultation with the Technical Committees, the FIG shall maintain a database in which judge's name, nationality, brevet and competition experience in his/her discipline.

Intercontinental and International Judges' courses are published on Internet.

4. GROUPINGS OF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Group 1 competitions	Group 2 competitions	Group 3 competitions	Group 4 competitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olympic Games • World Championships • World Cup competitions qualifying for the Olympic Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continental senior and junior Championships • World Challenge Cup Competitions • World Cup Competitions • The World Games • Youth Olympic Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonwealth Games • Continental Games • Mediterranean Games • Universiade • World and Continental Age Group Competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Championships • Test Events for The World Games • Test Events for Olympic Games • All other Multisport Games, • All other FIG-approved international tournaments and competitions

5. JUDGES' CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY

SUMMARY and OVERVIEW of JUDGES' RULES – 2016-2020 regarding JUDGES' CATEGORIES and JUDGES' COURSES

FIG Level of Course	Category that can be earned	Eligibility & Minimum Prerequisites
FIG Intercontinental	<p>Category 1 can only be earned at this course</p> <p>All other Categories including failure depending on examination results</p>	<p>The number of judges each federation is entitled to send is specified in the Specific Judges' Rules.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum category 3 • Competition experience pre-requisites as presented below • No sanction during the period starting 01.01.2017 to the date of the course (Sanctions as per FIG Statutes Art. 44.3 except point a). • Additional pre-requisites and requirements as presented below
FIG International course (A/B) <i>(Organized in regional and/or language groups)</i>	FIG Brevet Category 2, 3 or 4 including failure depending on results and experience pre-requisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum highest National Level • Competition experience pre-requisites as presented below • Additional pre-requisites and requirements as presented below
FIG International course (C) <i>(organized upon request of the affiliated federations)</i>	FIG Brevet Category 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum highest National Level • Additional pre-requisites and requirements as presented below
Additional pre-requisites and requirements	<p>To be eligible to participate in an Intercontinental or International Judges' Course, the candidates have to meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a member of a national gymnastics federation in good standing affiliated to the FIG • Must hold a valid citizenship (passport) of the national gymnastics federation they represent • Be designated by his/her national federation to participate in the Intercontinental or International Judges' Course • Not be under the effect of a sanction as foreseen under point 9.2 b below) (Sanctions as per FIG Statutes Art. 44.3 except point a). • Know one official FIG language, and if it is not English, then at least a working knowledge of English in addition. • Pay a registration fee of CHF 150.-. For subsequent courses or repeating examinations during the cycle the fee is CHF 150.-. 	

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Judging privileges for the Category earned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May serve on Superior Jury or as Apparatus supervisor at any Group 1-4 competition. • May serve as D-, E-, A-, R-judge at any Group 1-4 competition (also T/L) • May be appointed to serve as TD at Group 2 to 4 competitions • For TRA, AER, ACRO may serve as CJP at any Group 1-4 competition • May be appointed to teach at International judges' courses • May attend Intercontinental and international Judges' Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May serve on Superior Jury or as Apparatus supervisor at any Group 2-4 competition. • May serve as D-, E-, A-, R-judge at any Group 1-4 competition (also T/L) • For TRA, AER, ACRO may serve as CJP at Group 4 competitions • May be appointed to teach at International judges' courses • May attend Intercontinental and international Judges' Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May serve on Superior Jury or as Apparatus supervisor at Group 4 competitions. • May serve as D-judge at Group 4 competitions. • May serve as E- or A-judge at any World Championships and any Group 2-4 competition (also T/L at all Group 1-4 competitions) • May attend Intercontinental and international Judges' Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May serve as T/L at all Group 2-4 competitions • May serve as E- or A- judge at Group 4 competitions. • For AER, ACRO, TRA may serve as E- or A-judge at World Age Group competitions. • May attend International Judges' Course
Required Examination Results in the examination components as defined by the discipline	Theory = Very Good Execution = Very Good Artistic = Very Good Difficulty = Excellent	Theory = Good Execution = Very Good Artistic = Very Good Difficulty = Very Good	Theory = Pass Execution = Good Artistic = Good Difficulty = Good	Theory = Pass Execution = Pass Artistic = Pass Difficulty = Pass
To attain or maintain the category based on examination results (see above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only at Intercontinental Course. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Intercontinental Course • At International Course with previous brevet – any category 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Intercontinental Course • At International Course with previous brevet – any category with Category 2 or higher examination results; no other conditions (or experience required) • At International Course – highest National brevet - with Category 2 results; no other conditions (or experience required) “Fast Track” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Intercontinental Course • At International Course with previous brevet – any category • At International Course – highest National brevet with Category 4 results; no other conditions • At Federation based course – highest National brevet with cat. 4 results, no other conditions. Only Cat. 4 can be attained. No possibility to upgrade.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even in case of failure, a judge can only drop two categories in one cycle: Category 1 can drop at worst to Category 3; Category 2 can drop at worst to Category 4. 			

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Judging experience requirements at FIG approved International competitions during the cycle just completed to attain or maintain the category	Successfully judged and fully attended a minimum of 4 international competitions including 1 from Groups 1 or 2 and 1 from Groups 1-3	OLYMPIC DISCIPLINES: Successfully judged a minimum of 4 international competitions including 2 from Groups 1-3 NON-OLYMPIC DISCIPLINES: Successfully judged a minimum of 3 international competitions including 2 from Groups 1-3	Successfully judged a minimum of 2 international competitions	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line and/or time judge assignments will fulfil an International Competition experience requirement only 1 time per cycle. FIG approved International competitions at which an International judge functions as a member of the Superior Jury will count towards judging experience requirements. If there is an insufficient number of judges in the required categories at a competition, the Technical Delegate may take whatever action is needed to secure the running of the event. 			
Once the Judges' Evaluation Program (JEP) is available for analysis throughout a cycle, a judge may maintain a category without writing all but the D-score examination under these conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The highest ranked judges of Category 1, having shown total integrity during the entire cycle just completed, may be exempted from taking all but the D-score examination and maintain their category if proposed by the TC and approved by the EC. However, they must fully attend the Intercontinental Course and take the D-score part of the exam and achieve the requested result. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended the full International course and obtained an "Excellent" result in JEP without signs of medium, large or very large bias in JEP in its overall evaluation of the entire cycle just completed. However, they must take the D-score part of the examination and achieve the requested result. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended the full International course and obtained an "Excellent" result without signs of medium, large or very large bias in JEP in its overall evaluation of the entire cycle just completed. However, they must take the D-score part of the examination and achieve the requested result. 	
To upgrade a category following dis-satisfaction with examination results (not-including failure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May re-take the full examination at another course without attending the lectures The results from the second examination will be valid Only one opportunity to re-write or upgrade per cycle No possibility to upgrade after dissatisfaction at a Federation based course during the cycle 			
To re-write following failure at a course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must take the entire course and examinations again The results from the second examination will be valid Only one opportunity to re-write or upgrade per cycle 			

<p>To validate a category by meeting missing International judging experience requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A judge who has not met the judging experience requirements for the Category earned in the examinations has an opportunity to be awarded that category. The missing experience requirements must be fulfilled within two (2) years of the new cycle for the earned category to be validated • Upgrade requirements have to be reached by the end of 2018 (2 first years of the cycle). For upgrades 2017-2020 Judges' Rules competition group categories are used • Category 1 judges must have met the experience requirements in advance of the Intercontinental Course. There is no opportunity to upgrade to Category 1 after the Intercontinental Course.
<p>In cases of Judging interruption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A judge who does not renew his/her brevet during a cycle may continue his/her career as a judge after the interruption as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After 1 cycle, may re-qualify for the previous category held by the judge before the interruption, provided the judge attains the examination results for that specific category. • After more than 1 cycle, must begin the judging process again under the conditions that apply to a highest National level judge.
<p>Information for Technical Committee eligibility and TC members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Committee members holding a Category 1 brevet in the cycle just completed shall automatically maintain this Category for the current cycle. • Technical Committee members, who are not candidates or are not re-elected at the end of a cycle, will maintain the same category for the following cycle that they had as a Technical Committee member. • Newly elected Technical Committee members are exempted from taking the examination. They must attend the Intercontinental Judges' Course. • Newly elected Technical Committee members are automatically invited to participate in the Intercontinental Course. They are not considered to be part of the Federation participation quotas as defined in the specific judges' rules <p>FIG Coaches Level 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coaches who successfully completed a FIG Academy Level 3 are eligible to be candidates as Technical Committee members (see Art. 18.4 of the FIG Statutes). Upon request of their federation they may participate at an international or intercontinental judges' course and shall have the opportunity to obtain directly a Category 2 brevet provided they have passed the examination with Category 2 results.

6. PROTOCOLS FOR JUDGES' COURSES

Protocol 1: Course Allocation, size and duration

Intercontinental Courses allocated by FIG

In each discipline only one (1) Intercontinental Course will be approved per cycle. The application and bid process, for federations to organize this course, is detailed in the Directives and will be distributed by FIG for federation bids.

The course schedules are identical at all levels (Intercontinental, international and Federation based courses), as mentioned in the Specific Judges' Rules.

Eligibility to attend is listed in the General Judges' Rules (see point 5), whereas the number of participants per national federation is specified in the Specific Judges' Rules.

The Intercontinental course size will vary for each discipline. Ideally there should not be more than 100 participants

International Regional Courses allocated by FIG

International Courses will be organized on a geographic and language basis. A reasonable assessment of how many courses, in each language and geographic regions are required to be organized, will be made and approved by the Presidential Commission. Federations will then have an opportunity to bid for these multinational courses. Details, of the process to be followed for each discipline are in the Directives and will be published in advance of the bid process.

The course schedules are identical at all levels (Intercontinental, international and Federation based courses), as mentioned in the Specific Judges' Rules.

Course sizes will be structured as follows:

International Regional Courses

Course A (large)	61-100	participants. All NFs, including the Host Country, may have a reserve list of maximum 10 eligible judges. After the deadline, in case of remaining places, the course will be filled in order of priority as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3 additional judges from the Host Country- Every NF, including the Host Country, receives an equal number of reserve judges as long as these were included on the list of reserves and the maximum number of participants is not exceeded
Course B (small)	41-60	participants. All NFs, including the Host Country, may have a reserve list of maximum 10 eligible judges. After the deadline, in case of remaining places, the course will be filled in order of priority as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3 additional judges from the Host Country- Every NF, including the Host Country, receives an equal number of reserve judges as long as these were included on the list of reserves and the maximum number of participants is not exceeded

Special consideration will be made for exceptional situations, especially for Acrobatic and Aerobic Gymnastics and some courses on developing continents.

Not all disciplines of FIG are at the same level of development. Some consideration and flexibility may be given to the allocation and organization of some courses in some disciplines.

International federation based Courses

Course C (cat. 4 only) max. 40 participants. Federations may request to hold a course and may invite other federations to participate. Only cat. 4 may be attained.

Protocol 2: Course Curriculum

One (1) curriculum will prevail for all the Intercontinental and International (A, B and C) Courses. Details of the preparation process are listed in the Directives. It is the responsibility of the FIG Technical Committees and any approved specialists to prepare the curriculum ensuring the following:

- Good teaching principles and methods of instruction
- An analytical approach using clear examples
- Consistent presentation style
- Stressing changes in rules from previous codes
- Full routines, elements and parts, once pre-judged, are explained fully as examples
- Limited narrative parts but using video or digital images
- The Intercontinental courses will include simultaneous translation according to the needs of the discipline
- The International courses will be available in English, Spanish, Russian for all disciplines and French as required by the disciplines.

Protocol 3: Course Delivery

Intercontinental Courses

- Technical Committee Members in each discipline will deliver the course curriculum
- To deliver the curriculum the experts must demonstrate:
 - Good teaching and presentation skills
 - Experience in teaching methodology
 - Reasonable language skills and good command of one of the main languages
 - Adequate computer skills
- Two teams will be responsible for the course delivery
 - The Technical President is the leader of the Technical Team
 - The FIG Supervisor, to oversee the entire course, will be named by the Presidential Commission and will lead the Administrative Team. The FIG Secretary General will nominate the staff who will be a member of the Administrative Team
- Facility logistics and requirements will be determined by the size of the course and will be included in the directives for course organization.
- A consistent standard for the audio visual requirements must be respected as outlined in the directives for organization
- Candidate eligibility is determined in point 5 of these General Judges' Rules.

International Regional Courses / Federation based courses (C-courses)

- The Technical Committee will name the Technical Experts who will constitute the Technical Teams for the courses. One expert/TC member max. may be from the host country, however this expert/TC member may not be the course leader.
- For courses in **size Category A** as listed above, the following experts are required:
- **3 experts** - 2 TC members and 1 cat. 1 or 2 judge; or 1 TC and two cat.1 or 2 judges.
- For courses, **in size Category B and C**, as listed above, the following experts are required:
2 experts - 2 TC members or 1 TC and 1 cat.1 or 2 judges.

To deliver the curriculum the experts must demonstrate:

- Good teaching and presentation skills
- Experience in teaching methodology
- Reasonable language skills and good command of one of the main languages used
- Adequate computer skill
- The administrative team will be appointed by the FIG Secretary General and will be assisted for administrative work and logistics by the LOC.
- No supervisor is appointed, so team work is necessary. The Administrative leader, responsible to oversee the examination process, will be named by FIG Secretary General.
- Facility logistics and requirements will be determined by the size of the course and included in the directives for course organization.
- A consistent standard for the audio visual requirements must be respected as outlined in the directives for organization
- Candidate eligibility is determined in point 5 of these General Judges' Rules

Protocol 4: The Examination Components

The Technical Committee has the responsibility to set the examinations. For each discipline, multiple sets of examinations are prepared according to the needs of the discipline. While the same sets are not used each time, the same process to develop multiple sets is used.

One of the multiple sets will then be drawn also at the Intercontinental course to ensure similarity of procedure with the International courses.

The examination process is grouped into a section for Theory and one for Practical. This is valid for all courses. The following aspects for Theory and Practical Components have to be observed:

Theory Component

- The formulation of questions must be clear and allow for good translation
- All questions must have complete and accurate answers before being included in the test packages. The format should allow reasonable and quick correction
- Multiple choice questions should be carefully worded avoiding negative wording
- The correct answer must be included in the choice presented
- “which is more correct” is not appropriate for questions
- Using images of good quality and resolution is preferred to long narrative explanations. Diagrams for elements or symbols and any clear images recognized easily should prevail.
- Each discipline will determine the number and content of the theory component. A maximum of 100 is recommended
- To ensure reliability and confidentiality for the 100 questions when multiple sets are required at least double the number must be developed for the selection pool
- The examination will be available in English, Spanish, Russian and French
- Multiple sets are distinctly identified only by the FIG office and only the sport manager and his/her backup have the code.
- Other details of the structuring of this component are fully described in the Directives for examinations.

Practical Component

- This component is primarily video driven and the video must be of very good resolution and quality to project well at the courses
- The start and end of each part needs to have noticeable and short lead or end

- The number of parts, video segments or routines, is prescribed in an evaluation chart for practical examinations
- The length of time for scoring full routines, is to be as follows:
 - Difficulty: 90 seconds
 - Artistic: 60 seconds
 - Execution: 60 seconds (MAG 30 seconds)
- The allotted time for candidates to arrive at the score is to be imbedded into the running of the examination video using a count-down clock, so it remains consistent and accurate and well seen by the candidates
- Music must be clear and able to be enhanced by a speaker system
- Multiple sets of videos are distinctly identified only by the FIG office. Only the sport manager and his/her backup have the code
- An FIG video expert must be available to assist the TC's with the preparation
- The pool of material and videos, the process, and then the selection and the structuring of the practical component is fully described in the Directives

For the Practical Component, the answers or expert scores are also prepared by the Technical Committee in advance. The environment for this prejudging will be the same as the candidates will experience. A special directive for this prejudging procedure is outlined in the directives for expert scores. This process will be followed by all disciplines.

The final compilation of the practical test packages will be finalised by the FIG office once all the steps of the process are completed.

All examinations are maintained at the FIG office. TC members or experts do not have copies.

Protocol 5: Examination Delivery

Examinations, which certify brevet levels in all courses, must be prepared and delivered with great responsibility and care following the protocols and directives as approved. Candidates must be given a good explanation of the process which will be followed and the conditions of the test have to be fair, transparent, and identical at each course and in all disciplines.

The maximum time limit and any other exact aspects of the examination procedure have to be clearly explained and understood by the candidates.

The examination set at each course is determined by a draw. On the first day of the course, a draw for the theory and practical examination sets is conducted. The Administrative Leader is responsible.

The examination delivery will be identical at all courses. There is only a distinction for the size of the course and the facilities. In some cases the candidates may have to be divided into 2 groups, according to directives provided, to ensure good viewing for all candidates and to maintain the level of confidentiality.

The Administrative Leader is responsible to ensure the confidential reproduction of any written material and all examination papers. Only the required number of copies may be made and their distribution is listed in detail in the directives. All examination questions and answer papers at courses must be returned. Candidates are not allowed to keep any examination papers. All completed examination forms must be returned to the FIG office for verification.

Candidates will be assigned seating by the Administrative Team.

Once the candidates are in the examination room, and a roll call is made, they are assigned a judge's number and these are only known to the Administrative Leader. The control of judges is made by their number at the entry point to the room for sessions later in the process.

To ensure judge anonymity, each examination cover page will have a special box for the judge to enter his/her number and when the examinations are collected, this box will be folded and stapled so the number is hidden. Judges are not allowed to add their name. This applies to both the Theory and Practical Components.

The roles of the Administrative and Technical Teams are defined in the Directives. These two teams invigilate the examination sessions and the Administrative leader is responsible to head up the team, using the correct procedures.

For all other additional organization aspects, the details are in the Directives.

The Directives will also outline the invigilation procedures with details of the expected behaviour of the candidates and the allocation of responsibility of the Administrative Team. This information will be presented to the candidates at the start of the examination session.

Protocol 6: Marking of examinations and results process

The process, for marking examinations and compiling the results, is identical for the Intercontinental and International Courses. At the Intercontinental courses, the Supervisor is responsible to lead the team. At international courses the Administrative Leader is responsible.

The process is done anonymously since all the judge numbers are hidden. The Administrative Team Leader will assign the tasks and set the procedure for the marking group to follow. Depending on the size of the course and the complexity of the marking system for the discipline, all team members may be asked to assist. The technical team must mark at least the practical examination.

At the course and on site, only the judge numbers are used and absolutely no names are revealed or indicated in the results calculation.

Once all the papers are marked, signed by the “marker” and double checked, totals are available. The Administrative and the Technical Leaders will assist with compilation of the final results by judge number. It will be the responsibility of the Administrative Leader to compile the results into the computer.

The raw scores from the various parts of the examination are entered into the program, and the scale or table, produces the final results and rank order. This is done by judges’ number. Only once all entries are compiled, the final ranking can be determined.

Intercontinental Courses

The full and final results of the Intercontinental course (**still by judge number**) are reviewed by the TC and the final percentages for the 5 criteria (excellent, very good, good, pass, fail) are determined. This is a Technical Committee decision and all TC members have to be part of the decision. The Technical Presidents signs off on the document. This scale is then published and applied for all other courses for the whole cycle.

International Courses / Federation based courses (C-courses)

The final results from International courses are compiled into the computer by the Administrative Leader on site and the percentages are applied automatically for a full review of the results of the course. These are still reflected only by judge number not name. The results have to be reviewed in accordance with the evaluation scale fixed at the conclusion of the intercontinental course.

Protocol 7: Verification and Distribution of results

The Administrative Leader or Sport Manager must ensure that the full results are sent by DHL to the FIG Office and ask for verification as soon as possible. The results are once again verified by the office for accuracy.

Once verified, the results are sent to the federations.

No results are communicated at the end of any course.

7. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE EVALUATION OF PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS

Details are provided in the Specific Rules.

8. JUDGES' RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Preamble

Judges are an integral part of the sport of gymnastics. Once a judge is breveted by FIG, then records are maintained to recognize or sanction their performance.

The nominations for recognition and awards are based on two distinct principles, excellent performance and long term dedicated service to gymnastics as an active international official. The Technical Committees of each discipline establish the criteria to be used and have the responsibility to recognize judges as follows:

Excellence in Judging

This award is based on an "excellent" evaluation during a major FIG competition where a post competition control is conducted. The recognition will not apply to phases of the competition, but to the overall performance during the entire event.

This will apply to Olympic Games, The World Games, World Championships, Youth Olympic Games and possibly World Cup and other Multi-sport Games, if an evaluation program is carried out. There is no limit to the number of commendations a judge may receive in a cycle as long as they fulfill the criteria.

Excellence in Judging Award	
One event - Performance evaluation of "Excellent" or "Very Good" in all phases	- Letter to the judge - Copy to his/her federation - Publication on the FIG website and Bulletin
Over one cycle - "Excellent" and "Very Good" judgement using the top 3 evaluations from events during the cycle (any weak or unsatisfactory judgement will eliminate a judge from consideration).	- FIG Cycle Diploma Award - Letter to the judge - Copy to his/her federation - Publication on the FIG Bulletin and website and with picture and personal achievements

Longevity of Judging Service

This award is based on a significant contribution to gymnastics as an international official over a period of many years. The awards listed below are based on a judgment without sanctions, during the designated period.

The member Federations submits to the respective Sports Manager the name(s) of their judges deserving the gold level award between 01 January and 28 February of each year. After verification by the Sports Manager and the TC President if the conditions are met, the decision is taken and communicated once a year at the World Championships, World Games, or significant competition with the respective discipline.

The same nomination procedure applies for the candidates for the Honorary Judges Award. However, after verification of the conditions, the Secretary General submits the request to the Executive Committee for final decision.

Longevity of Judging Service	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gold level award for 16 years (4 cycles) of service without sanction - based on 5 of the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Championships Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games, The World Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letter to the judge signed by the Secretary General and the respective TC President - Copy to his/her federation - Gold Long Service pin - Publication on the FIG website and Bulletin with picture and personal achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FIG Honorary Judge's Diploma to retired judges who are breveted for a minimum of 5 breveted active Olympic cycles (20 years) with minimum 8 World Championships, Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games, The World Games having judged without sanction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FIG Honorary Judge's Diploma signed by the FIG President and the TC President, - Special insignia pin - Publication on the FIG website and Bulletin with picture and personal achievements

9. JUDGES' DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND APPEAL PROCESS

9.1 General

- a) Judges are obliged to respect the judges' oath and to execute their function at all competitions with highest possible quality (honesty and integrity) and without bias.
- b) Unsatisfactory and/or biased judging will be subject to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions as outlined in paragraph f) here below.
- c) A judge can be warned once, at most a second time and then may be excluded from the competition. However, in case of a very serious mistake, the Technical President can exclude a judge immediately, without previous warning.
- d) The Technical Committee members are responsible for the education, control and supervision of the work of the judges. They investigate and take any action necessary during the competition, and following the event conduct an analysis of the competition videos. Disciplinary actions taken during the competition (warnings or removal of a judge from the competition) may be appealed to the Jury of Appeal. Its decision is final.
- e) The assignment of sanctions and awards are the same for all disciplines.
The quality of work of the judges is evaluated according to 5 criteria:
 - Excellent, Very Good, Good, Weak, Unsatisfactory.
 - Judging is based on the Code of Points. Other considerations, such as nationality, friendship, etc. are deemed as biased judging.

The official FIG JEP program will have to be used for the evaluation of the judges' work during and after the competition.

- f) During the competition, art. 7.8.1 Section 1 of the Technical Regulations applies. The actions taken during a competition are without prejudice to any possible sanction pronounced after the analysis of the judges' work following the competition.

After the competition and after the judges' analysis, written warnings may be issued by the Technical Committee via the Secretary General against judges, whose behaviour or work is assessed as unsatisfactory. The Technical Committee can also refer the case to the Disciplinary Commission through the Secretary General. Judges who have been reported significantly bias (large and very large bias) in JEP (verified with a post competition expert score by the TC) must be brought to the Disciplinary Commission by the FIG Secretary General.

- g) Sanctions because of unsatisfactory and/or biased judging apply irrespectively of whether the judge acted consciously (with intent) or unconsciously (without intent)

- h) The judges who have received a written warning by the Technical Committee after the competition may appeal to the FIG Disciplinary Commission. The appeal must be made in writing within 21 days. That decision is final. A judge receiving a second warning during a period of 4 years after the first warning is automatically referred to the Disciplinary Commission.
- i) The federations are also responsible for the actions and behaviour of their judges.

9.2 Disciplinary Actions against Judges

a) Disciplinary actions during the competition

Action	Consequences
<p>A judge can be warned for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repeated deviations below or above the deductions for errors, as stated in the Code of Points - Showing favouritism or disfavour toward an individual gymnast or a team - Taking part in obvious discussions and/or agreements with other judges with the intent to collaborate (this should be exclusion or removal done, see here below) - Unsatisfactory evaluation - Instances of obviously incorrect judging decisions during competition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal warning <p>If a judge receives a verbal warning during the competition, the case will be analysed in the post-competition evaluation and if confirmed, result in a written warning by the TC through the Secretary General or transferred to the Disciplinary Commission</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorrect uniform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May not be allowed to judge

Action	Consequences
<p>A judge can be removed and replaced immediately or not allowed to judge in a following competition phase for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receiving a second warning - Taking part in obvious discussions and/or agreements with other judges with the intent to collaborate - Showing favouritism or disfavour toward an individual gymnast or a team, after a warning - Continued unjustified large deviations below or above the deductions for errors as stated in the Code of Points or in the specific judges' rules, after having been given a verbal warning - Speaking with other judges and/or given some signs during the competition following a verbal warning - Having used means of communication which are not permitted during the competition (e.g. mobile phone) - Cheating or proven corrupt behaviour - Not attending the official activities and judges instructions (according to the Codes and the TR) during the official period of the competition - Abusive behaviour - Abuse or misuse of the official accreditation (Infractions of the Accreditation Rules) - Obstructing the operation of the competition - The exclusion of a judge during a competition can be followed by further sanctions depending on the severity of the problem (refer to art. 9.2 b below) 	<p>The case must be reported to the Secretary General and handed over to the Disciplinary Commission who can take one or several of the following sanctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written warning - Suspension - Downgrade of Category - Removal of brevet - Publication in FIG Bulletin - Federation receives warning letter - Federation is denied a judge at one or more FIG competitions (OG, WCH, WG) - Any sanction listed in art. 44.3 of the FIG Statutes - Any other action deemed necessary by the Disciplinary Commission (refer to art. 9.2 b) below)

b) Sanctions after a competition

After the conclusion of the competition, the Technical Committee shall conduct the post-competition video review and analysis of the judges' work as prescribed in the regulations for JEP. All cases, where a judge has received the result "Unsatisfactory", will result in a written warning by the TC through the Secretary General or may be referred to the Disciplinary Commission. Judges having been identified significantly bias by JEP (large and very large bias) (verified with a post competition expert score from the TC) must be brought to the Disciplinary Commission in due time.

The Disciplinary Commission will take a decision according to Art. 24, of the Code of Discipline.

Possible sanctions are mentioned in Art. 44.3 of the FIG Statutes and here above under 9.2.

The details of the sanction will be stated in the decision which is subject to appeal.

The sanctions taken against judges by the Continental Unions during their own competitions must be communicated to the FIG Secretary General who shall forward this information to the authorities concerned. All proposals for sanctions (except verbal warnings) after the competition must be referred to the FIG Disciplinary Commission - through the FIG Secretary General - as mentioned above.

c) Sanctions against Judges and Federations

- The federations are informed about the sanctions against their judges (except in case of verbal warnings).
- For sanctions against judges as described in 9.2 a) and b) above, according to the Statutes, Art. 44.3, federations will be informed and, depending of the seriousness of the case, will not be permitted to send judges to the next Olympic Games, World Championships and/or The World Games of the discipline concerned.
- All written sanctions against judges and national federations will be communicated and signed by the President of the respective FIG Disciplinary Commission.

9.3 Levels of Appeals

- a) Jury of Appeal: Judges who are sanctioned during competition have the right to appeal to the Jury of Appeal. Appeals for verbal warnings are permitted to the jury of appeal. Such appeals must be treated immediately. The decision of the Jury of Appeal is final and valid for the relevant competition.
- b) Disciplinary Commission: Sanctions decided by the Disciplinary Commission may be appealed to the FIG Appeal Tribunal.
- c) Appeal Tribunal: Decisions taken by the FIG Appeal Tribunal may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne.

These General Judges Rules have been approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting February 25, 2016. They have been updated by the FIG Presidential Commission 2016 which was empowered to do so by the FIG EC in its meeting in October 2016. They enter into effect 01.01.2017 and are valid for all intercontinental and international Judges' Courses of the cycle 2017-2020.

These rules have been updated by the EC at its meeting in Tonsberg (NOR) in July 2017 and in Cotonou (BEN) in October 2017

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



Morinari WATANABE
President



André F.GUEISBUHLER
Secretary General

Lausanne, October 2017