



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

UPDATED SEPT. 2025

***2025-26 RULES
MODIFICATIONS***

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Official NCAA Women's Gymnastics Rules Modifications

Questions regarding interpretations of NCAA Rules Modifications shall be submitted in writing to:

NCAA Women's Gymnastics, Rules Interpreter

Janette Doucette

Email: wgym.ncaa.rules@outlook.com

Reminder: The USAG Women's Development Program Code of Points can be purchased at <https://usagym.org/women/rules/>.

NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee, chair

Shaun Richard

Executive Associate Athletics Director for Sport Administration
The Ohio State University

NCAA Championships Administrator

John Baldwin

Managing Director, Championships and Alliances
Work Phone: 317-917-6442
Email: jbaldwin@ncaa.org

NCAA Playing Rules Administrator

Rachel Seewald

Director, Championships and Alliances
Work Phone: 317-917-6141
Email: rseewald@ncaa.org

2025 - 2026 NCAA RULES MODIFICATIONS

* CHANGES ARE IN **BOLD AND HIGHLIGHTED** *

** CLARIFICATIONS ARE IN **BOLD** **

GENERAL INFORMATION

1 – RULES OVERVIEW

- 1.1 *This document lists the NCAA Special Requirements and Compositional Deductions in total. No other Special Requirements or Compositional Deductions are applicable to collegiate competition unless listed in this document. Please note that the NCAA rules modifications are in effect for both regular and postseason competition unless otherwise noted.*
- 1.2 The National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships and all competition used to qualify for the championships will be conducted according to USAG Level 10 rules as of November 1, 2025. The rules written in this Rules Modifications document take precedence over the USAG Development Program Level 10 rules, when different.
 Note: If the value of a USAG element on events other than vaulting is raised after November 1, 2025 (11/1/25), the value will be effective immediately. In contrast, if an element value is lowered after November 1, 2025 (11/1/25), then it will remain at the higher value for collegiate competition until the change is reviewed by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee.
- 1.3 For vaults not listed on the NCAA Vault Chart, institutions must submit the vault(s) with a video and description of the vault(s) to the WCGA Board of Directors to receive a start value.
- 1.4 If an element is not found in the USAG Code of Points, the official USAG New Element Evaluation form must be submitted to the respective USAG Regional Technical Committee Chairperson and Regional Development Program Committee Chairperson in order to be evaluated for Value-Part Credit.
 - a. The RTCC will return the signed element evaluation form to the coach indicating final decision as to the value to be awarded.
 - b. A copy of this evaluation must be presented to the Meet Referee or Chief Judge prior to competition to ensure proper awarding of difficulty.
 - c. A copy of this evaluation must be sent electronically to the Rules Interpreter.
 - d. The link to this form is:
<https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/Forms/Women/NewElementEval.pdf>
- 1.5 All rules and guidelines for execution deductions as applied to the USAG Level 10 rules will be used with the following collegiate modifications:
 - a. 9.4 Start Value on Uneven Bars, Balance Beam and Floor Exercise.

NCAA is eligible to earn bonus points for both Connection Value (CV) and “D/E” Bonus, with a minimum of +0.1 “D/E” and a minimum of +0.1 for CV. The remaining +0.4 may be earned by “D/E” Bonus or CV. The maximum Start Value is 10.00.

- b. Choice of elements “up to the competitive level” (UTL) is defined for each event. The UTL deduction is standardized at a flat 0.1. **If an element receives zero Value Part, it is not eligible to fulfill UTL.**
- c. On Vault, Uneven Bars and Balance Beam - Failure to hold finishing position (legs straight, arms up) for 1 second at completion of exercise = -0.05.
 1. The finish position must be held facing the direction in which the gymnast landed the vault/dismount.
 2. If the gymnast falls upon landing, the hold deduction is NOT taken.
 3. All applicable landing deductions will be taken until the gymnast shows a controlled finish position. Closing of heels is considered a separate landing deduction, not part of the finish position. The gymnast may close their heels either before or during the transition from landing to finish position.
 4. The finish position is held without movement (i.e., no active arm gestures, arms above the shoulders).

1.6 Technical Verbal cues by a coach to their own gymnast (Applied after one warning is given) will incur a 0.2 **team neutral** deduction (TND).

1.7 INJURY ASSESSMENT.

- a. When an injury occurs, the coach and athletic trainer **may approach the athlete and use up to two (2) minutes to assess the injury to determine if the athlete is able to resume her routine. The Chief Judge is responsible for monitoring the injury assessment time. A “30-seconds remaining” warning to the injury assessment time will be given by the CJ to the Head Coach. If the injury assessment time is exceeded, the exercise is terminated.**
- b. If the athlete is deemed able to resume her routine after the injury assessment is complete (anytime within the 2 minutes), the Head Coach notifies the CJ, and **the 45-second fall time for that routine will begin.** If the 45-second fall time is exceeded, the exercise is terminated.
- c. Vault – with a fall and injury on a BALK, the fall time starts when the injury assessment is complete, and ends when the athlete salutes for her next vault attempt. This process does not apply to a fall on a landing of a vault.
- d. Uneven Bars – the fall time ends when the athlete remounts the Uneven Bars to resume her routine. The coach may not give verbal coaching cues without penalty (0.2) once the athlete has mounted the bars.
- e. Balance Beam – the routine time stops when the athlete falls off the Balance Beam. The fall time ends when the athlete remounts the beam. The routine time resumes when the athlete resumes the routine. The coach may not give verbal coaching cues without penalty (0.2) once the athlete has mounted the beam.
- f. Floor Exercise – When the fall with injury occurs, and the athlete does not resume the routine immediately, the routine time and music stops. The fall time ends when the team personnel have left the floor exercise mat, and the athlete is prepared to resume her routine from the point of interruption (with continuation of music). The routine time resumes with the first movement of the athlete.

1.8 COMPETING OUT OF ORDER.

There will be a 0.1 deduction for competing out of order, taken from team score.

- Coaches may change their line-up order prior to the event beginning (flag raised by Chief Judge for first competitor in the competition line-up). The coach must notify the scorer's table and the event Chief Judge.
- Once the event has started, coaches may remove and substitute an athlete in the identical line-up position by notifying the Chief Judge.
- Once a student-athlete signals the Chief Judge to begin her routine on any event, she **MAY NOT** be substituted with another student-athlete regardless of what occurs following the signal.

1.9 OPEN SCORING AND SCORING RANGE.

- Open scoring will be used during the regular season, regional competition, and the national championship.
- Judges are to sit apart. When using a six (6) judge panel on Uneven Bars and Vault, the judges shall **sit separately with a gap between them, or with a volunteer assistant sitting between them.**
- All scores will be flashed and rotated **or otherwise prominently displayed on a flashing unit.**
- Each judge will give their final score to the flasher. Then both judges will flash their start value, final score and UTL card (if applicable) simultaneously.
- Score verification procedures will be in place at regionals and for each session at nationals.
- The range of scores is determined by the average of the two (or four) counting scores. If the average score is between those listed below, then the two (or four) counting scores must be within the range of:

9.8 – 10.0	regular season 0.1 (0.2 in post season)
9.5 – 9.775	0.2
9.0 – 9.475	0.3
8.0 – 8.975	0.5
Below 8.0	1.0

Example: Judge 1's score is 9.5 and Judge 2's score is 9.8, the average is 9.65. Since the average (9.65) falls in the 9.5 – 9.775 range, the two scores must be no more than 0.2 apart. Since they are 0.3 apart, a conference between the judges is warranted.

- Either the Chief Judge or the Panel Judge** may call a conference **ONLY** under any of the following circumstances:
 - The counting scores are out of range.
 - There is an impossible Start Value.
 - A UTL deduction was/was not applied that can have an impact on the average score.
 - An impossible score is identified, as a result of an obvious flat execution or composition deduction that was not applied, yet the counting scores are within range and/or the Start Values are the same. For example, both judges have 10.0 SV, their scores are 9.3 and 9.6 – and one had obviously not deducted for a fall that had occurred. Examples of obvious flat deductions that may impact an impossible score include, but are**

not limited to: 0.5 fall, 0.5 spot, 0.3 grasp of apparatus, 0.3 extra swing, or 0.5 third approach for a mount.

5. A scoring input error had occurred.
6. The MR calls an inquiry conference when bringing a Routine Inquiry form to the panel.
- h. When a gymnast has performed an incomplete routine, the judges calculate their Start Values and submit their scores to the Chief Judge (CJ), as usual. However, if the SVs are impossible or the counting scores are out of range and the CJ determines that the resulting conference may take a considerable amount of time, the CJ may postpone calling the conference for the routine until all remaining athletes in the rotation have completed their performances.
 1. The CJ posts a “Delayed Conference” red card on their table so that judges, coaches, and announcers would know that the scoring for this routine is being put aside until the end of the rotation. The CJ will then signal the next athlete.
 2. The judging panel will convene at the end of the rotation to conduct the conference for the partial routine and post the score when the conference has completed. The transition period and warm-up periods would provide 5-7 minutes, depending on the competition, for judges to complete their conference.
- i. **The Meet Referee, at the earliest convenience, must notify all Head Coaches in the competition if there is any change to a score after its initial flashing or input to the scoring system, due to a clerical error, technical issue, or if there is an application of a team neutral deduction (TND).**

1.10 UNIFORMS.

- a. An institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel (i.e., tights, t-shirts, warm-ups, tennis shoes) must be identical when worn on either practice or competition day. **Any combination of apparel may be worn by any team athlete; but whatever is chosen, it must conform to the school's official uniform and must match with the same apparel worn by another teammate.** However, during the march-in and awards ceremony, team members must be in identical warmup apparel (footwear excluded). During the individual competition in postseason, those athletes on the same team must wear identical uniforms and leotards.
- b. In addition, the athletes may have a name and/or number on her warm-up apparel and leotard as long as all team members use a similar font type and color. No nicknames or other words are permitted. The following are acceptable options for names on uniforms:
 1. All uniforms with just the last name.
 2. All uniforms with first name initial and last name.
 3. If the team has chosen just last names on the uniforms, an exception is permitted for when two/more athletes have the same last name, the first name initial may be added to only their specific uniforms.
 4. If two/more athletes have the same last name and the first name initials are also the same, an exception is permitted to spell out the first names, regardless of what the rest of the team does.
- c. The athletes must wear **matching** one-piece leotards (long sleeve or a sleeveless tank leotards), and are allowed to wear any undergarments that are the same color of the leotard or are skin tone in color. No bathing suits are permitted.

- d. Athletes are permitted to wear spandex shorts or long leggings/tights during competition. Any combination of shorts, tights, and leotard are acceptable under this ruling, as long as it conforms to the school's official uniform. If more than one athlete is wearing spandex shorts or tights, they must match. For example: 2 athletes wearing spandex shorts, 3 athletes wearing long leggings, and 12 athletes wearing leotards only.
- e. The Meet Referee will **inform the Head Coach** of a gymnast who does not meet the uniform policies. The gymnast must comply with the uniform rules, or a **0.2 team neutral deduction (TND)** will be applied during team competition, or a **0.2 neutral deduction** applied to the individual's score during individual competition.

1.11 JEWELRY.

Gymnasts are only permitted to wear stud piercings. No other jewelry is permitted. After a warning, a 0.2 deduction will be taken from the gymnast's score for each occurrence. **A stud piercing is a style of earring or jewelry that sits directly on the earlobe or body part without dangling, as a decorative element that appears to "float" on the ear or body part.**

1.12 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT.

Any Panel Judge, Chief Judge or the Meet Referee (MR) can issue a Yellow Card for an instance of unsportsmanlike conduct using the following procedures:

- a. The Yellow Card is a warning that can be issued to any coach, student-athlete or staff member, and the team's Head Coach will be informed of the issuance of the Yellow Card. Reference Appendix II B.1 for list of Yellow Card behavior offenses.
- b. If a second Yellow Card is issued to the same or different member of the team, this will result in a 0.1 deduction from the team score. For example, if two different staff members receive a **first** Yellow Card, the 0.1 TND is incurred.
- c. A coach that receives **BOTH** a first and second Yellow Card may remain on the competition floor for safety purposes only (i.e. spotting, equipment adjustment).
- d. The MR will submit a Yellow Card Incident Report to document all Yellow Card warnings/infractions to the National Assigner and the Chairperson of the WCGA Ethics Committee (refer to the "Supplemental Procedures and Forms" document for the reporting form). Reference Appendix II B.2 for Ethics Committee procedures.

1.13 TEAM NEUTRAL DEDUCTIONS (TND)

Process for application of a team neutral deduction (TND) is as follows:

- a. Judging panel determines deduction (may request counsel by the Meet Referee).
- b. CJ notifies the MR of the deduction.
- c. MR takes deduction to scorer's table for application to the team score.
- d. MR notifies Meet Director of the deduction.
- e. MR notifies the Head Coach of EACH of the competing teams of the TND application.
- f. Coach may submit an inquiry (written or video) if the TND is in question.
- g. Officials verify the TND on the final score sheet.
- h. MR submits any required reporting forms (Yellow Card, etc).

- i. Since exhibition routines are not eligible to count in the team score, any TND for a violation during an exhibition routine would not be applied (exception: any Yellow Card infraction).

EVENT SPECIFIC MODIFICATIONS

2 – VAULT

- 2.1 The USAG Vault Bonus Rule IS NOT in effect for NCAA competition.
- 2.2 Vault numbers will be flashed. (See Appendix I, Vault Value Chart)
- 2.3 The gymnast will perform one vault, the score of which will count. A gymnast is allowed three attempts to complete one vault.
 - a. If a gymnast touches the board and/or vault apparatus or inverts on the approach or vault table without going over the vault apparatus, then this counts as one of her three attempts. It is not considered a vault.
 - b. If a gymnast hits the board and goes over the vault apparatus, then this would be considered an executed vault and must be scored.
- 2.4 1.00 deduction for touching the vault table with only one or with no hands is taken by each judge.
- 2.5 1.00 deduction for failure to land on the soles of feet first (includes fall) is taken by each judge.
- 2.6 1.00 deduction for spotting assistance during the vault is taken by each judge.

Note: For items 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, if the scores are not in range, then a conference is called.
- 2.7 If a gymnast vaults prior to the judge's hand or flag signal, the gymnast must repeat the vault for a score and would receive a 0.5 deduction.
- 2.8 White lines (taped or screened) shall be applied in a funnel shape on the vault landing mat, whether a 20 cm competition landing mat (CLM) or a 4-inch bi-fold mat (reference diagram in Appendix I). These lines act as a visual guide for officials regarding the direction deduction (up to 0.3).
 - a. The lines are 2 inches wide, using the same tape product as used for the floor exercise boundary lines (per AAI equipment supplier specifications).
 - b. The lines are measured and applied in the following manner:
 1. Identify the mat center point at the table edge and the far edge of the landing mat.
 2. The width of the landing corridor at the table end of the mat is 38 inches +/- 1 inch, measured as 19 inches from the center point to the outside of the white line in each direction. This corridor is centered with the vault table.
 3. For the 20 cm CLM (15' 6" length): the width of the landing corridor at the far end of the CLM is 58 inches +/- 1 inch, measured as 29 inches from the center point to the outside of the white line in each direction.
 4. For the 4-inch bi-fold mat (15' length): the width of the landing corridor at the far end of the mat is 56 inches +/- 1 inch, measured as 28 inches from the centerline to the outside of the white line in each direction.
 - c. Any accessory mats placed on top of the marked vault landing mat (sting, second 4-inch, or an 8" mat) must have replicated marked lines on its landing surface (may use chalk or tape), centered with the vault table.

3 – UNEVEN BARS

3.1 UNEVEN BAR SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (.20 each, taken off Start Value).

One element may fulfill more than one Special Requirement, unless specified.

- Minimum of two (2) bar changes.
- Two (2) different flight elements, one valued a minimum of a D and the second a minimum of a C (not to include dismount).
- One (1) element with longitudinal axis (LA) turn, minimum of C (not to include mount and dismount).

Note: The USAG compositional deduction of “insufficient change of direction” DOES NOT apply to NCAA.

- C dismount preceded by a minimum of a C element, OR a D/E dismount.

3.2 UNEVEN BAR SPECIFIC COMPOSITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.

- Insufficient distribution of elements flat 0.05

Consider:

- Level of difficulty not maintained throughout the exercise.
- Most difficult elements placed in the same section of the exercise.

- More than one squat/stoop on LB with/without sole circle to grasp high bar ..each .10

- EXCEPTION: Following fall from UB, gymnast is allowed to perform cast squat/pike-on to resume the routine without receiving 0.10 deduction.
- Once a gymnast has performed a planned squat/stoop-on, only additional planned squat/stoop ons would be subject to the 0.10 each deduction.

- Uncharacteristic elements. each 0.1

Examples:

- Squat on LB bar and ½ turn on feet to grasp high bar.
- Swing forward on HB, place feet on LB to stand with or without ½ turn unless followed by a circling move.

- ¾ giant circle forward with/without grip change each flat 0.1

Note: This is not considered an element and will break a connection.

- Choice of elements not up to the competitive level (UTL) flat 0.1

UTL is defined by the following basic standards:

- A single bar release with a minimum of D value
 - OR a release element valued as an E
 - OR minimum of two (2) D releases
 - OR minimum of two (2) E level elements (excluding dismounts).
- Exercise must have minimum of a D dismount or C dismount with Connection Value (CV) Bonus.

3.3 ELEMENT VALUES DIFFERENT FROM LEVEL 10.

Number	Element Description	Value
	1½ pirouette (turn is in handstand, not a Healy): 2.401 Cast Handstand 1 ½ pirouette; 4.403 Back Giant 1½ pirouette	E
	All elements that include a 1/1 (360 degree) turn completed on one arm after handstand phase in the descent phase (Healy technique): 2.301 Cast Healy; 2.303 Uprise Healy; 3.305 Clear Hip Healy; 4.303 Back Giant Healy; 5.302 Front Giant Healy; 6.304 Back Stalder Healy; 7.308 Front Sole Circle Healy; 7.309 Back Sole Circle Healy (6.401 Front Stalder Healy already D)	D
2.303	Uprise backward to handstand on HB with ½ turn	D
3.401	From LB facing outward, Clear Hip Circle through HS with flight to HB (Shaposhnikova)	E
6.304	Stalder backward, straddled, to handstand with or without ½ turn	D
6.405	From LB facing outward, Stalder backward through HS with flight to HB (Chow)	E
8.301	From HB, Clear Support Front Tuck ½ Twist	D
8.303	Flyaway Double Full Twist	D
8.307	Front Flyaway 1½ Twist	D
8.407	Front Flyaway 2/1 Twist	E
8.404	Double Tuck Flyaway ½ Twist	E

3.4 CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS EXCEPTIONS.

- #7.410 Maloney (from LB facing outward, Pike sole circle backward thru HS with flight to HB) connected to #4.406 Pak salto = D + D, receives +0.1 CV & +0.2 “D/E” Bonus.
- #7.410 Maloney connected to #4.404 Underswing ½ turn and flight to HS on LB (Overshoot HS) = D + D, receives +0.1 CV & +0.2 “D/E” Bonus.
- In an instance when an unsuccessful attempt (fall) on a combination is repeated, the gymnast will be eligible for appropriate CV Bonus on a successful second attempt. However, no VP would be awarded for those elements that are performed a third time in the routine.

Example: Cast handstand (2.202 B) + giant circle backward to handstand ½ turn (4.303 C) + Straddle Jaeger salto (5.405 D) – FALL.

- No touch of hands** = no D/E VP, no D/E Bonus (Jaeger), no CV Bonus (C+D), no UTL awarded.

Repeat with cast handstand + giant ½ + Jaeger, + Overshoot ½ turn to LB (4.304 C) = receives:

- D/E Bonus +0.1 for Jaeger D,

- b. CV Bonus for Jaeger D + Overshoot $\frac{1}{2}$ C only,
 - c. Additional D/E Bonus +0.1 for single bar release (Jaeger),
 - d. UTL is awarded.
2. Touch hands = D VP awarded, UTL awarded, no D/E Bonus, no CV Bonus.

Repeat same as in #1 above = receives:

- a. D/E Bonus +0.1 for Jaeger D,
 - b. CV Bonus for Jaeger D + Overshoot $\frac{1}{2}$ C only,
 - c. Additional D/E Bonus +0.1 for single bar release (Jaeger).
 - d. UTL was already awarded.
- 3.5 ADDITIONAL DIFFICULTY "D/E" BONUS.
Any E release element or Single Bar D release element will receive an additional +0.10 "D/E" Bonus.

4 – BALANCE BEAM

4.1 BEAM SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (.20 each taken off the Start Value).

- a. Acro series:
 - 1. Minimum of two (2) flight elements, one (1) element must be a minimum of C with/without hand support (this may include mount)
 - OR - an “A” non-flight element from Group 7 (walkovers/cartwheels) connected to an E acro element (example: back walkover + back tucked full twisting salto).
 - 2. The acro series requirement may not be connected to the dismount and must stop on the beam.
- b. Dance/Dance OR Dance/Acro series with a minimum of two (2) elements. The dance element must be valued a C or higher and the series may not be connected to the dismount.
- c. A leap or jump requiring 180° split (this may be part of the dance series or acro/dance series).
- d. Minimum of 360° turn from Group 3 (no hand support permitted).
- e. Minimum of C dismount.

4.2 BEAM SPECIFIC COMPOSITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.

- a. Lack of variety in choice of Acro elements
 - 1. Missing a backward Acro element with a minimum of “A” value flat 0.1
 - 2. Missing a forward/sideward Acro element with a minimum of “A” value flat 0.1
 - 3. The following notes apply to both backward and forward/sideward Acro requirements:
 - Must be from Group 1-Mounts, 6-Rolls, 7-Walkovers/cartwheels or 8-Saltos.
 - A round-off is considered a sideward element.
 - A BHS ¼ or ¾ to handstand is considered a backward element.
 - A jump backward BHS with ½ twist to walkover forward (Arabian walkover or salto) is considered a forward element.
 - A tic-toc can be considered either a forward or backward element (to the advantage of the gymnast).
- b. Insufficient distribution of the elements. flat 0.05

Consider:

- Level of difficulty not maintained throughout the exercise.
- Most difficult elements placed in the same section of the exercise.

c. Insufficient use of entire beam apparatus

1. Insufficient level of changes throughout the exercise.
- flat 0.05

Consider:

- Level changes by the performance of elements and/or connections [look for movements that are high off the beam, standing, semi-low and low (kneel, squat, sit, lying)].
- The gymnast is not required to touch the beam with a part of the torso and/or head.

2. Spatially (use the entire length of the beam)
- flat 0.05

3. Failure to show movement/choreography in
- all**
- different directions (fwd/bwd/swd)
- flat 0.05

Consider:

- Choreography permitted in any level (standing, semi-low or low to the beam).

d. Choice of element not “up to the competitive level” (UTL) flat 0.1

UTL is defined by the following basic standards:

1. If a flight series **that fulfills Special Requirements** is performed on the beam **WITHOUT CV Bonus** (consider only those elements performed and stopped on the beam), then an additional D/E Acro element (including mounts and dismounts) OR E dance element (including mounts) is required.
2. D/E Acro element directly connected to the dismount **CANNOT** fulfill the up to the level requirement.
3. If an Acro Series is completed but not awarded CV due to a FALL, the UTL deduction will not be applied.
4. If a gymnast breaks an acro series on beam due to a balance error, extra steps, or stop in the connection of the elements, she would not receive CV and loses acro series Special Requirement. If there is not another D/E acro element or E dance element in her routine, she would receive a UTL deduction.

4.3 ELEMENT VALUES DIFFERENT FROM LEVEL 10.

Number	Element Description	Value
2.202	Straddle pike or straddle split jump performed with a ¼ turn	C
2.307	Ring or Stag-ring leap or jump (rear leg at head height)	D
2.404	Tourjete with ¼ turn	E
2.405	Switch side Leap with ¼ turn	E
3.401	Double turn on one foot	E
3.406	Double Wolf turn (Humphrey/Swartzentruber)	E
8.301	Salto forward take off from one or two legs to a sit (Puloin/Portocarrero)	D

Number	Element Description	Value
8.304	Salto backward stretched with step-out	D
8.304	Salto backward stretched through vertical and then pike down with legs together	D
9.304	Salto forward tucked or stretched with a 1 ½ twist (off two feet) (Rudi)	D
9.306	Double Full Dismount	D
9.308	Gainer salto tucked or stretched with 1 ½ twist to side of beam	D
9.309	Gainer salto tucked with 1/1 twist off end of beam	D
9.404	Salto forward stretched with 2/1 twist (off two feet)	E
9.408	Gainer salto backward stretched with 2/1 or 2 ½ (Khorkina) twist to side of beam	E

4.4 CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS EXCEPTIONS.

- NO BONUS: 2-Acro Flight Element connection B+C Salto WILL NOT receive CV BONUS.
- B+D Acro Flight: BHS + Layout, stretched then pike down with feet together = +0.1 CV (not +0.2 CV)
- Back Salto layout Step-out AND Aerial Walkover will receive "D/E" Bonus but will be considered as C value for purposes of awarding Connection Value in Back Handspring Series only (Step-out BHS, BHS to 2 Feet, Gainer BHS, or BHS Swing down to cross straddle sit; in any order).

Examples:

- BHS + Layout Step-out = B+D, receives +0.1 "D/E" & no CV (B+C)
- Split Jump + Layout Step-out = B+D, receives +0.1 "D/E" & +0.2 CV (B+D, not a BHS Series)
- Round-off + Layout Step-out = B+D, receives +0.1 "D/E" & +0.2 CV (B+D, not a BHS Series)
- Aerial Walkover + BHS = D+B, receives +0.1 "D/E" & no CV (B+C)
- Aerial Walkover + Back Tuck = D+C, receives +0.1 "D/E" & + 0.2 CV

4.5 ADDITIONAL CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS

- Connection of at least 3 acro flight elements (excluding dismount connections) that includes a minimum of one C element will receive an additional +.1 CV.

Examples:

- BHS + BHS + Layout-Step-out = B+B+D receives +0.1 "D/E", +0.1 CV, & +0.1 additional CV
- RO BHS Mount + BHS + Layout-Step-out = D+B+D, +0.2 "D/E", +0.2 CV & +0.1 additional CV
- BHS + Layout Step-out + Layout Step-out = B+D+D, +0.1 "D/E", +0.2 CV & +0.1 additional CV
- Aerial Walkover + BHS + BHS = D+B+B, +0.1 "D/E", +0.1 CV, & +0.1 additional CV

5. Aerial Walkover+ BHS + Layout Step-out = D+B+D, +0.2 "D/E", +0.2 CV & +0.1 additional CV
- b. B or higher acro element + C or higher valued dismount = additional + 0.1 CV.
- Examples:
1. Back handspring + back layout salto 1½ twist dismount = B + C, +0.1 CV
 2. Roundoff + double back dismount = B + E, +0.1 CV & +0.2 "D/E"
 3. Front handspring + gainer front layout salto full twist dismount off the side = B + C, +0.1 CV
- c. C or higher dance element + C or higher valued dismount = additional + 0.1 CV.

Examples:

1. Switch leap + gainer back salto full *off the end* of the beam = C + D, +0.1 CV, +0.1 "D/E"
2. Full turn w/leg at horizontal + gainer back layout salto full twist off the side of the beam = C + C, +0.1 CV
3. Straddle ½ + back layout salto 1½ twist Dismount = D + C, +0.1 CV, +0.1 "D/E"

5 – FLOOR EXERCISE

- 5.1 An Acro Pass is defined as one or more acro elements, one element must be a salto valued at a C or higher.
- a. A salto is defined as a flight element (fwd/bkwd/swd) that takes off from two feet and lands on one or two feet, and may also lower in control to one knee.
 - b. NOT a salto for SR: a flight element that takes off from one foot (aerials, or a “toss” in a tucked position), or takes off two feet but lands in a sitting, prone (front or back), or sit-split position.
- 5.2 FLOOR EXERCISE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (.20 each taken off Start Value).
- a. One acrobatic pass with two (2) saltos (same or different), OR one acrobatic pass with two (2) directly connected saltos. An acrobatic pass is defined as above in 5.1. Aerials are NOT considered saltos.
 - b. Three (3) different saltos within the exercise.
 - c. The salto performed as the last isolated salto or within the last salto connection must be minimum “C” and must be an acro pass.
 - d. Dance passage with a minimum of two (2) different Group 1 elements, directly or indirectly connected, one of which is a leap (one-foot take-off) requiring a 180° cross or side split position. An indirect connection would allow for running steps, small leaps, hops, chassés, assemblés, *or any kind of turn on 1 or 2 feet* between the two dance Value Part elements.
 - e. A minimum of two (2) acro passes performed on two (2) different diagonals.
- 5.3 FLOOR SPECIFIC COMPOSITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.
- a. Lack of variety in choice of elements:
 - 1. Lack of variety in dance elements:
 - Lack of Dance Bonus from Groups 1 or 2 (minimum of +0.1 Dance CV Bonus - OR - + 0.1 "D/E" Dance Bonus is required)... flat 0.1
 - 2. Lack of variety in choice of Acro elements.
 - Missing backward salto with a minimum of “A” value..... flat 0.1
 - Missing forward/sideward salto with a minimum of “A” value..... flat 0.1
 - b. Insufficient distribution of elements flat 0.05
Consider:
 - 1. Level of difficulty not maintained throughout the exercise.
 - 2. Most difficult elements placed in the same section of the exercise.
 - c. Insufficient use of the floor area Spatially (floor pattern)..... flat 0.05
 - d. Choice of elements not “up to the competitive level.” (UTL) flat 0.1
UTL is defined by the following basic standards:
 - 1. One (1) E valued element (Acro or Dance).
 - OR - Two (2) different D elements (one of which must be an Acro element).
 - 2. An acro dismount (last acro pass) with a minimum C salto in bonus combination or a minimum D salto.

3. In addition to the above, a two (2)-acro pass routine must include a minimum of a D element in one pass and a minimum of a D or +.20 CV in the other pass (may be in any order).

5.4 ELEMENT VALUES DIFFERENT FROM LEVEL 10.

#6.201 Front salto piked = A

#1.310 Ring jump or stag-ring jump with 1/1 turn (360) = D

#1.305 Switch Side ½ or ¾ turn = D

5.5 ADDITIONAL CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS

- a. Turn + Jump:
 - A turn on one (1) foot followed by a jump with a two-foot take-off WILL be eligible for CV Bonus (if directly connected with no stop, extra steps, hops, or repositioning of the foot).
 - Example: 2/1 turn + Popa, C + C = + 0.1 CV.
- b. Bonus combination B+B must be two (2) different elements to receive +0.1.
 - Example: Front layout + front layout receives no connection bonus.
 - Example: Front layout + front layout ½ receives + 0.1 connection bonus.
- c. C + C directly connected Acro elements = +0.3 Connection Value.

5.6 ADDITIONAL DIFFICULTY "D/E" BONUS.

- a. A double flipping salto in a direct or indirect acro connection -OR- an E acro in the last pass of a two (2) acro pass routine will receive an additional +0.1 "D/E" Bonus.
- b. A double flipping salto -OR- an E acro in the last pass of a three (3) or more acro pass routine will receive an additional +0.1 "D/E" Bonus.

COMPETITION PROCEDURES

6 - EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS AND PENALTIES

6.1 EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS.

- a. The only allowable hand placement mats are the TAC-10 RO pads. The RO pad may be used only for RO entry vaults or front handspring onto the board entry vaults.
- b. Athletic tape or Velcro strips (NO CHALK) may be placed on the vault runway, provided that such markings are removed no later than the end of the rotation. The tape measure is to be used to determine where to begin the approach for vault. Chalk may be used only on the student-athlete as needed (e.g., hands, feet, legs).
- c. 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ " padded vault runway is required for all competitions and must extend a minimum of 82 feet from the base of the apparatus. The gymnast may use the entire length of a manufactured runway (beyond 82 feet if available). Exceptions to the minimum requirement will be made in cases where a host institution cannot provide 82 feet of runway due to venue limitations. In such cases, the host institution must notify visiting team(s) in writing of the distance that will be provided before meet contracts are signed. No deduction will be taken if a gymnast starts off the runway to begin her approach.
- d. Low bar must be adjustable to 165 cm (AAI 155cm-185cm from floor to top of rail +/- 1cm) and the high bar adjustable to 245 cm (AAI 235-265cm from floor to top of the rail +/-1cm) without the bar height adapters.
- e. The uneven bars should be set so that the low bar and the high bar lean at the same angle when the bars are set at the maximum width according to AAI specifications (192 cm +/- 1cm).
- f. The minimum run distance must be provided for mounts on uneven bars and balance beam during competition is 27'-6" from the base or leg of the respective apparatus. If more than 27'-6" of matting exists, the maximum run distance may be used.
 1. A minimum of 15'-6" length of matting must be available on the dismount end of the beam.
 2. The host institution need not provide more than the minimum allowable length of matting provided at NCAA regional and national competition.
- g. If a gymnast has a broken/torn grip, it is considered equipment failure. The gymnast may repeat all or a portion of her routine as the last team competitor or after the all-around competitor (specialist). Judging will begin at the point of interruption, with no fall penalty applied **due to the broken/torn grip**. If this does not allow for enough time to change grips or to prepare, the gymnast will repeat the routine as soon as it is safe to do so. However, the time should not exceed five minutes.
- h. If a gymnast knocks off the beam end cap with her foot during her dismount, this is NOT considered as equipment failure. All performance deductions will be taken. If she falls, the gymnast may repeat her dismount (series) and would be eligible for value part credit and bonus, as would occur with any fall off the beam.

- i. If a plywood board is used under the springboard for mounting bars and beam, then it must be a ½" plywood board with a non-skid surface on both sides.
- j. A chalk arc line may be placed on the corners of the floor exercise mat.
- k. Floor Exercise Field of Play: 12m x 12m with allowance up to +3cm (meaning 1200 – 1203cm on each side, or 39' 4.5" – 39' 5.5"). The diagonals are measured at 1697cm – 1702cm (55'8" – 55'10"). These measurements are made from the outside of the tape lines, or on the border where a two-tone carpet changes color. Tape may not be placed in the center area of the floor exercise mat. However, small pieces of tape are permitted on the inside of the corners of a two-tone carpet boundary to provide tactile awareness of the actual boundary. The tape must be the same color as the Floor Exercise area carpet.
- l. The Balance Beam and Vault Table are measured from the top of the beam and vault table to the floor. The Balance Beam measures 125cm +/- 1 cm. The Vault table height may be adjusted up to 135cm +/- 1 cm.
- m. It is allowable to mount off of a 4" mat on top of a sting mat on Uneven Bars and Balance Beam.
- n. A total of two (2) alternate skill cushions (pit pillow-style throw mats, 4' x 6' x 8") are on the required list of provided postseason matting, and are permitted (but not required) for regular season competitions. If available, the alternate skill cushions may be used on any event during the warm-up and touch periods. During competition, use of this mat will be allowable only for bar releases, not for dismounts. The alternate skill cushion may be placed on top of an 8-inch skill cushion for bar releases, and both mats must be removed for the rest of the routine.
- o. The coach/team members (not the competing athlete) are permitted to apply water or chalk to the uneven bars after a fall and within the allotted 45-second fall time. Only a spotter(s) and/or persons moving boards or mats should be within the judges' viewing area of the equipment during a routine performance. Once their effort is complete, these persons should vacate the area with minimal impact of the view of the judges, if possible.

6.2 EQUIPMENT PENALTIES

- a. All equipment must be used as intended by the manufacturer. An institution that does not adhere to the policies and procedures during NCAA championships competition may be subject to further disciplinary action and/or a financial penalty up to a maximum of \$600 per offense by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee. Note: A 0.2 team neutral deduction (TND) may be incurred for improper use of equipment per manufacturing specifications. Examples include placing springboard on top of the vault table, scratching marks into the beam, using mats while folded improperly, or other improper use that may damage the equipment.
- b. Foreign substances may NOT be placed on the hands and/or feet of the gymnasts or any piece of equipment (e.g., honey and sugar, tuff skin, etc.). Water, Chalk, AAI solutions and AAI hand Tac/10 towels are the only acceptable substances. Use of foreign substances will incur a one time 0.2 TND.
- c. Failure to correctly apply the Vault landing lines on the top landing mat surface per 2.8 on page 5 of the Rules Modifications will incur a 0.2 TND for each occurrence.
- d. If a supplemental mat used on floor exercise exceeds the boundary lines, the mat must be clearly marked with tape (not chalk) to indicate the actual boundary lines. Failure to correctly mark the mat will result in a 0.2 TND for each occur-

rence. If the supplemental mat is relocated during the routine so that the boundary lines taped on the mat are no longer in alignment with the floor exercise boundary lines, and it is used by the athlete during the routine in this configuration, then the 0.2 TND will be applied.

1. There is no deduction for a coach to step within the boundaries of the Floor Exercise to place, adjust or remove a supplemental mat, or to remove any object which may impede or endanger the athlete.
- e. No more than two supplemental mats are permitted on the Floor Exercise at one time. Only one sting mat or 4-inch supplemental mat may be used per tumbling pass/leap combination (i.e. a gymnast may not punch off one mat and land on another). A sting mat may be placed on top of or under a 4-inch mat, and these stacked mats count as the two supplemental mats permitted on the Floor Exercise at one time. Two sting mats cannot be stacked. Incorrect use of supplemental mats on Floor Exercise will incur a 0.2 TND for each occurrence.
- f. The following equipment deductions will incur a 0.2 TND for each occurrence on the applicable event:
 1. Incorrect use of tape/chalk on equipment, to include:
 - a. using chalk on Vault runway (tape/velcro allowed).
 - b. use of tape on BB.
 - c. using tape or velcro within the boundary lines on FX (exception: small tape placed inside the boundary of two-tone carpet).
 - d. tape on the hand placement mat (RO pad).
 2. Use of unauthorized supplemental mats. On Vault, Balance Beam and Uneven Bars, no more than 10" total matting stack on top of competition landing mat is permitted. This total means a maximum stack of two 4-inch landing mats with a 1-2 inch sting mat, OR an 8-inch skill cushion with a 1-2 inch sting mat.
 3. Use of hand placement mat for traditional forward approach vaults.
 4. Use of a springboard on an unauthorized surface (such as an 8-inch skill cushion).
 5. Failure to remove the board/mounting apparatus after a mount.
 6. Failure to remove an authorized spotting device after use.
 7. Using incorrect apparatus specifications (includes springboard configuration).

7 – ROUTINE INQUIRY PROCESS

7.1 ROUTINE INQUIRIES.

- a. Routine inquiries (written or video) are allowed throughout regular and postseason competition based on the following criteria:
 - Start value - Special Requirements, Value Parts, Bonus
 - UTL
 - Specific (flat) compositional deductions
 - Neutral deductions or unusual performance occurrences/fall
 - **Scores are out of range.**

When all Start Values are 10.0, only inquiries about UTL, compositional requirements and clarification of neutral deductions, unusual performance occurrences/falls, **or scores out of range** are permissible.

- b. Inquiries (written or video) must be submitted in writing before the beginning of the next event, **or within 6 minutes from the posting of the last competitor's score on the final event.** There is no limit to the number of inquiries submitted during a meet.
- c. A video may accompany the written inquiry form, and must be indicated on the form as a video inquiry. A coach may not submit both a video inquiry and a written inquiry for the same routine. The coach considering submitting an inquiry may consult with the Meet Referee.
- d. If the Meet Referee had not previously observed the routine, they may view the video as a replay, only one time and in regular speed, and refrain from commenting to the Coach.
- e. The judging panel may evaluate the routine only pertaining to the categories in question on the inquiry form. The element or connection under review may be subject to additional deductions for incompleteness or rhythm if an inquiry results in a changed Start Value. An inquiry may result in a score that is raised, stays the same, or is lowered.
- f. While processing a video inquiry, the video may be viewed by the judging panel in regular speed or in slow motion to the advantage of the gymnast, and it may be viewed multiple times.
- g. Judges must process all inquiries prior to the start of the next event. The Meet Referee may offer counsel to the judging panel. If there is a split decision, the Meet Referee will make the final decision.
- h. The Meet Referee returns the completed response of the inquiry to the Coach. **If the coach is unsatisfied with the results of the inquiry (written or video), then they may submit a request for a Video Review (using the Video Review form, see Supplemental Procedures and Forms).**

7.2 VIDEO REVIEW.

The following Video Review process will be used during all NCAA competitions.

A coach must complete the inquiry process on a routine before submitting a request for a Video Review as an additional review of the issue identified in the inquiry. If the results of the written or video inquiry are unsatisfactory to the Coach (the score was changed or stayed the same), the Coach may submit a Video Review form with a video under the following conditions:

- a. Each team is allowed one review per meet.

- b. When an equipment failure may have occurred, the Meet Referee may use video (both real time or slow motion) to determine if, and when, the failure occurred and how to proceed.
- c. An institutional team video or television production footage must be used for the review. The video may be taken from any vantage point. **If a video was used during the inquiry process, the same video or a different video may be submitted for the Video Review.**
- d. All reviews must be specific to the performance or nonperformance of a particular Special Requirement VALUE PART, combination of elements, UTL or neutral deductions (i.e., out of bounds).
- e. Reviews may not be used to evaluate a question of execution deductions or composition. These requests will result in a 0.1 TND.
- f. Reviews should be viewed in the speed that is to the advantage of the student-athlete. If necessary, the video may be viewed in multiple speeds. Judges may use the zoom function if needed to see the video presented for review.
- g. The review must be submitted to the Meet Director or host institution designee within five (5) minutes following the conclusion of the meet (as determined by the final score posted OR the return of the final inquiry, whichever is later). During this time, the scores are being verified by the judging panel and the head scorer's table.
- h. The coach requesting the review must provide a signed Video Review Form (VRF), cued video and team camera to the Meet Director (or host institution designee). The Meet Director (or host institution designee) will be responsible for delivering this information to the Meet Referee and event panel (the judges who judged the particular event) for their review on the competition floor following the conclusion of the meet. The coaches may not be present during the review.
- i. Reviews must be conducted in the presence of the Meet Referee and the event panel ONLY. If the Meet Referee is on the panel, the next highest rated official must participate. A simple majority of the review panel will determine success or failure of the review. If the review is successful, the individual's score will be adjusted accordingly and team score if it is a counting score.
- j. The results of the review will be noted on the VRF by the Meet Referee and returned to the Meet Director (or host institution designee) who will take the VRF to the score table. The official score will be adjusted (up or down). Then the judges will sign the official score sheet and the Meet Director will deliver the VRF to the coach.
- k. If a score is changed during an inquiry or video review, the skill or connection under review may be subject to additional deductions for incompleteness or rhythm.
- l. Decisions rendered by the judges' review panel are final and cannot be overturned.

7.3 ROUTINE SUMMARIES.

- a. The Routine Summary is a method for a coach to obtain information from the judges in order to clearly understand the deductions applied. It is intended as an educational tool for the student-athlete and coaching staff. Regardless of the comments written by the judge, no scores will change as a result of the Routine Summary.
- b. Each institution is permitted to submit up to a total of six (6) Routine Summary forms per competition. The coach has the option to provide a video to accompany only one (1) Routine Summary request. **The Routine Summary Forms must be**

submitted to the Meet Referee within 5 minutes following the conclusion of the competition (the last score is posted, or the last routine inquiry has been processed if applicable).

- c. It is the responsibility of the coach to provide the element information and two copies of the Routine Summary form for each routine (or four copies for four-judge panels).
- d. The Routine Summaries are distributed by the Meet Referee to the judges after they have signed the official score sheets. All judges in the panel should complete the Routine Summary independently while sitting apart, and not use element shorthand. The judges may view the video provided by a team on the same device, but the routine must be viewed by each judge separately.
- e. The Meet Referee may communicate general feedback to coaches of any areas of uncertainty in the routines based on the observations of either the judging panels or as observed by the Meet Referee.

Refer to the "Supplemental Procedures and Forms" document for the Inquiry and Routine Summary Form and the Video Review Form.

8 – REGULAR SEASON MEET PROCEDURES

The NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee has accepted the following procedures for regular-season competition. Coaches may agree, in writing, to alter the warm-up and competition format. If coaches do not agree, then the established format outlined below will be followed. *Note: For further meet procedures, please refer to the current USAG Women's Artistic Rules and Policies.*

- 8.1. **JUDGING.** A minimum of two judges per event must be used, and all must have a minimum Level 10 rating. **No current coach or staff member of an NCAA women's gymnastics program, or parent of a current gymnast on the roster of an NCAA program, may serve as an NCAA judge (see Appendix III for affiliation policies).**
- Judges may **enter the competition floor to prepare for the meet after the athletes have completed timed warm-ups and have cleared the competition area.**
 - Coaches are permitted to formally acknowledge and greet judges in a cordial manner prior to the start of the competition. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of changing a lineup or discussing an inquiry, after initiated by the judge, are permissible.
 - Judges must be seated separately at different tables on the competition floor, unless impractical due to the equipment placement. For meets where judges must sit at the same table, the judges must be separated with a person (such as a score flasher or volunteer) between them.**
 - One judge on each event must be designated as the Chief Judge.
 - One judge must be designated as the Meet Referee to respond to inquiries during the meet.
 - Open scoring must be used. All scores and start values will be flashed simultaneously and rotated, but only the average score will be raised and rotated. First, the judge will give his or her final score to the flasher. When all scores are posted to their respective score flash unit, judges will simultaneously display their start values, scores and UTL card (when applicable). The runner will pick up all judges' score slips and present them to the Chief Judge only **AFTER** the scores have been displayed. The Chief Judge will tally the average score and it will be raised and rotated or **otherwise prominently displayed on a flashing unit.**
 - Judges are required to leave the **competition floor immediately after competition is completed (which includes the processing of any remaining inquiries or conducting any Video Review)** to sign score sheets off the competition floor in a neutral area.
 - If a judge is late or missing from the competition, adjustments of the judging panels are made to maintain the same panel of judges on each event throughout the competition to provide scoring consistently within the competition. The Meet Referee, in consultation with the Meet Director, would determine how the judging panels are adjusted to proceed with the competition. See Section 8.8 for additional details.**
- 8.2. **MEET PREPARATIONS.** The following preparations apply to all meets, regardless of the number of participating teams:
- The host team must let the visiting team know what spring boards are available, the length of the vault runway, **and other equipment details.** There should be a sufficient number of landing mats and boards for warm-ups and competition, according to the number of teams and events occurring simultaneously (regular

- season). For regular season, the host institution selects the Visitor slot for each team within the competition format (see meet format tables in Sections 8.4 – 8.7).
- b. Institutions shall require a system (not necessarily a scoreboard) to post each team's running score updated after each routine during every competition.
 - c. Computing scores:
 - Two judges — by averaging the two scores.
 - Four judges — by dropping the highest and lowest scores and averaging the other two judges' scores.
 - Six judges — by dropping the highest and lowest scores and averaging the other four judges' scores.
 - Event scores are computed by totaling the five highest individual scores for each team.
 - All-around scores are computed by totaling an individual competitor's score from all four events.
 - Team scores are computed by totaling all four event scores.
 - d. Squad size is limited to a maximum of six gymnasts per event per team.
 - e. Lineups must be handed in to the scorer's table at least 1½ hours before the start of the competition. Changes may be made before the start of the event by notifying the scorer's table and Chief Judge.
 - f. Substitution(s) may be made after an event begins (i.e., flag raised for team's first competitor on that event) by notifying the Chief Judge at that event. The substitute must replace the teammate in the same lineup position.
 - g. Timing devices and volunteers are provided by the host institution to manage the following event timing requirements:
 - Beam routines and falls on beam and bars must be timed. There will be a 45-second fall time for beam and a 45-second fall time for bars.
 - Floor routines must be timed.
 - Sounding devices may be voice, bell or whistle.
 - Injury timing – refer to page 2, Rules Overview Section 1.7.
 - h. To manage open scoring requirements, the host institution provides start value and score flashing devices and "UTL" cards at each judging table, with a "Delayed Conference" card at each CJ table.
 - i. The vault numbers must be flashed during regular season meets. A mechanism for coaches/athletes to display the vault numbers is provided by the host institution.
 - j. A maximum of **one Video Review form** and six Routine Summary forms may be requested per competition per team. The coach has the option to provide a video to accompany only one (1) Routine Summary request.
 - k. A maximum of two exhibitions per event will be permitted after the official lineup has completed competition on that event. It shall be the responsibility of the host institution to inform visiting team(s) not later than one week before competition whether or not exhibitions will be permitted and, if so, how many.
 - l. The host institution will provide audio connection options for the playing of floor exercise music.
 - m. One athletic trainer per competing institution will be permitted in a designated area in close proximity to the vault landing area in instances where the vault corral is located at the beginning of the vault runway. The athletic trainer is there to

observe and must refrain from engaging in any communication and/or cheering with the student-athlete, coach or other team personnel while in the vault landing area.

8.3. **REGULAR SEASON MEET PROCEDURES.** *The following governs only from the time the athletic training room opens for all teams at the competition venue the day of the competition to the conclusion of that competition.*

All teams must make an effort to ensure the integrity of the competition by respecting the rules below and allowing all aspects of the warm-up and competition to move at a consistent and steady pace.

- a. **Prior to Competition:** Visualization and/or stretching activities are allowed when the athletic training room opens for the event and may occur on the competition area by any gymnast prior to the 20-minute open stretch & warm-up period listed in a.1. Matting surrounding each event (including FX itself & VT runway only) may be used for visualization, provided the equipment itself is not mounted or used for gymnastics-specific or inverted skills. Any event not used by a team during the allowable periods listed in a.1 and a.2 below may be used by any gymnast.

The following periods must start at the same time and be provided for all teams prior to the start of competition:

1. A 20-minute open stretch, in which athletes may stretch on the Floor Exercise mat and matting around the other equipment, as desired. The low bar may be removed during open stretch. Athletes may not mount the Vault table, the Uneven Bars, the Balance Beam, or tumble on the Floor Exercise mat during this time. This period is immediately followed by a 2-minute transition period.
2. A 15-minute event warm-up on each event in each team's competitive order. During the 15-minute event warm-up period, any event not designated as an institution's rotation event (thus is considered "open") may be used by any gymnast. This period is immediately followed by a 2-minute transition period for each of the event warm-up rotations. After the last event rotation, athletes leave the competitive floor to prepare for the march-in ceremony.
3. A 2-minute transition as listed in a.1. and a.2., during which gymnasts are allowed to use matting around the apparatus to stretch, invert and prepare as needed; however, the apparatus must not be mounted or used for gymnastics skills during this time. On floor exercise, jumping, bouncing, running, stretching type of warm-up activity is allowed; however, gymnastics skills are not allowed on the floor exercise apparatus. Gymnasts may use the vault runway to prepare for the warm-up on vault.
4. A minimum of 15 minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes is required between the completion of the event warm-up and the march-in ceremony. After a team has completed their march-in introduction, while waiting for completion of introductions of other teams, athletes may perform warm-up activity on the mats surrounding the equipment of their first event (same activity limits as with waiting for the 2-minute transition in 8.3.b.1.a). At the conclusion of the march-in ceremony, a 2-minute transition will begin when all teams have arrived at their first event area.
5. A 4-minute touch warm-up immediately after the march-in ceremony and 2-minute transition, as specified in a.4 above, and prior to each team's ini-

tial competitive event. During the 4-minute touch warm-up, athletes may NOT warm-up on the equipment at an “open” event (not being used by a competing team).

- b. **During Competition:** The following periods must start at the same time and be provided for all teams during competition:
 1. A 2-minute transition at the conclusion of each remaining competitive event, to begin when the final competitor’s initial score is flashed (to include exhibition competitors) or when teams arrive at the corral for podium style competition. Teams must transition immediately to their next event after the last score is flashed and allowable activity may be performed only at the next competitive event.
 - a. During the waiting period after completing an event competition but before the 2-minute transition, athletes may perform warm-up activity on the matting surrounding the team’s current event area. On Floor Exercise, gymnastics skills are not permitted on the floor exercise apparatus (carpeted area within the boundary lines), but athletes may use any surrounding matting for warm-up while awaiting the 2-minute transition. This activity does not apply to postseason.
 2. During the 2-minute transition, gymnasts are allowed to use matting around their next competitive apparatus to stretch, invert and prepare as needed for the 4-minute touch; however, the apparatus must not be mounted or used for gymnastics skills during this time, yet may be touched to make small chalk marks or to stretch. On floor exercise, jumping, bouncing, running, stretching type of warm-up activity is allowed; however, gymnastics skills are not allowed on the floor exercise apparatus (within the boundary lines). Gymnasts may use the vault runway to prepare for the 4-minute touch warm-up on vault.
 3. A 4-minute touch warm-up immediately after the 2-minute transitions provided in b.1 above and prior to the start of competition on each remaining competitive event. During the 4-minute touch warm-up, athletes may NOT warm-up on the equipment at an “open” event (not being used by a competing team).
 4. The start of time periods designated in a.1, a.2, a.4, a.5, b.1 and b.3 above must be announced by the competition’s PA announcer.
 5. The athlete who is next up to compete (awaiting signal from CJ) may invert or perform a gymnastics element on the mats surrounding the Beam, Uneven Bars, Floor Exercise (not within boundaries), or on the Vault runway prior to the signal. If the gymnast performs an element after the CJ signal, it is a deduction for exceeding warm-up time (0.2). Only the next competitor may run down the Vault runway following her predecessor’s vault before the signal, which would not warrant a deduction for exceeding warm-up time.
- c. **After Competition:** Once competition is completed, the official score sheets are to be signed by the officiating judges and attending head coaches.
 1. While in their judges’ room off the competition floor, judges review the official scores listed on the score sheet, make any corrections, and each judge signs the official copy.
 2. It is the responsibility of the host institution to issue two formal announcements, both over loudspeaker, indicating that score sheets have been signed

by judges and are ready to be signed by head coaches. There will be 5 minutes between the first and second announcement. **The host institution will record the time of these announcements.**

3. From the second formal notice, head coaches have 20 minutes to verify and sign the official score sheet.
 - a. If a discrepancy occurs between the scores on the official score sheet and what the Head Coach has recorded, the Head Coach should notify the Meet Director. The Meet Director will then check the score in question. The official score sheets may need to be corrected and re-certified by the judges before the Head Coach signs the score sheet. This process may take longer than the designated 20 minutes; however, the coach/Meet Director should make every effort to resolve the discrepancy within a reasonable time to allow the competition to be concluded as soon as feasible.
4. If the scoresheet is not signed in the allotted time, the coach will be referred to the Ethics Committee and the scoresheet will be officially verified and e-signed by the host institution's scorer's table personnel. The team has forfeited the right to verify and sign the scoresheet.
5. The names of the officiating judges must be removed from any publicly available material published in relation to NCAA competitions, either institutionally or as individuals associated with the universities, in order to avoid dissemination of their names wherever possible. The judges' names may, however, be included in documents behind the administration wall on the Road to Nationals website.

8.4. DUAL-MEET FORMAT.

Either one or two events should be conducted at a time, at the host institution's preference.

- a. **Two Judges:** When one event is conducted at a time, Olympic order must be followed (vault, bars, beam, and floor). Gymnasts from opposing teams should alternate on each event. The home team should begin vault and beam, and finish with bars and floor. The visiting team should begin bars and floor, and finish with vault and beam. If an institution is competing with fewer than six gymnasts in each event, competitors should alternate from the end of the lineup toward the beginning, interrupting the alternating order near the beginning of the event only to allow the proper team to begin the event.
- b. **Four Judges:** When two events are conducted simultaneously, the home team should begin vault and the visiting team should begin bars, in the first half of the competition. The home team should begin beam and the visiting team should begin floor, in the second half of the competition.
- c. **With any Four-Judge Dual Meet Format competition, the judging panels must be switched after the first two events, in accordance with judges assigning parameters. The table below shows how the judges are switched into new panels for the last two events.**

DUAL-MEET FORMAT

4 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J1&J4	Floor Panel J3&J2
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor		
Rotation 2	Visitor	Home		
Rotation 3			Home	Visitor
Rotation 4			Visitor	Home

8.5. TRIANGULAR-MEET FORMAT.

- a. **Four Judges:** When two events are conducted simultaneously, the teams compete on Vault and Bars in the first half of the competition, and on Beam and Floor Exercise in the second half. Judging panels may be switched after the first half of the competition, according to judges assigning parameters, such as shown in the table below. The panel changes and event assignments are designated by the Regional Assigner.

TRIANGULAR MEET WITH 4 JUDGES

4 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4		Beam Panel J1&J4	Floor Panel J3&J2	
	Vault	Bars	Bye	Beam	Floor	Bye
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2			
Rotation 2	Visitor 2	Home	Visitor 1			
Rotation 3	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Home			
Rotation 4				Home	Visitor 2	Visitor 1
Rotation 5				Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home
Rotation 6				Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 2

- b. **Six Judges:** When three events are conducted simultaneously, judging panels will need to adhere to a specific rotation format in order to maintain the integrity of the judging panels on each event. Vault and Bars will use the same panel of judges. When two teams are on Vault and Bars in the same rotation, the judging panel will judge one team's competition on Vault then the second team's competition on Bars; meanwhile, the third team will complete their rotation on Beam (or on Floor Exercise). See table below.

TRIANGULAR MEET WITH 6 JUDGES

6 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J1&J2	Beam Panel J1&J4	Floor Panel J3&J2
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1-A	Home		Visitor 2	
Rotation 1-B		Visitor 1		
Rotation 2		Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2		Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 4-A	Visitor 1			Home
Rotation 4-B		Visitor 2		

- c. Eight Judges: With three events competing simultaneously, teams would use a similar format as for the Quadrangular Meet Format, with the host institution selecting the open event for the first rotation, and teams continue their rotations following Olympic order. Each panel of judges would take a turn as the open (bye) event. See table below the format with Floor Exercise as the initial open event.

TRIANGULAR MEET WITH 8 JUDGES

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6	Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	
Rotation 2		Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2		Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 4	Visitor 1	Visitor 2		Home

8.6. QUADRANGULAR-MEET FORMAT.

Using eight judges, the four events compete simultaneously, with each team following Olympic order, as shown in the table below. A Walking MR is strongly recommended in this format.

QUADRANGULAR MEET FORMAT

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6	Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3
Rotation 2	Visitor 3	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 4	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Home

8.7 FIVE-TEAM AND SIX-TEAM FORMATS.

- a. **Five-Team Format:** Four events will be run simultaneously, with a bye between two events, selected by the host institution. The format with the bye rotation for the teams is shown in the table below. Eight judges are required, with a Walking MR strongly recommended.

FIVE-TEAM MEET FORMAT

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2		Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6	Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bye	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Visitor 4
Rotation 2	Visitor 4	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3
Rotation 3	Visitor 3	Visitor 4	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 4	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Visitor 4	Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 5	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Visitor 4	Home

- b. **Six-Team Format:** Four events will be run simultaneously, with two Byes separated as indicated in the table below. Eight judges are required, with a Walking MR strongly recommended.

SIX-TEAM MEET FORMAT

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2		Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6		Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bye	Bars	Beam	Bye	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1
Rotation 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3
Rotation 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4
Rotation 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5
Rotation 6	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home

8.8 **PROTOCOL WITH MISSING JUDGE(S).** When a competition does not have enough judges due to travel delays or last-minute emergency, there are options to proceed with the competition. The primary consideration is to maintain the integrity of each event's judging panels (same two judges on each event for the entire competition). The Meet Referee, in consultation with the Meet Director, would determine how to adjust the judging panels to proceed with the competition, which may also change the meet format.

- In all cases with a Walking MR present, and one judge is unable to attend, the Walking MR will become a Sitting MR and assume the vacant position. The competition proceeds as usual.
- Dual Meet Format with 3 judges and no Walking MR:** The dual-meet competition format is adjusted to allow one official, designated by the Meet Referee, to be a "traveling judge" to judge in place of the absent official.
 - After Team #1 completes their 4-minute touch warm-up on Vault, the two judges (one is the traveling judge) judge all vaults for Team #1. In the meantime, Team #2 begins their 4-minute touch warm-up on Uneven Bars at their discretion, keeping in mind the timing of the competition.
 - When Vault is complete for Team #1, the traveling judge will move to Uneven Bars to join the other official, and they judge Team #2 on bars.
 - The traveling judge remains at Uneven Bars while Team #1 rotates to Uneven Bars, holds their 4-minute touch warm-up, and competes. While Team #1 is competing on Uneven Bars, Team #2 begins their 4-minute touch warm-up on Vault at their discretion, keeping in mind the timing of the competition.
 - Once the Uneven Bars competition is complete, the traveling judge will go back to Vault to judge Team #2.
 - This process repeats for Balance Beam and Floor Exercise in the same manner.
- Late judge:** There are options for the MR to consider for adapting for the late judge while maintaining the integrity of each event's panel. For example, if a judge misses the first rotation, the Walking MR would assume the seat of the missing judge and continues to judge the event through the complete

tion of the competition, while the late judge would assume the role of the Walking MR upon arrival. Or, in the case of a dual meet with four judges, the Walking MR would assume the seat of the missing judge until the second half of the meet when the Walking MR and the late judge may resume their original positions once the judges change events.

- d. **Multiple Judges missing, or larger meet formats:** The MR, in consultation with the Meet Director, will determine the best course of action to adjust judging panels and format in order to proceed with the competition.

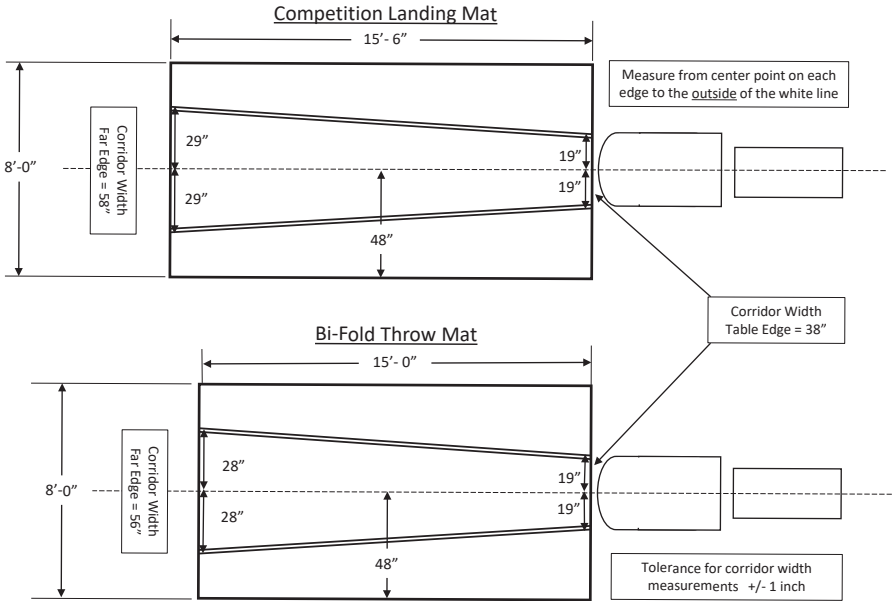
APPENDIX I - VAULT CHARTS

1. NCAA Vault Value Chart

Group 1 – Handsprings			
1.01	Handspring		8.80
1.02	Handspring	1/1 Twist off	9.20
1.03	Handspring	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
1.04	Handspring	2/1 Twist off	10.00
1.05	Handspring	2 ½ Twist off	10.00
1.06	Handspring	3/1 Twist off	10.00
1.07	Handspring	Tuck Salto	9.80
1.08	Handspring	Tuck Salto ½	9.95
1.09	Handspring	Tuck Salto 1/1	10.00
1.10	Handspring	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
1.11	Handspring	Pike Salto	9.90
1.12	Handspring	Pike Salto ½	10.00
1.13	Handspring	Layout Salto	10.00
1.14	Handspring	Layout Salto ½	10.00
1.15	Handspring	Layout Salto 1/1	10.00
1.16	Handspring	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
1.17	Handspring	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
1.18	Handspring	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
1.19	½ on	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
1.20	½ on	2/1 Twist off	9.90
1.21	½ on	2 ½ Twist off	10.00
1.22	1/1 on	Handspring	9.60
1.23	1/1 on	½ Twist off	9.60
1.24	1/1 on	1/1 Twist off	9.80
1.25	1/1 on	1 ½ Twist off	10.00
1.26	1/1 on	2/1 Twist off	10.00
1.27	1/1 on	Tuck Salto	10.00
1.28	1/1 on	Pike Salto	10.00
1.29	1/1 on	Layout Salto	10.00
Group 2 – Tsukaharas (¼ to ½ on)			
2.01	Tsukahara	Repulsion off	8.80
2.02	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto	9.50
2.03	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto ½	9.80
2.04	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1/1	9.90
2.05	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
2.06	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 2/1	10.00
2.07	Tsukahara	Pike Salto	9.60
2.08	Tsukahara	Pike Salto ½	9.90
2.09	Tsukahara	Layout Salto	9.80
2.10	Tsukahara	Layout Salto ½	10.00
2.11	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1/1	10.00
2.12	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
2.13	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
2.14	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2 ½	10.00
2.15	Tsukahara	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
Group 3 – Front Handspring onto Board Entry			
3.01	FHS (to board) Handspring	Handspring	8.80
3.02	FHS (to board) Handspring	Tuck Salto	9.90
3.03	FHS (to board) Handspring	Tuck Salto ½	10.00
3.04	FHS (to board) Handspring	Pike Salto	10.00
3.05	FHS (to board) Handspring	Pike Salto ½	10.00
3.06	FHS (to board) Handspring	1/1 Twist off	9.30
3.07	FHS (to board) Handspring	1 ½ Twist off	9.60
3.08	FHS (to board) Handspring	2/1 Twist off	10.00

3.09	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Repulsion off	8.90
3.10	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto	9.60
3.11	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto ½	9.90
3.12	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1/1	10.00
3.13	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
3.14	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Pike Salto	9.70
3.15	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto	9.90
3.16	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto ½	10.00
3.17	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1/1	10.00
3.18	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
3.19	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
3.20	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2 ½	10.00
3.21	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
Group 4 – Round-Off Entry			
4.01	RO, FF	Repulsion off	8.80
4.02	RO, FF	1/1 Twist off	9.20
4.03	RO, FF	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
4.04	RO, FF	2/1 Twist off	9.90
4.05	RO, FF	Tuck Salto	9.50
4.06	RO, FF	Tuck Salto ½	9.80
4.07	RO, FF	Tuck Salto 1/1	9.90
4.08	RO, FF	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
4.09	RO, FF	Tuck Salto 2/1	10.00
4.10	RO, FF	Pike Salto	9.60
4.11	RO, FF	Pike Salto ½	9.90
4.12	RO, FF	Layout Salto	9.75
4.13	RO, FF	Layout Salto ½	9.95
4.14	RO, FF	Layout Salto 1/1	9.95
4.15	RO, FF	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
4.16	RO, FF	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
4.17	RO, FF	Layout Salto 2 ½	10.00
4.18	RO, FF	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
4.19	RO, FF ½	Repulsion off	8.80
4.20	RO, FF ½	1/1 Twist off	9.30
4.21	RO, FF ½	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
4.22	RO, FF ½	2/1 Twist off	10.00
4.23	RO, FF ½	Tuck Salto	9.95
4.24	RO, FF ½	Tuck Salto ½	10.00
4.25	RO, FF ½	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
4.26	RO, FF ½	Pike Salto	10.00
4.27	RO, FF ½	Pike Salto ½	10.00
4.28	RO, FF ½	Layout Salto	10.00
4.29	RO, FF ½	Layout Salto ½	10.00
4.30	RO, FF 1/1 on	Repulsion off	8.80
4.31	RO, FF 1/1 on	1/1 Twist off	9.70
4.32	RO, FF 1/1 on	1 ½ Twist off	9.90
4.33	RO, FF 1/1 on	2/1 Twist off	9.90
4.34	RO, FF 1/1 on	Tuck Salto	9.95
4.35	RO, FF 1/1 on	Tuck Salto ½	10.00
4.36	RO, FF 1/1 on	Pike Salto	10.00
4.37	RO, FF 1/1 on	Layout Salto	10.00
4.38	RO, FF 1 ½ on	1/1 Twist off	10.00

2. Vault Mat Lines Diagram



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APPENDIX II

Code of Ethics for Coaches

- A. It is the responsibility of each coach to ensure that all competition is conducted according to USA Gymnastics Women's Developmental Program Code of Points (Level 10 Rules) as of November 1, and NCAA Women's Gymnastics Collegiate Rules Modifications. Coaches are required to act in a sportsmanlike, positive, polite, respectful and disciplined manner, with complete integrity. It is their responsibility to see that their teams handle themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. All NCAA policies regarding sporting conduct shall be enforced.
1. Judges may be greeted by a representative of the host institution before the start of competition. In addition, coaches are permitted to formally acknowledge and greet judges in a cordial manner prior to the start of the competition.
 2. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of discussing an inquiry after it has been filed and decision rendered are permissible.
 3. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of checking and changing a lineup are permissible.
 4. Coaches shall avoid even the appearance of soliciting partisanship from the judges. Discussions (other than those involving meet administration) with judges should include the opposing coach(es).
 5. It is the responsibility of each coach to see that every meet is conducted with full regard for the safety of and most fair competition for all gymnasts.
 6. Areas should be designated for the teams and coaches separate from the spectators. Coaches and gymnasts shall remain within their designated areas, except when adjusting equipment or spotting. The competition floor shall be clear of all extraneous personnel.
 7. No coach or competitor shall participate in a judges' conference or be within hearing distance of such conferences.
 8. Each coach should assist actively in promoting positive relations among all participants, who are striving to achieve athletics excellence.
 9. Coaches shall ensure that competitors exhibit dignity in manner and dress when representing their institution.
 10. In addition to attending all required media news conferences and interviews, all coaches are expected to cooperate with all reasonable media requests in the best interest of the sport.
 11. Coaches are expected to sign the official scoresheet within the designated time allotted at the end of each competition (reference Section 8.3.c.4).
- B. Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Yellow Card) Process
1. Definition of Unsportsmanlike Behaviors
 - a. Examples of behavior that would NOT be a Yellow Card infraction:
 1. A facial expression of dissatisfaction or disapproval.
 2. Crossing arms or placing hands on hips.
 3. Shaking head or walking away.

- b. Examples of behavior which judges might consider for issuing a Yellow Card:
 - 1. Addresses an official in a disrespectful manner.
 - 2. Attempts to influence an official's decision by words, expressions, gestures, body language, or similar behaviors.
 - 3. Objects to an official's decision by excessive or disrespectful words, expressions, gestures, body language, or similar behaviors.
 - 4. Uses a loud voice and hostile gestures when talking to a Meet Referee, when submitting an inquiry, or when submitting routine summaries.
 - 5. Incites undesirable crowd reactions.
 - 6. Uses profanity or language that is abusive, vulgar, obscene; makes derogatory remarks about officials, athletes, or spectators.
 - 7. Makes comments relating to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
 - 8. Flaunting the issuance of a yellow card would incur a second yellow card and a 0.1 deduction from team score.
 - 9. Other behaviors considered to reflect poor sportsmanship.
- 2. Ethics Committee Procedure for Coach Offenses
 - a. The Meet Referee notes the issuance of a Yellow Card (1st or 2nd) on the official score sheet at the end of the meet and submits a written report Yellow Card Incident Report (contained in the Supplemental Procedures and Forms document) describing the behavior that resulted in the Yellow Card. This report is filed with the National Assigner and with the Chair of the WCGA Ethics Committee.
 - b. The Ethics Committee performs the following tasks:
 - 1. Initial Review: When a coach is reported for an infraction, the Ethics Committee will contact the coach to review the incident and obtain his/her perspective.
 - 2. Documentation: A file will be created for each coach who receives an offense. This file will include a record of the offense, the coach's response, and the findings of the Ethics Committee once both sides have been heard.
 - 3. Pattern of Behavior: If a coach is found guilty of three (3) Yellow Card offenses within a single season, this will be considered a pattern of behavior.
 - 4. Notification to Director of Athletics: In such cases, the Ethics Committee will send a formal letter to the coach's Director of Athletics, expressing concern regarding this recurring conduct.

APPENDIX III

Standards/Duties of Judges

A. It is imperative to the dignity, integrity and growth of women's gymnastics that judges be well educated in the details of gymnastics and the current rules, thoroughly prepared for each assignment and able to cover all possible circumstances. Toward that end, the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee has adopted the following **standards and required duties** for judges. **All meets should be regarded as part of the national qualifying system for teams and individual competitors.** Judges should strive for consistency in scoring at all collegiate meets, regardless of division, location or type of meet (i.e., dual, triangular or quadrangular). The USA Gymnastics Women's Developmental Program Code of Points (Level 10 Rules), as of November 1 each year, and the NCAA Women's Collegiate Rules Modifications are the only rules that are to be followed for all collegiate competition. **Violations of these codes and duties may subject a judge to discipline.**

1. **Qualifications** It is the duty of all judges to prepare themselves thoroughly and constantly update their preparation by being appropriately recertified. **Judges must follow all NCAA, applicable USA Gymnastics, and applicable NAWGJ Rules.** Judges should not accept any collegiate assignment for which they are not well qualified. NCAA regional and national championships require a **National** or higher rating. In addition, judges assigned to the regional and national championships competitions **cannot** accept such assignment unless they have judged a minimum of four regular-season collegiate meets during that year.
2. **Affiliation**
 - a. **Any judge who is ineligible, as set forth in the NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy (Appendix IV), cannot serve as a judge within the NCAA or NAIA program.**
 - b. **Any judge who is affiliated with an institution and its conference cannot judge a competition in which any of these teams involved are competing. A judge who is affiliated only with the institution cannot judge a competition in which the institution's team is competing.**
 - c. Those judges who have an affiliation with an NCAA institution that sponsors women's gymnastics will not be assigned to the National Championships; however, a judge may be assigned to a regional competition where he or she is not affiliated.
 - d. **See Appendix IV for the NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy that defines the affiliation of a judge.**
3. **Appearance** Judges are required to wear the official NAWGJ uniform, which includes the NAWGJ suit or dress (patches on other suits or dresses are not acceptable), with a white top and professional looking footwear. Clean sneakers are permitted; however, slippers, flip flops, or other informal footwear are not allowed. In cases of extreme weather or if a medical or accessibility-related accommodation is needed, judges should contact the Rules Interpreter in advance to request approval for any such accommodations.

4. **Timing** Judges must enter the competition site in uniform at least 45 minutes before the start of the competition. However, judges are prohibited from entering the competition floor until the floor is cleared after warm-ups.
5. **Social Media and Public Content** In addition to adherence to the NAWGJ Social Media Policy, collegiate judges must adhere to the following rules (which take precedence over the NAWGJ Policy, when different):
 - a. At any time during or after the season, judges shall not post, share, or comment on any competition-related content on social media or public platforms, or do any interviews. This includes, but is not limited to, posts or interviews about teams, routines, scoring, assignments, other judges, travel, or meet logistics.
 - b. Judges may not post photos or videos of images captured at, or are related to, collegiate competitions that were taken during the competitive season, whether during or after the season. This includes photos of judges, the arena, or images taken on the competition floor.
 - c. Any online or public content that may give the appearance of favoritism, affiliation, or impropriety is strictly prohibited. Judges must maintain the highest level of professionalism and neutrality at all times, including in their personal online presence.
6. **Duties and responsibilities** Judges shall be greeted by a representative of the host institution before the start of competition. In addition, coaches are permitted to formally acknowledge and greet judges in a cordial manner before the start of the competition. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of changing a lineup or discussing an inquiry, after initiated by the judge, remain permissible. Discussions about any meet related subject with a walking Meet Referee are also acceptable.
 - a. Judges assigned to a meet must prioritize the competition over all other activities from their arrival in the host city until the conclusion of the competition. In the event of emergencies or delays, including those beyond the judge's control, the judge must promptly notify the Assigner, Meet Referee, and Emergency Contact for the competition and follow any instructions provided to minimize disruption to the competition.
 - b. Discussions with student-athletes, parents, alumni and/or recruits, should not occur at the competition site. Judges must not initiate or engage in personal conversations, including texting, with any athlete, coach, or team-affiliated individuals at any time during the season, outside of procedural or professional necessity (such as for travel).
 - c. Judges should avoid any appearance of favoritism with any coaches or competitors.
 - d. Judges must disclose any affiliation including financial, personal, or professional in the Judges Assignment System. See the NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy for the definition of affiliations.
 - e. Judges must not falsify, misrepresent, or omit any material information in connection with meet scoring, evaluations, availability, credentials, or communications with Assigners, coaches or meet staff, or NCAA representatives.
 - f. Judges must maintain a professional tone and demeanor at all times, including in all verbal, written, and electronic communications related

to meets, assignments, and interactions with coaches, assignors, meet personnel, and fellow judges.

- g. Judges must keep all discussions and materials related to judges' meetings, scoring, inquiries, and other decisions confidential. Disclosure of internal judging processes or private meet matters is prohibited unless required by the applicable rules.
- h. Each judging panel is required to review and discuss a minimum of two routines together on-site prior to the start of the competition. These routines must be watched collaboratively at the meet site (reviews conducted individually at home or in advance of arrival do not meet this requirement). The purpose of this review is to calibrate expectations, reinforce consistency, and ensure alignment among panel members immediately prior to judging.
- i. Event standards must be strictly enforced in all meets (e.g., timing of falls and routines, boundary deductions) and be noted on the official score sheet, if applicable.
- j. Each judge is responsible for maintaining focus and independence and shall not discuss scoring with other judges during the meet, unless there is an inquiry or a conference.
- k. Judges are prohibited from using or carrying mobile phones or other electronic communication devices in the field of play once the competition begins. Phones must be silenced and stored out of sight during judging. The use of earbuds, headphones, or any audio devices is not permitted at any time on the competition floor. However, foam or non-electronic earplugs are allowed for sound sensitivity or hearing protection, provided they do not interfere with the judge's responsibilities or communication with meet personnel. If a medical or accessibility-related or emergency type accommodation is needed, judges should contact the Rules Interpreter in advance to request approval for any such accommodations.
- l. Individual judges' scores, start values, and UTL (if applicable) must be simultaneously flashed. Judges must verify that their flashed values are correct and must not rely solely on meet personnel for accuracy. The NCAA allowable range of scores is to be followed for all collegiate competitions. Judges will be responsible for indicating when they take the UTL deduction on bars, beam, and floor. An ORANGE card, 4" by 6" with "UTL" in large letters, will be displayed when the start value and score are flashed. In addition to the scores, judges must record and/or enter start values and UTL (if applicable) on meet electronic input devices and/or score cards, as applicable.
- m. Inquiries should be handled by the Meet Referee and/or the Chief Judge. In the event that a coach identifies an unsatisfactory inquiry, a Video Review (one per team) may be submitted following the conclusion of the meet (see Section 7.2 for Video Review Process). Panel judges must be willing to compromise when there is a conference, inquiry and/or Video Review.
- n. Judges must process all inquiries before the start of the next event.
- o. All judges must check the score sheet at the end of the competition and verify by signatures the accuracy of the scores. This must be done carefully and with full attention, as once signed, the score sheet may not be changed unless it comes back for review prior to the coach's signatures.

- p. Judges are encouraged to report any infractions to the National Assigner.

B. Meet Referee Duties and Responsibilities

The Meet Referee has an important roles as an adjudicator of disputes and in the oversight of officials oversight during the different phases of a regular season competition. An overview of the primary duties of the Meet Referee for preparation and execution of a regular season competition are contained in this Section. Specific tasking details are provided through the annual Meet Referee training and in the Supplemental Procedures and Forms document checklists. Meet Referees for Conference, Regional and National Championships can find additional specific postseason duties in the applicable Meet Referee Manual.

1. Prior to Competition

- a. Meet with Meet Director, Scorer, Announcer – collect information of logistics of meet flow and scoring processes, answer any questions.
- b. Introduce self to Head Coaches, ask for any special requests or questions.
- c. Inspect field of play – check overall equipment safety, rectify any issue with Meet Director; check judges areas for required flashing and timing devices; check auxiliary equipment (vault number display); check general layout for any obstacles (television crew and equipment, audience areas).
- d. Meet/instruct auxiliary volunteers (timers, flashers, scoring personnel), if possible.
- e. Verify presence of all judges – if any judges are missing/late, work with Meet Director to decide on any adjustments to panels/meet format.
- f. Conduct Judges' Meeting 45 min before competition start – review the Meet Referee checklists, including logistics, arena layout, reminders, review administration processes; monitor onsite video review process.

2. During Competition

- a. Monitor procedures – open scoring, conferences, and transitions.
- b. Make notifications to Head Coaches of any score changes after flashing; apply changes of scores at scorer's table if required (clerical errors, inquiry changes, TND).
- c. Script as many routines as feasible – goal of at least 50%.
- d. May attend a conference called by a panel and may offer counsel if requested, but may not call a conference.
- e. Manage application process for Team Neutral Deductions – receive info from panel or judge; make any change to score at scorer's table; notify all Head Coaches of score changes; notify all panels of Yellow Card, uniform or jewelry warnings.
- f. Manage Routine Inquiry process – may provide counsel to Head Coach considering an inquiry prior to submission; may view video replay of routine in question; verify completeness and collect inquiry form and video device; call the inquiry conference with panel, may offer counsel to panel; may break a tie in a decision; return inquiry form to coach; make any changes to the score at the scorer's table.
- g. Manage Video Review process – receive the Video Review Form and video from the Head Coach; deliver the Video Review form to the judging panel; as a member of this video review panel, be involved in making the decision to raise, lower, or keep the score the same; return Video Review form to Meet Director with any score change.

- h. Note time of end of competition (last score flashed and/or last inquiry processed) – for official timing for submittal of last inquiry form and submittal of a Video Review form.
 - i. Manage Yellow Card warnings/deductions – notify Head Coach of any infractions; collect notes about situations.
- 3. After Competition
 - a. Manage Score Sheet signature process – make any score changes noted by judges to scorer's table and notify Head Coaches of changes; monitor signature process for coaches; dismiss judges once process is complete.
 - b. Manage Routine Summaries process – distribute forms and any video devices to judges; return completed forms to Head Coach; may give any verbal feedback to Head Coach.
 - c. Submit follow-up reports – Yellow Card Incident Report, Score Sheet Incident Report, and notes of unusual circumstances/infractions to National Assigner; complete judges evaluations in JAS system.

APPENDIX IV

NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy

The Affiliation Policy adopted by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee defines the affiliation status of a women's gymnastics judge with respect to institutions and conferences, and applies to both regular and post season competitions. The affiliation year time frame governed by this Policy begins at the official end of the previous competition season and runs to the official end of the current competition season. This policy will be applied when assigning judges to NCAA/NAIA competitions.

The term "judge" as used in this Policy includes Meet Referees. The term "institution" as used in this Policy refers to any college or university.

1. **You are affiliated with an institution and their conference if:**
 - a. You were formerly a part of an NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program in any capacity within the last five years.
 - b. You are a former coach, or an immediate family member of a former coach of an NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program within the last five years.
 - c. You are a paid athletics-related booster club member of an NCAA or NAIA institution.
2. **You are affiliated with an institution only, and not their conference, if:**
 - a. You receive any financial remuneration from an institution, such as an employee, vendor or independent contractor for work or business other than judging an institution's women's gymnastics competitions, **including post season and during the summer.**
 - b. You coach or work for a club gymnastics program that is under the auspices of an institution's gymnastics program.
 - c. You were a club coach or gym owner of an athlete who is a current member of an NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program. Your affiliation remains in effect for five years from the last time you coached that athlete.
3. **You are NOT affiliated if:**
 - a. You attended or graduated from an institution unless you were a member of the women's gymnastics program within the last five years.
 - b. You are an **unpaid** Graduate Assistant who is NOT associated with the athletic department.
 - c. Your son or daughter is a student of an institution, but is not a part of the women's gymnastics program.
4. **You are ineligible to judge if you are:**
 - a. Currently a part of any NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program in a paid or unpaid capacity (i.e., athlete, coach, volunteer coach, manager, trainer, choreographer etc.)
 - b. An individual with a daughter who is a current gymnast on the roster of an NCAA or NAIA program. Once your daughter has completed her eligibility you will be affiliated with her alma mater and their conference for five years (**unless**

another affiliation applies – i.e., she becomes a volunteer coach upon the end of her eligibility).

- c. Currently a S.C.O.R.E. Board member or the Supervisor of Officials.
- d. ****POST SEASON ONLY**** A significant other or immediate family member of anyone that is currently a part of any NCAA women's gymnastics program, including in any paid or unpaid capacity.



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