

Athlete Programs, Rules and Figures Combined 2009 Pre-Convention Report

Proposed new wording is underlined and bolded; deletions are indicated with a strikethrough.

New FINA legislation is italicized and bolded.

To help access the items during Convention, the report begins with a list of the proposals and a brief description of each. The actual proposals follow the list. Each proposal includes an overview of the intent, followed by the formal Rules language needed to accomplish the proposal and then the rationale for the proposal. In some cases, tables of relevant data follow the rationale. Each item related to a given proposal has the same number as the proposal; if there are multiple items per proposal, a letter designation is also added. There are 61 proposals!

It is extremely important that everyone reads and studies these proposals carefully before Convention! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Myrna Hagedorn (Athlete Programs Committee Chair, hagedorn@mywdo.com), Ginny Chadwick (Rules Committee Chair, GinnyChadwick@hotmail.com) or Cheryl Cooke (Figure Committee Chair, synchrocc@aol.com).

List of Proposals

Proposals 1-29 are USSS APC/Rules Proposals

1. Novice Program: Defined Routine Times: A one min. 30 sec. time is proposed for all Novice events.
2. Novice Program: Technical Elements:
3. Age Group Program: Change the 13-15 Age Groups and Eliminate the 11-12 Age Group at USAG
4. AG 12-under: Competitions should be held using Figures and Free Routines:
5. AG 12-under: Technical Routine Times: Change the 12-under AG Duet, Trio and Team Tech times.
6. USAG Championship: New Over-qualifications
7. US Nationals: Senior Zone competitors shall qualify for US Nationals by the Free Routine score only.
8. US Nationals: Add the Combination event:
9. US Nationals: Restrictions to Qualification of Routines and Competitors from Zone Championships:
10. US Juniors: Eliminate the trio event:
11. US Juniors: Increase the importance of Figures:
12. US Juniors: Add the Combination event.
13. US Juniors: Eligibility and Qualifying Scores Option 1: Qualification to US Juniors via USAG.
14. US Juniors: Eligibility and Qualifying Scores Option 2. 25th place in previous season.
15. National Championship Qualifying Scores: Place qualifying scores in a new Appendix T.
16. US Senior/Junior Open: Eliminate entire championship after 2010 commitment:
17. US Senior Open: Eliminate the U.S. Senior Open after the 2010 commitment
18. US Junior Open: Allow up to 3 routines per club for Solo, Duet and Trio events.
19. US Junior Open: Qualifying scores: Set the US Jr. Open Q scores to 2 pts below US Juniors.
20. US Junior Open: Qualifying scores: Set the US Jr. Open Q scores at 25th place in previous season.
21. US Junior Open: Reduce minimum age for the Combination Event to 13 .
22. USAG and other US Championships: Require manual routine draws:
23. High School Program: Drop from Rulebook.
24. Entry Procedures: Designate the numbers of allowed routines including as an alternate.
25. East Zone: Region changes: Shift the Adirondack in the East Zone from Region A to Region B.
26. Timing of the start of a routine: Alignment with FINA.
27. Scoring: Team Bonus vs. Deduction: Alignment with FINA.
28. Routine Competitions: Align with FINA for judging deckwork.
29. Methods of Grading Figures: Align with FINA.

Proposals 30-54 are new or amended legislation enacted by FINA (Page 16).

30. FINA Rulebook Style: For consistency in Rulebook language, use "competitor".
31. FINA SS 2: Free Combination to just Combination
32. FINA SS 9.1, 12.1, 16.1, 19.1, 19.3, 19.4, 19.3New, 19.1New: Change the recommended number of judges.
33. FINA SS 9.2.1: All figures shall commence at a signal from the *referee or* assistant referee.
34. FINA SS 10.2: In case of illness or other unforeseen circumstances...Figures [scoring].
35. FINA SS 11.2: If the competitor does not attempt to perform the figure again, figure will be zero.
36. FINA SS 13.5: In routines, jewelry is not allowed.
37. FINA SS 14.1.4: ~~Free~~ Combination: ~~5~~ 4 minutes ~~0~~ 30 seconds.
38. FINA SS 14.1.7 NEW: Timing shall commence
39. FINA SS 15.3: If second attempt to play music fails..... will have a one (1) point penalty.
40. FINA SS 16.4: Scoring: In case of illness or other unforeseen circumstances....Routines.
41. FINA SS 17.2.3: Three scores each for TM and AI.
42. FINA SS 17.3.3 NEW: Individual score for each required element....

43. FINA SS 18.2: Routine penalties shall be deducted from the Routine Score if:
44. FINA SS 18.2.4: A 1 point penalty for *each* violation of Combination Rule II.D.2.b (Page 13).
45. FINA SS 18.2.8: A 1 point penalty for executing stacks, towers or human pyramids.
46. FINA SS 18.3.1: A two point penalty for element omitted by all.
47. FINA SS 18.3.2: A one point penalty for part of an element omitted by all.
48. FINA SS 18.3.3: A half-point penalty for each omission/addition up to 2 points.
49. FINA SS 18.3.4: A half-point penalty for violation of specific Duet and Team elements.
50. FINA SS 11: Align with FINA in entirety on Figure Penalties
51. FINA SS 18: Align with FINA in entirety on Routine Penalties.
52. FINA SS 20.1: Final figure result shall include those that actually swam the Free Routine.
53. FINA SS 20.2, 20.2.1, 20.2.2, 20.2.3, 20.1.1, 20.1.3, 20.1.4, 20.1.5, 20.2, 20.3 Scoring: Eliminate repeating decimals etc.
54. FINA SS AG 6: Combination: The time limits for different age groups

Proposals 55-61 relate to Figures.

55. Figures: Senior: Delete from Rulebook and post on Web.
56. Figures: Delete all figures not listed by FINA.
57. Figures: Delete only Dolphin figures not listed by FINA
58. Figures: New Rotation Chart for all figure groups
59. Figures: New Novice Figures
60. Figures: Intermediate: Drop Intermediate A level figures and have Intermediate Figures = FINA 12 & Un AG Figures
61. Figures: Intermediate: New Int 12 & under Figures and Int 13 & Over Figures
62. Figures: Adopt all FINA figures and groupings; add Novice figures; create four figure levels A-D.
Attachment: Appendix L with Amendments on P. xx

Proposals 63-65 relate to the Collegiate Program.

63. Collegiates: Amendment of the score ranges for each category.
64. Collegiates: Figures for Technical groupings.
65. US Nationals: Qualification from US Collegiate Nationals by Free Routine Score only.

Proposals 1-29: APC/Rules Proposals

Proposal 1. Novice Program: Defined Routine Times: A 1 min. 30 sec. time is proposed for all Novice events.

- Item 1. Rule II.D.2.d (Page 13) New (1)(e), (2)(e) and (3)(e)
- d. Time Requirements for routines shall be as follows: Minutes
- (1) Solos:
- (a)-(d) Remain the same.
- (e) Novice 1:30**
- (2) Duets/Trios:
- (a)-(d) Remain the same.
- (e) Novice 1:30**
- (3) Teams:
- (a)-(d) Remain the same.

Rationale: New and grassroots programs would be helped by having standardized Novice times in the Rulebook. There would also be consistency between Associations in Novice competition.

Proposal 2. Novice Program: Technical Elements: Define and add Novice routine elements to Appendix L. Suggested elements: Somersault Front Pike or Jumpover, Boost (no arms) followed immediately by Eggbeater, Split Position, Tub and Somersault Back Tuck of at least 180degree rotation which finishes in Eggbeater.

- Item 2a. Rule II.D.1.e.(1) (Page 13) Amend as follows:
- e. Novice:
- (1) Competitions shall consist of Figures and/or **Technical** ~~prescribed~~ **Routines as selected by the LSSC.**
- Item 2b. Appendix L: Insert new Page 3. [Attached at end]

Rationale: New and grassroots programs would be helped by having standardized elements in the Rulebook which are compatible with advancement to the Intermediate level. There would also be consistency between associations in Novice competition.

Proposal 3. Age Group Program: Ages within Groups: Change the 13-15 Age Groups and Eliminate the 11-12 Age Group at USAG: The Association and Regional Intermediate and Age Group Championships may be held once a year in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team in five age divisions: 10 and under, 11-12, 13-14, 15, 16-17 and 18-19. The U.S. Age Group Championships may be held once a year in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team in four age divisions: 13-14, 15, 16-17 and 18-19.

- Item 3a. Rule II .C.4.e.(1) and f(1) (Page 10) Amend as follows:
4. Age Group:
- a-d. Remain the same.
- e. U.S. Age Group Championship:
- (1) May be held once a year in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team in four age divisions: ~~11-12~~, 13-**14**, 15, 16-17 and 18-19.
- (2)-(4) Remain the same.
- f. Regional Championships:
- (1) May be held once a year in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team in any of the five age divisions: 10 and under, 11-12, 13-**14**, 15, 16-17 and 18-19.
- (2)-(3) Remain the same.
- Item 3b. Rule II.C.5.c.(1) and d(1) (Page 11) Amend as follows:
5. Intermediate:
- a-b. Remain the same.
- c. Regional Championships:
- (1) May be held in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team in five age divisions: 10 and under, 11-12, 13-**14**, 15, 16-17 and 18 and over.
- d. Association Championships:

- (1) May be held in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team in five age divisions: 10 and under, 11-12, 13-~~14~~, 15, 16-17 and 18 and over.
- Item 3c. Rule II.D.2.d.(1)-(3) (Page 13) Amend as follows:
- | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| d. | Time requirements for routines shall be as follows: | <u>Minutes</u> |
| (1) | Solos: | |
| (a) | Remains the same. | |
| (b) | Free 13- 14 , 15 Age Group | 2:30 |
| (c)-(d) | Remains the same. | |
| (2) | Duets/Trios: | |
| (a) | Remains the same. | |
| (b) | Free 13- 14 , 15 Age Group | 3:00 |
| (c)-(d) | Remain the same. | |
| (3) | Teams: | |
| (a) | Remains the same. | |
| (b) | Free 13- 14 , 15 Age Group | 3:30 |
| (c)-(d) | Remain the same. | |

Rationale: The 13-15 age group is the only three-year age group and it comes at a time when the developmental differences in competitors are huge. We lose so many swimmers at these ages, and having such a difficult competition group does not help. It was designed to follow FINA, but FINA does not have 19-year-old age group swimmers, and they have 16-18 as one group, not two, so making changes in this age group would be no different. One advantage this would have for the 15-year-old is that they can have 13-14s moved up to swim with them, OR, they can swim up to 16-18 for Junior competition. It would not prohibit us having a 13-15 National team – it could still be selected from the same groups. Eliminating the 11-12 age group from U.S. Age Groups would shorten the championships as we have been trying to do. Instead, an 11-12 AG championship should be provided at the Zone level.

Proposal 4. AG 12-under: Competitions should be held using Figures and Free Routines: Eliminate technical elements for 12-u AG routines; all Age Group routines would be Free routines.

- Item 4a. Rule II.D.1.c.(1) (Page 12) Amend as follows:
- c. Age Group:
- (1) Competitions shall consist of Figures and Free Routines ~~for the 13-19 age divisions; and Figures and Free Routines with Required Technical Elements for the 12 and under age divisions.~~
- Item 4b. Appendix L (attached): Delete 12-under Age Group Technical Elements

Rationale: To make it easier to advance young competitors and to align with FINA. Note that if Items 4a and 4b pass, Item 5 probably should not pass. The time requirements currently listed for the 12 & under AG are the FINA Free Routine times for the 12 & under AG.

Proposal 5. AG 12-under: Technical Routine Times: Change the 12-under AG Duet, Trio and Team Technical Routine times to match Intermediate and Senior Technical Routine times (Solos currently match).

- Item 5. Rule II.D.2.d.(2)-(3) (Page 13) Amend as follows:
- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| d. | Time requirements for routines shall be as follows: | <u>Minutes</u> |
| (1) | Remains the same. | |
| (2) | Duets/Trios: | |
| (a)-(b) | Remain the same. | |
| (c) | 12 & under Age Group Free Routines
With Required Elements | 2:30
2:20 |
| (d) | Remains the same. | |
| (3) | Teams: | |
| (a)-(b) | Remain the same. | |
| (c) | 12 & under Age Group Free Routines
With Required Elements | 3:00
2:50 |
| (d) | Remains the same. | |

Rationale: The change will provide for consistency in preparing music and timing at meets; also for ease of advancing Intermediates into 12-under AG Technical routines. The proposed times will match other technical routine times. However, if 12 & under AG routines are changed to Free Routines (Proposal 4), it might be best to leave the times as they are since current times are the FINA 12 & under AG Free Routine times.

Proposal 6. USAG Championship: New Overqualifications: Competitors who are 16 or 17 years old who place in the top 3 in one or more final events at USAG should be ineligible for USAG in those events until they advance to the next age group.

- Item 6. Rule II.B.4 (Page 9) New (3).
- c. In a given routine event, the following competitors shall be ineligible for Age Group participation based on final results of the Championships listed below:
- (1)-(2) Remain the same.
- (3) For the next U.S. Age Group Championships:**
- (a) Competitors who were 16 or 17 years old at the most recent U.S. Age Group Championships and who placed in the top 3 in Solo, Duet, Trio or Team at that Championship, are ineligible in those events.**

Rationale: Age Group competitors need their chance to shine. Historically, at least the top 3 have US Junior and US Jr. Open qualifying scores and these athletes can attend Junior championships.

Proposal 7. US Nationals: Sr. Zone competitors shall qualify for US Nationals by Free Routine score only.

- Item 7. Rule II.C.2.b (Page 5) Amend as follows:
- b. Qualifications for entry in the U.S. National Championship:
- (1) For Solo and/or Duet events, those competitors who have placed:
- (a)-(e) Remain the same.
- (f) In the top 3 **based on the Final Free Routine score** in any of the most recent Senior Zone Championships (excluding Collegiate competitors). If a competitor.....qualifications.
- (g)-(h) Remain the same.
- (2) For the Team event, those competitors who have placed:
- (a)-(d) Remain the same.
- (e) In the top 2 **based on the Final Free Routine score** in any of the most recent Senior Zone Championships (excluding Collegiate competitors).
- (f)-(g) Remain the same.

Rationale: It is important that all competitors qualify from Zones to US Nationals by the same mechanism. Not all Senior Zone Championships include Technical Routines. We want our best routines going to U.S. Nationals without the influence of figures which are not done at U.S. Nationals. If qualification was by placement using only the Free Routine score, each Zone could continue to choose figures or technical routines for their championships based on what is best for their area.

Proposal 8. US Nationals: Add the Combination event:

- Item 8: Rule II.D.1.a.(2) (Page 11) Amend as follows:
- a. Senior:
- (1) For the U.S. National Championship, competition shall consist of Technical routines and Free routines for Solos, Duets and Teams. **There shall be a Free Combination event conducted as a 100% routine event.**
- (a) The Free Combination event will consist of Preliminary and Final competitions. The top 12 Free Combination routines from the Preliminary competition shall qualify for participation in the Final competition. The 100% routine score shall be used to advance to the Final Free Combination competition.**

- (b) **The draw for the Final Free Combination competition shall be done in 2 even groups based upon the results of the Preliminary Free Combination competition. If there is an uneven number of routines, the larger group will be the higher scoring group. A double blind lot public draw will be done for each group with the highest scoring group competing last. If a routine drew number one for Preliminary Free Combination competition, they shall be exempt from draw number one for the Final Free Combination competition.**

Rationale: To build skill in the Combination event and improve placement in International events.

Proposal 9. US Nationals: Restrictions to Qualification of Routines and Competitors from Zone Championships:

One current rule (Rule II.C.2.d, Page 7) allows each Zone or Association to set its own rules for conduct of their Championships. Using this rule, some Zones have chosen to allow 13 and 14 year old competitors to combine with 15-up competitors for entry of Senior Zone routines. However, under another rule (Rule II.C.2.a), Senior championships are not open to competitors under 15 years of age. This proposal seeks to clarify eligibility of competitors to Zone and National championships: (1) Each Zone may allow 13-14 year olds combine with 15-up competitors for participation in Honorary Zone routines, (2) Competitors in Honorary routines should not be eligible for U.S. Nationals and (3) Competitors in Honorary routines may use Zone scores to qualify for other championships per Rule II.C. Eligibility.

Item 9a: Rule II.C.2.b.(f) (Page 5) Amend as follows:

- (f) In the top 3 in any of the most recent Senior Zone Championships (excluding Collegiate competitors **and competitors in Honorary routines**). If a competitor who placed 1-3 elects not to compete in the US National Championship, then the next competitor(s) 4-6 in rank order (excluding Collegiate competitors **and competitors in Honorary routines**) shall be allowed to fill the open spot(s). See Rule II.C.2.b.(3) for duplicate qualifications.

Item 9b: Rule II.C.2.d (Page 7) Amend as follows:

- (d) Qualifications for entry in Zone and Association Championships: Each Zone or Association shall set its own rules for conduct of their Championships. **Exception: Competitors who are 13-14 years of age may be combined with competitors who are 15 and over in order to enter Honorary Junior and Senior routines in Zone and Association Championships. Honorary competitors in a given event in a Senior Zone Championships shall not be eligible for the U.S. National Championship.**

Rationale: Small clubs definitely benefit from being able to have 13 and 14 years old competitors added into Zone routines, especially for the Team event. However, these competitors do not have the proper age for the Senior competition and therefore the routines do not have true Senior and US National eligibility. The scores that competitors in Honorary routines receive have the same validity as other Zone routines.

Proposal 10. US Juniors: Eliminate the trio event:

Item 10a: Rule II.D.1.b(1) (Page 12) Amend as follows:

b. Junior:

- (1) For the U.S. Junior Championships, competition shall consist of Figure and Free Routines for Solos, Duets, ~~Trios~~ and Teams.

Item 10b: Rule II.A.2.a.(1) (Page 3) New (a)

2. Junior Class:

a. National:

- (1) The Championship shall be conducted under USSS Rules.

(a) For event exception, see II.D.1.b.(1).

Rationale: FINA does not include Trios and our Juniors would do better to spend their time on Figures rather than Trios.

Proposal 11. US Juniors: Increase the importance of Figures: For the calculation of the final results, increase the importance of figures to 60% figures and reduce the importance of routines to 40% Free Routine.

Item 11a: Rule IV.D.1.b.(5)(b) Amend as follows:
(b) Two event results shall be calculated as follows **except for the U.S. Junior Championships where figures shall be 60% and Free routines shall be 40%:**

Item 11b: Rule II.A.2.a.(1) (Page 3) New (a)
2. Junior Class:
b. National:
(1) The Championship shall be conducted under USSS Rules.
(a) For exception to the calculation of the final results, see IV.D.1.b.(5)(b).

Rationale: To better prepare Juniors for International levels and the needs of our national teams.

Proposal 12. US Juniors: Add the Combination event.

Item 12a: Rule II.D.1.b (Page 12) Amend as follows and add new (a)-(c):
b. Junior:
(1) For the U.S. Junior Championships, competition shall consist of Figure and Free Routines for Solos, Duets, Trios, ~~and~~ Teams **and the Combination event.**
(a) There shall be a Free Combination event conducted as a 100% routine event.
(b) The Free Combination event will consist of Preliminary and Final competitions. The top 12 Free Combination routines from the Preliminary competition shall qualify for participation in the Final competition. The 100% routine score shall be used to advance to the Final Free Combination competition.
(c) The draw for the Final Free Combination competition shall be done in 2 even groups based upon the results of the Preliminary Free Combination competition. If there is an uneven number of routines, the larger group will be the higher scoring group. A double blind lot public draw will be done for each group with the highest scoring group competing last. If a routine drew number one for Preliminary Free Combination competition, they shall be exempt from draw number one for the Final Free Combination competition.

Item 12b: Rule II.A.2.a.(1) (Page 3) New (a)
2. Junior Class:
c. National:
(1) The Championship shall be conducted under USSS Rules.
(a) For event exception(s), see II.D.1.b.(1).

Rationale: FINA does include the Combination event in Junior championships and our Juniors need more opportunities to compete in this event.

Proposals 13 and 14 are different options for determining eligibility to the US Junior Championship.

Proposal 13. US Juniors: Eligibility and Qualifying Scores Option 1: Placement at USAG or 8th place score in 16-17 Finals at previous USAG. Qualification to US Juniors should be based on USAG results: (1) The top 8 USAG Finalists at the most recent USAG Championships should be automatically eligible for the US Junior Championships and (2) The 8th place scores at the most recent USAG Championships should become the qualifying scores for the next US Junior Championship.

- Item 13a: Rule II.C.3.b.(1) (Page 7) New (f)
 (1) For Semifinal events:
 (a)-(e). Remain the same.
(f) A finalist at the most recent USAG Championships.

- Item 13b. Rule II.C.3.b.(1)(b) (Page 7) Amend as follows:
 b. Qualifications for entry in the U.S. Junior Championship:
 (1) For Semifinal events:
 (a) Remains the same.
 (b) The minimum standard scores for U.S. Junior Championship semifinal events shall be: **determined from the 8th place scores in 16-17 AG Finals at the most recent USAG Championships.**

~~Solo:~~ 82.0
~~Duet:~~ 81.0
~~Trio:~~ 79.0
~~Team:~~ 78.0

Rationale: Our USAG finalists are the top AG competitors and they need to be advancing to Junior competition. From 2004-2008, 89% of finalists qualified and the remainder were only fractions away from having qualifying scores. In 2009, there seemed to be a change in judging patterns and few competitors qualified for US Juniors. Automatic placement of our top AG competitors should help to advance AG competitors to the Junior level, independent of judging trends. Given that not all who were qualified for US Juniors were able to attend, the 8th place USAG score would be a better indicator of eligibility rather than the previous season's US Junior scores. The table below shows the scores from the 2009 USAG Championships and the resulting US Junior qualifying scores based on 8th place in Finals.

2009 USAG FINALS					
Placement	16-17 Solo	16-17 Duet	16-17 Trio	16-17 Team	
1	80.500	80.166	78.666	81.633	
2	80.000	79.000	78.500	81.416	
3	77.834	79.000	78.334	80.584	
4	77.834	77.666	76.834	78.834	
5	77.000	77.666	76.334	78.334	
6	76.500	75.166	75.334	77.834	
7	76.166	76.000	75.166	76.834	
8	76.000	75.834	74.666	76.500	
10 (Semifinals)	76.167	74.833	74.667	73.667	
12 (Semifinals)	75.167	74.667	73.833	71.917	
14 (Semifinals)	75.000	74.333	73.333	70.000	

2010 U.S. Junior Qualifying Scores (based on 8th place in 16-17 AG Finals at USAG):
 Solo: ~~82.0~~ **76.0**
 Duet: ~~81.0~~ **75.0**
 Trio: ~~79.0~~ **74.0**
 Team: ~~78.0~~ **76.0**

Proposal 14. US Juniors: Eligibility and Qualifying Scores Option 2: Qualifying Score based on 25th place at previous USJr Nat.

Item 14. Rule II.C.3.b.(1)(b) (Page 7) Amend as follows:

b. Qualifications for entry in the U.S. Junior Championship:

(1) For Semifinal events:

(a) Remains the same.

(b) The minimum standard scores for U.S. Junior Championship Semifinal events shall be: **the 25th place in each event at the previous U.S. Junior Championship.**

~~Solo:~~ 82.0

~~Duet:~~ 81.0

~~Trio:~~ 79.0

~~Team:~~ 78.0

Rationale: In the past, scores for a given US Junior Championship have been based on the 25th place at the previous season's US Junior Championships. See the table below for history of 09 US Junior Championship Semifinal Scores. The 2010 US Junior Championship qualifying scores based on the 25th place from the 2009 US Junior Championship are also listed below.

Place	US Junior National Semifinal Scores					Proposed for 2010
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
18th Solo	82.667	82.833	80.500	82.000	78.500 (last place)	78.0
20th Solo	82.667	82.833	80.500	80.000		
25th Solo	81.833	81.500	79.667			
20th Duet	82.500	81.833	78.168	79.834	78.833	
25th Duet	81.167	81.167		78.666	77.500 (last place)	77.0
13th trio	81.833	79.500	79.500	79.667	76.833 (last place)	76.0
20th Trio	80.333	78.167	76.834	77.834		
25th Trio	78.833	77.500				
20th Team	81.167	81.000	78.500	79.750	76.667 (last place)	76.0
25th Team	80.000	79.167		76.916		

2010 U.S Junior Qualifying Scores (based on 25th place at 2009 U.S. Juniors)

Solo: ~~82.0~~ **78.0**

Duet: ~~81.0~~ **77.0**

Trio: ~~79.0~~ **76.0**

Team: ~~78.0~~ **76.0**

Proposal 15. National Championship Qualifying Scores: Place qualifying scores in a new Appendix T.

Item 15a. Rule II.C.2.c.(2)(c) (Page 7) Amend as follows:

(c) The qualifying scores shall be **as listed in Appendix T:**

~~Solo:~~ 79.0

~~Duet:~~ 78.0

Item 15b. Rule II.C.3.b.(1)(b) (Pps 7-8) Amend as follows:

(b) The minimum standard scores for U.S. Junior Championship Semifinal events shall be **as listed in Appendix T:**

~~Solo:~~ 82.0

~~Duet:~~ 81.0

~~Trio:~~ 79.0

~~Team:~~ 78.0

Item 15c. Rule II.C.3.c.(3)(a).iii (Page 8) Amend as follows:

iii. The qualifying scores shall be **as listed in Appendix T:**

~~Solo:~~ 77.0

~~Duet:~~ 76.0

~~Trio:~~ 75.0

Item 15d. Appendix T format to be determined if passed.

Rationale: We established Q-Scores, and placed them in the RULES where they are difficult to change. THEN we began an aggressive judge education program which resulted in scores (appropriately) declining. Move them to an Appendix where they can be adjusted as needed with a 60% vote in non-legislative years.

Proposal 16: US Senior/Junior Open: Eliminate entire championship after 2010 commitment:

- Item 16a: Rule II.A.1.b (Page 3) Delete in entirety and renumber.
b. ~~Open:~~
(1) ~~The Championship shall be conducted under FINA Rules.~~
(a) ~~For timing exception, see Rule II.D.2.d.~~
(b) ~~For awards exception, see Rule II.G.1.b.(3).~~
(c) ~~For event exception, see Rule II.C.2.c.(2)(a)i.~~
- Item 16b: Rule II.A.2.b (Page 3) Delete in entirety and renumber.
b. ~~Open:~~
(1) ~~The Championship shall be conducted under FINA Rules.~~
(a) ~~For timing exception, see Rule II.C.3c.(1).~~
(b) ~~For awards exception, see Rule II.D2.d.~~
(c) ~~For event exception, see Rule II.G.1.b.(5).~~
- Item 16c: Rule II.C.2.c (Page 6-7) Delete in entirety and renumber.
e. ~~Qualifications for entry in the U.S. Senior Open Championship:~~
(1) ~~Members of the U.S. National Teams are eligible in all events in the current year.~~
(2) ~~For Preliminary events:~~
(a) ~~Teams may enter the U.S. Senior Open Championship without regard to qualifications.~~
i. ~~A Team may consist of registered athletes from 2 or more U.S. clubs. The name of a multiple club entry must not reflect a particular club. In addition to the standard entry forms required for the competition, the coach of a multiple club entry must submit a Release Form(s) for each athlete in the event to the USSS National Office, the Meet Manager and the Scoring Chair. The Release Form(s) must be signed by the club coach of each athlete.~~
(b) ~~Each Solo and Duet entry must have recorded the minimum standard score established for that event. For the 50% rule, see Rule II.C.1.c.~~
(c) ~~The qualifying scores shall be:~~
Solo: ~~79.0~~
Duet: ~~78.0~~
(d) ~~The Championships acceptable for recording minimum standard scores shall be determined and approved annually by the Board of Directors. Those presently qualifying as acceptable competitions are:~~
U.S. National Championships.
U.S. Senior Open Championships.
U.S. Junior Championships.
U.S. Junior Open Championships.
U.S. Collegiate Championships.
Senior Zone Championships.
Junior Zone Championships.
U.S. Age Group Championships.
Regional Age Group Championships.
(e) ~~Minimum standard scores must have been recorded at an acceptable Championship within the 2 calendar years preceding the Championship for which it is qualifying. A score obtained by an athlete who has been designated as a pre swimmer as set forth in Rule II.F.1.e&g, shall be included if the score has been obtained in one of the most recent acceptable Championships. See Rule II.C.2.c.(2)(d). The pre-swimmer shall be listed on the official results for that Championship.~~
(3) ~~Additional Preliminary entries:~~

- (a) ~~Places 1-8 in each event in each of the most recent Senior Zone Championships, if not otherwise qualified.~~
- (b) ~~One entry from the Association hosting the U.S. Senior Open Championship in each event for which that Association has no otherwise qualified competitors.~~
- (4) ~~Foreign Competitors: See Rule III.~~
- Item 16d: Rule II.C.3.c. (Page 8) Delete in entirety and renumber.
- e. U.S. Junior Open Championship:
- (1) ~~May be held once a year in Figures, Solo, Duet, Trio and Team.~~
- (2) ~~Championships shall be open to all qualified registered athletes 15 to 18 years of age based on the year of birth.~~
- (3) ~~Qualifications for entry in the U.S. Junior Open Championship:~~
- (a) ~~For Preliminary events:~~
- i. ~~Teams may enter the U.S. Junior Open Championship without regard to qualifications.~~
- ii. ~~Each club may enter two Solos, two Duets and two Trios. Each Solo, Duet or Trio entry must have recorded the minimum standard score established for that event. For the 50% rule, see Rule II.C.1.c.~~
- iii. ~~The qualifying scores shall be:~~
- ~~Solo: 77.0~~
- ~~Duet: 76.0~~
- ~~Trio: 75.0~~
- iv. ~~The Championships acceptable for recording minimum standard scores shall be determined and approved annually by the Board of Directors. Those presently qualifying as acceptable competitions are:~~
- ~~U.S. National Championships.~~
- ~~U.S. Senior Open Championships.~~
- ~~U.S. Junior Championships.~~
- ~~U.S. Junior Open Championships.~~
- ~~U.S. Age Group and Regional Championships.~~
- ~~Senior Zone Championships.~~
- ~~Junior Zone Championships.~~
- v. ~~Minimum standard scores must have been recorded at an acceptable Championship within the 2 calendar years preceding the Championship for which it is qualifying. A score obtained by an athlete who has been designated as a pre-swimmer as set forth in Rule II.F.1.e&g, shall be included if the score has been obtained in one of the most recent acceptable Championships. See II.C.3.c.(3)(a)iv. The pre-swimmer shall be listed on the official results for that Championship.~~
- vi. ~~One entry in each event shall be awarded to the Association hosting the U.S. Junior Open Championship if that Association is not otherwise represented in the Championship. This shall be the highest placed Solo, Duet, Trio and Team from that Association in the most recent Senior Zone Championship.~~
- (b) ~~Foreign Competitors: See Rule III.~~
- Item 16e: Rule II.D.1.b.(2) (Page 12) Delete in entirety and renumber.
- (2) ~~For the U.S. Junior Open Championship, competition shall consist of Figures and Free routines for Solos, Duets, Trios, Teams and Free Combination.~~
- (a) ~~There shall be a Free Combination event conducted as a 100% routine event at the U.S. Senior/Junior Open Championships and athletes from the Senior and Junior Open may be combined for this event.~~
- (b) ~~The Free Combination event will consist of Preliminary and Final competitions. The top 12 Free Combination routines from the Preliminary competition shall~~

~~qualify for participation in the Final competition. The 100% routine score shall be used to advance to the Final Free Combination competition.~~

- ~~(c) The draw for the Final Free Combination competition shall be done in 2 even groups based upon the results of the Preliminary Free Combination competition. If there is an uneven number of routines, the larger group will be the higher scoring group. A double blind lot public draw will be done for each group with the highest scoring group competing last. If a routine drew number one for Preliminary Free Combination competition, they shall be exempt from draw number one for the Final Free Combination competition.~~
- ~~i. A Free Combination may consist of registered athletes from 2 or more U.S. clubs. The name of a multiple club entry must not reflect a particular club. In addition to the standard entry forms required for the competition, the coach of a multiple club entry must submit a Release Form(s) for each athlete in the event to the USSS National Office, the Meet Manager and the Scoring Chair. The Release Form(s) must be signed by the club coach of each athlete.~~
- ~~(d) U.S. clubs, Foreign clubs and National Teams may enter more than one Free Combination in the U.S. Senior/Junior Open Championships.~~

- Item 16f: Rule II.F.2.b (Page 19) Delete in entirety and renumber.
- ~~b. For U.S. Senior Open Championships, the Solo, Duet and Team routine events shall consist of Preliminary Technical and Preliminary Free routine competition. All Solos, Duets and Teams shall participate in both the Preliminary Technical and Preliminary Free routine competition. The 12 highest scoring entries (combined Technical and Free routine scores) from the Preliminary events shall qualify for the Final Free routine competition. For Final Results Calculation, see Rule IV.D.1.b.(5)(b).~~
- Item 16g: Rule II.F.4 (Page 19) Delete in entirety and renumber.
- 4. Additional Event Progression for U.S. Junior Open Championships:**
- ~~a. All competitors shall perform figures. The figure scores shall be added to all routine scores to determine the competitors who advance to the next level.~~
 - ~~b. The routine events shall consist of Preliminary and Final routine competition.~~
 - ~~c. The order of events shall be determined by the Vice President Competitive Operations and the Meet Manager.~~

Rationale: Attendance, cost and difficulties in getting host bids do not warrant continuation of this Championship. The economy may continue to preclude attendance of many clubs at the Open.

Proposal 17. US Senior Open: Eliminate the U.S. Senior Open after the 2010 commitment (unless host were to agree to change):

- Item 17a: Rule II.A.1.b (Page 3) Delete in entirety and renumber. (Same as Item 16a)
- Item 17b: Rule II.C.2.c (Page 6) Delete in entirety and renumber. (Same as Item 16c)
- Item 17c: Rule II.F.2.b (Page 19) Delete in entirety and renumber. (Same as Item 16f)

Rationale: Attendance at the Senior Open is too low for a high level championship. Those who might attend don't feel that it is worth it to attend with so little competition over the past few years. The Open needs to be revamped to serve the Junior population. Suggestions have been made to increase the allowed number of routines per event per club (see Proposal 19), reduce the age minimum for the Combination event to 13 (see Proposal 20), add 13-15 AG events and/or include an elite Junior clinic to encourage participation. Specifics for the latter 2 suggestions have not been submitted but could be considered by the BOG and/or BOD.

Proposal 18: US Junior Open: Allow up to 3 routines per club for Solo, Duet and Trio events.

- Item 19: Rule II.C.3.c.(3)(a).ii (Page 8) Amend as follows:
 - ii. Each club may enter ~~two~~ **three** Solos, ~~two~~ **three** Duets and ~~two~~ **three** Trios. Each...Rule II.C.1.c.

Rationale: If the Junior Open is going to survive, we need to encourage participation by increasing the entry limit.

Proposals 19 and 20 are two options for determining the qualifying scores for the US Junior Open.

Proposal 19. US Junior Open: New qualifying scores: Set the US Jr. Open qualifying scores 2 points below the US Junior Championship qualifying scores (currently US Jr Open scores are 4-5 pts lower than US Jr scores):

- Item 19. Rule II.C.3.c.(3).(a).iii (Page 8) Amend as follows:
- (a) Qualifications for entry in the U.S. Junior Open Championship:
 - i-ii. Remain the same.
 - iii. The qualifying scores shall be 2 pts below the US Junior Championship qualifying scores.

Rationale: There have been too few entries in recent U.S. Junior Open Championships to provide a solid basis for establishing future qualifying scores. This proposal bases the Jr. Open qualifying scores on the U.S. Junior qualifying scores.

<u>Last Place 09 Jr Open Prelims</u>	<u>Proposal 12 USJr Q-Scores less 2pts</u>	<u>Proposal 13 USJr Q-Scores less 2pts</u>
Solo: 71.833 (22 nd)	74.0	76.0
Duet: 71.500 (18 th)	73.0	75.0
Trio: 71.833 (14 th)	72.0	74.0

Proposal 20. US Junior Open: New qualifying scores: Set the US Jr. Open qualifying scores 25th place at the previous US Junior Open.

- Item 20. Rule II.C.3.c.(3).(a).iii (Page 8) Amend as follows:
- (a) Qualifications for entry in the U.S. Junior Open Championship:
 - i-ii. Remain the same.
 - iii. The qualifying scores shall be 2 pts below the US Junior Championship qualifying scores.

Rationale: Pro: This is the historic method (25th place in the previous season's Jr Open). Con: There have been too few entries in recent U.S. Junior Open Championships to provide a solid basis for establishing future qualifying scores. The scores below would allow a major portion of competitors from USAG to enter the Jr Open. The Open could essentially become a repeat of USAG.

<u>Last Place 09 Jr Open Prelims</u>	<u>Proposal 20 USJr Qualifying Scores Opt</u>
Solo: 71.833 (22 nd)	71.0
Duet: 71.500 (18 th)	71.0
Trio: 71.833 (14 th)	71.0

Proposal 21. US Junior Open: Reduce minimum age for the Combination Event to 13.

- Item 21. Rule II.D.1.b.(2) (Page 12) Insert new (b) and renumber:
- (2) For the U.S. Junior Open Championship, competition shall consist of Figures and Free Routines for Solos, Duets, Trios, Teams and Free Combination.
 - (a) Remains the same.
 - (b) Competitors who are 13 and 14 years of age may participate in the Combination event.**

Rationale: Small clubs might benefit from being able to add 13 and 14 year olds to the competitors available to participate in the Combination event.

Proposal 22. USAG and other US Championships: Require manual routine draws:

- Item 22. Rule II.F.6 (Page 20) Amend as follows:
- F. **EVENT PROGRESSION: Preliminary, Semifinal, Final Events**
 - 6. **Order of Appearance:**

- b. The order of appearance shall be decided by a double blind lot draw announced and held in a public place. ~~In competitions where a computer will be used, the order of appearance may be computer generated.~~

Rationale: The scoring program that is used is not as random as people think. At USAG or at any high level meet, a double blind draw for routines should be done at the time that a club registers (Figures can still be done by computer ahead of time). If you don't register in a timely manner then the number will be drawn for you.

Proposal 23. High School Program: Drop from Rulebook and post on website.

Item 23: Rule V.B. (Pp. 36-37) Delete in entirety and renumber.

~~B. JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL~~

~~The following rules and procedures are designed for the conduct of all high school synchronized swimming competitions. Competition shall be governed by the current USSS Code and/or Rules, except as herein described. These rules may be adapted to the individual program of each institution's League/Conference.~~

~~1. Eligibility:~~

- a. ~~Competitors must be currently enrolled and in compliance with their respective institution's eligibility requirements.~~
- b. ~~Competitors are to comply with the athletic code of conduct as adopted by their respective institution.~~
- c. ~~Must be USSS registered members.~~

~~2. Figure Competition:~~

~~a. Compulsory Figures:~~

- (1) ~~Pre Novice Compulsory Figures shall include 4 figures of 1.4 degree of difficulty or less.~~
- (2) ~~Novice, Junior and Senior Compulsory Figures may consist of the USSS Age Group Figures as listed in Figure Rule II.~~

~~b. Optional Figures:~~

- (1) ~~Must be chosen from different categories.~~
- (2) ~~The degree of difficulty shall be for:~~
 - (a) ~~Novice: 1.8 or less.~~
 - (b) ~~Junior: 2.0 or less.~~
 - (c) ~~Senior: 2.1 or higher with no more than one 3.5 figure.~~
- (3) ~~A Compulsory Figure shall not be repeated.~~
- (4) ~~A Compulsory Figure with a different letter designation shall not be selected (e.g. 311e Kip Spinning 360).~~
- (5) ~~The Optional Figure with the highest degree of difficulty shall be listed as the first optional.~~
- (6) ~~Shall not change within 1 hour of the start of the Figure competition.~~

~~3. Routine Competition:~~

~~a. The competition shall consist of Solo, Duet, Trio and Team events.~~

~~b. Types of Routine Competition:~~

- (1) ~~Open Competition: All competitors compete on the same level, in either routines or figures, but not both.~~
- (2) ~~Championships:~~
 - (a) ~~Competition shall be Novice, Junior and Senior with all competitors classed in the category in which they swim figures.~~
 - (b) ~~The routine shall be classified in accordance with the highest figure category of any competitor on that Team.~~

~~c. For each Conference, Dual and/or Triangular competition, each institution is permitted to enter:~~

- (1) ~~A maximum of 6 routines to receive placement points.~~
- (2) ~~No more than 2 routines in each event.~~

- (3) ~~Additional routines as Exhibition.~~
- d. ~~For Championships, each institution may enter a total of 6 routines in each division with unlimited Teams.~~
- e. ~~A competitor who places in a Novice or Junior routine event must move up to the next class in routine competition in the succeeding year, at the discretion of the League/Conference.~~
- f. ~~Number of Events: Each competitor may compete in no more than 3 different routine events in each competition.~~
- g. ~~Bonus Points: In the case of Team competition, whether Preliminary, Semifinal or Final events, one quarter point shall be added to the Total Score for each additional competitor over 4 on a Team.~~
- h. ~~Alternates: One alternate may be listed for Duet and Trio and 2 alternates for a Team. If the alternate swims, the event shall be counted as one of the three permitted for that competitor.~~
- i. ~~In Novice and Junior Duet, Trio and Team events, a competitor may move to a level above, but not below, the level entered.~~
- j. ~~Time restrictions for routines shall comply with USSS Rules, except that there shall be no minimum.~~
- 4. ~~Methods of Scoring:~~
 - a. ~~Figure Competition: Scores shall be computed according to USSS Rules.~~
 - (1) ~~Institution Averaging:~~
 - (a) ~~Each competitor shall swim figures.~~
 - (b) ~~The average of the institution's figure scores shall determine which place the institution receives in each figure category for Overall Institution Awards.~~
 - b. ~~Routine Competition:~~
 - (1) ~~Routines shall be computed according to USSS Rules except there shall be no multiplication.~~
 - (2) ~~Figure scores shall not be added to routine scores.~~

5. ~~Scoring System for Interscholastic Competition:~~

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12											
Event:											
Team	18	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
5											
Trio 16	14	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
Duet	15	13	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
2											
Solo	14	12	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
1											
"A" Fig.	10	9	8	7	6.5	6	5.5	5	4.5	4	3.5
3											
"B" Fig.	8	7	6	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5
1											
"A" Fig. = Junior and Senior											
"B" Fig. = Pre Novice and Novice											

Rationale: High schools have developed their own programs and it would be cost effective for USSS to eliminate relatively unused information from our Rulebook.

Proposal 24. Entry Procedures: Designate the number of routines in which a competitor may be entered including as an alternate.

- Item 24: Rule II.C.1.b. (Page 5) Amend as follows:
 - a. Remains the same.

- b. Number of Events: Each competitor may compete in no more than 3 different routine events in each competition. **A competitor who is entered in 3 different routines may not be entered as an alternate in additional routines.** In U.S. Senior Open.....3 events).
- c-e. Remain the same.

Rationale: We need to clarify whether a competitor may enter three routines and be an alternate in additional routine(s).

Proposal 25. East Zone: Region changes: Shift the Adirondack association in the East Zone from Region A to Region B.

Item 25. Rule II.A.3.b.(1) (Page 4) Amend as follows:

- (1) Age Group Regions:
 - East Zone:
 - Region A ~~Adirondack~~, Connecticut, New England.
 - Region B **Adirondack**, Maryland, Metropolitan, Middle Atlantic, New Jersey.
 - Region C Remains the same.
 - North Zone: Remains the same.
 - South Zone: Remains the same.
 - West Zone: Remains the same.

Rationale: This will help to equalize regions in the East Zone. The proposal has the support of the entire Zone.

Proposal 26. Timing of the start of a routine: Alignment with FINA.

Item 26. Rule II.D.2.d.(6) (Page 14) Amend as follows:

- (6) Timing of the routine shall begin and end with the accompaniment. Timing of deck movement shall end as the last competitor ~~enters the water~~ **leaves the deck.**

Rationale: This timing matches FINA rule SS 14.2.

Proposal 27. Scoring: Team Bonus vs. Deduction: Alignment with FINA.

Item 27a. Rule II.E.2. (Page 16) Amend as follows:

- 2. **Bonus Points:** In the case of Team competition, whether preliminary, semifinal or final events, ¼ point shall be ~~added to~~ **deducted from** the Total Score for each ~~additional competitor over 4~~ **member less than 8** on a Team.

Item 27b. Rule IV.D.1.(3).(c).iii. (Page 33) Amend as follows:

- iii. **Bonus Points:** In the case of Team competition, whether Preliminary, Semifinal or Final events, one quarter point shall be ~~added to~~ **deducted from** the Total Score for each ~~additional competitor over 4~~ **member less than 8** on a Team.

Item 27c. Rule IV.D.1.(4).(c).iii. (Page 34) Amend as follows:

- iii. **Bonus Points:** In the case of Team competition, whether Preliminary, Semifinal or Final events, one quarter point shall be ~~added to~~ **deducted from** the Total Score for ~~each additional competitor over 4~~ **member less than 8** on a Team.

Rationale: Most of the team routines consist of 8 swimmers. It would be easier to have the default for scoring to be 8 swimmers on a team and then have a deduction if there are less than 8 swimmers. This is what is done with FINA. A perfect score for solo, duet and trio is already 100 points. This rule would mean the scoring would be consistent for all events. (Under the current rule, a perfect score for an 8 person team would be 101 points.)

Proposal 28. Routine Competitions: Align with FINA for judging deckwork.

Item 28. Rule IV.B.6.b.(2) (Page 27) Amend as follows

- (2) ~~Judging of the routine begins with entry into the water. If a routine starts in the water, judging begins with the accompaniment.~~ **The accompaniment and judging shall**

begin upon a signal by the referee or appointed official. After the signal, the competitor(s) must perform the routine without interruption.

Rationale: For consistency in judges' training and to align with FINA.

Proposal 29. Methods of Grading Figures: Align with FINA.

Item 29a. Rule IV.B.6.a.(5)(a) (Page 26) Delete i-ii and replace with new i-iv:

(a) Design: 5 points

The portion of the figure score.....specified in the figure descriptions.

Specific factors include:

- ~~i. Precise definition of positions, particularly the vertical and horizontal alignments.~~
- ~~ii. Compactness, as required, as in tuck or back pike positions.~~

i. Accuracy of the lines, angles, arches and circles.

ii. Accuracy of alignment of body parts.

iii. Correctness of pikes and tucks.

iv. Accuracy of transitional movements.

Item 29b. Rule IV.B.6.a.(5)(b) Delete i-vi and replace with new i-vii:

(b) Control: 5 points.

The portion of the figure score.....specified in the figure description).

Specific factors include:

- ~~i. Degree of stability~~
- ~~ii. Strong support for weight held above the water to reach and/or sustain maximum height.~~
- ~~iii. Full body extension.~~
- ~~iv. Maintaining constant water lines where desirable.~~
- ~~v. A smooth, precise and constant tempo of transitions between positions, unless otherwise specified.~~
- ~~vi. Appearance of total confidence and seemingly effortless performance with minimal movement.~~

i. Extension - of total body throughout the figure, unless otherwise specified.

ii. Sustained maximum height - of body parts in relation to the water surface, unless otherwise specified in the figure description.

iii. Uniform motion - constant speed of action throughout the figure, unless otherwise specified in the figure description.

iv. Stationary - 'on-the-spot', with no travelling, except for movement specified in a figure description.

v. Stability - solid, with equilibrium maintained and unaffected by change of position.

vi. Clarity - clear definition between positions and directions, continuous course of action in the transitions.

Proposals 30-54 are based on the FINA rule changes for the 2009-2013 quad. The table below shows the correspondence between the new FINA legislation and the USSS rules proposals in this document.

Passed FINA Legislation SS#	USSS Item #	Comments
Rulebook style change	30	Rec. use of word "competitors"
2	31	Free -Combination
4.4	NA	Change in location, not wording
6.2	NA	"Combination" added to section heading in FINA rules
6.3.1	NA	FINA entry procedures
9.1	32	Prefer 6 or 7 judges per panel
9.2.1	33	All figures start at Referee signal
10.2	34	Judge illness re scoring of figures
11.2	35, 50	Failed figure, additional language
13.2.1	NA	See II.E.7 (Page 16) Changes and/or Scratches
13.2.2	NA	See IV.C.6.(4) (Page 30) Disqualification
13.3	NA	US Nat and US Sr. Open follow FINA rules (Pg 3)
12.1	32d-e	Rule IV.D.1.b.(2)(b)-(c) (Page 32) plus Items 35d-e
12.2	NA	Rule IV.D.1.b.(2)(e) (Pg.32) Figure penalty calc.
12.3.2	NA	Rule IV.D.1.b.(3)-(5) (Pp. 33-34) re 4 decimal pl
12.3.3	NA	Rule IV.D.1.b.(3)-(5) (Pp. 33-34) re 4 decimal pl
13.2 New	NA	Change in location of FINA rule, not wording
13.2	NA	Rule II.E.7.b (Pg. 17) Combo Rules
13.3.1	NA	Public drawings & Orders of Draw
13.3.2	NA	Refers to Federations
13.5	36	Swimwear restrictions
14.1.4	37	Combination time limit change
14.1.7	38	Routines starting in water: time
15.3	39	Failure of music 2 nd time: 1 pt penalty
16.1	32c	Two panels of 6 or 7 judges for routines
16.4	40	Judge illness re scoring of routines
17.2.3	41	3 scores each for TM and AI
17.3	NA	Percent arrays subject to TSSC
17.3.3 New	42	3 scores each for Execution
17.3.4	42	3 scores each for OI
18.2	43	Penalties deducted from routine score
18.2.4	44	1 pt penalty for each violation of Combo rules
18.2.5 New	NA	Rule IV.C.6.b.(2)(d) Pg 31 Deliberate use of bottom
18.2.8	45, 51	New FINA routine penalties
18.3.1	46, 51	New FINA routine penalties
18.3.2	47, 51	New FINA routine penalties
18.3.3	48, 51	New FINA routine penalties
18.3.4	49, 51	New FINA routine penalties
19.1	32	Number of Judges: 6-7 per panel; scoring methods
19.2	52	Eliminating repeating decimals etc.
19.2 New	NA	Rule IV.C.6.b.(1)(e) & Rule IV.C.6.b.(2)(e)Pg.30-31
19.3	32	Number of Judges: 6-7 per panel; scoring methods
19.4	32	Number of Judges: 6-7 per panel; scoring methods
19.3 New	NA	Rule IV.D.1.b.(4)(a)iv. Pg. 32
19.1 New	32	Number of Judges: 6-7 per panel; scoring methods
20.1	52	Sum figures for those that actually swam routine

20.2	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc.
20.2.1	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.2.2	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.2.3	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.1.1	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.1.2	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.1.3	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.1.4	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.1.5	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.2	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
20.3	53	Eliminating repeating decimals etc
21.2.5	NA	Rule II.E.7.b Pg. 17 Changes/scratches for Combo
24.1.9	NA	Rule IV.C.5.a Pg.29Video records above and below
AG 6	54	Combo times for different age groups

Proposal 30. FINA Rulebook Style: For consistency in Rulebook language, use “competitor”.

Item 29. Change usage of “swimmers”, “participants”, “athletes” and some uses of “members” to “competitor”. (Housekeeping throughout the Rulebook if approved).

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 31. FINA Rulebook Style SS 2: Change usage of “Free Combination” to “Combination”.

Item 31. Change usage of “Free Combination” to “Combination”. (Housekeeping throughout the Rulebook if approved.)

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 32. Scoring: FINA SS 9.1, 12.1, 16.1, 19.1, 19.3, 19.4, 19.3 NEW, 19.1 NEW (all USA proposals): Change the number of judges recommended for panels from five or seven to six or seven to reduce rounding errors; adjust method of scoring appropriately.

Item 32a. Rule IV.B.5.a.(3) (Page 25) Amend as follows:

(3) Panels shall consist of a minimum of ~~5~~ **6** judges, where possible, but not to exceed 9 judges.

Item 32b. Rule IV.B.5.b.(2) (Page 25) Amend as follows:

(2) **Six or** Seven judges are used for Solo, Duet, Trio and Team events in National Championships. It is recommended that Zones, Regions and Associations use **6 or** 7 judges also.

Item 32c. Rule IV.B.5.b.(4) (Page 26) Amend as follows:

(4) If two panels are used, then one panel of ~~five~~ **six** judges will judge Technical Merit and one panel of ~~five~~ **six** judges will judge Artistic Impression

Item 32d. Rule IV.D.1. b. (2).(b) (Page 32) Amend as follows:

(b) If 9 judges are used, cancel the two highest and two lowest scores. If 7, ~~6~~, 5, or 4 judges are used, cancel only the one highest and one lowest score. If 3 judges are used, there shall be no cancellation.

Item 32e. Rule IV.D.1. b. (2).(c) (Page 32) – insert new iii, and then renumber.

iii. 6 judges: Add the 4 remaining scores. Then divide the sum by 4 and multiply the result by the degree of difficulty. The result shall be rounded to 4 decimal places using the Rounding Rule. See Rule IV.D.1.b.(1).

Item 32f. Rule IV.D.1.b.(3).(a).ii (Pages 33) Amend as follows:

ii. If 7, ~~6~~, 5 or 4 judges are used, cancel the 1 highest and 1 lowest score. Add the remaining scores. Multiply the result by 5 and divide by the total number of judges less 2.

Item 32g. Rule IV.D.1.b.(3).(b).ii (Page 33) Amend as follows:

ii. If 7, ~~6~~, 5 or 4 judges are used, cancel the 1 highest and 1 lowest score. Add the remaining scores. Multiply the result by 5 and divide by the total number of judges less 2.

- Item 32h. Rule IV.D.1.b.(4).(a).ii (Page 33) Amend as follows:
 ii. If 7, **6**, 5 or 4 judges are used, cancel the 1 highest and 1 lowest score. Add the remaining scores. Multiply the result by 5 and divide by the total number of judges less 2.
- Item 32i. Rule IV.D.1.b.(4).(b).ii (Page 34) Amend as follows:
 ii. If 7, **6**, 5 or 4 judges are used, cancel the 1 highest and 1 lowest score. Add the remaining scores. Multiply the result by 5 and divide by the total number of judges less 2.

Rationale: Having 5 judges on panels means constantly dealing with the repeating decimals that result when dividing by 3. The rounding involved could give incorrect results. Using 6 judges eliminates the repeating decimals. (FINA is considering using 6 or 7 judges for the same reason.)

Proposal 33. FINA SS 9.2.1: All figures shall commence at a signal from the *referee* or assistant referee.

- Item 33. Rule II.D.3.c. (Page 15) Insert new (2) and renumber.
 c. Figure Performance Regulations:
 (1) Remains the same.
(2) All figures shall commence at a signal from the Event Referee or Event Vice Referee.
 (3)-(7) Remain the same.

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 34. FINA SS 10.2 (USA proposal): If a judge by reason of illness or other unforeseen circumstances has made no award for any one figure, the average of the awards of the other *five (5)* or six (6) judges shall be computed and shall be considered as that of the missing award. This shall be calculated to the nearest 0.1 point.

- Item 34. Rule IV.D.1.b.(2) (Page 32) Insert new (b) and renumber:
 (2) Figure Competition
 (a) Remains the same.
(b) If a judge by reason of illness or other unforeseen circumstances has made no award for any one figure, the average of the awards of the other five (5) or six (6) judges shall be computed and shall be considered as that of the missing award. This shall be calculated to the nearest 0.1 point.
 (c)-(g) Remain the same.

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 35 FINA SS 11.2: If the competitor makes the same or another mistake *or does not attempt to perform the figure again*, then the results of this figure will be zero.

- Item 35. Rule IV.C.6.a (Page 30) Amend as follows:
 (3) **Failed Figure:**
 (a) ~~If the competitor again performs a figure other than the listed figure~~ **If the competitor makes the same or another mistake or does not attempt to perform the figure again**, then the Panel Referee shall rule it a failed figure and shall not call for judges' scores. This removes the 1 point penalty and a "0" is recorded for the figure.

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 36. FINA SS 13.5: In routines, the swimwear must conform to GR 5 and be appropriate for synchronized swimming competitions. The use of accessory equipment, goggles or additional clothing is not permitted unless required by medical reasons. Nose clips or plugs may be worn. **Jewelry is not allowed.**

- Item 36. Rule IV.C.6.c (Page 31) Amend as follows:
 c. Swimwear: In the event that the Event Referee thinks competitor(s) swimwear does not conform to the current concept of the appropriate, the competitor(s) shall not be permitted to compete until changing into appropriate swimwear. **The use of accessory equipment,**

goggles or additional clothing is not permitted unless required by medical reasons. Nose clips or plugs may be worn. Jewelry is not allowed.

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 37. FINA SS 14.1.4: ***Free-Combination: 5 4 minutes 0 30 seconds.***

Item 37. Rule II.D.2.d.(4) (Page 13) Amend as follows:
(5) ~~Free-Combination:~~

5:00 **4:30**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 38. FINA SS 14.1.7 NEW: *In routine events, when the Routine starts in the water, the time allowance for the athletes to achieve a stationery starting position in the water shall not exceed 30 seconds. Timing shall commence when the first competitor moves past the starting point and end when the last competitor assumes a starting position.*

Item 38. Rule II.D.2.d.(5)(a) (Page 13) Amend i.
(5) Time Allowances:
(a) Walk-On:

- i. In routine events, the walk-on of the athletes from the designated starting position to achievement of a stationary position(s) **on deck and/or in the water** may not exceed 30 seconds. Timing shall commence when the first swimmer passes the starting point and end when the last swimmer assumes a starting position.

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 39. FINA SS 15.3: Team Managers/Coaches are responsible for individually labeling tapes and/or discs (Minidisk or CD or DAT) as to speed, name of the competitor and country. Each competitor is entitled to trial test of a part of her music accompaniment prior to her start to adjust the volume and speed. ***If the sound reproduction is not working during the competition, the Team manager is entitled to bring another copy immediately to the Sound Center Manager. If it also fails to work, then the competitor(s) will have a one (1) point penalty.*** In case the tapes, Mini disc, CD or DAT are sent before the competition at the final entry date to the Management Committee, the Sound Center Manager will be responsible for correct execution of the music.

Item 39a. Rule II.D.2.d.(7) (Page 14) Amend as follows:

- (6) At all National Championships, the Sound Center Manager and crew shall be responsible for adjusting the settings per the request of the competitor or their representative. Music shall be marked with the playing time and turned in to the sound center prior to the start of the event or at the direction of the Sound Center Manager. **If the sound reproduction is not working during the competition, the Team manager is entitled to bring another copy immediately to the Sound Center Manager. If it also fails to work, then the competitor(s) will receive a one (1) penalty.**

Item 39b. Rule IV.C.6.b.(2) (Page 31) New (g):

- (2) One point penalty
(a)-(f) Remain the same.
(f). **If a second copy of music at a competition also fails to work, then the competitor(s) will receive a one (1) penalty. See Rule II.D.2.d.(7).**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 40: FINA SS 16.4 (USA Proposal): ***If a judge by reason of illness or other unforeseen circumstances has made no award for a routine, the average of the awards of the other five (5) or six (6) judges shall be computed and shall be considered as that of the missing award. This shall be computed to the nearest 0.1 point.***

Item 40. Rule IV.D.1.b.(3)(a) (Page 32) Insert new ii and renumber:
Rule IV.D.1.b.(3)(b) (Page 32) Insert new ii and renumber:
Rule IV.D.1.b.(4)(a) (Page 32) Insert new ii and renumber:
Rule IV.D.1.b.(4)(b) (Page 32) Insert new ii and renumber:

- ii. **If a judge by reason of illness or other unforeseen circumstances has made no award for any one figure, the average of the awards of the other five (5) or six (6) judges shall be computed and shall be considered as that of the missing award. This shall be calculated to the nearest 0.1 point.**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 41: FINA SS 17.2.3: In Olympic Games, World Championships and World Cups, for the Free Routines and Combination sessions, each judges shall award three scores, from 0-10 points each. Technical Merit judges shall enter scores for Execution, Synchronization, and Difficulty. Artistic Impression judges shall enter scores for Choreography, Music Interpretation and Manner of Presentation.

Item 41a. Rule IV.B.6.b.(1) (page 27) New i.

b. Routine Competition:

- (1) Judges shall award scores from 0-10, with one-tenth point increments for Technical Merit and for Artistic Impression. All judgments are made from a standpoint of perfection. Exception: **For all Zone and National Championships, judges shall award three scores from 0-10, with one-tenth point increments. Technical Merit judges shall enter scores for Execution, Synchronization, and Difficulty. Artistic Impression judges shall enter scores for Choreography, Music Interpretation and Manner of Presentation.**

Item 41b. Rule IV.D.1.b.(3)(a) (Page 33) New v.

(a) Technical Merit scores:

- i. Record the individual scores, each time in the same consecutive order on a score sheet. **Exception: For Zone and National championships, the scorers shall first calculate the Technical Merit score for each individual judge. The scorers shall multiply the judge's score for the component times the weighting for that component. The component scores for the judge shall be added together to get the score for the judge to two decimal places.**

Rationale: Align with FINA. See the table below for an example of the scoring method in the above exception:

TECHNICAL MERIT				ARTISTIC IMPRESSION			
EXAMPLE				EXAMPLE			
JUDGE		1		JUDGE		1	
CAT	%			CAT	%		
E	40	9.4	3.76	C	50	9.5	4.75
S	30	9.5	2.85	MI	30	9.5	2.85
D	30	9.4	2.82	MP	20	9.4	1.88
9.43				9.48			

Proposal 42: FINA SS 17.3.3 NEW (USA Proposal): In the Olympic Games, World Championships and World Cups, for the Technical Routine sessions, the Execution judges shall record an individual score for each required element. The scorers shall calculate the Execution scores. In addition to the required elements, the Execution judges shall also consider the strokes, other figures and parts thereof, propulsion techniques and the precision of patterns. Execution of required elements (Solo, Duet, Team) = 70%; Execution of the rest of the routine (Solo, Duet, Team) = 30%

Item 42a. Rule IV.B.6.b.(4) (page 27) Amend as follows:

- (4) For Senior Technical Routines, two scores shall be awarded, 0-10points each.

- (a) Execution:
- i. Execution of required elements (Solo, Duet, ~~Trio~~, **and** Team): 70%.
 - ii. Execution of the rest of the routine (Solo, Duet, ~~Trio~~, **and** Team): 30%.
 - iii. Exception: For Technical Routine sessions at Senior Zone and U.S. National Championships, the Execution judges shall record an individual score for each required element. The scorers shall calculate the Execution scores. In addition to the required elements, the Execution judges shall also consider the strokes, other figures and parts thereof, propulsion techniques and the precision of patterns.**

Item 42b. Rule IV.D.1.b.(4).(a).i (Page 32) Amend as follows:

(4) Senior Technical Routine Competition:

(a) Execution Score:

- i. Record the individual scores, each time in the same consecutive order on a score sheet. **Exception: For Senior Zone and U.S. National Championships, the scorers shall first calculate the Required Element score by adding the judge's element scores, dividing by the number of elements, multiplying by 7 and rounding the result to four decimal places. The judge score for the rest of the routine shall be multiplied by 3. These two results should be added together to get the execution score for that judge.**
Judge's Execution Score = (required element score x 7) + (rest of Routine score x 3)

Item 42c. Rule IV.D.1.b.(4).(b).i (Page 27) Amend as follows:

(4) Senior Technical Routine Competition:

(b) Overall Impression Score:

- i. Record the individual scores, each time in the same consecutive order on a score sheet. **Exception: For Senior Zone and U.S. National Championships, the scorers shall first calculate the Overall Impression score for each individual judge. The scorers shall multiply the judge's score for the component times the weighting for that component. The component scores for the judge shall be added together to get the score for the judge to two decimal places.**

Rationale: Align with FINA. See table below for examples of the scoring method in the above exceptions.

7 Element Example REQUIRED ELEMENTS			OVERALL IMPRESSION EXAMPLE		
ELEM #	JD 1	J1 SCORE	JUDGE CAT	%	1
1	9.2		C	40	8.5
2	8.4		S	30	2.52
3	8.1		D	20	1.74
4	8.7		MP	10	0.87
5	9.2				
6	9.2				
7	8.7				
TOTAL	61.5				8.53
AVERAGE	8.7857				
ELEM	70%	61.5000			
REST	9.1	27.3000			
TOTAL		88.8000			

Proposal 43. FINA SS 18.2: Routine penalties shall be deducted *from the Routine Score* if:

- Item 43a. Rule IV.C.6.b.(1) (Pp. 30-31) Amend as follows:
(1) **One-half Point Penalties shall be deducted from the routine score unless otherwise specified if:**
- Item 43b. Rule IV.C.6.b.(2) (Pp. 30-31) Amend as follows:
(1) **One Point Penalties shall be deducted from the routine score unless otherwise specified if:**
- Item 43c. Rule IV.C.6.b.(3) (Pp. 30-31) Amend as follows:
(1) **Two Point Penalties shall be deducted from the routine score unless otherwise specified if:**

Rationale: Align with FINA SS 18.2. Clarify whether deduction takes place from routine score or Execution score.

Proposal 44. FINA SS 18.2.4: A 1 point penalty for *each* violation of Combination Rule II.D.2.b (Page 13).

- Item 44. Rule IV.C.6.(2) (Page 31) New (g).
(2) One Point Penalties:
(a)-(f) Remain the same
(g) **For each violation of Combination event. See Rule II.D.2.b.**

Rationale: To align with FINA. Currently, none of our penalties would cover violations of Combination rules in non-FINA Championships (Zones and potentially US Juniors if the Combination is added).

Proposal 45. FINA SS 18.2.8: If during the deck movements in ~~team~~ routines competitors are executing stacks, towers or human pyramids [under 1 point penalty].

- Item 45. Rule IV.C.6.b.(2) (Page 30) Add new (g):
(g) **If competitors execute stacks, towers or human pyramids during the deck movements in routines.**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 46. FINA SS 18.3.1 (USA Proposal): A two (2) point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each required element omitted by competitor *in Solo or by all competitors in Duet and Team*.

- Item 46. Rule IV.C.6.b.(3) (Page 31) Add new (c):
(c) **For Senior Technical Routines: For each required element omitted by a competitor in a Solo or by all competitors in Duet and Team.**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 47. FINA SS 18.3.2: A one (1) point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each part of a required element ~~or action~~ omitted *by competitor in Solo or* by all competitors *in Duet or Team*, or if there is an incorrect/additional sequence in ~~an~~ required element ~~or action~~ performed *by competitor in Solo or* by all competitors *in Duet or Team*.

- Item 47. Rule IV.C.6.b.(2) (Page 30) Add new (g):
(g) **For Senior Technical Routines: For each part of a required element omitted by competitor in Solo or by all competitors in Duet or Team, or if there is an incorrect/additional sequence in a required element performed by competitor in Solo or by all competitors in Duet or Team.**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 48. FINA SS 18.3.3: A half-point (0.5) penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each competitor omitting a part of the required element ~~or action~~, or if there is an incorrect/additional sequence in ~~an~~ **for each required element or action** for each competitor up to a maximum deduction of two (2) points.

Item 48. Rule IV.C.6.b.(1) (Page 31) Add new (k):

- (k) **For Senior Technical Routines: For each competitor omitting a part of the required element, or if there is an incorrect/additional sequence for each required element for each competitor up to a maximum deduction of two (2) points.**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 49. FINA SS 18.3.4: A half-point (0.5) penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each violation in Duet required elements #XX and Team required elements #XX of the Appendix VI.

Item 49. Rule IV.C.6.b.(1) (Page 30) Add new (k):

- (k) **For Senior Technical Routines: a one-half (0.5) point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each violation in Duet required elements #XX and Team required elements #XX of Appendix L.**

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposals 39 plus 43-49 are the new or changed penalties from FINA. Proposals 50 and 51 align with FINA by adopting the FINA figure and routine penalty rules in their entirety.

Proposal 50. FINA SS 11: Align with FINA in entirety on Figure Penalties

Item 50. Rule IV.C.6.a. (1)-(3) (Page30) Delete in entirety and replace with FINA figure penalties.

6. Figure Competition:

(1) ~~One Point Penalties~~ shall be given a competitor who:

- (a) ~~Adds a twist, open rotation or spin to a listed figure.~~
- (b) ~~Omits a twist, open rotation or spin from a listed figure and the degree of difficulty shall be reduced to that of the figure performed.~~
- (c) ~~In the opinion of the Panel Referee, takes a standard swimming stroke to initiate the execution of a figure.~~
- (d) ~~In the opinion of the Panel Referee, performed an incorrect sequence, or sequence other than described in the Handbook, of a listed figure.~~
- (e) ~~Makes a balk, false start or otherwise fails to complete a figure which has been started.~~
 - i. ~~The competitor shall be allowed a second attempt.~~
 - ii. ~~The Panel Referee shall reannounce the figure and instruct the scorers to deduct 1 point from that figure.~~
- (f) ~~Executes a figure other than the listed figure announced.~~
 - i. ~~The competitor shall be allowed a second attempt.~~
 - ii. ~~The Panel Referee shall reannounce the figure and instruct the scorers to deduct 1 point from that figure.~~

(2) ~~Two Point Penalty:~~ A competitor who competes out of the order of draw shall be given a penalty of 2 points off the Total Figure Score, except for unusual circumstances as determined by the Meet Referee.

(3) ~~Failed Figure:~~

- (a) ~~If the competitor again performs a figure other than the listed figure, then the Panel Referee shall rule it a failed figure and shall not call for judges' scores. This removes the 1 point penalty and a "0" is recorded for the figure.~~
- (b) ~~The Panel Referee is authorized to have a failed figure repeated, without penalty, when the execution of the figure was influenced by exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the competitor.~~
- (c) ~~Exceptional circumstances include only the most unusual happenings, and do not include the loss of swimwear or swimming aid.~~

(1) A two (2) point penalty shall be deducted:

- (a) A competitor stops voluntarily and requests to do the figure again.
- (b) If a competitor does not perform the announced figure, or if the figure does not have all the required elements, the assistant referee shall advise the judges and the competitor. The competitor shall have another opportunity to perform the announced figure.
- (2) If the competitor makes the same or another mistake or does not attempt to perform the figure again, then the results of this figure will be zero.

Rationale: Simplify penalties, improve consistency in judges training and align with FINA (SS 11). Italics indicate FINA changes as of July2009.

Proposal 51. FINA SS 18: Align with FINA in entirety on Routine Penalties.

Item 51. Rule IV.C.6.b.(1)-(4) (Page 30-31) Delete in entirety and replace with FINA routine penalties:

b. Routine Competition:

~~(1) **One half Point Penalties:**~~

- ~~(a) If one or more competitors fail to perform a required element from the Technical routine.~~
- ~~(b) If one or more competitors perform a required element out of order from the Technical routine.~~
- ~~(c) If two or more competitors perform one or more mirror actions in Technical routines.~~
- ~~(d) For 12 & Under Age Group and Intermediate Routines: a one half (0.5) point deduction from the Total Score for each occurrence in which one or more competitors omit an element or perform an element out of order.~~
- ~~(e) For Senior Routines: a one half (0.5) point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution Score for each occurrence in which one or more competitors omit part of a required element from a Technical routine.~~
- ~~(f) If one or more competitors fail to begin and/or finish with the accompaniment.~~
- ~~(g) Exceeds 10 seconds limit for deck movements.~~
- ~~(h) Exceeds specified time limit for routine. See Rule II.D.2.d.~~
- ~~(i) For any routine which is under time at competitions where the minimum requirements are in effect. See Rule II.D.2.d.~~
- ~~(j) If one or more competitors interrupt the routine during deck movements and make a new start. (If of technical nature, no penalty.)~~

~~(2) **One Point Penalties:**~~

- ~~(a) For failure to end routine in the water.~~
- ~~(b) For each infraction for deliberate use of the bottom of the pool up to a maximum of 2 points per routine.~~
- ~~(c) For each infraction of deliberate contact with the pool deck up to a maximum of 2 points per routine.~~
- ~~(d) For each infraction for deliberate use of the bottom of the pool to assist another swimmer(s) up to a maximum of 2 points per routine.~~
- ~~(e) For each part of a required element or action omitted by all competitors, a 1 point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution Score.~~
- ~~(f) If the time limit of 30 seconds for the deck walk on is exceeded.~~

~~(3) **Two Point Penalty:**~~

- ~~(a) For Senior Routines: a 2 point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution Score for each required element omitted, by all competitors, from a Technical routine.~~
- ~~(b) A competitor who competes out of the order of draw shall be given a penalty of 2 points off the Total Routine Score, except for unusual circumstances as determined by the Event Referee.~~

~~(4) **Disqualification:**~~

- ~~(a) Failure to complete the routine after entering the water, unless caused by circumstances beyond the control of the competitor. If the cessation is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the competitor(s), the Event Referee may allow the routine to be re-swum during the session. Loss of swimwear or swimming aid is considered the responsibility of the competitor.~~
- ~~(b) Failure to notify the Scoring Chair and/or the Event Referee, in writing, before swimming, of all changes or scratches will result in disqualification of the routine.~~
- ~~(c) A Team shall consist of at least 4 but not more than 8 competitors. The number of Team members may not increase between the Preliminary and Semifinal event or the Semifinal and Final event, or between Technical and Free routines. For Free Combination exception, see Rule H.D.2.b.(1).~~

(1) In team competition, whether in Free Routine Preliminary, Free Routine Final or Technical Routine, one half point penalty shall be deducted from the total score for each member less than eight (8).

(2) Penalties in Free Routines, Technical Routines and Combinations:

- (a) A one point penalty shall be deducted from the routine score if:**
 - (i) The time limit of ten second for deck movement is exceeded.**
 - (ii) There is a deviation from the specified routine time limit allowed**
 - (iii) If the time limit of 30 seconds for the deck walk-on is exceeded**
 - (iv) Each violation of the Free Combination Rules.**
 - (v) A competitor has made a deliberate use of the bottom of the pool during the routine.**
 - (vi) If a second copy of music at a competition also fails to work, then the competitor(s) will receive a one (1) penalty.**
- (b) A two point penalty shall be deducted from the routine score if:**
 - (i) A competitor has made a deliberate use of bottom of the pool during a routine to assist another competitor.**
 - (ii) A routine is interrupted by a competitor during the deck movement and a new start is allowed.**
 - (iii) If during the deck movement in team routines competitors are executing stacks, towers or human pyramids.**

(3) Penalties in Technical Routines:

- (a) A two point penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each required element omitted by competitor in Solo or by all competitors in Duet and Team.**
- (b) A one point penalty shall be deducted from the execution score for each part of a required element or action omitted by competitor in Solo or all competitors in Duet or Team, or if there is an incorrect/additional sequence in an element performed by competitor in Solo or by all competitors in Duet or Team.**
- (c) A half-point penalty shall be deducted from the execution score for each competitor omitting a part of the required element or if there is an incorrect/additional sequence in an element for each competitor, up to a maximum deduction of two points.**
- (d) In case of dispute about required elements, video recording may be used for final decision by the Referee.**
- (e) A half-point (0.5) penalty shall be deducted from the Execution score for each violation in Duet required elements #XX and Team required elements #XX of the Appendix L.**

(4) If one or more competitors stops swimming before the routine is completed the routine will be disqualified. If the cessation is caused by circumstances

beyond the control of the competitors, the Referee shall allow the routine to be resumed during the session.

Rationale: Simplify penalties, improve consistency in judges training and align with FINA (SS 18). Some of the wording and order of items may change as FINA does some clarification.

Proposal 52: FINA SS 20.1 (USA Proposal): ~~*The final result is determined by adding the results of the different performed sessions.*~~ **The final figure result shall be that of the competitors who actually swam the Free Routine.**

- Item 52. Rule IV.D.1.b.(2)(f) (Page 33) Amend as follows:
(f) In Duet, Trio and Team competition, add the Total Figure Score for each competitor **who actually swam** swimming in the routine-and....Rounding Rule.

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposal 53. Scoring: FINA SS 20.2, 20.2.1, 20.2.2, 20.2.3, 20.1.1, 20.1.2, 20.1.3, 20.1.4, 20.1.5, 20.2 and 20.3 (all USA Proposals): Eliminating repeating decimals as well as reducing the number of steps and confusion in final results calculations:

- Item 53a. Rule IV.D.1.b.(5)(a) (Page 34) Replace in entirety with the following:
(a) **The final result is determined by adding the final score of each performed session, with each session worth a maximum of 100 points. (If both preliminary and final routine sessions are held, the routine score from the final session should replace that of the preliminary session to determine the final result.)**
- Item 53b. Rule IV.D.1.b.(5)(b) (Page 34) Replace in entirety with the following:
(b) **In events that include one (1) session – Figures OR Free Combination OR Technical Routine OR Free Routine – the result shall be the score of that session, for a maximum of 100 points. The result shall be rounded to 3 decimal places using the Rounding Rule and the result placed in the Total Box. For Rounding Rule, see Rule IV.D.1.b.(1).**
- Item 53c. Rule IV.D.1.b.(5)(c) (Page 34) Replace in entirety with the following:
(c) **In events that include two (2) sessions – Figures and Free Routine OR Technical Routine and Free Routine – the results shall be the sum of each session, for a maximum of 200 points. The result shall be rounded to 3 decimal places using the Rounding Rule and the result placed in the Total Box. For Rounding Rule, see Rule IV.D.1.b.(1).**
- Item 53d. Rule IV.D.1.b.(5)(d) (Page 34) Replace in entirety with the following:
(d) **In events that include three (3) sessions – Figures, Technical Routine and Free Routine – the results shall be the sum of each session, for a maximum of 300 points. The result shall be rounded to 3 decimal places using the Rounding Rule and the result placed in the Total Box. For Rounding Rule, see Rule IV.D.1.b.(1).**

Rationale: Multiplying the results of an event by 25% or 50% does not change the results. It adds an extra step in the calculation of the final results. It also causes much confusion when both the free routine score and the total score (figures + routine or tech routine + free routine) are in the same range.

Proposal 54. FINA SS AG 6: Combination: *The time limits for different age groups, including ten (10) seconds of deck movements, shall be: 12 & under=3:30; 13-15 = 4:00; 16-18= 4:30; Juniors 15-18 = 4:30.*

- Item 54. Rule II.D.2.d.(4) (Page 13) New (a)-(d)
- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|---------------------|
| (5) | Free-Combination: | <u>Minutes</u> 5:00 |
| (a) | 12 & under | 3:30 |
| (b) | 13-15 | 4:00 |
| (c) | 16-18 | 4:30 |
| (d) | Junior: 15-18 | 4:30 |

Rationale: Align with FINA.

Proposals 55-61 are for Figures.

Proposal 55: Figures: Eliminate the Senior Figure list from Figure Rules and post only on website.
 Item 55: Rule II.A (Fig. Page 7) Delete A in entirety:

A. ~~SENIOR COMPULSORY FIGURES AND SELECTION GROUPS FOR SENIOR ZONE AND SENIOR ASSOCIATION COMPETITIONS~~

~~SENIOR COMPULSORY FIGURES~~

150	— Knight	—————	3.1
314	— Kip, Split, Open 360°	—————	3.2

~~SENIOR SELECTION GROUPS~~

Group 1

435c	— Nova, Spinning 360°	—————	2.5
140h	— Flamingo, Bent Knee, Spin Up 180°	—————	2.7

Group 2

336	— Gaviata, Open 180°	—————	2.8
112f	— Ibis, Continuous Spin	—————	2.8

Group 3

323	— Subilare	—————	3.1
240c	— Albatross, Twirl	—————	2.7

Group 4

330c	— Aurora, Twirl	—————	3.0
305e	— Barracuda, Somersault Back Pike, Twirl	—————	2.8

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

Rationale: Few if any use the Senior Figure list and it would be cost effective for USSS to eliminate relatively unused information from our Rulebook.

Proposals 56 and 57 relate to eliminating some or all USSS figures which are not used by FINA.

Proposal 56: Figures: Eliminate all non-FINA figures from Figure Rules.
 Item 56: Figure Rules I-V: Eliminate:

- Sub Crane
- Pirouette
- All dolphins except:
 - Dolphin
 - Dolphin Foot First
 - Dolphin Foot First Reverse Combined Spin
 - Dolpholina;
- Somersault, Front Tuck
- Kip Split Walkout
- Subalina variants (not the Subalina itself)
- Tower
- Jumpover
- Angelfish
- Sunfish
- Corkscrew
- Logroll
- Marlin
- Oyster
- Shark Circle
- Tailspin
- Tub
- Water Wheel

Rationale: It would be cost effective for USSS to eliminate relatively unused information from our Rulebook. Non-FINA figures could be placed on the website for reference.

Proposal 57. Figures: Delete all Dolphin figures which are not used by FINA

Item 57: Figure Rules I-V: Eliminate Category II Dolphins except Dolphin, Dolphin Foot First, Dolphin Foot First Reverse Combined Spin and Dolphina.

Rationale: Removing the unused Dolphin figures would drop 7 pages from the Rulebook but still keep the figures used by some USSS groups.

Proposal 58. Figures: A new rotation chart to be used for all optional figure groups:

Item 58. Figures Rule II. A-F (Pages 7-10) Amend as follows:

Year	Association	Regional	National/Invitational
2010	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
2011	Group 2	Group 3	Group 1
2012	Group 3	Group 1	Group 2
2013	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3

Rationale: Each figure group except Novice has 3 selection groups. There is no need for different rotation tables for each.

Proposal 59. Figures: New Novice Figures

Item 59. Figures II.G (Page 10) Amend as follows:

G. Novice Compulsory Figures		
101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
302	Blossom	1.4
320	Somersault, Front Pike	1.7
310	Somersault, Back Tuck	1.1
201	Dolphin	1.4
3xx	Shrimp	1.4?

The Shrimp is similar to the newly proposed **Surface Prawn (1.5) but without the Twirl**. For the Shrimp, a *Walkover* is executed to the **Split Position**. The legs join to assume a **Vertical Position** at the ankles. ~~A Twirl is executed~~ followed by a vertical descent.

Proposals 60 and 61 are different approaches to Intermediate Figures.

Proposal 60: Figures: Eliminate Intermediate A figures and retain only one figure category for Intermediates. It is proposed that the Intermediate figures be the same as the new FINA 12 & Under AG Figures.

Item 60. Figure Rule II.F (page 9). Amend as follows:

F. INTERMEDIATE COMPULSORY FIGURES, SELECTION GROUPS-AND ROTATION CHART FOR INTERMEDIATE “A” AND “B” REGIONAL, ASSOCIATION AND OPTIONAL/INVITATIONAL COMPETITIONS

~~INTERMEDIATE “A” COMPULSORY FIGURES~~

346	Side Fishtail Split	2.0
140	Flamingo, Bent Knee	2.4

~~INTERMEDIATE “A” SELECTION GROUPS~~

Group 1		Group 3			
345	Reverse Catalina	2.1	401	Swordfish	2.0
311e	Kip, Twirl	2.3	355e	Porpoise, Spinning 360	2.1

Group 2		
306d	Barracuda, Bent Knee	
	Spinning 180	2.1
423	Ariana	2.2

INTERMEDIATE "B" COMPULSORY FIGURES

360	Walkover, Front	2.1
301	Barracuda	2.0
101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
360	Walkover, Front	2.1

INTERMEDIATE "B" SELECTION GROUPS

Group 1		Group 3			
355	Porpoise	1.9	311	Kip	1.8
101R/L	Ballet Leg, Single, Right or Left		324	Ballerina	2.0
		1.6			

Group 2		
401	Swordfish	2.0
344	Neptunus	1.8

Group 1		
321	Somersub	2.0
315	Kipnus	1.6

Group 2		
355	Porpoise	1.9
401	Swordfish	2.0

Group 3		
344	Neptunus	1.8
301	Barracuda	2.0

Notes: A draw will be held just prior to figure competition to determine whether 101R, right leg, or 101L, left leg will be the figure. These figures need not be performed in the order listed. ~~The Intermediate figure group to be used will be determined by the coach.~~

SELECTION GROUP ROTATION CHART FOR INTERMEDIATE "A" AND "B" COMPETITIONS

Chart proposed in Item 58

Rationale: The two categories of figures of intermediates add to the coaching load and complicate scoring at meets. Many areas have already dropped use of Intermediate A figures. The most efficient figure program would have Intermediate doing the same figures at the 12 & under Age Group.

Proposal 61. Figures: Intermediate: Change Intermediate A and B figures to Intermediate Figures for 12 & Under and Intermediate Figures for 13 & Over ages. The Figures proposed for the 12 & under group are new and include the Shrimp. The Figures for the 13 & Over competitors would be the same as the FINA 12 & Under AG Figures.

- Item 61. Figure Rule II.F (page 9). Amend as follows:
 - F. INTERMEDIATE COMPULSORY FIGURES, SELECTION GROUPS AND ROTATION CHART FOR INTERMEDIATE "A" AND "B" **INTERMEDIATE 12 & UNDER AND INTERMEDIATE 13 & OVER** REGIONAL, ASSOCIATION AND OPTIONAL/INVITATIONAL COMPETITIONS

INTERMEDIATE "A" **13 & OVER** COMPULSORY FIGURES

346	Side Fishtail Split	2.0
140	Flamingo, Bent Knee	2.4
101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
360	Walkover, Front	2.1

INTERMEDIATE "A" **13 & OVER** SELECTION GROUPS

Group 1		Group 3			
345	Reverse Catalina	2.1	401	Swordfish	2.0
311c	Kip, Twirl	2.3	355e	Porpoise, Spinning 360	2.1

Group 2		
306d	Barracuda, Bent Knee Spinning 180	2.1
423	Ariana	2.2

Group 1		
321	Somersub	2.0
315	Kipnus	1.6

Group 2		
355	Porpoise	1.9
401	Swordfish	2.0

Group 3		
344	Neptunus	1.8
301	Barracuda	2.0

INTERMEDIATE "B" **12 & UNDER** COMPULSORY FIGURES

360	Walkover, Front	2.1
301	Barracuda	2.0
101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
360	Walkover, Front	2.1
349	Tower	1.8
301	Barracuda	2.0

INTERMEDIATE "B" SELECTION GROUPS

Group 1		Group 3			
355	Porpoise	1.9	311	Kip	1.8
101R/L	Ballet Leg, Single, Right or Left	1.6	324	Ballerina	2.0

Group 2		
401	Swordfish	2.0
344	Neptunus	1.8

Notes: A draw will be held just prior to figure competition to determine whether 101R, right leg, or 101L, left leg will be the figure. These figures need not be performed in the order listed. ~~The Intermediate figure group to be used will be determined by the coach.~~

Rationale: This would be better for the athletes need to spend more time in the Intermediate level and/or who are old enough that they must make the difficult transition from Intermediate straight to Junior figures.

Proposal 62. Figure: Adopt the three new FINA figure groups and incorporate them into a four category program for USSS: (A) Senior, Junior and 15-19 AG (FINA), (B) 13-15 Age Group (FINA), (C) Intermediate and 12 & Under Age Group (FINA) and (D) Novice figures (USSS Selections).

Item 62. Figure Rule II. A-G (Pp. 7-10) Delete A-G and replace in entirety with A-D:

<u>A. Category A (Senior, Junior and 15-19 AG):</u>		
<u>Category A Compulsory Figures:</u>		
313	Kip Split Closing 180	2.5
112f	Ibis, Continuous Spin (720)	2.8
<u>Category A Selection Group 1:</u>		
336	Gaviata Open 180 (new definition!)	2.8
436	Cyclone	2.7
<u>Category A Selection Group 2</u>		
355b	Porpoise, Full Twist	2.5
150	Knight	3.1
<u>Category A Selection Group 3</u>		
307	Flving Fish	3.0
115c	Catalina Twirl	2.8
<u>B. Category B (13-15 AG):</u>		
<u>Category B Compulsory Figures:</u>		
420	Walkover, Back	2.0
355e	Porpoise, Spinning 360	2.1
<u>Category B Selection Groups Group 1</u>		
342	Heron	2.1
3.11a	Kip, Half Twist	2.2
<u>Category B Selection Group 2</u>		
240	Albatross	2.2
345	Reverse Catalina	2.1
<u>Category B Selection Group 3</u>		
301d	Barracuda, Spinning 180	2.1
140	Flamingo, Bent Knee	2.4
<u>C. Category C (Intermediate and 12 & Under AG):</u>		
<u>Category C Compulsory Figures:</u>		
101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
360	Walkover, Front	2.1
<u>Category C Group 1</u>		
321	Somersub	2.0
315	Kipnus	1.6
<u>Category C Group 2</u>		
355	Porpoise	1.9
401	Swordfish	2.0
<u>Category C Group 3</u>		
344	Neptunus	1.8
301	Barracuda	2.0

D. Category D (Novice):

Category D Compulsory Figures:

101	Ballet Leg, Single	1.6
310	Somersault, Back Tuck	1.1
201	Dolphin	1.4
3xx	Shrimp	1.4?

Selection Group Rotation Chart for Categories A-C shall be used in rotation according to the following progression. (See Proposal 58)

Rationale: This could provide consistency in judging across all of our programs and reduce training time. See proposal 59 for Shrimp description.

Collegiate Proposals

Proposal 63: Special Programs: Collegiate: Reset the scores for technical groupings for Collegiate competitions.

Item 63: Rule V.C.7.(1)-(4) (Page 39) Amend as follows:

7. Categories for Technical Competition:

- a. Competitors shall move into 1 of the 4 categories on the basis of an average of all of the Figure and Technical Element scores from their most recent season.
- (1) Category A: ~~74.000 and higher.~~ **71.000 or higher or National Team Competitor.**
 - (2) Category B: ~~66.000 to 73.999.~~ **64.000 to 70.999.**
 - (3) Category C: ~~60.000 to 65.999.~~ **59.000 to 63.999.**
 - (4) Category D: ~~59.999 or lower.~~ **58.999 or lower.**

Rationale: As the judging gets tighter each year swimmers are not able to move up due to achievement. They are confined to their group forever unless the coach moves them up for other reasons. This is somewhat disheartening because the athletes never have an opportunity to feel a sense of personal achievement/growth.

Proposal 64: Special Programs: Collegiate: Figures for Technical groupings.

Item 64. Rule V.C.8. (1)-(3) (Page 39) Amend as follows:

8. Collegiate Technical Competition:

- a. Technical Competition:
- (1) Category A shall be ~~the~~ **four of the Senior Team** Technical Elements to be chosen at the beginning of the quadrennium ~~used for Senior National Team Trials. This group shall be used for all Collegiate competitions that year.~~ See FINA Team Elements, Appendix L.
 - (2) Category B shall be the ~~Junior~~ **Senior** Figures as listed in Figure Rule II.B and shall rotate through the figure groups. This group shall be used for all Collegiate competitions that year.
 - (3) Category C shall be the ~~C~~ **Junior** Figures as listed in Figure Rule II.C and shall rotate through the figure groups. This group shall be used for all Collegiate competitions that year.
 - (4) Remains the same.

Rationale: Coaches and athletes alike have said that the current groupings make the athletes feel like they are going backwards. They are actually swimming easier figures in Collegiate than they swam previously in age group. Combine this with the above rationale and we have an upside down system. Note: There may need to be some additional housekeeping depending on reorganizations proposed for the Figures section of the Rulebook.

Proposal 65. US Nationals: US Collegiate National competitors shall qualify for US Nationals by Free Routine score only.

Item 65. Rule II.C.2.c.(1)-(2) (Page 5) Amend as follows:

- c. Qualifications for entry in the U.S. National Championship:

- (1) For Solo and/or Duet events, those competitors who have placed:
 - (a)-(c) Remain the same.
 - (d) In the top 8 **based on the Final Free Routine score**, including Exhibition routines, in the most recent U.S. Collegiate Championship ~~Preliminary event plus Technical event.~~
 - (e)-(h) Remain the same.
- (2) For the Team event, those competitors who have placed:
 - (a)-(c) Remain the same.
 - (d) In the top 5 **based on the Final Free Routine score**, excluding Exhibition routines, in the most recent U.S. Collegiate Championship ~~Preliminary event plus Technical event.~~
 - (e)-(g) Remain the same.

Rationale: Only routines are swum at US Nationals. We need to be sending our best routine swimmers to US Nationals.

Attachment: APPENDIX L with Amendments

REQUIRED ELEMENTS FOR TECHNICAL ROUTINES

Amendments to this Appendix L are the responsibility of the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee can modify this Appendix by recommending changes to the Board of Directors for approval.

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Supplementary elements may be added.** Placement is optional. (Other than that the specified required elements are performed in the order designated, there are no restrictions on content or choreography. Required elements may be separated by optional components.)
- B. Figure elements** shall be executed according to the requirements described in **Figure Rules IV & V**. Unless otherwise specified in the description, all elements shall be executed high and controlled, in uniform motion, with each section clearly defined. (Technical routine figure elements shall be evaluated using the same criteria as for a Figure competition. Where uniform motion is required, it may be at the tempo of the music. Pauses which are not allowed in figure/movement description may not be added. Example: A Combined Spin with short pauses after each 180-degree turn to fit with the accents in the music would not meet the requirements.)
- C. Penalties in Technical Routines:** See Rule IV.C.6.b for description of penalties.
- D. Procedures:**
1. Three Technical Controllers keep track of Technical routine content, with the Event Referee informing the scoring table if a penalty needs to be applied. Judges do not consider omissions when assigning a score.
 2. Any required element which is incomplete, or has a component part missing, (e.g. Combined Spin without a Vertical Descent) will be treated as an omitted element.
 3. In case of dispute about required elements, video recording may be used for final decision by the Event Referee.
- E. Comments:**
1. For **Novice**, Intermediate and Senior Technical Duets and Trios, with the exception of the deck work and entry, all elements required and supplementary must be performed simultaneously and all competitors must face the same direction (e.g. they must face the same wall or diagonal). They may not face each other or away from each other. Mirror actions are not permitted (e.g. one swimmer cannot lift her left arm “mirroring” the other swimmer lifting her right arm).
 2. For **Novice**, Intermediate and Senior Technical Teams, with the exception of the Cadence Action, the deck work and entry, all elements required and supplementary must be performed simultaneously and facing same direction by all Team members except during the circle pattern and the Platform. Variations in propulsion and direction facing are permitted only during pattern changes. Mirror actions are not permitted.
 3. For 12 & under Age Group Duet, Trio and Team Free Routines with Required Technical Elements, all elements must be performed simultaneously and facing the same direction by all swimmers. Mirror actions are not permitted during Technical Elements.
 4. If more than one Cadence Action is performed, they may not be separated by another movement done in unison (e.g. a synchronized stroke or hybrid movement cannot separate two cadence actions). However, the 1st cadence action may begin with swimmer 1 and the 2nd action may begin with either swimmer 8 or swimmer 1. A subsequent cadence action may or may not start before the previous one is complete.
 5. A circle should be well-defined with all swimmers on the circumference of the circle, equidistant from a common center point, demonstrating symmetry in spacing, positions and action (e.g. facing in, facing out or facing around the circle). If all swimmers face the same wall, this pattern might not be recognized as a circle by a Technical Controller or Event Referee.
 6. In the arm sequence using eggbeater kick element, arm(s) must be lifted above the water. The arm(s) may be in a variety of positions from just above the surface to maximum height. The eggbeater is performed in an erect sitting position, the lower legs hanging down from the knees toward the pool bottom so that they form a 90° angle with the thighs. With the knees apart as far as possible, the swimmer performs a whip kick with alternating legs by making as large a circle as possible with the foot and lower leg.
 7. All elements must be performed in the order listed.

8. There is an allowance of 15 seconds plus the allotted time, but there is not a minimum time limit. (Exception: There is a minimum time limit of the allotted time minus 15 seconds in competitions conducted under FINA rules.)
- 9. Senior Tech Elements: Duet required elements # 4, # 9 and Team required elements # 1, # 5, # 8, # 9 shall be judged within remaining 30 % of the Execution score.**

NOVICE REQUIRED TECHNICAL ELEMENTS (2010-2013)

NOVICE SOLO, DUET, TRIO AND TEAM

Elements 1-7 are to be performed in the order listed.

1. Figure #357 Jumpover or Figure #320 Somersault, Front Pike.
2. Boost - a rapid, head-first rise, with a maximum amount of the body above the surface of the water with no arms raised above the surface as the body reaches maximum height. The Boost is begun with the body totally underwater or with the back of the head and/or torso flush with the surface. The Boost is completed upon total submergence.
3. Arm sequence using eggbeater kick – must follow immediately after the Boost; travel forward and/or sideways with no arms out of the water.
4. **Split Position.**
5. Traveling Ballet Leg combination – to include the following 3 surface positions in any order: **Bent Knee Back Layout** with the right leg; **Bent Knee Back Layout** with the left leg; **Ballet Leg** with the right or left leg.
6. Figure #475 Tub
7. Figure #310 Somersault, Back Tuck to completion of at least 180° of rotation and finishing in Eggbeater.
8. With the exception of the deck work and entry, all elements – required and supplementary – must be performed simultaneously and facing the same direction by all swimmers. Mirror actions are not permitted. See E.1.

INTERMEDIATE REQUIRED TECHNICAL ELEMENTS (Pp. 3-4) Remain as is.

~~AGE GROUP 12 & UNDER (2008 – 2009)~~

~~FREE ROUTINE WITH REQUIRED TECHNICAL ELEMENTS~~

~~12 & UNDER AGE GROUP SOLO (2:00), DUET/TRIO (2:30) AND TEAM (3:00)~~

Elements 1-6 are to be performed in the order listed.
1. Crane, Vertical Bent Knee, or Vertical Position.
2. Boost – a rapid, head first rise, with a maximum amount of the body above the surface of the water. One or both arms must be lifted above the surface as the body reaches maximum height. The Boost is begun with the body totally underwater or with the back of the head and/or torso flush with the surface. The Boost is completed upon total submergence.
3. Arm sequence using eggbeater kick must follow immediately after the Boost; travel forward and/or sideways and contain a sequence of arm movements which includes one arm or both arms out of the water at the same time.
4. Split Position.
5. Right or Left Ballet Leg Position.
6. Thrust to a Vertical Position followed by a <i>Vertical Descent</i> at the same tempo as the <i>Thrust</i>.
7. All elements must be performed simultaneously and facing the same direction by all swimmers. Mirror actions are not permitted during technical elements. See E.3.

SENIOR/FINA REQUIRED TECHNICAL ELEMENTS
New for the 2009-2013 Quadrennium

SENIOR/FINA SOLO – 2:00 Elements 1-6 are to be performed in the order listed.	SENIOR/FINA DUET/TRIO – 2:20 Elements 1-8 are to be performed in the order listed.
1. From a Front Pike Position, a Full Twist is executed as the extended legs are lifted to a Vertical Position. Continuing the same direction, a Full Twist is executed followed by a Continuous Spin of 1440° (4 rotations). [DD 3.3]	1. 240 c - Albatross Twirl is executed until completion of the rotation, followed by a Continuous Spin of 1440° (4 rotations). [DD 3.3]
2. Rocket Split is executed to an Airborne Split Position, maintaining maximum height the front leg is lifted vertically as the back leg moves to a Vertical Bent Knee Position. The vertical leg is lowered toward the surface as the bent leg extends forward to assume an Airborne Split Position. [DD 3.1]	2. Traveling ballet leg combination beginning with a straight leg lift to a Ballet Leg Position. The horizontal leg is lifted to a Ballet Leg Double Position. Maintaining the Double Ballet Leg Position a rotation of 360° is executed, the first leg is lowered to a Ballet Leg Position, the second leg is lowered to a Back Layout Position. The legs are held straight throughout the element. [DD - TBC]
3. Boost – a rapid head-first rise, with a maximum amount of the body above the surface of the water. Both arms must be lifted at or above the shoulder line as the body reaches maximum height. A descent is executed until the swimmer is completely submerged. Immediately afterwards, a second boost is executed. [DD 2.5]	3. Rocket Split - A Thrust to a Vertical Position followed by two rapid alternating an Airborne Split Positions, followed by a join to the vertical with maximum height. A Vertical Descent is executed. [DD 3.4]
4. Beginning with a straight leg lift to a Ballet Leg Position, 116 - Catalarc is executed with compulsory head first travel while assuming the ballet leg. [DD 2.9]	4. A connected action – connected, joined or intertwined movements. Lifts, throws and platforms are not included.
5. Combined Spin is executed. A descending Spin of 1080° (3 rotations) followed, without a pause, by an equal ascending Spin in the same direction. [DD 3.0]	5. Maintaining a Fishtail Position , three rapid <i>full twists</i> are executed at maximum height. [DD 2.9]
6. Figure 307e - Flying Fish Spin 360° [DD 3.2]	6. Boost – a rapid head-first rise, with a maximum amount of the body above the surface of the water. Both arms must be lifted at or above the shoulder line as the body reaches maximum height. A descent is executed until the swimmer is completely submerged. [DD 1.7]
	7. Thrust followed by a rapid 360° Spin. [DD 2.2]

	<p>8. With the exception of the deck work, entry and a connected action, all elements – required and supplementary – must be performed simultaneously and facing the same direction by both swimmers. Mirror actions are not permitted.</p>
--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

SENIOR/FINA REQUIRED TECHNICAL ELEMENTS *(continued)*
New for the 2009-2013 Quadrennium

<p>SENIOR/FINA TEAM – 2:50 Elements 1-9 are to be performed in the order listed.</p>	
1.	<p>Acrobatic move – one Jump</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 jumps are required. Underwater set-up is optional, but all remaining swimmers must be involved. Each jump performs simultaneous identical movements facing the same direction. Each jump must rise once with supported person becoming airborne at peak of lift.
2.	<p>A thrust is executed to a Vertical Position maintaining maximum height a Twirl is executed as one leg is lower to a bent knee vertical position. A Vertical Descent is executed as the bent knee is extended to meet the vertical leg as the ankles submerge. [DD 2.3]</p>
3.	<p>A Nova is executed to the completion of a Bent Knee Surface Arch Position; the legs are simultaneously lifted to a Vertical Position as the bent knee is extended. A Continuous Spin of 1080° (3 rotations) is executed until heels reach the surface, without submergence, followed by a rapid spin up of 180° to a Vertical Position. [DD 2.9]</p>
4.	<p>Boost – a rapid head-first rise, with a maximum amount of the body above the surface of the water. Both arms must be lifted at or above the shoulder line as the body reaches maximum height. A descent is executed until the swimmer is completely submerged. [DD 1.7]</p>
5.	<p>Cadence Action with legs – identical leg movement(s) performed sequentially one-by-one by all team members. When more than one cadence action is performed, they must be consecutive, and not separated by other optional or required elements. There shall be at least 2 consecutive pattern changes during the cadence action.</p>
6.	<p>From a Front Pike Position, porpoise lift is executed to a Vertical Position. A full twist is executed, then the legs are lowered symmetrically to a Split Position. A walkout front is executed. [DD 2.9]</p>
7.	<p>Rocket Split is executed to an Airborne Split Position, maintaining maximum height the legs are lifted to a Vertical Position as twirl is executed. [DD 2.6]</p>
8.	<p>The pattern formations must include a straight line and circle</p>
9.	<p>With exception of the deck work, entry and the Cadence Action, all elements – required and supplementary – must be performed simultaneously and facing the same direction by all team members except during the circle pattern and the platform. Variations in propulsion and direction facing are permitted only during pattern changes and underwater actions. Mirror actions are not permitted.</p>