

**2017 WORLD FIGURE AND FANCY SKATING CHAMPIONSHIP**

**JUDGING PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS**

**Skaters.** All skaters should be striving to deliver good form (their personal best) and be role models of sportsmanship throughout the Championship. Skaters will be assigned to competition Flights prior to each Set, and be assigned to patches prior to each Flight by accounting. During competition flights, competitors shall enter and exit the ice only under direction of the Referee.

In addition to the Championship competitors, aspiring World Championship skaters may enter to skate individual figures. Competitors skating individual figures will initially be scored and ranked along with the Championship competitors. Accounting will then make a separate ranking with these aspiring skaters removed. The Championship competitors will be ranked as if the aspiring skaters had not entered. This will be the official ranking for the overall World Figure Championship.

**Referee.** Referees are supportive of skaters, and are on the ice to create a championship event with the best possible integrity and sportsmanship. The referees will observe the figure while it is being skated, and note penalties. The maximum penalty/handicap is 9 penalties per figure. It is thus similar to handicaps given in golf. Penalties are as follows:

- Starting before whistle - 3 Penalties
- Over time limit to complete Figure - 3 Penalties
- Foot/blade Touchdown - 3 Penalties
- Fall disrupts glide of Figure and occurs on hip/buttock, back or knee/knees – 6 Penalties
- Hand/Hands Touching down disrupts glide – 6 Penalties
- Gliding through and creating entire common axis (aka long axis) with blade - 9 Penalties
- Crossing over of white line and skating on other delineated space - 3 Penalty (note: touching the white line is okay but skater should cross the mid-point).
- Creating interference to another skater by crossing white line - 9 Penalties
- Unsportsmanlike behavior - stomping, kicking ice, not signing penalty paper, not making referee aware of a penalty that they accidentally missed, or leaving ice before dismissed by Chief Referee. - 9 Penalties
- Public knowledge of Creative Figure - this should be treated like a secret recipe if published in any public medium including on social media and skated in the World Championship exactly as made public before championship event - 3 Penalties

The judges will not have access to the referee protocols until after the judging and initial accounting for the flight is completed.

**Judging.** The judging panel will solely evaluate the Figures left behind on the ice by the skaters. After a flight of four figures has been completed, the skaters will leave the ice; then the judging panel will enter onto the ice to rank each Figure pattern, unaware of who skated a particular Figure. The judges will rank each Figure in each Flight (Figure Rank) on different qualities. The judges will only know the patch letter. The patch ice will be marked for the judges by the following eight letters: J through Q. Judges will take into account all the necessary factors of a great Figure in this World Figure Championship including: clean edges, turns, tracings, centers, shape and alignment of all circles.

Each judge will rank order the strongest and weakest figures on the ice in the flight, with the lowest number indicating highest quality. Each figure will be ranked on the following elements, each by a separate judge assigning the rank:

- 1) Edges, Tracings, and Turns, Loops, or Crosscuts
- 2) Centers and Alignment
- 3) Overall Quality.

The judges are rotated by Accounting in the assignments for each flight. However, for the Creative Figure alone, each judge ranks the Overall Quality.

The judges ranking sheets must be signed, and turned in to the Referee. The Referee will then initial each, and deliver to Accounting.

**Ranking.** The accountants will sum the figure rankings of each judge for each skater in a flight and add any penalty points. The result becomes the skater's Figure Points. The lowest sum of all skaters' Figure Points obtains the highest Championship Rank (similar to stroke play in golf).

Copies of the results for each set will be distributed to: 1) Scoreboard operator; (2) Referee; (3) Judges room; (4) Announcer; (5) Online. The judges will receive a copy of the protocols.

**Tie Breaker.** If a tie occurs in the first three positions on the Championship day, the tied skaters resume competition and skate the Change Loop RFOI-LFIO to break the tie. During a World Championship Medal tie-break all judges rank the Overall Quality of the figure tracings on the ice, after the skaters leave the ice.