

APPENDIX C

JUDGING NOTES

The Preliminary, Elementary 1 and Elementary 2 Figure Pattern

The tests have been designed to promote skating on edges with good carriage, flow and control to a standard acceptable for low-level skaters.

The Preliminary Figure Pattern Test

1. The test is similar to the 'old' Preliminary test from some 12 years ago, but requires two full circles on each of the FO, FI, BO and BI edges (one on each foot) as well as the traditional half-circles.
2. There are no restrictions on the number of introductory pushes for the candidate to commence the initial half-circle, as the aim is to have good flow throughout.
3. There are no restrictions to the method by which the candidate achieves the correct edge for the BO and BI figure patterns. Three turns, mohawks and cross overs are all acceptable.
4. Candidates may use a number of cross overs to complete the full circles in each of the patterns in order to maintain speed and flow, but the majority of each circle should be completed on the specified edge.
5. The Preliminary figure patterns are designed to be skated across the width of the rink and to be commenced on the foot as designated in the descriptions. However, the patterns can be skated down the length of the rink if desired, particularly in rinks less than 30 metres in width.
6. There is no problem with the candidate utilising marks on the ice or the barrier (eg hockey lines) to align the long axis of the patterns. The maintenance of the same long axis, whilst desirable, is not one of the focal points of the test and should not dominate the evaluation of the candidate's performance.
7. The tests are designed for a repeat to be granted at the judges' discretion, particularly in the case of a fall. However, there is no problem with a repeat of one pattern being granted in order to achieve a passing mark for the test (eg the FO, FI and BO patterns may be acceptable on the first attempt and the BI may achieve a pass mark with a repeat).

The Elementary 1 and 2 Figure Pattern Tests

Have been designed to further demonstrate control, speed and flow and to utilise the basic edges whilst incorporating more advanced movements such as changes of edge, three turns and mohawks.

Elementary 1 incorporates:

1. Three turns designed to be performed on approximately the long axis and the edge then held for a reasonable distance after the turn. If the turn is performed slightly earlier or later than the long axis, this is acceptable. However, if the candidate is unable to hold the edge after the turn, and 'dumps' the free foot almost immediately, this should result in a lower mark being awarded.
2. Changes of edge, both forwards and backwards. These changes are required to be of a reasonable standard, but it is not a major problem if they are 'S' shaped and this should not result in the overall figure pattern being considered unacceptable.
3. Mohawks. These are utilised to return the candidate to the desired direction after some of the turns, and should not present a problem to either the candidate's performance or the evaluation of the test by a judge. However, if there is consistent lack of control on the mohawk, there is also likely to be some overall problem with the test (ie poor three turns, changes of edge or both), which should all result in lower marks being awarded.

Elementary 2 incorporates:

1. Double three turns. It is desirable for the first turn to be performed on approximately the third but not earlier than the quarter and held for a reasonable distance before the second turn is performed. The candidate should be able to demonstrate some control of both turns and should not 'dump' the free foot immediately after either turn.
2. Changes of edge. As for Elementary 1.
3. Mohawks. As for Elementary 1.
4. There is no problem with a series of cross overs being utilised to maintain speed and flow whilst the candidate is performing the full circle at the end of each of the patterns, prior to commencing the next sequence.
5. The Elementary figure patterns are designed to be skated across the width of the rink and to be commenced on the foot as designated in the descriptions. However, the patterns can be skated down the length of the rink if desired, particularly in rinks less than 30 metres in width.
6. There is no problem with the candidate utilising marks on the ice or the barrier (eg hockey lines) to align the long axis of the patterns. The maintenance of the same long axis, whilst desirable, is not one of the focal points of the test and should not dominate the evaluation of the candidate's performance.
7. The tests are designed for a repeat to be granted at the judges' discretion, particularly in the case of a fall. However, there is no problem with a repeat of one sequence of a pattern being granted in order to achieve a passing mark for the test. As each of the sequences in both Elementary tests are performed twice, a repeat may not be necessary except, for example, if the candidate falls on the first attempt at a particular sequence and is then unsettled and has trouble with the repetition.

The Elementary 1 & 2 Free Skating Programs

1. Have been designed to promote use of basically the same program for the test and for low-level competitions of the applicable standard. Because of the deletion of Elementary 3 from the test schedule, some candidates may experience a delay in being ready to attempt the Primary test after achieving Elementary 2.
2. The performance of Axel jumps and flying camel spins at a reasonable standard in Elementary 2 will be important for skaters to be able to move on to the Primary level.
3. Both Elementary tests incorporate spirals and steps, with a basic requirement in Elementary 1 and a more advanced requirement in Elementary 2.