

INTERNATIONAL BATON TWIRLING FEDERATION

**WORLD FREESTYLE &
RHYTHMIC TWIRL
CHAMPIONSHIP
RULES & REGULATIONS**

**Freestyle Solo
Rhythmic Twirl
Freestyle Pair
Freestyle Team**



2024

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1.0 AGE DIVISIONS

FREESTYLE SOLO AND RHYTHMIC TWIRL:

Junior Women	(female athletes who will be 12 years of age to 17 years of age during the year of the WORLD Freestyle Championship, from January 1 through December 31)
Senior Women	(female athletes who will be 18 years of age or older during the year of the WORLD Freestyle Championship, from January 1 through December 31)
Junior Men	(male athletes who will be 12 years of age to 17 years of age during the year of the WORLD Freestyle Championship, from January 1 through December 31)
Senior Men	(male athletes who will be 18 years of age or older during the year of the WORLD Freestyle Championship, from January 1 through December 31)

A junior athlete may not compete in an age classification outside of his/her age group (i.e. - a junior athlete may not compete in a senior category, nor may a senior athlete compete in a junior category).

Exception: A junior athlete may compete in a senior pair.

FREESTYLE PAIR:

Junior Pair	2 members. Athletes who will be 12 years of age to 17 years of age during the year of the WORLD Freestyle Championship, from January 1 through December 31. Both athletes must be Junior age
Senior Pair	2 members. Athletes who will be 18 years of age or older during the year of the WORLD Freestyle Championship, from January 1 to December 31. Exception: A junior athlete may compete in a senior pair If the pair consists of 1 Junior and 1 Senior, they compete as Senior.

A pair may consist of 2 female athletes, 1 male and 1 female or 2 male athletes.
A Junior athlete may not compete in both the Junior and Senior Pair divisions.
with a different pair partner at the championship.

FREESTYLE TEAM:

A team will consist of a minimum of six (6) members and a maximum of eight (8) members.

Minimum age of members is 12 years from January 1 to December 31. There is no Maximum age limit of team members.

The team may consist of members of both sexes, if so desired.

2.0 ALLOCATION OF ATHLETE ENTRIES PER COUNTRY:

FREESTYLE SOLO & RHYTHMIC TWIRL COMPETITION:

- Each country may send up to 3 individual athletes in each division Junior and Senior Men, and Women **per discipline (i.e.: 3 Freestyle Solo and 3 Rhythmic Twirl)**. In dual federation countries, both country federation(s) must collectively agree on how to select those athletes in Rhythm Twirl or Freestyle Solo.
- The same athlete may not compete in both Rhythmic Twirl and Freestyle Solo.
- Free spots from one federation may not be filled by other federation.

FREESTYLE PAIR COMPETITION:

- In a two-federation country, each federation is allowed to send up to 1 competing Freestyle Pair per division (Junior/Senior)
- In a single-federation country, that federation may send up to 2 competing Freestyle Pair per division (Junior/Senior)
- Free spots from one federation may not be filled by other federation.

FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION:

- In a two-federation country, each federation is allowed to send up to 1 competing Freestyle Team
- In a single-federation country, that federation may send up to 2 competing Freestyle Teams
- Free spots from one federation may not be filled by other federation.

3.0 ALTERNATES/RESERVES

FREESTYLE SOLO & RHYTHMIC TWIRL COMPETITION

Each member federation may have one (1) alternate for each age group.

Any replacement must happen up to the evening prior to the start of the first round of competition and must be reported to the competition director immediately to notify tabulation. Failure to report the replacement results in disqualification. No changes may be made after the competition begins.

Note: An alternate may not compete in Freestyle Solo after the original athlete has competed in the Short Program discipline or for some reason cannot continue.

FREESTYLE PAIR

- One alternate for pair - Junior and Senior divisions.
- Exception: A mixed pair – (i.e.: one male and female) will be allowed to have
- Two alternates (one male and one female) but only one alternate member may be replaced.
- A junior athlete may compete in a Senior Pair.
- Alternates for a senior pair must be Senior.
- One pair member may be replaced between rounds.

FREESTYLE TEAM

- Teams - there will be NO reserve team; however, each federation may have alternate members in the team. The maximum number of alternates is two (2) per team.
- Teams may not add members to the original number of members after the preliminary round. Teams are allowed to compete with fewer members than the original number of members after the preliminary round if a member is injured or becomes ill. The team must report any membership change to the Competition Registrar who will then inform the IBTF President, Technical & Judges Chair, and Tabulation Director prior to the start of the next round. The alternates can replace team members between the rounds.

4.0 SHORT PROGRAM:

The Short Program is a component of the Freestyle Solo discipline. (It is performed only by Freestyle Solo athletes.) It is a structure of 8 required technical elements which must be strictly performed as prescribed, same order, and facing front to a standard piece of music.

Women and men perform to different musical selections.

The music is selected and provided by the IBTF. Short Program will use between 1/3 and 1/2 of the competition floor.

The short program is worth 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the total score in Freestyle Solo.

The procedure for Short Program competition will be as follows:

- The competition floor shall be divided in half by a curtain.
- The Junior and Senior athletes are introduced at the same time and take position in front of judges. They will run simultaneously.
- Short program music will begin and both athletes will commence their performance.
- The athletes leave the floor when the announcer states "Thank you."
- The next competing Junior and Senior athletes will then be introduced and take their positions.

Junior Short Program: will perform the Required Elements only to the music. No accessory material. Prime consideration will only be given to the technique of baton and body during the execution of eight required elements derived from the three Modes of Twirling (aerials, rolls and contact material) and a total adherence to the prescribed required element specification.

All of the judges will judge the 8 Required Elements.

The high and low score of each Required Element will be thrown out when 5 or more judges are utilized.

Senior Short Program requires the additional responsibilities of conforming to the music and displaying performance skills and develops musical interpretation, simultaneous responsibility, movement in space, staging and continuity. These factors will be considered in composition/performance.

Senior Short Program is judged on technique, composition and performance and a total adherence to the prescribed required element specification.

The judging panel for the short program discipline will be split into two groups based on the number of judges on the panel.

The majority of the judges will judge the 8 required elements.

A lesser number of judges will judge the Composition and Performance.

The high and low score of each Required Element will be thrown out when 5 or more judges are utilized.

JUNIOR SHORT PROGRAM SCORING, DEDUCTIONS AND PENALTIES:

- a) Each Required Element is worth 10.0 points. A panel of judges is assigned to assess the value of each Required Element. The total score received from all Required Elements (Total Average Short Program Score) is converted to the 25% score (Gross Short Program Percentage Score). Penalties and deductions are taken from the Net Short Program Percentage Score. Note: Element 6, which is the contact material is divided into two parts making a 6a and 6b. 6a and 6b are then averaged in tabulation to make 8 elements.

- b) **Other Penalty:**

If the athlete does not start the Required Element on Count 1 of the 8-count phrase of the Element, a 0.1 deduction will be deducted from the Short Program Net Percentage Score.

A Penalty Judge will be added to the panel. If not possible, one of the judges assigned to Required Elements will be responsible for the Count 1 penalty assessment.

c) Drops are considered by the Required Element Judges

- Each Required Element judge deducts 2 points for a drop from the assessed score for the Required Element and ceases judging the move as soon as a drop occurs.

EXCEPTION:

There are two 8 count sections of contact material separated by 8 free counts. If a drop occurs, there is not time to continue that 8 count sections (vertical or flat) the athlete will receive a penalty for a drop but only one (1) per 8 count section. Each section of the contact material should be treated like all other elements, in regard to drops.

SENIOR SHORT PROGRAM SCORING, DEDUCTIONS AND PENALTIES:

- a) Each Required Element is worth 10 points, totaling 80% of the Score.
A panel of judges is assigned to assess the value of each Required Element.
Note: Element 6 which is the contact material is divided into two parts making a 6a and 6b. 6a and 6b are then averaged in tabulation to make 8 elements.
- b) Composition + Performance is worth 20 points, totaling 20% of the Score.
A separate judge (or panel of judges) is assigned to assess the value of the Composition & Performance.
- c) Illegal Accessory Material is defined as any move that is not prescribed or prohibited in a Short Program.

Illegal Accessory Material Penalty: is a 2.0 penalty per infraction and is deducted from the Short Program Net Percentage Score.

d) **Other Penalty:**

If the athlete does not start the Required Element on Count 1 of the 8-count phrase of the Element, the Penalty Judge will take a 0.1 penalty per infraction and is deducted from the Short Program Net Percentage Score.

A Penalty Judge will be added to the panel to check for illegal accessory material and other penalties. When not possible, one of the judges assigned to Required Elements will be responsible for the penalties

e) Drops are considered by the Required Element Judges

- Each Required Element judge deducts 2 points for a drop from the assessed score for the Required Element and ceases judging the move as soon as a drop occurs.

EXCEPTION:

There are two 8 count sections of contact material separated by 8 free counts. If a drop occurs, there is not time to continue that 8 count sections (vertical or flat) the athlete will receive a penalty for a drop but only one (1) per 8 count section. Each section of the contact material should be treated like all other elements, in regard to drops.

See – SHORT PROGRAM SECTION for further information, rules and regulations regarding Short Program.

5.0 FREESTYLE SOLO COMPETITION

The athlete will use only one baton.

Entry on to the floor is from the judges' left. Starting position may be anywhere on the floor. Exit from the floor must be to the judges' right.

The freestyle is worth seventy-five percent (75%) of the total score.

Freestyle is judged on Technical Merit (worth 10 points) and Artistic Expression (worth 10 points).

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR CONSTRUCTING AN INDIVIDUAL FREESTYLE PROGRAM

Aerial Mode

- Juniors: 5 aerials
- Seniors: 5 aerials

The following are to be included:

- 1 spin (continuous)
- 1 stationary complex
- 1 travelling complex.
- 2 free
- (at least) 1 must be Horizontal Pattern

Rolls Mode

- Should be in both Horizontal and Vertical pattern.

Contact Mode

- Should be in both Horizontal and Vertical pattern.

6.0 RHYTHMIC TWIRL COMPETITION

The athlete will use only one baton.

Entry onto the floor is from the judges' left. Starting position may be anywhere on the floor. Exit from the floor must be to the judges' right.

GUIDELINES FOR CONSTRUCTING A RHYTHMIC TWIRL:

This event is the ultimate simultaneous blend of all one baton twirling skills and body/dance disciplines set to music of personal choice, utilizing the full floor. The focus should be on the combination of dance moves with rolls, aerials & contact material.

Event Focus:

- A. Simultaneous blending of baton and body with excellence of technique
- B. Musical interpretation and execution
- C. Representation of the 3 twirl modes both stationary and moving in an artistically logical program

Acrobatics are not allowed in Rhythmic Twirl.

Acrobatics are considered a Content Restriction and are subject to a 10-point penalty per content restriction infraction per judge.

Definition of an Acrobatic Move

A movement will be considered acrobatic in a baton twirling program when the intent of the movement is for both feet to leave the floor, travel over the head and land on the floor on the opposite side, either one at a time or both feet at the same time. This applies when the move is executed on:

- the hand(s) (e.g., a cartwheel done on the hand(s))
- the arm(s) (e.g., a cartwheel done on the forearm(s))
- the head (e.g., a headstand)
- in the air with the support of another person's body (e.g., a cartwheel done while supporting the body on another person)

Typical examples are front or back walkovers, cartwheels, somersaults etc.

Dance oriented floor moves such as fish flops are permitted.

Definition of an Aerial Acrobatic Move

A body movement in which the athlete turns completely over in the air without being supported or touching hands on the floor,

Examples:

- In the air without support of the body (e.g., side aerial; back flip; aerial walkover)

NOTE: A horizontal butterfly (where the feet do not go over your head) is not considered an aerial acrobatic move. It is considered a major body movement.

The Rhythmic Twirl is judged on a one hundred (100) point scale:

Rhythmic Twirl is judged on five (5) captions each worth 20 points:

Score Sheet Analysis Breakdown:

1) Choreography (20 points)

This caption focuses on the composition of the program that reflects the choreographer's design, utilizing baton and body elements simultaneously blended together to create a logical and impressive performance, showcasing the athlete's skills in all modes of twirling, combined with movement and dance elements.

2) Content (20 points)

This caption focuses on the variety and difficulty of the baton and body elements demonstrated throughout the program including aerials in both stationary sections and travel complex, contact/connecting material and rolls and unique elements. It also considers the variety and difficulty of the chosen body work used to define the program.

3) Twirl Technique (20 points)

This caption evaluates the technical proficiency and excellence of baton handling created through items such as control, rapidity, follow through, baton pattern and smoothness.

4) Dance Technique (20 points)

This caption evaluates proper technical proficiency of body movements while maintaining balance, style, rhythm, timing and use of musical phrasing during performance. Awareness of turnout, posture, leg and arm lines, toe point, balance and control are some of the key considerations. All forms of dance are acceptable when the proper technique for the chosen style is present.

5) Artistic Presentation / Showmanship (20 points)

This caption focuses on the performance qualities and expression used to convey the artistic theme of the program by the performer. Full body interpretation is the ideal, regardless of the style chosen.

Penalties:

Drop	Total Loss of the Baton	1.0 point per drop
Fall	Full loss of body control resulting in a fall	1.0 point per fall
Acrobatics	None allowed	10.0 point per violation

All other errors including incomplete catches, breaks, slips and off pattern are deductions reflected in the appropriate captions gross score.

7.0 FREESTYLE PAIR COMPETITION

Entry onto the floor is from the judges' left. Starting position may be anywhere on the floor. Exit from the floor must be to the judges' right.

The Pair event is a combination of the freestyle and team concept. Pair members are expected to conform not only to the music and to the set standards of correct technique, but also to conform to each other. This includes the maintenance of form and geometric intention through the awareness of position in stationery as well as moving forms. Time must be spent twirling synchronically while displaying variety and difficulty of movement together. A pair is expected to exhibit variety in the exchange work with patterns, planes, levels, ranges paths, modes, releases, catches, body work, number of members involved, number of batons involved (multiple or single), stationary and moving. Often there will be separate responsibilities involved that place a high degree of mental demand on the members which requires them to adapt to varying circumstances with a minimum of visual orientation to the other member.

A Pair is judged on a one hundred (100) point scale worth:

30 points for Content

30 points for Precision and Unison

40 points for General Effect

8.0 FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION

Entry onto the floor is from the judges' left. Starting position may be anywhere on the floor. Exit from the floor must be to the judges' right.

A Freestyle Team routine will be a mixture of twirling and dance. The general standards of Freestyle Team are the same as Freestyle Solo, with additional responsibilities. Team members are expected to conform not only to the music and to the set standards of correct technique, but also to conform to each other. This includes the maintenance of form and geometric intention through the awareness of position in stationary as well as moving forms. Time must be spent twirling synchronically while displaying variety and difficulty of movement together. A team is expected to exhibit variety in the exchange work with patterns, planes, levels, ranges paths, modes, releases, catches, body work, number of members involved, number of batons involved (multiple or single), stationary and moving. We not only expect to see a variety of pictures in movement, but also a variety of ways of using space through rotating, growing smaller or larger, moving the form from side to side/front to back/diagonally, changing positions to create new pictures, and using different levels and directions (or planes.) But the logical development of ideas is extremely important when moving the people around the floor. The evolution of one picture into another must appear natural and be smoothly executed. Conceptual excellence is an expected quality in the team event.

Freestyle Teams are judged on a one hundred (100) point scale worth:

30 points for Content
30 points for Precision and Unison
40 points for General Effect

Effective 2024:

Freestyle Teams will be judged using the Place Point Ordinal system.
See tabulation rules for Teams: Section 30 on Page 39

9.0 TIME LIMITS

Timing begins with the first sound or note (whichever comes first) and ends with the last sound or note of the music (whichever comes last). No credit is to be given for anything executed after the sound of music has stopped. This means that if an element is not finished with the music, it will not be judged.

No salute is required. One simple presentation can be executed.

SHORT PROGRAM COMPETITION:

Time Limits:

Junior: 1:21 minutes

Senior: 1:21 minutes

FREESTYLE SOLO COMPETITION

Time Limits:

Junior: 1:30 minutes minimum to 2:00 minutes maximum

Senior: 2:00 minutes minimum to 2:30 (2 ½) minutes maximum

RHYTHMIC TWIRL COMPETITION

Time Limit:

Junior: 1:30 minutes minimum to 2:00 minutes maximum

Senior: 2:00 minutes minimum to 2:30 (2 ½) minutes maximum

FREESTYLE PAIR COMPETITION

Time Limits:

Junior: 1:30 minutes minimum to 2:00 minutes maximum

Senior: 2:00 minutes minimum to 2:30 (2 ½) minutes maximum

FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION

Time Limit:

3:00 minutes minimum to 3:30 minutes maximum

FOR ALL DISCIPLINES

- All music must be submitted as part of the entry. The length of the music is checked and recorded as the official time by the host organization prior to the competition.
- If any music is found to be overtime or undertime during music check, the music technician will notify the federation's Technical Advisor immediately. The federation will have 12 hours to resubmit their music for re-testing prior to the recording of the official time.
- Failure to comply results in receiving the undertime / overtime penalty.

10.0 OFFICIAL PRACTICE SESSION TIME:

All countries may pay for an Official Practice Session on the main competition floor. The Official Practice Session is optional and must be requested with entry.

11.0 OFFICIAL BATON & COSTUME CHECK:

All participating federations must be present for their scheduled Baton & Costume Check which occur on the same days that are scheduled for Official Practice Sessions

12.0 COSTUME AND BATON INSPECTION

COSTUME INSPECTION – A Costume inspection for all federations must take place prior to the beginning of the competition. The host country will determine the costume inspection schedule.

Freestyle Solo, Rhythmic Twirl, Pair and Team athletes must check in with the Floor Monitor before each round of competition to check for compliance with their initial costume inspection.

Athletes, pairs, and teams must wear the same costume they wore for costume inspection and use the same baton. If changes are made to the costume/and or baton, a costuming penalty will be assessed. (Athletes are allowed to change a costume due to unforeseen circumstances by requesting a waiver from the IBTF Technical Chairs. If the waiver is granted an additional costume inspection would be made)

BATON INSPECTION

Baton inspection will take place during Costume Inspection for each federation. Check of the baton should be done by the Floor Monitor, before entering the floor. Batons must conform to the definition of "baton".
Penalty for non-conformance: 10 pt. penalty for equipment violation

DEFINITION OF A BATON:

A standard baton is a chrome-plated/silver steel shaft with varying size weights in either end. The weights are either pounded or pressure fitted and covered with a white rubber ball (the large end) and a small white rubber tip covering the other end.

Various batons have various balance points depending upon size and weight.

Most batons are between 14 to 32 inches (35.5 to 81.5 cm) in length and are either 3/8 inch (10 mm), 5/16 inch (8 mm), or 7/16 inch (11 mm) in diameter. The normal standard baton weighs about 8 ounces (or 227 grams) – the length and diameter do also factor into the weight.

USE OF GRIP TAPE ON BATONS

The use of grip tape is optional. It may be used bearing in mind that this is a sport. Grip tape can cover up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the shaft, divided equally from the center when measuring only the shaft, not including ball and tip.

Clarification: The outer quarter of each end may not be covered.

Grip tape can be applied in solid, striped or spiral fashion.

Tape can be of any color (s). (One color to wrap and other color to mark the center.)

Inside a Pair, Team or Group, the grip tape must be the same.

Grip tape: can cover up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the shaft, divided equally from the center.

Can be of 2 colors – one color to wrap and one color to mark the center.

No other attachments may be made to batons, except tape or similar substance used as a visual or handling aid.

Pair and Team members must use the same color(s) of grip tape on the baton (s) for uniformity.

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13.0 COSTUMES AND EQUIPMENT (BATON)

SHORT PROGRAM COMPETITION

Short program athletes must perform in the same uniform they wore during Costume Inspection and use the same baton.

WOMEN:

- Women athletes must wear a sleeveless leotard in the colours of their National Flag or in the recognized colours of their National Sports Federation or in any colour providing that their national official federation sport badge or the emblem of their nation is attached to the uniform.

MEN:

- Men athletes must wear a top with no sleeves OR short sleeves, scooped or “V” neckline.
- Pants must be long.
- One-piece suit, in colours of National Flag or in the recognized colours of the National Sports Federation or in any colour providing that their national official Federation sport badge or the emblem of their nation is attached to the uniform.
- Belts may be worn but must comply with other costume restrictions.

BOTH WOMEN AND MEN:

- Absolutely nothing may be hung or attached to the leotard, shirt or pants. (Exception: Official Federation sports badge or emblem of the Nation is permitted).
- Hair may be secured by any method which is not ornamentation, trim, or costume jewellery.

FOOTWEAR and LEG WEAR:

- Ankle socks, if worn, must be above the ankle and below the calf muscle.
- Colour of socks, if not white, must be the same colour as pants (men)
- Tights of flesh colour only may be worn.
- No long socks
- Colour of shoes may be white, beige, or black. For men only the same color of the pants.

14.0 COSTUME CHECK FOR FREESTYLE SOLO, RHYTHMIC TWIRL, FREESTYLE PAIR & FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION

All rules for costuming will apply for Freestyle Solo, Rhythmic Twirl, Freestyle Pair, and Freestyle Team

Costume:

All athletes (men and women) may wear a costume of their choice bearing in mind this is a sport.

Athletes must perform in the same costume they wore during the costume inspection and use the same baton.

Within a pair or team, any costume combination is possible, bearing in mind this is a sport.

Athletes are not permitted to have a costume that covers the palm of the hands.

Footwear and leg wear:

All athletes must wear shoes of their choice, bearing in mind this is a sport.

Shoe soles must meet facility regulations.

If painted shoes leave mark/color on the floor, the country will be responsible for any damage. The floor monitor has the right to ask the athlete to change shoes if a potential problem is identified.

Socks or tights, of their choice, may be worn bearing in mind this is a sport.

Hair and accessories:

Must be secure by any method, bearing in mind that this is a sport.

Any hair or attached costume accessory may be used but must not cover any part of the face below the eyebrows and must be reasonable, bearing in mind that this is a sport.

Recommendation: Tattoos should be covered, but not mandatory.

No other jewelry or body piercing. Small stud earrings may be worn.

Make up:

Moderate stage make up, to enhance natural facial features, is recommended.

Make-up should be designed bearing in mind this is a sport.

Athletes are not permitted to have any of the following:

- Body or face paint
- Anything stuck to the face or body.
- Anything drawn/stenciled on the face or body.

COSTUME CHECK FOR FREESTYLE SOLO, RHYTHMIC TWIRL, FREESTYLE PAIR, & FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION - continued

OTHER COSTUME POLICIES THAT APPLY TO ALL DISCIPLINES:

- Athletic bandages for injury may be worn.
- Eyeglasses may be worn.
- No sunglasses
- No other jewellery or body piercing
- If any athlete/athletes intentionally disregard the costume or equipment infractions pointed out by the Floor Monitor, then the penalty will automatically be assessed.

At IBTF WORLD Championship, the technical chairs will have the final decision on costume, make-up, hair and accessories.

COSTUME / FOOTWEAR / EQUIPMENT FAILURE - ALL DISCIPLINES

The Chief Judge, the Technical Chair, or the Judges' Chair may stop the competition for one of the following reasons:

- If costume failure becomes hazardous, indecent, or embarrassing.
- If a shoelace becomes untied causing footwork to be dangerous
- Loss of footwear causing danger to the athlete slipping and falling
- Loss of ball or tip from the baton shaft
- Baton shaft breaking

The Technical Chair must be contacted to handle the situation.

The Technical Chair will contact the Host country and competition staff.

The Technical Chair may order a restart.

Judging to commence at the beginning.

If any official feels that they have a conflict of interest in ruling on this matter, they should approach the President and ask for assistance in stopping the competition.

15.0 PENALTIES

RHYTHMIC TWIRL

Time: Junior 1:30 minutes minimum to 2:00 minutes maximum

Time: Senior: 2:00 minutes minimum to 2:30 (2 ½) minutes maximum

Undertime/Overtime Penalty = 4.0 pts. (deducted from the Average Gross Score)

FREESTYLE SOLO:

Time: Junior 1:30 minutes minimum to 2:00 minutes maximum

Time: Senior 2:00 minutes minimum to 2:30 (2 ½) minutes maximum

Undertime/Overtime Penalty = 4.0 pts. (deducted from the Average Freestyle Percentage Score)

FREESTYLE PAIR:

Time: Junior 1:30 minutes minimum to 2:00 minutes maximum

Time: Senior 2:00 minutes minimum to 2:30 (2 ½) minutes maximum

Undertime/Overtime Penalty = 4.0 pts. (deducted from the Judges Average Score)

FREESTYLE TEAM:

Time: 3:00 minutes minimum to 3:30 minutes maximum

Undertime/Overtime Penalty = 5.0 pts. (deducted from the Judges Average Score)

RHYTHMIC TWIRL

Drop penalties are taken by a penalty judge.

1.0 point per drop or fall is deducted from each judge's gross score on a 100 pt. Scale.

FREESTYLE SOLO:

Drop penalties are taken by a penalty judge.

0.75 point per drop deducted from the Average Freestyle Percentage Score on a 10 pt. Scale

FREESTYLE PAIR & TEAM:

Drop penalties are taken by two penalty judges.

1.0 point per drop deducted from each judge's score by the Penalty judge from a 100 pt. Scale.

VIOLATION OF EQUIPMENT

Short Program 2.5 point deducted from the Average Short Program Percentage Score

Freestyle Solo 7.5 points deducted from the Average Freestyle Percentage Score

Rhythmic Twirl 10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score

Freestyle Pair 10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score

Freestyle Team 10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score

VIOLATION OF COSTUME RULES	
Short Program	1.0 point deducted from the Average Short Program Percentage Score
Freestyle Solo	2.0 points deducted from the Average Freestyle Percentage Score
Rhythmic Twirl	10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
Freestyle Pair	10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
Freestyle Team	10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE/ITEMS ON THE COMPETITION FLOOR	
Short Program	1.0 points deducted from the Average Short Program Percentage Score
Freestyle Solo	2.0 points deducted from the Average Short Program Percentage Score
Rhythmic Twirl	10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
Freestyle Pair	10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
Freestyle Team	10.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
LEAVING THE FLOOR BEFORE MINIMUM TIME HAS BEEN REACHED (other than first aid, music and *costume problems)	
Leaving Floor Penalty	
Freestyle Solo	4.0 points deducted from the Average Freestyle Percentage Score
Rhythmic Twirl	4.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
Freestyle Pair	5.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
Freestyle Team	5.0 points deducted from the Judges Average Gross Score
<i>(*costume problems - costume becomes hazardous, indecent or embarrassing, the chief judge may stop the competition and order a restart with judging to begin at the beginning.</i>	

16.0 ANNOUNCING THE COMPETITION

ANNOUNCER'S TABLE FOR SHORT PROGRAM

The Announcer's table and/or music table is to be placed in the area centered between the two judges' panels for a perfect visual of the chief judges and both competition areas.

For all other disciplines, the announcer will stay at the main music desk.

Languages for Announcements:

- ❑ General announcements and introductions are made in English, and the language of the Host Country is optional.
- ❑ Judges' marks for the Freestyle Competition will be *displayed electronically, the electronics technician must be aware to stay on pace with the announcer, as to not get ahead or behind.*

ANNOUNCING THE SHORT PROGRAM COMPETITION:

The procedure for short program competition will be as follows:

- 1) The short program performed by the Junior athletes and the short program, performed by Senior athletes, will run simultaneously.
- 2) The Junior and Senior athletes are introduced at the same time and take the position in front of the judges.
- 3) Announcer will announce "Athlete/s ready, music", Short Program music will start and both athletes will commence their performance.
- 5) The athletes will leave the floor when the announcer says, "Thank you."
- 7) The next competing Junior and Senior athletes will be introduced and take their position
- 8) As the athlete performs his/her final presentation and leaves the floor, the Chief Announcer calls the next athlete to the floor with the words "take the floor for competition".
- 9) Chief Announcer must check with Chief Judge to be sure all judges are ready before announcing the name of the next athlete.

ANNOUNCING THE FREESTYLE SOLO & RHYTHMIC TWIRL COMPETITION:

- 1) When judges are ready, announce the athlete's name and country.
- 2) Junior and Senior athletes will alternate performances. The Division with the greatest number of athletes will start first and will run alone until it reaches the entry number of the lower division and then alternating performances begins.

This process is for all rounds. Example:

01		01	
02		02	
03		03	
04		04	
05		05	
06		06	
07		07	
08		08	
09		09	
10		10	
11		11	
12		12	

- 3) After each program is completed, the athlete will go to the designated area behind the staging to wait for their time to receive scores. Once this athlete has reached the designated area, the Chief announcer will introduce next athlete onto the competition floor. After this athlete's performance the announcer must wait for the Chief judge to sign when judges the judges are ready. The announcer will call the waiting athlete back from the designated area by announcing: "Scores will now be displayed for _____ Junior (or Senior) from _____." Athlete stands on assigned place to receive score. After display of score is seen, the announcer will say "Thank you."
- 1) If not alternating, the athlete must wait to be scored.
 - 2) Each athlete's score will be displayed and not read.

ANNOUNCING THE FREESTYLE PAIR & FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION:

- 1) Freestyle Pair and Freestyle Team are announced as they are about to enter the performance arena. Announce the name (country) of each pair or team before they take their starting position.
- 2) Junior and Senior Pair alternate performances. This process is for all rounds.
- 3) After each pair program is completed, the athletes will go to the designated area behind the staging to wait for their time to receive scores. Once the pair has reached the designated area, the Chief announcer will introduce the next pair onto the competition floor. After this pair's performance, the announcer must wait for the Chief judge to sign when the judges are ready. The announcer will call the waiting pair back to display their score.
- 3) When each Pair is scored, announce the next Pair to take the floor for competition. (If not alternating, the pair must wait to be scored.)
- 4) Teams do not alternate performances. Announce the name (country) of each before they take their starting position.
- 4) 5) Teams should wait behind stage after their performance. The announcer must wait for the Chief judge to sign when judges ready. The announcer will call the waiting team back from designating area by announcing: "The score please for Junior Pair (or Senior Pair) from _____". Athletes stand on assigned place to receive the score. After display of score is seen, the announcer will say "Thank you."
- 5) Make sure all judges are ready before announcing the name of the next performance.

17.0 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES APPLICABLE TO ALL RHYTHMIC TWIRL, FREESTYLE SOLO, PAIR, AND TEAM ATHLETES:

- 1) Athletes must report to the Floor Monitor prior to competing in their discipline, to check the costume and baton.
- 2) It is the athlete's responsibility to report to the Floor Monitor **15 minutes prior** to taking the floor for competition. This procedure is in effect for all disciplines.
- 3) The athlete enters the performance area upon a signal from the announcer to "take the floor for competition".
- 4) Athletes may not take towels onto the competition floor (or other items).
- 5) Athletes may wipe their hands or baton on their own person.
- 6) Individuals, Pairs & Team athletes are allowed to do a little short presentation before the music and timing begin.
- 7) After each program is completed, athletes go to the designated area behind the staging until time to receive the score.
- 8) The coach may join the athletes at this time to view the scores.
- 9) Once an athlete, pair, or team has reached the designated area, the next athlete may enter the competition floor to await the signal "music" by the announcer to begin.
- 10) All athletes must be prepared to perform under spot/television lights if deemed necessary by a television production company.
- 11) Some athletes may be televised, and others may not be. All of the athletes must be prepared.
- 12) When special lighting is to be used for television, filming or other official purposes, that same lighting **MUST** be available for the athletes to rehearse under.

18. ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE OR ITEMS - ALL DISCIPLINES

No substance such as powder, rosin, water, or other substance may be used on the competition floor by an athlete for any reason.

If permitted by the competition facility, there should be a table **OUTSIDE** of the practice area & competition hall with rosin, powder and magnesium powder so that everyone can use these substances in the open. Powder in excess should be removed prior to entering the practice area & competition hall. These substances are **NOT** allowed to be put on in the practice area & competition hall. If the facility does not permit the use of these substances, all countries will be notified in advance.

Athletes may not take a towel, sweatbands or other items onto the competition floor.

19. DISPLAY OF SCORES:

Freestyle Scores will be displayed digitally in the following manner:

SENIOR WOMEN PRELIMINARY FREESTYLE SOLO			SENIOR WOMEN SEMI-FINAL FREESTYLE SOLO			SENIOR WOMEN FINAL FREESTYLE SOLO		
Set #	Name	Country	Set #	Name	Country	Set #	Name	Country
	Minnie MOUSE	France		Minnie MOUSE	France		Minnie MOUSE	France
	Short Program	17.7250		Short Program	17.7250		Short Program	17.7250
	Gross Freestyle	59.4000		Gross Freestyle	59.1570		Semi-Final Freestyle	56.9250
	Penalties	1.5000		Penalties	2.2500		Final Gross Freestyle	55.5750
	Net Freestyle	57.9000		Net Freestyle	56.9250		Final Penalties	3.0000
							Final Net Freestyle	52.5750
							Average Freestyle	54.7500

Rhythmic Twirl Scores will be displayed digitally as following:

SENIOR WOMEN PRELIMINARY RHYTHMIC TWIRL			SENIOR WOMEN SEMI-FINAL RHYTHMIC TWIRL			SENIOR WOMEN FINAL RHYTHMIC TWIRL		
Set #	Name	Country	Set #	Name	Country	Set #	Name	Country
	Minnie MOUSE	France		Minnie MOUSE	France		Minnie MOUSE	France
	Gross Freestyle	59.4000		Gross Freestyle	59.1570		Semi-Final Freestyle	56.9250
	Penalties	1.5000		Penalties	2.2500		Final Gross Freestyle	55.5750
	Net Freestyle	57.9000		Net Freestyle	56.9250		Final Penalties	3.0000
							Final Net Freestyle	52.5750
							Average Freestyle	54.7500

Freestyle Pair Scores will be displayed digitally as following:

PRELIMINARY FREESTYLE PAIR			FINAL FREESTYLE PAIR		
	Name	Country		Name	Country
Set #	MOUSE/MOUSE	France	Set #	MOUSE/MOUSE	France
	Gross Score	64.00		Gross Score	66.00
	Penalties	1.50		Penalties	1.00
	Net Score	62.50		Net Score	65.00

Freestyle Team Scores will be displayed digitally as following:

PRELIMINARY FREESTYLE TEAM			FINAL FREESTYLE TEAM		
	Name	Country		Name	Country
Set #	MOUSKATEERS	France	Set #	MOUSKATEERS	France
	Gross Score	72.00		Gross Score	70.00
	Penalties	3.00		Penalties	2.00
	Net Score	69.00		Net Score	68.00

20.0 MUSIC FOR IBTF DISCIPLINES

OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES

The Host Country will select appropriate music.

SHORT PROGRAM DISCIPLINE

The music for the Short Program discipline is a standard piece of music created by Masanori Yasui, Japan. Junior/Senior Women music title is “Into the Splendid WORLD”. Junior/Senior Men music title is “Challenging into the Future”. The music is available to member countries at www.IBTF.org in the secured section of the website.

FREESTYLE SOLO, RHYTHMIC TWIRL, FREESTYLE PAIR & FREESTYLE TEAM DISCIPLINES

The music will be selected and provided by the athlete.

Failure of the music after the performance has started will constitute a restart.

ONLINE MUSIC SUBMISSION

Music policy for all IBTF disciplines:

Music at IBTF disciplines will be played through a computer.

Music for all athletes, pairs, and teams will be submitted electronically with each country’s entry form via the IBTF online ShareFile System.

Each music file must be labelled correctly indicating the athlete, pair, team name, country, category, and division, and should also include the time code. A specific guideline will be sent for everyone to follow in naming music files. Following the entry deadline, the host country will download all the music files from the IBTF an online ShareFile System to record the official time and prepare the music files for competition.

If there is any change in a competitor’s music prior to the competition, it may be re-submitted to the website no later than **10 days prior to the first day of the competition and notification must be sent to the host country**. All music files must be submitted in MP3 or AAC format – these are both compressed formats.

All athletes should bring a 2nd copy of their music with them to the competition on a flash drive in case of any unforeseen circumstances that would call for the need to replace the original copy.

21.0 NOT APPEARING - ATHLETE, PAIR, TEAM

Freestyle Solo, Rhythmic Twirl, Freestyle Pair and Team Competition - when a name is announced, if the athlete, pair, or team does not report, then the athlete, pair, or team will be considered late and thus disqualified.

In the discipline that an athlete, pair, or team is a "no show", the next athlete, pair, or team will be given sufficient time in which to report.

In the discipline that a semi-finalist/finalist for any reason cannot compete in the semi-finals/finals, i.e. - sudden injury, illness, or other, the semi-finalist/finalist will have the notification "withdrawn due to medical/emergency reasons" of the official results of that round. The next highest-placed athlete will be allowed to compete in the semi-finals/finals providing it is possible to notify this athlete in time.

22.0 OBSTRUCTION OR UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCE

If an athlete is hindered in his/her performance by an obstruction or unusual circumstance, that athlete may have an opportunity to re-compete at the discretion of the Chief Judge, upon approval of the IBTF President and the Chairperson of the Technical Advisors Committee.

23.0 AMOUNT OF ROUNDS/NUMBER OF ATHLETES TO ADVANCE TO NEXT ROUND

FREESTYLE SOLO & RHYTHMIC TWIRL COMPETITION

- **0 - 15 competitors:** there will be two rounds of competition (NO semi-final round); the top 6 athletes from the preliminary round will advance to the final round
- **16 to 30 competitors:** there will be three rounds of competition (a semi-final round will take place); the top 12 athletes from the preliminary round will advance to the semi-final round; the top 6 athletes from the semi-final round will advance to the final round.
- **31 to 45 competitors:** there will be three rounds of competition (a semi-final round will take place); the top 20 athletes from the preliminary round will advance to the semi-final round; the top 10 athletes from the semi-final round will advance to the final round.
- **46 to 60 competitors:** there will be three rounds of competition (a semi-final round will take place); the top 30 athletes from the preliminary round will advance to the semi-final round; the top 10 athletes from the semi-final round will advance to the final round.
- **61 to 75 competitors:** there will be three rounds of competition (a semi-final round will take place); the top 35 athletes from the preliminary round will advance to the semi-final round; the top 10 athletes from the semi-final round will advance to the final round.

FREESTYLE PAIR AND FREESTYLE TEAM COMPETITION

There will be no semi-final round for the Freestyle Pair or Freestyle Teams, only a preliminary and final round.

The top 10 Freestyle Pairs and Freestyle teams advance to the Finals.

24.0 WARM-UP PERIOD

PRACTICE AREA

An area designated for practice.

There should preferably be an area large enough to accommodate a reasonable number of athletes in a safe environment.

If a practice area cannot be provided, the host country must organize a free one-hour practice session before the competition for any athlete who is competing on that day and one hour following the competition for any athlete who is competing on the following day.

WARM UP AREA

An area designated for the preparation of athletes immediately before they compete.

There must be a designated warm-up area for the athletes which is large enough for 6 athletes, 6 pairs or 2 teams to prepare for competition in a 5-minute time period.

25.0 WARM-UP PROCEDURE

General rules:

- The open floor in the morning is restricted to athletes who are competing that day.
- During the official warm up only the announced athletes can be on the floor.

SHORT PROGRAM - WOMEN

There will be 2 Warm-up periods. Athletes will be divided into 2 major groups. Then, the 2 major groups will be divided into sub-groups.

The 1st major group will warm up before the competition / The 2nd will warm up in the middle of the competition.

Major group: if the number of the junior and senior athletes is different, the largest group number will be used to divide into the 2 major groups.

Example 1: 54 Seniors / 50 Juniors

The senior is the larger therefore so use to divide by 2:

The first of the major groups will be composed of 27 seniors and 25 juniors.

The second of the major groups will be composed of 27 seniors and 25 juniors.

Then sub divide both of the major groups into 2 sub-groups of 2 senior/2 junior.

SHORT PROGRAM WARM UP PROCEDURE (continued)

In case of an unequal number of athletes:

Example 2: 55 Seniors / 51 Juniors

The first of the major groups will be composed of 28 Seniors and 26 Juniors.

The second of the major groups will be composed of 27 Senior and 25 Juniors.

Then sub divide both of the major groups into groups of 2 Seniors/ 2 Juniors.

The larger major group will be the first one to warm up.

The short program music will be played twice.

SHORT PROGRAM - WOMEN

WARM UP	SENIOR ATHLETES 1 ST SUB-GROUP	4 MINUTES	MUSIC PLAYED TWICE
WARM UP	JUNIOR ATHLETES 1 ST SUB-GROUP	4 MINUTES	“ “ “
WARM UP	SENIOR ATHLETES 2 ND SUB-GROUP	4 MINUTES	MUSIC PLAYED TWICE
WARM UP	JUNIOR ATHLETES 2 ND SUB-GROUP	<u>4 MINUTES</u>	“ “ “
		16 MINUTES TOTAL	

FIRST GROUP COMPETITION

WARM UP	SENIOR ATHLETES 1 ST SUB-GROUP	4 MINUTES	MUSIC PLAYED TWICE
WARM UP	JUNIOR ATHLETES 1 ST SUB-GROUP	4 MINUTES	“ “ “
WARM UP	SENIOR ATHLETES 2 ND SUB-GROUP	4 MINUTES	MUSIC PLAYED TWICE
WARM UP	JUNIOR ATHLETES 2 ND SUB-GROUP	<u>4 MINUTES</u>	“ “ “
		16 MINUTES TOTAL	

SECOND GROUP COMPETITION

SHORT PROGRAM – MEN

If men are more than 20 (21) in one category, the GROUP will be divided in 2 as for the women. If not, they will warm up before the competition.

WARMUP PROCEDURE FOR FREESTYLE SOLO PRELIMINARIES AND SEMI FINALS

The seeding process will be followed. The sub-groups will warm up lowest to highest. The placements will be divided into 3 equal Groups (e.g. 15=5+5+5) or when there is an unequal number in the SUB-GROUPS (e.g. 20=7+7+6) the top seed GROUP is the GROUP that will use the lesser number.

A random draw within each sub-group will determine the order of warm up and performance.

The lowest placed sub-group will perform first.

WARM UP SENIOR FIRST SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
WARM UP JUNIOR FIRST SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
COMPETITION
WARM UP SENIOR SECOND SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
WARM UP JUNIOR SECOND SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
COMPETITION
WARM UP SENIOR THIRD SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
WARM UP JUNIOR THIRD SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES

If the Men's Divisions are more than 20 (21) in one category, the group will be divided in three (3) sub-groups (same as Women). If not, they will warm up before the competition (4 minutes Senior and 4 minutes Junior). Men will compete following the seeding.

WARMUP PROCEDURE FOR RHYTHMIC TWIRL PRELIMINARIES AND SEMI FINALS

A random draw will determine the preliminary order of appearance.
The order of appearance will be divided into three (3) equal Groups (e.g., 15=5+5+5) or when there is an unequal number in the SUB-GROUPs (e.g., 20=7+7+6).

The seeding process will be followed for the Semi-Finals and the sub-groups will warm up lowest to highest.

The placements will be divided into 3 equal Groups (e.g. 15=5+5+5) or when there is an unequal number in the SUB-GROUPs (e.g. 20=7+7+6) the top seed GROUP is the GROUP that will use the lesser number.

A random draw within each sub-group will determine the order of warm up and performance.

The lowest placed sub-group will perform first.

WARM UP SENIOR FIRST SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
WARM UP JUNIOR FIRST SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
COMPETITION
WARM UP SENIOR SECOND SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
WARM UP JUNIOR SECOND SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
COMPETITION
WARM UP SENIOR THIRD SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES
WARM UP JUNIOR THIRD SUB-GROUP 4 MINUTES

If the Men's Divisions are more than 20 (21) in one category, the group will be divided in three (3) sub-groups (same as Women). If not, they will warm up before the competition (4 minutes Senior and 4 minutes Junior). Men will compete following the seeding.

WARMUP PROCEDURE FOR FREESTYLE PAIR AND TEAM PRELIMINARIES

FREESTYLE PAIR

All Pair Warm-ups will be held before the competition.

The Pairs will be divided by order of appearance. Up to 16 Pairs in one category, the pairs will be divided into 2 groups. If there are more than 16 or more the pairs will be divided into 3 groups. Each group of pairs will warm up for four (4) minutes.

FREESTYLE TEAM

All Team Warm-ups will be held before the competition. Each team will be given three (3) minutes to warm up in the middle of the competition floor. No other teams will be allowed on the floor or outside of the boundaries. The rotation will follow the order of appearance.

WARM-UP & COMPETITION PROCEDURE FOR FINALS:

There will be warm up periods for the final disciplines prior to the start of each category of competition for Rhythmic Twirl, Freestyle Solo, Freestyle Pair and Team.

The first "official" set of Rhythm Twirl warmups will be done before the competition day begins.

WARM UP	Rhythmic Twirl = 10 Junior Women/ 10 Senior Women
	4 Minutes Each Age Group (8 Minutes Total Before Category Begins)
COMPETITION	Junior and Senior Women Rhythmic Twirl
WARM UP	Rhythmic Twirl = 6 or 10 Junior Men/ 6 Or 10 Senior Men
	4 Minutes Each Age Group (8 Minutes Total Before Category Begins)
COMPETITION	Junior and Senior Men Rhythmic Twirl
WARM UP	Freestyle Solo 10 Junior Women/ 10 Senior Women
	4 Minutes Each Age Group (8 minutes total before category begins)
COMPETITION	Junior and Senior Women Freestyle Solo
WARM UP	Freestyle Solo = 6 Or 10 Junior Men/ 6 Or 10 Senior Men
	4 Minutes Each Age Group (8 Minutes Total Before Category Begins)
COMPETITION	Junior and Senior Men Freestyle Solo
WARM UP	Freestyle Pair = 6 Junior/Senior
	4 Minutes Each Group (8 Minutes Total Before Category Begins)
COMPETITION	Junior and Senior Men Freestyle Pair
WARM UP	Freestyle Team = 10 Teams
	3 Minutes Each Team (30 Minutes Total Before Category Begins)
COMPETITION	Freestyle Team

26.0 SEEDING PROCEDURE FOR FREESTYLE SOLO

The seeding process will be followed. The sub-groups will compete from lowest to highest.

After short program is completed, the placements will be divided into 3 equal Groups (e.g., 15=5+5+5) or when there is an unequal number in the SUB-GROUPS (e.g., 20=7+7+6) the top seed GROUP is the GROUP that will use the lesser number for the Freestyle Solo Warmups.

Preliminary Round

- (1) To determine placement for seeding – use the Net Short Program Percentage Score.
- (2) The placements are then sub-divided into 3 equal groups. (e.g., 15=5,5,5) OR when there is an unequal number in the sub-groups (e.g., 20=6,7,7) the top seed group is the group that will use the lesser number.
- (3) A random draw within each sub-group will determine order of performance.
- (4) The lowest placed sub-group will perform first.

Semi-Finals

- (1) To determine the placement for seeding use the Net Short Program Percentage Score plus 1st round Net Freestyle percentage score.
- (2) Steps 2 repeat process for Preliminary Round
- (3) A random draw within each sub-group will determine order of performance in Semi-Finals and will be in reverse of placement within each sub-group.
- (4) The lowest placed sub-group will perform first.

Finals

- (1) To determine the finalists: use the Net Short Program Percentage Score plus 2nd round Net Freestyle percentage score.
- (2) Order of performance in Finals will be in reverse of placement as calculated above.

SEEDING PROCEDURE FOR RHYTHMIC TWIRL:

The seeding process will be followed. The order of appearance sub-groups is created after the preliminary round from lowest to highest.

Preliminary Round

- (1) A random draw will determine order of performance.

Semi-Finals

- (1) To determine the placement for seeding use the Net Rhythmic Twirl Preliminary Score
- (2) The seeding process will be followed. Order of appearance sub-groups are created after the preliminary from lowest to highest.
- (3) The placements will be divided into 3 equal Groups (e.g., 15=5+5+5) or when there is an unequal number in the SUB-GROUPS (e.g., 20=7+7+6) the top seed GROUP is the GROUP that will use the lesser number for the Rhythmic Twirl Semi-Final.
- (4) A random draw within each sub-group will determine the order of performance in Semi-Finals and will be in reverse of placement within each sub-group.
- (5) The lowest placed sub-group will perform first.

Finals

To determine the finalists,
The order of performance in Finals will be in reverse of placement.

27.0 OPEN FLOOR PRACTICE

The open floor practice sessions following the competition are open only for people who are competing next day and must follow the order of appearance for the next competition. The time will be equally divided by the competition director.

28.0 ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Finalists will perform in reverse order of placement.

29.0 ORDER OF COMPETITION FOR THE FINALS

- 1) **Rhythmic Twirl**
Junior Women and Senior Women (alternating)
Junior Men and Senior Men (alternating)
- 2) **Freestyle Solo**
Junior Women and Senior Women (alternating)
Junior Men and Senior Men (alternating)
- 3) **Freestyle Pair**
Junior and Senior (alternating)
- 4) **Freestyle Team**

30.0 SCORING AND TABULATION PROCEDURE FOR RHYTHMIC TWIRL AND FREESTYLE TEAM:

Scores are based on a 100-point scale.

Judges will use the Place Point Ordinal Scoring System for judging Rhythmic Twirl and Freestyle Team.

DETERMINATION OF PLACEMENT

Placement is determined by place points (not the scores) received. The following steps will be utilized:

Step #1 – Any majority of firsts will determine first-place only. If there is not a majority of firsts, revert to the lowest total PLACE POINTS (adding up the places each athlete received, (*minus the high and low if there are 5 or more judges on the panel). The lowest number of place points determine all other placements.

Step #2 – When there is not a majority of firsts and there is a TIE in the place points, revert back to the total numerical score from all judges. The highest total score breaks the tie and determines the higher placement.

Step #3 – If Step #1 and Step #2 have been followed and a tie remains, use the following procedure:

TIE BREAKING PROCESS

- a) In the final round, ties for any position except 1st place remain unbroken. All Ties will remain tied, and one placement will be skipped. Example: a second-place tie, the next place is fourth.
- b) If there is tie for first place, use the preliminary round placement and follow the same procedure to break the tie and determine the winner.

* 5 or more judges normally serve on the panel.

31.0 SCORING AND TABULATION PROCEDURE FOR FREESTYLE SOLO:

FREESTYLE SOLO:

Scoring process is an accumulative build-up score.

The Short Program is worth 25% of the overall score and the Freestyle portion is worth seventy-five percent (75%) of the total net score.

Freestyle Solo is judged on Technical Merit (worth 10 points) and Artistic Expression (worth 10 points).

FREESTYLE SOLO TABULATION PROCESS:

- 1) The completed Freestyle scores are recorded,
- 2) Cross out the highest and lowest score for Technical Merit and for Artistic Expression.
- 3) *Compute the total for Technical Merit and Artistic Expression, disregarding the highest and lowest scores that have been crossed out and record the total scores.
- 4) Always use 4 decimal places on each computation (4 digits to the right of the decimal point).
- 5) Add the total for Technical Merit and for Artistic Expression to get the Total Freestyle and record this sum.
- 6) Divide the total by the number of judges minus 2 (high and low) to get the judges' Average Freestyle Score and record this score in the indicated column.
- 7) Multiply the Average Score by the conversion factor (3.75) to get the Freestyle Percentage Score and record this score in the indicated column.
(This is done to equate the Freestyle score to 75%).
- 8) All Freestyle Penalties are then subtracted from to get the Net Freestyle Percentage Score

*** POLICY - If there are 5 or more judges on the WBTF Judges' Panel, the high and low scores are thrown out. If there are 4 or less judges on the WBTF Judges' Panel, the high and low scores remain to be counted in the total.**

TIE BREAKING PROCESS

FREESTYLE SOLO:

Preliminary or Semi-Final Round to Final Round: Ties will remain unbroken for all places except when advancement to the final round is in question. In this case 6th or 10th place (depending on the number in the finals) will be broken by using the Net Freestyle 75% score ONLY from the round before finals."

Final Round: To break a tie in the Finals, the Finals Freestyle Net 75% Percentage Score ONLY, will be the determining factor. The highest score being the top place. If there is tie with the Final FS 75% score, use the 1st round Net Freestyle Percentage Score to break the Tie.

32.0 SCORING AND TABULATION PROCEDURE FOR FREESTYLE PAIR:

Scores are based on a 100-point scale.

FREESTYLE PAIR:

Scoring process is an accumulative build-up score.

FREESTYLE PAIR TABULATION PROCESS:

- 1) The completed freestyle pair scores are recorded,
- 2) * Cross out the highest and lowest score
- 3) * Compute the total, disregarding the highest and lowest scores that have been crossed out and record the total scores.
- 4) All Freestyle Pair Penalties are then subtracted from to get the Net Freestyle Score

*** POLICY - *If there are 5 or more judges on the WBTF Judges' Panel, the high and low scores are thrown out. If there are 4 or less judges on the WBTF Judges' Panel, the high and low scores remain to be counted in the total.***

FREESTYLE PAIR & FREESTYLE TEAM:

All ties will remain unbroken except for the first place.

To break a tie for the first place for Freestyle Pair and Freestyle Team: Use the average score of the preliminary and the final round.

TIE BREAKING PROCESS

- a) In the final round, ties for any position except 1st place remain unbroken. All Ties will remain tied, and one placement will be skipped. Example: a second-place tie, the next place is fourth.
- b) If there is tie for first place, use the preliminary round placement and follow the same procedure to break the tie and determine the winner.

33.0 AVAILABILITY OF SCORES, RESULTS, AND NEXT ROUND ORDERS OF APPEARANCE

Short Program, Freestyle Solo, Rhythmic Twirl, Freestyle Pair, and Freestyle Team

All official result files including the Summary Sheets of Judges' Scores and the Recap Sheets will be made available at the end of each round in a shared secured file or password protected area of the website to be viewed by the following designated list of officials: The IBTF Technical Chair(s), IBTF Judges Chair(s), IBTF President, and the Technical Chairs or appointed technical person of each federation.

The technical chairs or appoint official of each have 30 minutes to review the results and report any errors that might be found. The results will then be available for public posting and website viewing following the 30-minute review time limit.

The public **WILL NOT** be informed of the results or placements until the Technical Advisors receive the results for the approval.

The IBTF Technical Chair(s) or Chief of Tabulation will notify the officials when the time limit for review is completed the results are posted.

This protocol allows the officials time to review the results before the athletes are allowed to see their placement to correct any mistakes that could possibly have been made. The scores and results are NOT to be shared with athletes or coaches until they are publicly posted. We expect this policy to be respected.

Following approval and release of the results: The results may also be posted in the venue, as well as the website. The results should be posted in an area that is accessible to the coaches and athletes in the practice area, as well as posted in an area that is accessible to the public. This will include the order of appearance for the next round of competition.

34.0 FACILITY – COMPETITION VENUE

The World Freestyle Championship will be held indoors in a gymnasium or auditorium. In selecting the competition site and facility, special consideration must be given to the need to provide certain services and conditions. These services and conditions should be in accordance with the following standards and requirements:

Competition facility must be consistent with the standards and requirements established by the IBTF.

Ceiling Height

The ceiling height is to be a minimum of 13 meters for the entire competition area.

Designated Areas

Athletes to View Freestyle Scores - Presentation Stage to receive Scores.

Awards Area

A special area will be decorated for this purpose and will contain a display of the awards, risers and method for displaying flags of winning countries' athletes.

Judges Room

For judges to be able to relax and have meals and snacks served to them.

Photography Area

There will be a designated "Photography Area" for people other than Press and Official Photographers who wish to take pictures during awards.

Press Room

For sports reporters and media relations people to work.

Dressing Rooms

There must be a sufficient number of rooms for the athletes to change costumes and to provide isolation and privacy for the contestants and coaches.

The dressing rooms should be convenient in that the users would have swift and easy accessibility to the performing area.

Facility – Competition Venue (continued)

Floor Size

For Championship Disciplines – Rhythmic Twirl, Freestyle Solo, Freestyle Pair, and Freestyle Team

Floor boundaries (15 m x 28 m minimum; 49.21 ft x 91.68 ft minimum).
(full basketball floor depending on location of competition)

Area	NBA		FIBA	
	Imperial	Metric	Imperial	Metric
Court length	94 ft	28.65 m	91.86 ft	28 m
Court width	50 ft	15.24 m	49.21 ft	15 m

It is recommended to provide floor markings. Suggest carpeting around the perimeter of the competition floor.

If the floor is not marked, it should be marked front/back and left/right centers on the carpet using vertical and horizontal lines – in case a basketball court is not used.

The boundaries will not be strictly interpreted as boundaries per se, but as the size of the floor that is available to the athletes. Should an athlete step on or across the lines, the judges will each determine individually, whether or not this is cause for lowering the score, based on the athlete's floor pattern and use of the space.

The composition of the floor shall be of wood, concrete or any other substance that is smooth, level and free from any obstruction or hazard that may in any way hinder the contestants' performances. It is important that the floor not be too slippery and/or sticky.

35.0 LIGHTING

The lighting should be adequate, however, not too intense or directed so as not to create a glare or otherwise hinder the vision of the athletes.

The athletes should have an opportunity to rehearse under the same lighting condition as the competition.

36.0 SEATING ARRANGEMENTS – JUDGES

Short Program Competition:

The judges are to be seated at floor level. If there are two rows, the second row of judges must be seated so they are alternated between the first row.

The judges seating area shall be in the exact centre (Center) of the Short Program performance performing area directly outside of the front boundary line. The judges' tables shall not be too far spread out so as to cause the judges seated on each end to view the athlete from an inconvenient angle. The judges' area must be isolated from contact with any unauthorized person or group and must be free from any visual obstructions.

Rhythmic Twirl, Freestyle Solo, Freestyle Pair and Freestyle Team Competition

Judges must be seated at tables in 2 or 4 rows; all rows elevated during the judging of IBTF Rhythm Twirl, Freestyle Solo, Freestyle Pair and Freestyle Team competition, in the exact center front of the competition floor.

This section may be in the "stands" but must be clearly designated as the "Judges Area" and must be positioned away from any spectator traffic so that no person or object may pass between the judges' line of vision and the competition floor. The "Judges Area" must also be isolated from any contact with any unauthorized person or group and must be free from any visual obstructions.

Two panels of judges will be utilized.

After the drawing of judge's seating, the judges maintain that position throughout the competition for those divisions.

37.0 SEATING ARRANGEMENTS SPECTATORS

There should be adequate seating capacity within the venue for viewing the competition.

38.0 SEATING ARRANGEMENTS IBTF OFFICIALS & DIGNITARIES

A specially designated area of the stands shall be provided for these officials to view the competition. The Technical Committee Chair(s), Judges Chair(s), or official representative (appointed by the Technical Chair) **must** be available at all times during the competition. They shall be seated in a designated area, with access to all aspects of the competition.

39.0 IBTF PARTICIPANT BADGE:

The IBTF is responsible for providing each athlete with an athlete's participant badge. Badge to indicate: World Freestyle & Rhythmic Twirl Championship; city and country where Championship held; year WORLD Championship held.

40.0 AWARDS FOR WORLD FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIP

IBTF Award Certificates, Medallions, Plaques

(IBTF awards will not exceed price set by the IBTF Board of Directors).

DISCIPLINE:

RHYTHMIC TWIRL:

Junior and Senior Men; Junior and Senior Women

1st - IBTF gold medallion; 2nd - IBTF silver medallion.

3rd - IBTF bronze medallion; 4th, 5th & 6th - IBTF Plaque

1st-10th Official Award Placement Certificates

FREESTYLE SOLO

Junior and Senior Men; Junior and Senior Women

1st - IBTF gold medallion; 2nd - IBTF silver medallion.

3rd - IBTF bronze medallion; 4th, 5th & 6th - IBTF Plaque

1st-10th Official Award Placement Certificates

FREESTYLE PAIR

1st - 2 IBTF gold medallions; 2nd - 2 IBTF silver medallions.

3rd - 2 IBTF bronze medallions

4th, 5th & 6th - IBTF Plaque

1st-10th Official Award Placement Certificates

FREESTYLE TEAM

1st - 10 IBTF gold medallions; 2nd - 10 IBTF silver medallions.

3rd - 10 IBTF bronze medallions

4th, 5th & 6th - IBTF Plaque

1st-10th Official Award Placement Certificates

WORLD CUP CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD

The country whose athletes, pairs and team earn the highest number of accumulated. place points will receive the " **IBTF WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD**"

Second through sixth (2nd through 6th) place countries will also receive an appropriate IBTF award.

If there is a tie for 1st place WORLD Cup, both countries will share the IBTF WORLD CUP. Each country will have the WORLD Cup for six (6) months. IBTF will be pay for the shipping costs to transport the WORLD Cup to the other country. The country that has the WORLD Cup for the final six (6) months will be responsible for returning the WORLD Cup to the IBTF and both countries will receive a replacement plaque as an award.

RIBBON FOR MEDALLIONS:

The Host Country will provide appropriate medallion neck ribbons of a design unique to the International Baton Twirling Federation.

AWARDS AND ENGRAVING:

MEDALLIONS - The Host Country will be responsible for providing the medallions and the engraving on the back of the medallions. On the back will appear the discipline, e.g., Sr. Women; current year and the name of the city/country where Championship are being held.

PLAQUES - The Host Country will be responsible for providing the 4th, 5th & 6th place plaques. The plaques to display the IBTF logo, plus discipline, e.g., Sr. Women's Division; current year and the name of the city/country where Championship are being held.

IBTF CERTIFICATE OF PLACEMENT:

All semi-finalists will be presented with an official certificate of placement. The IBTF will be responsible for supplying the template to the host country to print the IBTF placement certificates. The host country will be responsible for completing certificates. The certificate should display athletes' name and country, age division, category, and placement. Example:

- Placement - 22nd OR
- if there is a semi-final/final round the certificate should indicate the semi-final placement as well as the final placement.
- The athletes who place 7th through 12th or 7th through 20th or 7th through 30th (depending on the number in the semi-final round) will be presented with their certificate during the Awards Presentation, as well as the 1st through 6th or 1st through 10th Finalists.

Certificate to be signed by the President of the IBTF or his/her designate.

WORLD CUP AWARDS - The Host Country will be responsible for providing the 2nd through 6th place World Country awards. The awards are to display the IBTF logo, discipline, location of championship (city and country), current year and placement.

IBTF CERTIFICATES: COACH RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

1. Host Country is responsible for providing an IBTF "Coach Recognition Certificate" will be presented to all official delegate coaches who are listed in the official registration of the country.

IBTF CERTIFICATES: JUDGE RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

2. Host Country is responsible for providing an IBTF "Judge Recognition Certificate" will be presented to all official delegate judges who are listed in the official registration of the country.

The IBTF will be responsible for supplying the template to the host country to print the IBTF placement certificates. The host country will be responsible for completing certificates.

The IBTF Judge Recognition Certificate are presented by the IBTF President and IBTF Judges' Chairs.

Athletes Participant Badges and Coaches Recognition Certificates should be inserted in the "country" package to be given along with credential badges and preordered programs to the official representative at Registration time.

REGARDING THE DECORATED AWARDS AREA - If the host country is displaying its country's logo/name, etc., then the IBTF's name and logo must appear as well.

41.0 CEREMONIES & AWARDS FOR IBTF CHAMPIONSHIP

ATHLETES' PROTOCOL FOR DRESS:

- Opening Ceremony - Country Track Suits or Warm-Ups
- Awards Ceremony – Costumes
- Closing Ceremony – Country Track Suits or Warm-Ups

STAGING OF IBTF OPENING CEREMONIES (Start time of 18:30 <6:30 pm> the evening prior to the start of competition.)

OPENING CEREMONIES:

PARADE OF NATIONS:

1. Countries will enter the floor in alphabetical order following the English language. The host country will enter last and take the centre floor position.
2. The IBTF President and Executive Board Members
3. IBTF Member Country's Presidents or Representative.
4. IBTF Executive Technical Committee Members
5. IBTF Member Country Technical Advisors
6. IBTF Member Country Judges' Representatives and the Official Judges of the Championship

Points 3-5 – the name of the Country will be announced, not by single name.

Following introduction, all VIP's and Officials will be seated in front of the floor.

Countries will enter the floor in alphabetical order. The host country will enter last and take the centre floor position. The staging may be done in 1) block formation by rows 2) formation by rows 3) Arc formation by rows.

The staging will be determined by the number of countries and size of each country's contingency.

The Flag Bearer and Country Sign of each country will be at the front. It is a protocol to acknowledge the flag bearer/carrier's name.

All National Flags must be of the same size and carried on the same size flagpole. All National Flags have the same seniority.

The protocol of the Opening Ceremony procession is as follows:

The board bearer/carrier bearing the countries name followed by the National Flag, carried by a member of the delegation and then the delegation, this should be in alphabetical order following the English language.

The protocol of the Opening Ceremony procession is as follows:

While the National Anthem of each country is being played the National Flag of this country should be lifted and then dipped straight ahead. Once the anthem has finished the flag should be lowered and the flag bearer/carrier will take the flag to the holding unit that will be in use for the duration of the competition and place the flag in the required spot.

The Flag bearer/carrier should then return to stand with his/her country's team.

The host countries flag should be placed in the center of any display unit during the competition with all the other National Flags being placed in alphabetical order on the left of the host countries flag and the next flag placed on the right of the host country and alternating until all flags are in place.

No flag should be placed on the floor, but the pole may rest on the floor.

The host country will provide a shortened version of every country's National anthem to be played at Opening Ceremonies.

- 1) Entry of the IBTF flag. The IBTF Flag is carried in and passes in review before being hoisted to a place of prominence in the arena. The flag bearers will be appointed by the host country.

Welcome Speeches and Introductions:

- 1) Host country's WORLD Representative and/or Country's President
- 2) Introduction of WORLD Championship Competition Director & Announcer(s)
- 3) Any visiting dignitary (i.e., City official, Sponsor, etc.)
- 4) Designated Athlete will read the "Athlete's Creed".
- 5) Designated Judges will read the "Judges' Oath".
- 6) Return and Presentation of WORLD Cup: The WORLD Cup is carried in by the reigning WORLD Cup Champions and should be placed at the front of the centre of the floor. The WORLD Cup will be received by the President of the IBTF.
- 7) IBTF President Speech (President will declare the opening of the competition.)

Entertainment may be provided but is not necessary. The opening ceremonies should be conducted in an efficient and limited amount of time.

STAGING OF IBTF MEDAL CEREMONIES

MEDAL CEREMONIES

The Awards Podium Steps are to be centered on the competition floor, approximately 10-12 steps in front of the centre (center) point. (The steps are not to be positioned at the very edge of the floor OR in front of the floor.)

All VIP's and Officials who are presenting awards should be seated in front of the floor. Prior to the beginning of the Awards Presentation, the list of Presenter's should be introduced.

PROTOCOL FOR AWARD PRESENTATIONS:

Introduction and seating of all VIP's and Officials

Awards to be presented in the following order before the closing ceremonies:

1. Awards for Junior Women and Junior Men Rhythmic Twirl and Freestyle Solo
2. Awards for Senior Women and Senior Men Rhythmic Twirl and Freestyle Solo
3. Awards for Junior and Senior Freestyle Pair
4. Awards for the Freestyle Team
5. The WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY will be presented during Closing Ceremonies.

AWARDS PRESENTERS

Freestyle Solo and Rhythmic Twirl

Awards are announced in the following order:

All semi-finalists in Rhythmic Twirl and Freestyle Solo will be presented with their certificates immediately prior to the top six or 10 finalists being announced.

As their names are announced, winners will take their places on specially marked risers to receive their awards.

Following the semi-finalists certificate presentation, all six or ten winners are announced. The host country will hoist the country flag of the top three athletes (or display the flags electronically). The anthem will be played for the Gold Medalist.

Finalist Awards for all disciplines:

Gold, silver and bronze IBTF medallions, plus certificates will be presented by a IBTF Board members.

4th, 5th & 6th place awards will be presented by a IBTF Board member or by an official delegate appointed by the President & host country.

7th, 8th, 9th, 10th Certificates (if there are 31 or more athletes) will be presented by a IBTF Board member or by an official delegate appointed by the President & host country.

Three (3) Board Members will assist with presenting IBTF medallions & Certificates to Teams.

Awards presenters are based upon attending country's official representatives/presidents and special dignitaries in attendance. Introduction of Award's presenters should be done prior **to** the beginning of the presentation of the awards, and the presenter's names should not be announced again during the presentations.

AWARDS ARE TO BE PRESENTED IN ASSEMBLY FASHION

1. CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION TO SEMI-FINALISTS:

If there are 31 or more athletes in a freestyle discipline: The 20 athletes reaching the semi-finals will receive semi-finalist certificates. The 11th through 20th place semi-finalists will receive a IBTF certificate before the final top 10 athletes' awards are announced.

If there are 16 to 30 athletes in a freestyle discipline: The 12 athletes reaching the semi-finals will receive semi-finalist certificates before the final top 6 athletes' awards are announced.

Where there are 15 athletes or less, only the 6 final athletes receive certificates.

- 1) Semi-Final Certificates will be presented by designated officials lined up on the edge of floor.
- 2) Athletes Names are to be read in reverse order of placement.
- 3) Presenters then step forward and present the certificates to the semi-finalists or finalists at the same time and then exit the floor.

2. MEDAL PRESENTATION:

- 1) Gold, Silver, Bronze Medals and 4th, 5th, 6th place awards (and 7th through 10th certificates if there are 31 or more athletes) will be presented by designated officials lined up on the edge of floor in front of awards podium
- 2) Medal Presentation Bearers carrying the medals & all other gifts/awards on pillows or trays should stand directly beside the designated Presenter to their right side.
- 3) Athletes Names are to be read in order of placement from 6th place to 1st place.
- 4) Presenters then step forward and present the medals & any other gift/awards to all of the winners at the same time and then exit the floor.

The IBTF will assist the host country with versions of every country's National anthem to be played at Opening Ceremonies and for all Medal Ceremonies.

A Flag Raising Apparatus is to be displayed in clear view of all, to raise the flags of the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medallists. (or displayed the flags electronically)

WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD PRESENTATION:

The country whose athletes, pairs and team earn the highest number of accumulated place points will receive the **IBTF WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD**. The 2nd-6th place countries will also receive an appropriate IBTF award (plaque or trophy)

The top 6 countries will be announced, 6th through 1st place. Following the announcement, the Host Country will hoist the country flag (or display the flags electronically) of the top three countries. The anthem will be played for the 1st place winner.

If there is a tie for 1st place: The WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD will remain with one country for 6 months, then will be presented to the other country to be returned at the next WORLD Freestyle Championship.

The WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD should be displayed in prominent view at the Awards Ceremony. The IBTF President will present the WORLD CHAMPION COUNTRY AWARD to the winning country.

WORLD CUP POINT VALUE AND TABULATION:

Tabulation will add the number of finalists (when applicable) and the remainder of the competitors from the preliminary round in order from highest score. The countries' scores and final placement are also pulled in. Using the number entered, "World Cup" points are awarded in reverse order. Example: if there are 22 competitors, the competitor who took first place would receive 22 points and the competitor in 22nd place would receive 1 point. Ties: if 2 competitors tied for first place, they should both receive 22 points and the competitor in third place should get 20 points.

If a competitor became ill or injured, he/she should still be counted in this process as they will still receive a point. If a competitor became disqualified along the way, she/she should not be included in the number used because they will not receive any points.

Freestyle Pairs and Freestyle Teams are also included in the World Cup tabulation. It is configured exactly the same as the individual disciplines.


STAGING OF IBTF CLOSING CEREMONIES

CLOSING CEREMONIES

PARADE OF NATIONS:

- 1) Countries will enter the floor in alphabetical order.
The host country will enter last and take the Center floor position.
- 2) The IBTF President and Executive Board Members
- 3) IBTF Member Country's Presidents or Representative
- 4) IBTF Executive Technical Committee Members
- 5) IBTF Member Country Technical Advisors
- 6) IBTF Member Country Judges' Representatives and the Official Judges of the Championship

Following introduction, all VIP's and Officials will be seated in front of the floor.

The staging may be done in 1) block formation by rows 2)  formation by rows
3) Arc formation by rows.

The staging will be determined by the number of countries and size of each country's contingency.

The Flag Bearer and Country Sign of each country will be at the front.

At the closing ceremony the flags should be placed back in the holding unit when the announcer calls for the flags to be retired to the display unit and only removed once the audience has left the arena. This again would be as a mark of respect for the National Flags.

CLOSING SPEECHES & PRESENTATIONS:

- 1) Coaches' Appreciation (Certificates for coaches part of registration packet)
- 2) Judges' Certificates of Appreciation Presentation
- 3) Awards Presentations
- 4) Speeches by dignitaries
- 5) Host country's WORLD Representative and/or Country's President
- 6) Introduction of WORLD Championship Competition Staff
- 7) Any visiting dignitary (i.e., City official, Sponsor, etc.)
- 8) Tossing of the "Friendship" Baton. Host country designates athlete from their country to toss the Friendship baton to the designated athlete from the next host country.
- 10) Lowering of IBTF Flag
- 11) Presentation of IBTF Flag by Host Country to IBTF President who in turn awards the IBTF to the next hosting country of the WORLD Championship.
- 9) IBTF President Speech (President will declare the closing of the competition.)

The closing ceremonies should be conducted in an efficient and limited amount of time. Immediately following the closing ceremonies, a representative from each country will report to the tabulation area to pick up the results for their country's athletes. Judges and other official competition personnel may also pick up their results at this time and the results will be posted online for all.

The current Host Country must make arrangements with the next host country as to how the IBTF flags (banners) are to be given to the new host country. The next host country to take them immediately following the closing ceremonies, or current host country to ship the IBTF flags (banners) at the expense of the next host country.

Should the IBTF flag or the World Champion Country Award be lost, it will be the responsibility of the previous Host Country to purchase those items at their expense.

42.0 PROTESTS/APPEALS

POLICY/PROTOCOL FOR CORRECTING MISTAKES MADE IN ANNOUNCING AND AWARDING OF WRONG ATHLETE: (How to correct and award the correct athlete, how to stage re-presentation, how to correct award picture.)

(This policy is effective for the WORLD Championships, WORLD Cups, along with all Continental Level Cups and Championship.)

1. Judges ' decisions are considered final, and their scores cannot be appealed.

The exception is penalties.

Penalties incorrectly assessed for drops and/or content restrictions may be challenged ONLY if the appeal is submitted to the technical director within the 30 minutes following the announcement that the results have been posted and before the next round of competition is to take place or before the final placements are announced at awards ceremonies.

Appeal of an incorrectly assessed drop penalty or content restriction involves the technical director and judge's chair ability to review an officially sanctioned video which clearly displays the error.

It should be noted that two judges are to be used to assess drop penalties for Team. If the number of drops assessed differs between the two judges the average number is taken and will be rounded up to the next whole number. For example: Penalty Judge # 1 assesses 4 drops.
Penalty Judge # 2 assesses 3 drops.

In an effort to help correct penalties incorrectly assessed in error in a timely manner, the penalty judges will display the penalties immediately following the performance. Drop penalties will be displayed on White Cards with Red Numbers and Content Restrictions will be displayed in Yellow Cards with Black Numbers

It should also be noted that incorrectly assessed penalties "missed" may be appealed just penalties taken in error.

All tabulated results are considered final 48 hours after the close of the competition.

Errors in tabulation or score calculation identified within the immediate timeframe of the competition are to be reported to the competition organizers, who will investigate and correct immediately as necessary.

In this case, to officially correct an error, the following procedure should be implemented:

- Have all competitors in the category/age division who placed in the division report to the competition director with their medallions.
- Explain the error to the competitors, award ceremony coordinator, and announcer.
- Schedule, as quickly as possible, a public corrected awards presentation of the division.
- An official picture of the corrected final placement is taken for historical documentation.
- In the discipline all competitors who cannot be reached or present for a publicly corrected awards presentation for the division, the process stated below will take place:
 - The corrected placements will be officially announced.
 - The official photographer will need to “photoshop” the official picture with the athletes standing in their proper final placement.

43. APPEALS COMMITTEE REGARDING TABULATION:

1. The Appeals Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Federation.
2. The President shall appoint two (2) members of the elected Executive of the Federation, one of which may be the Vice President.

44. RULES OF ENGAGEMENT REGARDING A REVIEW OF PENALTIES

- 1) IF the Penalty Judge is certain about the penalties, he/she will display the penalty amount after the routine is done.
- 2) IF the Penalty Judge is initially uncertain but becomes certain after reviewing the video on their iPad, he/she will flash the penalty amount after the routine is done (basically, the same as 1 but with a brief delay, which is essentially the same time the other judges need to determine their score.
- 3) IF the Penalty Judge is initially uncertain and cannot reach a decision in the time available before the next set, he/she will flash a RED card instead of a penalty amount. This tells the athlete & coach & audience that a decision is pending and will require a review once the division has finished.

With the above... the 30-minute window begins. Coaches know the penalty amounts or know that a review is pending.

If a review was required (for Item 3 or because a coach submits an appeal):
Following completion of the review the Technical Chair will inform the coach of the result, either in person if the coach is available or by email.

Once all reviews are complete and all coaches are notified, and after the 30-minute window closes, the results will be posted.

By the time the results are posted, no more reviews can be received.

**INTERNATIONAL BATON TWIRLING FEDERATION
REQUEST FOR REVIEW**

**Form must be submitted to the designated area
within the time frame of the rules**

IBTF CONTENT RESTRICTION AND/OR DROP PENALTY CHALLENGE	
DATE:	TIME:
ATHLETE/PAIR/TEAM NAME:	CATEGORY:
	AGE DIVISION:
	SET NUMBER:
COUNTRY:	LANE NUMBER:
PRIMARY COACH NAME:	
REASON FOR APPEAL:	
SIGNATURE OF TECHNICAL ADVISOR OR COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE:	
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY RESOLUTION:	
IBTF OFFICIAL SIGNATURE: DATE:	

45.0 SPORTSMANSHIP/CODE OF ETHICS

The IBTF believes in the development and promotion of good sportsmanship during competition.

Demonstrations of unsportsmanlike conduct and/or unethical behavior will not be tolerated at the competition. (This includes unsportsmanlike behavior through social media). All penalties will be in proportion to the behavioral display.

Individual athletes, group competitors and spectators causing problems and disturbances.
are subject to the following treatment:

- Suspension
- Disqualification from future competitions. Time proportional to behavior
- Retraction of placement and awards

46.0 DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The Discipline Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President, Executive Committee of the International Baton Twirling Federation, and other appointed IBTF Disciplinary Commission Members, as needed.

47.0 LIABILITY INSURANCE

Host Country is responsible for the following insurance coverage for all activities prior to and during all IBTF Competitions:

- Accident Insurance (per person) - Death, Invalid
- General Liability Insurance

48.0 STAY TO PLAY POLICY

For all IBTF disciplines, all countries official delegation members (athletes, coaches and judges) are required to stay in the designated lodging options provided by the host country when the host country stipulates it is a condition of discipline sponsorship.

Penalty

Participants who do not comply with the policy shall be denied badge holder rights.

The IBTF has the right to deny entry.

However, should there be circumstances where a participant is unable to stay in a host hotel, having made every effort to comply, then it shall apply to the IBTF for an exemption from this penalty, which exemption shall not be unreasonably denied.

Reasons for Exemption

Will be addressed and considered by the Host Country and the IBTF Executive Board.

APPENDIX 1 – BATON AND COSTUME INSPECTION FORM

BATON AND COSTUME INSPECTION FORM

FOR SHORT PROGRAM, FREESTYLE SOLO, RHYTHMIC TWIRL, FREESTYLE PAIR AND FREESTYLE TEAM

ATHLETE'S NAME/S:		Category:
COUNTRY/REGION:		
BATON	YES - BATON SHAFT must be made of steel & the TIP/BALL must be white YES - The use of grip tape is optional YES - Grip tape can cover up to 1/2 of the shaft, divided equally from the center when measuring the shaft, not including the ball or tip YES - Grip tape can be applied in solid, striped, or spiral fashion YES - Tape can be of two color (s), black, grey or white. (One color to wrap and other color to mark the center.) YES - Pair/Team members must use same color of grip tape on baton(s) for uniformity	
OTHER (applies to all disciplines)	YES - Athletic bandages for injury MAY BE WORN YES - Eyeglasses MAY BE WORN NO - No Sunglasses NO - No powder, rosin, water, or any other substances are allowed on competition floor NO - No towel, sweatbands or other items are allowed on competition floor NO - No jewelry or body piercing allowed. Small stud earrings may be worn. NO - Any tattoos should be covered, but it is not mandatory	
SHORT PROGRAM		
HAIR	YES - Hair must be secured by any method which is not ornamentation, trim or costume jewelry	
COSTUME WOMEN	YES - Sleeveless leotard must be in colors of National Flag or Federation, or in recognized colors of their National Sports Federation, or in any color providing their National Federation sports badge or emblem of the Nation is attached to the uniform NO - Absolutely nothing may be hung or attached to the leotard	
COSTUME MEN	YES - Top with no sleeves OR short sleeves, scooped or "V" neckline YES - Pants must be long YES - One piece suit (as above) must be colors of National Flag or Federation, or in recognized colors of their National Sports Federation, or in any color providing their National Federation sports badge or emblem of the Nation is attached to the uniform YES - Belts may be worn, but must comply with other costume restrictions NO - Absolutely nothing may be hung or attached to the uniform	
FOOTWEAR & LEGWEAR	YES - Sports shoes must be worn bearing in mind this is a sporting discipline YES - Color of shoes may be: (WOMEN - Beige, White, Black) (MEN - Beige, White, Black or the color of the pants) YES - Ankle socks, if worn (must be above the ankle and below calf muscle), color of socks must be the same color as pants (men) YES - Tights of flesh color only may be worn NO - Long Socks	
FREESTYLE – RHYTHMIC TWIRL- PAIR – TEAM		
HAIR & ACCESSORIES	YES - Must be secured by any method bearing in mind this is a sport. Hair decorations must be secured to the hair YES - Any hair accessory or attached costume accessory may be used, but NO - Must not cover any part of the face below the eyebrows and must be reasonable, bearing in mind this is a sport	
MAKE UP	YES - Moderate stage make up, to enhance natural facial features YES - Make up should be used bearing in mind this is a sporting discipline NO - No body make up, paint or glitter is allowed NO - Nothing stuck to the face or the body NO - Nothing drawn/stenciled on the face or body	
COSTUME	YES - All athletes, pairs & teams may wear a costume of their own choice, bearing in mind this is a sport YES - Athletes must perform in the same costume worn during music test and use the same baton YES - Pairs & Teams may have any costume combination possible, bearing in mind this is a sport NO - No costume may cover the palms of the hands	
FOOTWEAR & LEGWEAR	YES - Sport shoes must be worn, bearing in mind this is a sporting discipline YES - Shoe soles must meet facility regulations YES - Socks or tights of choice may be worn, bearing in mind this is a sporting discipline. NO - Painted shoes must not leave marks /color on the floor or the athletes' country will be financially responsible to repair the damage. YES - Floor monitor has the right to ask the athlete(s) to change shoes if a potential problem is identified.	
Athletes who intentionally disregard the clothing or equipment infractions pointed out by the Floor Monitor will automatically be assessed the penalty for violation		
FLOOR MONITOR _____ 1st CHECK _____ PRELIMINARIES _____ SEMI-FINALS _____ FINALS _____	ATHLETE'S REPRESENTATIVE _____ 1st CHECK _____ PRELIMINARIES _____ SEMI-FINALS _____ FINALS _____	
COMMENTS:	_____ FLOOR MONITOR'S SIGNATURE	

APPENDIX 2 – JUDGE SCORE SHEETS

Athlete Name											IBTF RHYTHMIC TWIRL SCORE SHEET FOR WFNBTJ JUDGES 100 POINT SCALE																																																																																																																	
Age Division:																																																																																																																												
Level:																																																																																																																												
Event:																																																																																																																												
Checked - very good Circled - unsatisfactory	Weak 0-10	Low Fair 11	Fair 12	High Fair 13	Low Avg 14	Avg 15	Good 16	Very good 17	Exc. 18	Sup. 19	Score																																																																																																																	
CHOREOGRAPHY (Routine Design) 20	TWIRL COMPOSITION WITH DANCE CORRELATION OF BODY AND BATON MUSICAL INTERPRETATION FLOOR COVERAGE TRANSITIONS																																																																																																																											
TWIRLING CONTENT 20	TWIRL/DANCE COMBINATIONS VARIETY DIFFICULTY DIFFICULTY CREATED THROUGH FOLLOW THROUGH TIMING, CONTINUITY & INTRICACY TWIRLS APPROPRIATE TO MUSICAL INTERPRETATION TRAVEL SEQUENCES STATIONARY SEQUENCES																																																																																																																											
TWIRLING TECHNIQUE 20	BATON SPEED AND CONTROL SMOOTHNESS (FLOW OF BATON) RELEASES RECEPTIONS HORIZONTAL					GENERAL HANDLING BATON PATTERN VERTICAL																																																																																																																						
DANCE TECHNIQUE 20	BODY LINES LEG LINES FOOTWORK BALANCE USE OF ARM AND HANDS TIMING/COORDINATION WITH MUSIC					POSTURE BODY CONTROL AND																																																																																																																						
PRESENTATION 20	PROJECTION: FACIAL EXPRESSIONS EYE CONTACT CONFIDENCE MUSICAL INTERPRETATION ATTITUDE					MUSIC PERFECTION ATTIRE AND GROOMING																																																																																																																						
<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>1.0</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>3.0</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>6.0</td> <td>7.0</td> <td>8.0</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>10.0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align:right;">Score</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drop</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fall</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td>20</td> <td>30</td> <td>40</td> <td>50</td> <td>60</td> <td>70</td> <td>80</td> <td>90</td> <td>100</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align:right;">Penalties</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Restricted Content per infraction</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baton Penalty</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align:right;">TOTAL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leaving the floor early</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>4.0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align:right;">SCORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unsportsmanlike Behaviour</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Disqualification</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>														1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0			Score	Drop														Fall															10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100			Penalties	Restricted Content per infraction														Baton Penalty													TOTAL	Leaving the floor early			4.0										SCORE	Unsportsmanlike Behaviour				Disqualification									
	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0			Score																																																																																																															
Drop																																																																																																																												
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Clerk's Initials :						Judge :																																																																																																																						

NOTE: SCORE SHEETS ARE NOT USED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ATHLETES AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP. THIS IS ONLY FOR REFERENCE.

IBTF RHYTHMIC TWIRL JUDGES' MASTER for WFNBTAs Judges
Rhythmic Twirl

Judge's Signature

Senior Women



Enter Location

Enter Dates

Set	Name of Athlete	Country	Choreography 20 pts	Twirling Content 20 pts	Twirling Technique 20 pts	Dance Technique 20 pts	Presentation 20 pts	GROSS SCORE	Drops	Other Penalties	NET SCORE	PLACEMENT

NOTE: SCORE SHEETS ARE NOT USED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ATHLETES AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP. THIS IS ONLY FOR REFERENCE.

**JUDGE'S OFFICIAL SCORING
FOR
SENIOR SHORT PROGRAM REQUIRED ELEMENTS
AND ACCESSORY MATERIAL**

Athlete # _____ **Judge:** _____
Name: _____
Country: _____
Division: Sr. Women

Required Elements Score

- | | | |
|----|--|-------|
| 1 | Traveling Complex - Vertical Toss, Grand Jete' | _____ |
| 2 | Vertical Toss, 1 1/2 Spin to L, LH Blind Catch | _____ |
| 3 | 4 Continuous Elbow Rolls with R Arm Layout | _____ |
| 4 | 2 Continuous Flat Back Neck Rolls | _____ |
| 5 | Horizontal LH Toss, 1 1/2 Spin R, RH Flat Back Catch | _____ |
| 6a | Vertical Contact Material | _____ |
| 6b | Horizontal Contact Material | _____ |
| 7 | Vertical RH Toss, Reverse Illusion | _____ |
| 8 | Vertical RH Toss, 2 Spin to L, Catch LH | _____ |

Required Elements Judge's Signature _____

Composition & Performance Scores

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|-------|
| 9. | Composition | _____ |
| 10. | Performance | _____ |

Composition & Performance Judge's Signature _____

Penalties

Illegal Accessory Material [execution of any disallowed moves]:
 2.0 point per infraction deducted from the Short Program Net Percentage Score

2.0 pts per infraction	Circle Number of Infractions:
1 2 3 4 5 6a 6b 7 8	# of infractions X 2.0 = _____

Failure to initiate Required Element on Count 1 of the music:
 0.1 point per infraction deducted from the Short Program Net Percentage Score

0.1 pts per infraction	Circle Number of Infractions:
1 2 3 4 5 6a 6b 7 8	# of infractions X 0.1 = _____

Penalty Judge's Signature _____

**JUDGE'S OFFICIAL SCORING
FOR
JUNIOR SHORT PROGRAM REQUIRED ELEMENTS**

Athlete #

Judge:

Name:

Country:

Division:

Junior Men or Women

Required Elements Score

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Traveling Complex - Vertical Toss, Grand Jete' | _____ | |
| 2. | Vertical Toss, 1 1/2 Spin to L, LH Blind Catch | _____ | |
| 3. | 4 Continuous Elbow Rolls with R Arm Layout | _____ | |
| 4. | 2 Continuous Flat Back Neck Rolls | _____ | |
| 5. | Horizontal LH Toss, 1 1/2 Spin R, RH Flat Back Catch | _____ | |
| 6a. | Vertical Contact Material | _____ | <i>6a and 6b are averaged</i> |
| 6b. | Horizontal Contact Material | _____ | <i>in tabulation</i> |
| 7. | Vertical RH Toss, Reverse Illusion | _____ | |
| 8. | Vertical RH Toss, 2 Spin to L, Catch LH | _____ | |

Required Elements Judge's Signature _____

Failure to initiate Required Element on Count 1 of the music:	
0.1 point per infraction deducted from the Short Program Net Percentage Score	
0.1 pts per infraction	Circle Number of Infractions:
1 2 3 4 5 6a 6b 7 8	# of infractions X 0.1 = _____

Penalty Judge's Signature _____

INTERNATIONAL BATON TWIRLING FEDERATION - JUDGES SHORT PROGRAM MASTER															
Category: Sr. Women		JUDGE:				Signature:									
R E F E R E N C E		1	2	3	4	5	6a	6b	7	8	9	10	TOTAL	Required Element Penalty Box	Illegal Accessory Material Penalty Box
	ATHLETE'S NAME	Traveling Complex - Vertical Toss, Grand Jete'	Vertical Toss, 1 1/2 Spin to L, LH Blind Catch	4 Continuous Elbow Rolls with R Arm Layout	2 Continuous Flat Back Neck Rolls	Horizontal LH Toss, 1 1/2 Spin R, RH Flat Back Catch	Vertical Contact Material	Horizontal Contact Material	Vertical RH Toss, Reverse Illusion	Vertical RH Toss, 2 Spin to L, Catch LH	Composition	Performance			

JUDGES FREESTYLE MASTER

Judge: _____

Category _____

JUDGES' SIGNATURE: _____

No.	Athlete's Name	Technical Merit	Artistic Expression	Total Score	
					<div style="text-align: center;">VERTICAL OLYMPIC SCALE</div> <p>The diagram shows a vertical scale from 0.0 to 10.0. It is divided into five performance categories, each with a 'High', 'Mid', and 'Low' sub-range:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superior: 9.1 to 10.0 (High: 9.8-10.0, Mid: 9.4-9.8, Low: 9.1-9.4) Excellent: 7.1 to 8.4 (High: 8.1-8.4, Mid: 7.7-8.1, Low: 7.1-7.7) Good: 4.6 to 6.1 (High: 5.8-6.1, Mid: 5.3-5.8, Low: 4.6-5.3) Average: 2.1 to 3.8 (High: 3.4-3.8, Mid: 2.9-3.4, Low: 2.1-2.9) Fair: 0.0 to 1.4 (High: 1.1-1.4, Mid: 0.7-1.1, Low: 0.0-0.7)

IBTF JUDGES' PAIR-TEAM MASTER

Event
Category
Round

Location

Date

Judge:

Judges' Signature: _____

OVERALL DEGREE OF EXCELLENCE SCALE		FAIR			AVERAGE			GOOD			EXCELLENT			SUPERIOR		
		LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH
		0.0- 9.9	10.0- 19.9	20.0- 29.9	30.0- 36.6	36.7- 43.2	43.3- 49.9	50.0- 56.6	56.7- 63.2	63.3- 69.9	70.0- 76.6	76.7- 83.2	83.3- 89.9	90.0- 93.2	93.3- 96.6	96.7- 100.0
SET	TEAM / PAIR NAME:	COMMENTS:						GROSS SCORE	LESS PENALITES	NET SCORE	PLACE	TIES				