



## SECTION VII: EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION - JUDGES

### I. Mission Statement

The mission of USA Gymnastics Trampoline & Tumbling judges is to promote and support the sports of Trampoline, Tumbling, and Double Mini through ongoing professional education and development. Judges will use their knowledge to offer unbiased and professional evaluation of their respective disciplines.

### II. Code of Ethics

As a USAG Trampoline & Tumbling judge you agree to abide by the Judges Code of Ethics. When you accept your rating, you agree to the following:

1. A good judge is an individual who is educated to evaluate a performance based on technical execution and to pass fair and unbiased judgment on that performance without any outside considerations.
2. Judges are expected to be objective, professional, and free from prejudice. The following should not affect your evaluation.
  - a. Reputation: The past performance of an athlete should have no bearing on your score. Judge only the elements you see.
  - b. Relationships: Personal relationships with an athlete, coach, parent, etc., whether positive or negative, should not be reflected in your score.
  - c. Warm-up: The warm-up should have no bearing on the score for the actual performance.
  - d. Difficulty: Judge each element fairly, using the same criteria, regardless of its difficulty.
  - e. Peer pressure: Use your own judgment. It is crucial to maintain a consistent judging method. If you are influenced by a remark and alter your scores, you are not being fair to those who have gone before or to those who have yet to compete.
  - f. Appearance: The athlete's appearance should not affect your score. Judge only the execution of the elements performed.
3. Element Identification – a competent judge should be as knowledgeable as possible in recognizing elements at the level(s) he/she will judge.
4. Behavior – a professional manner and appearance will win the respect of those observing a judge at work.
  - a. Dress code: business attire, navy/black jacket, white blouse or shirt, navy/black skirt or slacks, tie for men and dark dress shoes. No denim, leggings, or leather.

- b. In the interest of fairness, judges must be allowed to perform their duties without distraction. Therefore, while judging, you are off-limits to all unauthorized persons (including your children).
  - c. If, for any reason, you feel you are unable to deliver an objective score, it is your responsibility to disqualify yourself. The Chair of the Panel may either average the remaining judges' scores or replace you for the entire group.
  - d. Do not discuss the scores of other judges with coaches or spectators. Undermining other judges lessens the credibility of all judges.
5. Judging efficiency: professionalism is important. The growth and excellence of the sport depends on the professional manner of each judge.
- a. Arrive on time and be fully prepared. If a meeting is scheduled, failure to attend can result in your replacement. Bring your own *Code of Points*, Rule & Policies, paper, pencils, etc.
  - b. Return from breaks on time. An athlete who is warmed up and ready should never have to wait to compete.
  - c. Have the current Development Code of Points, Rules & Policies, Elite Code of Points and FIG Code of Points and check the USAG Trampoline & Tumbling errata page on the website often for changes. Once certified, it is your responsibility to remain current. The T210 Annual Update is required each year prior to your first competition. It is required in order to retain your rating (see IV. Judging Requirements below). This webinar will discuss all rule changes and any new required interpretations. Be prepared to update your *Code of Points* at this time.
  - d. All judges are required to retest at the beginning of each new quad.
  - e. Be prepared to justify your scores. An execution score may not be protested except for a possible numerical error. However, you should be able to explain the deductions you made to arrive at your score.
6. Experience
- a. Time in the gym: watching athletes develop elements will help you improve as a judge.
  - b. Element Identification: familiarity with different techniques used to perform elements will help you concentrate on the actual technical execution of those elements. You will also become better acquainted with the natural progressions of elements.

### **III. Panel Selection Procedures**

#### **A. Panel Selection**

- 1. Invitational:
  - a. Eligibility only: the Meet Director is responsible for seating panels at eligibility only competitions and is accountable for verifying judges' memberships and certification.

- b. Mobility/Eligibility: the State Technical Representative is responsible for seating panels at competitions for the purpose of athlete mobility and is accountable for verifying judge's memberships and certification.
- 2. State Championships
  - a. The State Technical Representative is responsible for seating panels at the State Championships and is accountable for verifying judges' memberships and certification.
- 3. Regional Championships
  - a. The Regional Technical Committee Chair is responsible for seating panels at the Regional Championships and is accountable for verifying judges' memberships and certification.
- 4. National events
  - a. The Technical Committees are responsible for seating panels at all national events and is accountable for verifying judges' memberships and certification.
  - b. All panels must be seated with certified judges who are up-to-date in their annual requirements.
  - c. All judges must be currently registered Judge members of USAG Trampoline & Tumbling.
  - d. Use of improperly certified judges can jeopardize the event sanction and threaten the eligibility of the meet (i.e. the event sanction for a championship qualifier can be withdrawn, effectively voiding the championship qualification status of all qualifying athletes.)

#### **IV. Judges Requirements**

- 1. Judges must have a valid USAG Judge membership and the U101: Safety and Risk Management Course as well as the following:
  - a. Judges 18+ additional requirements
    - i. Background check
    - ii. U110: US Center for SafeSport Course
    - iii. U113: Safe Sport Policy Course
- 2. All judges are required to have the following certifications in order to maintain their current category rating:
  - a. Preliminary certification courses in each discipline.
  - b. Annual program update T210 each year as their yearly CE requirement.
  - c. Minimum of in gym observation annually according to category (*currently a recommendation only, due to ongoing COVID restrictions*).
  - d. Minimum of two judging assignments annually (*currently a recommendation only, due to ongoing COVID restrictions*).
- 3. Judges will be required to attend all mandatory judges instructional meetings at both Stars & Stripes Championships and USA Gymnastics Championships.

4. Certification and Annual Requirements

Category	Levels	Annual Requirements*	Upgrade to Next Category
3 Position on the Judges Panel	Level 1-Open EXEC HD TOF	Judge 2 sanctioned events Minimum of 10 hours, annually, of in-gym observation. T210 Annual Update	Must be current Category III Judge 2 sanctioned events in the discipline they wish to upgrade. 15 hours of in-gym observation * Pass Category II course
2 Position on the Judges Panel	Level 8-Open EXEC CJP DD HD TOF	Judge 2 sanctioned events Minimum of 15 hours, annually, of in-gym observation. T210 Annual Update	Must be current Category II Judge 2 sanctioned events in the discipline they wish to upgrade. 20 hours of in-gym observation * Pass Category I course
1	Youth- Sr. Elite	Judge 2 sanctioned events Minimum of 20 hours, annually, of in-gym observation. T210 Annual Update	Must have been a Category I in the discipline they wish to test for a minimum of five years 21 years of age at the time of testing. Nominated by USA Gymnastics to participate.
FIG	International Brevet	For complete FIG requirements, refer to the FIG Code of Points Copy of current passport and electronic picture required on file at USAG T210 Annual Update	

\* *In-gym and competition requirements are currently recommendations only, due to ongoing COVID restrictions).*

V. Testing Protocol Judges Certification

1. Beginning judges certification (Category 3)

- a. Category 3 is the first in a series of courses designed to educate and certify judges for the disciplines of Trampoline, Synchronized Trampoline, Tumbling and Double-Mini Trampoline gymnastics. Upon successful completion of the discipline specific course, judges will be certified as “Category 3” and are permitted to judge all levels as an Execution judge for the discipline tested and a Horizontal Displacement judge for Trampoline Levels 1-Open. Each course consists of a lecture session, practical judging practice session, an open book written test and an onsite practical exam.
- b. To participate in the Category 3 judges course:
  - i. Online registration and payment (onsite registration is allowed at an additional cost)
  - ii. Current Development Code of Points for the appropriate discipline
  - iii. Paper and writing utensils

- c. Participants should have a general knowledge of the discipline they are testing and a commitment to learn and participate as a judge in the Trampoline & Tumbling Community.
  - d. Category 3 testing protocol
    - i. Written exam – open book
    - ii. Practical exam videos are shown one time, participants are timed when transferring their marks onto answer sheet for both execution and horizontal displacement
    - iii. Participants must score 80 on all sections of both written and practical to earn a clear category 3 rating
2. Intermediate judges certification (Category 2)
- a. This the second in the series of courses designed to educate and certify judges for the disciplines of Trampoline, Tumbling and Double-Mini Trampoline gymnastics. Upon successful completion of a discipline specific course. Judges will be certified as “Category 2” and are certified to judge Development Levels 1-Open in Execution, Horizontal Displacement (trampoline). Chair of the Panel and Difficulty. This course consists of a lecture session, practical application of the rules and practice session, an open book exam, practical exam for execution, difficulty and Chair of Panel deductions.
  - b. To participate in the Category 2 judges course:
    - i. Have previous Category 3 rating
    - ii. Online registration and payment
    - iii. Current Development Code of Points for the discipline in which they are testing
    - iv. Paper and writing utensils
  - c. Participants should have an advanced knowledge of the Development Code of Points (CoP), the Rules & Policies (R&P) and their application. Judges should have the ability to recognize and write independently the Difficulty for the elements encountered at Levels 8-Open in each discipline in which they will be testing.
  - d. Category 2 testing protocol
    - i. Written exam – open book
    - ii. Practical exam Execution and Chair of the Panel videos are shown one time each, participants are timed when transferring marks onto practical answer sheet
    - iii. Practical exam Difficulty videos are shown two times, participants are timed when transferring marks onto practical answer sheet
    - iv. Participants must score 80 on all sections of the written and each section of the practical exams to earn a Category 2 rating. A score of 70 to 79 will earn a category 3 rating. At the beginning of each new cycle, if a member chooses to take the Category 2 test and does not meet the minimum score to obtain a Category 2 rating, they will maintain a Category 3 rating. Judges who are attempting to test up must score 80% or higher to earn the new category. A score of 70 or below will retain a Category 3.

3. Advanced judging certification (Category 1)
  - a. This is the last in a series of courses for national certification. The course is designed to train judges to judge at the highest level of competitive Trampoline & Tumbling. This course includes a lecture session covering the FIG CoP and the USA CoP “Special Requirements”. Course includes education and practice sessions for execution, difficulty and Chair of the Judges Panel deductions. Course examination includes: written (closed book) test, practical exam for Execution, Chair of the Judges panel deductions, and pass difficulty. The Difficulty section of the practical exam is a timed test. Upon successful completion of this course judges will be certified “Cat 1” and are permitted to judge all levels including the Elite levels (Youth Elite-Senior. Elite) in the discipline tested. Category 1 judges are allowed to serve in all roles on the judging panel.
  - b. To participate in the Category 1 Judges Course:
    - i. Online registration and payment
    - ii. FIG Code of Points
    - iii. USA Elite Code of Points
    - iv. T&T Rules & Policies
    - v. Paper and writing utensils
  - c. Participants must have an advanced knowledge of the FIG CoP, USA Elite CoP and USAG T&T R&P. They must be able to independently recognize and write difficulty shorthand for elements that are appropriate for the Elite levels.
  - d. Category 1 testing protocol
    - i. Written exam – closed book
    - ii. Practical exam execution and Chair of the Panel videos are shown one time each, participants are timed when transferring marks onto practical answer sheet
    - iii. Practical exam Difficulty videos are shown two times, participants are timed when transferring marks onto practical answer sheet
    - iv. Participants must score 80% on all sections of both written and practical to earn a Category 1 rating. A rating of 79% or below on any one section will retain a Category 2 rating.
4. Additional testing protocols
  - a. English as a second language – Leader Level judges are allowed to read and transcribe answers on the test if necessary.
  - b. Annual T210 – Judges are required to participate and test in the annual T210 in order to keep their rating current, with the exception of the beginning of the new quad, where testing is required. The T210 may be offered as a live course or as a webinar.
  - c. Participants are not allowed to test consecutive test in one testing clinic, they must meet the competition requirements to advance to the next category. Previously rated judges may at the discretion of the TC test one or more categories at one testing clinic.
  - d. Judges who do not maintain their current certification for a maximum of one year may reenter the system by simply taking the needed T210 or in a

retesting year they must take, test and pass their current category or one higher to maintain or advance to the next category.

- e. Judges who were previously certified and have not maintained a category for longer than one year may submit a written request to the Technical Committee for consideration.
  - i. The TC will consider such items as previous rating, tenure, experience, history, reason for not recertifying, length of time with no certification to determine what the judges must do in order to gain current status.

## VI. Disciplinary Procedures

- 1. Judges misconduct misuse of the rule or inappropriate behavior. All judges will be notified via email of impending charges, they will be given the opportunity to rebut the charge. The Technical Committee will decide based on the facts and statements from both parties. If it is determined there was indeed misconduct on the part of the judge the following may apply.
  - a. First offense: Technical Committee will issue a warning.
  - b. Second offense: loss of one rating and on probation from regional and national events for one year.
  - c. Third offense: loss of all ratings and two-year probationary period.

## VII. Minimum Pay Scales

- 1. All judges at all events with the exception of USA Gymnastics Championships
  - a. Judges at USA Gymnastics Championships will receive a session honorarium

Category	Pay Scale
3	\$15.00/Hour
2	\$18.00/Hour
1	\$22.00/Hour
FIG	\$26.00/Hour
Bonus for serving in two roles on a single panel. Examples: Levels 1-7 CJP + E Levels 8-Elite CJP + E / CJP + DD /or CJP + ToF	\$2.00 additional per hour

## VIII. Judging Panels

### A. Development Program Competitions

#### 1. Levels 1-Open Eligibility competitions

Trampoline	Minimum	Tumbling	Minimum	Double Mini	Minimum
Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>

#### 2. Development Levels 4 - 7 Mobility

Trampoline	Minimum	Tumbling	Minimum	Double Mini	Minimum
Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(2) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(2) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(2) Cat 3
Judges for Difficulty	N/A	Judges for Difficulty	N/A	Judges for Difficulty	N/A
Horizontal Displacement	N/A				
Time of Flight	N/A				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>

#### 3. Development Levels 4 - 7 State / Regional / Stars & Stripes Championships

Trampoline	Minimum	Tumbling	Minimum	Double Mini	Minimum
Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(3) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(3) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(3) Cat 3
Judges for Difficulty	N/A	Judges for Difficulty	N/A	Judges for Difficulty	N/A
Horizontal Displacement	N/A				
Time of Flight	N/A				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>

#### 4. Development Levels 4 - 7 Mobility / State / Regional / Stars & Stripes Championships

Trampoline	Minimum	Tumbling	Minimum	Double Mini	Minimum
Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(3) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(2) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(2) Cat 3
Judges for Difficulty	N/A	Judges for Difficulty	N/A	Judges for Difficulty	N/A
Horizontal Displacement	N/A				
Time of Flight	N/A				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>



5. Development Levels 8-9, Mobility / State / Regionals  
Level 10-Open State / Regionals \*

Trampoline	Minimum	Tumbling	Minimum	Double Mini	Minimum
Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2	Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(2) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(3) Cat 3	Judges for Execution	(3) Cat 3
Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2 If Cat 1 or higher CJP may serve as Diff.	Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2 If Cat 1 or higher CJP may serve as Diff.	Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2 If Cat 1 or higher CJP may serve as Diff.
Horizontal Displacement	(1) Cat 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Time of Flight	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>
Synchronized Trampoline	<b>Minimum</b>				
Chair of the Panel	(1) Cat 2				
Judges for Execution	(4) Cat 3				
Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2 + CJP				
Horizontal Displacement	(2) any category				
Judges for Synchro	(1) TOF machine or 2 - Cat 2				
TOTAL	7 or 8				

\* Level 10-Open approved mobility meets including State / Regionals must meet Mobility judging panel requirements to be used for Elite mobility.

6. Development Levels 8-Open national meets required panels, i.e. annual Elite Challenge and USA Gymnastics Championships

a. Individual Trampoline

	Full Panel Minimum
Chair of the Panel - 2nd Difficulty	(1) Cat
Judges for Execution	(2) 1 Cat 1, 1 Cat 2
Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
Time of Flight	(1) Cat 3
Horizontal Displacement	(2) Cat 3
Video Judge	(1) Cat 3
TOTAL	8

b. Synchronized Trampoline

	<b>Full Panel Minimum</b>
Chair of the Panel - 2nd Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(4) 2 Cat 1, 2 Cat 2
Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
Horizontal Displacement	(2) any category
Judges for Synchro	(1) Cat 3 & machine or (2) Cat 3
TOTAL	7 or 8

c. Tumbling

	<b>Full Panel Minimum</b>
Chair of the Panel - 2nd Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(3) 2 Cat 2, 1 Cat 1
Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
TOTAL	5

d. Double Mini Trampoline

	<b>Full Panel Minimum</b>
Chair of the Panel - 2nd Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
Judges for Execution	(3) 2 Cat 2, 1 Cat 1
Judges for Difficulty	(1) Cat 2
TOTAL	5

7. If qualified judging panels are not available, the TC (with agreement from the Program Committee Chair and Program Director) may assign other judges.

**B. Elite Competitions**

Prior approval for the judging panel assignments must be obtained from the Technical Committee if the minimum requirements for the judge's panel composition, listed in Table 1, cannot be achieved.

1. Composition of Judges Panels at USAG sanctioned competitions

a. Trampoline

<b>Judges</b>	<b>National / Mobility Events Minimum</b>	<b>Sanctioned Events Minimum</b>
Trampoline		
Chair of Judges Panel	(1) Cat 1	(1) Cat 1
Judges for Execution	(3) 1 FIG, 2 Cat 1	(2) 1 - Cat 1 & 1 Cat 2
Judges for Difficulty	(2) 1 Cat 1 & 1 CJP	(2) 1 Cat 1, 1 CJP
Horizontal Displacement	(1) with machine any category (2) any category	(2) any category
Time of Flight	(1) any category	(1) any category
Video Judge	(1) any category	
TOTAL:	8 (or 9)	7

b. **Tumbling and Double Mini Trampoline**

<b>Judges</b>	<b>National / Mobility Events</b>	<b>Sanctioned Events</b>
Tumbling and Double Mini Trampoline		
Chair of Judges Panel	(1) Cat 1	(1) Cat 1
Judges for Execution	(3) 1 FIG, 2 Cat 1	(3) Cat 1
Judges for Difficulty	(2) 1 Cat 1, 1 CJP	(2) 1 Cat 1, 1 CJP
TOTAL:	5	5

c. **Synchronized Trampoline**

<b>Judges</b>	<b>National / Mobility Events</b>	<b>Sanctioned Events</b>
Synchronized Trampoline		
Chair of Judges Panel	(1) Cat 1	(1) Cat1
Judges for Execution	(4) 2 FIG, 2 Cat 1	(4) Cat 2
Judges for Difficulty	(2) FIG	(1) 1 Cat 2. 1 CJP
Horizontal Displacement	(2) any category	(2) any category
Judges for Synchronization	(1) Machine (or 3)	(1) Machine (or 3)
Assistant to the CJP	As available	
TOTAL:	10 (or 12)	9 (or 11)

**IX. Leader Level Judges**

1. In order to become a Leader Level judge who is certified to teach the Category three (3) or two (2) judges course:
  - a. Submit application for approval by the Trampoline & Tumbling Technical Committee.
  - b. Must be a USAG T&T Judge member.
  - c. Must attend the annual Leader Level update.
  - d. Must be a minimum of Category 1 Judge in the applicable discipline.
2. In order to maintain Leader Level status:
  - a. Must attend the annual Leader Level update.
  - b. Must attend and judge a minimum of one USAG national event per year (*currently a recommendation only, due to ongoing COVID restrictions*).
  - c. Must complete and submit all required reports and tests.
  - d. Must abide by the judges Code of Ethics
3. Members of the national Technical Committee may administer Category 1 exams.
4. Category 1 exams may only be given at national events.