

- 4) A Coach of a competing gymnast.
 - 5) A Club Owner of a competing club/gymnast.
 - 6) Any sports science professional that is paid for ongoing services for a competing athlete.
 - Example: Athletic trainer, Physical Therapist, Sports Psychologist.
- b. Judges affiliated with a club, gymnast or coach participating in the competition MAY be assigned to judge, with the following stipulations:
- 1) In USA Gymnastics qualifying competitions with panels of two (2) or four (4) judges:
 - a) An affiliated judge may be assigned as a Panel judge or as the Meet Referee.
 - b) No more than one (1) judge with the same affiliation may be assigned per panel.
 - c) An affiliated judge may NOT be assigned as Chief Judge, regardless of certification rating.
 - 2) In non-qualifying Open Invitationals with panels of two (2) or four (4) judges
 - a) Affiliated judges may be assigned as a Chief or Panel judge.
 - b) If any of the Chief Judges are affiliated, the Meet Director must list the judges (and their affiliation) on the pre-meet information.
 - 3) For meets using one-judge panels, an affiliated judge may be assigned ONLY when there are not enough non-affiliated judges available and only with the approval of the Regional Technical Committee Chairman (RTCC).
 - If the RTCC is affiliated and must be assigned, approval must come from the State Administrative Committee Chairman.
 - *An affiliated judge may be assigned to a one-judge panel fo Level 1 and 2.*
 - 4) If the club with which the judge is affiliated is not participating in the meet to which the judge has been assigned, she/he is NOT considered affiliated at that meet.
 - a) If the meet format has separate team and individual awards per session, then a judge would be affiliated only during the session(s) in which the club/team he/she is affiliated with is competing.
 - b) If there is an overall team award for the same levels at the end of the entire meet, the affiliation rules apply for the entire competition.
- C. Seating Arrangement of the Judges
1. Allow for an unobstructed observation of the exercise.
 2. Place the Panel Judges in numerical order around the apparatus, clockwise from the Chief Judge's table.
 3. Space the judges at a proper distance to allow for an individual, unbiased evaluation.
 - If floor space is restricted, both judges on the panel are allowed to sit at the same table; however, it is advised that a score tabulator be seated between the judges and/or that conversation between the two judges is limited to conferences only.

II. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE JUDGING PANELS

A. MEET REFEREE (who may also act as a Chief Judge)

1. A Meet Referee, or acting Meet Referee, must be designated at all Jr. Olympic sanctioned competitions.
2. If an acting judge also serves as the Meet Referee (for State Championships and above), she/he will receive a Chief Judges's fee or a Meet Referee's fee, but not both. No dual compensation is allowed.
3. If requested, assists in conducting the draw prior to or at the coaches' meeting (depending on the organization of the meet) at Regional or National competitions, in conjunction with:

- a. Appropriate USA Gymnastics Officer, and/or
- b. Meet Director
4. Serves as President of the Jury of Appeal.
5. Serves as liaison between coaches and judges. Must attend the coaches meeting (or designate a proxy) at Regional and National competitions.
6. Conducts the judges' meeting prior to the competition, and provides the base score video for analysis for State and above meets. The following procedures are reviewed:
 - a. logistics of the meet/scoring system, meet mechanics, etc.
 - b. rules changes
 - c. equipment issues
 - d. information from the Meet Director
 - e. professional protocol reminders
7. Must act in a professional manner.
8. Selects the Chief Judges and assigns the Panel Judges to their respective events. Criteria for assignment must be followed.
 - If the Meet Referee is also a Chief Judge, the assigning official may make the event assignments.
9. May observe and/or give opinion during conferences.
10. Is available for counsel, upon request of the Chief Judge.
11. May counsel the Chief Judge when, in her/his opinion, the average score and/or the score of the Chief Judge seems out of line with the scoring in the competition.
12. May recommend, but never force, a change of any score.
13. Corrects and signs the official score sheets after any change of score.
14. Gives any technical or judging information pertinent to the competition to the Meet Director or Organizing Committee for distribution.
15. Acts as the final authority in all technical matters involving judges, timers, line judges, flashers, individual event and AA tabulators, as well as equipment.
16. Notates a warning given by the Chief Judge concerning incorrect attire or signaling. She/he will then notify the Chief Judges on the other events that a warning has been given so that appropriate deductions may be applied.
17. Upon notification from the Chief Judge, issues a warning to the coach for unsportsmanlike conduct. Follow USAG Coaches behavior policy in the *Rules and Policies*. This would also be applied for excessive cheers or behavior of teammates or the coach who is disruptive to the competition.
18. Will be available for a minimum of 15 minutes following the last competitors' exercises to deal with questions or concerns with the technical decisions and/or judges' scores.
19. Must wear the correct uniform for the competition, as designated in the contract.
20. May be an affiliated judge.
21. Does not involve herself/himself with the conduct of the gymnast during the warm-ups or training. Comments to the athlete should be made only if requested from the coach or athlete.
22. Indicates any violations of *Rules and Policies* on the sanction report form.
23. Is responsible for compiling and checking the information regarding judges' fees and expenses for the Meet Director.
24. Checks that the scores of all judges, the average score, as well as time and line violations are properly recorded during the competition.
25. Issues a warning to the coach and notifies the Meet Director if she/he observes more than one gymnast on the uneven bars at the same time during any warm-up (timed or 30-second touch).
26. *Monitors the judging panels to ensure the appropriate use of electronic tablets for judging and reference purposes.*

B. CHIEF JUDGE

1. Must prepare the judges for the correct evaluation of the exercises at the judges' meeting prior to the competition.
2. Checks that the apparatus and mats correspond to the USA Gymnastics regulations and that all materials necessary are available and functioning properly. This could include:
 - a. Light or time signals
 - b. Stopwatches
3. Instructs judging assistants to assure their knowledge of the:
 - a. Correct use of the signal to indicate line violations.
 - b. Correct use of the stopwatch and timing device to indicate time limitations.
 - c. Proper reporting procedures for the following violations:
 - 1) Exceeding the time allowed
 - 2) Stepping out of the floor exercise area
 - d. Correct method of scoring being used.
 - e. Correct procedures for flashing of the start values, individual score and/or the average score.
4. Is responsible for the correct work of her/his panel and assistant judges.
5. Must act in a professional manner and remain at her/his event station until the entire competition has been completed.
6. Uses a green flag or hand signal to acknowledge the presentation of the gymnast.
7. Must evaluate the exercises accurately without bias and must first write her/his own score before reviewing scores from other judges.
8. Must record the number of "A", "B", "C", "D" & "E" Value Parts, Bonus, Special Requirements, and Start Value, as well as record deductions for execution/amplitude, artistry, compositional errors and neutral deductions.
9. Is responsible for flashing her/his own score and Start Value (when applicable-see Chapter II).
 - Must provide her/his own SV flashing unit, unless provided by the host club.
10. Verifies that the scores fall within the proper range.
11. Verifies that the score of the Chief Judge, panel judge(s), average score and time/line deductions are properly recorded during the competition.
 - It is not necessary to sign the official score sheet.
12. Confirms when a gymnast may repeat an exercise (or portion of the exercise) due to technical failure and determines when the repetition (or continuation) will occur.
 - *A flash from a camera is not a valid reason to allow a gymnast to repeat the exercise.*
 - These decisions must be made in consultation with the Meet Referee prior to the score being flashed.
13. Is responsible for calling a conference if an impossible Start Value has been awarded and/or for other reasons to assist the judges in arriving at a common basis for scoring during competition. During the conference:
 - a. The Start Value differences will be clarified.
 - b. The Meet Referee may be notified of and/or be included in the discussion.
 - c. The judges may change their scores, but are not obliged to do so; however, if the scores are out of the allowable range, adjustments must be made. It is the professional responsibility of the judges to come to an agreement if their scores are initially out of range.
 - d. If the judges are unable to compromise, the Chief Judge may mandate that the scores be brought into the allowable range.
 - The procedure of using the score of the Chief Judge or Meet Referee to average with the original average score of the two judges (Base score) is no longer used.

14. Takes the deduction from the average score for the following infractions. The deduction must be indicated to the coach either verbally or by visual means at the conclusion of the exercise.
- a. Overtime 0.10
 - b. Coach standing between the bars or next to beam throughout the entire exercise 0.10
 - c. Any part of the body touching outside of the Floor Exercise border marking each time 0.10
 - d. Failure to present to Chief Judge before; to any judge after exercise each time 0.10
 - e. Gymnast failing to begin exercise within 30 sec. after the Chief Judge signals to begin 0.20
 - f. Unsportsmanlike conduct of gymnast (after warning) 0.20
 - g. Incorrect padding (Gymnast wearing heel/*hip* pads on bars) 0.20
 - * If the Chief Judge notices the heel pads prior to the gymnast's mount, a warning must be given. However, if the gymnast wears the heel pads during her exercise (whether or not the Chief Judge warned her previously), the deduction must be taken.
 - h. Incorrect attire (includes jewelry) (after a warning) 0.20
 - * *Jewelry is not allowed to be worn during warm-ups or competition. Once the warning has been issued by the Meet Referee or Chief Judge, the deduction will be applied to the first event competed after the warning. Once the deduction has been applied, the MR must inform the CJ at any subsequent events so that no further penalty will be taken. The deduction is taken one time only.*
 - 1) Acceptable attire is a one piece leotard with or without sleeves and no bare midriff. Unitards with long legs, with or without sleeves are acceptable.
 - 2) The leg cut of the leotard must be below the pelvis/hip bone.
 - 3) Backless leotards are not acceptable.
 - 4) Underwear (including sports bras) should not be visible. If underwear is visible due to the cut of the leotard, warn the athlete's coach. If the gymnast does not correct it, take a deduction on her subsequent event. Underwear, including sports bras, should not be intentionally visible throughout the entire routine. However, if briefs or bra straps show due to activity, do not take a deduction. Common sense should prevail.
 - 5) One pair of stud earrings are allowed; one earring per ear in any part of the ear. All other piercings must be removed and not just covered with tape or a bandage.
 - 6) Necklaces and bracelets are not allowed. Exception: Medical bracelets.
 - 7) Spaghetti straps are considered inappropriate attire. Straps must be a minimum of 2 cm (7/8") wide.
 - 8) Elastic waistbands traditionally worn as training aids are incorrect attire. (This does not include medically necessary bandages).
 - 9) Failure to wear a competitor number when required.
 - 10) Hair should be secured away from the face so as not to obscure her vision of the apparatus.
 - i. Failure to observe specified warm-up time (after a warning) 0.20
 - Deduction is taken from the event score or may be taken from the team score on that event at Jr. Olympic Nationals or team competitions.
 - Note: There is no deduction for jumping on the board and/or briefly touching the apparatus immediately prior to competition on UB or BB.
 - This deduction applies only to the practice of an element(s).
 - If a gymnast is preparing for a skill or dismount when time is called, she may continue to finish the skill(s) and/or dismount without penalty.
 - If she fails to leave the apparatus after "Time" has been called, the Timer must warn the gymnast by announcing "Time exceeded". If the gymnast remains on the apparatus, the Timer reports the infraction to the Chief Judge, who then deducts 0.20 from the average score.

- j. Technical verbal cues by coach or teammate(s) to own gymnast (applied after one warning has been given) 0.20
 Examples of technical cues: “hollow”, “pull”, “breathe” etc..
 Exception: If the gymnast is competing on the apparatus and the coach instructs her by giving specific information on what to do during the routine (for example – what comes next in the routine or to repeat a missed requirement), a deduction of 0.20 is taken from the average without warning. This deduction is taken only once, regardless of the number of cues given.
- k. Excessive use of magnesia (chalk) or incorrect use of tape 0.20
- 1) Small chalk markings may be placed on the beam (tape markings are not allowed).
 - 2) Spreading of magnesia on the FX mat is not allowed; only small marks are allowed.
 - a) A single-line arc drawn in the corner of the floor is acceptable.
 - b) No velcro or tape markings are allowed within the Floor Ex area.
 - 3) Tape markings are allowed at the corners of the floor exercise mat to indicate the boundary line in the case of the floor carpet that uses two colors rather than a boundary line.
 - 4) Use of tape or excessive chalk is not permitted on the vault table.
 - 5) Athletic tape, Velcro strips or small chalk marks may be used on the Vault runway; however, such markings should be no more than 2 inches wide and must be removed by the end of the rotation. The judge must issue a warning before taking a deduction if the measurement is exceeded or if the markings are not removed.
- l. Use of additional mats, springboard on unauthorized surface, or the use of the hand placement mat for traditional approach vaults 0.30
- m. Failure to remove the board after the mount 0.30
- n. Failure to remove board or authorized spotting device after a release element 0.30
- o. Using incorrect apparatus specifications 0.30
- p. Starting the exercise before the signal is given 0.50
 (deduct from the score of the repeated performance)
 If the gymnast starts the exercise before the signal is given, she should be asked to stop and repeat the performance immediately.
(See Vault chapter for specifics on vault.)
- q. Coach on the floor exercise mat inside the border marking (applied at Level 6 and above) 0.50
- No deduction if coach is on the Floor mat to remove an object fallen from gymnast (i.e., metal hair clip, eyeglasses, etc.) or to adjust the placement of skill cushion.
- r. Absence of music or music with words or song/speech 1.00
- s. The performance of a one-arm vault: if at least half of the vault panel saw that only one hand touched the vault table 1.00
- t. Short exercises (applies to completed or incomplete routines) 2.00
 Uneven Bar routine with less than 5 Value Parts
 Balance Beam and Floor Exercise routines - less than 30 seconds
- u. ***Failure to mark the boundary line on additional matting which covers the boundary line.*** 0.10
15. Terminates an exercise if after a fall, the gymnast exceeds the allotted fall time Uneven Bars (45 seconds) and Beam (30 seconds).
- A bleeding wound (or any other injury due to a fall) does not give the athlete the right to repeat her exercise or resume from where she left off. If the 30 or 45 second fall time (BB or UB respectively) is exceeded before the wound can be covered, then the routine is terminated.

C. General deductions for faults in technique, execution, amplitude, and artistry on Uneven Bars, Balance Beam and Floor Exercise.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. SLIGHT/SMALL FAULTS | <u>0.05 - 0.10 pt.</u> |
| a. Flexed/sickled feet during Value Part elements | each time <u>0.05</u> |
| b. Slight hop, or small adjustment of feet on landing of elements or dismounts | Up to 0.10 |
| • FX acro elements: a small step after landing to finish in a lunge is allowed with no deduction. | |
| c. Deviation from straight direction on landing | Up to 0.10 |
| d. Extra arm swings on landing | Up to 0.10 |
| e. Legs crossed during Value Part elements with twist | Up to 0.10 |
| f. Brush/touch of foot/feet on apparatus or mat | Up to 0.10 |
| g. Extra steps on landing (per step - maximum of 4) | each <u>0.10</u> |
| 2. MEDIUM FAULTS | <u>UP TO 0.20 pt.</u> |
| a. Leg or knee separations | Up to 0.20 |
| b. Insufficient exactness of Body Positions | |
| • Insufficient tuck position
(Ideal = minimum of 90° bend in both hips and knees) | Up to 0.20 |
| • Insufficient pike position
(Ideal = minimum of 90° bend in the hips, 91° - 135° = insufficient pike) | Up to 0.20 |
| • Insufficient stretched position
(Ideal= straight 180° position, but greater than 135° is considered stretched body position) | Up to 0.20 |
| • arch | Up to 0.20 |
| • hip angle = 136° - 179° | Up to 0.20 |
| c. Failure to maintain stretched body position (Pikes down) | Up to 0.20 |
| d. Incorrect body posture on landing | Up to 0.20 |
| e. Insufficient split when required (dance/non-flight acro elements) | Up to 0.20 |
| f. <i>Incomplete turn/twist</i> | <u>Up to 0.20</u> |
| g. <i>Additional trunk movements to maintain balance/control upon landing of UB/BB Dismounts and Floor acro elements</i> | <u>Up to 0.20</u> |
| • <i>Applies to "stuck" landings but uses trunk movememnts to avoid steps.)</i> | |
| h. Large step or jump on landing (approximately 3 feet or more) | <u>0.20</u> |
| 3. LARGE FAULTS | <u>UP TO 0.30 pt.</u> |
| a. Bent arms in support or bent knees (90° or more) | Up to 0.30 |
| • Any one element may receive no more than 0.30 for bent leg(s) and no more than 0.30 for bent arm(s). | |
| b. Additional movements to maintain balance/control <i>on the beam</i> | Up to 0.30 |
| c. Squat on landing (hips even with or lower than the knees) | Up to 0.30 |
| d. Brushes/touches the landing surface with one or both hands (no support) | Up to 0.30 |
| e. Insufficient extension (open) of body prior to landing | Up to 0.30 |
| • Applies to UB/BB dismounts & BB/FX acro in tuck/pike position | |
| f. Insufficient height of salto dismount (UB/BB) | Up to 0.30 |
| 4. VERY LARGE FAULTS | <u>0.50 pt</u> |
| a. Support on mat with 1 or 2 hands | <u>0.50</u> |
| b. Fall on mat to knee(s) or hips | <u>0.50</u> |
| c. Fall on or against apparatus | <u>0.50</u> |
| d. Fall/Failure to land on the bottom of the feet first | <u>0.50</u> |
| • No Value Part/No Special Requirement/No Bonus credit | |
| e. Spotting assistance <u>upon landing</u> of dismount element | <u>0.50</u> |
| • Award Value Part & Special Requirement-No Bonus possible | |
| f. Spotting assistance during an element | <u>0.50</u> |
| • No Value Part/No Special Requirement/No Bonus credit | |

Clarification on steps on landing:

1. A step-close is considered one step and receives a 0.10 deduction. A very small step-close or other small foot movement would receive a 0.05 deduction.
Examples of one step = - 0.10
 - The gymnast lands with feet together, then takes one step forward, sideward, or backward on the Right foot; then returns the Right foot to join the Left foot, OR
 - The gymnast lands with feet together, then takes one step forward, backward, or sideward on the Right foot; then steps with the Left foot to join the Right foot.
2. If the gymnast is out of control or has additional movements to maintain balance after the step(s), additional deductions may be applied.
3. ***There is a maximum deduction of 0.40 for steps (regardless of size or number); however, if the steps result in a fall, deduct only 0.50 for the fall.***

V. BONUS

A. CONNECTION VALUE (CV)

1. Is achieved through unique and difficult combinations.
2. Only Dance elements listed in the *Jr. Olympic Code of Points* or *J.O. Updates* may be used.
3. Only acrobatic elements WITH FLIGHT listed in the *Jr. Olympic Code of Points* or *J.O. Updates* may be used.
4. To receive Connection Value, all elements must be directly connected; only on Floor Exercise can acrobatic connections be indirectly connected.
 - a. Direct connections are series in which elements or connections are performed without any delay in the immediate take-off of the next element, a stop, extra steps, repositioning of the foot or extra swings (bars) between elements.
 - b. Indirect connections (only in acrobatic series on Floor Exercise) are those in which directly connected acrobatic elements with flight phase and hand support (Group 5, i.e., Round-off, flic-flac, etc.) are performed as preparatory elements between aerials (Group 5) and/or saltos (Groups 6, 7, and 8).
5. Only those elements that receive Value-Part credit may be used for Connection Value Bonus.
6. The Value Parts may be placed in any order within a Connection, unless specified.
7. The exact same connection may be used only one time for Connection Value Bonus.
 - If the same elements are used in a second connection, but are performed in a different order, Connection Value Bonus (CV) will be awarded.
8. If a "D" or "E" element is performed within a connection, it is eligible for both "D/E" Bonus and Connection Value Bonus (Level 10 only).
 - At Level 9, any allowable "D" or "E" element will be awarded "C" Value-Part credit and will receive Connection Value Bonus if a "C" Connection Value Bonus principle is applicable.
9. An "E" element may replace a "D" element in a Connection, but the connection will receive the same Connection Value Bonus.
10. With the connection of three or more elements, the second element (and those following) may be used a second time (the first time as the last element of the first Connection, and the second time as the first element to begin a new Connection.) This is applied only if all elements receive Value-Part credit.
11. Connections may be awarded either +0.10 or +0.20, according to the applicable principle.
12. Connections will be awarded Connection Value Bonus only if each element is performed without a fall or spotting deduction.
13. The maximum awarded for Connection Value Bonus is:
 - a. 0.40 points at Level 10.
 - b. 0.30 points at Level 9.
 - c. Levels 6, 7 & 8 are not eligible for Connection Value Bonus.

VI. OPTIONAL EXERCISE REQUIREMENT FORMULA

	<u>Level 10</u>	<u>Level 9</u>	<u>Level 8</u>	<u>Level 7</u>	<u>Level 6</u>
A. Value Parts	2.20	2.00	1.60	1.10	0.80
B. Special Requirements	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
C. Bonus	0.50	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
D. Execution, Composition* & Artistry (BB, FX)	<u>5.30</u>	<u>5.70</u>	<u>6.40</u>	<u>*6.90</u>	<u>*7.20</u>
	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

* Compositional deductions are not applied at Level 6 or 7.

VII. CALCULATING START VALUES AT JR. OLYMPIC COMPETITIONS

- A. All judges determine the Start Value.
- B. It is not mandatory that the judges agree on the Start Value, but if a judge has calculated an impossible Start Value, a conference **MUST** be held.
- C. Steps in Determining the Start Value:
 1. The competitive level of the gymnast determines the Start Value: Level 10 starts at 9.50, Level 9 starts at 9.70, Levels 6, 7 and 8 start at 10.00.
 2. ADD any Bonus
 - a. Levels 6, 7 and 8 are not eligible for Bonus.
Maximum Start Value is 10.00.
 - b. Level 9 is eligible only for Connection Value Bonus (Maximum CV of +0.3).
Maximum Start Value is 10.00.
 - c. Level 10 is eligible to earn Bonus points for both Connection Value (CV) and "D/E" Bonus, with a minimum of +0.10 for "D/E" and a minimum of +0.10 for Connections. The remaining 0.30 may be earned by "D/E" Bonus or Connection Value Bonus (CV).
Maximum Start Value is 10.00.
Example: If the exercise contains +0.50 in Connection Value Bonus (CV) and no D/Es, the Start Value will be 9.90.
 3. DEDUCT from the Start Value:
 - a. Missing Value Parts
 - b. Missing Special Requirements (0.50 each)
 - c. Exercise is without a dismount (0.30)
 - d. Performance of *restricted* elements (0.50 each)
- D. Examples of determining a Start Value:
 1. Level 10 (3 "A", 3 "B", 2 "C") = 8 required Value Parts
 Gymnast performs: 3 "A's" 2 "B's" 1 C 2 "D's"
 plus a Connection Value (+0.10) and is missing one Special Requirement (-0.50)
 All Value Part requirements are met (2 "D's" replace missing "B" & "C").
 Exercise starts at 9.5.
 Add +0.10 for Connection Value (CV); +0.20 for "D/E" Bonus = 9.80
 Deduct 0.50 for missing one Special Requirement = **9.30 SV**
 2. Level 9 (3 "A", 4 "B", 1 "C") = 8 required Value Parts
 Gymnast performs: 3 "A's" 3 "B's" 1 C 2 restricted "D's" (1 restricted "D" is allowed and replaces the missing "B") plus a Connection Value (+0.10) and is missing one Special Requirement (-0.50)
 All Value Part requirements are met.
 Exercise starts at 9.7.
 Add +0.10 for Connection Value (CV) = 9.80
 Deduct 0.50 for missing one Special Requirement = 9.30
 Deduct 0.50 for performing a 2nd restricted "D" element = **8.80 SV**

SECTION I GENERAL INFORMATION

CHAPTER 4

CLARIFICATIONS OF UNUSUAL JUDGING SITUATIONS

I. INCOMPLETE EXERCISE (OPTIONAL LEVELS 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10)

If a gymnast is unable to complete her exercise, the score will be determined in the usual way, by determining the Start Value and deducting any appropriate execution/amplitude, composition and specific apparatus deductions. A deduction of 2.00 is taken from the final average score by the Chief judge if:

- A. The Uneven Bar exercise contains less than 5 Value Parts.
 - Note: a completed bar routine that contains less than five (5) Value Parts will also receive a 2.00 deduction.
- B. The Balance Beam or Floor Exercise routine is less than 30 seconds.
 - The 2.00 deduction is taken when a gymnast performs a completed or an incomplete exercise that is less than 30 seconds.

II. EQUIPMENT FAILURE/REPETITION OF AN EXERCISE

In situations where there is an equipment failure (including broken or completely torn handgrips) occurring through no fault of the gymnast or coach, the gymnast may choose to:

- A. Stop immediately and request permission from the Chief Judge to either repeat her routine or to continue from the point of interruption. In questionable cases, this request should be made to the Jury of Appeals. Once permission is given, the gymnast would perform again after a reasonable amount of rest time. No score would be given for the partial routine.
 - B. Continue to complete the routine. At the completion of the routine, she and her coach must decide whether to repeat the routine or accept the score given. The judges will not post the score until that decision is made. In the case of Floor Exercise, no deduction would be taken for the music failure if the decision is to accept the score.
- Note: Equipment failure does not include: the unfastening of bandages or handgrips, loss or partial loss of footwear, incorrect bar setting, or failure to tighten cables/T-handles on Bars and Beam.*
- C. Any decisions regarding the repetition of an exercise must be made by the Chief Judge, in consultation with the Meet Referee.

- *A flash from a camera is not a valid reason to allow a gymnast to repeat the exercise.*

III. INQUIRIES

- A. The coach is entitled to see the four (or two) scores of his/her individual gymnast.
- B. If the coach has a question regarding an exercise during the competition, the judge (or Meet Referee) should advise the coach to submit an Inquiry Form to officially receive information. There should be no casual conversation during the competition between the coach and the judge regarding the evaluation of an exercise.
- C. Inquiries are limited to questions regarding:
 1. Compulsory Routines
 - a. Text
 - b. Evaluation of major elements
 - c. Neutral deductions
 - d. Falls
 - e. Unusual occurrences

2. Optional Routines
 - a. Start Value
 - b. Neutral deductions
 - c. Falls
 - d. Unusual occurrences
 - e. Specific flat (not “up to”) compositional deductions.
- D. Inquiries must be legibly written on the official inquiry form by the coach and submitted within 5 minutes of the completion of that event rotation to the Meet Director or Meet Referee. The Meet Director will then forward it to the Meet Referee, who gives it to the Chief Judge of the apparatus in question.
1. No fee may be charged to submit an inquiry.
 2. Coaches need to be aware that an inquiry allows for a second evaluation which may result in:
 - a. no change in score.
 - b. the score being raised.
 - c. the score being lowered.
 3. *At State meets and above, if there is an inquiry regarding the possibility that the judging panel missed an element that would affect the Start Value, the coach can request a video review (if available) by the Meet Referee.*

Examples:

 - a. *All judges did not record a full turn on Beam.*
 - b. *One or more judges recorded a 2½ twist instead of 3/1 twist.*
- E. Score Review at Sectional/State/Regional Meets
- If, after the completion of the last event, an athlete’s All-Around score is 0.10 or less than the qualifying score to State (or Regional) Championships, the coach may submit an inquiry for the gymnast’s lowest scoring event (regardless of the order in which that event was performed) in order that the athlete be considered for qualification purposes.
- Any change of score is official and would be included in the official results. This process does NOT apply:
1. for mobility purposes.
 2. if qualification to State/Regional meet is by percentage or designated number per age division.
- F. The Chief Judge and the panel judge(s) will respond, providing only the information requested. After the Chief Judge has completed the response to the inquiry, the Meet Referee or Meet Director will return the form to the coach, either by hand or by a pre-defined inquiry return procedure.
- The coach may not approach the judge regarding the inquiry during the competition.
- G. No video review is allowed at any Jr. Olympic competition during the processing of an inquiry unless the Jury of Appeals is involved.
- H. If the above administrative procedures are not properly followed on a submitted inquiry, the coach may petition the Jury of Appeals for a review within five (5) minutes of the end of the rotation/competition or the return of the inquiry form, whichever occurs later.
- A video review, if available, may be considered by the Jury of Appeals.
 - Jury decision should occur within 15 minutes after the conclusion of the meet and before the awards are presented.

IV. JUDGE INADVERTENTLY MISSES THE EXERCISE

The following procedures are to be used in the rare occurrence that one judge misses the exercise:

- A. **With a 2-judge panel:** The gymnast has two options after the coach is advised of the score of the judge who evaluated the whole routine: 1) accept that score, OR 2) repeat the exercise after a reasonable period of rest. If the gymnast elects to repeat, the score of the second routine will count.

- B. **With a 4-judge panel:** The final score is determined by entering a score for the judge who missed the routine that is equal to the highest score given by the three other judges and then averaging the two middle scores, as usual. This method gives the gymnast the benefit of having the highest possible score and there is no need for the option to repeat the exercise.
- C. In either case, the Chief Judge should consult with the Meet Referee, who will then notify the coach of the gymnast's options.

V. PROCEDURES FOR FALLS/INJURIES RESULTING IN BLEEDING

- A. Take steps to stop the bleeding immediately and cover the wound as soon as possible.
- B. A bleeding wound (or any other injury due to a fall) does not give the athlete the right to repeat her exercise or resume from where she left off.
- C. If the 30-second (Beam) or 45-second (Bars) fall time is exceeded before the wound can be covered, then the exercise is terminated.
- D. If there is blood on any equipment or mats after the gymnast finishes her routine, the blood must be removed prior to beginning the next gymnast's routine.
- E. The coach and athlete have the right to determine if the athlete can continue the routine after the fall (within the fall time limitations).