



2016/2017 Records of Clarifications from ISU Sports Directorate and SyS TC

SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

Group Lifts

Question:

1. When attempting a GL4 using the features of (1) Flexible position, (3a) Support – Two (2) skaters, (5a) Difficult entry and (9) Rotating both directions - **must** the feature of two (2) supporting skaters occur in the **first** rotation (rotating both direction)?

Example 1: Lifting the skater into a Flexible position and the Group Lift rotates the first 360° with three (3) supporting skaters and then rotates 180° in the opposite direction with two (2) supporting skaters. The entire time the lifted skater is in a flexible position

Answer

Example 1: Communication 2040 page 8 states the following; "Features, that are required to be executed during a rotation, must ALL be executed during the same rotation"

The Flexible position has 360° rotational requirement. The Support Feature (two (2) skaters) has 180° rotational requirement. The Support Feature and Flexible Feature must therefore be executed during the **same** rotation to be counted.

The flexible position must rotate for a total of 360° and the two (2) supporting skaters must rotate 180° of that 360° to be considered part of the same rotation.

So in example 1, the Support and Flexible Features are not being executed during the same rotation. Therefore, the Flexible position and Rotating in both Directions (360 + 180) will be counted towards the level but not the Support Feature (two (2) skaters).

Example 2: Lifting the skater into Flexible position with three (3) supporting skaters and completing a rotation 180° in first direction and then changing rotational direction for 360°. The lifted skater remains in a flexible position with three (3) supporting skaters and then changing to two (2) supporting skaters for a minimum 180°.

Answer

Example 2: Communication 2040 page 8 states the following; "Features, that are required to be executed during a rotation, must ALL be executed during the same rotation"

The Flexible position has 360° rotational requirement. The Support Feature (two (2) skaters) has 180° rotational requirement. The Support Feature and Flexible Feature must therefore be executed during the **same** rotation to be counted.

In example 2, the Flexible position rotates for a total of 360° and the two (2) supporting skaters rotate 180° of that 360° thus being part of the same rotation.

Therefore in the Features Flexible Position, Support (two (2) skaters) and Rotating in both Direction (360° + 180°) will be counted towards the level.

Question:

2. For the Feature Difficult Exit: must the difficulty be executed during the decent or is the lifted skater permitted to touch down prior to showing another movement? ie. Pair lift

Answer:

*2. Rule 990 para 3 c. GROUP LIFT ELEMENT - The Group Lift Element must meet the following criteria:
The Group Lift Element ends when the lifted Skater is set down*

The difficult exit must occur during the descent of the lifted skater. Once the lifted skater is set down the Group Lift will be considered ended



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SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

Group Lifts continued

Question:

3. For the flexible Feature:

a) Will any curve of the back be considered as a flexible position?

Answer:

3a) Any recognized curve of the back will be considered as flexible with a backward arch in approximately a semi-circle or full circle (Communication 2040)

b) Does the lifted skater show enough flexibility when grasping one foot?

Answer:

3b) Flexibility will be counted when the lifted skater grasps one foot with a backward arch in approximately a semi-circle or full circle (Communication 2040)

Question:

4. May the feature of two (2) supporting skaters be counted twice?

Answer:

4. According to Communication 2012 if using the same feature in both Group Lifts, the features must not resemble each other. Therefore, the two supporting skaters could be counted twice if in one GL they support with two hands and in the other GL the support is with one hand. Holding the lifted skater in a different place when comparing the first and second GL is **NOT** considered as different.

Question:

5. What are the points considered by the technical panel in order to achieve the balancing feature?

Answer:

5. Balance is shown when the lifted skaters body is supported on one side only (one arm, hip and one leg), or supported at the lower body (hip) and feet or supported using the lifted skaters hands and feet.

Laying flat on the back or stomach and being supported at the feet/legs and also at the shoulder is not considered balancing. Laying flat on the back and being supported at the feet and neck **ONLY** would be considered balancing



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SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

INTERSECTION ELEMENT plus pi

Question:

May a backward spiral be used during the Preparation, Approach and/or exit phase of an Intersection?

Answer:

The intent of the rule is to keep skaters safe. Backward spirals are illegal during the pi phase only. Teams are permitted to include a backward spiral during the other phases of intersections without penalty.

SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

PAIR ELEMENT – Death Spiral

Question:

1. What is considered the correct position for the lower skater in a death spiral?

Answer:

1. The head of the lower skater must be at or below the knee of their supporting skater for 360°. There is no requirement in SYS for the lower skater to have an arch in their back or for their head to be lower than their own hips.

Question:

2. What is considered a fall for the lower skater during the death spiral and the exit?

Answer:

2. A fall is called IF the majority of his/her own body weight is on the ice supported by any other part of the body other than the blades, eg; hand(s), one/two knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm. A fall is always called when **both** knees of the lower skater are on the ice during any part of the death spiral. This is more often seen during the exit (when getting up). When the lower skaters' one knee or hip briefly touches the ice on the way into, during or coming out of a Death Spiral, judges must reflect this error in the GOE and will not be counted as a fall.