



THE REFEREEING OFFICIALS:

Ballet on Ice 2010



CSNB

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V – THE REFEREEING OFFICIALS:

A To become a judge of ballet on ice:

1. Who can become official of ballet on ice?

Every major person or being major at the end of the training course of judges school can apply to become referee official. Candidates should meet the following criteria:

- being over 18 on September 1st of the new season,
- to have got figure ice skating preparatory or PN 7 (copy of the classification book updated regularly),
- to have got the ice dance skating preparatory,
- to have a personal musical and choreographic artistic culture,
- to have completed successfully the probationary training (artistic, dance, synchronized skating) and experienced the judgement in one of these disciplines,
- being member of the FFSG (copy of season member's card),
- being particularly motivated and available for the ballet on ice.

During the training course, the candidate will necessarily have a license in the French Federation of Ice Sports.

Besides, an official cannot be nor licensed as a professor of skating or a choreographer and/or he/she cannot skate professionally or being amateur performing in a competition of ballet on ice.

The official having reached the limit age for judging determined by the FFSG (70 years) cannot officiate any more in national or international official competitions

2. How to apply ?

If these conditions are fulfilled, the candidate will apply by a lettre of motivation (including one copy of the updated classification book and copy of the federal license concerning the current season) forwarded to the President of the Ballet on Ice National Committee.

Once the above described conditions are verified by the President of the CSNB with the judge referee, the applicant will be registered on the list of the judges for the next season on the rank of judge in probationary training.

The president of CSNB will inform then the think-tank coordinator in charge of training probationary judges.

The new judge will join then a training process during a complete season called " school of judges ".

3. The commitments of the probationary judge :

When the CSNB officialized the application, the probationary judge will then have to make a commitment in :

- participating in the seminars set up by the CSNB,
- participating in the competitions appointed to him/her in order to follow his/her probationary training (at least 4 competitions during the sporting season of which necessarily those where are developed the first and the third axis of the training),
- improving his/her personal knowledge in choreography, music and artistic (classic or modern concert, ballet, etc.),
- improving or gaining skills in judgment of figure, dance or ballet skating,
- participating in meetings and seminars organized by the CSNB,
- participating in the statutory meetings before and after the competitions leaded by the judge referee and his/her assistant.

The CSNB registers then the probationary judge in the ballet on ice judges official list to the rank of " inter-judge in probationary training". The CSNB makes then a commitment in :

- inviting the new official at the training seminar of ballet on ice,
- allowing him/her to cast a blank judgement from the first season, beside the official judges.

4. The appointment of the probationary judge on a permanent basis in the ballet on ice judges official list :

At the end of his/her training course (follow up of the 3 complete axes of training), the think-tank sends a report ("recommendation") with its conclusions and propositions giving or not permanent status to the probationary judge.

The CSNB is then free to promote or not the judge :

- if he/she has participated in the totality of the training course (3 axes),
- if he/she has fulfilled the judge examination set up by the CSNB,
- if he/she is at least over 18 years old on September 1st of the new season.

The new judge can be then called to officiate in the inter-leagues competitions of the current season.

B School of judges :

This training is carried out in a tutorial form based on the following axes :

► 1st axis of the training :

From the first competition allowing it, an intervention to pass on the essential data of the judgment. This intervention consists of following points :

A 2 hours presentation with the aim of giving and communicating all the keys and the main points of judgment of the ballet on ice discipline according to the federal regulations,

The judges in probationary training not having been able to go to this competition will benefit of the training written support. No retake will be organized.

The moderators of this training are appointed by the president of the CSNB.

The contents of the " training initiation " is the following one:

- a presentation of the ballet on ice definition,
- the progress of a competition,
- a presentation of the choreography : definition ; 6 axes,
- a presentation of the judgment criteria for the free ballet : mark for ballet technique and mark for artistic feeling (explanation of the various criteria composing each mark),
- a presentation of the judgment criteria for the choreographic exercise : the mark of choreography and the technical one, (explanation of the various criteria composing each mark),
- the ranking system.

► 2nd axis of the training :

Implementation of a **tutorial system of the entirety of judges in probationary training during all the sporting season**. This tutorial system is organized around the following points :

The tutoring is carried out by the moderators of the think-tank or any other person whose skill in ballet on ice is recognized.

During the various sporting events, the target of tutors is to help the judges learning judgment technics by means of a follow-up and support during the event. Depending on marks and rankings given by the judges in training, an exchange with the tutors will be then carried out.

This monitoring during the sporting events could be sustained by an exchange of mails between the tutors and the judges in probationary training.

In order to have the best follow-up, the judges in probationary training have to commit themselves to attend the competitions where they have been invited by the CSNB.

► **3rd axis of training :**

The training is finalized during French championships through :

- a 1 hour written examination without support documents. This test is established by the think-tank and it allows to validate the skills in judgment techniques and knowledge of ballet on ice discipline.
- a quarter of an hour till half an hour oral and individual interview with one or all the members of the think-tank having carried out the follow-up of the pretenders in order to be sure of their skills and motivation.

The decisions are made in camera by the tutors according to the various elements collected during the examination and the interview (at least 80 % of the answers must be in compliance with the expectations according to the regulations and the judgment practices of ballet on ice). These results are the subject of a recommendation to the CSNB one or two weeks after the decisions.

After deliberation, the think-tank announces the results to the CSNB by means of a recommendation and proposes the promotion of the judges having satisfied the examination and the interview to the rank "Judge of Inter-league Competitions".

The latter could then be registered in the official list of ballet on ice judges under the authority of the CSNB and will be able to officiate during the sporting events recognised and validated by the CSNB.

It is within the competence of the CSNB to inform the promoted judges by the means considered the most convenient.

C Organization of the ballet on ice judges :

1) The hierarchically organization of the officials :

Hierarchically organization of the officials as follows :

- Judges named "**judges in probationary training or probationary judge**": are in one year of probationary training and they can officiate in no competition.
- Judges named "**judges of inter-leagues competitions**" who can officiate in all the inter-leagues and national competitions recognised by the federal authorities.

► Judges named "**judges of national championships**" who can officiate in any kind of competition recognised by the federal authorities. They can be judge referee in inter-league and national competitions.

► Judges named "**TOIICC international judges**" who can officiate in any kind of national and international competition recognised by the federal authorities. Only judges of international rank TOIICC could be recommended and invited by the CSNB to represent the federal authorities near the foreign federations. They can be judge referee in all national competitions.

► Judges named "**TOIICC international judges referee**" who can officiate as judge referee in any kind of national or international competition recognised by the federal authorities.

► Judges named "**Judges of Honor**" who can officiate as judge or judge referee in any kind of national or international competition recognised by the federal authorities.

2) Harmonization of promotions at the federal level :

Promotions are established in cooperation with the CFOA and the national judge referee of the season in force in connection with the CSNB.

► Only can be appointed to the rank of "**judge of inter-leagues competitions**", the candidate having followed and satisfied the probationary training during one season and fulfilled the examination and the final interview. This training can be renewed once.

► Only can be appointed to the rank of "**judge of national Championships**", the holder of the rank "judge of inter-leagues competitions" recognized by his/her qualities of official and having officiated at least during 3 complete and no interrupted seasons of ballet on ice. He/she must also have officiated at least in 9 competitions of ballet on ice among which at least 3 French championships recognized by the CSNB by season.

► Only can be appointed by the CSNB to the rank of "**international judge TOIICC**" the judge having the rank of "national judge or National Championships judge" recognized by his/her qualities of official and having officiated at least during 4 complete and no interrupted seasons. Besides, having participated, by season, at least in 12 competitions of ballet on ice among which at least 4 French championships and 4 international competitions recognized by the CSNB. The candidates will also do an examination of "**TOIICC international judge**" on proposition of the CSNB.

► Only can be appointed by the CSNB to the rank of "**judge arbitrate international TOIICC**" the judge of rank "international judge TOIICC" recognized for his/her qualities of official and having officiated with this rank at least during 4

complete and no interrupted seasons in ballet on ice. He/she has to have an international experience as judge and judges referee recognized by his international pairs (participation as official in events outside the national territory). It is up to the international committee of ballet on ice (TOIICC) to validate the judges in this rank on proposition of the federal authorities.

► Judges named "**Judges of Honor**" recognized for their qualities of officials as well as their career and services rendered are appointed on the official list of judges by the CSNB.

3) Setting-up of the " TOIICC international judge " examination :

The will to improve our discipline and to establish it internationally is at the origin of the " TOIICC international judge examination" setting-up.

It is up to every federation to get organized and set their own application procedure.

According to the FFSG, only the judges of National Championships rank having officiated during 3 complete no interrupted seasons can be presented on examination for " TOIICC international Judge ".

It is only up to the CSNB, according to the criteria above mentioned, to propose candidates to the TOIICC international judge rank.

Only the TOIICC members can conduct an exam in English and further recommend to the national federations to promote the pretenders to the international rank with the label " TOIICC ".

D Modus operandi of the officials :

1) The official list of the ballet on ice judges :

Each season, an official list of the ballet on ice judges is published by the CSNB. It includes the different ranks mentioned in paragraph C : Organization of the ballet on ice judges ".

2) Nomination of juries :

In the beginning of the season, panels are established by the judge referee and validated by the CSNB, which broadcasts it near the organizing clubs and judges.

The judge referee assistant is appointed by the judge referee for every competition from the rank of the national championships judges or other superior ranks.

3) Judges meetings and seminars :

Different kind of meetings :

▶ National meetings and seminars :

The judges appearing in the official list published by the CSNB must attend the meetings and seminars organized by the committee. They are compulsory.

Not participating to these meetings or seminars without a valid reason (medical, professional unavailability, etc.) will lead to the striking off the official list, in accordance with the regulations defined by the committee.

▶ Judges meetings before the competitions :

The target of these meetings is to remind main rules of judgment and the last publications. They are held by the judge referee of the competition.

The judges must attend these meetings.

▶ Judges meetings after the competitions :

They are held by the judge referee and his/her assistant immediately after the prize-giving. The aim of these meetings is to do an event report and to study with the judges the differences of opinion and to exchange on the difficulties met during the competition.

These meetings are compulsory for the whole official jury of the competition.

4) The invitations of the officials :

From the beginning of the season, the list of the officials is published by the CSNB after approval by the judge referee.

For all the competitions, the judges are invited to judge, through the CFOA on proposition of the judge referee of ballet on ice competitions of the season linked with the CSNB.

For French championships, national, international ballet on ice competitions over de Country as well as for the international competitions outside the National Territory; all the refereeing officials, without exception, representing the Ice sports French Federation must be registered in the list of the ballet on ice officials issued and approved every season by the CSNB.

These refereeing officials should necessarily have participated to the training course of the ballet on ice judges school.

The international and national championships judges must judge yearly any national competition and national championship as well as inter-league competition according to their availability.

In early season, the judges at the request of the judge referee will have to communicate their availabilities for all the competitions of the year in force.

Juries will be established in cooperation with the CFOA and the national judge referee of the current season in connection with the CSNB.

The judges will then receive a letter from the CFOA to inform them about the competitions where they will officiate.

For any problem concerning juries, the judges will have to get in touch with the judge referee linked with the CSNB and the CFOA.

Not participating to the official summons during a full sporting season without a valid reason (medical, professional unavailability, etc.) will lead to :

- either the downgrading to the nearest lower rank,
- or striking the judge ranked "inter-leagues competitions" off the official list of the discipline.

For the organization of juries according to the competitions refer to paragraph I of part I - General points.

5. Coverage of officials expenses :

The Organizer will provide and cover travel, rooms and meals expenses for the members of the jury and bookkeepers, for French championships and all the league competitions or competitions organized by a club, according to the refund rates applied by the FFSG.

6 Complaints :

Any complaint or contestation about a competition must be sent in writing to the president of the CSNB within the 8 days after the competition. Beyond this period, no more complaint will be accepted.

These complaints will be examined by the CSNB which can decide to hand them over to :

- either the judge referee and judge referee assistant of the competition,
- or the Executive Board

6. The judge referee :

a) Nomination of the judge referee :

The judge referee is appointed because of his/her judgment recognized skill. He/she is proposed by the President of the CSNB to the members of the committee

for approval. He will ensure this responsibility for all competitions of the current year and will be renewable every year (the same judge referee can be confirmed season by season).

The rank of the judge referee is " TOIICC international judge " or superior.

b) Fonction of the judge referee (rule ISU 411 - 412 - 413) :

▶ The judge referee is in charge of :

- checking the eligibility of the judges, skaters and their licenses,
- the random drawing according to the in force regulations,
- controlling the calculations and the final result,
- of the good progress of the competition according to the regulations in force.

▶ The judge referee can :

- modify the program of the competition, as far as it does not oppose to the regulations in force,
- decide if the ice conditions allow the progress of the event,
- modify the shape and the size of the useful surface of the rink in case of technical hitch,
- accept, in agreement with the organizer, that the competition takes place on another rink,
- ban skaters of the competition if necessary,
- change officials,
- give to the sound system the signal for starting the music of the skater,
- suspend the competition until the order is restored in case of public interruptions or nuisances preventing the good progress of the event,
- forbid any coach to go to the rink whatever moment of the competition.

▶ The judge referee takes any decision concerning :

- complaints or contestations,
- violation of the regulation, even if there is no complaint.

▶ The judge referee is president of the jury :

- Before the beginning of the competition and, if the program allows it, the judge referee has to organize a jury meeting in which he reminds the judges duties and the technical rules suited to the competition by

drawing the attention on the changes of regulations, its explanation or its published clarifications,

- the judge referee has to give a mark to the competitors only for his/her self information, but does not have to show publicly his/her marks,
- before and during the competition, the judge referee should not give any comment that could have an influence on the judgments of the current event or the future competitions,
- after the competition and, if the program allows it, the judge referee has to organize a jury meeting. He can give to the judges his classification for each event of the competition. Although the main purpose of this meeting is to allow the judge referee to ask the judges to explain their judgment, the latter have also the possibility to comment on their differences. Besides, this meeting will look over the level of the competition with the aim of proposing constructive elements to the CSNB

c) Responsibilities of the judge referee :

- Accepting the function of judge referee or judge referee assistant entails the compulsory participation to the formal events linked to the competition (random drawing, official meals, formal rewards ceremony) as official representative of the FFSG.

8) The judge referee assistant :

The function of the judge referee assistant is to help the judge referee in all his/her functions and to replace him/her, if necessary, (to assist the judge referee during the officials meetings, the random drawings, the intermediate random drawings, in the control of licenses, schedule of programs and the warm-ups, the good distribution of protocols or all the documents useful for the good progress of the competitions, in taking notes about everything requiring comments, etc.)

9) The rink judge :

In accordance with the judge referee and the judge referee assistant, his/her function is the following one:

- to watch out for the entry and exit of sceneries when they are authorized,
- to proceed at any necessary control (heights, etc),
- to control that nobody enter the rink with other shoes than skates,
- to ensure the respect of entry and exit order by the teams,
- to authorize a team entering on the rink,
- to control that all access doors to the rink are closed and the safety conditions are met allowing to call the team on the ice,

- to remind the captain of the team the rules applicable for choreographic exercise and free ballet warming-up,
- he/she has to report any malpractice or problem noticed to the judge referee or his/her assistant,
- he/she can take any necessary measure to restore the order and ensure the safety of the skaters and the good progress of the event in agreement with the judge referee.

The judge of rink is compulsory equipped by the organizer with a communication line connecting him/her with the judge referee.

In order to be effectively located by the various actors, he/she has to be red armbanded.

10) The judge trainee :

The judge trainee is in probationary training. He/she is registered in the officials list with the rank of probationary judge but he can, in no case, officiate. He/she is present in the competitions at the request of the CSNB and placed under the authority of the judge referee.

E Responsibilities and rights of the ballet on ice officials :

1) Responsibilities concerning all the officials :

1. A judge has to be informed about all items concerning the judgment of the Ballet on ice, through regulations, communications and other official publications edited by the CSNB. These documents are compulsory to officiate.
2. To carry out his function, a judge has to possess a good sight, a good hearing and be in good general physical condition (Rule ISU 426.2).
3. As officials appointed by the French Federation of Ice sports, the judges must have a discreet behaviour (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.3).
4. The judges must, any time, be completely impartial and neutral. They have't to show an favorable or unfavourable "a priori" for no team in any case. They have totally to set aside the approval or disapproval of the public. They only have to give marks for the present performance and must not be influenced

by the reputation or the past performances of the teams, nor by the trainings or the warming-ups (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.4).

5. The judges have to give marks independently and when they judge, it is not allowed to converse between them or to indicate errors by actions or sounds (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.5).
6. Through the whole competition, it's to say : till the end of the last test, the judges are not authorized to discuss with whoever except the judge referee, the judge referee assistant (or the person in charge of the jury), about their marks or those of another judge (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.6).
7. During the competitions and the championships where they officiate, the judges are not authorized to intervene as a sporting or other commentator of their category except through the Judge Referee or his assistant (or the person in charge of the jury) (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.7).
8. It is forbidden to the judges to use pre-established marks (Rule (Ruler) ISU 426.8).
9. It is forbidden to the judges to bring any kind of electronic communication system on the podium of the judges (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.9).
10. All the marks scale must be used according to the real value of the performance. Low notes must not be avoided due to sentimental or other reasons if they are deserved (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.10).
11. Every judge has to hold a personal protocol and register in it his/her marks before showing them publicly. He/she must also write in it the appropriate comments, in order to be able of giving any explanations that could be asked to him by the Judge Referee (or the person in charge of the jury in the case of a test) (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.11).
12. The judges do not have to write marks given by the other judges during the competition or the championship (Rule(Ruler) ISU 426.12).
13. The Judge Referee can replace, having duly warned about it, the judges who would be convenient for paragraphs from 5 to 12 above (Rules ISU 426.13).
14. A judge attending a competition, a championship or a test without officiating has to abstain himself from any comment with whoever about the judgment of the judges who officiate (duty of discretion).
15. The judges cannot compete in the ballet on ice competitions,
16. It is not allowed to judges (judge referee or judge) of the same family or the members of close families to officiate in the same jury (Rule(Ruler) ISU 336.2b).
17. It is not allowed to a judge or a judge referee to officiate in a competition or a test in which participates a member of his/her close family or the pupil of a coach member of his/her close family (Settle(Adjust) ISU 336.2c.2d).

2) The penalties:

Respecting the disciplinary rules of the internal regulation of the Ice Sports French Federation, a judge who would violate seriously rules or whose judgement would not be impartial will be the object of a penalty which could go to the definitive suspension of judgment.

3) The rights of the officials, law of October 23rd, 2006 :

The law confers to the referees and the sporting judges, under their function of referee and judge, a MISSION of PUBLIC UTILITY, in the same way as fire brigades or the doctors in service.

This law gives to 180 000 referees and sporting judges a social and fiscal status, a real recognition. It protects them from multiple litigations following local controls. At this time of growing aggressiveness, of frequent threats to the referees or verbal violence, they are henceforth assimilated to a " INSULT to AGENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY " and (from a penal point of view) lead to aggravated sentences, provided that the victim lodges a complaint in case of proven incivility.

It specifies their freelance worker's status, without subordination link towards their federation, their earnings being subjected to the not commercial profits (NCB). Clarifying, nevertheless, that the referee remains linked to his Federation on the technical and administrative plan of the refereeing function.

It defines their new social and fiscal status, dispensatory from the common law, tax and social contributions exempt under 4 667 euro in 2007 (raised to 4 825 euro for 2008), i.e. 14.5 % of the National Health Insurance' ceiling what allows an automatic indexation.