Understanding Your Scores

Understanding the IJS Scoring System

International Judging System
As defined by ISU
Unlike the 6.0 system, the IJS system gives each skater an actual SCORE, which is an absolute reflection of the quality of their skating performance.

Incidental to the value of the score, the scores that each skater in an event receive place them in an order.

The absolute score has relevance from competition to competition as a reflection of improved (or not...) performance and growth.
After an event, the posted results show not only the final scores in placement order, but also provide each skater a complete breakdown of how their scores were generated.

Shows what they did that was good, what they did that needs improvement.
An IJS score is created by combining the results of 2 separate means of analysis.

The GOE or Grade of Execution score is a very objective and mathematical evaluation of the technical quality of the specific elements – combining in a very formulaic way the level of difficulty of the elements chosen with an analysis of the quality of their performance.
An IJS score is created by combining the results of 2 separate means of analysis.

The **Program Components** score is slightly more subjective analysis by the judges of the throughout-the-program quality of a skater’s (or coach’s) performance in 5 general categories – Skating Skills, Transitions, Performance/Execution, Choreography, and Interpretation.
Calculating GOE

In simple terms, each element in the program receives a separate score, then the scores of all elements are added to obtain a final composite GOE for the program.

Every recognized element has a pre-established “Base Value” which is received when the element is performed.

Before adding, the Base Value is adjusted according to the judge’s assessment of the quality of the performed element.

The judges give each element an integer score between +3 (very good) to -3 (very poor) according to pre-established criteria of evaluation.

The judge’s integer scores are translated by the computer into an adjustment factor which alters the Base Value before it is added to the final GOE. Note that the adjustment effect varies according to the difficulty of the element.
Sample calculation of the GOE for a single element.

For this skater’s Layback Spin, called as a Level 2 spin (the Level is an assessment of the number of features included in the spin)

The Base Value for a Level 2 Layback is 1.9, with adjustment factors as shown above.

The 6 judges awarded: 
Throw out hi/low, leaving: 
These translate to GOE adjustments 
Totalling (1.5); Average adjustment (1.5 / 4) = 0.38
Actual GOE received by skater for this element is Base + Adjustment (1.9 + 0.38) = 2.28
Jump Combos:
When jumps are used in combination, the SOV Base values of each of the jumps are ADDED to determine the value for the combination (note jump combinations are listed jumps where each succeeding jump takes off from the same edge/foot that the previous jump landed on)

Jump Sequences:
When jumps are used in sequence, the Base Values of the 2 highest value jumps are added, then the total is multiplied by 0.8 to determine the value used for the sequence (note jump sequences are jumps connected by non-listed jumps, maintaining the jump rhythm; sequence ends at any turn or crossover, or stroking)

Jumps in 2nd half of program:
The Base Value of any jump performed in the 2nd half of the program is multiplied by 1.1, giving a 10% bonus to these jumps. Jumps receiving this bonus are marked with a “*” on the scoresheet
Under-Rotated Jumps:
A jump under-rotated by $\frac{1}{4}$ turn or less receives full Base Value. A jump under-rotated by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ revolution is called “Under-Rotated”. It is marked by a symbol “<“ on the scoresheet. Its Base Value is reduced to 70% (0.7) of the Base Value of the intended jump.

Downgraded Jumps:
A jump under-rotated by more than $\frac{1}{2}$ revolution is called “Downgraded”. It is marked by a symbol “<<“ on the scoresheet. The jump receives the Base Value of the same-named jump with one fewer revolution. For example a downgraded triple flip (3F<<) receives the Base Value of a double flip.

Non-Permitted Elements:
Elements that are not in conformance with program requirements (i.e., too many combos, excessive repetition of doubles or triples, spins not permitted) are marked with a “**” on the scoresheet. They receive no value (a Base Value of 0).
The judges award a score in each of the 5 named categories. Their scores range from 0.0 (very poor) to 10.0 (outstanding), in 0.25 increments.

The high and low values are thrown out (if there are enough judges), then the remaining scores are averaged to form the composite value for that component.

That composite value is adjusted by a factor which varies according to skating level. This factor exists because at high levels the possible GOE score is much higher than at low levels, whereas the Program Components score tends to remain more constant. The factor attempts to keep the relative effects of GOE and PC approximately consistent across all levels.

For this skater, on Performance/Execution component:
The 6 judges awarded
3.50 3.75 3.75 4.25 3.75 3.25
Throw out hi/low, leaving:
3.50 3.75 3.75 3.75
Totalling (14.25) Average (14.25 / 4) = 3.69
All GOE values are added to arrive at a total. Note that jumps in the 2nd half of a program receive a 10% bonus.

The total here is 14.63

The totaled and factored Program Component Score is added to the Element scores. Here the Program Component Score is 14.59

Deductions are used to reduce the score if appropriate. Falls receive a deduction of 1.0 apiece. There are additional deductions for timing violations, clothing violations, etc. Here a single Fall deduction of 1.0 is taken.

The skater’s total score is \((14.63 + 14.59 - 1.00) = 28.22\)
How does the Judge evaluate the program?

For GOE – those judge’s +3 to -3 marks; how are they generated??

For an element performed just about exactly as you would expect a skater of that level to perform it, the judge awards a score of 0 (0 means “average” in this case).

When specific Good Things are observed in the performance of the element, the judge may award “plus points”

When specific Bad Things are observed in the performance, the judge reduces the mark by “minus points”.

The score awarded is a combination of the Plus and Minus points. The charts on the next slide outline recommended Plus and Minus items.
**Updated Guidelines for marking +GOE of Single Elements (positive aspects)**

Merged document of 1611 and 1672

FOR + 1: 2 bullets
FOR + 2: 4 bullets
FOR + 3: 6 or more bullets

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**Jump Elements**
- 1) unexpected / creative / difficult entry
- 2) clear recognizable steps/free skating movements immediately preceding element
- 3) varied position in the air / delay in rotation
- 4) good height and distance
- 5) good extension on landing / creative exit
- 6) good flow from entry to exit including jump combinations / sequences
- 7) effortless throughout
- 8) element matched to the musical structure

**Spins**
- 1) good speed or acceleration during spin
- 2) ability to center a spin quickly
- 3) balanced rotations in all positions
- 4) clearly more than required number of revolutions
- 5) good position(s) (including height and air position in flying spins)
- 6) creativity and originality
- 7) good control throughout all phases
- 8) element matched to the musical structure

**Step Sequences**
- 1) good energy and execution
- 2) good speed or acceleration during sequence
- 3) good clarity and precision
- 4) deep clean edges (including entry and exit of all turns)
- 5) good control and commitment of whole body to accuracy of steps
- 6) creativity and originality
- 7) effortless throughout
- 8) element matched to the musical structure

**Choreo Step Sequences**
- 1) good energy and execution
- 2) good speed or acceleration during sequence
- 3) good clarity and precision
- 4) good control and commitment of whole body to accuracy of steps
- 5) creativity and originality
- 6) effortless throughout
- 7) reflecting concept/character of the program
- 8) element matched to the musical structure

**Choreo Spiral Sequences**
- 1) good flow, energy and execution
- 2) good speed during sequence
- 3) good body line and full extension
- 4) good flexibility
- 5) creativity and originality
- 6) ability to attain positions and variations quickly and effortlessly
- 7) reflecting concept/character of the program
- 8) element matched to the musical structure

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**III. Updated Guidelines in establishing GOE for errors in Short Program and Free Skating**

Elements with no Value are indicated to the Panel of Judges. GOE of such elements does not influence the result. In case of multiple errors the corresponding reductions are added.

### SINGLE SKATING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Errors for which final GOE must be in the minuses</th>
<th>Reduction/other</th>
<th>Errors for which final GOE is not restricted</th>
<th>Reduction/other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SP: One or more rev. less than required</td>
<td>GOE -3</td>
<td>Poor speed, height, distance, air position</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP: Combo consisting of one jump only</td>
<td>GOE -3</td>
<td>Lacking rotation (no sign)</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downgraded (sign &lt; )</td>
<td>-2 to -3</td>
<td>Under-rotated (sign &lt; )</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP: No required steps/movements</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>SP: Break between required steps/movements &amp; jump only if one step/movement preceding jump</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>Poor take-off</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landing on two feet in a jump</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>Loss of flow/rhythm between jumps (combi/seq.)</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stepping out of landing in a jump</td>
<td>-2 to -3</td>
<td>Weak landing (bad pos., wrong edge, scratching etc.)</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch down with both hands in a jump</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>Long preparation</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 three turns in between (jump combo)</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>Touch down with one hand or free foot</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting from wrong edge in F/Lz (sign “e”)</td>
<td>-2 to -3</td>
<td>Unclear edge at take-off in F/Lz (sign “e”)</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### JUMP ELEMENTS

- SP: Position in the air not attained (flying spin) -2 to -3
- Poor/awkward position(s), slow traveling -1 to -3
- Touch down with both hands -2
- FNE Pos. in the air not attained (flying spin/entry) -1 to -3
- Change of foot poorly executed (curve of entry/exit, moving to intermediate position etc.) -1 to -3
- Incorrect take-off or landing in a flying spin -1 to -2
- Touch down with free foot or one hand -1

### SPINS

- Fall -3
- Less than required revolutions -1 to -2
- Poor/awkward position(s), slow traveling -1 to -3
- Touch down with both hands -2
- FNE Pos. in the air not attained (flying spin/entry) -1 to -3
- Change of foot poorly executed (curve of entry/exit, moving to intermediate position etc.) -1 to -3
- Incorrect take-off or landing in a flying spin -1 to -2
- Touch down with free foot or one hand -1

### STEPS

- Fall -3
- SP: Incorrect pattern -1 to -2
- Less than half of the pattern doing steps/turns -2 to -3
- Poor quality of steps, turns, positions -1 to -3
- Stumble -1 to -2
- Does not correspond to the music -1 to -2
- SP: Listed jumps with more than half rev. included -1

### SPIRALS

- Fall -3
- Poor positions -1 to -3
- Stumble -1 to -2
- Poor edge quality -1 to -2

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**GOE must BE -3; in other cases the value shown is a REDUCTION**
**Skating Skills**

Definition: Overall skating quality: edge control and flow over the ice surface demonstrated by a command of the skating vocabulary (edges, steps, turns, etc.), the clarity of technique and use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed.

Criteria:

- Balance, rhythmic knee action and precision of foot placement
- Flow and effortless glide
- Cleanliness and sureness of deep edges, steps, turns
- Power/energy and acceleration
- Mastery of multi-directional skating
- Mastery of one-foot skating
- Equal mastery of technique by both partners shown in unison (pairs and ice dancing)
- Balance in skating ability of individual skaters (synchronized)

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**Transitions/Linking Footwork & Movement**

Definition: The varied and/or intricate footwork, positions, movements and holds that link all elements. In singles, pairs and synchronized skating, this also includes the entrances and exits of technical elements.

Criteria:

- Variety
- Difficulty
- Intricacy
- Quality (including unison in pairs, ice dancing and synchronized skating)
- Balance of workload between partners (pairs and ice dancing)
- Variety of holds (not excessive side by side and hand in hand in ice dancing)
- Conformity to pattern and stop requirements in ice dancing, original dance only
- Variation of speed and linking steps (synchronized)
- Variation of changes of direction and hold (synchronized)
- Difficulty and variety of entrances/exits from elements/preparation phase (synchronized)
In 6.0 judging, these items would be reflected in the Presentation mark.

**Performance/Execution**
Definition: Performance is the involvement of the skater/couple/teams physically, emotionally and intellectually as they translate the intent of the music and choreography. Execution is the quality of movement and precision in delivery. This includes harmony of movement in pairs, ice dancing and synchronized skating.

Criteria:
- Physical, emotional and intellectual involvement
- Carriage (and body alignment - synchronized)
- Style and individuality/personality
- Clarity of movement
- Variety and contrast
- Projection

**Interpretation**
Definition: The personal and creative translation of the music to movement on ice.

Criteria:
- Effortless movement in time to the music
- Expression of the music's style, character, rhythm
- Use of finesse* to reflect the nuances of the music

**Choreography/Composition**
Definition: An intentional, developed and/or original arrangement of all types of movements according to the principles of proportion, unity, space, pattern, structure and phrasing.

Criteria:
- Purpose (idea, concept, vision)
- Proportion (equal weight of parts)
- Unity (purposeful threading)
- Utilization of personal and public space
- Pattern and ice coverage
- Phrasing and form (movements and parts structured to match the phrasing of the music)
- Originality of purpose, movement and design