

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1476

Figure Skating - Use of papers/documents by Figure Skating Judges during competitions

As per ISU Special Regulations Rules 409, paragraph 2, respectively Rule 806, paragraph 2, "*Judges must mark only the performance and not be influenced by reputation or past performance*" and "*must not use previously prepared marks*" as well as "*must not bring any form of electronic communication system to the Judges Stand.*" Consequently, when evaluating the performance of a skater/couple during the respective segment, Judges are not allowed to use for comparing purposes their own notes nor refer to any records/notes on the skaters'/couples' scores and or results of the ongoing or previous competitions.

In light of the above, the ISU Council in consultation with the ISU Sports Directorate approved the following guidelines and instructions for Officials and Organizers of ISU sanctioned International Figure Skating Competitions effective immediately.

These guidelines are introduced to limit the number of papers and documents which Judges may take to their places on the Judges' stand during competitions. Included are also the guidelines for the Referees, the Officials Assessment Commission members (OAC) and Technical Delegates if on site, as well as the Organizing Committees.

The Judges will receive shortly before the commencement of the segment the "Judges Marking Sheets", which is also the basis for the manual calculation of the results should this be necessary. These "Judges Marking Sheets" include the planned program content, i.e. the elements of their programs which skaters expect to perform.

In addition to the "Judges Marking Sheets", the Judges may also take to their places the Rule books, the latest pertinent ISU Communication(s) including the guidelines for the Grade of Execution (GOE) and Program Components and summary of deductions/reductions. For Compulsory Ice Dancing segments, a copy of the relevant dance pattern is also allowed on the Judges stand.

The final decision regarding the allowed documents is always up to the Referee taking into account the above-mentioned principles.

The "Judges Marking Sheets", one per skater/couple, allow Judges to note remarks during the performances and also serve as the basis for the manual back-up system in the case of an interruption in the electronic/computerized scoring system.

The Judges are requested to enter the respective skater's/couple scores during and at the end of each performance of each skater/couple. After this has been completed the Judges should immediately drop the "Judges Marking Sheet" of the respective skater/couple into a box which is placed besides each Judge's seat.

At the end of each segment when leaving their places, each Judge must take his/her own papers from the individual box into the Judges room. In case that a Judge wishes to dispose of the "Judges Marking Sheets", the Judge has to use a shredder or similar unit provided in the Judges room by the Organizing Committee.

This procedure is monitored as follows:

- * The Referee, assisted by the Technical Delegates (if on site), will ensure that Judges do not bring any other papers to their seats than the allowed documents as indicated above.
- * The Referee, the Technical Delegate and the Officials Assessment Commission will carry out random checks to ensure that the Judges place their used “Judges Marking Sheets” into the box after each respective skater’s performance.
- * The Organizing Committee (OC) and the Referee will assign a security person to guard the Judges “boxes” during each break.
- * The OC will ensure that there is a shredder available in the Judges room which would allow Judges to destroy their Judges Marking Sheets and personal documents or papers.

In case of a interruption in the electronic marking system, the Referee, the Technical Delegates and/or the Event Coordinator will decide upon changes of the above mentioned guidelines to save and obtain the scores of the Judges for the necessary manual data input.

Summary of responsibilities for each function/body:

Referee

- a) Explanation of details to the Judges during the Judges meeting;
- b) Decision as to which documents Judges may take to their places;
- c) Supervision.

Judges

- a) Adherence to the guidelines and to the decision of the Referee;
- b) Deposit of own marking sheets into own box after each skater’s performance;
- c) Destruction or safe keeping of own Judges Marking Sheets after each segment.

Officials Assessment Commission and Technical Delegate (if on site)

- a) Supervision of Judges to ensure the later deposit their sheets into their respective boxes after each performance;
- b) Supervision of Judges to ensure no additional notes are made on papers other than the Judges Marking Sheets;

Organizing Committee

- a) Placement of an individual box besides each Judge’s place;
- b) Provision of a shredder or similar unit in the Judges room to enable the Judges to destroy their papers so as to guarantee their anonymity;
- c) Provision of a security person during competition breaks to guard the boxes into which the Judges have placed their sheets.

Milan,

November 12, 2007

Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General