

3. MARKING GUIDE FOR GRADES OF EXECUTION OF REQUIRED ELEMENTS

GRADE OF EXECUTION of Pattern Dance Elements & Pattern Dances 2025/26											
SET CRITERIA	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5
STEPS HELD FOR THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF BEATS	Less than 75% of Steps held for required # of beats Out of Musical Structure					75% or more of Steps held for required # of beats		90% or more of Steps held for required # of beats		100% of Steps/Edges held for required # of beats (for both partners)	
Note: A Step is a shared unit when calculating total # of steps, no matter if the error is executed by one or both partners.											
FALLS/ ERRORS/ LOSS OF CONTROL	Two (2) Falls AND/OR many serious errors		One (1) Fall or Serious errors	Two (2) Stumbles or Serious errors	Stumble/ Touchdown by both Or up to 25% element missed	One (1) Touchdown/ Loss of Control	Slight Loss of Control/ One (1) Touchdown (no break within the Element)			None	
Features	More negative features/errors than positive features					Basic execution – Generally correct	1 - 2 positive feature	3 - 4 positive features	5 - 6 positive features	7 - 8 positive features (no negative features/errors)	More than 8 positive features (no negative features/errors)
	More than 8 negative features	7 – 8 negative features	5 – 6 negative features	3 - 4 negative features	1 - 2 negative features						
NEGATIVE FEATURES						POSITIVE FEATURES					
EXECUTION THROUGHOUT ELEMENT											
1. Poor execution and/or labored and/or Loss of Control with or without additional support					1 - 4	1. Good quality - correctness, cleanness, deepness and sureness of Edges/Steps/Turns					2 - 4
2. Incorrect Steps/Turns (per each) Eg: Choctaw instead of Mohawk					1	2. Smooth and Effortless					2
3. Lack of unison					1 - 2	3. Unison and oneness throughout the element					2
4. Lack of glide and flow (movement across the ice)					1 - 3	4. Glide and flow maintained (movement across the ice)					2
5. Does not reflect character and style of the chosen rhythm					1 - 2	5. Nuances/accents reflects character and style of the chosen rhythm					1 - 2
6. Not started on the prescribed beat (for each Section/Sequence)					2	6. Body lines and carriage of both partners stylish according to the chosen Rhythm					1
7. Holds and positions incorrect and/or uncontrolled and/or variable spacing in between partners: - less than 50% of pattern..... - 50% or more of pattern.....				1	7. Holds and positions correct and/or creative, consistent and appropriate for the rhythm selected and/or with close spacing between partners					1 - 2
				2	8. Timing accurate 100%					2
8. Pattern incorrect, including crossing the long axis when not permitted					1 - 2	9. Maximum utilization of the ice surface with the correct Pattern					2

GRADE OF EXECUTION of REQUIRED ELEMENTS (including PDE & CHOREOGRAPHIC ELEMENTS) 2025/26											
SET CRITERIA	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5
MUSICALITY	Out of musical structure/rhythm pattern and/or not reflecting character/style, nuances, theme (including PDE and Choreo Elements)					Mostly with Musical Structure	In musical structure/rhythm pattern and reflecting character				
FALLS/ ERRORS/ LOSS OF CONTROL	Two (2) falls AND/OR many serious errors		One (1) fall or serious errors	Two (2) Stumbles Or One (1) Serious error	One (1) Stumble / Touch Downs	One (1) Touchdown/ Loss of Control	Slight Loss of Control/ One (1) Touchdown (no break within the Element)			NONE	
CHOREO-ELEMENTS	Choreo Element receives the “!” symbol - Reduce GOE by 2 grades (no higher than +3)										
FEATURES	NEGATIVE – More negative features than positive features					Positives = Negatives	POSITIVE – More positive features than negative features			7 – 8 (no negative features)	More than 8 (ALL features attempted are positive) 3 – 4
	More than 8	7 – 8	5 – 6	3 – 4	1 – 2		1 – 2	3 – 4	5 – 6		
NEGATIVE FEATURES					POSITIVE FEATURES						
EXECUTED THROUGHOUT ELEMENT											
1. Poor execution and/or Element labored and/or Loss of Control with or without additional support					1 – 4	1. Smooth and/or Effortless					2
2. Element does not reflect choreography of the chosen Music/rhythm/character/theme					1 – 3	2. Element enhances the choreography and/or character of the chosen music/rhythm/character/theme. Element reflects nuances in the music.					1 – 3
3. Poor entry / Poor exit (per each)					1	3. Entry/Exit is seamless and/or unexpected and/or creative (per each)					1
4. Poses or moves awkward or not aesthetically pleasing (per partner)					1 – 2	4. Body lines and pose of both partners aesthetically pleasing (per partner)					1 – 2
5. Separation longer than permitted immediately before/after Required Elements - RD: no more than 1 measure of music - FD: not to exceed 5 sec					2	5. Element is innovative and / OR creative and / OR Includes variety of holds					1 - 3
6. Execution not simultaneous and/or Lack of unison Step Seq, OFT, ChTw NOTE: STw: 1 Tw: 1 - 2 negative features, Both Tw: 2 – 4 negative features					1 - 2	6. Unison or Oneness throughout the element					1 - 2
7. Distance within Element - more than 2 arms lengths apart - variable spacing in between partners					1 – 2	7. Consistent and close spacing between partners STw, Step Seq, OFT, ChRS					1 - 2
						8. Speed of rotations maintained or accelerated RoLi, DSp, STw, Choreo EI					1 – 2
8. Lacking or reducing speed of rotation and/or speed across the ice					1 – 2	9. Speed across the ice maintained or accelerated during the Element					1 – 2
9. Not on spot DSp, StaLi					1 - 2	10. Cleanness and sureness of steps and turns STw, Step Seq, OFT					2
10. Pattern/ Placement incorrect RD: All elements. FD: Step Seq, ChSt, PSt					1 per each error	11. Exit of Twizzles performed with smooth running edge by both partners on the same Twizzle. One Twizzle: 1 Both Twizzles: 2					1 or 2
11. Not Permitted items within element* Step Seq, PSt, ChRS, ChSt, DSp, PDE					2 per each						
12. Stop longer than permitted in Element Step Seq, PSt, ChRS, ChSt					2 per each long stop						

* RD: Hand in Hand, Loops, Retrogression, Stop more than one, Touching in the Non-Touch Step Style B

* FD: Hand in Hand, Loops, Stops, Retrogression, Separation longer than 5 sec