

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1817

Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIAL REGULATION SINGLE & PAIR SKATING/ICE DANCE, RULE 551 AND RULE 638 BY THE COUNCIL USING ITS EXTRAORDINARY POWER GRANTED BY ARTICLE 17, PARAGRAPH 1. q).

The ISU Council at its meeting in Vienna, June 2013, reviewed and considered in concert with input from the Sport Directorate and the Technical Committees, the matter of the increasing number of interruptions by performing athletes during the course of their event programs.

It was noted that the present provisions in Rule 551, (respectively 628 for Ice Dance) do not have any impact on the score.

Under the authority as given to the Council within article 17, paragraph 1. q) changes were made to the relevant regulations to address this issue. Subsequently the text of these changes were communicated to the ISU Membership under Circular Letter 612 as issued on July 5, 2013. In consequence of the positive Membership response it was agreed to accept these changes effective immediately. Some of the suggested modifications from Members that could be allowed were incorporated into this document.

The principles are the following:

- if any adverse condition unrelated to the Competitor or his equipment occurs, the current provision of Rule 551/638, paragraph 2 remains appropriate: the Referee stops the performance and allows the Competitor to resume it from the point of interruption when the adverse conditions have been remedied. In all cases of an interruption, there shall be an audible signal as identified coming from the event Referee which gives a clear indication to the skater(s) to either remedy the problem immediately and depending on time, using the possibility of an interruption, or stop the program and to come directly to the Referee to determine the length of time now involved.
- if health or equipment adverse conditions arise during the performance, the current provision that the Competitor stops at his will or at the Referee's order remains;
- the situation when the skater remedies to the situation in a short time **without requesting a break to the Referee** is clarified as an interruption penalized by the existing deduction of Rule 353, paragraphs 1.m) (ii) for Single & Pair Skating or paragraph 1.n) (ii) for Ice Dance, applied by the Referee. A limit of 40 seconds is set by the Referee to this interruption, after which the Competitor is withdrawn;
- the situation when the Competitor cannot remedy to the situation in a short time and **requests a break of up to 3 minutes to the Referee**, remains but a penalization of 5 points is introduced by the Referee. It is also introduced that if the Competitor fails to report to the Referee within 40 seconds, he is withdrawn. The 3 minutes period is no longer timed from the point of interruption but from the moment the Competitor reports to the Referee.

Amendment to Rule 551 (Single & Pair Skating) and Rule 638 in Ice Dance

“Allowance of a Delayed Start or Restart

1. *If the tempo or quality of the music is deficient, the Competitor/s may restart the program from its beginning, provided the Referee is informed within 30 seconds after the start of the program.*
2. *If an interruption or stop in the music or any other adverse condition unrelated to the Competitor/s or his/their equipment, such as lighting, ice-condition etc. occurs, the Competitor/s must stop skating at the acoustic signal of the Referee. The Competitor/s shall continue from the point of interruption immediately after the problem has been solved. If, however, the interruption lasts longer than ten minutes, there shall be a second warm-up period according to Rule 549, paragraph 2 [in Rule 638, read: Rule 636, paragraph 2].*
3. *If a Competitor gets injured during the performance or another adverse condition related to him or his equipment (such as health problems or unexpected damage to his/their clothing or equipment) impedes his/their skating, the Competitor/s must stop skating. If he/they don't stop, they will be ordered to do so by an acoustic signal of the Referee.*

~~*The Competitor/s shall continue from the point of interruption immediately, if the adverse condition can be remedied without delay.*~~

a) If the adverse conditions can be remedied without delay and the Competitor/s resumes skating his/their program without reporting to the Referee, the Referee will apply a deduction for interruption as per Rule 353, paragraph 1.m) (ii) [in Rule 638, read: Rule 353, paragraph 1.n) (ii)], depending on the duration of the interruption. This time period commences immediately after the Competitor/s stops performing the program or is ordered to do so by the Referee, whichever is earlier.

If the Competitor/s does not resume skating his/their program within forty (40) seconds, he/they shall be considered withdrawn;

~~*If this is not possible, the Referee will allow an up to three (3) minutes period for the Competitor/s to resume skating from the point of interruption. This time period commences immediately after the Competitor/s stops skating or is ordered to do so by the Referee, whichever is earlier.*~~

b) If the adverse conditions cannot be remedied without delay and the Competitor/s reports to the Referee within forty (40) seconds, the Referee will allow an additional up to three (3) minutes period for the Competitor/s to resume skating. This additional time period commences at the moment the Competitor/s reports to the Referee. The Referee will apply a deduction of 5.0 points for the whole interruption.

If the Competitor/s does not report to the Referee within forty (40) seconds or does not resume skating his/their program within the additional three (3) minutes period, he/they shall be considered withdrawn.

The Referee shall first decide and indicate in consultation with the Technical Controller where the point of interruption is. If the Technical Panel decides that the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an element, the Technical Panel shall call the element according to the usual principles of calling, and the Technical Controller shall inform the Referee of those decisions. The point from where the Competitor/s has to continue the program shall be ~~decided~~ ~~and~~ communicated to the Competitor/s, the Judges and the Technical Panel by the Referee: it is either the point of interruption, or, if the Technical Panel has decided that the interruption occurred at the entrance to or during an element, the point immediately following this element.

4. *If a Competitor with the first starting number in the group gets injured or any other adverse condition related to him or his equipment impeding his/their skating occurs during the warm-up period and time before the start of the program is not sufficient to remedy the adverse condition, the Referee shall allow the Competitor up to three (3) additional minutes before he/they is/are called to the start.*
5. *If any Competitor/s between entering the ice and being called to the start is/are injured or any other adverse condition related to him/them or his/their equipment impeding his/their skating occurs and time before the start of the program is not sufficient to remedy the adverse condition,*

the Referee shall allow the Competitor/s up to three (3) additional minutes before he/they is called to the start.

6. *With respect to adverse conditions related to a Competitor or his equipment as per paragraph 3.b) above, only one restart per program is allowed. In case of a second stop of the performance due to an adverse condition related to the Competitor/s or his/their equipment as per paragraph 3.b) above the Competitor/s concerned shall be considered withdrawn.*
7. *If a Competitor/s do not complete the program, no marks are awarded and the Competitor/s is/are withdrawn.”*

Clarification to Referees, Judges and Technical Panels

In Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance, usual principles of calling included in Communications and Handbooks provide that the Technical Panel calls any attempted element even if an interruption occurs at the entrance to this element.

When a Competitor/s interrupts his/their program as per new Rule 551 respectively 638, paragraph 3.b) at the entrance to or during an element, the point of restart communicated by the Referee is the point immediately following this element. In case the Competitor/s resumes his/their program wrongly at an earlier point and performs whole or part of this element, the Technical Panel and Judges shall ignore it.

It is also reminded to Referees and Judges that any interruption, including those under Rule 551/638 affects the Program Components scores.

International Novice Competitions

Reference is made to Communication 1760 which outlines the Novice criteria. Keeping with the Novice level of competition, it is added that **the deduction applied as per Rule 551/638 paragraph 3.b) is 2.0 points instead of 5.0 points**

Milano,
September 2, 2013
Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General