

Classic Challenge Championships Q&A 2023 (Updated from 2021 & 2022)

General:

Q: If a gymnast has qualified for the British Championships by previously passing compulsory 2, could they do classic challenge this year and then do the British the following year?

A: No. If the gymnast chooses to compete in Classic challenge she will forfeit her right to enter the British Championships and would need to requalify through the FIG Challenge.

Q: I have gymnasts that have done compulsory grades which may not continue this route! Can they enter?

A: Providing the gymnast has not taken, or does not intend to take a compulsory grade in the same year, they can enter the Classic Challenge.

Q: How does the maximum D score work?

A: The D score includes the DV, CR & any Classic and FIG bonus' and may not exceed the maximum score stated.

Q: Are there any restrictions as to which level (tin, zinc, copper, bronze etc.) can be entered? For instance, if a gymnast has passed National Grade 4, does this mean they are not allowed to enter the zinc or copper levels?

A: The only restriction is if gymnasts have competed compulsory levels or FIG Challenge in the same year. Gymnasts can enter classic challenge at the level that is appropriate for them providing they have not or are not intending to compete in FIG Challenge Qualifier or enter any compulsory grade.

Q: Can 1 skill satisfy multiple CR's?

A: An element or combination of elements can fulfil more than one CR.

Q: Is the mixed series any element? Would jumps be in that?

A: A mixed series must contain a combination of directly connected acro and dance elements.

Q: Are all dance elements that require splits no tolerance?

A: Tolerance on dance elements that require splits are as per FIG unless otherwise specified (so tolerance would be 135° minimum to recognise the element – section 9 of FIG CoP)

Q: Is there an individual qualifying score that gymnasts need to achieve to attend national finals?

A: Gymnasts qualify as a regional team. The top 6 gymnasts in the regional qualifier make up the team regardless of score.

Q: Are we using the 2022-2024 FIG Code of Points for all moves?

A: Yes, with additional uncoded elements as listed.

Q: Do all CR count as 0.5?

A: Yes.

Vault:

Q: Is there a maximum SV on vault for bronze & copper?

A: There is no maximum difficulty on vault for bronze, for copper the gymnast can perform any vault providing it does not have a salto.

Q: In zinc, do we penalise the gymnast by taking a fall if they do the prep vaults to stand and they land and then fall to their back?

A: No. The judging of the vault ends when the gymnast lands in the standing position. Momentum will probably take them to a backwards lying position, but this is not judged.

Bars:

Q: What would be the possibility of the bars allowed at any distance – bearing in mind you've allowed any height on vault?

A: For the safety of apparatus, FIG specifications will be maintained for Asymmetric bars at the FIG & Classic Challenge.

Q: On bars, the cast CR can this come from a close bar element or only from a cast towards handstand?

A: This must come from a cast towards handstand and not from an element passing through handstand.

Q: On bars, if a gymnast does giant, giant, backaway will the giant be credited twice for DV?

A: Yes, because it states that an FIG coded element may be repeated once for DV.

Q: In silver & gold bars, will a hecht mount satisfy the CR for flighted low to high?

A: Yes providing they push off the LB

Q: In silver & gold bars, will a shoot half receive CR for a cast / circle element with 180° turn?

A: No

Q: Bronze level, does the back hip circle count as a close element? And fulfil one of the CRs?

A: A back hip circle would count as a close bar element (CR1), but the use of a back hip circle would attract the FIG deduction of 0.5 for an empty swing because the feet come forwards of the bar in order to swing backwards into the next element.

Q: Bronze level, would a half turning upstart count as an element with a half turn?

A: Yes, the CR for an element with a half turn states that it includes a mount and dismount.

Q: In copper bonus and bronze CR on bars one of the moves is a close bar circle min B but there are no B close bar elements only downgraded C elements that count as a B but incur huge deductions, will the new domestic code put in these elements as a B in their own right if they exit at 45° to encourage gymnasts towards learning the C elements?

A: Any close bar element that does not achieve the technical requirement will be credited a 'B', therefore any close bar that should go to handstand but that does not reach handstand will be credited as a 'B' close bar element regardless of the angle they have achieved. Deductions are taken as per FIG, or per the bars chart on clarification page.

Q: In zinc is a fall on Bars a 1.00 deduction?

A: Yes

Q: Zinc bars – If the gymnast does a float swing to the board and follows this with an upstart, would they be allowed to let go of the bar without deduction:

A: The gymnast will not be deducted for this, but remember only 4 skills are needed.

Q: In zinc, if the gymnast casts to 45° then goes straight into a back hip circle, will they receive the bonus for the cast and the CR for the cast and the close bar element?

A: Providing the cast is above 45° (with no tolerance) they will receive the bonus & the 2 CR's. If the cast is less than 45°, they will still receive the 2 CR's.

Q: Would a mo shoot LB to HB count as a close bar element?

A: No, a mo shoot is a flighted element from LB to HB and not a close bar element.

Bars continued:

Q: Does a forward hip circle carry the same empty swing deduction as a back hip circle?

A: If the gymnast continues towards handstand after the element then there is no extra swing. The swing penalty would apply if the legs come forwards and then back again to continue.

Q: In zinc & copper bars, would a forward hip circle class as a close bar element for CR?

A: Yes, a forward hip circle is a close bar element.

Q: In CoP a forward hip circle shows a significant pike of the hips – is this pike deductible, or an accepted part of the skill?

A: To successfully perform the skill, you would expect to have to pike the hips so this would not be deductible.

Q: Can a sole circle be performed on HB and be credited? And could this keep going round into a pike undershoot?

A: Whilst CoP does not specify that a sole circle can only be performed on LB, in the interest of safety for the gymnast, it would not be advisable to perform this element on the HB.

Q: Gold bars – on the LB, if you upstart pike onto the bar, change hand to reverse grip and forward sole circle to then transition to HB, would this meet the CR requirement of element in a different grip?

A: An element performed in reverse grip would meet CR requirement for different grips. However, a penalty of 0.1 will be applied for the adjusted grip (as per FIG CoP)

Beam:

Q: Do you still need to have a forward or sideways and a backwards element on beam in Classic Challenge?

A: Only if this is a specific requirement unless the rules give this as a CR option.

Q: What is a changement?

A: A changement is another word for a twiddle jump or beat jump. Starting with one leg in front of the other, straight jump taking the front foot behind and then back to the front to land.

Q: Is the mixed series separate to the acro series on beam?

A: They are different CR's. An acro series would be minimum 2 directly connected acro elements as stated in each level, where a mixed series would be a direct connection of a minimum 1 acro & 1 dance element.

Q: On bronze beam, if a gymnast performs cat leap cartwheel tuck back dismount will they get the mixed series bonus as the tuck back is a dismount or does it all have to be performed on the beam?

A: No, because the mixed series bonus must contained elements valued minimum BBA.

Q: Would a handstand to flic count at bronze & copper as an acro connection?

A: No because the handstand needs to be held for 2 seconds to be credited as a move and this hold would break a connection.

Q: In copper, if a gymnast does 3/4 spin 1/4 turn is this going to be given as a ½ spin releve ½ turn?

A: No, because the gymnast will not have completed a releve ½ turn.

Q: In copper, will a straddle to handstand mount count as one of your acro elements?

A: If it is the highest counting acro element after your dismount, or if it one of your highest valued optional elements then yes – but it will not fulfil the requirement for any of the CR's.

Q: In copper, it states any mount can be used, does this include a jump to front support and a squat on that FIG don't allow?

A: Yes, you can use any mount for copper, zinc & tin.

Q: In copper, CR – mixed series minimum 2 connected elements. (both floor & beam). Does this need to be 1 acro & 1 dance element or can it be 2 dance elements?

A: By definition mixed means a mixture of dance and acro elements. A mixed series is a direct connection of a minimum one dance and one acro move in any order.

Q: In zinc & tin on beam, the cartwheel stretch jump dismount gets the dismount but does it also get the CR for acro fwd/sideways?

A: Yes because the cartwheel has finished on the beam

Q: In zinc & tin on beam, does a backward roll count as a backwards element for CR?

A: Yes

Q: Is there any tolerance for the 180° split bonus at zinc on beam and floor?

A: To achieve the 180° split bonus, the gymnast would need to have a split greater than the 135° required for the CR and as per FIG split requirements.

Floor:

Q: What is classed as an acro move on floor as I can't see this within the CoP?

A: In the CoP, acro elements on floor are elements in groups beginning with 3 (hand support elements), 4 (salto forwards & sideways) & 5 (salto backwards).

Q: What is a changement?

A: A changement is another word for a twiddle jump or beat jump. Starting with one leg in front of the other, straight jump taking the front foot behind and then back to the front to land.

Q: Is the mixed series on Floor with acro, acro with flight or acro with salto?

A: For a mixed series, the requirement is to do an acro element that is FIG coded, or a listed uncoded element for the appropriate level. The acro element(s) used could be salto, flighted acro or non-flighted acro.

Q: Can a mixed series use acro elements that you have used in an acro line?

A: For classic challenge at all levels, the mixed series can include an acrobatic element regardless of whether it has been anywhere else in the routine. This means that an acrobatics series is unaffected by the mixed series, and will also allow the mixed series to be placed anywhere in the routine to allow for diversity. Please be aware that the DV for the acro element can only be given once, and depending on the level and the acro element used, this could affect your dismount.

Q: At gold, silver & bronze, if a gymnast on floor performs a round off flick tuck then does sissone round off straddle jump for her mixed series would that mixed series count as the round off would be a repeated element?

A: The gymnast can receive both CR's regardless of the order these are performed within the routine. The value for the roundoff can only be given once.

Q: At gold, silver & bronze, if a gymnast finishes their floor routine with a mixed series which includes a free cartwheel, will it affect their dismount?

A: Their dismount will not be affected because a free cartwheel is an aerial and not a salto.

Q: At bronze, if a gymnast on floor performs tuck front, immediate tuck front for an acro line, will they get the direct salto bonus and the CR for an acro line with 2 saltos?

A: No, you would be credited with CR, and would only receive the DV for the tuck front once, but the saltos need to be different for bonus.

Q: In Copper level if you do round off flick tuck for the acro line then you do round off straddle jump would you get the mixed series as the round off is repeated? Or does the mixed series come first to get both 2 CRs?

A: The acro element can be repeated for the mixed series, but the repeated element would not receive DV.

Q: In copper, CR – mixed series minimum 2 connected elements. (both floor & beam). Does this need to be 1 acro & 1 dance element or can it be 2 dance elements?

A: By definition mixed means a mixture of dance and acro elements. A mixed series is a direct connection of a minimum one dance and one acro move in any order.

Q: Floor on copper is the bonus just for half twist or could this be applied to full twist as well?

A: Minimum ½ twist

Q: On copper floor if a gymnast performs a round off flick straight ½ twist does she get the bonus for acro line with ½ twist plus the bonus for straight salto backwards?

A: No. She would also need to perform a straight back somersault without a twist to receive the bonus for a straight back somersault.

Floor continued:

Q: In zinc Floor does the cartwheel backward roll to straddle count as the acro line with 2 elements non-flighted

A: Yes providing they are directly connected.

Q: Also zinc Floor is there any tolerance for the 180° split?

A: To achieve the 180° split bonus, the gymnast would need to have a split within FIG tolerance. FIG deductions allow a tolerance of 45° (minimum 135° split) for recognition of the move and credit for the bonus. The D panel would decide on the recognition of the element and bonus awarded, whilst the E panel would take any execution deductions.

Q: Zinc floor, does their dismount need to be a tumble line consisting of more than 1 skill?

A: The dismount will be considered to be their last acrobatic element as the value of this will be in their counting skills. This can be a single coded or listed uncoded acro element with or without flight.