

International  
Wheel Gymnastics  
Federation





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## **International Wheel Gymnastics Federation (IRV) Competition Rules 2010**

The *IRV's Competition Rules 2010* were produced by *Günter Fischer* (IRV Vice-President and ITC Competitions Officer) in co-operation with the Board of the IRV and the members of the International Technical Commission (ITC). This version of the Competition Rules should not be considered a final version, i.e. alterations are permitted at any time (ITC in cooperation with the Board of the IRV).

The 2010 IRV Competition Rules were approved by the IRV in September 2009.



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## **1. Competition framework**

### **1.1 Age groups**

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Description/age

Junior girls/boys                      14 - 18 years

Senior women/men                      19 -

### **1.2 Competitions**

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The IRV is the regulatory body for:

- **The World Championships**

The World Championships are held every second year (every 'odd' year). The International Code of Points valid at the time is used as the basis for the championships. The organisation of the world championships can only be delegated to national associations of member countries of the IRV.

Applications from national associations must be submitted at least two years in advance. Documentation of suitability as a championships organiser must be available on application (general infrastructure, sports halls, accommodation, catering etc.). In the case of more than one applicant, the General Assembly of the IRV, on the recommendation of the International Technical Commission, will decide which country should be delegated the championships.

- **The World Cup**

A World Cup is held in the year between world championships (i.e. every 'even' year). The International Code of Points valid at the time is used as the basis for the championships. The organisation of the world championships can only be delegated to national associations of member countries of the IRV.

Applications from national associations must be submitted at least two years in advance. Documentation of suitability as a championships organiser must be available on application (general infrastructure, sports halls, accommodation, catering etc.). In the case of more than one applicant, the General Assembly of the IRV, on the recommendation of the International Technical Commission, will decide which country should be delegated the championships.



### 1.2.1 Competition categories

Age group	straight-line	spiral	vault
<b>All Around</b>			
junior girls (jg)	x	x	x
junior boys (jb)	x	x	x
senior women (sw)	x (to music)	x	x
senior men (sm)	x (to music)	x	x
<b>Individual Disciplines</b>			
junior girls (jg)	x	x	x
junior boys (jb)	x	x	x
senior women (sw)	x (to music)	x	x
senior men (sm)	x (to music)	x	x
<b>Team Championship</b>			
jg + jb + sw + sm	<b>2x (to music)</b>	<b>2x</b>	<b>2x</b>

#### a) All Around Competition

- The World All Around Champion will be the competitor with the highest combined score of the three disciplines, straight-line, spiral and vault.
- All competitors will be included in the results from the All Around Competition
- A **maximum of five gymnasts** per country may compete in each competition category (e.g. junior girls).
- The following quota regulation determines the minimum number of gymnasts per country in relation to the number of disciplines competed.

Competitors in one discipline	Competitors in two disciplines	Competitors in three disciplines
1	-	-
2	1	-
3	2	1
4	3	2
5	4	3
	The minimum numbers may be exceeded	



Example of quota system:

Country X registers 5 junior girls. Of these 5 gymnasts, at least 4 must take part in 2 disciplines and 3 must take part in all 3 disciplines. The registration for country X could be as follows:

Example:

Name/Discipline	Straight-line	Spiral	Vault
Gymnast 1	X		
Gymnast 2	X	X	
Gymnast 3	X	X	X
Gymnast 4	X	X	X
Gymnast 5	X	X	X

#### b) Individual Disciplines

- All those competing in only one or two disciplines, compete within the All Around competition.
- All competitors have the chance of qualifying from the All Around competition to the individual discipline finals. The minimum required to reach a final is:

##### **Juniors:**

Straight-line	65%	6.50 points
Spiral	55%	5.50 points
Vault	60%	6.00 points

##### **Adults:**

Straight-line	70%	7.00 points
Spiral	60%	6.00 points
Vault	65%	6.50 points



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c) **World Team Championships**

- In the competition class ‘**World Team Championships**’ a maximum of **one team per country** may be entered. Each team consists of **minimum four, maximum six gymnasts** (junior/senior, male/female mixed).
- In the World Team Championships routines will be performed in each of the three disciplines, *straight-line (to music)*, *spiral* and *vault*:

- **2 x straight-line to music**
- **2 x spiral**
- **2 x vault**

Up to two of the team members are permitted to perform up to three routines - one per discipline, provided there are at least 4 team members.

- The lowest of the six scores received is discarded and does not count towards the overall team score.
- All gymnasts registered for the World Team Championships have to take part in the All Around competition in the discipline(s) they perform in the World Team Championships.

Example: Gymnast XY is registered for the World Team Championships for her country. Here she will perform *straight-line (to music)* and *vault*. So she has (at least) to take part in the two disciplines *straight-line (to music)* and *vault* in the All Around Competition, too.

- The national team members’ results from the All Around Competition in their designated disciplines will be used to decide which **four teams** will take part in the World Championships Team Final.

### **1.2.2 Finals**

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a) **World All Around Championships**

- The World All Around Champion will be the competitor with the highest combined score of the three disciplines, *straight-line*, *spiral* and *vault*.
- The All Around competition is also the qualifying competition for the finals in the individual disciplines.
- In order to qualify for the individual discipline finals, competitors are permitted to compete in only one or two disciplines within the All Around Competition.



## b) Individual disciplines

- The **best six gymnasts** in each discipline go through to the **finals** in that discipline.
- Only the **two best gymnasts from each country per discipline** can qualify for the individual discipline finals. The minimum required to reach a final is:

### Juniors:

Straight-line	65% of maximum score	6.50 points
Spiral	55% of maximum score	5.50 points
Vault	65% of maximum score	6.00 points

### Adults:

Straight-line	70% of maximum score	7.00 points
Spiral	60% of maximum score	6.00 points
Vault	65% of maximum score	6.50 points

- If this limit to the number of finalists per country results in an insufficient number of gymnasts qualifying for the final (see point 1.2.2 b), then an additional gymnast (provided he/she has achieved the qualifying score) per country will be admitted to the final. If there are still places in the final free, the same pattern will be followed until all six places have been occupied.
- In the case that less than six gymnasts achieve the qualifying score, the number of finalists may be less than six, too.
- The total number of gymnasts permitted in a final can increase given equal scores of two or more gymnasts from any one country. The definition of an "equal score" in this case is not only that the final scores of the gymnasts are equal, but also the total of the scores awarded by all the judges (i.e. 4 scores for execution and composition + 1 score for difficulty [+ 2 scores for musical interpretation in the case of senior men/women straight-line]).
- The maximum number of gymnasts in a final is eight. In exceptional situations (nine or more qualified finalists), the competition management will decide who will take part in the final.
- **Vault final senior men:** In the vault final all gymnasts qualified for the vault final senior men **must perform two different vaults from two different categories**, e.g. vault 1 from category A, vault 2 from categories B, C or D.  
**The sum of the scores for both vaults gives the final score!**
- **If the second vault is not from a different category, the gymnast will receive a score of 0.**



### c) **World Team Championship**

- The **four** best teams from the qualifying competition take part in the ‘**World Team Championships**’ final.
- The team members for the ‘**World Team Championships**’ final do not have to be the same as those registered for the qualifying competition (see 1.2.1c)).
- In the ‘World Team Championships’ final routines will be performed in each of the three disciplines, *straight-line (to music)*, *spiral* and *vault*:
  - **2 x straight-line to music**
  - **2 x spiral**
  - **2 x vault**
- Up to two of the team members are permitted to perform up to three routines - one per discipline, provided there are at least 4 team members.
- The lowest of the **six scores** received is discarded and does not count towards the overall team score.

## **1.3 Eligibility**

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### **1.3.1 Minimum age and eligibility**

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- a) The minimum age for participation in the world championships is 14. The actual age of the gymnast at the time of the competition is not the deciding factor, but that the gymnast must have his/her fourteenth birthday in the competition year.
- b) Gymnasts that have their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in the competition year (or older) may take part in the senior category.
- c) Gymnasts who have already taken part in the senior category may not go back to the junior category.

### **1.3.2 Registration formalities for competitors**

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- a) Any gymnast wishing to participate for an ***IRV member country*** must possess a valid passport for that country. The passport, or a copy of it, must be available for inspection (via the national representative) during the world championships. Registration takes place through the official IRV member association.
- b) Any gymnast wishing to participate for a ***non-IRV member*** must be registered through the country’s wheel gymnastics representative. If there is no such representative, gymnasts may be registered for the championships through a government organisation or sports club in the home country. The gymnast must possess a valid **passport** for the country of origin and **must enclose a copy of it with his/her registration. Confirmation of qualification must also be enclosed.**



- c) **Pre-registration** for the world championships must be sent by the national representatives to the IRV Competitions Officer six months before the championships take place. Main registration follows the qualifying competitions in the various countries. The **main registration**, complete with date of birth, wheel - size and discipline, must reach the **IRV Competitions Officer at least four weeks before the championships.**

Late registration will result in a fine (see point 1.3.2 d) and can lead to disqualification from the championships.

- d) The following fines will be imposed for late registration:

- Pre-registration: € 10 per day
- Main registration: € 35 per day (up to 14 days after the deadline)

**Registrations arriving later than this will not be accepted**

- e) Registration alterations (e.g. de-registration) at the championships is only possible in the case of injury or illness.

### **1.3.3 Registration of new elements/vaults**

- a) If you want to perform new elements/a new vault during a World Championship/World-Cup for the first time, you must send in a video (showing the element/s, the vault) at least four weeks prior to the competition in question to the IRV-Judges-Officer to have them/it estimated.
- b) Neglecting this rule will mean that the new element/s/vault won't be accepted at the competition.
- c) You can send your videos per mail to the IRV-Judges-Officer (For address details see [www.rhoenrad.com](http://www.rhoenrad.com))

### **1.3.4 Registration fees for competitors**

A registration fee per competitor is payable. Competitors from non-IRV member countries pay a higher registration fee. The registration fee must be paid into the IRV's bank account at least three weeks before the championships.

- a) Competitors from IRV countries
- Registration fee for one discipline € 35
  - Registration fee for two disciplines or All Around Competition € 65
- b) Competitors from non-IRV countries
- Registration fee for one discipline € 65
  - Registration fee for two disciplines or All Around Competition € 130



### **1.3.5 Registration formalities for judges**

Each participating country at the world championships must register **one judge per 4 competitors**. **Judges are not permitted to compete at the championships**. These judges must already have a basic judging qualification (written confirmation of judging competence) and must agree to participate at the judging seminar held prior to the world championships. The ITC in cooperation with the IRV Judging Officer will decide which judges to use in the championships.

If a country is unable to satisfy these conditions, the following alternative may be adopted:

- a) A judge from another country may be asked to step in (on the initiative of the country in question). Travel and accommodation costs must be covered.
- b) It is also possible to ask the IRV Judging Officer to find a judge. In this case a fee of € 35 will be payable to the IRV in addition to the covering of travel and accommodation costs for the judge.
- c) **If a country neglects to register judges of its own or make use of the possibilities described in a) and b), a fine of € 300 per missing judge will be charged. The cost of a replacement (travel and accommodation) will also have to be covered.**

### **1.4 Qualification**

- a) Qualifying competitions for the World Championships may only be held by IRV member countries. The qualifying competition must be held according to the valid IRV code of points.
- b) The qualifying competitions may be checked by IRV representatives.
- c) **Gymnasts from IRV member countries** must qualify for the World Championships in their country of origin. Each country determines its own qualification procedure.
- d) If a **non-IRV member country** wishes to hold a qualification competition for the World Championships, this must be approved by the IRV. An IRV official will be present at the qualifying competition. His/her expenses should be covered by the competition organiser.
- e) **Gymnasts from non-IRV member countries** must attend one of the above-mentioned qualifying competitions in order to qualify for the World Championships. The following qualifying scores must be achieved:



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**Juniors:**

Straight-line	60%	6.00 points
Spiral	50%	5.00 points
Vault	55%	5.50 points

**Adults:**

Straight-line	65%	6.50 points
Spiral	55%	5.50 points
Vault	60%	6.00 points

- f) The dates and venues for the world championships qualifying competitions may be obtained from the IRV office.



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## **2. Competition Requirements**

### **2.1 Competition invitations**

At the first IRV Board meeting in a year preceding a championships year, the invitation for the championships of the following year will be prepared. The IRV office will then send the invitations to the relevant national representatives. This should be done at least 3 months before the pre-registration deadline.

### **2.2 Preparation/Hosting of championships**

The International Technical Commission (ITC) will prepare and host the world championships in cooperation with the national association of the host country and the local organisation committee.

### **2.3 Application for hosting of championships**

- a) Applications from interested clubs, municipalities, and national associations for the hosting of a World Championship/World Cup should be first addressed to the responsible national association. If the national association approves, it (the national association) then has to send its application to the IRV Board. A copy of the application should also be sent to the IRV Competitions Officer.
- b) The General Assembly of the IRV decides the allocation of the championships. If a decision proves impossible or a country withdraws its application, the IRV Board will confer with the ITC in order to decide who will hold the championships.
- c) The marketing of the event (sponsors) is the responsibility of the local organiser. In order to retain the rights to the event, the local organiser must pay a fee to the IRV. The level of the fee will be fixed by the Board of the IRV.

### **2.4 Registration**

Competition registration for all IRV international championships must be made using the official registration form and sent to the IRV Competitions Officer.



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## **2.5 Competition organisation**

The competitions are to be carried out according to the following IRV conditions for world championships:

### **2.5.1 Competition management**

- a) The competition management consists of:
  - The Vice-President (Sport)
  - The Competitions Officer
  - The Judging Officer  
(or deputies)
- b) The three members of the complaints panel will be made public before the beginning of the competition. They must come from three different member countries.
- c) Protests are to be made in writing and without delay to the competition management.
- d) A deposit of € 50 is payable in the case of a protest.
- e) If the protest is successful the deposit will be returned.

### **2.5.2 Competition equipment**

- a) Only normalised (international norm) wheels are to be used for international competitions. The local organisation committee, together with the relevant national association/representative, is responsible for ensuring that there are enough wheels for warm-up and competition.
- b) The Competitions Officer may delegate certain wheels for specific disciplines. The competitors may then only use these wheels for warm-up and competition in the specific disciplines.
- c) Bringing and using ones own wheels for warm-up and competition is only possible with the permission of the competition management.



### **2.5.3 Competition clothing**

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All gymnasts participating in IRV international competitions must comply with the following guidelines concerning competition clothing:

#### Women

- a) Intact gym shoes
- b) One-piece tight-fitting leotard, or
- c) One-piece leotard with tight-fitting gymnastics tights, or
- d) Cycling shorts with body

#### Men

- a) Intact gym shoes
- b) Men's leotard with tight-fitting gymnastics trousers

The following applies for both men and women:

- a) The wearing of watches or dangling jewellery is not permitted
- b) Long hair must be tied back

### **2.5.4 Competition areas**

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#### a) Measurements

Straight-line:	competition area	=	3m x 23m
	safety zone	=	9m x 27m
Spiral:	competition area	=	13m x 13m
	safety zone	=	18m x 18m
Vault:	competition area	=	3m x 23m
	safety zone	=	3m x 23m

#### b) Preparation of the competition areas

The IRV Competitions Officer decides the number and spacing of the competition areas in the competition hall. The local organiser will then prepare the competition areas. These will be inspected and approved by the Competitions Officer before the beginning of the competition.

The competition areas and safety zones will be marked with tape such that they are easily distinguishable from the rest of the markings in the competition hall. The marking of the competition area and the marking of the safety zone should be done in different colours. The minimum width for marking is 10 cm.



### **2.5.5 Competition hall**

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- a) For all international championships, the competition hall must be equipped according to the rules and guidelines produced by the Board of the IRV. This is the responsibility of the local organiser in cooperation with the IRV Competitions Officer. (See 3. Checklist for local organisers).
- b) The competition hall should have a surface elastic or “hard” (not point elastic) floor (e.g. PVC, parquet). The ITC will decide upon the suitability of the floor.
- c) The competition hall should be at least 45m x 30m. It is also desirable that there should be an additional (smaller) hall for warm-up during the competition. The competition hall must also have enough seating for both spectators and competitors/coaches.

### **2.5.6 Warm-up**

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The Competitions Officer decides on rules for warm-up.

### **2.5.7 Starting order**

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The new system for working out the competition starting order places the gymnasts into three “blocks” before the draw is made within each block. This should ensure that gymnasts from the same nation are more evenly distributed within a competition category (in different blocks) and that the top ranked gymnasts will start towards the end of the starting order (Block 3).

**The new system is described in detail in points a) - g).**

- a) The start draw for the All-Around Competition will take place at the end of the General Assembly before the competition.
- b) Only one starting order will be drawn for each competition category (junior girls, junior boys, senior women and senior men). All registered competitors will be included in this list, regardless of discipline.
- c) **The gymnasts will start their first discipline in the drawn starting order.** Gymnasts registered for only one or two disciplines will only appear on the starting lists in the relevant discipline(s).
- d) **On the main registration form, countries are requested to put their gymnasts in a ranking order from 1 to 5 (where rank 1 = highest qualified gymnast).** This ranking order will determine in which block the gymnast starts in the All Around competition. **There will be three blocks per starting list** (whereby the number of gymnasts per block will be determined by the total number of gymnasts



registered for the All Around competition and the number of disciplines in which they are competing).

Block 1 → first third of the starting list  
 Block 2 → second third of starting list  
 Block 3 → last third of starting list

} Number of gymnasts per block can vary

**Table A**

Number of registered gymnasts per country in a competition category	Block 1 starts the competition	Block 2 follows after Block 1	Block 3 follows after Block 2
1 (single starter)	<b>See Table B</b>		
2		1	1
3	1	1	1
<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
5	1	2	2

**Single starter** = e.g. Country X registers only **one gymnast** for the junior boys competition category. The number of disciplines this gymnast will compete in is irrelevant.

**Example:**

**Country XY registers 4 junior girls.**

This will give the following distribution in the starting order for the first discipline:

Name	Ranking list order	Block
Gymnast A	1	3
Gymnast B	2	3
Gymnast C	3	2
Gymnast D	4	1

IMPORTANT → Number of disciplines per gymnast makes no difference:

**Table B**

In the case of more than one single starter in a competition category, the single starters will be allocated to the different blocks according to the following quota system. The numbers under the blocks represent the order of the draw for single starters.

Number of registered single starters per competition category	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3
1 single starter			1
<b>2 single starters</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
3 single starters	3	2	1
4 single starters	4	3	1 + 2
5 single starters	5	3 + 4	1 + 2
6 single starters	5 + 6	3 + 4	1 + 2

etc.

**In the case of 2 single starters, the first drawn gymnast will start in Block 3, while the second drawn gymnast starts in Block 2.**



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- e) **The final starting order will be produced after a draw within each of the three blocks.** (This draw will take place during the delegation leaders' meeting.)
  - f) In the starting list for the second discipline, the first gymnast from the first discipline will be moved to the end of Block 1.
  - g) In the starting list for the third discipline, the first gymnast from the second discipline will be moved to the end of Block 1.
  - h) During the competition the starting order may only be altered in special cases and in agreement with the competition authorities.
  - i) **The starting order for the individual discipline finals will be in reverse order of the qualifying scores from the All Around competition, i.e. the gymnast with the highest qualifying score will start last in the final.**

### **2.5.8 First Aid**

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The **local organiser is responsible** for the presence of a **first aid team in the competition hall during warm-up and competition.** A doctor and an ambulance should be quickly available.

### **2.5.9 Coaches**

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- a) Each delegation **mustn't accredit more than six official coaches.**
- b) The number of permitted coaches depends on the number of registered gymnasts (Categories don't matter) per nation.

Example:	up to 4	gymnasts	→	1 coach
	5 – 8	gymnasts	→	2 coaches
	9 – 12	gymnasts	→	3 coaches
	13 – 16	gymnasts	→	4 coaches
	17 – 20	gymnasts	→	5 coaches
	21 – 24	gymnasts	→	6 coaches

- c) Only **one coach** (must be **officially accredited**) per gymnast is allowed to enter the competition area.
- d) Coaches entering the competition area must wear their delegation's track suit (trousers **and** jacket) and **sports shoes.**