

J**STARTS****1 Call to start**

- 1.1 Immediately prior to each performance the names of those competitors (Man, Lady, Pair, Couple or Team) who are about to compete shall be clearly announced on the ice and in the dressing rooms.
- 1.2 Every Single, Pairs and Ice Dancing competitor shall commence each part of the competition (Short, Free Skating, Original Dance and Free Dance Program and Compulsory Dance) within one (1) minute of the competitor's name having been called, failing which such competitor shall be considered as withdrawn.
- 1.3 Every Synchronised Skating competitor shall commence each part of the competition (Short and Free Skating Program) within two (2) minutes of the competitor's name having been called, failing which such competitor shall be considered as withdrawn. Prior to the announcement of the competitor's name, the Team, on the sign of the Assistant Referee Ice, enters the ice surface and stands quietly near the barrier awaiting the announcement and the one (1) minute warm-up time commences as soon as the announcement has begun.

2. Rules pertaining to Fresh Starts and Interruptions**2.1 Interruptions due to safety concerns or damage to equipment / clothing****2.1.1 Skating interrupted by signal of the Referee**

If, in the case of the Short and Free Skating, Original and Free Dance Programs and Compulsory Dances, there is an interruption or stop in the music or if circumstances arise which jeopardise the safety of the competitor on account of unexpected damage to the competitor's clothing or equipment which impedes the competitor's skating, the competitor shall at the signal of the Referee, stop skating.

The competitor shall then continue immediately from the point of interruption if the circumstances that caused the competitor to stop skating can be immediately rectified.

If, however, the circumstance that caused the interruption cannot be rectified immediately, the

competitor shall be given a period of up to three (3) minutes to:

- (a) immediately correct the equipment problem; or,
- (b) in the case of Synchronised Skating, replace the team member that is having the problem with a reserve

and then continue from the point of interruption. The three (3) minute time period shall commence immediately after the Referee stopped the performance with a loud signal.

2.1.2 Skating interrupted by Competitor

Rule J.2.1.1 applies to the same situation when the competitor interrupts the program on account of injury or unexpected damage to the competitor's clothing or equipment without the signal of the Referee. The Referee will decide on the point from where the skater has to continue the program and must communicate this to the competitor and Judges.

2.2 Interruptions due to the requirement of medical attention

If, in the Referee's opinion, medical attention is required the Referee shall stop the performance.

2.2.1 Single and Pair Skating and Ice Dancing

The Referee will allow the competitor, at the option of the competitor, either to continue immediately from the point of interruption or, if this is not possible, allow a period of three (3) minutes before the continuation. The three (3) minute time period shall commence immediately after the Referee stopped the performance with a loud signal.

If the competitor with starting number one (1) in the group is injured during the warm-up period and the time before the competitor's start of the performance is insufficient for the required medical attention, the Referee may allow the competitor an additional three (3) minutes before the competitor is called to the start. Rule J.1.2 will then apply.

2.2.2 Synchronised Skating

The Referee will then allow the injured skater to be replaced by a reserve skater and allow the Team to continue immediately from the point of interruption or, if this is not possible, allow a period of three (3) minutes before the continuation. The three (3) minute time period shall commence immediately after the

Referee stopped the performance with a loud signal. If the injured skater required the removal of the skater from the ice surface through medical personnel and/or ice resurfacing is required after the accident, the three (3) minute time period shall not apply. In this case the Team must continue from the point of interruption as soon as the ice surface is ready to be used.

- 2.3 If there is an interruption or stop in the music or any other problem (such as lighting, audience disturbance, ice surface) that is beyond the control of or not caused by the competitor and requires time to be rectified, the three (3) minute time period will not apply.
- 2.4 Restarting the whole program is not permitted. If the tempo or quality of the music is defective a restart may be made if the competitor informs the Referee of such defect within thirty (30) seconds after the start.
- 2.5 In Single and Pair Skating and Ice Dancing, when a competitor requires a fresh start due to J.2.1 and J.2.2 a deduction of -2.0 point(s) must be applied by the Referee. However, in exceptional circumstances when this fresh start is in no way the fault of the competitor, the Referee shall not apply this deduction.
- 2.6 In the case of an interrupted Compulsory Dance, the Compulsory Dance may only be resumed at the nearest technically practicable point in the step sequence (which must be after the point of interruption). The couple may not skate the steps missed by the interruption otherwise the Judges must deduct accordingly for the section(s) concerned.
- 2.7 Once a Synchronised Skating program has started, no substitution of personnel will be permitted. Registered team alternates may be substituted if the team's program is stopped by the Referee due to injury or equipment problems.
- 2.8 If a competitor is unable to complete the program, no marks are to be awarded. The same applies, to the situation when a competitor/team has been given the opportunity to continue the program from the point of interruption and once more is unable to complete the program.