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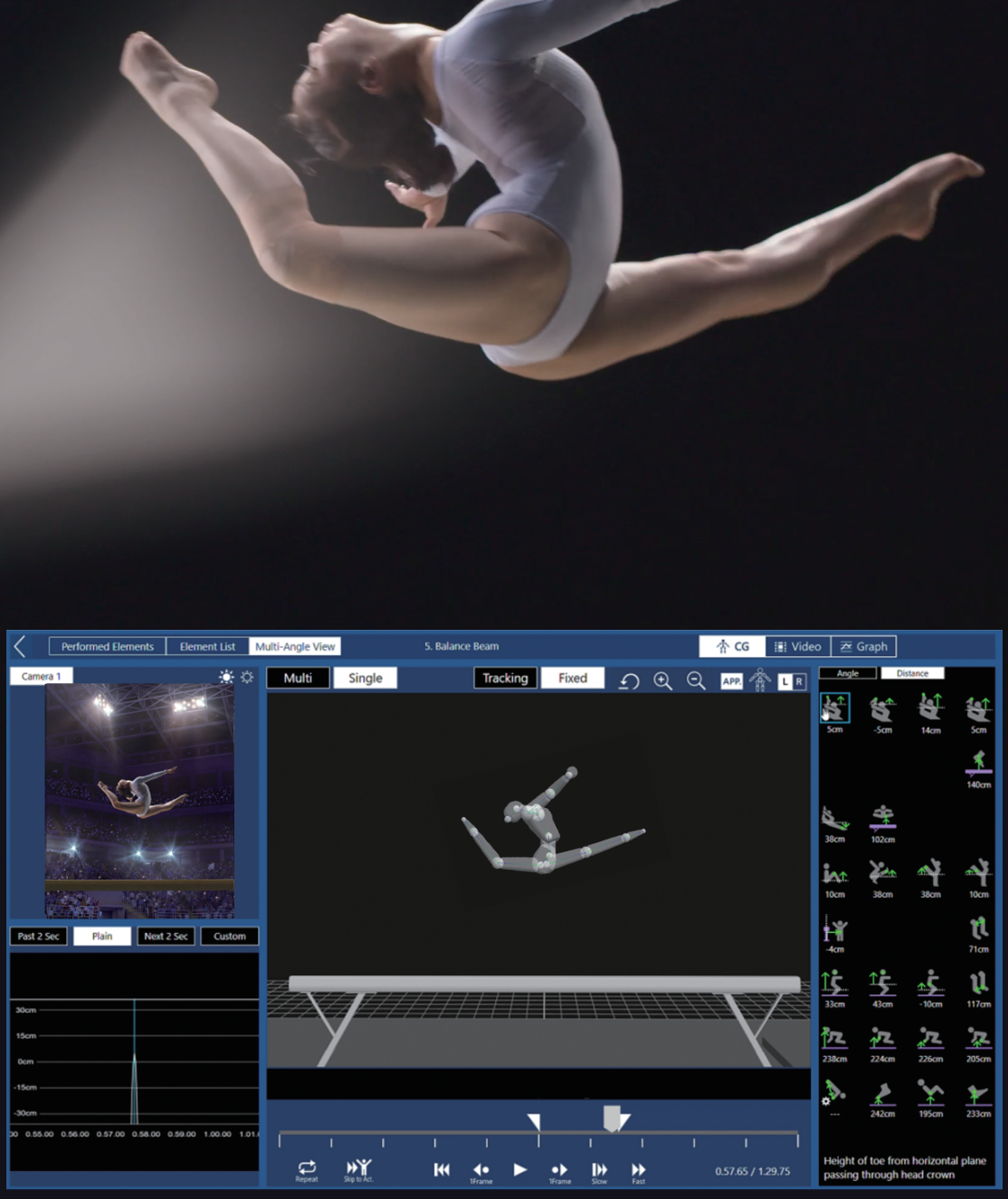


BULLETIN N° 270

APRIL 2026

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BULLETIN N° 270

April 2026

Official publication of World Gymnastics*

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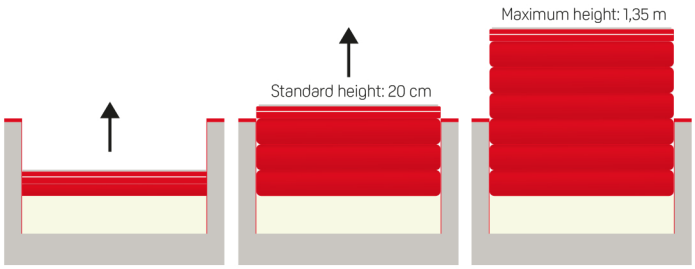
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In memoriam



Franco Menichelli (ITA)
† 2026

Franco Menichelli passes away

1964 Olympic champion Franco Menichelli (ITA), whose fluid style ushered in a new era on Floor Exercise, passed away on 28 January at age 84.

Born 3 August 1941 in Rome, Menichelli hailed from an athletic family. His older brother Giampaolo chose football and later represented Italy internationally at the World Cup. Franco, who had a penchant for walking on his hands, opted for gymnastics instead.

Best known for his airy tumbling, Menichelli became a hometown hero by winning bronze medals with the Italian team and on Floor at his first Games in Rome in 1960.

He added gold on Floor, silver on Still Rings and bronze on Parallel Bars at Tokyo 1964, for a total of five Olympic medals. He also earned six European titles, including the All-Around crown in 1965, as well as three World Championships bronzes.

Menichelli was among the first men to popularize doing his signature apparatus in shorts instead of long pants, a trend that endures today. An Achilles injury at the 1968 Olympics led to his retirement, and he coached the Italian men's national team from 1973-1979.

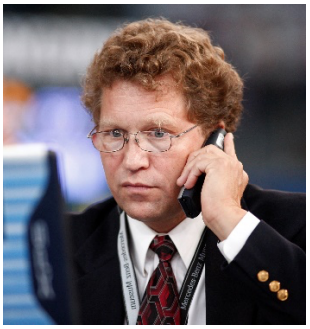
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In memoriam



Jim Hartung (USA)
† 2026

Jim Hartung passes away

Born and raised in Nebraska, Hartung's talent earned him selection to the U.S. Olympic team in 1980, but he did not compete due to the United States boycott of the Moscow Games. He went on to become a standout at the University of Nebraska, leading the Cornhuskers to four consecutive NCAA team titles and winning two individual All-Around championships. With a record-tying seven NCAA titles, Hartung remains one of the most accomplished U.S. men's collegiate gymnasts, four decades after graduating.

A competitor at the World Championships in 1979, 1981, and 1983, Hartung had another opportunity at Olympic competition in Los Angeles in 1984. Entering the sixth and final rotation of the team final, the United States trailed reigning World champion China by 0.6 points. Coach Abie Grossfeld considered having the team play it safe with their Horizontal Bar dismounts, but Hartung urged his teammates to maintain full difficulty.

"Jim Hartung came up to me and said, 'This is the Olympic Games, let's all go for it,'" teammate Peter Vidmar recalled in an interview. "And we did." The Americans delivered a series of strong routines to move ahead of China, securing what remains the United States' only Olympic men's team gold medal, in what became known as the "Miracle on the Mats."

Hartung returned to Nebraska after the Olympics and remained there, raising four children and serving as an assistant coach for the University of Nebraska men's gymnastics team, even while battling throat cancer in the 2010s.

Throughout his life, Hartung placed special value on team competition. "I had that support and camaraderie from the guys on my team," he said in a 2015 interview. "When I prepare guys under my tutelage for their best moments, we focus on team success and the implications of that."

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The Court of Arbitration for Sport confirms the decision of the GEF Disciplinary Commission against Ms Evangelia Trikomiti and European Gymnastics

LAUSANNE (SUI), 30 January 2026

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) fully confirmed the decision of the GEF Disciplinary Commission dated 6 February 2025 in relation to Ms Evangelia Trikomiti and European Gymnastics.

In its decision, the CAS Panel upheld the findings of the GEF Disciplinary Commission and confirmed that Ms Trikomiti engaged in score manipulation in connection with the 2024 Rhythmic Gymnastics European Championships (the "Championships"). The CAS decision further confirmed the four-year period of ineligibility imposed on Ms Trikomiti, as well as the joint liability of European Gymnastics pursuant to the applicable FIG Rules.

The full CAS award is available here.

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Official News from the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (EC) met in Las Vegas (USA) on 9-10 March 2026.

Summary of the main decisions:

ALLOCATION OF 2028 AEROBICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
The EC entrusted the Gymnastics Federation of Egypt and the city of Cairo with the organisation of the 2028 Aerobic Gymnastics World Championships. This event will take place on 22 September - 1 October 2028.

PROPOSED UPDATES TO RULES
The EC approved some proposed updates to the following rules and regulations:

- 2027 Technical Regulations (to be ratified by the FIG Council)
- 2025-2028 General Judges' Rule
- 2025-2028 Specific Judge's Rules
- Appendix to the Codes of Points
- TRA Code of Points
- Apparatus Norms
- Appendix to the RG World Cup Rules
- Accreditation Rules

The approved updates will be published on the World Gymnastics website in due course.

2026 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES - DAKAR (SEN)
The EC approved a request concerning the height of the podium / ceiling for the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar (SEN). It also accepted some updates to the YOG Rules, which will be published on the World Gymnastics website in due course.

ALLOCATION OF LATE APPLICATIONS FOR WORLD CUPS AND WORLD CHALLENGE CUPS
The following two late applications for the 2026 World Cup/Challenge Cup Series have been approved by the EC.

- RG Challenge Cup: Beijing (CHN) on 19-21 June 2026
- AER World Cup: Oradea (ROU) on 31 July-2 August 2026 (to be ratified by the Council)

SCORING PROVIDER FOR 2026 RG WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FRANKFURT (GER)
The EC has decided to appoint SEIKO as the scoring provider for the 42nd Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships in Frankfurt (GER) on 12-16 August 2026.

HONORARY DISTINCTION
Mr Aljaž Pegan, President of the Athletes' Commission from 2022 to 2025, has been honoured with the Silver Recognition Award in recognition of his exceptional career, dedication, and precious contributions to gymnastics.

HONORARY COACHES DIPLOMAS & JUDGES BREVET
The EC agreed to provide the following Coaches with an FIG Honorary Coaches Diploma, further to the proposals made by their respective National Federations:

- Iratxe Aurrekoetxea (ESP) – RG
- Álvaro Montesinos (ESP) – MAG
- Sato Hiroaki (JPN) – MAG
- Constantin-Gabriel Negru (NOR) – MAG
- Nicolae Valerian Forminte (ROU) – WAG
- Antonio Egri (NOR) – WAG
- Johanna Janina Uracz (NOR) – WAG
- Mykhailo Trofymenko (UKR) – TUM
- Mandy Elston Zoonekynd (RSA) – TUM

NATIONALITY CHANGES
The EC approved the following nationality changes:

- Divier Ramos – MAG gymnast – Former: USA / New: PUR
- Shilo Mbida Nkou – WAG gymnast – Former: FRA / New: SUI
- Lola Gulotta Lozano – AER gymnast – Former: ARG / New: ESP
- Nicole Anaa Martyn – RG gymnast – Former: ISR / New: SLE
- Claudine Soliman – WAG gymnast – Former: GER / New: EGY
- Josue Alexander Ramirez Alanis – AER judge – Former: MEX / New: GER
- Lisa Maria Garac – RG gymnast – Former : ROU / New : GER
- Craig Carter – TRA Judge – Former : GBR / New: NZL
- Radomyr Stelmakh – MAG gymnast – Former: UKR / New: GER*

*The requested change will only be valid one year after the decision

CANNICE

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Neviana Vladinova (BUL) Elected President of the Athletes Commission

LAUSANNE (SUI), 10 February 2026

Neviana Vladinova (BUL) was elected President of the Athletes'Commission during its meeting held earlier this week at the World Gymnastics office in Lausanne (SUI).

A former Rhythmic athlete and current Athletes' Representative for the discipline, Vladinova was elected by her fellow commission members to lead the Athletes Commission until 2028.

In her new role, Vladinova will also join the Executive Committee, where she will represent and advocate for the athletes' voice.

The Lausanne meeting marked the first in-person gathering of the newly elected members of the Athletes Commission. Alongside discussions on strategic priorities, action plans and timelines, members were introduced to the various activities of World Gymnastics through presentations from several departments.

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Meeting held in Sofia (BUL), 3-5 November 2025

Participants

President	Rogerio VALERIO (POR)
Vice President	Jerome HUEBSCHER (SUI); Chris MUCHATUTA (ZIM).
Members	Yumiko ITOH (JPN); Monika SISKOVA (SVK); Lori LAZNOVSKY (USA); Michele Carbinatto (BRA).

1) Opening and approval of the agenda

- Review of Agenda
- Addition to the original agenda sent – reports, item 3
- Agenda approved by all

2) Minutes approval - Approved

- Online meeting September, 2025 – Minutes Approved
- Online meeting October, 2025 – Minutes Approved

3) Reports

3.1) EC meeting Oct.2025 – Vientiane, LAOS

3.1.1) Rogério (RV) gave a recap and highlights of the EC meeting in Laos.

- RV presented a report to the EC outlining what we have been doing as a GfA C since July 2025 including online meetings, foundations courses in 3 countries, other courses being carried out by federations in the African and Asian Unions.
- A recap of the 2025 WGFL was also shared. Number of participants, from 34 countries, 5 continents, the excellent work of the evaluators and feedbackers and the patronage from UNESCO.
- Publication of the E-book Volume 2 and the Abstracts from the Colloquium 2025

3.2) RV shared that the FIG Rebranding is almost ready to launch and will be shared on an upcoming meeting.

4) World Gym for Life Challenge 2025

- Review of the final reports from the GfA C, the LOC and the FIG Experts were discussed.
- Several themes were common among the reports including awards, the growing number of participants, the definition of the categories as well as communication about accommodations and conditions.

4.1) Evaluation meeting preparation

- A full review of the LOC final report will be discussed along with the incoming 2029 LOC.
- We need to further discuss about the technical aspects of the contest itself but also the logistics around registration, accommodation, etc.

5) World Gymnaestrada 2027

5.1) Update Information

- Alvaro Sousa has left the position of Executive Director. The position has been filled with Teresa Loureiro who is very experienced with conducting FIG events.
- The LOC is working on an updated organizational chart

5.2) 1st Information meeting

- Meeting was well received via the online and many positive feedback received.

5.3) Responsibilities

- The GfA C members will be assigned to tasks once the new organization structure is shared by the LOC.
- Jerome Huebscher (JH) is already assigned as the committee member working on the FIG Gala as this work has already started.

5.4) FIG Gala

- Choreographer is in place and is working closely with RV & JH.
- Information will go out in November to all federations to solicit submissions.

5.5) Bulletins

- The GfA C will provide the LOC with a guidance list on the needed topics for each Bulletin so they can begin to work on the next edition.

5.6) National performances conditions

- Conditions of the ticketing and contracts for participating federations were discussed.

5.7) Performance slots

- Slots will be requested by the next registration in January 2026 and confirmed in spring 2026

5.8) Timeline

- November – FIG Gala Information and call for submissions
- January – indication of number of participants and requested number of slots by federation
- April – announcement of who is in the FIG Gala, number of slots and Bulletin
- July – provisional registration with first numbers of participants and payment of 10% of the participant card

6) GfA Colloquium

6.1) 2026 Mexico City, MEX

- Update Information
  - Invitations were sent out, and federations are currently registerin

6.2) Theme

- Several options for a theme were discussed. We will include some follow-up topics around social impact as well as the WGFL to solicit feedback for future manual updates.

6.3) Call for presentations

- RV, Michele Carbinato (MC) and Yumiko Itoh (YI) will work through a timeline to solicit potential presentations and identify the exact topics.

6.4) Book of abstracts

- Once presenters are identified, they will be asked to provide an abstract so that we can prepare as much as possible ahead of the Colloquium.

6.5) 2027 TBD

- Update Information – we are discussing details with the potential host and hope to be able to announce the location at the Colloquium in Mexico.

7) World Gymnaestrada 2031 - Bid process update Information

- We have had several federations request bid information and contracts
- For the first time ever the interested federations are from more than one continent
- The deadline for submission is December 18, 2025
- Site visits by the GfA C will be conducted in February/March timeframe.
- The decision on the host for 2031 will be made at the FIG Council Meeting in May.

8) World Gym for Life Challenge 2029

8.1) Update information

- The LOC is very motivated to do their best for the participants. This will be the first FIG GfA event for Bulgaria to host but they have a long successful history of hosting events.
- The LOC is finalizing the venues that will be used as well as discussing all of the options for accommodation.

8.2) Timeline

- 2029 will come very fast and the GfA C will make sure the LOC has all the information they need.
  - September 2027 – GfA C will return to Bulgaria for an official joint meeting.
  - A full timeline was shared was discussed and shared with the LOC.

9) Education

9.1) Foundation courses

- We continue to have a few of these a year but need to keep promoting.

9.2) Join GfA activities

- We need to continue to raise awareness that this course is available and look for ways to have at least one of these on each continent per year.

9.3) HoD Safeguarding course

- As discussed previously, this will be a requirement for 2027 and future events.
- This is still in process, and we need to determine which modules from the current courses will be used.

10) Projects

10.1) E-book Vol. #3

- We need to get started on Volume #3. RV, MC, Lori Laznovski (LL) and Monika Siskova (MS) will take the lead on this project.
- Petrina and Marco will also be asked to serve as consultants
- A timeline for the request of articles, the review and edits will be created.
- Everything will need to be ready by the Colloquium in 2027 and ready for the distribution during the WG 2027 in Lisbon.

10.2) Newsletter

- This is something we've been wanting to do for a while.
- Agreed that we should start this with a quarterly publication.

11) Business Plan

- A review of all the items was conducted, and most are complete or on the path completion.

12) GfA Manual update – WGfLC regulations

- There are several topics we think need to be clarified and addressed.
- The proposed changes will be presented at the Colloquium in 2026 for feedback from the participants.

13) Miscellaneous

- An action list is now set up for the committee to track progress on projects

14) Upcoming Meetings and activities

14.1) 2026

- Colloquium in Mexico
- July TBD
- November TBD

Respectfully submitted,

Rogério VALÉRIO
GfA C President

Lori LAZNOVSKY
GfA C Secretary

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53rd Artistic Gymnastics World Championships

3rd Artistic Gymnastics Junior World Championships

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Meeting held in Doha (QAT), 7-10 February 2026

Participants

President	Donatella SACCHI (ITA)
Vice President	Nehad ZAYED (EGY); Helena LARIO (ARG)
Members	Lyudmila LI (UZB); Johanna GRATT (AUT); Trisha HADE (AUS); Liubov ANDRIANOVA (RUS) - excused
Athletes Representative	Filipa Martins (POR) – excused

1) Greetings and Announcements

The WTC extends a warm welcome to Filipa Martins (POR) who joins the WTC as the Athlete's representative. Filipa was unable to attend this WTC meeting as she was attending the Athletes' Commission meeting in Lausanne.

The agenda and the minutes from the meeting held in Napoli (ITA) in September 2025 were approved.

2) Information by the TC President

2.1) Reports

- The reports from the 2025 Jakarta World Championships and 2025 Manila Junior World Championships have been provided to the Executive Committee and will be published in the WTC Newsletter.

2.2) Unique competition opportunity

- The President received the proposal from MSC Cruise Company to conduct a competition on their cruise ships. On 23rd February 2026, Donatella will inspect their new, large ship with Apparatus Commissioner Daniel Fesser to assess if the proposed areas are suitable for competitions, paying particular attention to the dimensions and height.

  The goal is to have four apparatus combining MAG and WAG, with a formula created for the specific situation.

2.3) American Cup – Las Vegas – 7th March 2026

- The following Federations have accepted an invitation to compete: CHN, JPN, GBR, BRA, USA, ESP, MEX and PHI.
- It will be used as a test for the Mixed Team Final (MTF) at the LA28 Olympic Games, with a major focus on the TV presentation.
- There has been great collaboration between the LOC, World Gymnastics and the media in relation to all the possible scenarios and considerations that need to be assessed for a MTF.
- The goal of the competition is to be attractive, exciting and entertaining whilst still respecting the strategy of the Federations

2.4) STS

- The TC President has discussed with STS staff the possibility for the judges to practice real time judging using a new feature in STS.
- The WTC believe it is very important for the judges to practice real time judging using this proposed new feature in STS, before real time judging is implemented at future World Gymnastics competitions.

3) International Judges' courses

3.1) Retest in Lausanne (December 2025)

- 5 judges attended, with two judges upgrading their category.

3.2) Online judges' exams

- 590 judges from the five Continental Unions completed the online exam, with 540 passing.
- An additional online exam will provide an opportunity for those who had online/computer issues to retest. This additional exam has been commonly requested by TC Presidents across all disciplines, and a formal proposal for it to be offered will be developed during the TC Presidents' meeting.

4) Newsletter #1

4.1) List of names

- The List of Names published on the website will be updated to include the new elements performed in 2025.

4.2) Training devices (personal equipment)

- Soft mat on BB – it is proposed by the WTC and Daniel Fesser for it to be added to the Apparatus Norms for use as follows:
  - permitted inside the FoP area during podium training,

- permitted during the one-hour apparatus training before Apparatus Finals,
- not permitted during the touch warm up,
- permitted in the training hall.

- Handstand bars, training beams, yoga mats, or similar personal equipment:
  - are permitted inside the FoP area during podium training but are not permitted on the podium,
  - are not permitted inside the FoP area at any time during the competition phases (Qualifications, Team Final, All Around Final, Apparatus Finals & Mixed Team Final)
  - are permitted in the training halls throughout the competition.



Training beam



Handstand bar

4.3) Clarification of the CoP

To ensure consistent evaluation and application of the CoP in the future, the following will be published in the Newsletter:

- clarifications in relation to various situations that occurred during competitions in 2025,
- responses to inquiries received from National Federations throughout 2025.

5) 2026 World Championships, Rotterdam

- A site inspection will be completed on 11th & 12th May.
- The topics to be presented at the coaches round table were determined.
- The AS's have been assigned, and the D-judges have been drawn.
- The content for the Judges' meetings, including routines for evaluation and guidelines for the evaluation of elements, will be finalised during the next TC meeting.
- A proposal to expand JSS usage will be submitted to the Executive Committee for the:
  - AS's on all apparatus to access JSS before entering the D-score,
  - D-Panel on one apparatus to access JSS before entering the D-score.
- Real Time Judging (RTJ): a second shadow test will be conducted during Qualifications, All-Around Final and Team Final on certain apparatus. Professor Mercier will compare the scores from the shadow test with the scores given by the official judges during the competition, to assess the accuracy and fairness of RTJ.

6) 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) – Dakar (SEN)

- The AS's have been assigned.
- The list of the judges who are 35 years or younger will be finalised by the end of March.
- A proposal from World Gymnastics on participating teams and individuals must be submitted to the IOC by 27 February. The IOC will make the final decision and allocate quota places through its intention of participation process

7) Help Desk 2025 – 2028

The Help Desk second edition 16th Cycle has been finalised, and it will be published in March.

8) Miscellaneous

8.1) 2026/2027 Technical Regulations

- The WAG Continental Union Presidents have suggested that if a Federation participates in the All-Around competition at the Continental Championships, that Federation should be eligible to enter one gymnast to the WCH. Based on current participation, the additional positions would be AGU + 2; PAGU + 2; UAG +1.
- Junior World Championships schedule – an additional day between Qualifications and the All-Around final for the WAG gymnasts is required to prioritise athletes' safety and well-being.

The proposals have to be approved by the EC and the Council.

8.2) Line deductions

- World Gymnastics will fund research for the development of technology to detect line deductions on FX.

8.3) Allocation of WTC TD for 2026 World Challenge Cups

- Varna (BUL) – Lyudmila Li
- Tashkent (UZB) – Johanna Gratt
- Koper (SLO) – Helena Lario
- Szombathely (HUN) – Donatella Sacchi
- Paris (FRA) – Nehad Zayed

9) Next meeting

Alexandria (EGY) – arrival 25th June; departure 30th June 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Donatella SACCHI
WAG-TC President

Trisha HADE
WAG-TC Secretary


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Meeting held in Napoli (ITA), 04 – 07 September 2025

Participants

President	Andy TOMBS (GBR)
Vice President	LI Jing (CHN), HAN Yoon Soo (KOR)
Members	Butch ZUNICH (USA), Steve BUTCHER (TTO) Mohamed SOLIMAN (EGY), Julio MARCOS FELIPE (ESP)
Athlete Representative:	Aljaz PEGAN (SLO)

1) Andy welcomed the committee to Napoli.
2) The minutes of the Tashkent meeting were approved as was the agenda for this meeting.
3) The TC reviewed and updated the actions from the Tashkent meeting.
4) To avoid any conflict of interest, each committee member disclosed any employment or NF position held.
    4.1) Han: advises Korean Gymnastics.
    4.2) Li Jing: no conflicts.
    4.3) Julio: President of Judges for Spain (not paid).
    4.4) Mohamed: work for EGY technical committee. Also works as competition director for various competitions.
    4.5) Andy Tombs has retired from his position at British Gymnastics. Technical Advisor for British Gymnastics.
    4.6) Steve Butcher imports and resells Taishan equipment to clubs in North America through his private company. Is the program director for 4 high performance centers in India and advises the TTO Federation.
    4.7) Aljaz Pegan advises the Turkish federation.
    4.8) Butch Zunich advises USA gymnastics.
5) Reports from TC members: -

Andy gave a report on the EC meeting. **ACTION**: Andy will check the process for judges to receive FIG pins and FIG badges.

The in-person retest 3rd/4th December in Lausanne will consist of one day course and one day test.

The on-line exam will utilize a mix of existing exercises that were evaluated by the previous Technical Committee.

Andy reports that there is good progress with the organization of the Manila Junior World Championships.
Andy held meetings with continental TC with PAGU, EG, Oceania. They gave positive feedback on brevet courses and suggestions to release the presentations and TC examples prior to the courses. The continental TC's felt that moving to 8 elements allows

more gymnasts to continue longer in their career. The continental TCs liked the changes regarding the Balance and Jump/Leap requirements specified in Newsletter #1.

Steve Butcher was a Supervisor at the World University games. It was a good competition; however, it was soured by the injury to the Italian gymnast. Steve was Supervisor on pommel horse at Junior Pan Ams. Supervisors were at the head table, not near the panels on the floor.

Mohamed: No competitions.

Julio: No competitions.

Butch: Superior Jury at USA championships in New Orleans.

Aljaz: No gymnastic activity.

Li Jing: No gymnastics activity.

Yoon Soo: Next year's Asian games will be in Nagoya Japan. This will be limited to 60 MAG gymnasts E.g. 10 teams, 10 individuals.

6) **ACTION**: Andy, to make sure JSS is ready to support the Jakarta test for Horizontal Bar.
7) Doug Hills and his team from STS had a zoom meeting with the MTC. STS demonstrated their version of real time judging. This utilizes judge's personal phones to input deductions.
8) There will be a shadow test of Real Time Judging during apparatus finals in Jakarta. There will be panels of 7 judges and 2 TC members participating in the shadow test.
9) Dismounts – We agreed to make triple saltos prohibited for Juniors.
10) Patron/Gatson – We agreed to recognize hop with less than ¾ turn as one letter lower than Gatson with hop ¾ turn or more.
11) Jakarta Preparation:
    a. FIG Badges are no longer required to be worn by the judges.
    b. Navy Suit with White Shirt.
    c. Reviewed the schedule of Jakarta.
    d. Encourage judges to give scores that gymnasts deserve (especially higher scores)
12) **ACTION**: Butch to send list of USA Junior 'A' elements to MTC.
13) **ACTION**: Andy to share JEP information to increase awareness within the TC. Individual JEP reports for each judge will be sent to each federation for distribution to the judges.
14) The MTC reviewed the D and E jury presentations for Jakarta.
15) Presentations for Manila should replace some of the high-level exercises from Jakarta.
16) Andy reviewed the Swiss timing data entry slides. Stick bonus entry is missing from the D screen. Question about supervisor entering in neutral deductions or Stick bonus.

17) Andy reviewed the plan for Manila.

18) Andy reviewed the plan for Youth Olympics 2026 (Dakar). No rhythmic gymnastics, and no apparatus finals, only Team, AA and Mixed team. The competition will be in November 2026. Judge selection 6 panels, 1 SV, 2 D, 5 E. Time and Line will be from LOC. Judges to be 36-year-old or under in the year of 2026. One judge per country, based on D score from the international courses for the D judges, and E score from the international courses for the E judges.

    a. Selection of the NOC participants is based on priority applications. A list will be prepared on set criteria and sent to IOC.

    b. Judge selections include cat 3 including fast track. If cat 3 fast track and no experience, then not eligible.

19) Joint meeting with WAG:

    19.1) Vault Landing Safety Project, Real-time judging, Youth Olympics, general judges' rules. General judges Women take all judges above their pass mark for category 1. This could result in more than 25 category 1's in the draw pool for men.

20) Next meetings 6-11 February 2026 – Lausanne; June 25-28 (or following week) in China (Hunan province). December 28 November to 1st December (TBC) – Australia

21) Dismount requirement to have a ceiling of 0.5. Red Dots triple back saltos Floor, Rings and Horizontal Bar and Parallel Bars.

22) Gatson/Patron: Keep criteria in newsletter. For E, must be 270 turn in air. Patron with 270. Comes down to a D.

23) Competition Attire: proposal to wear more modern and slightly looser fitting garments requires more detail.

24) Butch presented a video of USA gymnastics showing a line camera installed on the bottom of vaulting horse.

25) Adjournment.

Andrew TOMBS
MAG TC President

Butch ZUNICH
MAG TC Secretary



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Meeting held in Doha (QAT), 7-10 February, 2026

Participants

President	Andy TOMBS (GBR)
Vice President	LI Jing (CHN), HAN Yoon Soo (KOR)
Members	Butch ZUNICH (USA), Steve BUTCHER (TTO) Mohamed SOLIMAN (EGY), Julio MARCOS FELIPE (ESP)
Athlete Representative:	Stone SHEK (HKG) - At Athletes' Commission Meeting
Staff	Stéphane Détraz - Online

1) Andy welcomed the committee to Doha. The committee took a moment to recognize the passing of James Hartung (USA judge) earlier in the year.
2) The minutes of the Napoli meeting were approved as was the agenda for this meeting.
3) The TC reviewed and updated the actions from the Napoli meeting.
    a. **ACTION**: Andy will check the process for judges to receive FIG pins and FIG badges. There appears to be a backlog due to a colleague leaving the office. SD to follow up with those outstanding requests.
    b. **ACTION**: Andy, to make sure JSS is ready to support the Jakarta test for Horizontal Bar. Completed.
    c. **ACTION**: Butch to send list of USA Junior 'A' elements to MTC. Completed.
    d. **ACTION**: Andy to share JEP information to increase awareness within the TC. Individual JEP reports for each judge will be sent to each federation for distribution to the judges. Completed.
4) To avoid any conflict of interest, each committee member disclosed any employment or NF position held. The following are changes since the previous meeting:
    a. Julio: Is no longer president of judges in Spain.
    b. Mohamed: no longer competition director for EGY.
5) Andy reported on relevant information from EC meeting in Laos. This included work from the 'Fairness in Scoring Projects', Dakar 2026 athlete selection process, and the various proposals put forward by Artistic Gymnastics. He also shared his experience from an exceptional Paris Challenge Cup and various opportunities that improve WC formats.
6) Steve: Reported on his activity in India as well as his participation in PAGU. He was asked to share some of the disciplinary issues and highlight the important role of the Jury of Appeal to the PAGU EC. AT mentioned the need for all TD's to be aware of the roles the accountability they have at WG Events and could be exposed to sanctions for not following the rules.
7) Andy reported on continental meetings with TC members and coaches. Five consultation meetings were held with PAGU, Oceana, Europe, AGU and UAG. Total of 102 participants represented 58 National Federations. Topics included the new Code

of Points, competition season 2025 with the main focus on the competition formats for 2029-32 cycle.

8) Andy presented some initial proposals for the Competition season 2029-32. The TC discussed possible changes to the competition program for the 2029-2032 cycle including:

   - Introduce a world ranking based on FIG competitions.
   - The World Cup series needs to have a series ending, which could be the World Apparatus Championships or World Cup Final with onwards qualification.

   Potential to split the Apparatus WCH to make it fairer for all athletes and provide a Mixed Team Final alongside Team Final and All-Around Final.

9) We reviewed the results of the shadow test of Real Time Judging from Jakarta. Dr. Mercier reported that the accuracy of RT judging was slightly less than Normal judging. After comparing actual E scores, RT judging scores were 0.14 from Supervisors control compared to 0.12 for Normal judging. Proposals to be taken to EC for next steps in conjunction with WAG.

10) STS funding has been renewed for two years. The TC discussed the STS proposal to have real time judging integrated into their video library. This would allow things like MTC reference scores for study videos. It would also allow judges to practice real time judging and compare their results to others. STS said that they could integrate the official RT judging device or phone into their system to capture.

11) Each TC member compared non-recognized elements and D score differences between Manila, Jakarta and JSS at Jakarta. The TC proposes that all Supervisors will have access to JSS in Rotterdam and one D panel will have access to JSS. Andy put together a summary of this analysis and will provide it to JSS.

12) Some CoP adjustments to code boxes.

   - Jump 1/1 (I.115, I.116, I.117)
   - Pike Winkler (D) is in box II.46
   - Manukyan is in box II.66 (F)

13) The MTC discussed themes for the D and E Presentations for Rotterdam and Dakar which should be ready for the June meeting, along with 5 D and 5 E exercises for each presentation. Presentations should reflect information discovered from the JSS analysis.

14) The MTC reviewed the new draft of the Technical Regulations. The majority of the changes account for the addition of Mixed Team Finals to Worlds and Olympic Games. There will be additional All-Around gymnasts above the current continental quotas to increase federation participation at World Championships. Concern was expressed by the TC regarding the change to 'top 4 results from the series' which would lead to additional travel costs for NFs.

   Two key proposals from the Junior WCH in Manila.

   - Team qualification to be seeded with top 11 teams, plus host, in final sub-division.
   - Gymnasts are not required to compete on all 6 Apparatus to qualify for Apparatus Finals.

15) Stephane Detraz joined us online. We reviewed the Manila and Jakarta TC and office reports. Also discussed the potential future use of additional soft mats for Junior World Championships. Andy thanked the TC and Stephane for their support in

delivering two exceptional World Championships and recognized the importance of these reports in preparing and improving future events.

16) TD assignments 2026: -

Cottbus – Mohamed, Antalya - Julio, Baku - Steve, Cairo/Doha - Andy, Osijek - Butch

17) At World Cups and World Challenge Cups, apparatus suppliers must certify that the equipment provided is per the apparatus list.

18) Youth Olympics Dakar (SEN): Federation selection is based on criteria proposed by the IOC which does not include competitive rankings. Andy and Dona will work with the World Gymnastics office to make a recommendation to the IOC by 27 February based on the NOC priorities.

Judges for Youth Olympics: Supervisor, 2D, 5E per apparatus. Andy presented the list of D and E judges based on D and E scores from the Intercontinental and International judges' courses. Agreed on 12 D judges, 30 E judges + 2 reserves

19) Han presented the status of the vaulting mat replacement project. There were over 100 gymnasts who completed the survey. The TC will develop proposal, in conjunction with the Apparatus Commission, to present to the EC in March. ACTION: Steve and Han will
re-work the EC proposal formatting.

20) The D judges for Rotterdam WCH were drawn: -

Draw for 2026 Rotterdam (NED) World Championships

	D1	D2
Floor	Miguel Angel IANEZ RAMOS (ESP)	Josef TOTH (AUT)
Pommel	Ilia GIORGADZE (GEO)	James MAY (GBR)
Rings	Ravshanbek MIRZAEV (UZB)	TUNG Chun Chieh (TPE)
Vault	Gilles ANDRING (LUX)	Dmitrii ANDREEV (AIN)
Pbars	Sebastian BRATAN (ROU)	Yasser ZAYED (EGY)
Hbar	Robert VAN OORT (NED)	Lubos RUPCIK (SVK)

Assistant Superior Jury - Tom THINGVOLD (NOR)
D-jury Reserves.

c. Arturs MICKEVICS (LAT)
d. Jevgenij ISMODENOV (LTU)
e. Jonathan CORBITT (USA)

Draw for 2026 Dakar (SEN) Youth Olympic Games

	D1	D2
Floor	SHU Canaan (HKG)	Javier PEREZ-JUANA CORTES (ESP)
Pommel	Philip ROSENZWEIG (GER)	DOYLE Adam (IRL)
Rings	Timothy MICHAELS (USA)	Srecko NAMESTNIK (SLO)
Vault	Muhammad Hatem ABDULHALIM (EGY)	Duncan RUNCIE (GBR)
Pbars	Serhii STEBUNOV (UKR)	Kyleab ELLIS (NZL)
Hbar	Ahmad AGHAYEV (AZE)	Alexander HUNT (AUS)

No Draw for Reserve Judges for Dakar YOG.

21) Julio presented status of the Digital CoP. The idea is to have updated pdfs which have highlighted new/changed content. Also, have embedded videos of each element, with various performance levels. The Digital CoP should work on-line and also off-line. Content and videos are similar to current STS. **ACTION:** Each TC member put together a video of one element – recognition, non-recognition, 0.1, 0.3, and 0.5 deductions.

22) Timeline for 2029 CoP: -

- Commence input at Rotterdam 2026
- Early 2027 put together draft framework of 2029 CoP
- February 2028 approval by EC, then publication.

23) Online Retest. MTC is willing to allow for one more online retest opportunity for judges in Asia.

24) Topics to be discussed at the upcoming TC Presidents meeting:

a. Suggestion to move Intercontinental Course into January. The MTC feels courses should be pre-Christmas and possibly move earlier to October/November.

b. The TC recommends that judges shouldn't judge their own gymnasts.

25) The MTC allocated TDs to the World Challenge Cups for 2026

Tashkent – Yoon Soo, Varna – Li Jing, Koper - Julio, Szombathely - Butch, Paris – Andy

26) Andy discussed his vision for the Coaches Advisory Group. This group would be responsible for input to the CoP, Competition Program, Safeguarding issues, New Elements and other topics. Andy will put together descriptions needed for potential group members.

27) Next MTC Meeting in China. The meeting will be in Changsha-Hunan (23rd-26th June).

28) The third MTC meeting of the year is targeted for Australia: Arrive 29th November and depart 4th December. The meeting will be held between 30 November and 3 December.

29) Questions and Answers since newsletter #3:

a. Floor: Each corner must have a unique transition in each corner. In the case where multiple 'styles' of transitions are used in a corner, one of the styles must be unique. For example, a corner has cartwheel to stag leap with bent leg, then the other corner is stag leap with bent leg to jump to split leap.

b. Floor: Stag 1/1 no longer fulfills the jump/balance requirement, but it will still receive "A" value if performed.

c. Floor: Rebound to 1/1 turn to front support (or others) following an acro series is not allowed (0.5 uncontrolled landing).

d. PBars: Front uprise or Moy to support and immediate drop to upper arm is a 0.3 reversal of direction. See https://youtube.com/shorts/YE8VkuKsT5s

e. Front uprise to support, then swing back to hang is also 0.3 swing to no value/compositional. See Video at https://youtu.be/CAb8vExnTfQ

f. High Bar: Kip to handstand in double overgrip, 1/2 pirouette followed by grip change will not receive a grip change deduction.

30) The men and women TCs met and discussed several topics.

- Real Time judging – The WTC needs more data before reaching final conclusion on RT judging accuracy. Next steps for the WTC is to shadow test again during qualification on two apparatus in Rotterdam with 7 judges. Andy: Swiss Timing says the device works well and is reliable. Mercier suggested accuracy based on 'spread' is slightly wider for RT judging, but Andy compared accuracy of the actual scores/averages and these were almost identical. The point was raised regarding the judges' selection process for the Olympic Games, which doesn't include Real Time judging, further analysis will be needed.
- STS – Butch presented RT judging embedded in the STS video library. Everyone agreed that we need to provide some way for the judges to practice real time judging prior to competitions. STS would also add the interface to use the official RT input device or a mobile phone to enter in deductions.
- 2029-32 Competition Program – Andy presented initial proposals for competition program for next cycle. The background to this was shaped by the view from Television that gymnastics needs to adapt to a modern viewer and create a program that appeals to TV outside of the 4-year spike that is the Olympics. Dona, we don't support/promote our own competitions. Need to have a program which attracts our stars to our competitions, not just Olympics. Motivation of athletes is prize money and requirement to compete at world cups. Too frequent competitions could result in more injuries for WAG, how we can promote better what we currently have rather than completely change to attract more gymnasts.
- Vault Landing Project – Dr. Han presented data from his survey. Over 100 gymnasts provided input. In general, gymnasts report most frequent ankle injuries and would want to have improvements in the vault landing mat. Han will send his reports to the TC members.
- Line judging has been problematic. There has been some experimentation of an automated solution with laser. Further work is needed
- WC Brand Proposal – Quickly reviewed branding proposal. The logo may not clearly represent men or women or gymnastics. Action - AT/DS to meet WG to discuss further.

- Field of Play personal equipment- Reviewed personal items which can and cannot be brought to training at competitions, and the actual competition.
- Mixed Team Finals – reviewed the current format that will be utilized at the American Cup. Showed the complexities of dynamically creating the order of competition for each round to ensure quick flow and highlight the competitiveness.

31) Adjournment.

Andrew TOMBS
MAG TC President

Butch ZUNICH
MAG TC Secretary

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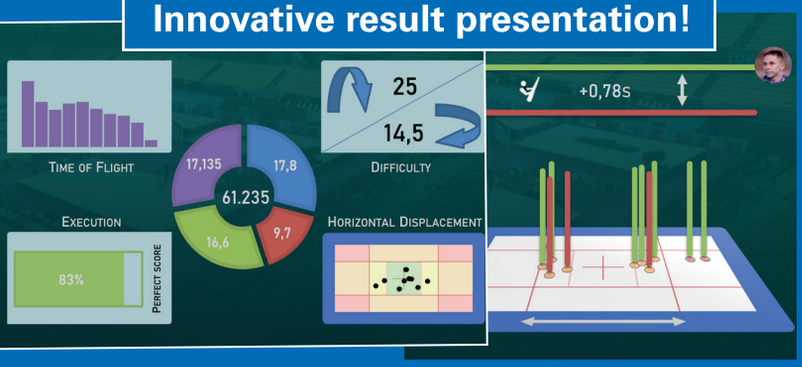
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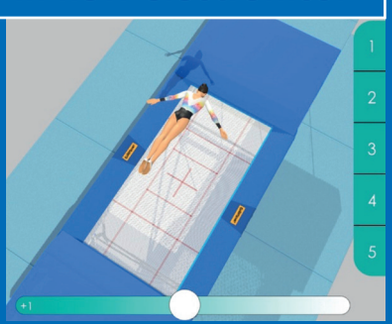
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Meeting held in Lausanne (SUI), 25-28 January, 2026

Participants

President	Noha ABOU SHABANA (EGY)
Vice President	Marcia Regina AVERSANI LOURENCO (BRA)
Members	Natalya BULANOVA (AZE); Alua BEKTUROVA (KAZ); Isabell SAWADE (GER); Gyozal MUMINOVA (UZB);
Sport Manager	Sylvie MARTINET
Athletes Representative	Neviana VLADINOVA (BUL)
Online	Maria PETROVA MIHAYLOVA (BUL)
Guests:	Nicolas BUOMPANE, Gerald BIDAULT, Marina KHAMITSEVICH

Welcome and information

- Welcome by Noha Abou Shabana
- Welcoming the new member of the athlete representative Neviana Vladinova (BUL) and providing an overview of the procedures

Originalities / New DB discussion / Decision

- We received six requests regarding new Difficulty Body (DB) and Difficulty Apparatus DA from the following countries: China (CHN), Cyprus (CYP), Germany (GER), Great Britain (GBR), and the United States of America (USA).
- The originality requests submitted by the Chinese and Great Britain federations were not accepted, as the proposed elements did not meet the originality criteria.
- However, the proposals for new Difficulty DB from Cyprus (CYP), Germany (GER), and the United States of America (USA) were approved.
- Varfolomeev's Pivot: The World Gymnastics Rhythmic Technical Committee has reviewed and approved the new Difficulty Body (DB) back split with help, trunk forward at the horizonal, with ring. Executed on relevé, on flat foot, or combining relevé/flat foot for a base value of 0.4 for the 360° rotation. Each additional rotation will be awarded +0.1. The new DB will be added to the Body Difficulty Tables 3.1104 (pivots) in accordance with the procedures for new DB outlined in points 2.2.6 and 2.2.8.
- Griskena's Pivot: The World Gymnastics Rhythmic Technical Committee has reviewed and approved the new Difficulty Body (DB) back split with help, trunk forward at the horizontal, with open (<90°) ring. The hand which holds the open ring should be straight. Executed on relevé, on flat foot, or combining relevé/flat foot for a base value of 0.4 for the 360° rotation. Each additional rotation will be awarded +0.1. The new DB will be added to the Body Difficulty Tables 3.1104 (pivots) in accordance with the procedures for new DB outlined in points 2.2.6 and 2.2.8.

- Tugolukova's Pivot: The World Gymnastics Rhythmic Technical Committee has reviewed and approved the new Difficulty Body (DB) side split with help, trunk horizontal with free leg bent for a base value of 0.4 for the 360° rotation. Each additional rotation will be awarded +0,2. The new DB will be added to the Body Difficulty Tables 3.804.1 (pivots) in accordance with the procedures for new DB outlined in points 2.2.6 and 2.2.8.
- All letters to the federations have been prepared and sent.

Next cycle: presentations, courses, exams

- Each assigned member prepared a presentation and practical videos on a designated topic relevant to the 2026 World Cups and World Challenge Cups.
- All presentations for World Cups and World Challenge Cups must be uploaded to the STS.
- WCH 2026 in Germany deadlines were set for the presentation and the practical videos.
- Judges' instructional materials will be made available on STS two weeks before the WCH, on 24 July 2026.
- Directives for the WCH were reviewed.
- Special award in WCH were revised: Best Synchronized Group and New Stage Award Fans' favorite special award.

Statistics of judges' brevets: face-to-face / online

- Ms. Maria Petrova presented a comprehensive statistical analysis of the judges' brevet status. The report included the total number of registered judges, a detailed breakdown by brevet category (Brevet 1, 2, 3, and 4), and the number of judges who did not successfully pass the examination. The analysis also provided information on how many judges have already utilized the fast-track procedure. This statistical overview will support future planning, monitoring of judging capacity, and the development of targeted education and certification strategies.

Technical Regulations 2026–2027 review

- Air Flow / Air Conditioning (ECO): Include an airflow / air-conditioning provision in the Technical Regulations. The approach will follow the same standards applied in badminton, ensuring appropriate environmental conditions for competitions.
- A technical regulation modification "2 apparatuses" instead of listing specific combinations (e.g., Hoop/Ball or Clubs/Ribbon).

Rope presentations preparation

- Alua Bekturova and Neviana Vladinova were appointed as responsible coordinators for the preparation of the Rope presentations. Their initial tasks include identifying suitable video materials, collecting the necessary footage, and editing the selected segments for presentation purposes.

Discussion for the next cycle: new COP preparation

- Started with the ideas for the new Code of Point, analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the current code. Marcia Regina Aversani Lourenço (BRA) is responsible for taking the notes.

Miscellaneous

Meeting with Gerald BIDAULT – Video Control (World Cup & World Challenge Cup 2025)

- Gerald confirmed that the overall quality of the Video Control system is good; however, several issues were identified that require improvement: HD quality, logos are not permitted in Video Control footage.
- Gerald also proposed developing interactive e-learning for judges (including questions, games, and interactive tools). TC RG responded positively to this idea.

Meeting with Nicolas Buompane – regarding Ethics Foundation and Regulations

- Nicolas informed TC RG about the decisions of the Ethics Foundation and reminded members that all actions must strictly follow regulations. TC members should always double-check procedures when doubts arise.
- He also discussed the LA 2028 Olympic Games and introduced the AP Athlete Policy (Late Athlete Replacement Policy). Additionally, President Noha proposed the idea of establishing a separate TC RG for men.

Meeting with Marina Khamitsevich – Safeguarding International

- Marina presented the 2026 safeguarding goals, including revisions to policies, procedures, codes, and national federation requirements. TC RG emphasized that coaches currently appear insufficiently protected, and timelines should be carefully considered during revisions.
- The music for AIN 1 was reviewed.

Acknowledgements

The TC expressed its gratitude to Secretary General Nicolas Buompane, Sport Manager Sylvie Martinet, for their time and collaboration during this period

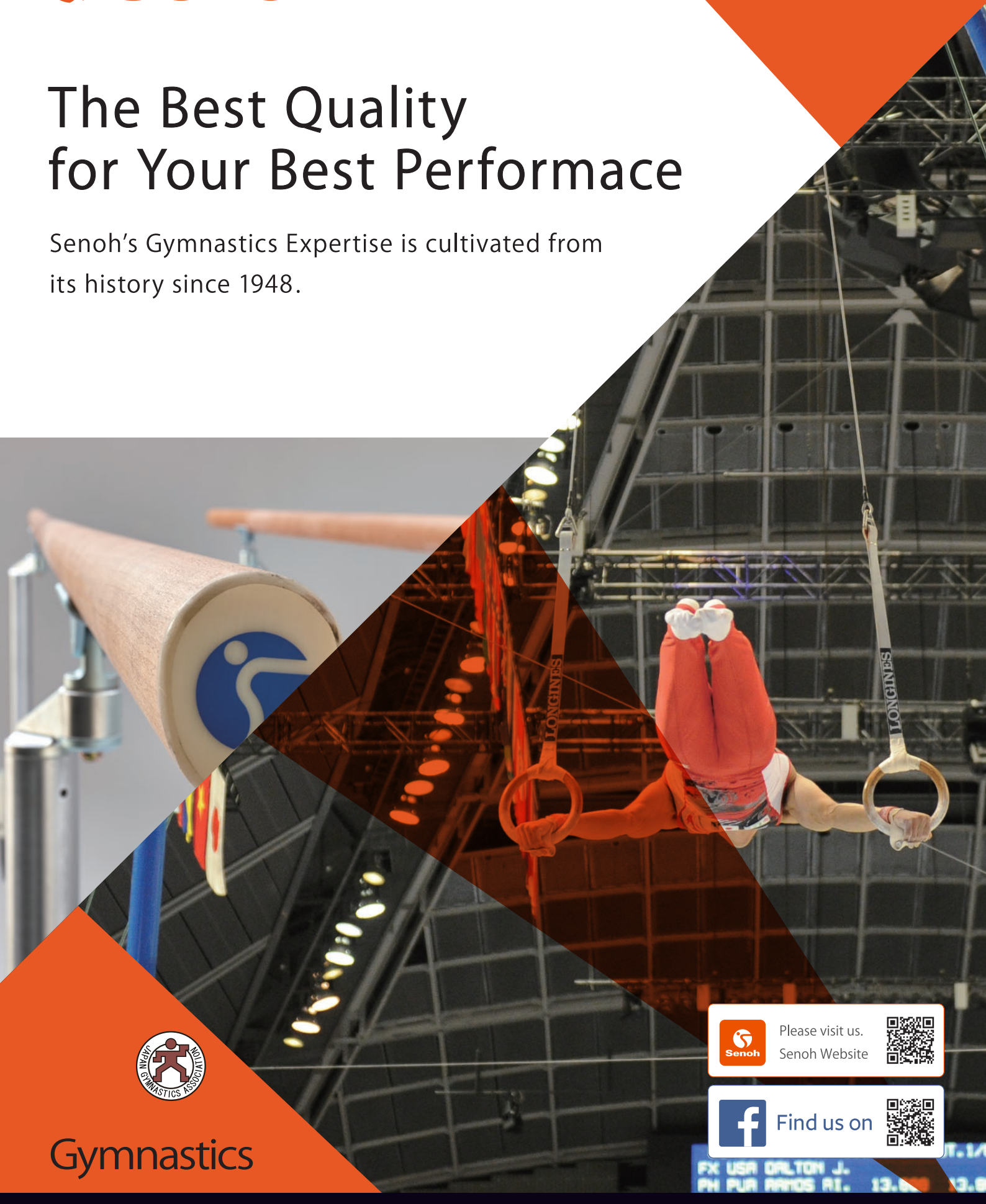
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RG-TC President

Alua BEKTUROVA
RG-TC Secretary

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Meeting held in Sharm El-Sheikh (EGY), 27-30 October 2025

Participants

President	Tammy YAGI-KITAGAWA (JPN)
Vice President	Cristina CASENTINI (ITA)
Members	Desislava BOGUSHEVA (BUL); Vladislav OSKNER (RUS); Ana MACANITA (POR); Barbara Stengl (GER)
Athletes Representative	Ivan VELOZ (MEX)
Apologies	Jorge Fillon (ARG)

1) Opening and approval of the agenda

TYK opened the last TC Meeting of the 2025 – after reading the oath by VO. The agenda has been approved.

2) Approval of the Minutes (July 2025)

The minutes of the last TC meeting held in July in Lausanne were approved.

3) Welcome of Ivan Veloz

All TC members gave a warm welcome to Ivan Veloz – the new Athletes Representative who was elected during the World Games in August.

Being a member of the Athletes' Commission – he needs to report to the TC about the work in this commission.

TYK mentioned that the Athlete Representative is the bridge between TC and the athletes. Therefore, feel free to give any information of athletes' requests, proposals and comments to the TC.

4) TC President's Report

TYK took part in the EC in Vientiane (LAO) and Council meeting in Malta (MLT).

- Competition format: the Competition Innovation Working Group and TC will work on ideas of improving competitions (too long including judging).
- Issue of ISR gymnasts' participation in the Artistic Gymnastics WCH in Jakarta.
- Helping athletes from all over the world with the difficult situation and the EC will continue to support everyone.
- TYK presented developing projects for AER including convention.
- Discussion about Para gymnastics, however, this is very difficult for AER at this moment.

5) World Games 2025

The TC is very happy about the organization and outcome of the World Games in Chengdu in August. The TC received extreme positive feedback for supervising this competition.

The World Games have been another milestone in AER not only because of wonderful performances but also number of spectators.

6) TC Joint Meeting (AER-ACRO-RG)

6.1) JEP

Dr. Hugues Mercier joined by online on October 28 morning to explain some of the issues of the JEP to all three TC members.

We need to have the instruments of the JEP to evaluate the judges. Now we did the first step. We would like to move on to the next step.

Risks – to be controlled that some judges try to be in the "safe zone".

6.2) Result biased judging

The report showed that just a few judges are really biased for their own or another country.

6.3) General Judges Rules

Due to different situations in different continental unions and inside the gymnastics family, we need to compromise the classification of the competitions to the respective groups.

6.4) Statutes

Article 16.3
AER wants to have the election of Athletes' Representative during the World Games.
We need to clarify the role of Athletes' Representative.

7) Judges' Courses – Exam – Instruction

Online test:

EG:	Oct 1	68 judges were registered
OGA	Oct 12	11 judges were registered
PAGU	Oct 31	30 judges are registered (incl. 3 current judges)
UAG	Nov 11	41 judges are registered (incl. 7 current judges)
AGU	Nov 14	60 judges are registered

Retest – December 25

Due to no eligible participants registered for AER, the Re-Test course for AER was cancelled.

Discussion about changes in next cycle 2029-2032:

Three TCs have discussed common part which will be finalized with the TC-Presidents' Meeting.

- Retest
- Online course
- Continental International Courses
- Number of participants per NF
- Number of experts against the number of participants

8) TC Members' Report

Judges: CC

- CJP and SJ roll clarification.
- Line judges' assistant for the ART judges (zone 2, 3, 4, 5).

Developing program: AM

- Programs for the Age Group and beginners.
- Target NF in Africa, Asia and South America.

FIG Rules: VO

- Preparation of the TR 2027

STS Study Platform: DB

- More than 200 videos of elements (from DB and GB) are included in the system.
- TC members need to check all the videos for an approval.

Age Group Program: AM

- Development project is under the Age Group Program – see above.

Apparatus commission: BS

- No feedback of the Cheerleading floor in Chengdu during the WG.
- Our sport needs to have an additional possibility of the AER floor which is less expensive.

Athletes' Representative: IV

- Election timing for the AER.
- Planning to hold 3 online meetings per year with all the athletes.
- Routine length for some categories.
- Clarification of technical issues for some elements.

9) Pilates Convention – Antalya, TUR

With great appreciation to the Vice-President, Suat Celen, all TC members are invited to take part in the Pilates Convention in Antalya/TUR in December 2025.

TYK, CC and AM decided to present two sessions at the Pilates Convention as well.

Starting from next year, TC plans to re-start the AER Convention (Sports Aerobic Challenge, Pilates, etc).

10) AER Development Strategy

Trainings Camp

The TC planned a proposal to the EC regarding the Training Camps to be conducted for the AER Development Strategy with explanation and introduction of the compulsory routine to the new NF.

After 6 months, return to the NF to check their development progress.

Targets: new NF, new gymnasts and coaches

Where: Africa, but also Asia and Pan-American

11) Newsletter #4

Newsletter is being prepared by AM with clarifications and notification to the AER community to have common understanding of the CoP.

- Dress Code
- Difficulty – elements
- Artistry – Opening / Ending

12) World Cup TD 2026

At this moment, two World Cups are official.

Cantanhede – POR	March	BS
Suzuki – JPN	April	CC

13) TC Meetings (provisional) – WCH 2026

13.1) March (Las Vegas, USA – if USGA approves)
13.2) June (Naples, ITA)
13.3) October (Lausanne, SUI)

14) AOB

CoP 2029-2032

- The first draft of 2029-2032 should be ready by the end of 2026

Judges' Instruction

- Continental CH: the AER-TC will share the materials to the Continental AER-TC and for them to use at their Judges' instruction. This is to avoid any mis-information being delivered.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy YAGI-KITAGAWA
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Barbara Stengl
AER-TC Secretary



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