

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



**Rules for the
FIG World Challenge Cup Series
2017, 2018, 2019, 2020**



**in
Rhythmic Gymnastics**

V 2.3 February 2019

ART. 1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The FIG World Challenge Cup Series will be run every year and begins with the 1st event of the year and ends with the last event of the year.

The events shall take place between May and November.

The Series consists of a minimum of 3 events. For 2017, the number of World Challenge Cup events has exceptionally been raised to 5. From 2018, their number is not limited, provided the dates are not in conflict with FIG World Championships, World Cup events (all disciplines), FIG Sanctioned multi-sport events or Continental Championships.

The Programme of the World Challenge Cup Series will be for individual gymnasts and groups.

The World Challenge Cup events are major FIG events with a broader participation. They are aimed at supporting the affiliated federations in developing rhythmic gymnastics worldwide through the organisation of high standard FIG international events.

At each event, the gymnasts have the opportunity to win prize money and World Challenge Cup points which will count towards the World Challenge Cup Ranking List.

ART. 2 RIGHTS AND ADVANTAGES OF RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS WORLD CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITIONS

- Each event will use the official title of “FIG World Challenge Cup Competition”
- Each event will contribute points to the World Challenge Cup
- Each event will be considered as an official FIG event
- Each event will be listed in the official FIG calendar of events
- The event dates will be protected by FIG
- Each event will be announced in the FIG *World of Gymnastics* magazine
- Each event will be published on the FIG official website (www.gymnastics.sport)
- The Directives of each event will be published by FIG directly to all eligible member federations and updated regularly in FIG’s communication platforms.
- The FIG Office and the Local Organising Committee of each event will send information to all FIG Member Federations by e-mail and/or through the official FIG website
- The Local Organising Committee of each event will be entitled to use the FIG logo on official communications, posters and programme. This does not apply for any selling item (i.e. T-shirts, souvenirs, etc.)
- The Local Organising Committee of each event will be entitled to require assistance from the official FIG Technical Delegate
- Each event will be included in the official FIG result service system (publication of the results on the FIG website).

ART. 3 CANDIDATURES, APPLICATIONS AND ASSIGNMENT

Art. 3.1 Bids and criteria for approval

Bids for the World Challenge Cup competitions must be received at the FIG Office by 30th June of the previous year for the following year. The World Challenge Cup competitions for the next season will be assigned by the FIG Executive Committee. Applications will be considered and allocated in relation to conflict of dates with other FIG sanctioned events.

Should the Executive Committee not be in a position to approve at least three bids, the FIG World Challenge Cup Series in Rhythmic Gymnastics of the following year will not take place.

Candidatures can only be submitted by FIG Member Federations. To be approved, the following minimum requirements must be met:

- All World Challenge Cup competitions must offer competitions for Individual Gymnasts and Group.
- World Challenge Cup competitions must be separate and distinct competition, and may not be combined with any other competitions.
- Venue capacity of min. 2'500 seats
- One specific warm-up area in the competition hall or adjacent.
- Training hall(s) adjacent to the competition venue or nearby.
- Total of 6 competition floors (competition hall 1, warm-up area 1, training hall(s) 4)
- FIG Member Federations interested in organising a World Challenge Cup competition must apply in writing to the FIG Office and complete the appropriate invitation letter and forms provided to them by the FIG as soon as possible, but by no later than 30 June for the following season. Information on the date, the location, the name of the event, the additional federations which will be invited, the prize money, and the apparatus supplier* for the competition must be completed.
- Applications must include the name and contact address of the Event Manager and the Media Officer.
- Television production: Applications must include the name and address of the Host Broadcaster and the name of the person in charge of the production.
- Applications must include the name and contact address of the official Hospital.
- The Organising Member Federation for World Challenge Cup events must offer minimum three different hotel categories, including the Official Hotel and one being a “low cost hotel”. The prices charged for the hotel rooms cannot exceed the usual hotel rates.
- The Organising Member Federation must pay a non-refundable application fee to the FIG of CHF 3'000.-. This fee must accompany the invitation letter and forms. The application fee will be returned in full, should the application not be considered by the FIG Executive Committee.
- The Organising Member Federation must pay a deposit of CHF 5'000. This deposit must accompany the invitation letter and forms. The deposit will be returned in full, should the FIG decide not to assign the event to the Member Federation. The deposit will also be returned in full after the event, provided all conditions of these Rules are fulfilled. Infractions and/or non-fulfilment of conditions set out in these Rules will result in the deposit being lost partly or in full. The deposit will be lost in full (i.e. stay with FIG) if the dates, the city, or the venue of

the event are changed by the Organising Member Federation or if the event cannot be organised.

- Late applications, applications which are not complete, or are not accompanied by the application fee and the deposit are refused.

Art. 3.2 Assignment of World Challenge Cup Competitions by the FIG Executive Committee

Preference will be given to leading tournaments as follows:

- previous World Cup / Challenge Cup Competition Organizers
- the highest media impact (quality of the Host Broadcaster and worldwide sales)
- the highest prize money and other advantages provided to the gymnasts and participating member federations
- experienced and reliable Organising Member Federations and Local Organising Committees
- traditional and worldwide established tournaments
- attractive and large venues, located in famous leading cities of the world
- venue capacity (number of seats).

ART. 4 RULES AND REGULATIONS

The competition must be organized under the following FIG rules, as valid in the year of the competition, except for any deviation mentioned in these Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup Rules:

- Statutes
- Code of Ethics
- Technical Regulations
- License Rules
- Code of Points and relevant Help Desk
- General Judges' Rules
- Specific Judges' Rules for Rhythmic Gymnastics
- Medical Organization of the Official FIG Competitions and Events
- Anti-Doping Rules
- Media Rules
- Apparatus Norms
- Rules for Advertising and Publicity
- Accreditation Rules
- Rules for Awards Ceremonies

and subsequent decisions of the FIG Executive Committee.

ART. 5 COMPETITION FORMAT, PARTICIPATION AND PROGRAMME

The Organising Member Federation has to respect the following format and programme:

- All-Around competition for Individual Gymnasts and Groups
- Finals for Individual Gymnasts by apparatus (8 gymnasts each)
- Finals for Group routines (5 / 3+2) (8 groups each)

The All-Around competition will serve as qualification for the apparatus finals / group routines.

In case of a tie at any place, the tie-breaking rules as set up for the World Championships shall be applied. If there is still a tie, the tied gymnasts / groups will proceed to the final.

Competition programme

Day 1	Arrival of delegations
Day 2	Training and podium training
Day 3	Qualifications Individuals and Groups
Day 4	Qualifications Individuals and Groups
Day 5	Finals Individuals and Groups
Day 6	Departure of delegations

ART. 6 INVITATION

The Organising member federation may invite FIG member federations in good standing at their discretion, but must invite at least all Member Federations which had:

- Individual gymnasts ranked 1-20 in the All-Around competition at the last World Championships (respectively the All-Around competition (qualification) of the Olympic Games 2016 for the 2017 World Challenge Cup Series) preceding the respective RG World Challenge Cup Series
- Groups ranked 1-16 in the General competition (qualification) at the last World Championships preceding the respective RG World Challenge Cup Series

This provision must be mentioned in the invitation letter for FIG approval.

ART. 7 DIRECTIVES

The Directives and forms must be approved by the FIG and published at last five months prior to the event. They have to be submitted to the FIG as soon as possible but no later than six months prior to the event.

ART. 8 REGISTRATIONS AND DELEGATIONS SIZE

On-line registrations will only be accepted from FIG Member Federations. Only senior gymnasts in good standing with the correct age and holding a valid FIG License at the time of registration until the end of the competitions may participate.

Maximum size of delegation: see Accreditation Rules for RG World Cup and Challenge Cup Series.

ART. 9 REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Registrations must be made on-line via the FIG online registration platform:

Provisional registration*	4 months prior to the competition
Definitive registration	2 months prior to the competition
Nominative registration	4 weeks prior to the competition

**Note: it is not compulsory for the Organising Member Federation to request a Provisional Registration.*

Late registrations are subject to fines **as follows:**

Fine for missing or late Provisional registration (if any)	CHF 500.-
Fine for missing or late Definitive registration	CHF 750.-
Fine for missing or late Nominative registration	CHF 500.-

Registrations made after the gymnasts' drawing of lots will not be accepted and the Delegations will not be authorized to participate.

ART. 10 FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS FOR THE PARTICIPATING FEDERATIONS, THE ORGANIZING MEMBER FEDERATION AND FIG

Unless stated otherwise in the invitation letter and forms, the **invited participating federations** must pay for:

- Travel costs for the delegation members
- Accommodation expenses for the delegation members
- Meals expenses for the delegation members
- Entry fees, if requested by the LOC and approved by the FIG.

Federations which have not fulfilled their financial obligations towards the Local Organizing Committee by the given deadline in the Invitation/Directives may still have the possibility to participate, but the LOC will not guarantee the hotel booking, meals and local transportation. Federations which have not fulfilled their financial obligations towards the Organizing Member federations upon arrival will not be accredited.

The **Organising Member Federation** must pay for:

- All costs for the preparation and the running of the event
- Application fee and deposit to the FIG
- TV production costs
- Scoring and Result Service according to FIG requirements
- International transportation travel expenses and per diem costs (including travel days), local travel expenses as well as the accommodation costs (single room incl. breakfast) for the FIG Technical Delegate.
- International and local travel, accommodation and meals costs for any invited neutral judges approved by FIG.
- FIG regular competition fee as decided by the Council (fees for senior events CHF 200, plus 5% of the prize money) and deposit to the FIG.
- Prize money

ART. 11 PRIZE MONEY

The organising member federation must pay the minimum Prize Money of CHF 18'800.- for FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup events as follows:

Ranking	Individuals All Around	Individuals apparatus (by apparatus)
	Total of CHF 2'700.-	Total of CHF 2'000.-
1	700.-	600.-
2	550.-	450.-
3	450.-	300.-
4	300.-	200.-
5	250.-	150.-
6	200.-	100.-
7	150.-	100.-
8	100.-	100.-

Ranking	Groups All Around	Groups 5 and 3+2 (each)
	Total of CHF 2'700.-	Total of CHF 2'700.-
1	1'200.-	1'200.-
2	900.-	900.-
3	600.-	600.-

If after application of the tie breaking rules outlined in the TR Section 3 there is still a tie, the prize money of the tied ranks will be added and divided by the number of ties.

Should less than 4 federations participate in the World Challenge Cup competition (Individual Gymnasts and/or Groups), no prize money will be paid. This provision must be mentioned in the Directives.

The prize money and its distribution per rank must be mentioned in the invitation letter.

ART. 12 JUDGES' PANELS AND FIG TECHNICAL DELEGATE

Technical Delegate

The Technical Committee will propose possibly at least 3 months prior to the date of the event one RG Technical Committee member or one RG expert (to be approved by the FIG President) to serve as RG Technical Delegate. This Technical Delegate must receive all information from the Local Organizing Committee and must be present at the event. The Technical Delegate will serve as President of the Superior Jury.

Judges' Panels

Two Judges' Panels composed as follows:

- 4 D judges (min. cat. 2), 6 E judges (min. cat. 3)

Not more than one judge per Federation per panel will be permitted (except for Time and Line Judges (min. cat. 4)).

The Judges' Panels are set up by a draw from the judges present at the event. The draw must be directed by the RG Technical Delegate. The participating member federations must send minimum one qualified judge (valid brevet for Individuals) if they participate with individual gymnasts and one qualified judge (valid brevet for Groups) if they participate with a group. The judges must be minimum cat. 3. The Organizing Member Federation is entitled to apply a fine of CHF 2'000 per missing judge (to be paid to the LOC) should a federation fail to bring the required number of judges or judges without the requested qualification. This provision must be mentioned in the Directives.

The Organizing Member Federation is responsible that there are enough FIG brevetted judges present with the appropriate valid category of brevet for their function. Should there not be a sufficient number of judges as per the on-line nominative registration, or not sufficient cat. 1 and 2 judges, the Organizing Member Federation must propose to the FIG for prior approval of the Technical Delegate the name of neutral additional judges to complete the panels (plus 2 reserves). These judges, once approved, have to be invited at the cost of the Organizing Member Federation. Such invitation must be made through the respective Member Federation. Should the Organizing Member Federation fail to propose names for additional judges, the FIG Office in consultation with the Technical Delegate concerned will invite these judges at the cost of the Organizing Member Federation.

ART. 13 APPARATUS AND APPARATUS CONTROL

All RG floors must have a valid FIG certificate no later than six months prior to the event and until the end of the event. The Organizing member Federation must inform FIG at least six months prior to the event about the name of the Apparatus Manufacturer and in addition must provide a detailed list of certified equipment (as well as the name of the products with reference number or article number, as defined on the certificate and published on the FIG website). This list must also include the Apparatus Manufacturers and references of the Replacement Hand Apparatus.

The apparatus control in the competition hall, warm-up hall and training hall(s) prior to training is the responsibility of the FIG Technical Delegate (TD). The TD will be accompanied by the local Competition Director

The Apparatus control includes the check of the dimensions of the RG competition floors which must respect the valid FIG Apparatus Norms. It must be verified that the duly certified RG floors are set up correctly and that the RG floors in the different halls are identical.

Random checks on Hand Apparatus on the FIG and Manufacturers' Logos will be carried out at any time during the Event.

ART. 14 VIDEO CONTROL, SCORING AND RESULT SERVICE

Video control, scoring and result system

Should IRCOS not be available, the Organising Member Federation must provide another video control system which allows to treat inquiries and records all exercises of the competition in a quality

(see Technical Regulations, Section 1, art. 4.11.4.1) which allows to judge the exercises. The videos must be sent to the FIG office within one week after the competition.

The Organizing Member Federation must provide a scoring and result service with the following minimum outputs:

- detailed scores given by each judge and the names of the judges

The results must be signed by the President of the Superior Jury (FIG Technical Delegate)

The scoring and result system must include a TV graphics generator. The presentation of the TV-graphics on the international signal must be identical to those used at the FIG World Championships, free of advertising, and thus the same for all Organizing Member Federations. These TV graphics are provided by the FIG. The title must include the FIG logo and the text e.g. "2017 FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup Lausanne (SUI)". The title has to be submitted to the FIG for approval.

ART. 15 MEDIA REQUIREMENTS

Art. 15.1 Media Rights across all means and Marketing Rights

Media Rights across all means and reproduction rights together with publicity and marketing rights concerning the World Challenge Cup events are the property of the FIG.

Art. 15.2 Media Rights across all means – Definition

The right during the Term to Exploit Footage of the Event throughout the Territory in any format and by all means, media and technologies (whether now known or invented) via any service and in any form for any purpose that FIG shall determine (including, without limitation, free and pay services, in the form of or via services which include any enhanced or interactive functionality and whether linear or on-demand and in whole and in part (including without limitation in the form of clips and highlights).

Art. 15.3 Television right and production

For the World Challenge Cup competitions television coverage is compulsory.

The Organizing Member Federation must guarantee the production of a basic feed (international signal). The International signal must be available for the FIG and its Right holders free of charge at the international Broadcasting Centre or at the Gateway without any limitations and free of any access fees.

FIG releases all National Media Rights across all means to the Organizing Member Federation. The Media rights are released free of charge and granted exclusively for a period of one week after the competition and then on a non-exclusive basis until one year after the event. Then the rights are back with the FIG.

The release of the Rights shall only be effective under the condition that:

- the Organising Member Federation submits National Rights contracts to the FIG for written approval prior to signature;
- each Organising Member Federation undertakes to provide the FIG Office with the contact details of the Host-Broadcaster at least six months prior to the event;
- each Organising Member Federation undertakes to provide the FIG Office with a copy of the basic feed (international signal) immediately after the end of the competition on site to the FIG representative or agent. These footages are supplied to FIG free of charge. Production

costs and postage are at the cost of the Organising Member Federation. FIG may use the footage at its discretion.

The International Media Rights across all means remain with the FIG.

Art. 15.4 International TV signal - Definition

The International TV Signal shall be produced in accordance with the following:

- the International TV Signal shall be an integrated, complete, uninterrupted and continuous Live television feed produced to a first class professional sports broadcasting standard, using a minimum of six cameras in 16:9 format (but 4:3 protected and explicitly excluding letterbox format) and include coverage not only of the competition but also of any award ceremonies;
- the International TV Signal shall include slow motion replays, full graphics with all graphics text in English, including but not limited to starting numbers, starting lists, names of competitors, results, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, international sound with necessary related background sound effects on at least two audio tracks;
- the International TV Signal shall not include any domestic elements which would not be acceptable for international broadcast such as commercial elements, in-vision presenters, talking heads, interviews, commercial breaks and black holes or any other elements which may hinder ability to exploit the Rights;
- The International TV Signal must include full duration coverage of the Finals with award ceremonies and shall start at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the commencement of the competition.

Art. 15.5 Marketing Rights

For the 2017 - 2020 series the FIG releases all Marketing rights (including the publicity space on the apparatus) free of charge to the Organizing Member Federation. It is understood that the FIG Advertising and Publicity Norms must be respected.

Art. 15.6 Results

The Technical Delegate is responsible that the results of the competition, signed by the Technical Delegate, are sent by e-mail to the FIG Office immediately after the end of the respective competitions.

The Results and the updated All-around and Apparatus World Challenge Cup Ranking List will be published on the FIG website within 24 hours after the end of the respective competitions to the conditions that the Organizing Member Federation respects the following process:

Art. 15.6.1 Before the competition (7 days)

The FIG Office will send the list of registered gymnasts with their respective license number and a template of the electronic results file (empty) to the federation who organizes the competition.

Art. 15.6.2 After the competition

The organizer must return to the FIG at the end of the competition:

- A copy of all detailed results (qualifications All-around and per apparatus as well as finals) in PDF format and duly signed by the Technical Delegates for archival purposes only.

The organizer must also return to the FIG maximum 24 hours after the competition:

- An electronic file in XLS or CSV format, using the same structure as the template previously sent by the FIG Office including necessary information for automatic processing of results and awarding points for the World Challenge Cup Ranking List.

If the above deadlines are not respected or if the FIG does not receive any electronic results file in the format specified above, the Organizing Member Federation's deposit will be lost in full.

ART. 16 MEDICAL INJURY REPORT FORM AND DOPING CONTROLS

The organizing member federation must provide a Gymnast injury summary report and all related injury reports or a written confirmation that no injury occurred. This report must be sent to the FIG Secretariat under medical confidentiality within 3 days after the event. Failure to do so after the first reminder will result in a deposit being lost in full.

The Organizing Member Federation must provide at its own charge a minimum of 6 doping controls, 3 for individual gymnasts et 3 for group gymnasts. Failure to do so will result in the deposit being lost in full.

Doping control forms must be sent to FIG secretariat by Doping control officer within 3 days after the event. Failure to do so after the first reminder will result in a deposit being lost in full.

ART. 17 ASSIGNMENT OF POINTS FOR THE RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS WORLD CHALLENGE CUP RANKING LIST

Separate RG World Challenge Cup Ranking Lists for:

- Individual gymnasts All-around
- Individual gymnasts per apparatus
- Groups All-around
- Group routines

are established for each RG World Challenge Cup Series of the cycle. This list begins with the first World Challenge Cup competition of the series and ends with the last World Challenge Cup event of the series.

The following World Challenge Cup Points are assigned by gymnast (by name) and by group.

Rank	Individual	Group
1	50	50
2	45	45
3	40	40
4	35	35
5	30	30
6	25	25
7	20	20
8	15	15
9	13	8
10	12	7
11	11	6

12	10	5
13	9	4
14	8	3
15	6	2
16	5	1
17	4	-
18	3	-
19	2	-
20	1	-

If after application of the tie breaking rules outlined in the TR Section 3 there is still a tie, the points of the equal ranks will be added and divided by the number of ties.

Should less than 4 federations participate in the World Challenge Cup competition (individual gymnasts and/or groups), World Challenge Cup points will not be awarded.

ART. 18 YEARLY WINNER OF THE FIG WORLD CHALLENGE CUP SERIES

The yearly winner of the Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup Series is the gymnast / group with the highest number of points of each of the World Challenge Cup Series Ranking List of the respective year.

- If 4 or more (2017 and later) World Challenge Cup Competitions take place per year, the best 3 are counted
- If 3 World Challenge Competitions take place per year all 3 are counted

Should there be a tie, it will be broken as follows:

The number of ranks of the three counting competitions achieved by the respective gymnast/group will be added and the gymnast/group with the lowest total will prevail.

If there is still a tie, the total score of the three counting exercises will be added and the gymnast/group with the highest total will prevail.

If there is still a tie, the total execution score of the three counting exercises will be added and the gymnast/group with the highest total execution score will prevail.

A special award ceremony must be held at the last Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup Competition of the year in which the winning gymnasts / groups shall receive a Cup.

ART. 19 DRAWING OF LOTS

The gymnasts' drawing of lots for all Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup events will take place at the FIG Office in Lausanne (SUI) within two weeks after the closing date of the nominative registration.

These Rules have been approved by the FIG Presidential Commission on 10 March 2016 based on the discussions and decisions of the Executive Committee 25 February 2016 in Lausanne (SUI). They have been updated by the EC at its meeting in Lausanne (SUI), February 2019 and enter into effect immediately.

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



Morinari Watanabe

President



Nicolas BUOMPANE

Secretary General

Lausanne, February 2019