

# Memorandum

**To:** All States, Coaches, Adjudicators, Competition Committees  
**From:** ACF Board  
**Date:** January 19, 2024  
**Re:** ACF Rules and Regulations v2024 update

In November 2022 an ACF Rules Forum was convened with all member States present. The following changes to the ACF Rules and Regulations was agreed upon by State Members at the meeting.

The **v2024** ACF Rules and Regulations will become effective 1 January 2024.

## SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO ACF National Rules & Regulations for v2024.

RULE	REFERRING	CHANGES
1.1.c.v, 1.4, 2.3.a, 2.3.d, 2.4.c, 2.4.d, 2.5.3, 4, 4.1, 4.1.2	<b>Trios</b> Include trios to suite of items – and reference throughout rules as applicable.	“Trio” has been added where applicable
1.1.e.ii, 1.1.e.iii, 2.5.2, 3.1.c, 3.1.d, Appendix 1 & 3,	<b>Mid Curtain</b> Flexible Rule added to allow the front and mid curtain to be used in opening / closing of core items. Depending on theatre requirements and State rules.  Current rule surrounding the use of the scrim in core items now has it’s own rule number – as this is not a flexible rule.	1.1.e.ii. The front curtain (allowable for Tinies), <b>and</b> mid curtain (may be used only if insufficient space behind standard back curtain) <del>and scrim</del> may not be used for core items. (Flexible rule – refer ACF Flexible Rules Policy - <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> );  1.1.e.iii The scrim may not be used for core items;
1.1.k.ii	<b>Safety Requirements</b> No glass or ceramic to be used on stage.	1.1.k.ii No <b>glass, ceramic</b> , drawing pins or glass glitter to be used;
1.2.i	<b>Competitions – Males</b> Removed all references to gender.  The position on Transgender, Gender Diverse participation and Gender	<del>1.2.i — Males up to and including the age of 14 are eligible to compete. Males 15 years and older cannot compete (refer ACF Member Protection Policy).</del>

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Inclusion will be flexible for 2024, where the current Rule position is not clear or is contrary to current laws for the purposes of the application at hand. The overarching principle is to give everyone the opportunity to participate in our sport, regardless of their sex or gender identity.

As such, rule 1.2.i is suspended pending a full review and development of the ACF Inclusion Policy. Competition participation policies may be set by member states and competition conveners under individual state requirements.

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1.3	<b>Aggregate</b> Add value to 5th placing for aggregate points	Add 5th place = 0.5 points into aggregate table
1.8 Attachment c	<b>Disability</b> Removed reference to 'able bodied' to include all disabilities. Changed language to "person with disability" in accordance with Australian People with Disability language guide. Language has also been changed to "Competitor with Disability" in Attachment C for consistency	1.8.a In accordance with the ACF Inclusion Policy, adjustments may be made to accommodate <b>competitors with disability</b> <del>a disabled competitor</del> . The Adjudicator/s are to be advised of any such adjustments. 1.8.b. <b>All participants are</b> <del>The person who has a disability is</del> adjudicated in the same manner <del>as an able bodied person</del> , i.e. on their ability to perform the technical skills they attempt in a routine or teamwork, having provided an environment that allows the person with <del>a</del> disability every opportunity to compete on a level playing field. <del>as an able bodied participant</del>
1.1.e.vi, 2.2.3.d, Appendix 3	<b>Standard Back Curtain</b> Removed rule that prohibits the standard back curtain to be bought forward of the taped markings on the floor – as the terms were ambiguous and there is no harm or impact of performance if curtain is bought forward.	All references to the rule removed
2.4.c	<b>False Starts</b> Rule 1.1.k.viii (repeating performance after injury), & Rule 2.4.c (repeating performance after false start) were contradictory.	2.4.c In Solos/Duos/ <b>Trios</b> /Team competitions, if the competitor/s leave the stage before the completion of their performance for a reason other than <b>rule 1.1.k.viii</b> , a technical fault and/or technician error they have the option of repeating the

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	Included rule 1.1.k.viii in rule 2.4.c to remedy contradiction	performance, however is /are ineligible to gain a placing. The critique paper is to be provided without deduction.
2.5.4 2.2 Attachment B Appendix 3	<p><b>Timing Penalties</b></p> <p>Penalty for any variation of the specified time limits reduced from 10 points to 5 points</p> <p>This change is reflected in Attachment B – penalty notification &amp; Appendix 3 – summary of breach of rules.</p> <p>The exception to a 10 point deduction for a breach of rules is also noted in rule 2.2.</p>	2.5.4 Any variation of the specified time limits will be a <b>Breach of Rules penalty 10 5 point deduction</b> (excluding Tinies). Points are to be deducted from the Adjudicator's points. The Adjudicator/s is/are to be advised of the penalty at the completion of the item
3.1	<p><b>Minimum Number</b></p> <p>Removed minimum number rule for Minimal Rules.</p> <p>To be reviewed for 2025.</p>	3.1.a <del>Minimal Rules – 8 (Refer Minimum Number Rule 2.3b – ACF policy on Flexible Rules – Appendix 1)</del>
3.2	<p><b>Folk Dance</b></p> <p>Removed from suite of items</p>	<p><del>3.2.8 Folk Dance</del></p> <p><del>a. Costumes, music and suitable dance steps must be applicable to the country portrayed.</del></p> <p><del>b. Title of Folk Dance should include the country/region portrayed.</del></p>
4	<p><b>Participation at National Calisthenic Solo, Duo and Trio Competitions</b></p> <p>Entry requirements for items moved from item rules (4.1.1 &amp; 4.1.2) into Participation at National rules (4.1.3).</p> <p>Removed eligibility restriction to ONE solo / duo / trio item at National competitions.</p> <p>New National Graceful Solo, Duo, Trio entry requirements and determination of entries added, including Wild Card Draw.</p> <p>Inclusion of National Administration Requirements in the ACF Rules to be reviewed in 2025.</p>	<p><del>4.1.1.c States are entitled to four entries per section.</del></p> <p><del>4.1.2.c Competitions offered in these sections will be determined by the ACF.</del></p> <p><del>4.1.3.a Participants are only eligible to compete in ONE solo/duo at National Competitions, i.e. graceful solo OR calisthenic solo OR duo.</del></p> <p>4.1.3.a Entries for National Championship Graceful Solo/Calisthenic Solo/Duo/Trio sections will be determined by the ACF Competition Committee by the 31<sup>st</sup> of January in the year of competition. The number of entries will be divided equally amongst the eligible States. Should a State not take up their full allocation for a section, a “Wild Card Draw” will allocate said entries to the other eligible States.</p>

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4.1.3.b Provided a State has a team entered in the National Championships that year, that State is eligible to submit entries for Graceful Solo/Calisthenic Solo/Duo/Trio. Applications for exemption should be submitted to the ACF. Competitors must be a registered competitor of the State Association for which the competitor is competing.

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