

U.S.T.A. CLARIFICATIONS

Revised: October 17, 2017

NOTICE: This is a complete listing of clarifications. Please note that some clarifications were made prior to new rules or rule changes and may no longer apply.

OCTOBER 2017 - REVISED

1. Q. ADVANCED/ALL EVENTS. If an athlete competing in the Advanced Division surpasses the required difficulty to compete at Elite, does this mean they have to compete at Elite for the rest of the season? Or can they move up to Elite the following season?

A. No - The Advanced Level has a cap at a maximum of 0.1 pt. below the Age Group Elite minimum difficulty...Exceeding the maximum difficulty would result in a 3.0 pt deduction (in place of a mandate) and a 2.0 pt. deduction for exceeding level maximums (to be taken on the last pass). Full difficulty will be awarded as long as legal skills except at Nationals (where the cap will be used as before).

2. Q. OPEN ELITE ELIGIBILITY. The rule book (2016-17 edition) currently states that to meet Elite Eligibility during the current season, an Advanced athlete must reach a specific difficulty....Our current rules also state that there are no mandates; therefore, if an Advanced athlete meets the required difficulty as stated (TU/7.5.TR/7.5/ DM/7.3), do they qualify for elite at Nationals OR must they first be Age Group Elite to qualify?

A. No, athletes can only qualify for Open Elite at the Age Group Elite level with the required difficulty (TU/8.0, TR/7.5, DM/7.3)

3. Q. ADVANCED/AGE GROUP ELITE TUMBLING; 2 5-SKILL PASSES. When there are two 5-skill passes being performed instead of a 5-skill and an 8-skill pass - can continuous whips be performed without loss of difficulty in BOTH passes regardless of how they end or just the first pass?

A. On the first pass - continuous whips may be repeated without loss of difficulty. On the second pass, - continued whips may only be repeated if the completed pass ends in a minimum 720 degree twisting or rotational somi.

MAY 2017

COMPETITION SHOES - Q. Are these competition shoes legal footwear?

A. No.



ATHLETE ATTIRE - WARM-UPS. Q. Our rules state: "Athletes MUST be in competition attire from the beginning of their warm-ups through the end of their competition (deduction 2.0 on their 1st pass) and during all Award Ceremonies." On this page - under ATHLETE ATTIRE, it lists all of the dress requirements and their deductions from actual attire (2.0), footwear (1.0), hair (0.3), jewelry (1.0), tattoos (0.3), etc. The question is: If the athlete is in violation of any of these is it a 2.0 on the 1st pass or is it the applicable deduction? For example - during warm-ups, improper footwear, do we take a 2.0 on the 1st pass or a 1.0? ? **A.** The applicable deduction, i.e., actual attire (2.0), footwear (1.0), hair (0.3), jewelry (1.0), tattoos (0.3), etc.

RELATED: Athletes must be in competition attire on the award stand - this includes competition attire as described on the Athlete Attire Page.

RELATED: All visible tattoos must be covered with flesh color or athletic tape. Deduction 0.3 pt. per pass

WARM-UPS - TUMBLING. Q. Beginner & Adv-Beginner Levels. What is the proper procedure for warm-ups at these levels. Should the athletes warm-up going in one direction only or can they go down the mat in one direction, stop, and go back down the mat in the other direction? **A.** Athletes at these levels warm-up in one direction only - they cannot turn around and go back in the opposite direction.

FEBRUARY 2017

TRAMPOLINE/DOUBLE-MINI. Q. Exactly where are athletes supposed to touch prior to the slide on a pike straddle jump? There seems to be some confusion - a judge said that the athlete only had to touch and slide, but not touch the toes. I can see where confusion could occur. In the handbook there are spots where it does not say to specifically touch the toes and there are spots where it does say specifically to touch the toes. **A.** The hands should touch the toes.

NOVEMBER 2016

ATTIRE. Q. Is there a deduction for lettering/writing on team competition attire, i.e., the name of the team running down the sleeve of a leo? **A.** No, there is no deduction for lettering/writing on competition attire.

ATTIRE. Q. Are zippers allowed on leotards? **A.** No, the Technical Board ruled that zippers are a hazard to both the athlete and equipment. 2.0 deduction.

TUMBLING, S-NOVICE-ELITE. Q. When an athlete is performing a handspring, and both their hands and feet land in the landing zone - do they receive credit for the handspring? For example, their feet landed either on the floor or the red coming out of a round-off, but their hands and their feet were on the landing mat. **A.** No (the only exception would be if there was not legal length run and/or competition floor). 0.9 deduction for the landing zone.

TUMBLING, S-NOVICE-ELITE. Q. If an athlete begins their handspring on the floor and their hands land and feet land on the landing mat, do you take the deduction for a fall to the hands? **A.** No, the rules state that "*initiating a skill in the landing zone will result in the pass being interrupted prior to the skill that begins in the landing zone*" so the pass was terminated.

OCTOBER 2016

TUMBLING, BEGINNER LEVELS. Q. With the new rule for Sub-Beg, Beg, & Adv-Beg that states *ō*passes must begin from a stand *ö* - what is the deduction if a pass begins from a run. **A.** The pass will be considered terminated and the score will be a *ö0.ö*

TUMBLING. INTERMEDIATE - ELITE. Q. Are we looking at the head or the hip rotation when looking at shoulder height in regard to the new shoulder height rule that states *ö*the last backward single

somersault executed at the end of a completed pass must be **above** shoulder height; otherwise, the aesthetic judges will take the required deduction of 0.3 pts? **A.** Hip Rotation.

TUMBLING, ADVANCED. Q. Is the cap at Nationals still 8.0 for advanced tumbling since the Elite qualifying score was just changed to 7.5? **A.** The tumbling cap for Nationals has also been changed to 7.5.

MARCH 2016

D-MINI. Q. Can an athlete perform passes where they use the mat and do a round-off, back somi, back somi? **A.** No - termination. After much discussion with the Technical & Safety Committees, we have determined that using a round-off will result in a termination (0 score).

TRAMPOLINE, NOVICE. Q. An athlete is missing a 1/2 Turn (-2.0 for missing compulsory skill), but also performs too many somis (-2.0 for exceeding pass requirements and -3.0 for exceeding skill level). In this case would you double dip and take a total of -7.0 or would you just take the -2.0 and -3.0? **A.** You would take a total of 7.0 in deductions.

NOVEMBER 2015

TUMBLING. The difficulty for a Triple Back Lay was published as 5.7; however, the difficulty should be 6.8.

OCTOBER 2015

TRAMPOLINE & DOUBLE-MINI - Q. The new slide deduction for double-mini and trampoline - is that an additional aesthetic deduction or is it a superior deduction? **A.** It is an aesthetic deduction to be included in the 0.1-0.8 per skill aesthetic deduction.

TUMBLING - Q. I have heard two different answers from judges. Ex: if an athlete does an 8 skill pass, and hits their head on the third back handspring but continues to the end of the pass, when you terminate the pass after they hit their head, do you then also take the 1.0 off for not enough skills even though they went on to finish all 8 skills? I have heard yes because you terminate it's like you don't see the rest of the pass and I've heard no. **A.** Yes, even though the athlete did 8 skills, you terminated the pass so you take 1.0 for not enough skills.

TRAMPOLINE - Q. My question is that the rules say that if an athlete faces the side of the trampoline, the pass will be terminated and the athlete will not receive credit for the skill; however, I thought that if the skill in question is at the END of the pass - the pass will not be terminated and the athlete will get credit for the contact. **A.** Correct, if the last skill of the routine ends facing the side pad, the pass will not be terminated and the athlete will receive credit for the contact.

ALL EVENTS - Q. With the new mandate rule, am I correct that exceeding pass maximums, they get the skill(s) (and difficulty if legal at their level & event/level rules indicate), take 3.0 off in place of mandate, and 2.0 off for exceeding the maximums? The clarification just dealt with an illegal skill and not exceeding maximums so I wasn't sure. **A.** Correct. Again, the new 3.0 rule just replaces the previous mandate. All other rules apply, including the 2.0 for exceeding pass maximums.

DOUBLE-MINI - Q. If an athlete performs a double, double - will they still receive a 0.2 pt. bonus? **A.** YES

DOUBLE-MINI - Q. Will an athlete still receive a 0.1 pt. bonus for performing a gainer? **A.** YES

ALL EVENTS - I have been asked to clarify the following regarding the new 3.0 deduction to be taken in place of the mandate.

We have a rule that states that the use of an illegal skill results in a termination, loss of skill and a 2.0 deduction. For example -

1. Total "illegal skill" - i.e., Trampoline, the use of a doggie drop results in a termination, loss of skill, and a 2.0 deduction.
2. "Illegal skill from a lower level - i.e., Tumbling, the use of a walkover in Sub-Novice results in a termination, loss of skill, and a 2.0 deduction.
3. "Illegal skill from a higher level - i.e., Tumbling, the use of a full in Intermediate previously resulted in a termination, loss of skill, a 2.0 deduction and a mandate.

Q. The question is - in the 3rd case (performing an illegal skill from a higher level), do we take the 2.0 for the illegal skill from a higher level and the 3.0 in place of the mandate? **A.** Yes, in the 3rd situation, you will take a 2.0 pt. deduction for the illegal skill rule and a 3.0 pt. deduction in place of the mandate rule.

JANUARY 2015

TUMBLING, BEGINNER LEVELS - Q. During the execution of a roll, if the athlete's hands are behind them to push off, but the shoulders continue forward, is this a termination? **A.** There are many variations of this type of incidence, so you have to make the best call based the rules and on what you see. For instance: 1. An athlete at these levels can take a (one) step (hand or foot) back as long as the shoulders continue going forward without termination (take the step deduction); 2. If the athlete slides the hands behind during the execution of the skill, you would take the hand slide deduction; 3. If the athlete falls back to their hands, you would take a fall to the seat deduction; 4. If the athlete pushes off without reversing direction or stepping with the hands, you would take an aesthetic deduction.

TUMBLING, ADV-BEGINNER. Q. A competitor does their front pass first and also does not get a limbering skill, do you deduct 2.0 or 4.0? **A.** You would deduct 4.0 total, 2.0 for performing the wrong pass first and 2.0 for not having a limbering skill in the pass.

TUMBLING. Q. If a competitor steps with both hands at the same time, is the deduction 0.5 or 1.0? **A.** The deduction would be 0.5 per (hand) step - the same as with the feet.

TUMBLING EQUIPMENT. Q. Our rules stated that "A white line must run down the middle of the mat for all levels of competition. The line must be 2" wide or less. The line is also to be numbered in one foot increments (starting with 0") from the landing zone back to the start. Does the 0start" mean the beginning of the 84' competition floor (after the 33' run) or does it mean at the beginning of the 33' run? **A.** The 0start" means at the beginning of the 84' competition floor and does not include the 33' run.

TUMBLING. Q. How should you judge back Handsprings that do not demonstrate repulsion with the hands not leaving the floor before the feet land? **A.** You would judge them as a poorly executed back

handsprings and take the appropriate aesthetic and major deductions.

TUMBLING, S-NOV, NOV, INT. Q. On landing, if an athlete does too many or too few skills and land in a handspring or round-off, do you take the landing & rebound deductions? **A.** Landing deductions are to be taken on the last skill successfully completed - incomplete, complete, or passes with too many skills. Based on the recent rebound clarification, if the pass legally ends in a handspring or round-off AND the athlete rebounds, you would judge the rebound.....however, if too many or too few skills, the athlete does NOT have to rebound.

DOUBLE-MINI, INTERMEDIATE. Q. If an athlete performs more than one 180 degree twist, do they still receive the difficulty? **A.** If an athlete performs 2 somis in a pass, they do not receive the difficulty for the 2nd somi regardless of whether it is a twisting somi or not. The 180 degree twist cap is for somis only.

NOVEMBER 2014

TRAMPOLINE/D-MINI. Q. Regarding a straddle jump, if only one leg meets the straddle position or the pike position, is the skill considered a straight jump or a straddle jump. **A.** It would be considered a straight jump. Both legs must meet the minimum position requirements. This is true of all skills.

TUMBLING, S-BEG - ADV-BEG. Q. Our current rules state that a pass will be terminated for a stop or reversal of motion on any one skill during a pass. **EXCEPTION:** When performing a walk-over or limber, as long as the shoulders continue in a forward motion, the pass will not be interrupted if a competitor steps backward (will still receive a 0.5 deduction for the step). The question has come up that this same exception should apply to all skills at the beginner levels (for example a front roll). In other words, a pass would not be terminated if the athlete took a step backward as long as their shoulders continue in a forward motion. **A.** The clarification has been made that the exception will now apply to all skills at the Beginner Levels.

TUMBLING, S-NOV - INT. Q. If an athlete does not perform enough skills and ends their uncompleted pass in a handspring (or round-off) and rebounds, do you take as instability or consider it a legal rebound. **A.** As long as it meets the description of a rebound, you consider it a rebound and judge it accordingly. **NOTE:** A December 2010 Clarification deals with the same situation in the Adv-Beginner level.

ATHLETE ATTIRE: BOYS. Q. If the string on boys shorts/pants falls out (above or under) and show, often flying around, is there a deduction? **A.** Take the 0.3 pt. distracting dress deduction.

OCTOBER 2014

DOUBLE-MINI. Q. Under determining repetition, our rule book states: "A tuck jump forward or backward is the same skill and will be considered a repeat if performed more than once as a mounter, a spotter, or a dismount skill, i.e., dismount with a forward moving tuck jump and then dismount with a backward moving tuck jump. Does this just apply to tuck jumps or all jumps? **A.** The rule applies to all jumps.

TRAMPOLINE. Q. Intermediate - Does a porpoise count as a front somi? **A.** Yes

SEPTEMBER 2014

DOUBLE-MINI. Q. If an athlete touches the double-mini on the way down on their dismount skill. They lose the skill, 2.0, and any other applicable deductions. Do they receive the 0.5 deduction for touching the double-mini?
A. No, the 0.5 pt. deduction is to be taken only after the athlete lands their dismount skill.

JANUARY 2014

~~**ATHLETE ATTIRE. SPORT BRAS.** The USTA has amended the rule to read: Sport bras that show MUST match the majority of the upper half of the leotard, be the athlete's flesh color, or be neutral (any shade of beige).~~

ATHLETE ATTIRE. FOOTWEAR. Q. When defining ankle length socks, does the ankle bone have to show? **A.** The rule has been clarified to say that where appropriate and socks are worn, the definition of acceptable ankle length (with no deduction) is up to 1" above the ankle bone.

ATHLETE ATTIRE. TRAMPOLINE. Q. We have had the situation where boys are wearing long white trampoline pants and have dark or colored shorts or briefs under them that show. Is it correct to take the 0.3 pt. deduction? **A.** Boys wearing long white trampoline pants with colored or designed briefs or shorts that show underneath will receive a 0.3 pt. deduction for distracting dress.

TUMBLING. BEGINNER LEVELS. Q. Since the rules state that sliding both hands at the same time will only result in one 0.3 pt. deduction, shouldn't it be the same for sliding both feet at the same time?
A. The rule has been clarified to state that sliding the feet at the same time will result in one 0.3 pt. deduction rather than two 0.3 pt. deductions (the same as the hands).

DOUBLE-MINI. Q. With the new landing zones, what is the deduction if an athlete lands their dismount skill and their toes or part of their feet are hanging over the landing mat under the double-mini with part of their feet in Zone A? **A.** This would result in a 0.9 pt. deduction and a termination, and any other applicable deductions.

OCTOBER 2013

TRAMPOLINE. Q. The new rule passed states Intermediate: A 3/4 does NOT count as the extra somi. A somi is a 360 degree somersault. Does this carry through to Advanced & Elite. **A.** Yes.

DOUBLE-MINI. Q. The new rule passed states remove the disqualification rule for landing in the red penalty zone on the double-mini. Does this refer to the mount, landing the first skill, or both? **A.** The new penalty zone rule applies to where the athlete lands their first skill. If it is a straight jump mount that lands all in the red the pass would be terminated. However, If a mounter skill (other than a straight jump) lands all in the red, the pass would not be terminated, but a 0.2 pt. deduction would be taken. If a spotter skill lands all in the red, the pass would not be terminated, but a 0.2 pt. deduction would be taken.

SEPTEMBER 2013

Q: All skills performed must be combined in such a fashion so as to give the athlete the safest order of skills for them (composition of a routine). This is stated in the rule book, however, no deduction is given for lack of composition in a routine. **A:** The rule book does state this; however, there are no specific deductions or instructions for composition of a routine.

Tuck position, arms not bent into the body is guide to judging shows as a deduction that athletes are NOT receiving!!! **A:** Arms should be bent into the body or a deduction should be taken.

Q: For spotter passes - Arms should be down upon contacting the double-mini and will circle and press during the straight jump and before the spotter skill is initiated. What is the deduction for not initiating a circle press?

Is it included in the 0-0.3 pts mount deduction? **A:** Yes

TRAMPOLINE & DOUBLE-MINI: The rule book states very specifically and in more than one place: Under **REQUIRED POSITIONS DURING A ROUTINE:** 2. For all tuck, pike, and straddled skills, the arms should press down to the sides after the tuck, pike, or straddle position is attained. Also, 8. The arms should be straight and held close to the body whenever possible. Also in the **GUIDE TO JUDGING:** For all tucked, piked, and straddled skills, the arms should press down to the sides after the tuck, pike, or straddle position is attained. However, no specific deduction is given for not hitting this position. Often times it seems athletes are actually receiving a deduction for doing so!! **A:** Refer to the Guide to Judging.

Also, rule book state: For take-off of all skills from the feet and straight jumps, the body should be held straight with arms up and shoulders extended. What is the deduction for not taking off this way? **A:** The deduction falls within the 0.1 - 0.8 aesthetic deduction per skill and will vary depending on severity.

Q. Need specific deductions for form i.e.
 .1 ó 1 leg bent; .2 ó both legs bent
 .1 ó 1 foot flexed; .2 ó both feet flexed
 .1 ó 1 arm bent; .2 ó both arms bent

A. The deduction falls within the 0.1 - 0.8 aesthetic deduction per skill and will vary depending on severity.

Q. In a seat drop-1/2 turn, should arms be up or down in the 1/2 twist? Regular return to feet says down butí . ☺
A. Up for twisting

TUMBLING: Q. In S-Beg, Beg, & A-Beg tumbling, judges are taking off for too slow - 0.2 - 0.3. Nowhere in the rules does it say to deduct .2 - .3 off for slow & controlled. Should be smooth-controlled-even rhythm - not choppy but consistent and continuous. **A.** At these levels, the pass needs to be continuous with no breaks for õposingö each skill or for performing a skill fast, then a skill slow, etc.

SYNCHRONIZED TRAMPOLINE: Q. Our current rules state: õSame sex synchronized pairs must wear **identical competition attire (including design, style, cut, color, sleeve length, scrunchies [if worn], and sport bras [if worn and showing])**. Failure to wear identical attire will result in each member of the synchronized pair receiving a 2.0 pt. aesthetic deduction per aesthetic judge upon the advice of the Superior Judge. NOTE: There is no deduction if one of the athletes wears shoes and the other wears socks as long as the footwear meets proper dress requirements.ö Since part of the object of syncro tramp is to have a MIRROR image, Please Clarify - if one athlete wears white hair clips and the other does not - is there a deduction. **A.** Yes, the athletes should be a õmirrorö image of each other. The only exception is footwear (which may be different as long as they meet requirements and are the same color). The deduction is 2.0 per aesthetic judge for each athlete.

MARCH 2013

~~**ATTIRE:** Our current rule states "Sport bras that show MUST match the majority color of the upper half of the leotard or be the athlete's flesh color. Deduction 0.3 pt. per pass".~~

~~QUESTION: Now athletes are starting to wear sport bras that match the majority of the upper half of their leotards, but they have a white square in the middle of the back with a logo or design in it.~~

~~ANS: Must be a solid color with NO logo or design showing.~~

QUESTION: We are also seeing sport bras that are in the same color spectrum as the majority of the upper half of

the leo, but really are not an exact match. (Think of it as painting your wall a specific color, but when you run out of paint, you buy more paint, but it doesn't match.)

ANS: MUST match or be flesh colored.

NOVEMBER 2012

TRAMPOLINE: When an athlete performs a 3/4 front - on back; feet make a depression before the return to feet, would it be considered a feet to feet contact or a straight jump?

ANS: If it makes a depression, it would be considered a contact and must be called a straight jump.

TRAMPOLINE: What is the deduction for repeats in the following pass? Seat, Front, Feet, ½ Turn, Seat, Front, Feet, ½ Turn? Would it be 2.0 for 4 repeated skills?

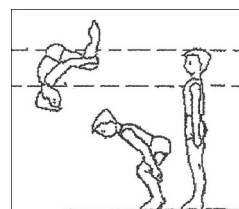
ANS: No, return to feet is not considered a repeat - you would deduct 1.5 pts. for repeats.

TUMBLING: What is the deductions for stepping with both hands at the same time? - 0.5 or -1.0?

ANS: S-Beg, Beg, & A- Beg - Steps with the hands are the same as steps with the feet. You would deduct 0.5 for each hand for a total of 1.0 per aesthetic judge, and depending on the level, may terminate. Upper Levels, you would deduct 0.5 per aesthetic judge and terminate.

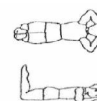
OCTOBER 2012

TUMBLING: The picture (left) is shown in the USTA Handbook with the notation that it does not meet the USTA shoulder height requirement which would result in a 0.3 major deduction; however, it DOES MEET the USTA shoulder height requirement.



TRAMPOLINE: What is the correct head position on a front drop?

ANS: The head should be neutral (facing down toward the trampoline bed).



~~**DOUBLE-MINI:** To give a clearer, proportionate idea of the double-mini landing mat deviation & distance deductions, refer to this picture. The standard landing zone is 6'x12'.~~

SEPTEMBER 2012

TUMBLING: With the new tumbling specifications, what deduction - if any, for beginning the pass in the marked run-up zone and/or not beginning the pass at the very beginning of the marked 84' tumbling zone?

ANS: Starting in the marked run-up zone will result in a termination (0)0 score. The pass may start anywhere in the marked 84' tumbling zone.

JUNE 2012

TUMBLING: Does the following pass results in 2 repeats? Round-off, Double Tuck, Whip, Hand, Double-Tuck, Whip, Whip, Tuck

ANS: Yes

TRAMPOLINE & DOUBLE-MINI: If an athlete cheats into a full turn and over-rotates, do you take two 0.5 pt. deductions?

ANS - you only take 0.5 pt. total on one skill.

MAY 2012

TRAMPOLINE: FRONT DROP. If the feet are up when the belly contacts the bed (which is correct) then the legs come down and hit the bed - no depression - is it a termination or aesthetic deduction.

ANS - As long as there is no depression, it would be an aesthetic deduction.

APRIL 2012

~~**MALE ATTIRE: TUMBLING & DOUBLE-MINI SHORTS.** I know that the AAU Central team boys shorts have Adidas stripes down the sides. Does this mean they can't be worn at USTA events?~~

~~**REVISED CLARIFICATION ANS** - Boys shorts, if worn, must be any solid color or if designed, must match the color and design of the step-in ((i.e., stripes down the sides of the shorts would match stripes down the sides of the step-in) or be a solid color with stripes down the side(s). **NOTE:** This does **not** change the rule for long trampoline pants or shorts which states "Long white or solid team colored trousers or team uniform shorts."~~

TUMBLING - STRADDLE ROLLS. On a rod floor, if a competitor's torso is NOT in the center of the mat and the foot extends completely over the side of the floor - what would be deduction be?

ANS - Loss of skill, termination, and 0.9 pt. deduction.

MALE ATTIRE:- TUMBLING & DOUBLE-MINI. Do boys shorts have to match the step-in and/or be team colors?

~~**ANS** - Boys shorts, if worn, must be any solid color or if designed, must match the color and design of the step-in ((i.e., stripes down the sides of the shorts would match stripes down the sides of the step-in). **NOTE:** This does **not** change the rule for long trampoline pants or shorts which states "Long white or solid team colored trousers or team uniform shorts."~~

MARCH 2012

TRAMPOLINE - If a coach puts a throw-in mat on the trampoline bed, but the athlete does not touch it, is there a deduction?

ANS - There is no deduction unless the athlete touches the throw-in mat.

FEBRUARY 2012

DRESS - Can an athlete wrap a knee, leg, ankle (whatever "hurts") with tape that has a design on it without a deduction for "distraction"? **ANS** - Wrap with designs on it will result in a 0.3 deduction (for being distracting).

DECEMBER 2011

TUMBLING - What happens if an athlete does a round-off and lands on one foot?

ANS - It is considered a cartwheel and is judged as a cartwheel - with difficulty and aesthetics.

NOVEMBER 2011

TUMBLING - Why is handspring - whip - handspring - whip a repeat when whip - handspring - whip - handspring not a repeat?

ANS - In the 2nd example, the skill being repeated is a handspring. Handsprings and round-offs can be repeated.

TRAMPOLINE - While performing a skill (back drop, front drop, or 3/4), an athlete's hair (i.e. pony tail) hits the end pads, side pads, or springs - do you take a 0.9 deduction and terminate the pass?

ANS - Yes

DOUBLE-MINI - If an athlete bottoms out on the dismount bed - do you take a 0.9 deduction and terminate the pass?

ANS - No

DOUBLE-MINI - When determining the landing deviation and distance, should an athlete's height be considered?

ANS - No

DOUBLE-MINI - When determining the landing deviation and distance, should the type and difficulty of the skill be considered? **ANS** - No

OCTOBER 2011

BEGINNER - ADV-BEGINNER TUMBLING. Since determining somi position is made between 10 and 2 o'clock, where do you determine if a Handstand Roll or Back Extension Roll meets the vertical requirement? **ANS** - 5 degrees on either side of vertical.

SEPTEMBER 2011

GENERAL

Is overall composition of a routine to be taken into consideration of the aesthetic deduction for passes (i.e. deduction taken for routines that are anti-climatic and/or for routines that contain too many non-progressive skills)? **ANS** - No. The rule book states that arms should be kept in close to the body during skills. Is there a deduction taken for not showing lines/slides/straight prior to putting arms up for the next skill? What is this deduction? **ANS** - Not specifically, within 0.1-0.8 skill aesthetics.

In the tuck, pike, and straddle positions, is there a deduction for when the hands do not contact the legs?

Is it a deduction to keep your arms straight in a tuck position or should the arms bend to form to the sides & around the legs? **ANS** - Yes, 0.3

TRAMPOLINE

Upon returning to feet in trampoline front drops, where should your arms be placed? **ANS** - Push off, Down; At height (top), Up.

TRAMPOLINE

During their routine, an athlete performs a 3/4 front, 1/2 turn (misses their feet) to seat, to feet. What is the difficulty for those three contacts? The 3/4 front = 0.3; coming out of the 3/4 front with the 1/2 turn to seat to feet = ? Do they get .1 for the 1/2 turn. Do they get .1 for the seat to feet? Do they only get the 0.3?

ANS: The difficulty would be 0.3 for the 3/4 front only. According to our rules, to receive the 0.1 credit for the 1/2 turn, the athlete would have to had to land on their feet and to receive 0.1 dd for the return to feet, they would have had to come directly out of the 3/4 front.

DOUBLE-MINI

Is the .2 double-double difficulty bonus awarded to an athlete if one of the double somis performed is a repeat from a previous pass? (i.e. - Pass 1 - Half-out Tuck Mounter | Double-Tuck Dismount; Pass 2 - Half-out Pike Mounter | Double-Tuck Dismount...) **ANS** - Yes

APRIL 2011

TUMBLING, BEGINNER & ADV-BEGINNER

1. Is there a deduction when an athlete is beginning their back pass with a back roll and puts their hands down in

front or beside their seat (to balance or steady) prior to rolling? **ANS:** No deduction, *unless* they push off which will result in a 0.5 pt. deduction.

MARCH 2011

ATTIRE - After the clarification on women's attire - leos with "spaghetti straps" - we have had questions regarding the type of leo shown in white (with thick straps) in the attachment. We are not saying that type of leo would be considered illegal attirewhat we are saying is the leo with the very thin strap (could not find a picture) would be considered illegal attire. **Leo pictured is legal and will not receive a deduction.**



EQUIPMENT

1. SUB-BEGINNER, BEGINNER, & ADVANCED-BEGINNER

The rule states: "Single layer tumbling mat (1"-2" thick) 42' long and at least 6' wide **OR** at least 42' carpet with at least one additional 6'x12' mat available for a coach to add to the end of the existing 42' of mat if needed." This to me sounds like it is the coaches responsibility to add the mat if needed. So if a mat is available & the coach decides not to add it or doesn't know the rules & therefore doesn't add the mat because of that, then the .9 deduction is still not taken?

ANS: "If a coach DOES NOT request the additional mat and an athlete goes off the end of the mat - are those deductions still taken. The answer if YES - our rules state: "Tumbling off the side or end of the mat with any part of the body - During the execution of a skill, once the competitor's foot touches the floor or goes all the way off the mat, the pass will be terminated. Whatever terminates a pass results in loss of skill and the appropriate deduction (touching outside the landing zone or track with any part of the body 0.9 pt.)"

TRAMPOLINE

- In a trampoline routine, are these two skills considered different or a repeat?
Initiate from feet, seat drop, return to feet
Initiate from feet, seat drop, ½ turn, return to feet

ANS: The combinations are different and not a repeat - the rules state "At this level, a skill will not be considered a repeat if it is entered into or exited from in a different manner. Example: Seat drop - return to feet is different from Seat drop - ½ return to feet; Seat drop to front drop-return to feet is different from Seat drop - return to feet and different from Front drop - return to feet."

JANUARY 2011

DOUBLE-MINI

- Novice. Assume a Novice Double-Mini athlete performs the following three passes:

Mounter Straight Jump | Tuck Jump Spotter | Tuck Jump Dismount

This pass is legal, there are no majors. DD = 0.0

Mounter Straight Jump | Straddle Jump Spotter | Front Tuck Dismount

This pass is legal, there are no majors. DD = .5

Mounter Straight Jump | Pike Jump Spotter | Front Tuck Dismount

This is a legal pass, however, the Front Tuck Dismount is a repeat from the previous pass. A 1.0 repeat deduction is taken by the aesthetic judges and the difficulty for the skill is lost. DD=0.0

ANS: Per the rules and past clarifications, at the Novice level there is a level requirement that two passes must contain difficulty or a 2.0 deduction is taken on the last/third pass. In this situation, the athlete physically performed and completed a difficulty skill in two pass, however, because they performed the same

skill in the same position causing a repeat, two passes were scored with 0.0/no difficulty. Is the 2.0 taken because numerically there is only one pass that received difficulty points OR is that ignored because the athlete did physically complete two passes with a difficulty skill? We obviously took the 1.0 for the repeat, but we did NOT take the 2.0, reasoning that the athlete did perform and get full credit for the skill making it a legal pass even though we did also take the difficulty away for repeating. This would be similar to Sub-Advanced trampoline where if an athlete repeats a skill, it still counts as a somi contact toward the minimum number of somis needed for pass requirements, just no DD is awarded. In my personal opinion, this is also different than if the athlete would have tried to do a dismount 1/2 turn and not gotten all the way around or done a front pike to their bottom (not feet)... in those cases, you'd take your 2.0 for not having two skills and the 2.0 for not having the difficult for completing two passes with DD because the DD skill they attempted didn't count as a skill at all. In this scenerio, the skill counted, just no DD was given. **ANS:** The rule states that the athlete must have two passes with difficulty. In this case, the athlete did not have dd in two passes, so you DO deduct the 2.0.

DECEMBER 2010

TUMBLING

1. Advanced Beginner. An athlete performs four skills with the last skill being a Round-off. Should there be a deduction taken for performing the round-off as the 4th skill (not the 5th)?

ANS. No, since, there were only 4 skill, the round-off was the last skill which is what the rule states.

The rules states **“IF a round-off is performed, it may only be used as the last skill in a pass and the athlete MUST rebound.”** NOTE: The athlete should rebound out of the round-off or the appropriate deduction should be taken - if the athlete does rebound, judges should take any appropriate aesthetic deduction on the rebound.

ATTIRE

1. ~~QUESTION: We have a new team leotard - the top half is hot pink and the bottom half is black. It is a 50/50 color combo. Should the girls wear a black sport bra or a pink sport bra to have not deductions for attire? ANS: The rules state “Sport bras that show MUST match the majority color of the upper half of the leotard or be flesh colored.” The sport bra should be hot pink to match the top half of the leotard. NOTE: It should be the same color pink as the leo.~~

2. Can a female athlete wear a leo that has only a strap hooked around the neck with a V-neck and bare shoulders without deduction. **ANS:** No, the current rules state **“It may be long sleeve, short sleeve, or sleeveless.”** This would mean that a leotard must have arm (sleeve) holes and a 2.0 deduction for improper attire should be taken.

SEPTEMBER 2010

TRAMPOLINE

1. Is overall composition of a routine to be taken into consideration for trampoline routines (i.e. deduction taken for routines that are anti-climatic and/or credit given for routines that contain progressive skills)? **ANS: No, the only rule regarding the overall pass is the “overall pass height.”**
2. In trampoline skills, should the arms be kept in close to the body? **ANS: Yes - as in book, deduction falls in the 0.1-0.8**
3. On trampoline, in between skill positions and the feet contacting the bed, should the arms be brought in straight by the sides to show the body line upon returning to the ears or should arms be returned to ears immediately after hitting the skill position? **ANS: Technically, yes.**

4. On front drops, is it a deduction for landing up on the elbows rather than having the elbows out and shoulders flat? **ANS: Yes - as in book, deduction falls in the 0.1-0.8**
5. Upon returning to feet on front drops, is it acceptable to have the arms either up by the ears or in to the sides to show the body line prior to returning them to the ears upon contacting the bed? **ANS: Yes - as in book, deduction falls in the 0.1-0.8**
6. ~~Define the difference between an out-bounce and a "skitter" - ANS: An out-bounce goes straight up in a continuous repulsion with the arms up and comes straight down...a "skitter" is an obvious hopping (forward or backward) motion without control or form.~~ - SEE NEW RULE 9/11

DOUBLE-MINI

1. It seems that on double-mini, mounter-dismount passes at the Beginner ó Sub-Advanced level are sometimes scored harder (I'm guessing because the judge thinks the routine was quick), however, the number of deductions that can be taken are fewer (no deduction for a mounter straight jump). As coaches, we train mounter passes for progressive purposes and compete them for the reason of having fewer skills to deduct from. This is just something that I would like to see addressed! **ANS: All levels and skills should be judged using the same criteria. NOTE: There IS a deduction for stability on a mounter straight jump.**

GENERAL

1. I believe the rule states that scores can be within .5 above or below the median, however, when receiving only (2) aesthetic scores, that means that the difference in a judges score should only be .5 apart, correct? **ANS: 1.0 pt**
2. Is part of the duty of the superior judge to guide the aesthetic judges in their scoring? So if the superior feels there was error on part of the deductions taken by an aesthetic judge, they can overrule the judges deductions based upon their superior knowledge/status? **ANS: No, can offer an opinion.**
3. In the tuck, pike, and straddle positions, should contact be made with the hands and the legs? **ANS: Yes**
4. Is it a deduction to keep your arms straight in a tuck position or should the arms bend to form to the sides & around the legs? **ANS: No - either can be correct depending on the size of the athlete and where the hands touch.**
5. In the tuck, pike, and straddle positions, should contact be made with the hands and the legs? **ANS: Yes, but not just a "slap."**

APRIL 2010

TRAMPOLINE

1. **Question** - An athlete performs a back 3/4 somi to tummy, loses control when coming up and goes back down to the tummy - without losing momentum - comes back up to feet. What is the ruling/deduction if any? Would this still count towards somi. **Answer** - If there was no break or apparent "fall" to the tummy -
 1. the pass would consist of 3/4 back to tummy (1 contact), tummy (1 contact), to feet (1 contact).
 2. in Intermediate, it would still be counted as one of the optional somis according to the way the rules read
 3. there would be no 0.1 dd awarded for the return to feet since it was not in completion of the somi
2. **Question** - If an athlete is performing a 3/4 to back, if the feet and back obviously hit the bed at the same time, is a terminations?

Answer - Yes - the rule reads "A contact or dragging of the feet on a back drop or ball-out would be cause for termination if the feet and back contact the bed at the same time."

- 3 **Question** - Since Sub-Advanced difficulty has been raised to a 4.6, do we allow those athletes to perform a tuck or pike jump prior to initiating their first skill (like Advanced & Elite)?

Answer - No.

MARCH 2010

DOUBLE-MINI

- 1 **Q:** - Please clarify the "ota-dump" rule? I was told that as long as both feet come down in the mounter bed regardless of the severity of the "ota-dump" - the deduction is 0.1 - 0.5 rather than a termination.

A: That is correct. When mounting the double-mini with one foot landing prior to the other, a "ota-dump" deduction of 0.1 - 0.5 is taken if both feet land in the mounter bed (regardless of the severity) and the pass is not terminated. A termination is called for "running across" which happens when one foot lands in the mounter bed first and the other in the spotter bed second.

OCTOBER 2009

TRAMPOLINE

- 1 **Question** - The new Sub-Advanced rule states that repeated difficulty skills will result in the loss of difficulty. Is there still a 0.5 pt deduction for repeated non-difficulty skills.

Answer - No, there is no deduction for repeated non-difficulty skills.

2. **Question** - An athlete's 10th skill is a seat drop and when returning to feet (11th contact), lands on 1 foot. What deductions should be taken.

Answer - Score out of 10. Deduct 0.3 for landing on one foot, and 1.0 for too many contacts.

APRIL 2009

TRAMPOLINE.

- 1 **Question** - What is the correct ½ and full turn major deduction? I have been told it is 0.1 - 0.5.

Answer - The correct major deduction is 0.5 in all cases. Remember, if the superior judge tells you to take this deduction...your aesthetic score should also reflect the fact that the skill was not performed properly.

2. **Question** - Does a barani meet the front somi requirement.

Answer - NO. A barani is a front with a ½ twist. A front somi requirement is a non-twisting front somi. They are two different skills.

1. ATHLETE ATTIRE.

Question - What is the deduction if an athlete wears a swimming cap to keep their hair out of their eyes?

Answer - The proper deduction is 2.0 for improper attire.

2. DOUBLE-MINI.

Question - The current rule states that athletes with a physical handicap (who have submitted a letter of appeal to the USTA National Office and received approval) - may use one 1/4" 5'x10' or 6'x12' folded mat placed in front of the double-mini mounting bed with the narrow end running long wise with the Run-up Mat. What is the deduction if an athlete uses the folded mat with the narrow end running the other direction? *Answer* - The pass would be terminated and the athlete would receive a 0 score.

3. TUMBLING.

Question - The current rules states that the maximum run of 33' (length revised 10/12) from start of tumbling floor (top of ramp). What is the deduction if an athlete takes a longer run?

Answer - The pass would be terminated and the athlete would receive a 0 score.

4. TUMBLING SUB-BEGINNER, BEGINNER, ADV-BEGINNER LEVELS.

1.1 The pass does not start until the hands touch the mat. There is NO deduction(s) taken until the pass starts. For example, if a coach stops an athlete from initiating the 1st skill, talks to the athlete before initiating the 1st skill, turns the athlete around before initiating the 1st skill, etc. - the judges cannot start scoring.

JANUARY 2009

1. TUMBLING, ADVANCED. 2 FIVE SKILL PASSES.

Question - When the Advanced level is competing 2 five-skill passes rather than 1 five skill & 1 eight skill pass, does the new rule stating "At least one pass must have three (3) somies" still apply?

Answer - YES. The same rules apply. Each pass must consist of at least two (2) somersaults. At least one pass must have three (3) somies.

2. DOUBLE-MINI.

Question - Intermediate D-Mini. If an athlete performs one skill (not a somi) and stops or the pass is terminated, you judge out of 5.0 and deduct 2.0 for only one skill in the pass - do you also deduct an additional 2.0 for not having a somi in the pass?

Answer - NO. The 2.0 deduction is for not having two skills (which is a pass requirement). Having a somi in each pass is also a pass requirement; therefore, taking an additional 2.0 would be double-dipping. The only levels you take two 2.0 deductions are Novice and Sub-Advanced where there is a level requirement in addition to a pass requirement.

3. DOUBLE-MINI.

Question - When the athlete is performing a spotter somi, lands on the side pad, and stops (or doesn't continue to perform another skill)...what should happen.

Answer - The pass is terminated and the athlete does not receive credit for the skill according to the rules (DM-p9 **INTERRUPTIONS OF THE ROUTINE [SCORING STOPS]**) Whatever terminates a pass results in loss of skill and the appropriate deduction. The rule reads: "Touches any part of the double-mini other than the bed unless elasticity occurs". Only when the athlete continues the routine and is able to have enough control to perform a dismount skill is credit given and the pass not terminated. In addition a 0.9 landing deduction would be taken for hitting the side pad.

4. TUMBLING, BOUNDING CREDIT - A 0.1 point difficulty credit awarded when single or multiple somersault skills, whether twisting or not which are executed from a previous somersault performed in the same direction.

5. Question - What to do with bounding credit bonuses when an athlete loses difficulty due to a repeat and/or illegal skill?

Answer - When figuring difficulty, completely remove the skill from the equation. You have to look at the previous and following skills to determine whether to award a bounding credit. Also remember, the athlete will **not** receive two (2) 0.1 bounding credit points where a somi skill is lost.

Advanced Level:

RO	WHIP	WHIP	FULL	WHIP	WHIP	TUC K	PUN C H
2	4	1+4	1+8	1+4		1+4	2+5

Advanced Level:

RO	WHIP	FF	WHIP	FF	FF	WHIP	FULL
2	4	2	4	2	2		8

NOVEMBER 26, 2008

1. ~~BEGINNER & ADVANCED-BEGINNER.~~ New Round-off rule clarification.

The rule says **IF** a round-off is used - it must be the last skill in the pass. If a round-off is performed anywhere else in the pass, you would take a 2.0 major deduction for not meeting pass requirements.

If the athlete performs a round-off anywhere else in the pass, they should NOT rebound. If they do rebound out of it - you would deduct for the number of steps taken. A straight up and down rebound is two feet, so you would take two 0.5 step deductions...if more steps are taken, you take 0.5 for each step up to the termination number; i.e. 3 steps for Beginner, 2 steps for Adv-Beginner. ~~There are many other things that may happen - reversal of motion, etc.; however, if the athlete rebounds and continues without interruption of the pass - you take for steps and continue to judge the pass.~~

If the athlete performs a round-off anywhere else in the pass - they do not need to rebound and you do not judge the rebound. You only judge the rebound (or lack of) on the last round-off of a completed pass as in sub-novice, novice, and intermediate.

2. **ADVANCED.** The new rule states that at least one pass must have three somies. Failure to have three somies in one pass results in a 2.0 major deduction as a two pass requirement.

If an athlete performs the 1st pass with 2 somies and the second pass with one somi - you would deduction 2.0 on the 2nd pass for not having 2 somies and 2.0 for one pass not having at least 3 somies. The 1st 2.0 is for not meeting pass requirements and the 2nd 2.0 is for not meeting the combined pass requirements. This is the same as in Sub-Advanced where at least one pass must have two somies.

04/30/08

- FOOT WEAR.** When shoes are worn (tumbling, trampoline, & double-mini), although the rules state they must be white - we will accept off-white and tan. Many of the major shoe manufacturers have begun making various shades of white.
- SYNCHRONIZED TRAMPOLINE ATTIRE.** The rules remain the same; however, the deduction for failure to wear identical attire will result in each member of the synchro pair receiving a 2.0 pt. aesthetic deduction per aesthetic judge upon the advice of the Superior Judge.

02/04/08

1. **WARM-UPS. Warm-ups.** Warm-ups must start after the scheduled coaches & judges' meeting (not during or before).

NOVEMBER 2007

1. **INSTABILITY DEDUCTION, ALL EVENTS, Re-clarified by the Technical Committee.**

Counting to three (3) for 3 seconds. Within those 3 seconds, regardless of the size of the step(s), taking one step results in a 0.1 deduction; taking two steps results in a 0.2 deduction; and taking three or more steps results in a 0.3 deduction. **THIS STRESSES THE SIZE OF THE LACK OF STABILITY OR NUMBER OF STEPS TAKEN.**

Although "instability" includes arm waving and/or body movement, the Technical Committee agreed to exclude those from the instability clarification. If an aesthetic judge feels there is too much movement, they can increase the deduction on the last skill because the movement is probably a direct result of how they completed that skill.

2. **HARD HAIR BALLS** will be considered the same as Hair Beads and will not be allowed in competition. 2.0 deduction.

OCTOBER 2007

GENERAL

1. **SKILL POSITION** - The position for skills will be determined between 10:00 and 2:00 (tuck, pike, or straight).
2. **LANDING DEDUCTIONS, ALL EVENTS** - As previously clarified, will be taken on incomplete and/or completed passes.
3. ~~**INSTABILITY DEDUCTION, ALL EVENTS** - The 0.1 - 0.3 instability deduction should be taken as follows. If the athlete moves (is unstable) within 1 second of landing, deduct 0.3; within 2 seconds, deduct 0.2; within 3 seconds, deduct 0.1. The new rule states that this is to be determined by the Superior Judge.~~
4. **TERMINATIONS & DEDUCTIONS** - Once a pass is terminated, you do not take additional deductions for anything that happens after the point of termination. Example: On trampoline, the athlete lands on one foot (termination) and then the other foot hits the side pad...you take the 0.3 for landing on one foot, but not the 0.9 for the side pad (athlete also loses that skill)

However, remember, if the pass is terminated due to a landing deduction which concludes in a greater landing deduction - you take the greater of the two. The example I used before - if an athlete falls to their seat (termination), rolls to their back, rolls off the floor - you take the greater landing deduction of 0.9 for going off the floor. *This is a different scenario & we have a rule defining this.*

TRAMPOLINE

1. A 3/4 back (or front) done in a different position will be considered a different skill in determining repeats, but will not receive different difficulty. All positions will receive a 0.3 difficulty.

11/06 & 4/07

GENERAL

1. ATHLETE ATTIRE

- 1.1 Leotards may have holes in the back as long as they are above the waist. 04/07
- 1.2 Socks may be rolled down without deduction. 04/07

2. JEWELRY - The wearing of jewelry or watches in competition will result in a 1.0 pt. deduction per pass to be taken on the advice of the Superior Judge. **Jewelry must be removed, taping over will result in deduction.** 11/06

3. HAIR

- 3.1 The wearing of hair beads will result in a 2.0 pt. deduction per pass to be taken on the advice of the Superior Judge. NOTE: Not a termination. 04/07
- 3.2 Hair pins, barrettes, etc. that fall out of the hair will result in a 0.3 pt. deduction (same as scrunchies) to be taken on the advice of the Superior Judge. 04/07

4. THE COACHING DEDUCTION SHOULD READ - Talking to or giving any signal to a competitor by his own spotters or coach during the routine. (Maximum deduction - 0.3 pt. per pass). NOTE: This includes clapping, gesturing, etc. Wait at least three (3) seconds after the competitor completes their pass. 11/06

TUMBLING SUB-BEGINNER, BEGINNER, ADV-BEGINNER LEVELS.

- 1.1 The pass does not start until the hands touch the mat. 11/06
 - 1.2 A cartwheel is a front skill only. If performed in a back tumbling pass, a 2.0 deduction will be taken.
- ### 2. INTERMEDIATE LEVEL REPEAT RULE - Round-offs and hand-springs can be repeated without deduction. With the exception of handsprings and round-offs, only one difficulty skill may be repeated in an optional pass; otherwise, the difficulty of the repeated skill will not be awarded. 11/06

DOUBLE-MINI

- 1. **FOOT COVERING** - An athlete must wear foot covering or they will not be allowed to compete. Termination. NOTE: If an athlete wears black or colored foot covering, they will be allowed to compete; however, a 2.0 pt deduction per pass will be taken on the advice of the Superior Judge. 11/06
- 2. If an athlete lands after their mounter skill, stops, and then touches the blue side pad - you would not take a 0.9 pt. deduction because the stop terminated the pass. 04/07
- 3. When a double-mini athlete lands their dismount skill out of the landing zone, the skill does not count and you take the 0.9 pt. deduction because landing out is what terminated the pass. 04/07

TRAMPOLINE

- 1. **FOOT COVERING** - An athlete must wear white foot covering or they will not be allowed to compete. Termination. 11/06
- 2. **TWISTING SKILLS.**
 - 2.1 If an athlete does not get completely around when performing swivel hips - you just take an aesthetic deduction. NOTE: It will probably also affect the next skill's aesthetics. 04/07

OCTOBER 2006

GENERAL CLARIFICATION - There is no deduction for glasses & hearing aids that fall off during competition.

TUMBLING

1. Landing Deductions:
 - 1a. When judging instability at the end of a pass, the competitor should stop and hold the landing for three seconds prior to turning to salute.
 - 1b. If a pass has too many skills, the deduction for not holding the landing for three seconds is taken on the last skill performed, not at the point where the pass was to have stopped.
2. In the beginner levels, during the execution of some skills, the elbows may touch the tumbling mat. If there is smooth continuation of the skill, then there is no deduction (termination) for the elbow. If the athlete is unstable or off-balance and falls to or pushes off the elbow, then the pass will be terminated at that point, no credit would be given for the skill, and a 0.6 pt. deduction would be taken for the elbow.
3. At the beginner levels, if the competitor performs the wrong pass, a 2.0 deduction will be taken. This is not a termination. NOTE: Performing an *illegal* skill will result in a termination.
4. A cartwheel is a front skill only. If performed in a back tumbling pass, a 2.0 deduction will be taken.
5. If a reversal (punch) somi is performed at the end of an incomplete pass (not enough skills), the athlete will still receive that skill & difficulty.
6. Any backward ~~non-twisting~~ single somersault executed at shoulder height or below and performed in the middle of a pass, regardless of position, will be considered a whip back.
7. Any backward non-twisting, single somersault at the end of a tumbling pass must be defined by position as a tuck, pike, or straight somersault including the last somersault prior to the reversal skill. If not performed above shoulder height, a deduction of 0.3 will be taken.
8. At the sub-advanced, advanced, and elite levels, if a pass has too many skills and the last required skill is not a somersault, a 0.5 pt. deduction will be taken for not ending the pass in a somersault.
9. ~~There is no height deduction for a twisting somersault (such as a full, double-full, etc.) executed below shoulder height at the end of the pass; however, n aesthetic deduction should be taken.~~

DOUBLE-MINI

1. Landing Deductions - Instability landing deduction will be taken on the last skill performed. NOTE: Whatever terminates a pass will receive the appropriate deduction, i.e., fall to the seat.
2. A tuck jump forward or backward is the same skill and will be considered a repeat if performed more than once as a mounter, spotter, or dismount skill. A 1.0 pt. deduction will be taken for the repeated skill.
3. At the **novice** level, if a competitor fails to have two passes with difficulty and one somersault in a pass, a 4.0 deduction will be taken on the last pass.
4. At the **sub-advanced** level, if a competitor fails to have one pass with two somersaults and to have one pass with a spotter somersault, a 4.0 deduction will be taken on the last pass.
5. An initial contact with the double-mini in which one foot strikes the bed before the other (ta-dump) will result in a 0.1 to 0.5 pt. deduction taken on the instruction of the superior judge.
6. Mounting Deduction - The deduction for instability when mounting the double-mini and for lack of form, control, and lift on the straight jump mount is 0.1 to 0.3 pts. A **maximum** deduction of 0.3 can be taken on the straight jump mount.

TRAMPOLINE

1. Landing Deductions - Instability landing deduction will be taken on the last skill performed. NOTE: Whatever terminates a pass will receive the appropriate deduction, i.e., fall to the seat.
2. Twisting skills must start facing one of the end decks and end facing one of the end decks to receive twisting credit. Starting early or late and under or over-rotating do not get full credit.
3. Landing a trampoline skill on one foot will result in termination of the pass at that point, even if the last skill. No credit will be given for the skill and a deduction of 0.3 pt. will be taken.
4. Twisting skills must start facing one of the end decks and end facing one of the end decks to receive credit. Starting early or late and under- or over-rotating does not get full credit.

JUNE 2006

1. SUB-ADVANCED **D-MINI**. POSSIBLE TO HAVE TWO (2) 2.0 DEDUCTIONS (LIKE NOVICE). - 2.0 FOR NO SPOTTER SOMI & -2.0 FOR NOT MEETING PASS REQUIREMENTS.
2. **TRAMPOLINE**. TWISTING SKILLS MUST START FACING ONE OF THE END DECKS AND END FACING ONE OF THE END DECKS TO RECEIVE CREDIT. STARTING EARLY OR LATE & UNDER OR OVER ROTATING DO NOT GET FULL CREDIT.
3. THERE WILL NOT BE A DEDUCTION TAKEN FOR GLASSES & HEARING AIDS THAT FALL OFF DURING COMPETITION.
4. **TUMBLING**. IF A REVERSAL SOMI (PUNCH) IS PERFORMED AT THE END OF AN UNCOMPLETED PASS (NOT ENOUGH SKILLS), THE ATHLETE WILL STILL RECEIVED THE DIFFICULTY OF THE SKILL.

5/30/05

1. Beginner Tumbling Levels. The athlete rocks forward to the knees before performing their 1st skill - what should be done? **Answer:** *No deduction.*
2. Beginner Tumbling Levels. The athlete salutes the judges, turns around, and tumbles toward the athletes (reverse direction). What should be done? **Answer:** *Score the skills performed on the mat. Terminate if and when the athlete goes off the mat.*
3. Sub-Advanced - Elite Level Tumbling. The athlete performs an extra skill; i.e., performs 9 skills for the 8 skill pass....the 8th skill is a somi in the straight position (or pike). Does the athlete receive the difficulty for a straight (or pike)? **Answer:** *Yes; however, if it is below shoulder height - deduct the 0.3 height deduction. Also if the 8th skill is not a somi, deduct 0.5 for not ending in a somi.*
4. Double-Mini. The athlete performs their 1st skill (spotter) and intends to do a gainer off, but does a tuck back instead. Do you judge out of 1 skill (5.0 pts) and deduct 2.0 for pass requirements or is this a termination? **Answer:** *Score 1 skill (5.0 pts) and take the 2.0 deduction for pass requirements.*

5. Double-Mini. The athlete performs their 1st skill and falls to their hands and knees on the double-mini bed....do we terminate after the 1st skill, judge out of 5.0, take 0.6 for the hands and knees, and 2.0 for pass requirements. **Answer:** *Terminate after the 1st skill, judge out of 5.0, take 0.6 for the hands and knees, and 2.0 for pass requirements.*
6. Double-Mini. The athlete performs their 1st skill, lands on the blue side pad and automatically continues on to perform their 2nd skill. According to our rules, we take the deduction for hitting the side pad and score the 2nd skill...however, there is some confusion on this...sometimes, judges terminate because the feet were all on the side pad; but, our rules do not define how much of the feet touch. **Answer:** *Give the skill if they use the elasticity of the double-mini. Superior Judge decides.*
7. Double-Mini. When do you take two separate 2.0 deductions.
Clarification states in the Novice & Sub-Advanced levels.
-2.0 for not having difficulty in 2 passes
-2.0 for not having a somi in one pass
-4.0 pt total deduction will be taken on the last pass.
- ~~8. Double-Mini. The athlete mounts the double-mini, hits the spotter bed and does a gainer off. Do we score out of 1 skill (5.0) or does the athlete get a 5.0? **Answer:** The athlete gets the one skill if it starts from the dismount bed. Note: No longer valid~~
9. Double-Mini. The athlete's dismount skill lands outside the landing zone. Does the athlete get that skill and do you take 0.9 pt. deduction for going out? **Answer:** *The athlete does NOT get the dismount skill (judge out of 1 skill - 5.0), take the 2.0 pt deduction for pass requirements, and take the 0.9 pt deduction for going out.*
10. Advanced Double-Mini. Repeating a skill results in the loss of difficulty and a 1.0 deduction. Should there be the added 0.5 deduction? **Answer:** *Take the 1.0 deduction for a repeat.*
11. Trampoline. Can a coach ask for no spotters for their competitor? What does this do to liability if the athlete flies off the trampoline at that spot and is injured (this applies to spotters at the end of the end-decks for Advanced and Elite)? **Answer:** *There must be a spotter as described in the handbook. The Superior judge shouldn't call the athlete if the spotters aren't in the described positions. An athlete will not be allowed to warm-up or compete without the determined number of recommended spotters.*
10. Intermediate Trampoline. Our rules differ in several places...
Correct Info:
 a. *maximum number of somies - 5*
 b. *3/4 can count as an optional front or back contact*
 c. *3/4 can count as the 3rd optional somi*

SEPTEMBER 2004

1. Advanced Beginner Tumbling - No deduction on Front Limbers for landing with feet shoulder width apart or less.

2. Same deductions apply for Sub-Beginner, Beginner, and Adv-Beginner when competing on the rod floor as on panel mats.
3. For Beginner if the athlete takes 3 steps, the pass will be terminated and 1.5 will be taken for the three steps.
4. For Advanced Beginner if the athlete takes 2 steps, the pass will be terminated and 1.0 will be taken for the two steps.

JUNE 2004

TUMBLING

1. On pike back rolls, a competitor is allowed to put their hands down on the mat behind them before they do their roll with no deduction.
2. If a competitor in a beginner tumbling level does a forward skill in a back pass or a backward skill in the front pass, it is a 2.0 deduction. They will still receive credit for any difficulty done in the pass and **there is no termination.**
3. In the advanced beginner level, a scissor is not the same as a walk-over; therefore, it is a different skill.
4. In the beginner tumbling level, a skill shall be considered different, and therefore, not a repeat, if the skill begins or ends in a different position. For example - tuck/straddle roll vs. a straddle/tuck roll.

TRAMPOLINE

1. In intermediate trampoline a 3/4 somi can be used as the third optional some and/or also count as the front or back contact.

DOUBLE-MINI

1. If an athlete hits the side pad, it is a 0.9 deduction, NOT a termination as long as the athlete is able to continue their pass.