

Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Youth Olympic Competition Format

The artistic gymnastics competition at Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games consists of men's and women's competitions.

Men compete on six apparatus: floor exercise, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar. Women compete on four apparatus: vault, uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercise.

There are four competition phases in artistic gymnastics: qualifications, team final, all-around final and mixed team final.

Qualifications: All gymnasts compete as part of a team (of a maximum of three athletes) or as individuals and the results of this phase are used to qualify gymnasts for the team final, the all-around final, and the mixed team final. No scores are carried over from the qualifications to the finals. Team results are based on the two best gymnast scores on each apparatus (from a maximum of three gymnasts competing on each apparatus). The mixed team results are based on the highest single best athlete's final score on each of the following apparatus: Floor Exercise, Parallel Bars, and Horizontal Bar for men, and on Uneven Bars, Balance Beam, and Floor Exercise for women.

Team final: The top eight teams from the qualification phase proceed to the team finals. The teams compete again on all apparatus and the teams with the highest total scores are awarded the medals. Team results are based on the scores of the two gymnasts competing on each apparatus.

All-around final: The top 18 gymnasts from the qualifications proceed to the all-around final. The gymnasts perform again on all apparatus and those with the highest total scores are awarded the medals in the all-around.

Mixed Team final: The top 12 NOCs from the qualifications proceed to the Mixed Team final. Three apparatus, Floor Exercise, Parallel Bars and Horizontal Bar will be used for men, and three apparatus, Uneven Bars, Balance Beam, and Floor Exercise will be used for women. The apparatus apply both in the qualifications and mixed team final. The same men's and women's gymnast compete in each final round. FX cannot be selected by both man's and woman's gymnasts in the same final round. The mixed teams compete across three final rounds, with four teams being eliminated after each round (12-8-4). No scores will be carried forward from one round to the next.

- Final round 1: The 12 men's and women's gymnasts choose from one of the three apparatus
- Final round 2: The 8 men's and women's gymnasts choose from one of the two remaining apparatus
- Final round 3: The 4 men's and women's compete on the last remaining apparatus
- For each round, the total score of the two apparatus is used to rank the mixed team
- Mixed teams with the highest scores in final round 3 are awarded the medals

Differences between the Junior World Championships and the Summer Youth Olympic Games

The Youth Olympic Games and the Junior World Championships differ in several ways.

The age eligibility requirements for the Youth Olympic Games are different from those for the Junior World Championships.

The Youth Olympic Games programme includes a Mixed Team Final but no Apparatus Finals. The Junior World Championships programme includes Apparatus Finals but no Mixed Team Final.

In the team competition, the Youth Olympic Games has a separate Team Final. At the Junior World Championships, there is no separate Team Final, and the team ranking is based on the qualification results.

The All-Around Final at the Youth Olympic Games features the top 18 gymnasts, while the Junior World Championships All-Around Final features the top 24 gymnasts.

At the Junior World Championships, ties are not broken and athletes or teams with the same score share the same ranking. At the Youth Olympic Games, ties are broken in all finals.

At the Youth Olympic Games, the Execution Panel consists of five judges, while at the Junior World Championships, it consists of seven judges.

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Changes since Buenos Aires 2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games

Several changes have been made to the gymnastics programme compared with the previous Youth Olympic Games edition.

The Multidiscipline Team Event, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Trampoline Gymnastics and Acrobatic Gymnastics are no longer part of the programme.

In Artistic Gymnastics, the apparatus finals have been replaced by team finals and a Mixed Team event.

At the same time, the number of participating gymnasts has increased from 36 to 60 athletes per gender.

The reference judges assigned to each apparatus are no longer part of the judges' panels

Sport Rules and Procedures

Judging

Artistic Gymnastics is a judged sport with a panel of seven judges presiding over each apparatus. The seven judges are broken down into two panels to calculate the "F" (final score). The "D" (difficulty) panel (two judges) calculates the D Score which is the score a gymnast receives based on the content of the routine. The "E" (execution) panel (five judges) determines deductions from the maximum possible score (10.00) based on the gymnast's execution and artistry (WAG) of the routine. All judges will be appointed by the World Gymnastics.

Calculation of Scores

Definitions:

E-score: The middle three of the five judges' scores for Execution are averaged.

D + E + Bonus (if any) – Penalties (if any) = F

Example:

D-score: 6.00

E-score: 9.20 (calculated from: 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.00)

Bonus: 0.10

Penalties: -0.10

Final Score: 6.00 + 9.20 + 0.10 – 0.10 = 15.20

Tie Break Rules

The World Gymnastics tie breaking rules are presented in the World Gymnastics technical regulations and define how to break ties in case of equality of points. In Artistic Gymnastics, the main principles are the following:

<u>Qualification for team final and team final</u>

In case of a tie at any place, ties will be broken by the following criteria:

1. The team with the highest sum of the team apparatus counting scores obtained will prevail (i.e. add the total of five, and if needed, four, three, two, one highest apparatus team scores for men and add the total of three, and if needed, two, one highest apparatus team scores for women)
2. If they remain tied, the teams will share the same classification. A draw will be conducted between the tied teams to determine the starting order for the team final.

<u>Qualification for all-around final and all-around final</u>

In case of a tie for any place, the ranking will be determined by the following criteria:

1. The gymnast with the highest sum of the final apparatus scores will prevail (i.e. add the total of the 5, and if needed, 4, 3, 2, 1 of the highest final apparatus scores for men, or add the total of the 3, and if needed, 2, 1 of the highest final apparatus scores for women)
2. The gymnast with the highest total E-score (Execution) by adding all apparatus will prevail
3. The gymnast with the highest total D-score (Difficulty) by adding all apparatus will prevail



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4. If they remain tied, the gymnasts will share the same classification. A draw will be conducted between the tied gymnasts to determine the starting order for the all-around final.

Qualification for Mixed Team final

In case of a tie for any place, the ranking will be determined by the following criteria:

1. The mixed team with the highest sum of the mixed team apparatus counting scores obtained will prevail (i.e. add the total of 5, and if needed, 4, 3, 2, 1 highest apparatus mixed team scores)
2. The mixed team with the highest total E-score (Execution) by adding all counting men's and women's apparatus will prevail
3. The mixed team with the highest total D-score (Difficulty) by adding all counting men's and women's apparatus will prevail
4. If they remain tied, the mixed teams will share the same classification. A draw will be conducted between the tied mixed teams to determine the starting order for the mixed team final round 1.

Mixed Team final

For each round, in case of a tie at any place, ties will be broken by the following:

1. The mixed team with the highest single apparatus final score obtained will prevail
2. The mixed team with the highest total E-score (Execution) by adding all counting men's and women's apparatus will prevail
3. The mixed team with the highest total D-score (Difficulty) by adding all counting men's and women's apparatus will prevail
4. If they remain tied, the mixed teams will share the same classification. A draw will be conducted between the tied mixed teams to determine the starting order for the mixed team final round 2 or the mixed team final round 3.

Penalties / Disqualification Rules

Penalties can be imposed on an individual gymnast, or on a team as a whole, depending on the infraction:

- Individual penalties can include, for example, going out of bounds on the floor exercise, exceeding a time limit for a routine, exceeding the limited time for warm up, or for exceeding the allowed time for resuming a performance after having fallen from an apparatus. (These types of penalties are deducted from the gymnast's score for the apparatus).
- More general penalties can include wearing inappropriate attire and are deducted in qualifications, all-around, team final and Mixed Team final from the apparatus where first recognised

Disqualification:

- Disqualification (DSQ) as a result of a breach of the World Gymnastics technical rules and regulations (Appendix to the Code of Points, Invalid Result Marks). Decisions are taken by the competition jury.
- Disqualification for unsportsmanlike behaviour (DQB) as a result of infringing recognised sport ethics and rules (e.g. positive doping control)

If a gymnast is disqualified from a phase of the competition, his/her results will be removed from the relevant phase and the results of the phase will be re-calculated. Disqualification from qualification means that the gymnast will not proceed to any finals.

For team and mixed team competition the disqualified gymnast's name and his/her results will be removed and the team results or mixed team results will be re-calculated. The disqualified gymnast will not be entitled to receive a medal or diploma.

Disqualification from a final means that the gymnast receives no results in that final, but the gymnast may compete in subsequent finals if qualified.

In any of the above situations, the affected results outputs will be produced and marked as "REVISED" with an explanation.

Score Inquiries

Inquiries are allowed only for the D-score and cannot be withdrawn once submitted. Only the designated NOC Authorised Representative (a coach or a Delegation member, never a judge) may submit an inquiry, and only for their own gymnast. Inquiries cannot be submitted on behalf of another NOC. The designated NOC Authorised Representative must be present in the Inquiry Area on the FOP and will remain fully and solely responsible for the proper and timely submission of inquiries. The

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Inquiry Officer will check the identity of the NOC Authorised Representative and may give guidance. Decisions resulting from inquiries cannot be challenged.

Inquiries must be submitted through the electronic device by selecting the relevant gymnast's name within the time limit. Inquiries must be submitted within two minutes after the score is displayed. The device will automatically prevent late submissions. Late or incorrectly submitted inquiries will be rejected by the President of the Superior Jury / Event Delegate. The rejection is final and cannot be challenged.

Timely and properly submitted inquiries will be reviewed by the Superior Jury President / Event Delegate, using official competition footage only. The decision will be made as quickly as possible. Decisions resulting from inquiries cannot be challenged.

The score may be increased, reduced, or remain unchanged after the inquiry review.

Rankings will become final once all inquiries have been processed and results have been confirmed and signed by the Superior Jury President / Event Delegate.

Requests to revise Time or Line deductions or Bonuses are treated separately from inquiries and do not incur fees. However, such requests must comply with the same principles, procedures, and deadlines specified for inquiries. Requests to revise penalties are not permitted.

Note:
For further information please consult: www.gymnastics.sport