

Sport Terminology

Terminologie du sport

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Term	Definition
All-Around	An event in which a gymnast performs on all apparatus. The sum of points scored on each apparatus determines the rank.
All-Around Final	A final phase in which the top 18 gymnasts (maximum two per NOC) from the all-around qualifications compete on all apparatus for the all-around medals.
Apparatus	Equipment used during the performance. Men perform on six apparatus: floor exercise, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar. Women perform on four apparatus: vault, uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercise.
Bonus	A bonus refers to extra points added to a gymnast's score beyond the basic requirements of the routine.
Difficulty Score (D)	Open score - depending on the level of difficulty of skills included in a routine. It includes the value of the performed elements, specific composition requirements and values for special connection.
Execution Score (E)	Each judge evaluates the performances with marks from 0.00 to 10.00pts according to the faults table. The highest E score and the lowest E score are dropped and the remaining three scores are averaged.
Final Apparatus Score	The Difficulty scores plus the Execution scores plus bonus minus penalties. (Final apparatus score = D + E + B – Penalties displayed to three decimal places).
Floor Exercise Music	Instrumental music or human voice (without lyrics) used for the women's floor exercise routine.
Inquiry	An inquiry is a formal request made by an authorised representative to review the Difficulty Score of gymnasts from their own NOC. It must be submitted within strict deadlines and follow official procedures. After review by the Superior Jury/Event Delegate using official footage, the score may increase, decrease, or remain unchanged, and the final decision cannot be challenged.
Judge	A qualified official who scores the competitor on each performance in the competition.
Jury	Jury is a synonym of judges' panel. It is a generic definition of all judges independent of their function.
March (March-in, March-out)	The process by which gymnasts enter the competition area, moving to the next apparatus and leaving the competition area.
Mixed Group	Group of gymnasts from different NOCs formed into a group for the qualifications competition. Mixed groups are referred to as: MG1, MG2, MG3, etc.
Mixed Team event	A team composed of one designated men's gymnast and one designated women's gymnast from the same NOC, selected from among all accredited gymnasts, who compete together as a Mixed Team.
Mixed Team Final:	A final knockout phase in which the top 12 mixed teams from Qualifications, with only one mixed team per NOC, compete in three successive elimination rounds (12 teams, then 8 teams, then 4 teams) to determine the mixed team medal positions. Rankings are based on the combined final scores obtained on the designated men's apparatus and designated

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	women's apparatus. Qualification scores are not carried forward, and each round starts from zero.
NOC reserve (NR)	An individual ranked higher than the first reserve, but excluded from the finals due to the NOC limits.
Panel	A group of judges responsible for assigning scores to gymnasts on a single apparatus.
Penalty	A penalty imposed as a score deduction for rule infringements or technical errors in performance.
Podium	The raised floor structure that each apparatus sits on.
Podium Training	Podium training is an official practice session before the start of a gymnastics competition, when gymnasts have the opportunity to practice their routines on the competition equipment in the competition arena.
Reserve	An individual (from an NOC with no eligible NOC substitute gymnasts) or team or mixed team who will only participate in the finals, if other qualified gymnasts/teams/mixed teams withdraw.
Revision Request	A formal request for the review of a time deduction, line deduction, or bonus applied to a gymnast's score. Requests must be submitted within the same deadlines and follow the same procedures as inquiries. No fee is charged for such requests.
Rotation	A segment of the competition in which gymnasts or teams or mixed teams perform.
Score	The final score achieved by the gymnast after all the judges' scores are calculated.
Signature Element	A skill with a certain minimum value named after the gymnast who first successfully performed it in a recognised competition.
Starting Apparatus	The first apparatus a gymnast competes on.
Subdivision	As not all gymnasts can compete at one time, the field is split into "Subdivisions". A subdivision completes all rotations before the next subdivision starts.
Superior Jury	The members of the technical committee, presided over by the IF Delegate (technical committee president) who rules on any problems occurring during the competition.
Team	A group of maximum three gymnasts from the same NOC who compete together.
Team Final	A final phase in which the top eight teams from the team qualifications compete on all apparatus for the team medals.
Team Format Final	The number of gymnasts in a team, how many may compete on each apparatus, and the number of scores that count towards the team total. For example, a team format of 3-2-2 (as used at the Youth Olympic Games) means a maximum of three gymnasts in a team; any two to compete on each apparatus at the discretion of the coach; both scores on each apparatus count towards the team total.
Team Format Qualification	The number of gymnasts in a team, how many may compete on each apparatus, and the number of scores that count towards the team total. For example, a team format of 3-3-2 (as used at the Youth Olympic Games) means a maximum of three gymnasts in a team; three

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	compete on each apparatus at the discretion of the coach; the top two scores on each apparatus count towards the team total.
Technical Committee (TC)	Seven Technical Committee members and one athletes' representative are elected to administer and manage the Artistic Gymnastics disciplines (Men's and Women's). The president and six members of each committee, including the Vice-Presidents, are elected by the Congress. For MAG, a seventh member is designated by the men's Technical Committee. The athletes' representative is elected by his/her fellow gymnasts and is part of the TC.
Touch Warm-up	Each gymnast is allowed touch warm-up time on the apparatus before the start of each rotation during qualifications, team finals, all-around finals and mixed team final.
Working Order	The sequence in which each gymnast performs.

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

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