



Question & Answer Clarification Document

ICE DANCE

2026-2027

ICE DANCE – Q&A CLARIFICATION DOCUMENT

Season: 2026–2027

Prepared for: Skaters, Coaches, Officials

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Purpose

This document provides official clarifications and answers to frequently asked questions regarding the application of ISU Communications No. 2794, 2795, 2797, and 2798.

It serves as a practical reference for the Ice Dance Community (Skaters, Coaches, Officials) to ensure consistent interpretation of technical specifications, GOE evaluation, deductions, and responsibilities.

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1. General & Technical Specifications

No.	Question	Clarification / Answer
1.1	SET OF TWIZZLES How many entry edges are there for the required twizzles?	There are four (4) entry edges FI, FO, BI, BO however, for the season 2026/27 there are 8 options accepted (LFI, RFI, LFO, RFO, LBI, RBI, LBO, RBO)
1.2	FD - SPIN For option 2 level 4 can you repeat middle feature a), b) or d)?	Yes.
1.3	RD - CDE What is the meaning of "acrobatic movement" in the CDE?	An acrobatic element is a movement with ANY of the following characteristics: strength, balance, flexibility or agility. An acrobatic movement is a controlled movement requiring a significant demonstration of one or more of the following characteristics: strength, balance, flexibility or agility.
1.4	RD - CDE What does "presentation to all four sides of the rink" mean?	The couple is considered as one unit . As long as one of the two skaters presents to each of the four sides of the rink, they have fulfilled the requirements.
1.5	RD - CDE What pattern is required for the CDE?	Short Axis, Long Axis or Diagonal (Short and Long Axis may be shifted) The CDE may be skated on a short Axis, Long Axis or Diagonal pattern. A Short Axis or Long Axis pattern is not required to cross the center of the ice.
1.6	RD - CDE During a CDE, the partners may separate to perform an acrobatic movement. Does this count as the permitted separation within the CDE?	No. A separation used solely to perform an acrobatic movement does not count as the permitted separation within the CDE, provided the partners reunite immediately after the movement.
1.7	RD - Holds What does Extended/sustained basic "Hand in Hand" position mean?	Side by side, hand in hand with fully extended arms.
1.8	FD – step sequences pattern If the couple perform a MiSt pattern for the Style B step sequence, can the couple do a DiSt pattern for ChSt?	Yes.
1.9	RD - GW 1st keypoint What is the correct foot placement for step 34?	The LBO edge is placed on the ice between the toe and instep of the skating foot, with no more than a half a blade distance.
1.10	FD - One Foot Turns Sequence Does the OFT sequence have to end simultaneously?	Yes. The Sport Rules state that the One Foot Turn Sequence consists of "turns performed on one foot by each partner simultaneously." Other than the first turn, the remaining turns do not have to be performed at the same time; however, this sequence must be completed together, unless one partner makes a mistake involving a loss of control resulting in a touchdown or fall.
1.11	LIFT In a combination lift can an accepted entry or exit upgrade the level of the other lift?	Yes. Based on the additional principles of calling, it is accepted to upgrade any level of lift.
1.12	RD – PDE In a pattern dance element, is a wrong step prior to or after the key point considered by the TP for the level?	No. The TP strictly assesses the steps stated in the chart as the key points. Wrong steps are evaluated by the judges awarding the GOE accordingly.

1.13	PD – PDE Is performing a wrong step in a PDE considered an interruption?	For Pattern Dance Elements, an interruption occurs when the continuity of the element is disrupted and one or more prescribed steps are missed, for example due to a fall, stumble, loss of balance, or touchdown. An interruption is the result of an obvious error that causes the sequence of prescribed steps to be broken. A wrong step, a step held for the wrong number of beats, a poorly executed step, or an incorrect free leg action do not, by themselves, constitute an interruption, provided the sequence continues without missing any prescribed steps. Such errors should be reflected in the GOE and, if they occur within a Key Point, considered by the Technical Panel when evaluating that Key Point.
1.14	PD – PDE Cross Roll Does the new skating blade have to be placed on the outside edge.	No. There is no requirement for the new skating blade to be on an outside edge when it is placed on the ice. (Rule 704 of the Sport Rules)
1.15	PDE 2WW Is the swing roll part of the key point features in key point 1 and 2?	Yes.
1.16	RD Is separation allowed during the permitted stop in Junior RD?	Yes. During the permitted stop the partners may separate (Rule 709 para g.) but such separation must not exceed the duration of one measure of the music and should not exceed two arm lengths apart.

2. Clarifications for Judges and Referees

No.	Question	Clarification / Answer
2.1	SET OF TWIZZLES How to consider negative features for required twizzles?	Execution not simultaneous and / or lack of unison: 1-2 negative features per twizzle(s)
2.2	RD – CDE How do the judges react if the separation and touching the ice is longer than 5 seconds?	Judges consider it as a negative feature „Not permitted items in any Element” (2 per each)
2.3	“e” symbol How does the “e” symbol effects the GOE?	If a Choreographic Element receives an “e,” reduce the established GOE by one grade (maximum final GOE = +4).
2.4	Silent Stand Protocol What materials may Ice Dance Judges bring to and use at the Judges’ stand?	Judges may use only official ISU documents or reference materials specifically authorized for use during the competition. Season 2026/27 Ice Dance judges also can use an additional reference sheet to record their scores only for the running segment of the competition. Any notes taken during the competition must relate exclusively to the performance being evaluated.