



## ***The ACRO Newsletter***

***Nr 37***

***By Tonya Case Acro TC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice president/ Acting President of the Technical Committee***

**FIG Office Moutier (SUI),      March 2008**

The FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee met at the end of August 2007 near Moscow, Russia. The countryside setting provided exactly what the TC needed for intense meetings regarding the next Code of Points and revisions of the Tables. Special thanks to Irinia Nikitina, ACRO TC member, for all her efforts to organise the meeting and attend to every detail.

The next meeting, in October 2007, was an extra meeting, held in London, so President Pat Wade was able to attend. Many thanks from Pat and the TC to British gymnastics for making this possible. And of course we must mention the accommodation and meals that were beyond extraordinaire!

The final 2007 meeting of ACRO TC was in Moutier, at the FIG Head Quarters, in the middle of December. A dusting of light snow added ambience to the setting, and the meeting room was filled with lively debate. It was a privilege to have both Professor Bruno Grandi and General Secretary Andre Gueisbuhler attend our meetings, to discuss many issues relative to the future of Acrobatic Gymnastics within the FIG. Dr. Michel Léglise was also present for part of our meetings. This provided the opportunity to discuss items for the agenda the Competition Commission meetings.

The first meeting of 2008 was hosted by the Belgian Gymnastics Federation in Ghent, Belgium. The meetings took place in early February. The host hotel was complete with everything essential to our meetings and the working conditions were excellent. Many thanks to ACRO TC member Rosy Taeymans for taking great care of the TC, including airport transportation in the middle of the night!

### **Message from the President, Dr. Patricia Wade**

The TC President, Dr. Patricia Wade, sends her greetings to all. Pat is currently enjoying a time of relatively good health and a break from her chemotherapy. She was able to join the TC for part of our meetings in London and for our meetings in Moutier in December. With our new-found means of communication via web cam and "Skype" she was able to participate in the Ghent meetings as well.

She has been able to attend the last two Executive Committee Meetings. With the generosity of FIG President Bruno Grandi and the support of British Gymnastics, the remaining TC meetings of this cycle will take place in London so that Pat may attend as her medical treatments allow.

Pat will remain as the President Elect until the end of this cycle. She will continue to participate whenever medically possible. Tonya Case will function as the acting President, chair meetings, and attend most EC meetings to represent the TC. Pat continues to demonstrate her dedication and love of Acrobatics with much contribution to the TC by way of drafting various documents, e-mail, text messages, and phone conferences. She remains a much valued member of the TC, and we appreciate all of the work that she is able to do on behalf of Acrobatics.

With permission from Pat, we share that she met with President Bruno Grandi and General Secretary Andre Gueisbuhler in December to discuss what role she might take on behalf of Acrobatics during the next cycle. Ethically, Pat does not feel she can stand for re-election because she cannot predict the timing or severity of her cancer treatments. However, she has every intention of remaining involved in the sport of gymnastics in whatever capacity is possible. And looks forward to working on our behalf in an advisory role as long as her health allows.



Please join the ACRO TC in expressing appreciation to Pat for all the hard work, her heroic efforts to remain involved at enormous personal cost, and in wishing her only the best possible outcomes from the treatment she faces in the future.

## World Championships and Age-Group Competition 2008

Despite enormous work to find a host for the 2008 World Championships, it has proved to be impossible in the months prior to the Olympic Games. As a result, the competition will not take place in June as expected.

The FIG EC has demonstrated complete support for Acrobatics by making a special exception to the calendar, to allow the World Championships to take place in the autumn. During the Executive Committee meeting held March 8-12, permission was given for British-gymnastics in collaboration with Glasgow City Council (Scotland) to organise the event, along with the World Age Group Competition, subject to contract, from September 29 – October 12. The FIG President Grandi has been given the authority to negotiate terms and details with Brian Stocks of British Gymnastics. Brian Stocks and British Gymnastics have made enormous efforts to make this project a possibility.

## Test Event

For the first time in our history, Acrobatics has been included in the test event for World Games. World Games President Ron Froehlich has confirmed that the Organising Committee in Kaohsiung will organise a test event for Acrobatic Gymnastics on November 1 and 2, 2008. It is anticipated that the athletes qualified for the World Games, based on World Championships, would wish to take part in this important event.

## Code of points clarifications:

- 19.4 This article has been rephrased because of confusion in translation to other languages. The new article should read as follows:  
In one exercise, the top of the pair may repeat the same position (e.g. handstand on two hands a total of 4 times, 2 times as a static hold and 2 times during a motion of the base. No further difficulty credit will be given to the top and no further difficulty credit will be given to the base unless the top moves to a different position of difficulty value.
- 35.5 There appears to be some confusion about this article. As a clarification, the deduction of 0.3 should **only** be applied when the order of performance of the elements is different from that drawn on the tariff sheet. There is no deduction for the performance of an additional element and no deduction if an element is declared but not performed.
- 20.16 According to article 18.7 going to shoulders is considered the same as going to the floor. This “breaks” the pyramid and then a “new” pyramid may be started. However, the difficulty value can be given for only three static holds on one pyramid construction. (Article 20.15 still applies.)
- 17.13 As per article 17.13, in a pyramid, when one partner of the trio does not receive difficulty credit, for any reason, no other partner may receive difficulty credit. For example, one pyramid has two base positions from Category 3. According to the rules for calculating difficulty, only the base position of the higher value is given credit for difficulty. This means the lower value base position has NO value. Therefore, the top and/or middle also are given NO difficulty value for any position performed on the base position of lower value.



## Tables of Difficulty

Clarification for the use of the Link Table (Dynamic):

The Link Tables on page 68 and page 138 work from left to right.

→ Vertical column = 1<sup>st</sup> element

→ Horizontal row = 2<sup>nd</sup> element

The horizontal row is limited for safety reasons. This table can NOT be used in the reverse direction!

## Code of Points 2009

The first draft of the Code of Points 2009 – 2012 has been published on the FIG intranet. Federations were invited to comment until the end of February. The draft code has been submitted to the FIG EC for approval at the meetings in St. Petersburg at the beginning of March.

### A brief summary of the major changes is as follows:

The 2009 Code has few changes to the rules for composition of exercises, but there has been significant re-organization in hopes of making it more logical and easier to understand. Two important points that have been changed: The requirement for a one second hold prior to a motion has been eliminated and the number of individual elements that may be performed by each partner for difficulty credit has been limited to a maximum of 6.

(Please note that the one second hold prior to a motion is still in the rules for the rest of this cycle. Difficulty judges are expected to take a 0.3 time fault whenever the one second hold is not clearly performed.)

The Artistry Tables have been modified, (again!), in an attempt to make the judging easier and more objective, and to reward those athletes who perform exercises with that extra special quality that many never achieve.

The roles of the CJP and Superior Jury have been elaborated according to a document that was created following the guidelines of the FIG EC, and approved at the FIG EC meetings in Orlando, Florida in May of 2007.

DRAFT 2 will be published by the end of May 2008. This draft will be used at the Intercontinental Judges' Brevet Course. The finalised Code of points 2009-2012 will be in place by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008 and will be operational from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2009.

## Information about the Tables of Difficulty 2009

For the cycle 2009-2012:

- Some elements of extreme flexibility in pairs, trios and fours are eliminated.
- Elements that are seen to be more "circus" in nature have also been eliminated.
- In Pairs Balance, the value of foot stands has been increased to better reward performance of this type of element.
- In Pairs Dynamic, the value of elements performed to catch in the foot to hand position has been increased.
- In Trios Dynamic, the value of elements performed to catch on feet on platform has been increased.
- Choreographic individual elements are eliminated. They can be performed to contribute to artistry, but will not count for difficulty anymore.

The Difficulty Conversion Tables will be reviewed after the next World Championships and modifications may be made at that time.



## **Evaluation of New Elements.**

The TC evaluated all the “new” element requests that were received by the deadline, 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2007. The accepted elements are published in the Tables of Difficulty Supplement attached. These new elements will be included in the Tables of Difficulty for the next cycle, Edition 2009.

- In the next cycle, new elements will be evaluated every two years. Requests for new element evaluations must be sent, on the official form, directly to the Technical Committee Secretary by e-mail before the 1<sup>st</sup> of November every 2 years (odd years) to be published in a February Newsletter prior to the World Championships. There will be no new elements evaluated this year. The next time new elements may be submitted will be before November 1, 2009, for publication in 2010.

## **Intercontinental Judges’ Brevet Course 14-17 November 2008**

Congratulations to the German Gymnastic Federation on a successful bid to organise the International Judges’ Brevet Course in Germany. Discussions are underway with the organiser, and the course outline has been drafted. The dates for the course will be November 17-23 2008. The preliminary schedule is for arrivals will be 19 November and departures from the venue no earlier than 1 pm. 23 November. Details of the venue, course, schedule and how federations apply will be issued as soon as the second Draft of the Code 2009-12 has been approved by the FIG Executive Committee.

To assist federations with planning, the following should help:

- Candidates must be nominated by the national federation
- Each federation will be allowed 3 candidates (Category 1, II or III) + any Category I judges who have met the competition requirements in the cycle 2005-8
- Federations with Category IV judges only may send I judge.
- Newly elected members of the FIG Technical Committee are obliged to attend and take all examinations.
- Presidents of Continental Union TC Acro Committees who will officiate on Superior Juries at Continental Championships must attend.
- Any judge who had a sanction in this cycle 2004-8 is not allowed to attend the intercontinental course but can renew Brevet an international or continental course
- An interpreter may accompany the candidates but are not part of the course.
- The course will be in English and Russian.

The Code of Points 2009-12 (draft 2) that will be used at the Course will be published by the end of May 2008 with the revised Tables of Difficulty. Every candidate at the Intercontinental Course must arrive in Germany with their own copies. They must also have a copy of the FIG Technical Regulations Sections 1 and 5.

A Study guideline document will be published to help study the Code and Technical Regulations before the course.

Federations are reminded that candidates for particular Categories of judging Brevet must have fulfilled criteria related to the number of events and type of events during this cycle 2005-08.

## **Artistic judging**

After analysis of the judging from the last two competitions, along with video evaluation, it is clear that we need more emphasis on the deductions for repetition! Artistry Judges, please pay close attention to the penalties for repetition of similar types of elements, and take the appropriate deductions. The best performers are those that select elements which show the full range of elements characteristic of the exercise. Those who use the same type of element throughout the exercise, usually in an attempt to increase difficulty, need to be penalized according to the Code.



## Judging Analysis

Careful analysis of the work of the judges indicates that some judges find it difficult to distinguish between the performances of pair/groups. This results in multiple ties, creating the same ranking for the majority of pair/groups in a discipline. Judges are encouraged to create distinction with their marks and to avoid multiple ties while judging.

Attached please find the Judging Analysis of World Championship in Coimbra 2006 and the Analysis from the World Cup Final in Belgium 2007.

**Reminder:** May we please remind you that **“Only information published in a FIG newsletter, with the FIG Logo, is to be considered as official information.”**

**Tonya CASE**  
**ACRO-TC Vice-President**

**Rosy TAEYMANS**  
**ACRO-TC Secretary**

In attachment:

### **JUDGING ANALYSIS** (3 pg)

- World Championship in Coimbra 2006
- Age group Competition in Coimbra 2006
- World Cup final Belgium 2007

### **SUPPLEMENT TO THE TABLES OF DIFFICULTY 2008** (4 pg)

- supplement PAIRS & trio (2 pg)
- supplement WOMEN'S GROUP (1 pg)
- supplement INDIVIDUAL ( 1 pg)

**INTERNATIONAL AGE GROUP COMPETITION  
PORTUGAL, 2006**



**JUDGING ANALYSIS**

|    | Fed | Family Name | First Name | Cat | %    | FIG Evaluation |
|----|-----|-------------|------------|-----|------|----------------|
| 1  | AUS | Ryan        | Pamela     | II  | 80   | Good           |
| 2  | BEL | De Bruyn    | Gert       | II  | 84#  | Good           |
| 3  | BEL | De Swaef    | Inge       | II  | 96   | Excellent      |
| 4  | BUL | Gabrovcki   | Mariyan    | IV  |      |                |
| 5  | CZE | Lukasova    | Anna       | II  | 80   | Good           |
| 6  | FRA | Marion      | Sophie     | III | 72#  | Satisfactory   |
| 7  | FRA | Peridy      | Carine     | III | 78   | Satisfactory   |
| 8  | GBR | Lawton      | Katie      | IV  | 80   | Good           |
| 9  | GBR | Reddy       | James      | IV  | 72   | Satisfactory   |
| 10 | GEO | Berianidze  | Nina       | II  | 78   | Satisfactory   |
| 11 | GER | Müllmann    | Norbert    | II  | 76*# | Satisfactory   |
| 12 | GER | Stoll       | Frank      | II  | 86   | Very Good      |
| 13 | IRL | Kavanagh    | Aideen     | II  | 80   | Good           |
| 14 | LTU | Artamonova  | Lidya      | II  | 88   | Very Good      |
| 15 | NED | Van Beek    | Brigitte   | II  | 78   | Satisfactory   |
| 16 | POL | Milewska    | Wieslawa   | I   | 90   | Excellent      |
| 17 | POL | Wojtkowiak  | Urszula    | I   | 88   | Very Good      |
| 18 | POR | Carvalho    | Joao       | II  | 86   | Very Good      |
| 19 | POR | Zacarias    | Ana        | III | 80   | Good           |
| 20 | RSA | Carr        | Ilse       | II  | 80   | Good           |
| 21 | RSA | Fourie      | Marinda    | IV  | 72   | Satisfactory   |
| 22 | RUS | Vinnikov    | Dmitry     | I   | 92   | Excellent      |
| 23 | RUS | Volbuev     | Leonid     | II  | 80   | Good           |
| 24 | SUI | Stucki      | Jorg       | II  | 76   | Satisfactory   |
| 25 | USA | Solodar     | Anatoliy   | III | 88   | Very Good      |
| 26 | USA | Von Bargaen | Janet      | II  | 86   | Very Good      |
| 27 | FIG | Kalinin     | Viktor     | I   | 84   | Good           |
| 28 | FIG | Dragonov    | Dragomir   | I   | 86*  | Very Good      |
| 29 | FIG | Lopes       | Ana        | I   | 89   | Very Good      |
| 30 | FIG | Ocmand      | Linda      | I   | 92   | Excellent      |

\* Verbal Warning  
# Bias or inaccuracy in analysis

# World Championships Portugal, 2006



## Judging Analysis

|    | Fed. | Family Name | First Name    | Cat. | %   | FIG Evaluation |
|----|------|-------------|---------------|------|-----|----------------|
| 1  | AUS  | Ryan        | Pamela        | II   | 88  | Very Good      |
| 2  | AZE  | Rajabov     | Adigozal      | III  | 70  | Satisfactory   |
| 3  | BEL  | De Bruyn    | Gert          | II   | 88  | Very Good      |
| 4  | BLR  | Yushko      | Zanna         | II   | 92  | Excellent      |
| 5  | BUL  | Draganov    | Dragomir      | I    | 88  | Very Good      |
| 6  | GBR  | Wharton     | Karl          | II   | 92  | Excellent      |
| 7  | GBR  | Sargeant    | Sandra        | II   | 88  | Very Good      |
| 8  | GER  | Hoffmann    | Kerstin       | I    | 76  | Satisfactory   |
| 9  | GER  | Jung        | Albert        | II   | 72* | Satisfactory   |
| 10 | LTU  | Kalinin     | Viktor        | I    | 84  | Good           |
| 11 | LTU  | Artamonova  | Liliya        | II   | 88  | Very Good      |
| 12 | NED  | Van Beek    | Brigitte      | II   | 72  | Satisfactory   |
| 13 | POL  | Wojtkowiak  | Urszula       | I    | 90  | Excellent      |
| 14 | POL  | Kaczorowska | Ewa           | II   | 80  | Good           |
| 15 | POR  | Tomas       | Bernardo      | I    | 80  | Good           |
| 16 | POR  | Lopes       | Ana           | I    | 84  | Good           |
| 17 | RSA  | Koekemoer   | Maria Adriana | I    | 84  | Good           |
| 18 | RSA  | Carr        | Ilse          | II   | 80  | Good           |
| 19 | RUS  | Vinnikov    | Dmitry        | I    |     |                |
| 20 | RUS  | Volobuev    | Leonid        | II   |     |                |
| 21 | UKR  | Berdnik     | Vitaliy       | II   | 88  | Very Good      |
| 22 | UKR  | Kyselyova   | Nataliya      | I    | 85  | Very Good      |
| 23 | USA  | Jones       | Jola          | I    | 90  | Excellent      |
| 24 | USA  | Hess        | Jennifer      | II   | 94  | Excellent      |
| 25 | FIG  | Worthon     | Judith        | I    | 92  | Excellent      |
| 26 | FIG  | Mileswka    | Wieslawa      | I    | 92  | Excellent      |
| 27 | FIG  | Hubenok     | Valenstin     | I    | 92* | Very Good      |

**World Cup Final**  
Belgium, 2007



**Judging Analysis**










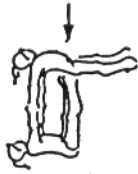
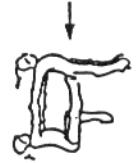


|    | Fed | Family Name | First Name | Cat | %  | FIG Evaluation |
|----|-----|-------------|------------|-----|----|----------------|
| 1  | BEL | De Bruyn    | Gert       | II  | 80 | Good           |
| 2  | BEL | De Swaef    | Inge       | II  | 80 | Good           |
| 3  | BLR | Yushko      | Zhanna     | II  | 88 | Very Good      |
| 4  | BLR | Hubenok     | Valentin   | I   | 84 | Good           |
| 5  | GBR | Wooton      | Judy       | I   | 84 | Good           |
| 6  | GBR | Wharton     | Karl       | II  | 76 | Satisfactory   |
| 7  | LIT | Artamonova  | Lidija     | II  | 88 | Very Good      |
| 8  | LIT | Kalinin     | Viktor     | I   | 88 | Very Good      |
| 9  | POL | Wotjkowiak  | Ursula     | I   | 84 | Good           |
| 10 | POL | Milewska    | Wieslawa   | I   | 84 | Good           |
| 11 | POR | Lopes       | Ana        | I   | 82 | Good           |
| 12 | POR | Carvalho    | João       | II  | 84 | Good           |
| 13 | RUS | Vinnikov    | Dimitry    | I   | 94 | Excellent      |
| 14 | RUS | Volobeuv    | Leonid     | II  | 84 | Good           |
| 15 | UKR | Lyapunova   | Natalya    | I   | 88 | Very Good      |
| 16 | UKR | Kalyntyuk   | Sergiy     | IV  | 84 | Good           |
| 17 | USA | Laughon     | Carisa     | IV  | 88 | Very Good      |
| 18 | USA | Jones       | Jola       | I   | 76 | Satisfactory   |



## Supplement to the Tables of Difficulty 2008

### Women's Group Static Elements

|   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Cat.1</b>  |   | <b>Cat.2</b>  |   |   |   |  |
|  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| 2   | 1   | 2   | 6   | 3   | 10  |  |
| <b>Cat.2</b>  |   |   |   | <b>Cat.5</b>  |   |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| 2   | 4   | 8   | 3   | 5   |   |  |

### Women's Group Dynamic Elements

Page 139 – to add second start position together with nr.1



Page 141 - to add new value : 9/4 A 14 v = 25

Page 142 - to add new value : 9/4 A 14 v = 24

Page 142 - to add new value : 10/4 E 14 v = 27

Page 144 - to add new start position



Page 145 - to add new value : 13/4 A 15 v = 30

Page 145 and Page 146 - to add in H new position



Page 146 - to add new value : 10/4 H 10 v = 16

10/4 H 11 v = 20

10/4 H 14 v = 24

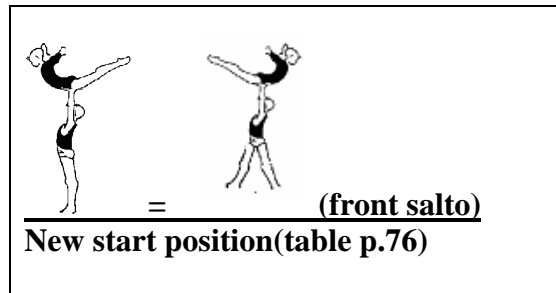
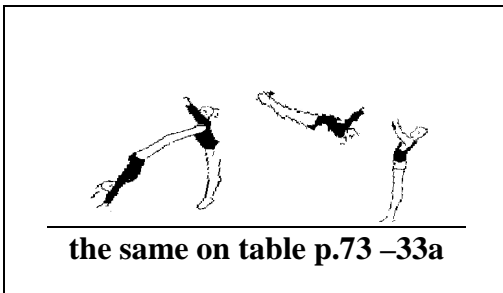
11/4 M 10 v = 20

11/4 M 11 v = 24

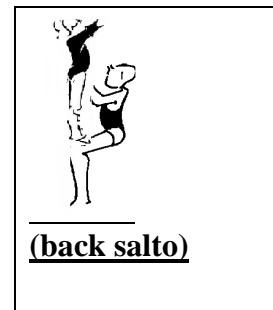
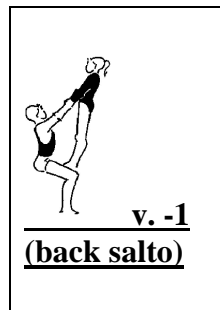
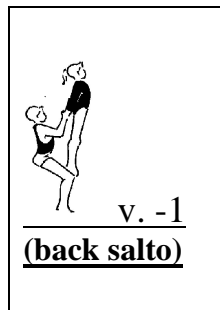
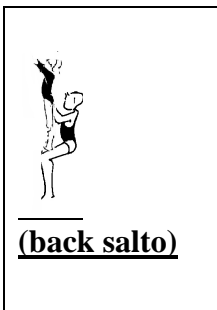
11/4 M 14 v = 28

# Supplement to the Tables of Difficulty 2008

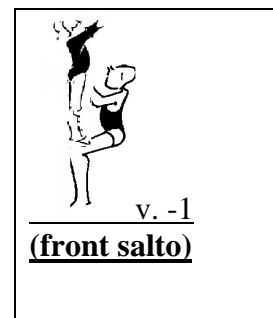
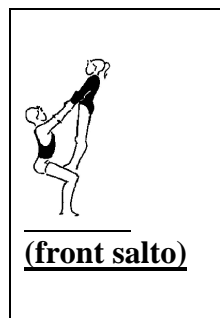
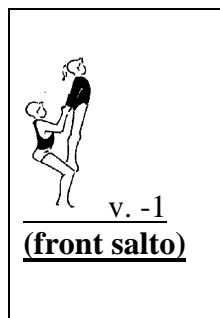
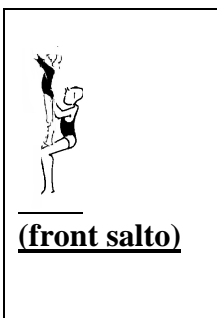
## PAIRS DYNAMIC



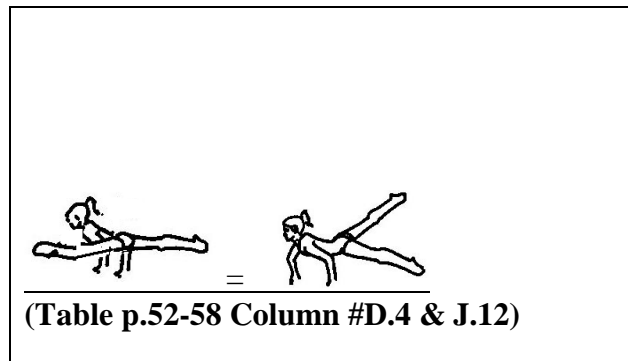
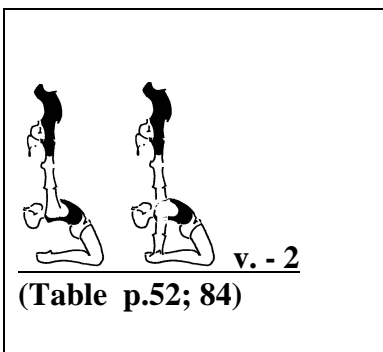
### New start position (table p.73)



### New start position (table p.74)



## PAIRS BALANCE



|                   |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
|-------------------|----------|--|---|----|----------|----|----|---|----|----|--|--|
| <b>Pair Mount</b> |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
|                   | <b>A</b> |  |   |    | <b>B</b> |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
|                   |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
| <b>Power</b>      |          |  | 7 | 9  | 14       | 11 | 16 | 8 | 10 | 13 |  |  |
| +2                |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
| <b>Power</b>      |          |  | 8 | 10 |          | 12 |    | 8 | 10 | 13 |  |  |
| +2                |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
| +3                |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |
|                   |          |  |   |    |          |    |    |   |    |    |  |  |

**Women's Group Static Elements**

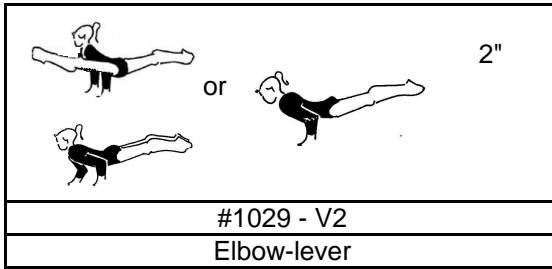


**V = 16**

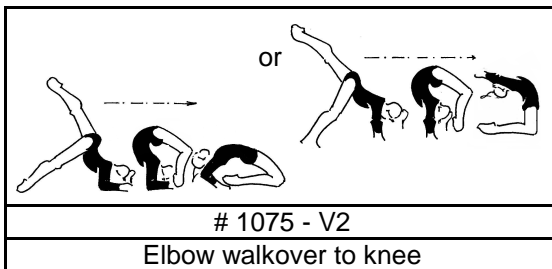
# Individual Elements/ Additions Tables of Difficulty - February 2008

## Category 1

### **STATIC**



### **FLEXIBILITY**



## Category 2

Choreographic elements with minor stylistic variation are considered identical.  
(Newsletter N°30 November 2005)