



New judges procedure for 2018

Thinking about becoming a Judge?

Judging is a great way to volunteer in the sport. It allows you to give something back to skating, to make a difference and to make sure the skaters of today are supported in a positive and fair way.

We are looking to grow our judging pool and wish to encourage anyone interested in becoming a judge in any discipline to apply. In the first instance we would invite you to email either the Technical Officer for Dance (technicald@fars.co.uk) or the Technical Officer for Figures and Free (technicalff@fars.co.uk), or both depending on the discipline you wish to qualify as a judge in.

Progression structure

The Technical Officer will help you to find the sources of information to study, create a portfolio* of your work and will partner you with an experienced judge who can act as a mentor to you. Together you will work on both the critical thinking aspect of judging and the knowledge of technique from basic fundamentals to elite skating. It is anticipated that this can be established over the course of one year. All trainee judges will be welcomed to sit on a panel as a 'supernumerary' judge. They may be party to the judges' meetings and learn how to explain their marks and their reasoning. There is no pass or fail element to this, it is aimed for open communication and to learn. However, any prospective judge will need to show that they have had enough practice and gained enough knowledge in their portfolio to be ready for the exam.

It is anticipated that judges' examinations will take place each year at the judges' meeting. This comprises of a general judging paper and a discipline-specific paper. The expected route would be to learn and practise for one season and the following year sit the examinations before the main start of that season. This means the new judge may begin as a Bronze judge in a relatively short but well supported time-scale. Once qualified, all judges continue to develop their knowledge and skills to either start judging a new discipline, refereeing or work towards international judging.

Any active judges who currently are only qualified in one discipline, are encouraged to follow the same procedure to gain experience and qualification in all disciplines.

I am pleased therefore to invite any interested parties to apply to the Technical Officer(s).

Portfolio

It is up to the trainee judge how a portfolio is presented, though what it should include is detailed below:

- Details of disciplines training to judge in, your own skating history and your mentor judge;
- Evidence of at least three events, one of which must be a FARS competition or championship, where you have completed supernumerary judging with copies of your judging sheets and your placements against the final results sheet (referees can support with this on the day of the event). In order to have permission to do supernumerary at any event, this must be organised in advance by the mentor judge in liaison with the event organisers, or through the Technical Officers of Dance / Figures and Free. Supernumerary judging of tests does not count as an event, though can be included in the portfolio;
- Not required, though recommended: Evidence of reflection following supernumerary judging, be it areas of development, where you require some additional training etc.;
- Not required, though recommended: Copies of notes / judging sheets from any video practice judging;
- Not required, though recommended: Notes / reflection on discussions with other judges, Technical Officers, judges' meetings or training days attended.