3. COMPONENTS: Rule 504

Marking Guide for Program Components – Rhythm Dance and Free Dance

RANGE OF MARKS	CHARACTERISTICS OF SKATING SKILLS	CHARACTERISTICS OF TRANSITIONS	CHARACTERISTICS OF PERFORMANCE	CHARACTERISTICS OF COMPOSITION	CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERPRETATION OF THE MUSIC/TIMING
10.0 **OUTSTANDING** **With a serious error, 10 cannot be awarded**	▪ deep, quiet, sure, seemingly effortless edges ▪ deep/fluid knee action ▪ excellent precision of foot placement in steps/turns ▪ seamless use of all directions ▪ effortless acceleration ▪ extensive skill range for both	▪ difficult, intriguing, varied network of edges, steps, turns, holds for both with a great predominance of face to face positions ▪ movements flow seamlessly into the next without any pause or gaps ▪ there is no pause to prepare for or following the exit of elements ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ move as one, superb matching ▪ skate very close to each other most of the time with superb ease when changing ▪ elegant /sophisticated style ▪ refined line of body and limbs ▪ precise execution of body movements along different planes ▪ both spellbinding/captivating ▪ projection exceptional (to audience or inwards if music requires)	▪ wide range of steps, moves, positions, and design of required elements superbly motivated by music ▪ ingenious use of music, space, symmetry ▪ memorable highlights distributed evenly throughout the program ▪ all movements purposefully created and following the musical phrase ▪ change of pace/tempo incorporated seamlessly ▪ total utilization of personal and public space ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 100%	▪ skaters embody the music as one ▪ genuine motivation from "heart" by both ▪ wide range of inspired movements linked with personal gestures ▪ skaters convincingly stay "in character" for the entire program. ▪ exceptional ability to relate as one and to reflect character and rhythm of the music ▪ superb embodiment of the music's style and character ▪ timing: 100% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): 100% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): 100%
9.75 – 9.00 **EXCELLENT** **With serious errors, 9 cannot be awarded**	▪ deep, quiet, sure, seemingly effortless edges ▪ deep/fluid knee action ▪ excellent precision of foot placement in steps/turns ▪ seamless use of all directions ▪ effortless acceleration ▪ extensive skill range for both	▪ difficult, intriguing, varied network of edges, steps, turns, holds for both with a great predominance of face to face positions ▪ movements flow seamlessly into the next without any pause or gaps ▪ there is no pause to prepare for or following the exit of elements ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ move as one, superb matching ▪ skate very close to each other most of the time with superb ease when changing ▪ elegant /sophisticated style ▪ refined line of body and limbs ▪ precise execution of body movements along different planes ▪ both spellbinding/captivating ▪ projection exceptional (to audience or inwards if music requires)	▪ wide range of steps, moves, positions, and design of required elements superbly motivated by music ▪ ingenious use of music, space, symmetry ▪ memorable highlights distributed evenly throughout the program ▪ all movements purposefully created and following the musical phrase ▪ change of pace/tempo incorporated seamlessly ▪ total utilization of personal and public space ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 90%	▪ skaters embody the music as one ▪ genuine motivation from "heart" by both ▪ wide range of inspired movements linked with personal gestures ▪ skaters convincingly stay "in character" for the entire program. ▪ exceptional ability to relate as one and to reflect character and rhythm of the music ▪ superb embodiment of the music's style and character ▪ timing: 100% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): 90% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): 90%
8.75 – 8.00 **VERY GOOD**	▪ strong, sure, fluid edges ▪ supple knee action ▪ precision of foot placement, neat steps/turns ▪ ease in accelerating even during difficult steps ▪ always multidirectional broad skill range for both	▪ difficult, varied, sequences of edges/steps/turns/holds for both throughout with a great predominance of face to face positions ▪ movements flow easily into the next ▪ most elements are executed without visible preparation or conclusion ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Elements and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ coordinated movements, very good matching ▪ skate close to each other most the time with extreme ease when changing positions / holds ▪ very good carriage and placement of the body ▪ very good control of the body along different planes ▪ project strongly and together convincing	▪ variety of innovative and purposeful moves that develop a theme ▪ very good choreography, clearly understandable and motivated by the music ▪ change of pace/tempo incorporated with ease ▪ very good use of musical phrasing/space/symmetry ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 80%	▪ skaters and music meld together ▪ internal motivation clearly seen by both ▪ use of interesting and personal gestures to express the music ▪ very good ability to relate as one to reflect the character and rhythm of the music ▪ very good embodiment of the music's style and character ▪ timing at least: 80% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD):at least 80% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): at least 80%

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7.75 – 7.00 **Good**	▪ strong, sure, confident edges ▪ strong, flexible knee action ▪ polished & clean foot placement in steps/turns ▪ good use of multi directional skating ▪ ability to accelerate easily ▪ good skill range 70% of time for both	▪ varied and connected edges/steps/turns/positions for both ▪ varied use of holds with a predominance of face to face positions ▪ minimal use of cross cuts or running ▪ fluid and intentional movements throughout ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Elements and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ move as couple, matched with ease ▪ skate close to each other at least 70% of time ▪ easy use of change of all holds and positions ▪ good carriage/lines ▪ good demonstration of control of the body along different planes. ▪ both project most of time	▪ use of known and innovative / creative moves that are motivated by the music ▪ obvious relationship between moves and musical selection. ▪ good use of musical phrasing/space/symmetry ▪ both skaters demonstrate commitment to the composition purpose ▪ directed to all sides of the rink ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 70%	▪ skating/music integrated ▪ good internal motivation and feeling for the music by both ▪ skaters stay "in character" at least 70% of program ▪ good partner relationship with both communicating the details of the music through movement ▪ good expression of the music's style and character ▪ timing: at least70% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): at least70% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): at least 70%
6.75 – 6.00 **Above average**	▪ reasonable, sure edges ▪ above average knee action ▪ above average cleanness in foot placement in steps/turns demonstrated in all directions with ease at least 60% of the time ▪ steps/turns, all directions with ease 60% of the time ▪ gain and maintain speed and flow easily ▪ above average skill range for both	▪ difficult and varied of edges/steps/turns/positions for both for 60 % of time ▪ varied use of holds with a frequent use of face to face positions ▪ seldom use of cross cuts or running ▪ some breaks in continuity ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ above average unison, move as couple 60% of time ▪ skate close to each other 60% of time ▪ above average control of body and limbs along different planes ▪ above average carriage / lines ▪ both are able to project 60% of time	▪ interesting moves derived from the concept ▪ most moves/pattern/utilization of space are related to the purpose. ▪ above average distribution of highlights and placement to match musical phrase and form ▪ use of creative set-ups for required elements ▪ above average use of ice pattern ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD):60%	▪ skating fits music well ▪ solid internal motivation and feeling for the music by both ▪ skaters stay "in character "at least 60% of time ▪ skaters are both able to play with the music and communicate the details of the music through movement ▪ partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music at least 60% of time ▪ above average expression of the music's style and character ▪ timing: at least 60% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD):at least 60% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): at least 60%
5.75 – 5.00 **average**	▪ moderately sure edges ▪ some variety of knee action/steps/turns ▪ even speed and flow throughout ▪ average skill range for both	▪ series of variable edges/steps/turns/positions for both ▪ average use of holds with many face to face positions ▪ limited use of cross cuts or running ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ unison broken occasionally ▪ skate close to each other at least 50% of time ▪ average control of body and limbs along different planes ▪ pleasing carriage/lines with some breaks ▪ projection skills variable but both are able to project	▪ variable moves often related to purpose and music ▪ moves and highlights match the musical phrasing most of the time. ▪ highlights generally well distributed but focused occasionally to one side ▪ average use of change of pace ▪ average design of movements and pattern / ice coverage ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 50%	▪ slight difference in skater motivation/feeling for the music ▪ skaters stay "in character" at least 50% of the time ▪ average use of movement linked to musical accents/details ▪ average expression of music's style and character. ▪ reasonable partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music ▪ timing: at least 50% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): at least 50% correct ▪ dance mood (FD:at least 50%)

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4.75 – 4.00 Fair	▪ shallow edges with variable edge quality and knee action ▪ fair range of steps/turns, multidirectional at least 40% of time ▪ variable skills for both, variable abilities ▪ consistent speed and flow at least 40% of time	▪ an equal amount of simple and difficult edges/steps/turns/positions ▪ one partner has some sections with simple workload ▪ varied use of holds with some face to face positions ▪ creative linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ unison sometimes broken ▪ skate close to each other at least 40% of time ▪ variable control of body and limbs ▪ carriage /lines variable, mostly pleasing posture ▪ only one projects or both only 40% of time	▪ movement design corresponds sometimes with music ▪ moves and highlights sometimes match the musical phrasing ▪ elements generally well distributed but sometimes too much emphasis to one side of the rink ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): at least 40%	▪ skating fits music with minor exceptions ▪ some motivated moves but balanced feeling for music missing ▪ moderate use of movement linked to musical accents and nuances ▪ correct but not personal expression of the music's style and character ▪ partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music at least 40% of time ▪ timing: at least 40% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): at least40% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): at least 40%
3.75 – 3.00 Weak	▪ some flat edges ▪ limited knee action, stiff at times ▪ few steps/turns, able to skate in all directions on simple turns and for some difficult turns; ▪ variable skills for both and occasionally differing ability ▪ lack of flow, some change in speed	▪ some basic edges/steps ▪ some simple turns/positions/holds ▪ one partner performs difficulty and other on 2 feet in some sections ▪ little use of partner facing hold ▪ poor linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ variable unison ▪ skate close to each other at least 30% of time ▪ weak control of body and limbs ▪ little demonstration of use of the body in different planes ▪ variable extensions ▪ holds relatively stable ▪ only one projects 30% of time or both only occasionally project	▪ some isolated groups of moves that are motivated by the music and fit the purpose. ▪ movements generally do not follow the musical phrasing. ▪ often moves and highlights directed to the judge's side ▪ reasonable placement of elements on ice surface ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 30%	▪ some motivated moves, but often seem meaningless to skaters ▪ music is background for Required elements ▪ appropriate use of music but personal feeling is inconsistent with the skaters weaving in and out of character ▪ some partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music ▪ timing: at least 30% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): at least 30% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): at least 30%
2.75 – 2.00 Poor	▪ short and poor steps/ flat edges ▪ little power, toe pushing or wide stepping ▪ few steps/turns, able to skate in both directions on simple turns only ▪ variable skills with one weaker in sections	▪ many parts have basic edges/steps ▪ simple turns/positions/holds ▪ many sections in hand-in-hand or side by side hold, minimal use of partner facing holds ▪ one partner performs difficult moves and other on two feet most of time ▪ simple linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ inconsistent stability of holds and some unison breaks ▪ do not skate close to each other most of the time ▪ poor control of the body and limbs ▪ poor carriage/extensions ▪ limited projection skills, both cautious	▪ many moves do not appear to be motivated by the musical selection ▪ the purpose of the composition is poorly developed or communicated through movement. ▪ movements do not follow the musical phrase. ▪ moves and highlights directed to judges' side ▪ choreography gives the feeling of a completely unified dance (RD): 30%	▪ no relationship or feeling for music demonstrated by skaters ▪ poor use of movement linked to musical accents and details ▪ occasional partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music ▪ unmotivated/non-authentic movement ▪ timing: less than 30% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): Less than30% correct ▪ dance mood (FD) : Less than 30%
1.75 – 1.00 Very poor	▪ short and very poor steps/edges ▪ slow, little flow, toe pushing ▪ few steps/turns, mainly in one direction ▪ minimal variation in speed ▪ very poor basic skills with one being "carried" in sections	▪ predominance of stroking/simple turns/poses ▪ many large sections in hand-in-hand or side by side hold only ▪ very poor linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ struggle in holds and unison ▪ out of unison ▪ skate close to each other most of the time ▪ very poor matching of body position/extensions ▪ very poor carriage/extensions ▪ very limited projection skills	▪ most moves do not appear to be motivated by the musical selection ▪ the composition lacks a clearly defined / developed purpose. ▪ movements are mainly directed to judge's side ▪ placement of moves lacks balance with little relationship to musical phrase. ▪ composition is repetitive or monotonous ▪ choreography gives little feeling of a completely unified dance (RD)	▪ lacking or inappropriate skater dynamics in relation to the music ▪ moves seem unrelated to the music's character and / or rhythm ▪ little or no partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music ▪ timing: less than 30% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): less than 30% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): less than 30%

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0.75 – 0.25 **Extremely poor**	▪ extremely poor steps and shaky edges ▪ mostly on two feet for both ▪ uncontrolled movements ▪ struggle with steps/turns: always in one direction ▪ extremely poor basic skills for both ▪ cannot gain speed	▪ basic stroking and extremely poor posing throughout ▪ few sustained edges, and pattern consists of straight lines ▪ mostly use of hand in hand or side by side hold ▪ very poor linking of Pattern Dance Element(s) and rest of the dance (RD)	▪ unstable holds, uncontrolled matching and unison ▪ do not skate close to each other most of the time ▪ extremely poor line of body and limbs/carriage/extensions ▪ projection skills lacking, both labored	▪ moves do not appear to be motivated by the musical selection. ▪ entire program directed to judge's side ▪ placement of moves appears random, not linked to musical phrase ▪ movement and element placement lacks balance. ▪ some areas of ice untouched and often use of straight lines or barrier skating ▪ choreography does not give any feeling of a unified dance (RD)	▪ lacks any skater(s) dynamics to the music ▪ isolated and apparently random non personal gestures independent of the music's character ▪ Little use of movement linked to musical accents / details. ▪ no partner relationship to reflect the character and rhythm of the music, two "solos" ▪ timing: less than 30% correct ▪ expression of Rhythms (RD): less than 30% correct ▪ dance mood (FD): less than 30%

Notes:
- ▪ Under Interpretation of the Music/Timing, the characteristic "timing" means:
  - skating primarily to rhythmic beat,
- ▪ If a Fall or Interruption affects the rest of the program or part of the program, certain characteristics of one or several Program Components may be impacted.
- ▪ With a serious error, 10 cannot be awarded for any Component
- ▪ With serious error**s**, marks in 9's cannot be awarded for any Component.
- ▪ Fall is considered as a serious error.

Adjustments to Program Components	
Under Skating Skills	Loss of Control or Stumble/Touchdown outside of Required Elements: ▪ by one partner - 0.5 per each ▪ by both partners - 1.0 per each