



IJRU Competition Rules

Competition Manual
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Competition Manual

The Competition Manual (CM) is the central document that describes the logistics of the event as well as which other rule documents apply and how.

This Competition Manual applies to the IJRU World Championships series.

For these events the IJRU Judging Manual and IJRU Technical Manual apply.

The competitions

The IJRU world championships series is made up of the competitions International Open Tournament (IOT), Junior World Championships (JWC), Senior World Championships (WC), and Show Competition (SC).

Double Dutch Contest

In partnership with the Japan Double Dutch Association (JDDA), the Double Dutch Contest 2021 will be colocated with the IJRU 2021 series, run by and using the rules of the JDDA.

All competitions are single-round except the Senior World Championships, which has a two-round structure. Athletes compete in the first round (preliminaries) to determine the all-around and for a spot in the final round. The winner of the final round (finals) will be the world champion(s).

Divisions

Gender categories

For team events the gender categories are defined as follows

Category	Definition
Female gender	all female
Male gender	all male
Mixed gender	at least one male and one female
Any gender	any combination

Please refer to the current IJRU gender policy [🔗](#) for guidelines on gender categories.

All single-participant events have a female gender category and a male gender category.

Except as noted below, all team events have a female, male and mixed gender category. In the mixed category, at least one female and one male athlete must compete in each event the team competes in. Failing to fulfil this criterion will disqualify the team from the gender category and if applicable, the All-Around and/or affected Overall.

The Show Competition and Double Dutch Triad events have an "any gender" category, with no requirement on the gender of the athletes. A team may consist of athletes of one gender only or of athletes of different genders.

There must be 4 or more entries from 2 or more countries in an event gender category for the event to be competed in that gender category. If an event has a gender category that fails to fulfil this requirement it will be combined or cross-ranked. The preferences of combining or cross-ranking gender category in order:

1. Male → Mixed
2. Mixed → Female
3. Female → Mixed

Combining entries

If two gender categories both do not have enough entries, they will be combined and ranked together, and rank will be awarded across all of the competitors in the combined gender categories.

Cross-ranking entries

If one gender category has enough competitors to compete but another one does not, the larger gender category is ranked and awarded as normal, but the smaller gender category is ranked combined against the larger group and only competitors that place against the combined ranked entries will be awarded.

Age groups

Ages are determined based on the athlete's age as of December 31 in the year of the competition. The competitors will be entered at their age as of this date. Ages will be verified against government issued documents during accreditation.

International Open Tournament

The International Open Tournament is a one-round, competition run parallel to the World Championships. The International Open Tournament has the following age groups: 12-15, 16-18, 19+, 30+. For team events the team qualifies for the age category the oldest athlete of the team entry. This means that athletes can compete up across any age categories in the International Open Tournament. The exception is the 30+ age category where all athletes must be 30+. Athletes over the age of 30 can compete down in 19+ if they choose.

Junior World Championships

Competitors in the Junior World Championships must be no younger than 12 and younger than 16 by the designated competition age cut-off date.

World Championships

Competitors in the World Championships must be 16 or older by the designated competition age cut-off date with the following exception:

For team events, at least one member of the group must be 16 or older. The remaining member(s) must be at least 13 or older. Athletes aged 13-15 entering team events in the World Championships won't be allowed entry in the same event(s) in the Junior World Championships

Note

In the future, the ability for athletes under 16-years of age in the World Championships may be reduced or eliminated.

Show Competition

Competitors in the Show Competition must be no younger than 12 by the designated competition age cut-off date.

Team Composition

A team competing in any team overall (TSRO , TDDO , TCAA) may consist of 4, 5, or 6 athletes. No divisions will be made based on team sizes.

An athlete may only compete in one overall/all-around team per overall type.

For entries into individual events the team may consist of the number of athletes the event requires.

Events

These events will be competed in the Junior World Championships and World Championships, the events included in the International Open Tournament will be chosen based on available time and space.

It is not allowed to compete in the same event in different competitions of the IJRU World Championships series.

Example

An athlete cannot compete in Single Rope Speed Relay in both the IOT and WC, or be part of a Team Single Rope Overall Team in both the IOT and JWC.

Events competed individually

Event Name	Abbreviation	Timing	Athletes
Single Rope Speed Sprint	SRSS	1×30 seconds	1 athlete
Single Rope Speed Endurance	SRSE	1×180 seconds	1 athlete
Single Rope Triple Unders	SRTU	No time limit	1 athlete
Single Rope Individual Freestyle	SRIF	0-75 seconds	1 athlete

In the Junior World Championships Consecutive Triple Unders (SRTU) will not be competed.

Events in the Individual Single Rope Overall (ISRO)

Out of the events detailed under Events competed individually, the following are selected for the Individual Single Rope Overall.

1. Single Rope Speed Sprint (SRSS)
2. Single Rope Speed Endurance (SRSE)
3. Single Rope Individual Freestyle (SRIF)

The same athlete must compete in all three events to qualify for the Individual Single Rope Overall

Events competed in teams

Event Name	Abbreviation	Timing	Athletes
Single Rope Speed Relay	SRSR	4×30 seconds	4 athletes
Single Rope Double Unders Relay	SRDR	2×30 seconds	2 athletes
Double Dutch Speed Relay	DDSR	4×30 seconds	4 athletes
Double Dutch Speed Sprint	DDSS	1×60 seconds	3 athletes
Single Rope Pair Freestyle	SRPF	0-75 seconds	2 athletes
Single Rope Team Freestyle	SRTF	0-75 seconds	4 athletes

Event Name	Abbreviation	Timing	Athletes
Double Dutch Single Freestyle	DDSF	0-75 seconds	3 athletes
Double Dutch Pair Freestyle	DDPF	0-75 seconds	4 athletes
Double Dutch Triad Freestyle	DDTF	0-90 seconds	5 athletes
Wheel Pair Freestyle	WHPF	0-75 seconds	2 athletes

In the Junior World Championships Double Dutch Triad Freestyle (DDTF) will not be competed.

Events in the Team Single Rope Overall (TSRO)

Out of the events detailed under events competed in teams, the following are selected for the Team Single Rope Overall.

1. Single Rope Speed Relay (SRSR)
2. Single Rope Double Unders Relay (SRDR)
3. Single Rope Pair Freestyle (SRPF)
4. Single Rope Team Freestyle (SRTF)

Each team member must compete in at least one of these events to qualify for the overall.

Events in the Team Double Dutch Overall (TDDO)

1. Double Dutch Speed Relay (DDSR)
2. Double Dutch Speed Sprint (DDSS)
3. Double Dutch Single Freestyle (DDSF)
4. Double Dutch Pair Freestyle (DDPF)

Each team member must compete in at least one of these events to qualify for the overall.

Events in the Team All-Around (TCAA)

1. Double Dutch Speed Relay (DDSR)
2. Double Dutch Speed Sprint (DDSS)
3. Double Dutch Single Freestyle (DDSF)
4. Double Dutch Pair Freestyle (DDPF)
5. Single Rope Speed Relay (SRSR)
6. Single Rope Double Unders Relay (SRDR)
7. Single Rope Pair Freestyle (SRPF)

8. Single Rope Team Freestyle (SRTF)

Each team member must compete in at least one of these events to qualify for the all-around.

Events in the Show Competition

Event Name	Abbreviation	Timing	Athletes
Show Freestyle	SCTF	0-360 seconds	8-20 athletes

Event awards

In the events and categories detailed under Events, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd ranking athletes or teams are awarded. The 1st ranking athlete(s) will be awarded the title IJRU World Champion(s) for that event or category. Awards are handed out separately for every division.

Awards for the categories (ISRO , TSRO , TDDO , and TCAA) will be awarded based on the results of the World Championship All-Around/Preliminary round. Awards for the individual events will be awarded based on the results of the World Championships Finals, as detailed under Registration and qualification process.

Registration and qualification process

Qualification for World Championships Finals

The top 6 athletes/teams in every event in the World Championships all-around/preliminaries (first round) qualify for the World Championship Finals.

To determine the World Championship Finals qualifiers in speed, the 6th ranking athlete/team's score will be recounted. After that all athletes/team with a score within two times the allowed margin of judge-error of the 6th place will be recounted.

Re-competing the SRSE 1x180 and SRTU Triple Unders events in Finals will be optional for athletes who qualify. Athletes who qualify will have 15 minutes after the qualifiers are announced to decide whether they will re-compete either or both events in the Finals, or whether they choose to keep their qualifying score instead. The athlete, and the national head-coach (or head of delegation) will have to provide a signature confirming the choice(s) that they have made. Once the declaration is made, the decision is final, and changes will not be allowed. Any athlete who chooses to re-compete an event will be expected to do so.

Any athlete who withdraws ("scratch") from one of these events after deciding to re-compete will be disqualifying themselves from that event, and their qualifying score will not be considered in the results to decide the winner.

Processes

Protests and appeals

The competition arrangers will designate a Tournament Committee that will hear and make decisions on protests and appeals within the competition. The committee should consist of the tournament director (who will chair any tournament committee meeting but will not have voting power) and an odd number of voting members, at least 3. No more than one person from a country can be a member of the tournament committee. At least a senior judge, senior skipper and a member of the technical committee should be included in this committee. The Tournament Committee can hear protests on:

- A scoring error related to data entry or calculation error
- A decision by the tournament director or other tournament officials that is unfair or inconsistent with published IJRU rules

Appeals will not be accepted on:

- The decisions or ratings of judges

To make an appeal the following process should be used

1. Team head coaches or designated representative discusses the issue with the Tournament Director. The tournament director will propose a recommendation (and may consult with the full Tournament Committee, but this is not required.)
2. If the coach/designated representative does not agree with this decision, she/he has one hour of the decision to appeal to the full Tournament Committee.
3. On appeal, the coach/designated representative will present their case to the full Tournament Committee.
4. The Tournament Committee will meet in private, discuss the issue and vote on the issue. A majority is required to overturn the original decision of the tournament director.
5. The decision of the Tournament Committee is final and will be communicated to the coach/designated representative

If corrections are made after awards are distributed, athletes will not be required to return any incorrectly given awards, but they may choose to do so as a show of sportsmanship.

Injury and substitutions

Substitution of an athlete in an event will be permitted within the following guidelines:

1. The Tournament Director is notified immediately of any substitution.
2. The substitute athlete is not currently competing in the same event in any other age or gender category.
3. The substitute athlete's gender and age must fall within the parameters of the event in which they are substituting for a freestyle event.¹
4. If substitute athlete is a member of another all around team, the team into which they are substituting an event will not be eligible for an all around placement
5. If a gender or age category change occurs with the substitution, any all around entries for the team in which the substitution is occurring will be nullified.
6. Substitution must be requested by the NGB Head Coach or chosen representative.

¹ At the discretion of the tournament committee, a change in age or gender division required by a substitute may be permitted if enough prior notice is provided and judging panels can be adjusted for the given entry.

Starting order

The starting order of entries for preliminaries will be randomly determined separately for each division. In the Finals the starting order is seeded by increasing qualifying score.

Withdrawal

If an athlete/team doesn't show up on the competition floor within 1 minute of being called it will be considered a withdrawal from the event. It is the responsibilities of athletes and coaches to follow the competition progress even if the tournament runs ahead of projected schedule.

Officials

Qualification of judges

To become an IJRU certified judge in a judging category it will be required to complete online training, live training and pass a standardized certification test. Judges can be certified for one or more of the following judge categories

- Speed
- Presentation
- Difficulty
- Required Elements

For each type of certification there are three levels of certification which are further defined on IJRU's website

Judge and volunteer nominations

We recommend that judges are at least 15 years of age, however, this is decided by the tournament organiser. For all IJRU tournaments, judges must be at least 15 years of age as of the date of their judge assignment.

Number of judges

The minimum and recommended number of judges required for any event is detailed below.

Freestyle events

Min.	Rec.	Judge	Description
2	3	P _A	Athlete Presentation
2	3	P _R	Routine Presentation
2	3	R	Required Elements
2	5	D	Difficulty

For definitions and roles of judges see JM - Judging freestyle.

Show freestyle events

Min.	Judge	Description
3	P _A	Athlete Presentation
3	P _R	Routine Presentation
3	R	Required Disciplines
5	D	Difficulty

For definitions and roles of judges see JM - Judging show freestyle

Speed and multiples events

Min.	Judge	Description
1	H	Head Judge
2	S	Speed Judge

For definitions and roles of judges see JM - Judging show freestyle

Assignment of judges

Each judge will be assigned by the Tournament Committee. Judge assignments will be provided to each NGB prior to the tournament. Changes to the judging assignments can be made right up until the start of an event.

There should never be more than 2 judges from the same country on a judging panel. There can only be one judge from a country in each judge type (i.e. Routine Presentation, Athlete Presentation, Difficulty etc.) (If insufficient number of judges from different countries are available to achieve this, the Tournament Director can make an exception.)

The same judge types (i.e. difficulty or presentation) should never sit next to each other on a panel.

Standards

Competition area

The competition floor should be a high quality, wooden sprung or cushioned sports floor.

All competition areas must be measured from the outside edge of the boundary.

The boundaries of the competition area will be marked with well-defined lines. The colour of these marks should be a clear contrast from the floor and other pre-existing marks on the floor.

There should be a 2-meter margin between each competition field.

Freestyle field

Freestyle fields are 12×12-meter squares.

Show freestyle field

Show freestyle fields will be dependent on the size of the venue, a minimum of 16×24-meters are recommended. The available space should be communicated well in advance.

Speed and multiples field


Speed and multiples stations are 5×5-meter squares.

Coach's box

A 1×1-meter coach's box will be placed outside each speed and freestyle field and positioned at one of the corners.

One of the four sides of the coach's box must be a part of the freestyle field or speed field's side.

The coach's box should not block the view of the judges or video-replay cameras.

 Example with one freestyle field containing four speed fields, this can be extended in all directions

Equipment and uniforms

Ropes

Ropes can generally be of any length.

The number of ropes allowed in the competition field is limited in all events except show freestyle. For Single Rope and Wheel events the number of ropes must not be greater than the number of athletes in the event. For Double Dutch a maximum of one set of ropes (2 ropes make a set) is allowed. Exceptions from this rule can be made in case of a recompetete as detailed in the Judging Manual.

Props

No props or special equipment other than that which is attached to the body during the whole routine may be used to add to the presentation and/or the degree of difficulty of the routine. Jewellery is allowed at the athlete's discretion and at their own risk.

Uniform

Supportive athletic shoes must be worn. If an athlete loses a shoe during a routine, no skills will be scored whilst the athlete doesn't wear their shoes.

Music

Music should be no longer than the allowed max time of the event it is used for, if not the music will be cut off at the length of the event. The time of the music is measured from the start of the audio file, not from the first audible signal.

At the allowed max time of the event a `soft-BEEP` (defined in the Technical Manual) will be inserted.

Music should generally be submitted in advance; however, the athletes should be able to provide a USB with their music in case of a music failure. The ability to test the music before the competition should be provided.

Recompeting

There are instances when athletes may be eligible to recompete. This includes:

- Speed score outside the margin of error (3 jumps) and:
 - Video replay unavailable and the 2 closest judges' scores are not within 3 jumps
 - Video replay available, but there is a technical issue
- Broken ropes
- Music failure

The Tournament Director is responsible for scheduling all opportunities to recompete and in specific instances will need to decide whether or not athletes are eligible to recompete. For broken ropes and some music failures, athletes are given an option to recompete.

Speed score outside the margin of error

If a speed score is outside the margin of error, the head judge will notify the tournament director. The tournament director will use the following procedures depending on whether video replay is available.

Video replay unavailable

The tournament director will notify the coach or team representative who was present in the coach's box, who will then wait with the tournament director until the second attempt has been scheduled. The coach or team representative who was present in the coach's box will be responsible for notifying the athlete(s) about when they will recompete.

The athlete(s) will be given a minimum of 10 minutes between attempts and the score of the athlete(s)' second attempt will be their final score.

Video replay available

The tournament director will ensure that the event is recounted off the competition floor while the tournament continues by a separate replay judge panel. The athletes do not receive a second attempt.

The replay judge panel will continue to score the event until at least 2 judges get a score within 3 jumps. This score will be used to calculate a final, total speed score.

Video issue

If a video recount is not possible for speed, and the video recount is needed, due to a technical issue such as the camera not recording the event properly, a file accidentally being deleted, a judge obstructs the view of the camera, or the camera ran out of space or power, the tournament director will notify the coach of record and the athlete(s) will be given an opportunity to recompete the event.

If the athlete(s) or coaches obstruct the view of the camera and a recount is not possible, the head judge from the replay judge panel should notify the tournament director. The tournament director will notify the coach of record that the athlete(s) will receive the original score.

Broken rope

If an athlete's rope breaks unintentionally during an event and the majority of judges agree the rope is broken, the athlete will be given one additional attempt to compete the event successfully. However, once an athlete leaves the station, they can no longer claim a broken rope. A broken rope includes but is not limited to:

- Frayed wire
- Rope separating from handle
- Snapped rope
- Broken handle (that impairs its use)
- Any breakage that halts the functionality of the rope.

If a majority of judges agree there is a broken rope, the head judge (in speed) or the floor manager after consulting the judge panel (in freestyle), will notify the tournament director immediately.

The tournament director will notify the coach or team representative who was present in the coach's box, who will then wait with the tournament director until the second attempt has been scheduled. The coach or team representative who was present in the coach's box will be responsible for notifying the athlete(s) about when they will recompete.

If unavailable, the tournament director will notify the coach on record, national head coach or head of delegation. The coach will have 5 minutes to decide whether to recompete the event.

If they choose not to recompete, they will be given the original judges' scores. The athlete(s) will be given a minimum of 10 minutes between attempts if they choose to recompete and the score of the athlete(s)' second attempt will be their final score.

If the rope breaks again on their second attempt, they will not be given another chance to recompete the event, but they may bring an additional (set of) rope(s) into the station for their second attempt to use if their rope breaks again

For Single Rope events one extra rope per athlete is allowed, for Double Dutch and Wheels one extra set of ropes is allowed. For team events, the team only gets 2 attempts regardless of which athlete's rope breaks. This means that one athlete's rope could break in the first attempt and a different athlete's rope could break in the second attempt, but they will still only receive 2 attempts.

Music failure

If the music fails during an event, the athlete(s) should continue the event without music. After the event, the floor manager will notify the tournament director. The tournament director will consult with the music operator to determine if the issue was caused by the equipment playing the music. If so, the athlete(s) will be given the opportunity to recompete the event.

The tournament director will notify the coach or team representative who was present in the coach's box, who will then wait with the tournament director until the second attempt has been scheduled. The coach or team representative who was present in the coach's box will be responsible for notifying the athlete(s) about when they will recompete.

If unavailable, the tournament director will notify the coach on record, national head coach or head of delegation. The coach will have 5 minutes to decide whether to recompete the event.

If they choose not to recompete, they will be given the original judges' scores. The athlete(s) will be given a minimum of 10 minutes between attempts if they choose to recompete and the score of the athlete(s)' second attempt will be their final score.

If the wrong music is played, compared to what the athlete(s) submitted, they should stop their routine within 5 seconds. If they can provide the correct music within 10 minutes, they will be given the opportunity to recompete the event. No recompetes will be given if the athlete(s) have submitted the wrong music.