

Status Report to the 2022 ISU Congress on the Four Year Plan 2018/19-2021/22

Committee/Commission:	Ice Dance Technical Committee (IDTC)
Project/Function/Area of activity:	Coaches/Skaters education & monitoring of Technical Rules

Since the ISU Congress 2018 in Sevilla, the IDTC has performed activities in order to achieve the specific results and benefits stated in the 2018/2022 Four-Year Plan. Unfortunately the process was disturbed by the Covid-19 pandemic and not all assumptions could be realized. However the following areas required specific attention:

1. Continued education of Ice Dance Coaches and Skaters keeping them up to date with current Rules and technical development of the sport and making them sensitive to potential problems and solutions

1.1. Meetings with Coaches and Skaters

IDTC members conducted Meetings with Coaches at all Championships to receive feedback from Coaches, in particular on suggestions of technical requirements for coming seasons:

- January 2019, Minsk, Belarus, in conjunction with European Championships
- February 2019, Anaheim, USA, in conjunction with Four Continents Championships
- March 2019, Zagreb, Croatia in conjunction with World Junior Championships
- January 2020, Graz, Austria, in conjunction with European Championships
- February 2020, Seoul, Korea, in conjunction with Four Continents Championships
- March 2020, Tallinn, Estonia, in conjunction with World Junior Championships.

The Annual IDTC Meetings with Coaches, Officials and Skaters were organized at the World Championships 2019 in Saitama City.

Unfortunately the Annual meeting could not be organized at World Championships 2020 in Montreal as this Event was cancelled due to the COVID -19 pandemic.

The World Championships in 2021 in Stockholm was organized but all meetings during the Event were cancelled.

Hopefully the meeting with Coaches will be held at the 2022 World Championships in Montpellier, France but the participation only with Coaches and moderated only by two IDTC members who are officiating at the Event.

The main purpose of these meetings was to inform Coaches and Skaters about technical requirements for the coming seasons including some of the requirements for the following season in particular the required Rhythms for the Rhythm Dance, and updates to the calling and marking guidelines.

Essential new information will be given to the Coaches at the meeting in Montpellier, France, regarding the most important aspects of the IDTC proposals for the forthcoming 2022 ISU Congress in Seville:

- New definition of the Dance Spin - To simplify the definition and the requirements
- New description of Program Components for Pattern Dance
- To allow ISU Technical Specialists to become Technical Controllers – it can increase the number of Technical Controllers for Ice Dance
- Simplification of the Rules for Officials
- Introduction of webinars as official Seminars for re-appointment of Officials
- Introduction of the same status for two Technical Specialists (Instead of Technical Specialist and Assistant Technical Specialist)
- Introduction of three new Program Components: Composition, Presentation, Skating Skills. Specification and simplification of the criteria and number of components is recommended in order to eliminate overlapping definitions of criteria and remove confusion and / or ambiguity related to such definitions.

1.2. Ice Dance Development Seminars

The fourth and fifth International Ice Dance Regional Development Training Seminar for Coaches and Ice Dance Couples from Asia and the Pacific Region was held on August 2018 and 2019 in Seoul, Korea. The sixth Seminar was organized for August 2020 in Seoul, but had to be cancel due to COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the Seminar organized in 2021.

It is very important to continue the development of Ice Dance in new areas where it is not yet traditionally pursued. This Seminar is the only organized help for Ice Dance in this region.

The IDTC plans to organize the Development Seminar again in Seoul, Korea in August 2022.

The ISU Ice Dance Development Training Seminars for Junior and Novice Ice Dancers and their Coaches were held in Oberstdorf, Germany, in April/May 2018 and 2019. The aim of this Global Seminar is the development of Ice Dance Coaches and their Couples to a higher technical level. The seminar 2020 had to be canceled, but the Seminar 2021 was entirely conducted as a Virtual one, with the participation of 100 coaches and skaters, in virtual classes done in 9 different days, for a total of 27 hours of lessons, examples and lectures.

The Virtual seminar is upload in the cloud and available to any coach that want to watch it again or for the first time.

As a part of the Coaches education, the Ice Dance Technical Committee Chair conducted two separate Conferences: one dedicated for Coaches participating at the Novice Seminar and the other one for those participating at the Junior Seminar.

Those Training Seminars were held with the financial support of the ISU Development Office. Since these Seminars proved to be very successful with proven, good results, the standardized plan of their continuation should be established for the long term.

1.3. Preparation of teaching materials

IDTC prepared and produced every season new Educational videos with "live examples" and "exercise examples" of Required Pattern Dance Key Points for Junior and Senior Rhythm Dance, which helped the coaches to better prepare couples for the competitions.

2. Maintenance of clear and up-to-date competition and technical rules and procedures in line with the development of the sport

In accordance with Technical Rules, some technical requirements must be decided for each season by the IDTC, in particular the list of Pattern Dances for Novice International Competitions, the Required Elements for Rhythm Dance and Free Dance, and the Rhythms for Rhythm Dance. Those decisions for seasons 2018/19, 2019/20, 2021/22 were published in ISU Communications.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many Skaters were not be able to prepare properly for the season 2020/21 and were very difficult for them to learn new programs. Therefore, it was decided to maintain the basic requirements of the season 2019/20 for the season 2020/21. Ice Dance Pattern Dances for all Novice categories and the Rhythm Dance for Juniors and Seniors were not be changed.

In accordance with Technical Rules, some technical requirements are decided by the IDTC with ongoing validity, in particular guidelines for calling and judging. When it was necessary, those requirements were updated and/or redrafted. Updates and redrafts were published in ISU Communications before competitive seasons 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 started.

March 2022