



2011-2012 Technical Q & A #12

Cumulative Points Calculation (CPC) Judging System Clarifications

Sit Forward (SF) Difficult Variations in Spins

November 22, 2011

The clarification below has either been received from the ISU Technical Committees and/or Sports Directorate or sourced in the ISU Technical Panel Handbook. Any further official clarifications provided by the ISU after the date of this communication will take precedence and will be communicated via this website. If you still require clarification after reviewing this document, contact Skate Canada at coaching&programs@skatecanada.ca".

(1) Question: Which sit spin positions will be counted as difficult variations when the skater is in a basic sit position with the free leg forward?

Answer: When the technical panel awards the feature of a difficult variation (DV), they assess whether or not the skater meets the definition of a DV as defined in the 2011-2012 ISU Technical Panel Handbook, Spins, page 4: "A difficult variation is a movement of a body part/leg/arm/hand/head, which requires more physical strength or flexibility and that has an effect on the balance of the main body core. Only these variations can increase the Level."

Generally speaking, skaters tend to attempt the sit forward (SF) difficult variation in one or more of the following ways:

- a. free leg straight out and head down approximately to skating thigh or knee (often called "rifle", "shotgun" or "fratianne")
- b. free leg forward and bent with the foot tucked in front and below the knee with body forward (often called "cannonball")
- c. free leg forward and bent with the free foot on top of skating knee (often called "pancake")
- d. free leg straight forward with the upper body twisted sideways (often called "twist")

Photographs of examples a. and d. can be found in the 2011-2012 ISU Technical Panel Handbook, Spins, page 8. A skater can receive credit for two DVs in the same category (in this case SF) with the following restriction: "Both in SP & in FS, if a difficult spin variation of the same category is repeated, this repetition can be



counted only when the distribution of the body weight or core is significantly different from the first variation.” (ISU Technical Panel Handbook 2011-12, Spins, page 5, Box on Repetitions).

It is clear from the photographs mentioned above that examples a. and d. meet the restriction as outlined because the distribution of the body core is significantly different.

The question facing technical panel members is as follows: Are the difficult variations b. and c. significantly different from difficult variation a.?

Calls will always be based on what the skater actually presents at the time according to the basic tenet of "significantly different with regards to core balance and flexibility". Very often a decision is made that DV a. (rifle) is not significantly different from DV b. (cannonball) and thus only one will be awarded a feature for a DV. A skater generally is awarded both a. and c. as usually the weight transfer to stay balanced is different.