

13. **New Density Scoring System:** Accept USAJR Density judging change. Apply rule as written in USAJR Judging Handbook for recording Density combinations and breaks. Details of this system can be found under Density in the content judging section of the USA Jump Rope Judging Handbook.
14. **Backwards Turning:** Add to freestyle description that backwards turning increases the level of difficulty.
15. **Floor Managers:** Must be Level 1 Judges.
16. **A 45 second call:** Will be added to the freestyle timing CD to assist athletes and judges in monitoring the progress of the routine...
17. **Boundary Line:** The boundary line in speed and freestyle is considered in.
18. **Re-Jumps:** Permit only one re-jump for a broken rope in both speed and freestyle events.. Athletes may bring a second rope to just inside the boundary of the freestyle station for the re-jump to be used if the rope used breaks.
19. **Re-Jumps in Speed:** In the event of a re-jump due to judge scoring discrepancy 5 speed judges will be used.
20. **Substitutions:** A substitution after the beginning of the tournament may only be made after medical personnel have verified the nature of the injury and reported it to the Tournament Director.
21. **Substitutions:** A substitution after the beginning of the tournament may only be made using a listed alternate from the injured athlete's team. The injured athlete may not compete in any subsequent event at the competition
22. **Substitutions:** A Pair or Double Dutch team using an approved substitute after the tournament has begun is eligible for All Around medals.
23. **Appeals:** Add a sentence "The Tournament Director must withdraw from the discussion after defending his reasons for his initial resolution of the complaint".
24. **Ferrell Award:** Candidates will be selected primarily on their performance at that year's JO Games with additional consideration of their history of sportsmanship and contributions to AAU Jump Rope.

For penalties resulting from rule infractions, please see Rules and Restrictions on page 27

For Differences between AAU and USAJR rules check www.aaujumprope.org and see under Rulebook on the Jump Rope page.

A. **Event Operating Rules**-(*These rules are what people follow to actually run the event*) These rules shall apply to all AAU Sanctioned events unless modified. Full explanation given in the 2012 Tournament Director Guidelines and Checklist available at www.aaujumprope.org.

1. **Facilities/Competition Area**

- The fairest possible environment must be provided for all athletes.
- Speed events require a 20'X 20' area, clearly marked on all sides.
- Freestyle events require a marked 40'X 40' area. The center must be clearly marked.
- Group Routine requires a 94' X 50' area (standard US basketball court).
- Sizes of the competition area may vary slightly due to the limitations of the facility used.
- Competitors may not place their own markings on the competition floor.
- A 2'x 2' coach's box will be taped on the floor at each speed station and freestyle station. The coaching boxes will added on a space available basis at qualifying tournaments.
- A general warm-up area must be provided at all AAU competitions. Dimensions may vary based on competition level and size of tournament.
- The boundary lines are considered in.

2. **Equipment** (*mats, net, ball, shot clocks*)

- Athletes may use a variety of different ropes for tournaments.

- Ropes must be powered only by the competitor. No battery or powered devices may be used. Swivels or other type fittings are legal. Any type of attachment of ropes to the body is not permitted.
- Props other than additional ropes may not be used. A space violation will be assessed for ropes discarded out of bounds.
- Single Ropes may be speed (thin vinyl-type ropes), beaded, wire, braided or inter-woven cloth with handles no longer than ten (10) inches in length.
- Double Dutch Ropes may be speed (thin vinyl-type ropes), beaded, wire, braided or interwoven cloth with handles no longer than ten (10) inches in length.

COMPUTER SCORING: All sanctioned AAU Jump Rope Tournaments should use the official AAU computer scoring program. This program is available courtesy of USA Jump Rope and the AAU (See guidelines for Tournament Directors at www.aausports.org.)

SCORING DISPLAYS: Digital scoring displays are optional.

STANDARDIZED ANNOUNCING CD:

- **Individual Rope Speed, 60 seconds** : "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "15" - "30" - "45" - "Time".
- **Individual Rope Power, 60 seconds:** "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "15" - "30" - "45" - "Time".
- **Individual Rope Pairs Speed, 60 seconds (2 x 30 seconds):** "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "10" - "20" - "Switch" - "10", "20" - "Time".
- **Individual Rope Pairs Power, 60 seconds (2 x 30 seconds):** "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "10" - "20" - "Switch" - "10", "20" - "Time".
- **Double Dutch Singles Speed, 60 seconds:** "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "15" - "30" - "45" - "Time".
- **Double Dutch Singles Power, 60 seconds:** "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "15" - "30" - "45" - "Time".
- **Double Dutch Team Relay, 120 seconds (4 x 30seconds):** "Judges Ready"- "Jumpers Ready" "Set"- "Go"- "10" - "20" - "switch" - "10" - "20" - "Switch" - "10" - "20" - "switch" - "10" - "20" - "Time"..
- **All Freestyle Routines:** "Judges Ready" - "Jumpers Ready" - "Go" - "45 seconds"
- One Minute - "Time"

The time clock begins after the word "Go" in freestyle.

3. **Judges/Officials/Referees/Umpire Requirements** (*qualifications, attire*)

- All judges must be re-certified using the criteria established for 2012 competition. No waivers will be permitted.

- Judges must attend an official AAU or USAJR Judges Certification Workshop annually, based on USAJR judging criteria.
- Judges must be 18 years old for AAU Junior Olympic Games competition and 16 years old for all other sanctioned qualifying tournaments.
- Floor Managers must be Level 1 Judges.
- Judges, who are also competitors, may not judge in any All-Around or Group Routine in which they are competing.
- Athletes, who are also judges, may not compete in any All Around or Group Routine event in which they are judging.
- Judges must wear a white shirt and navy blue slacks, shorts or skirt. ***Jeans may not be worn.*** Athletic shoes that do not mark the floor should also be worn. White USA Jump Rope Officials' shirts may be worn. Colored shirts may be issued at the AAU Junior Olympic Games. The wearing of these shirts is permitted at subsequent AAU events.
- For every four (4) registered competitors from a team, one (1) judge or trained official must be nominated for each tournament for speed, power and freestyle events. The Tournament Director will select qualified officials and notify them in good time before the tournament. Judges nominated for only speed or only freestyle events count as half the team obligation for a single judge.
- Judges should perform their duties in accordance with the certification training that they have received.
- It is **mandatory** for judges to make the proper notations on the freestyle score-sheets during the routine. Presentation Judges may also make notes on appearance and conduct before and after the routine while the competitors are at the station.
- Judges and scorers must be registered AAU Members before the competition and must be able to produce their AAU card upon request.
- The registration process must be completed and a membership number obtained before arrival at the competition.

4. **Coaching Requirements** (*qualifications, attire*)

- Coaches must be registered AAU Members before the competition and must be able to produce their AAU card upon request.
- The registration process must be completed and a membership number obtained before arrival at the competition.
- Coaches are **required** to take the Positive Coaching Alliance course. See www.ausports.org
- The name of the designated Coach(es) of Record for the team must be submitted prior to the competition in case the Coach is not available while judging or competing. A designated Coach of Record must be an AAU Member.
- A 2' x 2' coach's box will be taped on the floor at each speed station and freestyle station. This is to allow coaches the ability to escort younger jumpers to their station and allow coaches the ability to assist an athlete during their event. Coaches may bring a clicker to the station. They

may not bring cameras or any other device to the station. Coaches will not be allowed to enter the station at any time or communicate with the judges. If a re-jump is being considered the red flag will go up and the tournament director will come to the station and discuss it with the coach at that time. Only coaches or coach of record will be allowed in the coach's box. A team may declare more than one coach provided they are not registered athletes and must be named at time of registration. If while in the coach's box, the coach does not comply with the code of conduct rules, the team's floor coaching privileges will be revoked and no coach from that team will be allowed on the floor. The coaching box will be added on a space available basis at qualifying tournaments.

- Coaches may not discuss a competition performance directly with a judge

5. Awards

Qualifying Tournaments:

- Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the top 3 place winners in the Overall Triple Crown and Pentathlon events.
- First through 6th place ribbons will be awarded in the component events
- Plaques or certificates may be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams in each Group Routine age-group. Awards are at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- Previously qualified and Non-US athletes will be handled as Open competitors. Sports for All Forever medals and place ribbons will be awarded as earned to Open competitors.

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- Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the top 3 US place winners in the Overall Triple Crown And Pentathlon events based on the total place points earned in the component events with the Freestyle raw score added.
- Medals will be awarded to the first three place winners of the component events. 4th through 10th place ribbons will also be awarded in the component events.
- Plaques will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams in each Group Routine age-group. Medals will be given to each performing group team participant.
- Duplicate awards will be presented to Non-US competitors based on the total points earned in the component events with the Freestyle raw score added.

NOTE: Non-US competitors' scores must equal or exceed US competitors' scores to receive the same place points in each component event.

FERRELL AWARDS

The Joel Ferrell Award will be presented to one Outstanding US Male and/or US Female Athlete in each sport at the AAU Junior Olympic Games. Candidates will be selected primarily on their performance at that year's JO Games with additional consideration of their history of sportsmanship and contributions to AAU Junior Rope. The award may not be given to the same athlete more than once.

6. PROTEST PROCEDURES

**** *Protests and Appeals must follow the proper procedure or they will not be heard.***

PROTESTS: General Rights: Athletes shall have the right to compete under rules published in advance and fairly interpreted. Athletes have the right to protest any decision inconsistent with the

rules and the right to have such protests fairly heard with due process under the guidelines set forth in these rules.

PROCEDURE: Protests and Appeals may only be presented to the Tournament Director by the designated coach on behalf of the athlete. Parents and athletes may not present Protests and Appeals.

GROUNDS FOR PROTEST:

1. Any rule infraction overlooked by the Head Judge or Tournament Director.
2. Any misinterpretation of the rules by the Judges or Tournament Director.
3. Any clerical or scoring error.
4. Any objectively verifiable matter not exclusively involving the judgment of any official.
5. Videotape evidence may not be used to overturn judges' decisions.

RESOLUTION OF PROTESTS:

The Tournament Director shall resolve all protests immediately. If the Tournament Director cannot resolve the protest, the next step is to present the protest to the Tournament Committee which shall consist of three or more members at the tournament level.

The Tournament Committee shall include:

1. The Tournament Director (or representative).
2. The Technical Director (or representative).
3. The Assigned Delegate (or representative) of AAU.

Protest Procedures: Any protest arising from an infraction of the rules during the competition must follow the stated process:

1. Within thirty (30) minutes after an occurrence, a verbal protest must be made to the Tournament Director by the coach of the affected party.
2. The Tournament Director shall rule on the protest upon notification.
3. The decision is either accepted or rejected by the protesting coach.
4. If the protesting coach refuses the decision, the next step is to file an appeal.

APPEAL PROCEDURE:

1. A written appeal must be made within thirty (30) minutes after the Tournament Director's decision is rendered. Protests should be written on the official appeal form.
2. The appeal must be made by the coach of the team involved, who shall alone present the appeal and receive the decision of the Tournament Committee.
3. The Tournament Director must withdraw from the discussion after defending his reasons for his initial resolution of the complaint. The Committee will make the final decision.
4. The appeal must be accompanied by a bond of twenty five US dollars (\$25.00) in cash. This bond shall be returned if the appeal is successful (the decision of the Tournament Director is overruled). If the appeal is not successful (The decision of the Tournament Director is affirmed), the bond shall be forfeited and retained by the AAU Jump Rope Committee.

Failure to Protest: Any individual with a right to protest shall lose that right if the appropriate protest is not properly made in a timely manner and in complete accordance with these rules.

Finality: The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final.

Binding Nature: The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be binding on all persons directly or indirectly involved and should be accepted in the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play.

7. **Format/Scheduling** (*seeding, tie breakers*)

The order of events for each tournament is decided by the Tournament Director.

The order of competitors for each event is assigned by the official computer program. The randomly assigned order will not be changed to accommodate lateness, illness or special request.

Athletes must present themselves by the 3rd and final call for their event. The tournament will not be held up in order to wait for a tardy athlete or to remedy uniform or equipment issues (see note on Page 28 regarding Delay of Tournament policy).

8. **Entry Procedures** (*fee structure, How to register for event, registration, deadlines*)

- See Description of COMPETITION TYPES on Page 13 to see entry procedures for specific tournaments
- Registration papers and appropriate fees must be **received** 4 weeks prior to the tournament, unless otherwise noted. Current AAU Membership Numbers must be submitted before the competition for all athletes, coaches, judges and scorers. A \$10 late fee must be included for all late registrations for Qualifying Tournaments. An application without a confirmed membership number is insufficient

B. **Competition Rules** – (*Rules specific to participating in competition*)

Unless otherwise stated in this handbook the rules of competition shall be those of USA JUMP ROPE. Only those rules contained in this handbook shall supersede the general rules of the national governing body.

1. **Qualification Procedure** (*advancement procedures, participation requirements*)

- Athletes may compete in any number of AAU qualifying tournaments in order to attempt to qualify for the AAU Junior Olympic Games. Permission to compete will be granted providing space and time permit. In the case of excessive numbers, a District Qualifier will be closed to serve only athletes from that District.
- Previously qualified athletes will not be considered in the total number of athletes who qualify from that qualifying tournament. They will be designated as “Open” competitors in the database who do not take points away from athletes who have not previously qualified, NOTE: “Open” will also apply to any Non-US athletes. Open competitors will be eligible for awards. They will be awarded “Sports For All Forever” medals and place ribbons as earned.
- Non-US athletes may qualify through an AAU Open qualifier, providing scores fall within the range of scores of US athletes in that event, or may be nominated by their National Governing Body (NGB) up to a maximum of 10 athletes per age-group in each event
- Wild card applications will not be accepted. The National Jump Rope Chairman will address unique circumstances.
- In Individual Rope Pairs and Double Dutch one athlete, registered for that tournament, may be designated as a substitute for each event registered.
 - ❖ The substitute must be designated by the registration deadline of the tournament.
 - ❖ The substitute may compete in Individual Rope Pairs and Double Dutch events.
 - ❖ The substitute may serve in any age division for which he/she is eligible.