



RULES 2016-2017

POSTURE GUIDELINES:
APPROVED OPTIONAL POSTURES

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GLOSSARY FOR POSTURE LIST

- *Instructions for Right Side* – where a Posture can be performed on either the right or the left side, the Recommended Execution is given for the Right Side only. The instructions for the left side are the same, but on the opposite side.
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- *Lotus Position* – always follows the same form and consists of having the right foot on top of the left thigh and the left foot on top of the right thigh.
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- *Prayer Position* - both hands together in front of the chest with the fingers together and pointing up to the ceiling.
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- *Same (followed by side and/or body part)* – refers to the same side of the body e.g. in the Bow pose when instructing the holding of the foot the Recommended Execution states: “grab the outside of both feet on the same side 2 inches/5 centimeters below the top of the toes with five fingers together, the wrists in a straight position and the toes pointed”. The same side here refers to grabbing the right foot with the right hand and the left foot with the left hand.
-
- *Split Position* – where the legs are extended fully out or forward. The leg muscles must be contracted.
- All changes and updates are highlighted in **RED**

CATEGORIZATION OF OPTIONAL POSTURES

- The Optional Postures are divided into 6 groups: forward compressions, backward bends, stretching poses, twists, lifts, and inversions. Each posture is also given an individual categorization, determining whether the posture demonstrates characteristics of Balance, Flexibility and/or Strength.
- The Athlete should choose their Optional Postures from 2 of the 6 different groups, stated below. The combination of the Optional Postures should also demonstrate the three characteristics of Balance, Flexibility and Strength. Failure to comply with these requirements will incur point penalties (Reg. 8.2.2).

1. BACKBENDS:

- FULL COBRA
- FULL BOW
- FULL CAMEL
- WHEEL
- ONE LEGGED WHEEL
- FULL WHEEL
- LOCUST SCORPION
- PIGEON
- REVERSE STRETCH
- FISH
- SPLIT ARM
- DANCER
- FULL STANDING BOW
- SPLITS (WITH BACKBEND)
- YOUTH - STANDING BOW PULLING

2. FORWARD BENDS:

- LEG BEHIND HEAD
- TORTOISE – FULL/LIFTING
- SLEEPING YOGI
- OM
- GOOD-BYE
- GUILLOTINE
- FETAL LOTUS
- FROG
- SPLITS (WITH FORWARD BEND)
- YOUTH – STANDING HEAD TO KNEE

3. TRACTIONS:

- ROOT POSE
- FLAG POSE
- UPWARD STRETCHING
- FOUR ANGLE
- COWFACE
- MOUNTAIN
- SHORT PERSON
- BOW LEG MOUNTAIN
- STANDING SPLITS
- SPLITS (SIDE)
- SPLITS (STRAIGHT)
- BOUND LOTUS
- ARCHER

4. INVERSIONS:

- SHOULDERSTAND
- SHOULDERSTAND LOTUS
- HEADSTAND
- HEADSTAND LOTUS
- TIGER
- TIGER SCORPION
- HANDSTAND
- HANDSTAND LOTUS
- HANDSTAND SCORPION
- PALM TREE
- HANDSTAND LOTUS SCORPION
- BOW LEG HANDSTAND SCORPION
- TWO LEGS BEHIND THE HEAD HANDSTAND
- ONE LEG BEHIND THE HEAD HANDSTAND
- ONE ARMED HANDSTAND

5. LIFTS:

- PEACOCK
- ONE LEGGED PEACOCK
- PEACOCK LOTUS
- FLODING UNFOLDING LOTUS PEACOCK
- ONE ARMED PEACOCK
- ONE ARMED PEACOCK LOTUS
- BOW LEGGED PEACOCK
- CROW
- CRANE
- COCK
- FINGERSTAND
- LIFTING LOTUS

6. TWISTS:

- FULL SPINE TWIST

FULL COBRA

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must touch their feet to the head in a backward bend, while keeping the pelvis and thighs on the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Lie on the stomach with the profile to the Judges.
- Place the hands on the floor underneath the shoulders with the fingers facing forwards.
- Keep the legs straight and as close together as possible, maximum hip width distance and the top of the feet flat on the floor.
- Lift the head and chest off the floor, bend the spine backwards, and keep the whole pelvis and thighs on the floor.
- Keep the elbows bent at 90 degrees with the shoulders away from the ears.
- Touch the soles of the feet to the top of the head with the toes on the hairline and the inner part of the feet touching.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
-
- Palms not flat on the floor or too far in front of the shoulders
- Fingers not facing forward
- Legs too far apart, wider than hip distance
- Toes tucked under
- Uneven bend in the spine
- Shoulders lifted
- Feet not fully touching the head, e.g. the toes touching the back of the head
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Keeping the thighs and knees together, belly button on the floor and the whole soles of feet touching the head (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Placing the feet under the chin by using the hands (-0.5)
- Using toes to push against the floor to enter the posture (-1)
- Having the arms straight with palms pushing against the floor (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Not using the hands in the entry to the posture
- Placing the feet under the chin without the use of the hands
- Letting the arms go and bringing them out to the sides

FULL BOW

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must touch their feet to the head in a backward bend, while balancing only on the stomach.
-
- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Lie on the stomach with the profile to the Judges.
- Grab the big toes with the palms faced down towards the floor, the thumb between big and second toes, and rest of the fingers on the outside of big toes.
- Simultaneously kick both legs up, lift the upper body off the floor and drop the head back and look at the toes.
- Keep the weight balanced in the centre of the abdomen.
- Rotate the shoulders, bend the elbows forward, and pull the big toes down to the ears.
- Bring the elbows together, so that the elbows, wrists and knees form one straight line parallel to the floor, with the wrists in a straight position.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- The legs and upper body moving at different times
- Legs opening too wide
- Weight going back on the hip bones or towards the ribcage
- Feet not pulled down far enough so that the line is not created between elbows, wrists and knees parallel to the floor
- Elbows, wrists, knees not in one line
- The head is not dropped back enough
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Grabbing the feet from the outside of the foot (-2)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Bringing the feet under the chin and letting go of the feet with the hands

FULL CAMEL

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on the knees in a backward bend and make contact with the hands and legs, and the feet and the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Kneel down with the knees hip width apart and the toes to the knees flat on the floor, and the profile to the Judges.
- Keep the palms together and stretch the arms up and back and bend the spine backwards.
- Keep the hips above the knees.
- Grab the heels with the whole hand without once touching the floor.
- Pull on the heels and bring the head in and towards the buttocks, with an even bend throughout the spine.
- Touch the face on the soles of the feet.
- Bring the elbows together and down on the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Toes not touching together and the knees too wide apart
- Hips sinking behind the knees, or going too far in front of the knees
- Grabbing the feet with fingertips, and/or only grabbing the toes or arch of feet
- Hands touch the floor (- 2 pt)
- Uneven bend in the spine
- Full face not touching the feet
- Elbows not touching each other
- Elbows off the floor
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Keeping the knees together and bringing face in front of heels or further forward (+0.5)
- 4th Stage - grabbing the knees, bringing the chin and chest to the floor and looking between the knees (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Grabbing the fronts of thighs to execute the backbend into full camel (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Letting go of the hands in 4th Stage
- Fingertips lightly touching the floor

WHEEL

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be off the floor in a backward bend with only their hands and feet on the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Stand with the feet as close as possible with the profile to the Judges.
- Keep the feet parallel to each other with the toes pointing forward and knees in line with toes.
- Stretch the arms and hands back and bend the spine backwards.
- Place the hands on the floor with the fingers facing the heels. Hands should be placed down with control, shoulder width apart and behind the shoulders in the same line as the heels.
- Keep the arms straight with the wrists, elbows and shoulders in one line.
- Maintain an even bend through the spine and push the chest as far forward over the shoulders as possible.
- Head between the arms.
- Knees in line with the ankles.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet much wider than hip width
- Feet not parallel
- Knees not parallel
- Dropping the hands on the floor without control
- Hands wider than shoulders
- Bend in the arms
- Wrists, elbows and shoulders not in one line
- Knees not in line with the ankles
- Uneven bend in the spine
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Placing the hands on the floor with the fingers touching the back of the heels. Must keep the wrists, elbows, and shoulders in one line and the knees above the ankles (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Pushing up from the floor (-1)
- Lowering down to the floor after the execution of the posture (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

ONE LEGGED WHEEL

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Backbends



(picture corresponds to the extra skills execution)

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be off the floor in a backward bend with only their hands and one leg on the floor, while the other leg is extended in the air.
- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand with the feet as close as possible and the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Keep the feet parallel to each other with the toes pointing forward and knees in line with toes.
- Stretch the arms and hands back and bend the spine backwards.
- Place the hands on the floor with the fingers facing the heels. Hands should be placed down with control, shoulder width apart and behind the shoulders in the same line as the heels.
- Keep the arms straight with the wrists, elbows and shoulders in one line.
- Maintain an even bend through the spine and push the chest as far forward over the shoulders as possible.
- Head between the arms.
- Knees in line with the ankles.
- Lift and extend the right leg to create a perpendicular line to the floor, with the foot pointed and thigh muscle contracted, so that the right heel is in line with the knee and hip.
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet much wider than hip width
- Feet not parallel
- Knees not parallel
- Dropping the hands on the floor without control
- Hands wider than shoulders
- Bend in the arms
- Wrists, elbows and shoulders not in one line
- Knees not in line with the ankles
- Uneven bend in the spine
- The extended leg is not perpendicular to the floor and is not in line with knee and hip
- Thigh muscle not contracted
- Foot not pointed

Extra Skill:
Putting the forearms on the floor and
grabbing one ankle with both hands (+1)

Less Skill:
Pushing up from the floor (-1)
Lowering down to the floor after the
execution of the posture (-1)
Lifting heel from the floor (-1)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

FULL WHEEL

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
 -
 - **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be off the floor in a backward bend with their hands grabbing the legs and the shoulders openly rotated.
 -
 - **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
 -
 - **Recommended Execution:**
 - Stand with the feet as close as possible with the profile to the Judges.
 - Keep the feet parallel to each other with the toes pointing forward and knees in line with toes.
 - Stretch the arms and hands back and bend the spine backwards, do not turn the arms or touch the floor.
 - Grab the outside of the ankles with the hands; the grip should have all five fingers together with the thumbs on top.
 - Straighten the arms and legs and bring the head between the arms, with an even bend through the spine.
 -
 - **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
 - Feet much wider than hip width
 - Feet not parallel
 - Knees not parallel
 - Turning the arms
 - Having the incorrect grip
 - Arms or leg bending
 - Head not far back enough
 - Uneven bend through the spine
- Extra Skill:**
 After straightening the arms and legs, dropping down to forearms with control and without any sound, then bringing the chin and chest onto the floor, with the face looking forward between legs, Coming back up without putting hands on floor (+1)
 Having legs together (+1)
 Keeping hips exactly over the ankles at a 90 degree angle with the floor (+2)
 Grabbing the ankles without bending the arms or legs and grabbing the ankles with both hands at the same time (+2)
- Less Skill:**
 Putting hands on the floor while exiting the posture (-1)
 Putting hands on the floor before grabbing the ankles (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

LOCUST SCORPION

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Flexibility, Strength
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on the upper third of the front of the body in a backward bend with the feet touching the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Lie on the stomach with the profile to the Judges.
- Bring the arms completely flat underneath the body shoulder width apart, with the palms facing the floor and the shoulders away from the ears.
- Keep the legs straight and together and lift the legs up until perpendicular to the floor, with the thigh muscles contracted and the spine in a backward bend.
- Keep the knees and thighs together, bend the knees and touch the soles of the feet on the top of the head.
- Maintain the weight in the shoulders and equally pressed through the arms, not on the chin and throat.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Soles of the feet not touching the top of the head
- Gap underneath arms or palms
- Legs not together
- Shoulders hunched next to ears
- Leg muscles not contracted
- Legs not stretching forward
- Knees and thighs wide apart
- Uneven bend in the spine
- Feet not touching the top of the head
- Weight on the chin and throat
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Keeping knees and thighs together, with the feet on the floor touching the front of the face (+0.5)
- Extending the legs in a straight position over the heads, soles of the feet touching the floor (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Legs apart and knees bending when lifting the legs up (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
-
- Feet on the floor, touching the side of the head
- Folding the arms and grabbing the elbows, balancing only on the shoulders and arms

PIGEON

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the knee of the front leg bent with the outside of the leg touching the floor. The back leg must have the front part of the leg touching the floor with the knee bent and the leg touching the head. The hands must have contact with the back leg.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit with the right-side profile to the Judges.
- Bend the left leg and put the outside of the thigh on the floor. The knee inline with the front of hip and the heel just in front of the right hip. Keep the hips square.
- Bend the right foot and use the right hand to grab the foot from the outside with the palm facing up. Rotate the arm so that the elbow faces up to the ceiling.
- Reach the left arm back to grab the back foot.
- Drop the head back and bend the spine backwards.
- Use the hands to pull the foot and touch the head with the sole of the foot.
- Bring the wrists, forearms and elbows to touch each other
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Front leg has the knee far outside of the hip
- Back leg comes out of the line of the body
- Hips are not square
- Uneven bend of the spine
- Head not touching the feet
- Wrists, forearms and elbows are not touching each other

Extra Skill:

Bringing the back foot to touch the head without using the hands and grabbing the foot after the foot and head touch (+0.5)
Having front leg at a 90 degree angle, with the shin parallel to the abdomen (+1)

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes:

Touching the forehead on the back of the leg

REVERSE STRETCH

Difficulty Rating: 8

Characteristic of the Posture: Flexibility

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be in a backbend with the hands in contact with the legs and the front of the thighs to the toes on the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Lie on the stomach with the profile to the Judges.
- Keep 6 inches between the legs together and extend the arms out in front of the body on the floor.
- Lift the arms and upper body up and backward bend the spine.
- Bend the knees up if necessary and grab the ankles from the outside with each hand.
- Look back as far as possible and extend the legs straight back onto the floor; maintain the legs together and place the tops of feet flat on floor.
- Straighten the arms and place the tops of feet flat on floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Legs separating more than 6 inches
- Arm bending
- Grip is higher than the ankles
- Tops of the feet not flat on the floor
- Uneven bend in the spine
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Legs together (+0.5)
-
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

FISH

Difficulty Rating: 5

Characteristic of the Posture: Flexibility

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be in a backward bend with their legs in a Lotus Position and their head touching the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, profile to the Judges.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Place one elbow at the time behind the back and lie on the floor, and bring the knees up.
- Place the hands on the floor over the shoulders close to the body.
- Push the upper body off the floor and touch the top of the head with the floor close to the hips and at the same time lower both knees to floor.
- At the same time, grab the right foot with the left hand and the left foot with the right hand, and pull on the feet with the wrists in a straight position.
- Bring the elbows down to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- One or both knees lifting off the floor
- Loose grip on the feet
- Gap between the elbow and the floor
- The wrists bending
- Uneven bending of the spine
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Back of the head touching the buttocks



SPLIT ARM

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg and have the other leg up in the air, higher than parallel to the floor. The arms must be out to the side, spine in the backward bend.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand with the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Bring the arms over the head and contract the hip and thigh muscles of the right leg-
- Bring the upper body forward and down, simultaneously extending the left leg back and up to the ceiling, without turning hip.
- Open the arms back and up, with palms facing the floor and continually lift the back leg until legs are in a split.
- Look forward, keep the chin up, and bring the **lower spine and abdomen parallel to the floor.**
- Use the arms to create an even backward bend in the spine and keep the chest up, perpendicular the floor, with chin parallel to the floor and no compression in the cervical spine.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Standing leg muscles not contracted
- Top leg / hip turns out towards the judges
- Back leg is not split
- Back leg muscles are not contracted
- Arms do not continuously go back and up
- Spine is not bending backwards
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Backbends



DANCER

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg with the other leg kicking up and extended towards the ceiling holding on to the leg with both hands.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand with right-side profile to the Judges.
- Contract the left leg muscles so that the knee is locked.
- Grab the foot of the right leg from the outside with the palm facing up and at the same time extend the left arm up to the ceiling with the arm next to the ear.
- Extend the right leg up to the ceiling and bring the body down until the abdomen is parallel to the floor.
- Reach the left arm back to grab the right leg, keep the torso square and hips level, continue to extend the right leg up straight without turning out the hip or knee.
- Straighten the right leg, so that it creates a split with the left standing leg, and straighten the arms with the hands grabbing near the anklebone, with all five fingers interlocked.
- Keep the head between the arms and the chin level to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Standing leg muscles not contracted
- Abdomen is not parallel to the floor
- Torso is twisted
- The hip of the kicking leg is opening out and the kicking leg is turning out
- Kicking leg does not lock
- Thigh and knee are not in one line, no split
- Grip is low below the ankle
- Arms are uneven, fingers spreading out
- Head is not between the arms
- Chin not level to the floor

Extra Skill:
Lifting the kicking leg up and grabbing the ankle with both hands at the same time (+1)

Less Skill:
Not grabbing the foot of the kicking leg from the outside with the palm facing up (-0.5)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

FULL STANDING BOW

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg with the thigh muscle contracted with the other leg kicking up and the foot making contact with the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand with right-side profile to the Judges.
- Contract the left leg muscles so that the knee is locked.
- Grab the foot of the right leg from the outside with the palm facing up and at the same time extend the left arm up to the ceiling with the arm next to the ear.
- Extend the right leg up to the ceiling and bring the body down until the abdomen is parallel to the floor.
- Reach the left arm back to grab the right leg, keep the torso square and hips level, continue to extend the right leg up straight without turning out the hip or knee.
- Straighten the right leg, so that it creates a split with the left standing leg, and straighten the arms with the hands grabbing near the anklebone, with all five fingers interlocked.
- Pull the foot of the right kicking leg to hook under the chin; both thighs and knees should be in one line from the side.
- Extend both arms out to the side with five fingers together.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Standing leg muscles not contracted
- Abdomen is not parallel to the floor
- Torso is twisted
- Hip of the kicking leg is opening out and the kicking leg is turning out
- Kicking leg does not lock, so there is no split
- Grip is low below the ankle
- Arms not out to the side
- Arms are uneven, fingers spreading out
- Foot does not go under the chin

Extra Skill:

Lifting the kicking leg up and grabbing the ankle with both hands at the same time (+1)

Less Skill:

Not grabbing the foot of the kicking leg from the outside with the palm facing up (-0.5)
Not releasing the hands when the foot goes under the chin (-2)
Only putting the foot on the head (-3)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

SPLITS (WITH BACKBEND)

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must bend the spine backward with the back of the front leg touching the floor and the top of the back leg touching the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit with the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Extend the right leg forward and the left leg back; Right leg should have the back of the legs and knees flat on the floor and toes point; Left leg should have top of the thighs and knees on the floor and toes pointed.
- Keep both hips square on the floor.
- Keep spine straight.
- Stretch the arms straight up and reach back to backward bend the spine evenly.
- Grab the left ankle with both hands at the same time.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet not pointed
- Legs not straight and the thigh muscles not contracted
- Hips not square
- One or both hips not in contact with the floor
- Hands do not reach the ankle
- Difficulty in grabbing the ankles, one hand touching first then the other
- Uneven bend through the spine
- Both sides of the spine not bending equally because of tilting to one side or the other
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Back toe is tucked under when grabbing ankle (-0.5)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**
-



LEG BEHIND HEAD

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must hold one leg behind the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor cross-legged facing the Judges.
- Lift the right leg up from the floor and grab the foot.
- Bring the right knee behind the shoulder so that the knee faces directly outwards to the side, with no gap between the knee and the shoulder and the leg is behind the head.
- Pull the right foot down and lift the head up in order to look forward, bringing foot behind shoulder so that knee is in line with toes and top of shoulders.
- Sit both hips flat on the floor, lift the upper body upright and bring the hands into Prayer Position.
- The stomach should be sucked in and the foot should stay in place.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Head does not come up high enough to be able to look forward, so that there is no free movement of the head
- The knee is not directly outwards to the side
- There is a gap between the knee and the shoulder
- One of the hips is off the floor
- The spine is not straight
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Bringing the leg cleanly behind the head without using the hands (+1)
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

TORTOISE – FULL/LIFTING

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have both legs behind the head, press up on to arms and lower the body down and put the face down onto the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor cross-legged with the profile to the Judges.
- Lift both legs behind the head, either one at a time or both together; cross the ankles with the knees behind the shoulders.
- Press the entire body off the floor with the hands shoulder width apart and lift the buttocks upwards so that the entire body is parallel, with the head and hips in one line to the floor. Hold this position for at least one second.
- Bend the elbows and tuck the chin to the chest to lower the body down until head and buttocks touch the floor.
- Keep the feet off the floor by extending the legs.
- Bring the hands around the lower back and clasp the hands together.
- **Exit by pushing back up**, sitting on the buttocks and releasing the legs.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Forcing and struggling to get the legs behind the head
- Feet not crossed at the ankles and only held together by crossing the toes
- **Feet not crossed at all (-2)**
- **Elbows not locked at the top position of the press (-1)**
- Buttocks are not lifted high enough in line with head (it is acceptable for the buttocks go higher)
- Body is not parallel at the top of the press
- Descent onto the floor is not smooth and steady
- **Feet touch the floor (-1)**
- Chin is not tucked into the chest
- **Hands are not clasped together behind the lower back (-1)**
- **Not pushing back up in the exit (-1)**
- On the exit the head and buttocks not lifting up in one line

Extra Skill:

Bringing the both legs cleanly behind the head and crossing the ankles without using the hands (+0.5)

Crossing the legs behind the head at the calf muscles with free movement of the head (+1)

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

SLEEPING YOGI

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have both legs behind the head, while lying on their back. There must be contact between the hands behind the back.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor cross-legged with the profile to the Judges.
- Lie on the back, keep the shoulder blades off the floor and lift both legs up to bring the legs behind the head and cross the legs at the ankles.
- Bring the hands around the body and **interlace all ten fingers** behind the lower back.
- Relax the neck and look straight up towards the ceiling.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Forcing and struggling to get the legs behind the head
- Feet not crossed at the ankles and only held together by crossing the toes
- Feet not crossed at all (-2)
- Shoulders touching the floor when the legs go behind the head
- Hands not fully interlacing behind the lower back
- Shoulder do not fully come out and through the knees
- Body weight is unevenly distributed, with too much weight on the hips and the shoulders are out of line
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- In a lying down position, bringing the both legs cleanly behind the head and crossing the ankles without using the hands (+0.5)
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

OM

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on the hands with one leg behind the head, and the opposite leg around the same side arm and hooked behind the other arm.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor cross-legged facing the Judges.
- Lift the right leg up from the floor and grab the foot.
- Bring the right knee behind the shoulder so that the knee faces directly outwards to the side, with no gap between the knee and the shoulder and the leg is behind the head.
- Pull the right foot down and lift the head up in order to look forward, bring the foot behind the shoulder so that knee is in line with toes and top of shoulders.
- Extend the left leg straight out and forward.
- Press the entire body off the floor, with the palms flat and the hands shoulder width apart. The head should be up with the chin parallel to the floor.
- Pull the hips back and up, bring the left leg back through the arms and wrap the leg around the front of the left arm without ever touching the foot to the floor.
- Weave the foot behind right arm and hook the toes behind the arm at the elbow level or higher.
- Lift the head up and look forward with the hips parallel to the floor

Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Forcing and struggling to get the leg behind the head
- Arms wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bending
- Head does not come up high enough to look straight forward
- Stomach not sucked in
- Bottom foot is placed below the elbow (deductions depend on the distance to the elbow)
- Hips are not parallel to the floor, the buttocks are too low
- If the foot touches the floor once the body lifts off the floor, automatically considered a Second Chance (-5)

Extra Skill: NONE.

Less Skill:
If there is no weave of the leg (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: leg behind the head with no hands

GOOD-BYE

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg behind the head, while standing up one leg.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor cross-legged facing the Judges.
- Lift the right leg up from the floor and grab the foot.
- Bring the right knee behind the shoulder so that the knee faces directly outwards to the side, with no gap between the knee and the shoulder and the leg is behind the head.
- Pull the right foot down and lift the head up in order to look forward, bringing the foot behind shoulder so that knee is in line with toes and top of shoulders.
- Place the right hand on the floor and press the body to stand up on the left foot.
- Bring the hips up until the standing leg is straight.
- Move the hands from the floor to the standing knee and push the knee back and contract the thigh muscle to keep the knee locked.
- Lift the upper body upright and lift the head up to look forward.
- Bring both hands into Prayer Position.
- Exit the same way as athlete entered the posture.

Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Forcing and struggling to get the leg behind the head
- Body is not upright (deduction from -0.5 to -2 depending on the degree of the fault)
- Head is not up and able to look forward
- Stomach not sucked in
- Shoulders not aligned and the knee, shoulder and toes of the leg behind the head are not in one line
- Foot should stay behind the head and not come next to the head and/or forward
- Standing leg bends (deduction from -1 depending on the bend of the leg)

Extra Skill:

Bringing the leg cleanly behind the head without using the hands, but hunching forward (+0.5)
Bringing the leg cleanly behind the head, so that the heel touches the shoulder without using the hands, bending forward or any additional adjustments (+1)

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes:

Bringing the leg behind the head in a standing position

GUILLOTINE

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must stand on both feet in a forward bend with their head coming through both legs and make contact with their hands behind their backs.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Stand straight up, looking forward with the profile to the Judges.
- Open the feet approximately hip width distance apart and no wider than the shoulders.
- Bend forward and bend both knees.
- Place each hand behind the same ankle, thumbs inside the ankle and fingers outside the ankle, and push the upper body so that the shoulders go behind the knees.
- Place the hands behind the lower back and clasp the hands so that the palms face towards each other
- Lift the hips up and forwards and pull with the hands and straighten the legs in order to contract the thigh muscles and lock the knees. The feet should be kept forwards or slightly inwards and the hips should be placed directly over the ankles.
- Lift the head upwards and towards the buttocks, so that at least the back of the head is parallel to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet too wide
- Loose or incorrect grip
- Knees bending
- Back of the head is lower than parallel (deductions from -0.5 depending on the degree of the fault)
- Feet pointing outwards
- Unevenly rounded spine
- Hips not inline with the ankles
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

FETAL LOTUS

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** **Profile to the Judges.**
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have their legs in a Lotus Position with their arms in between their legs and make contact between the hands and the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, facing the Judges.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Lift the knees up to at least a 45-degree angle using the hands for balance.
- Bring the right arm through the right leg and left foot, and bring the elbow out through to the other side with free movement of the arm.
- Bring the left arm through the left leg and the right foot, and bring the elbow out through to the other side with free movement of the arm.
- Bring the head down, round the spine and interlock the fingers behind the back of the head, balancing forward on the sits bones.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Arms are inserted between the incorrect opening of the legs (-2)
- Either elbow does not go fully through the legs
- There is a loose grip behind the head
- Uneven rounding of the spine
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

FROG

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the legs apart with the arms underneath the legs.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit straight, with the legs straight profile to the Judges.
- Open the legs shoulder width distance and bend the knees up slightly.
- Bend forward and slide the arms underneath the legs so that the outside of the legs and the inside of the arms create a 45-degree angle.
- Slide the feet and slide the heels forward and the arms out and back, bring the upper arms underneath the knees.
- Bring the chin down onto the floor, flex the feet and contract the thigh muscles to lock the knees, and lift the heels off the floor.
- Open the fingers and push the palms flat into the floor, roll the weight forward and lift the buttocks off the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Legs too wide or too close
- Angle between the arms and legs more or less than 45 degrees
- Chin off the floor
- Heels touching the floor
- Buttocks touch the floor
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

SPLITS (WITH FORWARD BEND)

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must bend the spine forward and make contact between the head and the leg, with the back of the front leg touching the floor and the top of the back leg touching the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit with the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Extend the right leg forward and the left leg back; Right leg should have the back of the legs and knees flat on the floor and toes point; Left leg should have top of the thighs and knees on the floor and toes pointed.
- Keep both hips square on the floor.
- Keep spine straight.
- Stretch the arms straight up and reach forward.
- Grab the right foot (flexed) with both hands at the same time and the fingers interlocked.
- Tuck the chin to the chest and touch the forehead on the right knee.
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet not pointed
- Legs not straight and the thigh muscles not contracted
- Hips not square
- One or both hips not in contact with the floor
- Head does not touch the knee of the front leg
- Front foot not flexed
- Front knee bending
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

ROOT POSE

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must place the feet underneath the hips with the heels facing forward and the toes backwards and balance on the knees and sides of the feet.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit facing the Judges.
- Bring the soles of the feet flat against one another with toes pointing forward and knees in one line.
- Sit with the spine straight and place the hands on sides of the hips.
- Push the hands into the floor and lift the heels upwards towards ceiling and bring the toes down towards the floor.
- Bring the body forward and the heels forward to point forward and sit with the hips on top of the feet.
- Point the toes backwards and keep the soles of the feet together.
- Line up the knees, hips and heels in one line.
- Bring the hands off of the floor into Prayer Position in front of the chest, spine straight, and shoulders in line.
- Exit: release the feet from underneath the hips
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Soles of feet not flat together
- Heels not fully inverted forward
- Knees not in line with heels
- Spine not straight
- Shoulders not in one line
- Large gap between hip and heel
-
- **Extra Skill:** NONE.
-
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

FLAG POSE

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg with the legs in vertical split behind the body and the hand grabbing the opposite leg that is in the air with the other arms extended outwards.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand facing the Judges.
- Grab the right leg from the outside of the right ankle with the left hand
- Lift the right leg up as high as possible with the help of the left hand under the right ankle-
- Bring the right knee behind the right shoulder and then let go of the right hand and extend the right arms outwards until parallel to the floor.
- Bend forward and grab the right heel with the same side hand. The grip should have the thumb outside of the heel and the other fingers inside the heel.
- Extend the right leg up until the leg is completely straight and bring the right heel and right hip in one vertical line, with the left arm above the head
- Keep the standing leg straight and look forward with the spine straight and the two shoulders in one line.
- Note for exit: keep the standing foot straight.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Shoulders not in one line
- Heel and hip of extended leg not in one line
- Extended arm is not straight
- Extended arm is not parallel to the floor
- Standing leg is bent
- On the exit the standing leg turns
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

UPWARD STRETCHING

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on the buttocks with the legs extend upwards making contact between the hands and legs.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit with the legs together and the profile to the Judges.
- Bend the knees so that thighs are close to the torso.
- Point the feet and grab the heels with five fingers together and the fingers facing the direction of the toes. Elbows touching behind the calf muscles.
- Balance on forward on the sits bones.
- Extend the legs up, keeping the abdomen close to the thighs and stretch the spine upwards.
- Look up towards the toes; pull on the heels with the shoulders down, away from the ears.
- Stretch the spine up and bring the torso and the legs against each other so the whole body becomes perpendicular to the floor.
- Forehead touches the shinbones with the spine straight.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Eyes not looking up (0.5)
- Wrong grip on heels; Elbows not touching calf muscles
- Balancing too far back, behind the sits bone
- Gap between abdomen and thighs
- Spine not stretching
- Feet not pointed
- Shoulders hunched up
- Forehead not touching the shins, or forehead touching shins by rounding cervical spine forward
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

FOUR ANGLE

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg up with the same side arm underneath the leg and the opposite arm over the head and the hands touching.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit straight facing the Judges.
- Bend the left leg so that the foot points straight back and touches the side of the same hip.
- Bring the left knee in towards the centre and sit with both hips down.
- Lift the right leg up and bring the same side arm underneath the leg so that the inside of the elbow is under the knee.
- Bring the right foot in towards the body so that the right foot and knee are in one line parallel to the body and to the floor.
- Interlock the fingers and only touch the thumbs together.
- Turn the palms towards the head.
- Lift the head up and look forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Foot not pointing straight back or heel not touching hip
- Knee not in the centerline of the body
- Foot and knee not parallel to the floor
- Fingers not fully interlocked
- Palms turned away from head
- Head not coming up and looking forward
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

COWFACE

Difficulty Rating: 5

Characteristic of the Posture: Flexibility

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg on top of the other with one arm over and the opposite arm underneath and behind. There must be contact between the hands and the hips must be on the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit straight facing the Judges.
- Come forward onto the hands and bring the right leg on top of the left leg.
- Stack the knee joints directly in one line and close the gap between the knees.
- Sit the hips down in between the heels so that the heels touch the sides of the hips and both hips touch the floor.
- Bring the right arm over and behind the head.
- Bring the left arm behind the back and clasp the hands together.
- Line up the elbows in one line vertically.
- Lift the chest and head up to look forwards.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Gap between knee joints
- Knees not stacked on top of one another
- Hips off the floor
- Gap between heel and hips
- Wrong arm on top relative to the top of the knees
- Elbows not in line
- Chest not in lifted
- Head too low and not looking forward
- Grip is loose or the grip is only made the fingertips
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

MOUNTAIN

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
 -
 - **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have their legs in a Lotus Position and balance only on the knees.
 -
 - **Recommended Execution:**
 - Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, facing the Judges.
 - Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
 - Come forward and place the hands on the floor and bring the hips up, while looking at the floor.
 - Stretch the left arm straight up above the head, balance on the fingertips of the right hand on the floor.
 - Bring the right hand up in front of the chest and balance on the knees.
 - Extend the right hand up to meet the left hand above the head and create a Prayer Position.
 - Bring the hips forward so that the hips are in a line over the knees.
 - Lift the head up and look forward (from the side the entire body should be in one straight line).
 -
 - **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
 - Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
 - Feet slip out of the Lotus Position
 - Elbows bending
 - Focus stays on floor, does not go forward
 - Hips not in line over the knees
 - There is a gap between the arms and the head
 - Body is not in one straight line
 -
- Extra Skill:**
Tight Lotus Position with the feet staying on the thighs and the toes going beyond the line of the thighs (+1)
- Less Skill:**
Loose Lotus (feet slipping to crooks of knees) (-1)
One arm in front of the chest and one arm up in the air (-1)
Both hands stay in front of the chest (-2)
- Accepted Flourishes:**
Coming up from the floor and balancing on the knees without the use of the hands

SHORT PERSON

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one knee and on the opposite foot without the hands touching the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand straight up facing the Judges.
- Bring the right foot up as high as possible in front of the left hip by using the hands.
- Bring the hands together into a Prayer Position and look on the floor.
- Bend the body down from the lower spine to the floor and touch both hands on the floor in front with the left leg straight.
- Bend the left knee, come onto the toes and bring the right knee directly onto the floor.
- Turn the left foot and knee outwards to point to the side and bring the left heel in front of the crook of the right knee on the floor and make contact between the two.
- Bring one hand up in front of the chest and push the hips forward so that the hips come into one line on top of the heel and the knee.
- Bring the opposite hand in to make a Prayer Position.
- Lift the chest up, keep the spine straight and bring the head up to look forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Toes or knees not fully turned to the side
- Heel not in front of the knee to which it makes contact
- Spine not straight
- Focus stays on floor, does not go forward

Extra Skill:
Going down with no hands (+0.5)
If the heel of the foot goes flat on the floor (+1)

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes:
Having the arms over the head

BOW LEG MOUNTAIN

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Face to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have balance only on the knees with both knees bent and the feet staying in place under the ribs.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor facing the Judges.
- Come forward onto the hands and open the legs.
- Bend one leg and grab the foot using one hand, and push the foot so that it goes underneath the rib cage on the same side of the body.
- Let go of the foot so that the foot stays in place without the hand.
- Bend the opposite leg and grab the foot with the other hand, and push the foot so that it goes underneath the rib cage on the same side of the body.
- Let go of the foot so that the foot stays in place without the use of the hands.
- Come forward and place the hands on the floor and bring the hips up, while looking at the floor.
- Stretch the left arm straight up above the head, balance on the fingertips of the right hand on the floor.
- Bring the right hand up in front of the chest and balance on the knees.
- Extend the right hand up to meet the left hand above the head and create a Prayer Position.
- Bring the hips forward so that the hips are in a line over the knees.
- Lift the head up and look forward (from the side the entire body should be in one straight line).
-

- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet slip out of the bow leg Position
- Elbows bending
- Focus stays on floor, does not go forward
- Hips not in line over the knees
- Body is not in one straight line
- There is a gap between the arms and the head
-

Extra Skill: NONE.

Less Skill:
One arm in front of the chest and one arm up in the air (-1)
Both hands stay in front of the chest (-2)

Accepted Flourishes:
Coming up from the floor and balancing on the knees without the use of the hands

STANDING SPLITS

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.

- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg with the thigh muscle contracted and the stomach touching the thigh. The other leg must be extended, straight, as far up as possible.

- **Recommended Execution:**

- (Instructions for Right Side)

- Stand with the left-side profile to the Judges.

- Lock the right leg by contracting the hip and thigh muscles.

- Bend forward and grab the right heel with the same side hand. The grip should have the thumb outside of the heel and the other fingers inside the heel.

- Place the left hand on the floor with the palm flat.

- Keep the hips levels and lift the left leg off the floor by stretching the leg back and up towards the ceiling, with the thigh of the leg contracted.

- When the two legs are in a Split Position, lift the left hand that was on the floor to meet the right hand that is on the heel of the right leg.

- Forearms and elbows should touch behind the calf muscle.

- Keep the shoulders lifted away from the ears and pull the right heel to stretch the spine and head towards the toes. Keep the abdomen on the thigh, chest on knee, forehead touching the shin. At the same time stretch the left leg up in the opposite direction

- Balance on one leg.

- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**

- Standing leg not locked, thigh and leg muscles not contracted

- Incorrect grip

- Hips not level, the hip of the lifting leg opens out

- Leg muscles of the lifting leg not contracted

- Two legs are not perfectly split

- Forearms and elbows are not touching behind calf muscle

- Gap between abdomen and thigh.

- Crown of head not facing down to the floor

- Spine not stretching

- Shoulders collapsing

Extra Skill:

Both hands grabbing standing leg heel from the start (+1)

Less Skill:

Keeping one or both hands on the floor (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

SPLITS (SIDE)

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility,
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the legs open outwards to the sides with the body bending forwards and stretching.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit straight up, with the profile to the Judges.
- Separate the legs as much as possible with the feet flexed towards the ceiling.
- Place the hands on the floor in front and push the hips forward so that the hips come in line with the feet.
- Stretch the arms forward and bring the entire upper body (chin, shoulders, chest abdomen) flat on the floor.
- Fully split the legs, so that the two heels are in one line with the hips and the feet are flat on the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Any gap between the upper body (chin, shoulders, chest abdomen) and floor
- Spine not stretching
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Going down from a standing position and back up to standing without the hands touching on the floor (+2)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- If the legs are not fully split (straight line between two heels and hips), they must grab the big toes (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

SPLITS (STRAIGHT)

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the back of the front leg touching the floor and the top of the back leg touching the floor.
-
- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit with the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Extend the right leg forward and the left leg back; Right leg should have the back of the legs and knees flat on the floor and toes point; Left leg should have top of the thighs and knees on the floor and toes pointed.
- Keep both hips square on the floor.
- Keep the spine straight.
- Stretch the arms straight up with the palms and five fingers together.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Feet not pointed
- Legs not straight and the thigh muscles not contracted
- Hips not square
- One or both hips not in contact with the floor
- Arms not straight
- Hands and fingers not touching each other
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

BOUND LOTUS

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have their legs in a Lotus Position and make contact with the hands and feet behind the body.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, facing the Judges.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Bring the left arm around the back and grab the left big toe with all five fingers.
- Bring the right arm around the back and grab the right big toe with all five fingers.
- Bring both knees on the floor.
- Lift the chest up and keep the spine straight with both shoulders in one line, looking forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Lotus is loose and the toes do not go beyond the outside of the thighs
- Grip on either foot or toe is loose
- Spine rounding forward or to the side
- Head does not come up enough to look forward
- Shoulders out of line
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

ARCHER

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Flexibility, Strength
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** 45-degree angle to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must grab the hands to opposite feet and pull one foot up and back towards the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit facing the Judges at 45 degree angle to the front towards the left with the legs straight
- Bring the left leg over the right leg so that the leg is at a 90-degree angle.
- Grab the big toes of the left foot with the third, fourth and fifth fingers of the right hand from on top and the index finger on the top of the other four toes.
- Grab the big toes of the right foot with the third, fourth and fifth fingers of the right hand from on top and the index finger on the top of the other four toes.
- Flex the right foot so that the heel comes off the floor.
- Touch the chin to the left shoulder and keep the head up straight and look at the right foot.
- Lift the chest up and pull back the left foot with the toes pointed and up to touch the left big toe to the right ear.
- Bring the right elbow back and up to be in line with the left arm and keep the shoulders in one line.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Incorrect grip
- Heel touches the floor
- Foot and ear does not touch
- Gap between chin and shoulder
- Head not in line with arms
- Arms not in one line
- Shoulders out of line
- Pulling elbow not in line with straight arm

Extra Skill: NONE.

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

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SHOULDERSTAND

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Balance
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the back of the head, neck and upper shoulders.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor with straight legs and the profile to the Judges.
- Lay back onto the floor and place the arms in a straight position next to the floor with the palms flat on the floor.
- Have the legs together and the toes pointed and lift the legs straight up and over the body, so that the tops of the feet touch the floor over the head.
- Place the palms on the back, towards the upper back, and push the back to get the hips over the shoulders.
- Bend the knees and bring the knees to the forehead with toes pointed straight up to the ceiling.
- Keep the stomach in and extend the legs straight up to create one straight line between the heels, knees, hips and shoulders. The body should be in one line perpendicular to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Knees bend when bringing them over the head
- Hips do not go over the shoulders
- Tops of the feet do not touch the floor
- Stomach is not sucked in
- Knees bend in the final position
- Legs not together
- Toes not pointed
- Body not perpendicular to the floor
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

SHOULDERSTAND LOTUS

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Balance
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the back of the head, neck and upper shoulders with the legs in a Lotus Position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor with straight legs and the profile to the Judges.
- Lay back onto the floor and place the arms in a straight position next to the floor with the palms flat on the floor.
- Have the legs together and the toes pointed and lift the legs straight up and over the body, so that the tops of the feet touch the floor over the head.
- Place the palms on the back, towards the upper back, and push the back to get the hips over the shoulders.
- Bend the knees and bring the knees to the forehead with toes pointed straight up to the ceiling.
- Keep the stomach in and extend the legs straight up to create one straight line between the heels, knees, hips and shoulders. The body should be in one line perpendicular to the floor.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Line up the knees with the hips and shoulders to bring the body perpendicular to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Knees bend when they come off the floor
- Hips do not go over the shoulders
- Tops of the feet do not touch the floor
- Stomach is not sucked in
- Using the hands to bring the legs into the Lotus Position
- Loose Lotus
- Knees not in one line from the side
- Body not perpendicular to the floor
-

Extra Skill: NONE.

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes:

Folding the feet down to the chest after holding for at least 3 seconds in the full expression with the knees, hips and shoulders in one line

HEADSTAND

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Balance
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the head in contact with the floor with the body in an inverted position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and grab the opposite elbows to make sure the elbows are shoulder width apart.
- Interlock the fingers and place the little fingers on the floor.
- Bring the crown of the head into the interlocked hand position and touch the hairline on the floor.
- Bring the hips up and forward on top of the shoulders and extend the legs into a straight position.
- Keep the legs together and lift the legs straight up until perpendicular to the floor.
- Hold the stomach in and point the toes straight up to the ceiling, keeping the body in one straight line.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Elbows wider than shoulder width
- Knees bending when lifting legs up
- Legs separating
- Toes not pointed
- Stomach not sucked in
- Body not in one line perpendicular to the floor
- Knees not in one line from the side
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Bending the knees to go up in a tuck position (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

HEADSTAND LOTUS

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Balance
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the head in contact with the floor with the body in an inverted position and the legs in a Lotus Position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and grab the opposite elbows to make sure the elbows are shoulder width apart.
- Interlock the fingers and place the little fingers on the floor.
- Bring the crown of the head into the interlocked hand position and touch the hairline on the floor.
- Bring the hips up and forward on top of the shoulders and extend the legs into a straight position.
- Keep the legs together and lift the legs straight up until perpendicular to the floor.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Line up the knees with the hips and shoulders to bring the body perpendicular to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Elbows wider than shoulder width
- Knees bending when lifting legs up
- Legs separating
- Toes not pointed
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Bending the knees to go up in a tuck position (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Folding the feet down to the chest after holding the posture for at least 3 seconds in the full expression with the knees, hips and shoulders in one line
-

TIGER

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must bend the spine backwards, whilst balancing on the hands and forearms only with the body in an inverted position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and grab the opposite elbows to make sure the elbows are shoulder width apart.
- Interlock the fingers and place the little fingers on the floor.
- Bring the crown of the head into the interlocked hand position and touch the hairline on the floor.
- Bring the hips up and forward on top of the shoulders and extend the legs into a straight position.
- Keep the legs together and lift the legs straight up until perpendicular to the floor.
- Hold the stomach in and point the toes straight up to the ceiling, keeping the body in one straight line.
- Bring the legs over and bend the spine backwards.
- Place the palms flat on the floor.
- Push into the floor, lift the shoulders and lift the head up and look forward.
- Bring the chest down and lift the head up to bring the throat parallel to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Elbows wider than shoulder width
- Knees bending when lifting legs up
- Legs separating
- Toes not pointed
- Head does not come up enough to look forward
- Throat not parallel to the floor
- Hands not flat on floor

Extra Skill:
Grabbing the elbows whilst in the posture (+0.5)
Placing the hands onto the face so that the balance is maintained only on the elbows (+1)

Less Skill:
Bending the knees to go up in a tuck position (-1)
Kicking into the Tiger position without first going into a Headstand (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

TIGER SCORPION

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must bend the spine backwards, while balancing on the hands and forearms only with the body in an inverted position, and the feet in contact with the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and grab the opposite elbows to make sure the elbows are shoulder width apart.
- Interlock the fingers and place the little fingers on the floor.
- Bring the crown of the head into the interlocked hand position and touch the hairline on the floor.
- Bring the hips up and forward on top of the shoulders and extend the legs into a straight position.
- Keep the legs together and lift the legs straight up until perpendicular to the floor.
- Hold the stomach in and point the toes straight up to the ceiling, keeping the body in one straight line.
- Bring the legs over and bend the spine backwards.
- Place the palms flat on the floor.
- Push into the floor, lift the shoulders and lift the head up and look forward.
- Bring the chest down and lift the head up to bring the throat parallel to the floor.
- **Keep the knees together, bend the knees and place the soles of the feet on top of the head.**

-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Soles of the feet not touching the top of the head
- Elbows wider than shoulder width
- Knees bending when lifting legs up
- Legs separating, not together
- Toes not pointed
- Head does not come up enough to look forward
- Throat not parallel to the floor
- Hands not flat on floor
- Soles of the feet not in fully contact with head
- If the knees separate (-0.5 for slight opening, -1 if open hip width)

Extra Skill:
Grabbing the elbows whilst in the posture (+0.5)
Placing the hands onto the face so that the balance is maintained only on the elbows (+1)

Less Skill:
Bending the knees to go up in a tuck position (-1)
Kicking into the Tiger position without first going into a Headstand (-2)

Accepted Flourishes:
Feet under the chin

HANDSTAND

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Bend forward and place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart, look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arms and the legs straight, press the hands into the floor and lift the legs up without bending or separating the legs.
- Point the toes and extend the legs straight up in the air.
- Push into the floor and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Legs separated
- Toes not pointed
- Body arched
- Body not in one straight perpendicular line to the floor
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Pressing into the Handstand position with bent knees (-1)
- Pressing into the Handstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
- Kicking or jumping into the Handstand position (-2)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

HANDSTAND LOTUS

Difficulty	9	•
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength	•
Group	Inversions	•



Direction to Face when Performing the Posture: Profile to the Judges

Minimum Expression: The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position and the legs in a Lotus Position.

Recommended Execution:

- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Bend forward and place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart, look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arms and the legs straight, press the hands into the floor and lift the legs up without bending or separating the legs.
- Point the toes and extend the legs straight up in the air.
- Push into the floor and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
- Hold this Handstand position for at least one second.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Line up the knees with the hips and shoulders to bring the body perpendicular to the floor.

Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Not holding the straight Handstand position for at least one second (-0.5)
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Legs separated
- Toes not pointed
- Body arched
- Body not in one straight perpendicular line to the floor
- Loose Lotus

Extra Skill:

Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)
One Arm Handstand Lotus (+1)

Less Skill:

Pressing into the Handstand position with bent knees (-1)
Pressing into the Handstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
Pressing from Cock Pose to Handstand Lotus (-1)
Kicking or jumping into the Handstand position (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

HANDSTAND SCORPION

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Inversions

Direction to Face when Performing the Posture: Profile to the Judges.

Minimum Expression: The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position and the feet in contact with the head.



- **Recommended Execution:**
- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Bend forward and place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart, look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arms and the legs straight, press the hands into the floor and lift the legs up without bending or separating the legs.
- Point the toes and extend the legs straight up in the air.
- Push into the floor and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
- Hold this Handstand position for at least one second.
- Bring the chest down and the head up until the throat is parallel to the floor.
- Bring the hips over the head and bring the knees forward until the legs are parallel to the floor.
- **Keep the knees together, bend the knees and place the soles of the feet on top of the head.**

- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Soles of the feet not touching the top of the head
- Not holding the straight Handstand position for at least one second (-0.5)
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Legs separated, not together
- Toes not pointed
- Throat not parallel to the floor
- Hands not flat on floor
- Soles of the feet not in fully contact with head
- If the knees separate (-0.5 for slight opening, -1 if open hip width)

Extra Skill:

Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)

Less Skill:

Pressing from Wheel Position into Handstand Scorpion (-0.5)

Pressing into the Handstand position with bent knees (-1)

Pressing into the Handstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)

Kicking or jumping into the Handstand position (-2)

Accepted Flourishes:

Feet under the chin

Pressing up from Locust Scorpion, the hands must be shoulder width apart

PALM TREE

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Inversions



Direction to Face when Performing the Posture: Profile to the Judges.

Minimum Expression: The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position. The head must be between the arms with the top of the head pointing down towards the floor.

Recommended Execution:

- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Bend forward and place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart, look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arms and the legs straight, press the hands into the floor and lift the legs up without bending or separating the legs.
- Point the toes and extend the legs straight up in the air.
- Push into the floor and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
- Hold this Handstand position for at least one second.
- Bring the head down in line with the arms.
- Keep the top of the head parallel to the floor and look straight back.

Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Not holding the straight Handstand position for at least one second (-0.5)
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Legs separated
- Toes not pointed
- Body arched
- Body not in one straight perpendicular line to the floor
- Top of the head not parallel to the floor
- Neck not in line with the spine in between the arms

Extra Skill:

Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)

Less Skill:

Pressing into the Handstand position with bent knees (-1)
Pressing into the Handstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
Kicking or jumping into the Handstand position (-2)

Accepted Flourishes:

Pressing up into the Handstand position with the head down in between the arms the entire time; the exit must be with the head down in between arms

HANDSTAND LOTUS SCORPION

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength •
Group	Inversions •

Direction to Face when Performing the Posture: Profile to the Judges.

Minimum Expression: The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position with the legs in a Lotus Position and the spine in a backward bend.



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•
Recommended Execution:

- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Bend forward and place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart, look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arms and the legs straight, press the hands into the floor and lift the legs up without bending or separating the legs.
- Point the toes and extend the legs straight up in the air.
- Push into the floor and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
- Hold this Handstand position for at least one second.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Lift the head up, look forward and bend the spine backwards.
- Bring the chest down and the head up until the throat is parallel to the floor.
- Bring the hips over the head and bring the knees forward until the legs are parallel to the floor.

•
•
•
Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Not holding the straight Handstand position for at least one second (-0.5)
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Legs separated
- Toes not pointed
- Loose Lotus
- Not entering cleanly into the Lotus Position

Extra Skill:

Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)
Touching the head to the buttocks (+1)

Less Skill:

Pressing into the Handstand position with bent knees (-1)
Pressing into the Handstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
Pressing from Cock Pose to Handstand Lotus (-1)
Kicking or jumping into the Handstand position (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

BOW LEG HANDSTAND SCORPION

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Inversions



Direction to Face when Performing the Posture: Profile to the Judges.

Minimum Expression: The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position with both knees bent and the feet staying in place under the ribs, and the spine in a backward bend.

Recommended Execution:

- Sit on the floor with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward onto the hands and open the legs.
- Bend one leg and grab the foot using one hand, and push the foot so that it goes underneath the rib cage on the same side of the body.
- Let go of the foot so that the foot stays in place without the hand.
- Bend the opposite leg and grab the foot with the other hand, and push the foot so that it goes underneath the rib cage on the same side of the body.
- Let go of the foot so that the foot stays in place without the use of the hands.
- Place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart; look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Press the hands into the floor, lift the legs up and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
- Hold this Handstand position for at least one second.
- Bring the chest down and the head up until the throat is parallel to the floor.
- Bring the hips over the head and bring the knees forward until the legs are parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arm straight and hold the final Posture still for at least 5 seconds.
- To exit: release the feet from the ribs and extend the legs straight and together up to the ceiling.
- Slowly lower the feet to the floor and stand up.

Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Not holding the straight Handstand position for at least one second (-0.5)
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Toes not pointed
- Chin/throat not parallel to the floor
- Hands not flat on floor
- Feet slipping out from underneath the body
- Foot rotates and the soles the feet turn out

Extra Skill:

Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)
Touching the head to the buttocks (+1)

Less Skill:

Going from Bow Leg Peacock and bringing the head forward and pressing up into the Handstand (-0.5)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

TWO LEGS BEHIND THE HEAD HANDSTAND

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have both legs behind the head, balance only on the hands with the body in an inverted position with the hips over the head.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor cross-legged with the profile to the Judges.
- Lift both legs behind the head, either one at a time or both together; cross the ankles with the knees behind the shoulders.
- Press the entire body off the floor with the hands shoulder width apart and lift the buttocks upwards.
- Bring the hips up until the hips come directly above the shoulders.
- Keep the arms straight.
-
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Forcing and struggling to get the legs behind the head
- Feet not crossed at the ankles and only held together by crossing the toes
- Feet not crossed at all (-2)
- Elbows bent
- Buttocks are not lifted high enough in a vertical line with the shoulders
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Bringing the both legs cleanly behind the head and crossing the ankles without using the hands (+0.5)
- Crossing the legs behind the head at the calf muscles with free movement of the head (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

ONE LEG BEHIND THE HEAD HANDSTAND / GOODBYE HANDSTAND

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
 -
 - **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg behind the head, balance only on the hands with the other leg extend into the air vertically.
 -
 - **Recommended Execution:**
 - (Instructions for Right Side)
 - Sit on the floor cross-legged with the profile to the Judges.
 - Lift the right leg up from the floor and grab the foot.
 - Bring the right knee behind the shoulder so that the knee faces directly outwards to the side, with no gap between the knee and the shoulder and the leg is behind the head.
 - Pull the right foot down and lift the head up in order to look forward, bringing foot behind shoulder so that knee is in line with toes and top of shoulders.
 - Place the right hand on the floor and press the body to stand up on the left foot.
 - Bring the hips up until the standing leg is straight.
 - Place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart; look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
 - Press the hands into the floor, lift the legs up and bring the hips above the shoulders.
 - Extend the left leg straight up with pointed toes until the leg is in one line with the hips and shoulders.
 - Exit exact opposite way and release the leg while standing with control.
 -
 - **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
 - Hands wider than shoulder width apart
 - Elbows bent
 - Extended leg bending
 - Toes not pointed
 - Hands not flat on floor
 - Hips not above shoulders
- Extra Skill: NONE.**
- Less Skill: NONE.**
- Accepted Flourishes:**
Bringing the leg behind the head in a standing position

ONE ARMED HANDSTAND

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Inversions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing profile.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one the hand with the body in an inverted position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand straight with the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Bend forward and place the palms flat on the floor shoulder width apart, look right in between the hands with the face parallel to the floor.
- Keep the arms and the legs straight, press the hands into the floor and lift the legs up without bending or separating the legs.
- Point the toes and extend the legs straight up in the air.
- Push into the floor and place the body in one perpendicular line to the floor with the stomach in.
- Keep the legs together and lift the left hand off the floor, so the balance is maintained only on the right hand. Keep the free hand still.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Hands wider than shoulder width apart
- Elbows bent
- Knees bent
- Toes not pointed
- Body arched
- Body not in one straight perpendicular line to the floor
- Free arm moving
-

Extra Skill:

Pressing from a seated position with legs straight and going into a pike from the floor. Exit must be exactly the same back into seated position (+1)

Less Skill:

Pressing into the Handstand position with bent knees (-1)
Pressing into the Handstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
Having the legs apart in the final expression of the posture (-1)
Kicking or jumping into the Handstand position (-2)

Accepted Flourishes:

Having the free arm against the body, must be still

PEACOCK

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the elbows in the abdomen.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and place the palms flat on the floor facing directly backwards with the wrists 1 inch/ 2.5 cm apart.
- Bend the elbows and bring the elbows together into the abdomen
- Charge the body forward, simultaneously straighten and extend the backs and bring the legs together.
- Keep the chin forward and look forward, extend the legs back and up to bring the legs off the floor with straight legs and pointed toes until the entire body is parallel to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Hands not turned back
- Hands too wide apart
- Chin down and not looking forward
- Knees bent
- Feet not pointed
- Legs not together
- Body not parallel to the floor
- Spine rounding
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Going from a Handstand and lowering into a Peacock (all elements of Peacock must be demonstrated)

ONE LEGGED PEACOCK

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the hands with one leg weaved around the arms and the opposite leg extended.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor in kneeling position with the left-side profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and bring the right foot forward with the foot flat and the right leg at a 90-degree angle.
- Bring the right palm flat on the floor directly behind the right heel.
- Use the left hand and bring the right foot onto the left thigh and place the left elbow in front of the right foot in place.
- Place the left palm flat on the floor in line with the right hand, shoulder width apart.
- Look forward and press into the floor, charge the body forward and extend the left leg straight back.
- Lock the left knee, point the toes, stretch the spine (there should be no gap between the stomach and the right weaved leg) and bring the entire body parallel to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Hands too wide apart
- Head does not come up and not looking forward
- Hands not facing forward
- Extended leg bending
- Foot not pointed
- Body not in one line parallel to the floor
- Spine rounding
- Gap between the stomach and the leg that has weaved
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

LOTUS PEACOCK

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the elbows in the abdomen and the legs in a Lotus Position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, profile to the Judges.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Come forward and place the palms flat on the floor facing directly backwards with the wrists 1 inch/ 2.5 cm apart.
- Bend the elbows and bring the elbows together into the abdomen.
- Charge the body forward and simultaneously lift up the legs in a Lotus Position until the entire body is parallel to the floor with the knees in one line.
- Keep the chin forward and look forward.
-

Deductions Specific to the Posture:

- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Hands not turned back
- Hands wide apart
- Chin down and not looking forward
- Lotus is loose
- Body not parallel to the floor
- Lower body and upper body not in one line
- Knees not in one line
- Spine rounding

Extra Skill:

Balancing on one arm with the hand fully turned back with the fingers facing back (+1)
Transition from Peacock Lotus with both arms under the body and then extending the free hand forward while maintaining the balancing hand facing back with the fingers facing back and exiting in the exact same manner (+2)

Less Skill:

Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)

Accepted Flourishes:

Going from a Handstand and lowering into a Peacock Lotus (all elements of Peacock Lotus must be demonstrated)

FOLDING UNFOLDING PEACOCK LOTUS

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the elbows in the abdomen and fold the legs into and out of the Lotus Position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and place the palms flat on the floor facing directly backwards with the wrists 1 inch/ 2.5 cm apart.
- Bend the elbows and bring the elbows together into the abdomen
- Charge the body forward, simultaneously straighten and extend the backs and bring the legs together.
- Keep the chin forward and look forward, extend the legs back and up to bring the legs off the floor with straight legs and pointed toes until the entire body is parallel to the floor.
- Fold the legs to form the Lotus Position.
- Hold still for 5 seconds.
- Come out exactly the opposite way: unfold the legs first, go back into the Peacock Position with straight legs and lower the feet back down onto the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Hands not turned back
- Hands too wide apart
- Chin down and not looking forward
- Knees bent
- Feet not pointed
- Loose lotus
- Legs not together
- Body not parallel to the floor
- Spine rounding

Extra Skill: NONE.

Less Skill:
Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)

Accepted Flourishes:
Starting in Peacock Lotus then straightening the legs and going back into Peacock Lotus

ONE ARMED PEACOCK

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on one hand with the elbow in the lower abdomen.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the right-side profile to the Judges.
- Come forward and place the right hand flat on the floor with the fingers facing outwards.
- Bend the right elbow and bring the elbow into the lower abdomen of the same side.
- Extend the left arm forward onto the floor.
- Bring the legs together and extend the legs back and up, parallel to the floor.
- Keep head up, chin forward and look forward.
- Stretch the spine, keep the body level and lift the extended hand up and parallel to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Head is down and not looking forward
- Legs are separated when lifting off the floor
- Legs are separated in the final position
- Extended arms is bent
- Body is tilted or uneven
- Legs are bent
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Balancing with hand is fully turned back with the fingers facing back (+0.5)
- Transition from Peacock and extending of the free hand forward while maintaining the balancing hand facing back with the fingers facing back and exiting in the exact same manner (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- The extended arm stretched along side the body

ONE ARMED PEACOCK LOTUS

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Lifts



Picture is provisory

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on one hand with the elbow in the lower abdomen and the legs in a Lotus position.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, right-side profile to the Judges.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Come forward and place the palms flat on the floor facing directly backwards with the wrists 1 inch/ 2.5 cm apart.
- Come forward and place the right hand flat on the floor with the fingers facing outwards.
- Bend the right elbow and bring the elbow into the lower abdomen of the same side.
- Extend the left arm forward onto the floor.
- Bring the Lotus back and up, parallel to the floor.
- Keep head up, chin forward and look forward.
- Stretch the spine, keep the body level and lift the extended hand up and parallel to the floor.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Head is down and not looking forward
- Legs are separated when lifting off the floor
- Legs are separated in the final position
- Extended arms is bent
- Body is tilted or uneven
- Legs are bent
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1) Lotus is loose
- Body not parallel to the floor
- Lower body and upper body not in one line
- Knees not in one line
- Spine rounding

Extra Skill:

- Balancing with hand is fully turned back with the fingers facing back (+0.5)
- Transition from Peacock with two hands and extending one hand forward while maintaining the balancing hand facing back with the fingers facing back and exiting in the exact same manner (+2)
- Transitioning from One Arm Peacock folding in and out of Lotus (+2)

Less Skill:

- Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)

Accepted Flourishes:

- The extended arm stretched alongside the body
- Going from a Handstand and lowering into a Peacock Lotus (all elements of Peacock Lotus must be demonstrated)

BOW LEGGED PEACOCK

Difficulty Rating: 9

Characteristic : Flexibility, Strength

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Flexibility, Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the hands with the elbows in the abdomen and have both knees bent with the feet staying in place under the ribs.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor with the profile to the Judges or to a diagonal to the Judges.
- Come forward onto the hands and open the legs.
- Bend one leg and grab the foot using one hand, and push the foot so that it goes underneath the rib cage on the same side of the body.
- Let go of the foot so that the foot stays in place without the hand.
- Bend the opposite leg and grab the foot with the other hand, and push the foot so that it goes underneath the rib cage on the same side of the body.
- Let go of the foot so that the foot stays in place without the use of the hands.
- Place the palms flat on the floor facing directly backwards.
- Bring the elbows together and into the abdomen, charge the body forward and lift the knees off the floor with the balance only on the hands. The soles of the feet should point down towards the floor.
- Bring the head up and forward, look forward and stretch the spine so that there is no rounding in the spine.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Hands not turned back
- Palms not flat on the floor
- Forearms not parallel to one another
- Spine rounding
- Feet slipping out from underneath the body
- Head down and not looking forward
- Knees below the level of the body and the head
- Knees very wide apart
- Foot rotates and the soles the feet turn out

Extra Skill:
One Arm Bow Leg Peacock (+1)

Less Skill:
Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)

Accepted Flourishes:
Lifting knees up higher than the line of the Body

CROW

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be in a forward bend and balance only on the arms with the knees bent.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Open the feet hip width distance apart.
- Bend forwards and place the hands flat on the floor directly in front of the feet with the fingers apart.
- Come up on to the toes, bend the knees slightly and place the knees directly into the armpits.
- Press the hands into the floor, keep the elbows straight and lift the feet up off the floor.
- Bring the big toes together with the feet pointed and bring the heels to touch so that the front of the tibia is parallel to the floor and the knees stay against the armpits.
- Lift the head and look forward, bring the chin parallel to the floor.
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Knees not touching the armpits
- Elbows bending
- Big toes separated
- Front of the tibia not parallel to the floor
- Chin not parallel to the floor
- Feet not pointed
- Big gap between the buttocks and the heels
-
- **Extra Skill:**
- Shoulders staying directly on top of the wrists in one line with arms straight (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Knees resting outside of the armpits (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

CRANE

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Flexibility, Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be in a forward bend and balance only on the arms with the legs forward and on the outside of the arms.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Stand straight with the profile to the Judges.
- Open the feet hip width apart, no wider than shoulder width.
- Bend forward and bend both knees.
- Place each hand behind each ankle, thumbs inside and fingers outside; push the upper body through the legs so that the shoulders go behind the knees.
- Reach the hands back and spread the fingers apart, place the fingertips on the floor so that the fingers face back and the thumbs forward.
- Extend the legs forward and point the toes until the legs are completely straight.
- Push into the floor with the arms and fingertips until the arms are straight.
- Bring the hips up so that hips are in line with the feet and legs.
- Lift the head to look forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Legs sliding away from the shoulders
- Elbows bending
- Knees bending
- Head too low and not looking forward
- Buttocks not in line with the legs, so that it does not create a parallel line to the floor
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Balancing on flat fingers(-1) or with palms flat on the floor facing forward or backward (-2)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

COCK

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be in a forward bend in a Lotus Position with the whole body only balanced on the arms.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor with the profile to the Judges.
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position.
- Place the hands on the floor directly in front of the legs, shoulder width apart with the fingers apart.
- Come forward onto the hands and knees.
- Bring the head down and keep the stomach in, round the spine and keep the arms completely straight and push the hands into the floor.
- Lift the entire body with the legs coming up along the back of the arms until the feet touch the chest and the knees go above the elbows and the buttocks lifts to at least the line of the shoulders or above.
- Bring the head up and look forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Hands too wide
- Elbows bending
- Buttocks not in line with the shoulders or higher
- Head does not come up looking forward
- Gap between the body and the feet
- Knees lower than the elbows
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Bringing the feet into the chest then pressing the body off the floor (-1)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Pressing into handstand, folding into a Lotus Position and then folding down into Cock Pose

FINGERSTAND

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance only on the fingers with the body leaning forward over the legs.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor with the profile to the Judges.
- Spread the fingers and place the fingertips on the floor directly next to the body so that the thumbs are under the hips and the fingers face outwards.
- Lean forward and bring the head down, point the toes and contract the thigh muscles.
- Keep the stomach in, push into the floor with only the fingertips and straighten the arms, elbows locked, and the buttocks lift up.
- Pull the hips back and up and drag the feet back along the floor so that the toes touch the floor.
- Lift the feet up and keep the hips as high as possible until the hips and heels are in one line parallel to the floor (the femur bone in line with the elbows or higher).
- Lock the knees, bring the head up and look forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Not fully on the fingertips (-1)
- Arms too wide
- Elbows bending
- Knees bending
- Toes not fully pointed
- Femur not in line with the elbows or higher (deductions start at -1 depending on the degree of the error)
- Head does not come up and not looking forward
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

LIFTING LOTUS

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have their legs in a Lotus Position with their body off the floor, while balancing on their arms.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position, facing the Judges
- Bring the legs into a Lotus Position and bring the knees closer together to tighten the Lotus Position, place the toes beyond the outside of each thigh to create a tight Lotus Position.
- Spread the fingers and place the fingertips on the floor very close to the body on both sides of the hips, no wider than shoulder width, with the thumbs into the body and the fingers pointing out.
- Push the entire body off the floor as high as possible, maintaining the hips and knees parallel to the floor.
- Straighten the arms and contract the triceps muscles to lock the elbows; flex the toes around the outside of the arms behind or higher than the elbows.
- Lift the head up and look forward.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- Lotus is loose and the toes do not go beyond the outside of the thighs
- Hips and knees not parallel to the floor
- Fingers have collapsed and the balance is not longer on the fingertips (-1)
- Hand position is wider than shoulder width
- Elbows bending
- Head does not come up enough to look forward
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Fingers flat on the floor (-1)
- Palms flat on the floor (-2)
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**

FULL SPINE TWIST

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Twists

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg in half lotus with the thigh on the floor and the sole of the other foot must be on the floor and the torso must twist towards the leg with the foot on the floor.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit with the right-side profile to the Judges.
- Bring the left leg into Half Lotus Position on the right thigh as high as possible.
- Bring the right foot over the left knee, with the sole of the foot flat on the floor.
- Bring the left elbow over the right knee, line up the elbow and the knee, push against the knee with the elbow and bring the left side of the body closer to the right leg.
- Grab the left knee with the left hand, keep the wrist straight.
- Reach the right arm around towards the back, open the chest and grab the thigh of the left leg with the whole hand.
- Keep both sits bones on the floor.
- Keep the spine straight and shoulders level, twist to the right so that the whole chest is flat and open to the Judges.
- Turn the chin over the right shoulder and keep the head straight.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Hand supporting body on the floor behind the back (-2)
- Sole of the foot is not flat on the floor
- Foot is not in contact with knee and hand
- Elbow and knee are not in contact
- Wrist is bending
- Right arms is not grabbing the left leg with the whole hand
- Both sits bones are not on the floor
- Spine is not straight
- Shoulders are not level
- Chest not fully opened to the Judges
- Chin is not in line with the right shoulder
- Head is not straight

Extra Skill:
Not using arms to twist body,
e.g. grabbing the left hand and
thigh with the right hand at
the same time and achieving a
full spine twist (+1)

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.



YOUTH DIVISION ONLY

STANDING HEAD TO KNEE

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Forward bends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the leg muscles of the standing leg contracted so that the knee is locked and the forehead must touch somewhere on the leg close to the extended knee.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand straight with the left-side profile towards the Judges.
- Look forward and grab the right foot at the ball of the foot with an interlocked grip and the wrists in a straight position.
- Flex the foot so that all the toes turn in and the thigh is parallel to the floor.
- The leg muscles of the left standing leg must be fully contracted, so that the left knee is locked with the weight forward and the foot flat and still on the floor.
- Keep the stomach in, the spine rounded forward and the ribcage in.
- Lift the right leg up and stretch it forward so that it becomes parallel to the floor with the thigh muscle contracted and the heel in line with the foot and flex all the toes in towards the face.
- Keep the chest up and the shoulders down and back.
- Bring the elbows down below the calf muscle and hold still.
- Bring the chin in and put the forehead on the knee.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Grip too low or high
- Thigh goes up or down
- Grip sliding
- Toes not flexed
- Wrists bending and not straight
- Belly is moving in and out of contraction
- Ribcage sticking out of the body
- Extended leg moves
- Heel not aligned with hip
- Extended leg not kicking forward
- Chest collapsed
- Shoulders up
- Elbows not below the calf
- Forehead not on the knee (-1)

Extra Skill: NONE.

Less Skill: NONE.

Accepted Flourishes:
Letting go of the arms after holding the full expression of the posture for at least 3 seconds

STANDING BOW PULLING

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the leg muscles of the standing leg contracted so that the knee is locked and the other leg extend up with same side hand holding the leg.
-
- **Recommended Execution:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand straight with right-side profile towards the Judges.
- Look forward and simultaneously grab the right foot from the inside of the foot at the ankle with all five-finger together and stretch the left arm up.
- The leg muscles of the left standing leg must be fully contracted, so that the left knee is locked.
- Simultaneously charge the body forward and kick the right leg back and up.
- Bring the body down to the floor, until the abdomen and chest are parallel to the floor.
- Stretch the right arm forward so that the shoulder touches the chin, keep the head up and straight and look forward.
- Kick the right leg back and up until the leg is completely straight and the two feet are in one line with the right toes pointed.
-
- **Deductions Specific to the Posture:**
- Incorrect grip
- Grip too low down the leg
- Fingers are separated
- Gap between the shoulder and the chin
- Body not down low enough
- Toes not pointed
- Kicking leg not straight (deductions from -0.5 depending on the degree of the bend)
-
- **Extra Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Less Skill: NONE.**
-
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE.**