



# JUDGING PROCEDURE

2026

Canadian Pole and Aerial  
Championship

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# 1 JUDGING INFO

The CPAC judging consists of an accredited panel of experienced industry professionals. For sanctioned competitions, there are to be 4 judges for each division. Only the top 3 component scores given by the judges will be used to calculate the performance average, while the lowest score will be dropped. In the case of a tie, the 4th judge's scores will be reintroduced. All 4 scoresheets will be provided to the competitor.

For Sport divisions, Novice and Junior ages, a perfect score would be 65 points.

For Sport divisions Adult and Masters ages, a perfect score would be 100 points.

For Pole Art and After Hours divisions a perfect score would be 60 points.

For Troupes divisions a perfect score would be 25 points.

## 1.1 CPAC JUDGES

As a CPAC Accredited Judge your mission is to create fair, unbiased, well-educated evaluations of pole and/or aerial performances in the CPAC competitions. The spirit of the Canadian pole and aerial community as well as the health and well-being of each athlete shall be your focus while acting as a CPAC Accredited Judge.

### JUDGE'S CRITERIA

- Must have 5+ years in any combination of the following areas of Pole / Aerial: teaching, performing, instructing, certifying
- Must compliment the 5-years of experience with experience or training in other suitable areas (dance, fitness, circus, bodybuilding, theatre, etc.)
- Must declare any personal or business relationships with athletes who are competing
- Must be in good standing with all competitors as well as within the pole industry
- Must be 21 or older on the day of the competition
- Must have no criminal record or records pending
- Must speak, read, and write English fluently
- Must dress professionally and not consume alcohol at or near the competition
- Must not comment publicly about their scoring or decisions during or following the competition
- Must step down from their judging position if neutrality cannot be maintained
- Must refrain from using coarse, negative, or offensive language
- Must behave professionally before, during, and after any CPAC sanctioned competition

### JUDGE'S SELECTION

- All judges must complete a Judge Application form, providing background as to their experience and professional standing.
- Judge Application forms are reviewed in comparison with the Judge's Criteria prior to judging invitations being extended.
- All those invited to judge must complete the CPAC Judge Accreditation Process and exam, including all required annual renewals.
- Prior to each competition, each invited judge must complete a Conflict of Interest Declaration form.

- Judges are scheduled based on recognized experience and declared conflict of interest, at the discretion of the Head Judge. Not all judges at each event will judge all divisions or levels.

The CPAC reserves the right to support BOTH their accredited judges as well as athletes choosing to participate in CPAC events.

The CPAC reserves the right to revoke a judge's accreditation if a judge displays any behaviour that is not in line with the commitment to fair, unbiased, well-educated evaluations of pole and aerial performances.

The CPAC reserves the right to audit any division of any CPAC sanctioned competition if the placement of athletes seems grossly unexpected or if the quality of the judging is in question.

## 1.2 DEDUCTIONS

### 1.2.1 RESTRICTED MOVES

Any judge from any category can and should bring to discussion a move in question. Judge's course of action if any "restricted" moves are performed:

1. Indicate on your score card the move you think is restricted.
2. At the end of the routine, confer with all judges. If even one judge has seen the same move, the head judge will check it against the guideline of restricted moves, if the move is not listed, a judgment will be made on whether or not it requires extreme strength or flexibility (defining criteria for restricted moves).
3. If the move in question is deemed restricted, each judge will then deduct 5 points for each restricted move.

### 1.2.2 HEAD JUDGE DEDUCTIONS

The Head Judge is responsible for all head judge deductions.

Any judge from any category can and should bring to discussion a potential deduction. Judge's course of action if any potential deductions are observed:

1. Indicate on your score card the deduction you observed.
  - Costume, Music, Prop, Movement
2. At the end of the routine the head judge will provide a judgment. Review of the photo/video footage may be utilised to verify the judgement.
3. If the head judge finds nonadherence to the rules, the head judge will apply a deduction to the overall score:
  - Nonadherence to costume rules will result in a 10 point deduction.
  - Nonadherence to music rules will result in a 10 point deduction.
  - Nonadherence to prop rules will result in a 10 point deduction.
  - Nonadherence to movement and theme rules will result in a 25 point deduction.

## 1.3 DISQUALIFICATIONS

In the event of any major nonadherence to costume rules, major wardrobe malfunctions, safety hazards or explicit content, a judge indicate on their scorecard a note of what they saw and they will continue scoring their performance as if it had not happened.

At the end of the routine the head judge will provide a judgment. Review of the photo/video footage may be utilised to verify the judgement.

If the event host or head judge finds a competitor is unable to safely perform for any reason whatsoever, including falls from an aerial position, the CPAC reserves the right to stop the performance and disqualify the competitor at their discretion.

# 2 FORMAL AUDIT PROTOCOL

## AUDIT PROTOCOL

1. Formally submit your concerns using the form accessible on our website
2. The CPAC will contact you regarding your submission via email to clarify any details
3. If the concern presented is deemed suitable to audit a division or other, this will be formally announced to those it concerns (competitors in this division, judges involved)
4. Score sheets will be pulled, judges will be interviewed and official footage of the performances in question will be reviewed by a panel of CPAC officials.
5. Once the audit has been completed, the results will be communicated to the parties involved and if this results in standings being changed, this will also be communicated at this point.

## IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

1. Competitors have up to one week from the date they receive score sheets to file a concern
2. Audits can take anywhere from 24 hours to 7 business days to complete.

\*\* Submission of an audit request does not confirm an audit will be conducted.

## WHAT IS CONSIDERED FOR AN AUDIT?

Some things that may qualify for a division to be audited would be as follows:

1. Marks deducted for restricted moves are in question
2. Points marked for missed tricks seems inaccurate
3. Disqualification in question
4. Scores do not seem to add up

## WHAT DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR AN AUDIT

1. Poor sportsmanship
2. Misunderstandings regarding how divisions are judged

Official Audit Request Form: <https://canadianpoleandaerialchampionship.ca/audit-request/>