

USASF: A kick routine emphasizes control, height uniformity, extension, alignment, upper body and lower body placement, proper preparation and hook up/arm connection, timing and creativity of a variety of kick series and patterns. A kick is defined as one foot remaining on the floor while the other foot lifts with force. Kicks should be performed throughout the routine while maintaining stamina. Inadequate utilization of kicks may also affect the panel judges' overall impression and/or score of the routine.

OVERALL EFFECT

Communication/Projection, Audience Appeal and Appropriateness Judges will credit: genuine use of projection and energetic expression, including body energy; the fulfillment of the genre per the category description; has age-appropriate music, costumes and choreography that enhance the routine.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Musicality Judges will credit: how well the movement complements unique musicality and dynamics of the music; the originality of routine and concept. Movement that utilizes the music's accents, rhythm, tempo, phrasing, lyrics, style, etc.

Routine Staging / Visual Effects Judges will credit: how the choreography utilizes the stage exploring all directions/aspects and how the dancers are presented on the floor; the structure of challenging and unpredictable formations and seamless transitions. Incorporation of creative surprising visual effects developed through creative floor work, balanced use of features, group/partner work, level changes, and opposition.

Complexity of Movement Judges will credit: difficulty of the routine considering both movement and elements/skills (does not reflect execution); overall level, pace, and intricacy of movement such as footwork and direction changes using full team engagement with minimal rest steps. Routine displays a substantial number of kicks with an exceptional variety of kicks/combinations and arm connections, as well as element variety. Difficulty as it relates to the appropriate use of dancers' ability level.

TECHNICAL & GROUP EXECUTION

Category Style Execution Judges will credit: the dancer's ability to display the correct foundation and form effectively and continually throughout the routine. The understanding of maintenance of lines using correct posture, elevated focus, upper body and lower body placement, extension, alignment, control, proper foot prep/closure and hook up/arm connection.

Movement Technique Execution Judges will credit: the true development of the movement; noting terms of extension, stamina and flexibility of kicks.

Skill Technique Execution Judges will credit: demonstration of (not difficulty of) appropriate level skills/elements with correct approach, execution and completion of elements such as, but not limited to: leaps, turns, lifts, partnering etc.

Synchronization/Timing with Music Judges will credit: the team's ability to maintain strong synchronization and timing with each other and the music, displaying accuracy, clarity, and control within both movement and technical skills/elements.

Uniformity of Movement Judges will credit: how well the clarity of movement as a team is upheld, the consistent approach and commitment to the style and interpretation of movement as a group.

Spacing Judges will credit: the ability of the dancers to use spatial awareness to position themselves with correct distances between each other in and throughout all formations and transition pathways.