



# Judging HS Diving



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Swimming & Diving  
Championships



# Characteristics of a Professional Judge

- **Professional behavior** at all times
  - Not appropriate to talk with athletes, coaches, or parents about diving before or during an event
  - Avoid watching warm-ups
- **Neutrality** - Unbiased
- **Knowledgeable** regarding all diving rules
- **Collaborative** - Works effectively with colleagues
- **Ongoing** high-level judge **education** and mind-set

# Judging - Sources of Bias

- **Bias** - Prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another, usually in a way considered to be unfair.
- On occasion, biased judging is still observed in diving.
  - Even one biased judge doesn't look good for the sport.

# Judging - Sources of Bias

- **Reputation or memory-influenced bias**
  - Scoring a particular athlete (or group of athletes) higher based on reputation or previous results
- **Difficulty bias**
  - Awarding higher scores to a dive that was not well executed because it was a difficult dive.

# Judging - Sources of Bias

- **Rank-order / sequential bias**

- Refers to the tendency to expect a good or bad performance based on at which stage of the competition the performance takes place (i.e. athletes competing earlier have been shown to receive lower marks irrespective of their performances)

# Judging - Sources of Bias

- **Affiliation bias**

- Awarding higher scores to a diver because of his/her affiliation.

- **Conformity effect / bias**

- The conformity effect occurs when judges adapt their own scores to “fall in line” with the rest of the panel, even if they do not agree.

# Judges & Coaches - Working Together

- **We all have to understand the building blocks of the sport.**
  - Judges need to appreciate what goes into teaching everything.
- Judges need to be able to appreciate all of the parts (technical, physical, and emotional tools).
  - Judges have to be well enough versed in the technique .



# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

Think category first, then score within that category.

## **CATEGORIES**

*10 Excellent*

*8.5 - 9.5 Very Good*

*7 - 8 Good*

*5 - 6.5 Satisfactory*

*2.5 - 4.5 Deficient*

*0.5 - 2 Unsatisfactory*

*0 Failed Dive*

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

- **Use the Very Good Category** - When Appropriate
  - Reward excellent mechanics, even if the entry is slightly off.
- **Judge the dive you see**, not what you expect to see and/or the difficulty of the dive.
- **Judge all of the elements of the dive**, not just the entry!

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## **DEDUCTIONS**

**½ to 2 points each:**

- **Starting Position**
  - Undefined starting position
  - Poor posture
  - Standing crooked on the board
  - Sloppy hands

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## **DEDUCTIONS**

**½ to 2 points each:**

- **Approach**
  - Not less than three steps
  - Distracting
  - Excessive motion
  - Disjointed approach

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## **DEDUCTIONS**

**½ to 2 points each:**

- **Take Off**
  - More than 4 rocks
  - Too far back on the board
  - Extra bounce (crow hop) in a standing dive
  - The diver starts twisting while still on the board

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## **DEDUCTIONS**

**½ to 2 points each:**

- **Flight**

- Rotational speed
- Height
- Diving to the side of the board

- **Entry**

- Under or Over rotation, but less than 45 degrees

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## MAXIMUMS

- **4.5 points (Deficient dive)**
  - Partial break in position (unintentional)
  - At least one hand above the shoulders on a feet first entry
  - At least one hand below the shoulders on a head first entry

# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## MAXIMUMS

- **2 points (Unsatisfactory dive)**
  - A dive is performed clearly in the wrong position
  - A diver makes no attempt to come out of a position and/or a twist
  - A diver hits the board with any part of his/her body (not just hair)



# Key Points of Emphasis - Judging HS Diving

## MAXIMUMS

- **0 points (Failed dive)**
  - A dive of a different number has been performed
  - The final step in a forward approach is not from one foot
  - An additional bounce
  - The take-off is not from both feet
  - A twist is greater or less than that announced by more than 90 degrees (judge based on where the diver's shoulders are when the feet or hands first contact the water)

Let's apply what we have learned...

401B



# Satisfactory - Score: 5-6

This is a satisfactory dive - It meets all of the minimum requirements for the dive, but does not excel at any one of the of them.

104B



# Good - Score: 7-8

This dive is well within the good and potentially very good category. It is high, good form, moves well, the entry leaves a little to be desired, but it does not keep the dive from reaching into good range for high school.





# Unsatisfactory/ Deficient - Score: $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$

This dive has a number of positive qualities, it is high, smooth and generally has good form. The critical factors in judging the dive come at the end when the diver is both under rotated and over twisted. Neither is enough to fail the dive, but depending on how much of each you observe, it is more than enough to move the dive into the deficient or even unsatisfactory category.



403C



# Deficient - Score: 4-5

This dive has some satisfactory qualities, it has satisfactory height, it has satisfactory distance, good form and moves well. The critical factors that impact the scoring of this dive are that it is under rotated and nearly incomplete: the diver does not quite completely exit the somersault position before entering the water and could be viewed as deficient.

105B

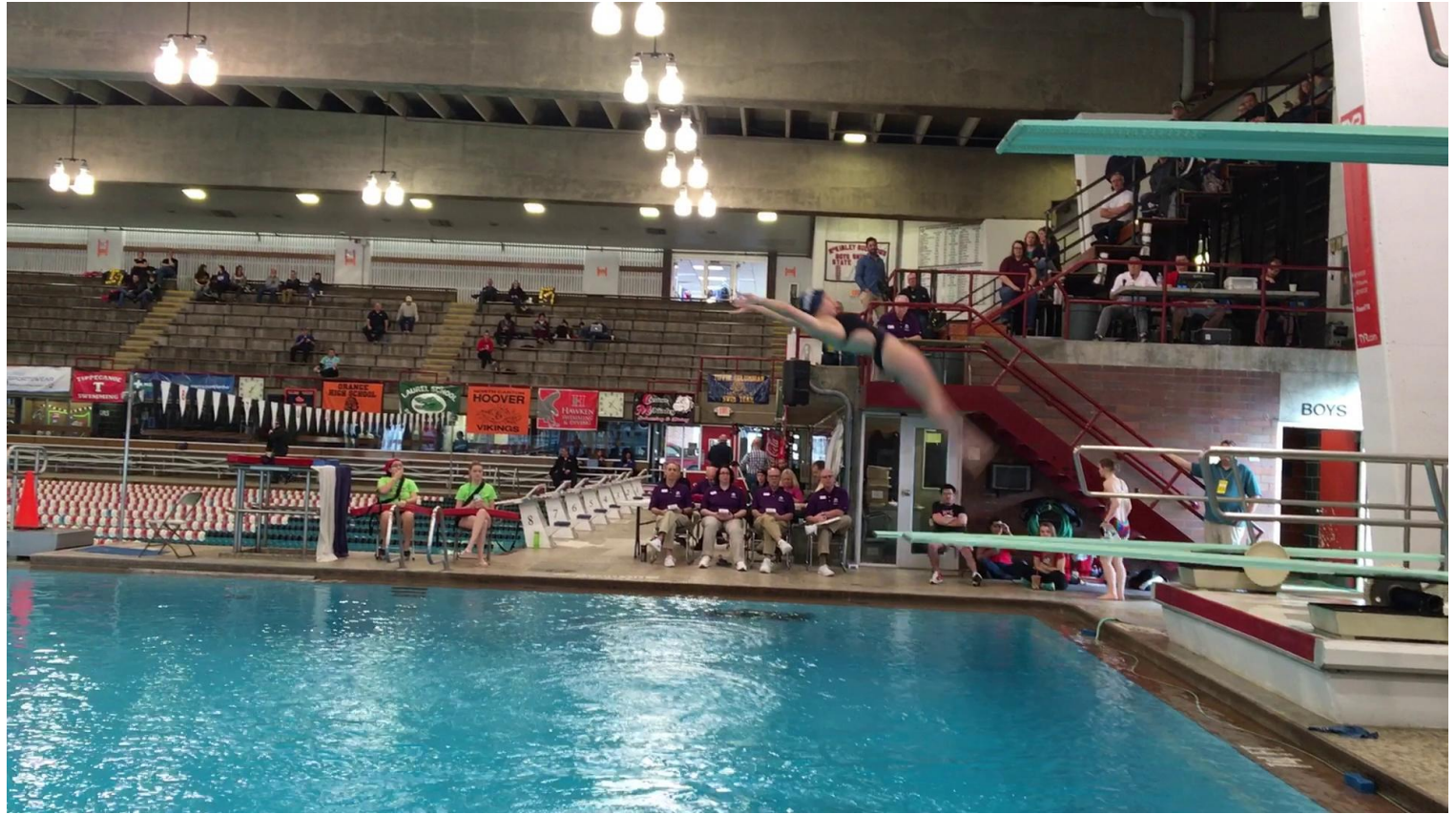


# Failed- Score: 0

This is a fail dive. The diver looks like she may perform this dive regularly, but she suffers what is termed a 'knee buckle' and is not able to gain enough height or rotation to complete the dive.



203B



# Satisfactory/ Good - Score: $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $7\frac{1}{2}$

This is a good dive: good height, good rotation, good form, good technique. The detractors are it is slightly over rotated, the entry is splashy and there could be a slight crimp in the pike. Depending on the context of the competition and what exactly each judge saw, this should score between the Satisfactory and Good category.

104B



# Unsatisfactory - Score: $\frac{1}{2}$ - 2

The dive itself has some satisfactory qualities: it is powerful and has good height. Detractors are first and foremost that the approach comprises less than three steps - 2 point deduction from each judge; then the diver has poor form and does not complete the dive either in rotation or exiting the somersaulting position. The poor form is termed a “broken position” and is a maximum of 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  by high school ruling. It is also under rotated which depending on how much you perceive would drop the score further, then there are form breaks within the broken position. The Category would be deficient, then deductions for under rotated, unpointed toes, bent arms at points and a two point deduction for taking less than three steps would result in an unsatisfactory dive. How unsatisfactory would depend on how many deductions each judge perceived.



401C



# Deficient - Score: $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$

There are no rules violations on this dive. It belongs in the deficient category because it is under rotated by less than 45 degrees, then add a  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 point deduction for remaining piked when entering the water.

403B



# Good - Score: 7-8

This a good dive, depending on the context of the meet potentially a very good dive. It is sufficiently high, and rotated, with good form and a satisfactory entry. Deductions would be it is slightly too far away from the diving board and initially slightly short of vertical on entry, before rotating to vertical as she moves through through the water.



5221D



# Unsatisfactory - Score: 1 - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

This is an unsatisfactory dive. The diver does not fail the dive, but is significantly under twisted and remains tucked throughout the dive.

303B



# Good - Score: 7-8

This is a good dive. The diver's approach is slightly distracting with its awkward pacing, but the dive is performed high and sufficiently rotated with good form. The only detractor is it is slightly over rotated.



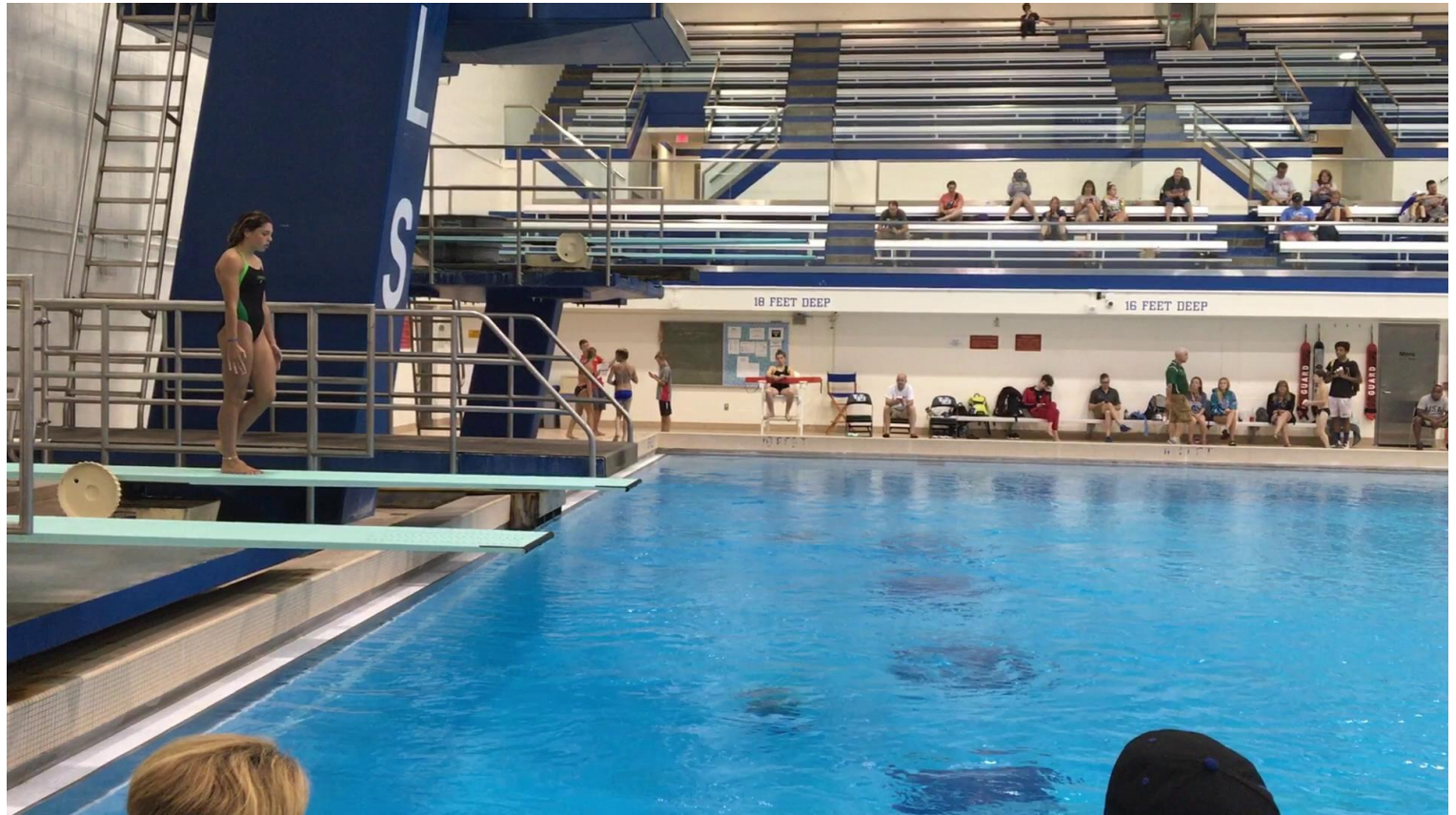
2010



# Satisfactory/ Good - Score: 6-7

This is a satisfactory to good dive depending on the context of the meet. It is performed at a satisfactory distance and height with good form and a good entry. There are minimally excessive oscillations and no demonstrated “start position” before initiating the oscillations.

103B



# Satisfactory - Score: $5 \frac{1}{2}$ - $6 \frac{1}{2}$

This is a satisfactory dive. The approach is awkwardly paced and performed. There is excessive movement in the hurdle. The dive flight is slightly too far out, has good form and good entry.



401B



# Good/ Very Good - Score: $7 \frac{1}{2}$ - $8 \frac{1}{2}$

This is a very good dive. The height and distance is satisfactory to good, the form is excellent and the entry is very good (difficult to see exactly how good).

# There is no right answer - just a correct range.

Assign a category, apply the rules and deductions and award a final score for each dive. There will be three, five or seven judges in any competition. Each judge will have a slightly different perspective on any given dive and therefore may assign a slightly different category or value to the individual deductions. As arbitrary as this may seem to the new judge, more times than not the majority of the panel will be in agreement, or within a  $\frac{1}{2}$  point of one another throughout the competition. AND even if the panel is not in agreement on every dive, the only real goal is to assign the correct order of finish for the competition.

# Test

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeqZ4BmrpcLS8YxJh\\_VpXEDqLTXbknod6v3gN03MHZHZY9qMA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeqZ4BmrpcLS8YxJh_VpXEDqLTXbknod6v3gN03MHZHZY9qMA/viewform?usp=sf_link)