



International Yoga Sports Federation ©

POSTURE GUIDELINES 2021-2022

**ALL DIVISIONS:
YOUTH DIVISION (9-11, 12-14, 15-17)
ADULT DIVISION (18+, 50+)**



AGE DIVISIONS

- **There are 5 Divisions:**
 1. **Youth** (Divided into 3 Groups): 9-11, 12-14, 15-17
 2. **Adult** (Divided into 2 Groups): 18+, 50+
- For all aspects of the program an Athlete's competitive age is determined by his/her age on September 1st.
- An Athlete is allowed to move up one year in age for Competition. He/she may move the one-year based only on his/her age as of September 1st. (Example: If an Athlete is 17 years old on September 1st, they may compete as an Adult in the competition.)

GLOSSARY FOR POSTURE LIST

- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture** – indicates which limb or side of the body must be shown to the Judges. This instruction must be followed regardless of how the Athlete chooses to execute the posture.
- **Recommended Execution** – instructions for an agreed ideal execution of the Posture. Individual Athletes can decide how to execute and perform each Posture. Athletes will be judged on their final expression of the Posture.
- **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.
- **Same (followed by side and/or body part)** – refers to the same side of the body i.e. in 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.

GLOSSARY FOR POSTURE LIST

- **Extra skills and less skills** - are aspects or elements of the posture that demonstrate either greater or lesser proficiency in the posture's execution, but do not change the characteristic of the posture.
- **Accepted Flourishes** - are considered as any unnecessary endings of the Posture or additional movements during the Recommend Execution of the Posture, which do not demonstrate any Extra Skill, but do not change the characteristic of the Posture.
- **Deductions** – penalties specific to the execution of each posture. All Postures are subject to the general rules and regulations specified in the PG.
- **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.
- **Prayer Position** - both hands together in front of the chest with the fingers together and pointing up to the ceiling.



OFFICIALLY APPROVED POSTURES

ALL DIVISIONS

1. **Youth** (Divided into 3 Groups): 9-11, 12-14, 15-17
2. **Adult** (Divided into 2 Groups): 18+, 50+



COMPULSORY POSTURE GROUPS FOR YOUTH AND ADULT

- Backbends**
- Forward Compressions**
- Traction**
- Twists**
- Lifts**
- Inversions**

BACKBENDS

- **FISH (5, F)**
- **PIGEON (5, F)**
- **WHEEL (5, F)**
- **BOW (6, F)**
- **ONE LEGGED WHEEL (6, B, F)**
- **BOUND ONE LEGGED WHEEL (7, B, F, S)**
- **FULL CAMEL (7, F)**
- **FULL COBRA (7, F)**
- **HALF MOON BACKBEND (7, F, S)**
- **LOCUST SCORPION (7, F, S)**
- **SPLITS (WITH BACKBEND) (7, F)**
- **STANDING BOW PULLING (7, B, F)**
- **DANCER (8, B, F)**
- **FULL BOW (8, F)**
- **FULL WHEEL (8, F)**
- **REVERSE STRETCH (8, F)**
- **SPLIT ARM (8, B, F)**
- **FULL STANDING BOW (9, B, F)**

FISH

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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 on the floor close to the hips and at the same time lower both knees to floor.
- Grab the right foot with the left hand and the left foot with the right hand, at the same time, and pull on the feet with the wrists in a straight position.
- Bring the elbows down to the floor.
- **Examples of Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- 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

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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 in line 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.
 - **Examples of Examples of 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 the 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

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 with max. expression to reach:

- 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.

Examples of Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:

- Feet much wider than hip width
- Feet not parallel
- Knees not parallel
- 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.

BOW

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must hold the legs behind in a backward bend, while balancing between the pelvic bones and the lowest ribs.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- Lie on the stomach with the profile to the Judges.
- 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.
- Keep 6 inches/15 centimeters between knees and toes.
- Simultaneously kick both legs up, keep the thighs and knees hip the same 6 inches/15 centimeters distance apart, lift the upper body off the floor and drop the head back and look at the toes.
- Keep the weight between the pelvic bones and lowest rib so that the toes are in the center from the side.
- Keep the knees and feet even from the front and side.
- **Examples of Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Incorrect distance of the grip to the toes
- The legs and upper body moving at different times
- Legs opening too wide (-1)
- Weight going back on the hip bones or onto the ribcage
- Wrist bending
- The head is not dropped back enough
- Knees and feet not in one line from the front and side

ONE LEGGED WHEEL

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Balance, 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 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 with max. expression to reach:

(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 wrists 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.

Examples of Examples of 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: NONE.

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.

BOUND ONE LEGGED WHEEL

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
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 forearms and one foot on the floor, both hands in contact with the heel, while the other leg is extended in the air.

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

Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:

(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.

Keep the arms straight with the wrists, elbows and shoulders in one line.

Push the chest as far forward over the wrists as possible.

Head between the arms.

Knees in line with the ankles.

Place the forearms down on the floor with control, shoulder width apart and behind the shoulders in the same line as the heels.

Step the left foot in and grab the left ankle with both hands, tight grip

Bring the chest forward, chin up, look forward, throat parallel to the floor

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.

Push the left foot flat on the floor and push the forearms against the floor and maintain an even bend through the spine

Examples of Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:

• Feet much wider than hip width

• Feet not parallel

• Knees not parallel

• Dropping the hands or forearms on the floor without control

• Hands or elbows wider than shoulders

• Knees not in line with the ankles

• Uneven bend in the spine

• Throat not parallel to the floor

• 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

Less Skill:

Pushing up from the floor (-1)

Lowering down to the floor after the execution of the posture (-1)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
- **Examples of Examples of 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
- 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)
- Hands touch the floor (-2)
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Letting go of the hands in 4th Stage
- Fingertips lightly touching the floor

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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

HALF MOON BACKBEND

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength, Flexibility
Group	Backbends



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must bend the spine backwards with the legs together and the arms together pointing backwards.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- Stand with the feet flat and together, arms overhead with palms together with the profile to the Judges.
- Bring the head as far back as possible.
- Bring the arms back to touch the ears and bend the entire spine.
- Keep the arms and legs straight, push the upper body back and push the hips, thighs and stomach forward. Keep the weight on the heels.
- Come up with arms overhead.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Feet apart (-1)
- Legs bending (-1)
- Arms bending
- Arms not back enough
- Palms separated
- Hips not in one line
- Shoulders not in one line
- Head not all the way back
- Uneven bend in the spine
- Feet not flat, weight going forward

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
- **Examples of 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

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
-
- **Examples of 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.
-

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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 left arm forward so that the shoulder touches the chin, keep the head up and straight and looking 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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
 - Incorrect grip (-1)
 - Grip too low on the leg
 - Fingers are separated
 - Gap between the shoulder and the chin
 - Body not down low enough (-1)
 - 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.

DANCER

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 with the other leg kicking up and extended towards the ceiling holding on to the leg with both hands.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Standing leg muscles not contracted (-2)
- Abdomen is not parallel to the floor (-1)
- Torso is twisted
- The hip of the kicking leg is opening out and the kicking leg is turning out
- Kicking leg does not lock (deductions from -0.5 depending on the degree of the bend)
- 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 (-1)
- Chin not level to the floor

Extra Skill:

Lifting(not kicking) 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 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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
- **Examples of 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
- 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 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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
 -
 - **Examples of 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, 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.

REVERSE STRETCH

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
 - Straighten the arms and place the tops of feet flat on floor.
- **Examples of 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 (+1)
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
-
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- 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, (deductions from -0.5 depending on the degree of the bend)
- 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(not kicking) 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)

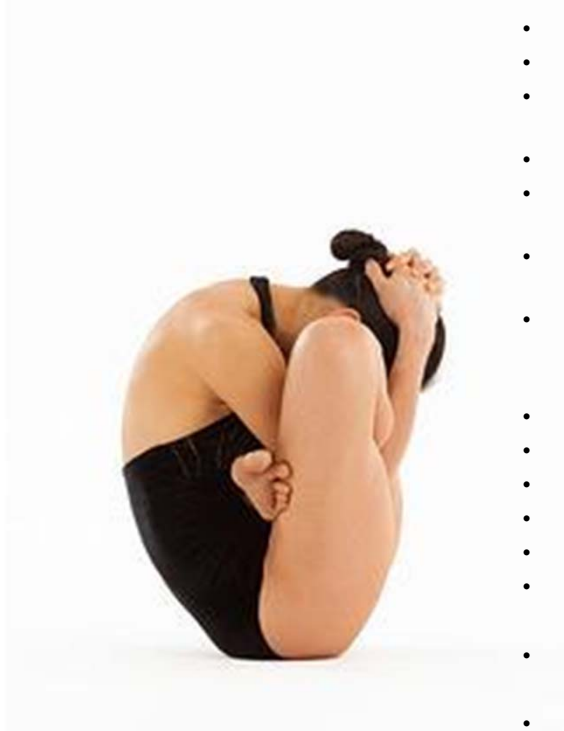
Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

FORWARD COMPRESSIONS

- **FETAL LOTUS** (5, B, F)
- **FROG** (5, F)
- **GUILLOTINE** (5, F)
- **RABBIT** (6, F)
- **SLEEPING YOGI** (6, F)
- **SPLITS (WITH FORWARD BEND)** (6, F)
- **STANDING HEAD TO KNEE** (7, B, F, S)
- **TORTOISE – FULL/LIFTING** (8, B, F, S)

FETAL LOTUS

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Forward compression



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
- Sit on the floor in a cross-legged position.
- 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 sit bones.
- **Examples of 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 compression



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
- Sit straight, with the legs straight in front.
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

GUILLOTINE

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward compression



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
- **Examples of 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 in line with the ankles
- **Extra Skill:** NONE.
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

RABBIT

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward compression



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be in a forward bend on the front of the legs, while holding on to the feet.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- Kneel down with the profile to the Judges.
- Sit on the heels with the knees and the feet together and the tops of feet on the floor.
- Grab the same side heels with the thumbs on the outside of the foot and the fingers on the inside and keep the stomach sucked in.
- Tuck the chin to the chest, round forward and touch the forehead on the knees, and touch the top of the head to the floor.
- Pull the heels and lift the hips up towards the ceiling.
- Keep the arms straight, elbows locked and lift the shoulders up away from the ears.
- The entire spine should stretch from the coccyx to the neck and the thighs should form a perpendicular line to floor.
- **Dedctions Specific to the Postuure:**
- Forehead not touching the knees (-2)
- Incorrect grip (-1)
- The head position going too far forward onto the back of the head
- Wrist bent
- Thighs not perpendicular to the floor
- Uneven bend in the spine
- Shoulders not lifted away from the ears
- Stomach not sucked in

SLEEPING YOGI

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward compression



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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)
- The legs behind the head crossing at the calf muscles with free movement of the head (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

SPLITS (WITH FORWARD BEND)

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Forward compression



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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 leg and knee 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.
- **Examples of 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.

STANDING HEAD TO KNEE

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Forward compression



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have the thigh 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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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 hip 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.
- **Examples of 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 moving in and out of contraction
 - Ribcage sticking out of the body
 - 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

TORTOISE – FULL/LIFTING

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Forward compression



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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 smoothly 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.
 - **Examples of 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 (-1)
 - 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
 - Not holding at the top parallel position for at least one second (-0.5)
 - Descent onto the floor is not smooth and steady
 - Feet touch the floor (-1)
 - Chin is not tucked into the chest (-1)
 - 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)
 The legs behind the head crossing at the calf muscles with free movement of the head (+1)
- Less Skill:** NONE.
- Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

TRACTIONS

- **BOUND LOTUS** (5, F)
- **COWFACE** (5, F)
- **FOUR ANGLE** (5, F)
- **LEG BEHIND HEAD** (5, F)
- **SPLITS (STRAIGHT)** (5, F)
- **BIRD OF PARADISE** (6, B, F)
- **SPLITS (SIDE)** (6, F)
- **STRETCHING** (6, F)
- **ARCHER** (7, F, S)
- **SHORT PERSON** (7, B)
- **SIDE ANGLE** (7, B, F, S)
- **UPWARD STRETCHING** (7, B, F)
- **FLAG** (8, B, F)
- **MOUNTAIN** (8, B)
- **ROOT** (8, B, F)
- **STANDING SPLITS** (8, B, F)
- **GOOD-BYE** (9, B, F)
- **BOW LEG MOUNTAIN** (10, B, F)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

COWFACE

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one bent knee 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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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 left arm over and behind the head.
 - Bring the right 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.
- **Examples of 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
 - 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
 - If opposite arm and leg are not used
- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
- **Examples of 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.

LEG BEHIND HEAD

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Traction



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must hold one leg behind the head.
-
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
-
- **Examples of 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, 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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 leg and the knee flat on the floor and toes point; Left leg should have the 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.
- **Examples of 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.

BIRD OF PARADISE

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to face when performing the posture:** Facing the Judges.
- **Minimum expression:** The Athlete must stand on one leg and extend the other leg higher than parallel to the floor. The hands have to be in contact behind the back and under the extended leg.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
 - (Instructions for Right Side)
 - Stand straight and step the right foot to the right hip-width distance, legs straight, knees are locked and place the hands into a Prayer Position in front of the chest.
 - Bend forward, keeping both legs straight and bring the right arm underneath the right leg and place the left arm onto the back with the left palm facing outwards. Grab the left wrist with the right hand in a firm grip, binding the right leg with both the arms.
 - Bend the right leg and lift the right leg up, so that the right quadriceps face backwards behind the body and the right leg touches the right shoulder blade.
 - Contract the right leg muscles so that the knee locks and point the right foot. Both hips in one line with the spine straight and the stomach sucked in.
 - Keep the chin parallel to the floor and look forward.
- **Deductions:**
 - Standing leg muscles not contracted
 - Extended leg muscles not contracted and straight
 - Spine not straight and rounding forward
 - Shoulders hunched and rounded
 - Gap between body and extended thigh
 - Hips not in line
 - Shoulders not in one line
 - Standing foot not straight
- **Extra skills:**
 - Binding the right leg with both hands without bending forward, keeping both legs straight throughout (+1)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

STRETCHING

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must stretch the body forward and hold the feet with both hands.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- Sit upright with both legs fully extended forward with feet together and the profile to the Judges.
- Grab the big toes from the top, with the middle and index fingers, palms facing each other.
- Pull the toes and keep the feet together and flexed, with the legs straight and the knees locked and heels on the floor or a little bit in the air.
- Keep the spine straight and stretch the upper body forward from the lower spine.
- Touch the elbows on the floor alongside the calf muscles, with the wrists straight.
- Bring the body down, stomach on the thighs, chest on the knees, and touch the head on toes.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Leg muscles not contracted, gap between back of the knees and the floor (-1)
- Bottom of the calves or heels too much off the floor
- Wrists bent
- Feet apart
- Feet not flexed.
- Spine not in a straight position
- Spine not stretching
- Stomach away from the thighs
- Chest up
- Elbows off the floor
- Forehead not in line with the toes
- Face up
- Eyes looking down

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 opposite feet with the hands and pull one foot up and back towards the head.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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 toe 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 toe 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 wrist 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.
- **Examples of 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
-
- **Examples of 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

SIDE ANGLE

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Tractions



- **Direction to face when performing the posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg and the opposite hand (i.e. left foot and right hand), with the extended leg higher than parallel to the floor. The hand not being used to balance must be in contact with the extended leg.
-
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Stand straight with the feet together and both arms above the head sideways
- Step the right leg to the right and bring the arms down parallel to the floor with the palms facing down to the floor.
- Turn the right foot out to the right so that it is parallel to the stage.
- Bend the right knee and bring the body down to the right
- Put the right shoulder in front of the right knee, with the elbow in front of the leg, the hand behind the heel and the fingers pointing outwards.
- Bend forward and grab the right heel from the outside with the left hand keeping the wrist straight.
- Push the right hand against the floor, simultaneously with the left hand pull the right leg behind the right shoulder blade.
- Lift the hips up and forward and contract the right leg muscles so that the right knee locks and point the right toes.
- Keep the hips and chest parallel to the Judges with the chest open, the spine straight, the left elbow facing out and the left foot flat on the floor.
- Keep the chin to the left shoulder and look upwards.
- Keep the body inclined in a straight line to the floor with the right arm forming a 90-degree angle from the centre line of the body.
-
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Balancing foot not flat on the floor
- Balancing hand not flat on the floor
- Balancing foot not pointed straight forward
- Hips pushing back
- Hip falling lower than the elbow of the balancing arm
- Top hand holding anywhere other than at the heel from the back of extended leg
- Top elbow not at a 90 degree-angle
- Extended leg not straight
- Balancing arm not perpendicular to the centre line of the body
- The profile of face not entirely visible to Judges
- Top leg not exactly behind the bottom shoulder blade
- Stomach not sucked in
- Toes not pointed
- Rounding to the side of the body (-.5 to -1 depending on severity)
-
-
- **Extra skills:**
-
-
- Compass (+1) – see next pages
- Shivasana (+1.5) – see next pages

SIDE ANGLE (COMPASS)

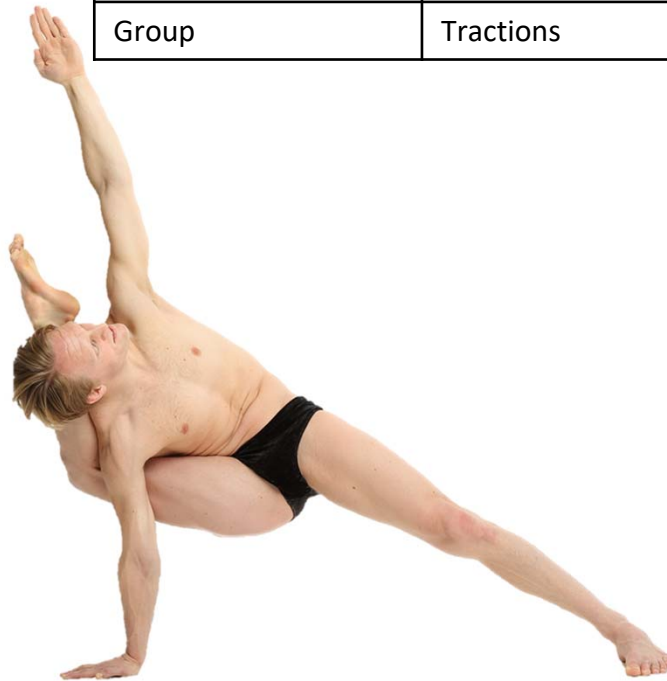
Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Tractions



- Compass is Extra skill for Side Angle posture (+1)
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg and the opposite hand (i.e. left foot and right hand), with the extended leg higher than parallel to the floor. The hand not being used to balance must NOT be in contact with the extended leg.
-
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Enter the posture from Side Angle Pose
- Let go of the top foot and keep the right leg behind the shoulder, without bending or dropping the leg down
- Keep the left arm straight up, perpendicular to the body.
-
- **Additional Deductions for Compass:**
- Extended leg bends
- Extended leg drops down from the original position after releasing the hand

SIDE ANGLE (SHIVASANA)

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Tractions



- Shivasana is Extra skill for Side Angle posture (+1.5)
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on one leg and the opposite hand (i.e. left foot and right hand), with the opposite leg placed behind the head.
-
- **Recommendend Execution**
- Sit on the floor cross-legged with the left 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. Maintaining free movement of 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.
- Lean forward and lift the hips up, bend the left leg and extend it back between the arms and bring it straight back.
- Place the foot flat on the floor with the toes facing the Judges.
- Turn the whole body towards the Judges.
- Release the left arm and bring it up perpendicular to the body.
- Bring the chin to the shoulder and look up, maintaining free movement of the head.
-
-
- **Additional Deductions for Shivasana:**
- Forcing and struggling to get the leg behind the head

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Wrong grip on heels; Elbows not touching calf muscles (-1)
- Balancing too far back, behind the sit bones
- 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 (-1)
- **Extra Skill:** NONE.
- **Less Skill:** NONE.
- **Accepted Flourishes:** NONE.

FLAG

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 a vertical split behind the body and the hand grabbing the opposite leg that is in the air with the other arm extended outwards.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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.
- **Examples of 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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).
- **Examples of 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 the crooks of the 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

ROOT

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 **the** sides of the feet.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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 the 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
- **Examples of 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.

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. The other leg must be extended, straight, as far up as possible.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Keeping one or both hands on the floor (-2)
- Incorrect grip (-1)
- Hips not level, the hip of the lifting leg opens out
- Leg muscles of the lifting leg not contracted (-1)
- Two legs are not perfectly split (deductions from -0.5 depending on the degree of the degree)
- Forearms and elbows are not touching behind calf muscle
- Gap between abdomen and thigh (deductions from -2 depending on the degree of the degree)
- Crown of head not facing down to the floor (-1)
- Spine not stretching
- Shoulders collapsing

Extra Skill:
Both hands grabbing directly the heel of the standing leg (+1)

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

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

GOOD-BYE

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility
Group	Traction



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg behind the head, while standing up on the other leg.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.

Examples of 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

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 balance only on the knees with both knees bent and the feet staying in place under the ribs.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- 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 or hip bones(body proportions) 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 or hip bone(body proportions) 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).
- **Examples of 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
- Foot rotates and the soles the feet turn out
- **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

TWISTS

- **SPINE TWIST** (6, F)
- **MARICHYASANA C** (6, F)
- **WIDE ANGLE TWIST** (7, F, S)
- **PASASANA** (7, F)
- **FULL SPINE TWIST** (8, F)
- **MARICHYASANA D** (8, F)

SPINE TWIST

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Twists



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg bent in front of the body 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 with max. expression to reach:**
- **(Instructions for Right Side)**
- Sit with the right-side profile to the Judges.
- Bend the left knee, bring the knee on the floor and touch the left heel to the side of the right buttock, with the left toes pointed back.
- Bring the right leg over the left knee and put the right foot on the floor against the corner of the left knee. The right heel should touch the left knee.
- Grab the left knee with the left hand, keep the wrist straight.
- Reach the right arm around the back, open the chest and grab the thigh of the left leg with the whole hand.
- Keep both sit bones on the floor.
- Keep the spine straight and shoulders level and 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.
- **Examples of 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 (-1)
- Foot is not in contact with knee and hand
- Elbow and knee are not in contact
- Wrist is bending
- Right arm is not grabbing the left leg with the whole hand
- Both sits bones are not on the floor (-1)
- Spine is not straight (-1)
- Shoulders are not level
- Chest not fully opened to the Judges
- Chin is not in line with the right shoulder
- Head is not straight
- Bottom Knee is being pulled or lifted off the floor (-1)

MARICHYASANA C

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Twists



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be squatting down on one foot with the other leg extended on the floor in front of the torso and the torso must twist towards the leg with the sole of the foot on the floor with one arm around the opposite leg and hands in contact behind the back.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit with the right-side profile to the Judges, legs together and straight
- Bend the right knee, placing the right heel in line with the right hip, knee close to the chest
- Place the right hand on the floor behind, push against the floor, suck the stomach in, stretch up
- Lean back, stretch the left arm up and back
- Lean forward, rotate the left shoulder/arm in, bend the left elbow, bring the left arm over the right thigh and around the back, hand palm facing out
- Keep the left chest against the right thigh, left shoulder against the outside of the right knee
- Reach the right arm behind the back, turn the chest to the right and grab the right wrist with the left hand
- Spine stretches up and leans forward creating less than 90 degree angle with the floor, standing foot flat on the floor
- 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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- extended leg is not locked
- extended foot is not flexed
- Extended leg is turning out
- Squatting hip is lifting too much off the heel
- Heel lifting of the floor
- Spine is not stretching
- Spine is not symmetrically twisting
- Gap between the torso and top thigh
- Wrist is not grasped properly with the hand(hand is not visible on a back thigh)
- Head is not fully turned to the profile
- Spine is not leaning forward (there should be less than 90 degrees angle between spine and the floor
- Toes of the standing foot are lifting off the floor
- **Extra skills: NONE**
- **Less skills: NONE**
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE**

WIDE ANGLE TWIST

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength, Flexibility
Group	Twists



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Facing the Judges.
- Minimum Expression: The Athlete must have the legs separated and grab the opposite feet with the head below the hips with the spine twisting.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
 - (Instruction for Right side)
 - Stand straight facing the Judges.
 - Bring the arms over the top of the head, so that the palms touch each other.
 - Step the right leg out so that the elbows are directly above the ankles with the two heels in one line and simultaneously bring the arms down parallel to the floor with the palms facing down.
 - Bring your upper body down and Reach the left hand over to the right foot with the palm facing up and grab underneath the right heel with the thumb close to the heel and all five fingers together.
 - Pull on the right heel and extend the elbow to the side beyond the tibia.
 - Reach the right hand with the palm facing up and reach the left heel with the thumb close to the heel and all five fingers together.
 - Pull on the left heel with the right hand, twist your spine and open the right elbow towards the back so that both arms form a 90-degree angle.
 - Keep the hips square as much as possible, twist the spine straight in the centre between the feet and create a perpendicular line between the lower spine and the top of the head.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
 - Either Legs bending (-2)
 - Step too small or too wide
 - Incorrect grip on the foot (-1)
 - Fingers apart
 - Elbows not creating 90 degree
 - Feet not in one line
 - Spine not straight in the centre (-1)
 - Face not facing the front (-1)
 - Hips really uneven (deductions from -0.5 depending on the degree)

PASASANA

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Twists



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be squatting down on both feet with torso twisting towards the judges with one arm around the opposite leg and hands in contact behind both legs.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Squat down with the right-side profile to the Judges, knees and feet together
- Squeeze knees together, suck stomach in, push heels down against the floor
- Place the right hand on the floor behind, push against the floor, suck the stomach in, stretch up
- Lean back, stretch the left arm up and back
- Lean forward, rotate the left shoulder/arm in, bend the left elbow, bring the left arm over the right thigh and around both shins, hand palm facing out
- Keep the left chest against the right thigh, left shoulder against the outside of the right knee
- Reach the right arm behind the back, turn the chest to the right and grab the right wrist with the left hand
- Spine stretches up and leans forward creating less than **90 degree angle with the floor**, both feet flat on the floor
- 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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- 2 feet are not in one line
- Squatting hips are lifting too much off the heels
- Heels lifting of the floor
- Spine is not stretching
- Spine is not symmetrically twisting
- Gap between the torso and front thigh
- Wrist is not grasped properly with the hand
- Head is not fully turned to the profile
- Spine is not leaning forward (there should be less than 90 degrees angle between spine and the floor
- Toes are lifting off the floor
- **Extra skills: NONE**
- **Less skills: NONE**
- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - (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 sit 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.
- **Examples of 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 (-1)
 - Foot is not in contact with knee and hand
 - Elbow and knee are not in contact
 - Wrist is bending
 - Right arm is not grabbing the left leg with the whole hand
 - Both sit bones are not on the floor (-1)
 - Spine is not straight (-1)
 - Shoulders are not level
 - Chest not fully opened to the Judges
 - Chin is not in line with the right shoulder
 - Head is not straight
 - Bottom Knee is being pulled or lifted off the floor (-1)

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.

MARICHYASANA D

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Flexibility
Group	Twists



- **Direction to Face when Performing the Posture:** Profile to the judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must be squatting down on one foot with the other leg in half lotus with the thigh on the floor and the torso must twist towards the leg with the sole of the foot on the floor with one arm around the opposite leg and hands in contact behind the back.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
(Instructions for Right Side)
 - Sit with the right-side profile to the Judges, legs together and straight
 - Bring the left leg into Half Lotus Position on the right thigh as high as possible.
 - Bend the right knee, placing the right heel in line with the right hip, knee close to the chest
 - Place the right hand on the floor behind, push against the floor, suck the stomach in, stretch up
 - Lean back, stretch the left arm up and back
 - Lean forward, rotate the left shoulder/arm in, bend the left elbow, bring the left arm over the right thigh and around the back, hand palm facing out
 - Keep the left chest against the right thigh, left shoulder against the outside of the right knee
 - Reach the right arm behind the back, turn the chest to the right and grab the right wrist with the left hand
 - Spine stretches up and leans forward creating less than 90 degree angle with the floor, standing foot flat on the floor
 - 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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
 - Knee of the half lotus is lifting off the floor
 - Knee of the half lotus is opening to the side
 - Squatting hip is lifting too much off the heel
 - Heel lifting of the floor
 - Spine is not stretching
 - Spine is not symmetrically twisting
 - Gap between the torso and top thigh
 - Wrist is not grasped properly with the hand(hand is not visible on a back thigh)
 - Head is not fully turned to the profile
 - Spine is not leaning forward (there should be less than 90 degrees angle between spine and the floor)
 - Toes of the standing foot are lifting off the floor
- **Extra skills: NONE**
- **Less skills: NONE**
- **Accepted Flourishes: NONE**

LIFTS

- **KOUNDIYASANA A (5, S)**
- **EIGHT ANGLE (6, B, S)**
- **KOUNDIYASANA B (6, S)**
- **LIFTING LOTUS (6, S)**
- **ONE LEGGED PEACOCK (6, S)**
- **PEACOCK LOTUS (6, S)**
- **FINGERSTAND (7, S)**
- **COCK (7, S)**
- **CROW (7, S)**
- **PEACOCK (7, S)**
- **CRANE (8, F, S)**
- **FOLDING UNFOLDING LOTUS PEACOCK (8, B, F, S)**
- **OM (9, B, F, S)**
- **ONE ARMED PEACOCK (8, B, S)**
- **ONE ARMED PEACOCK LOTUS (8, B, S)**
- **TWISTED STAFF (8, B, F, S)**
- **BOW LEGGED PEACOCK (9, F, S)**
- **ONE ARMED BOW LEGGED PEACOCK (10, B, F, S)**

KOUNDIYASANA A

Difficulty	5
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to face when performing the posture:** Profile to the Judges.
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must balance on the hands with elbows bent with one leg extended to the side on top of the same-side elbow (i.e. right leg right elbow) and the other leg extended back.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
 - (Instructions for Right Side)
 - Bend the legs and put both the hands flat on the floor in front.
 - Lean forward onto the hands with the elbows pointing back at a 90 degree-angle.
 - Lean the right thigh onto the right elbow as close to the body as possible, keeping the left elbow close to the body.
 - Extend the left leg to the back, keeping the spine straight and parallel to the floor, with both hips facing the floor.
 - Keep the chest and spine parallel to the floor.
 - Keep the chin forward and look forward.
- **Deductions:**
 - Hands not flat on the floor
 - Legs not straight
 - Toes not pointed
 - Shoulders not in one line
 - Arms/elbows not bent to a 90 degree-angle
 - Chin not forward and eyes not looking forward
 - Hands much wider than shoulder width
 - Elbows not pointing back
 - Chest dropped
 - Shoulders shrugged
 - Spine, hips and legs not parallel to the floor
- **Less skills:**
 - Body being supported by both elbows (-2)

EIGHT ANGLE

Difficulty	6
Characteristics	Balance, Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to face when performing the posture:** Facing the Judges.
- Minimum Expression: The Athlete must balance only on both hand while having both legs wrapped around one arm with some part of the legs crossed.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
(Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit facing the Judges.
- Wrap the right leg above the right elbow.
- Cross the right ankle underneath the left ankle.
- Put both hands flat on the floor underneath the shoulders, with the right arm in between the legs.
- Lean forward, push both hands on the floor, extend your crossed legs, straighten them to the side and lift your hips up.
- Put both elbows at a 90 degree-angle, with the elbows facing back with the shoulders in one line, the spine parallel to the floor and both hips on the top of each other perpendicular to the floor.
- Keep the chin forward and look forward.
- **Deductions:**
- Hands not flat on the floor
- Ankles not crossed (must be ankles, feet or any other part of the legs incur a deduction)
- Legs not straight
- Hips, ankles, shoulders not in line/parallel to the floor
- Arms/elbows not bent to a 90 degree-angle
- Chin not forward and eyes not looking forward
- Hands much wider than shoulder width
- Elbows not pointing back
- Chest dropped
- Shoulders shrugged
- Hips not perpendicular to the floor
- **Less Skill:**
- Body being supported by both elbows (-2)

KOUNDIYASANA B

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 elbows bent with the bottom leg extended to the side on top of the opposite-side elbow (i.e. left leg right elbow) and the other leg extended back.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- Bend the legs and put both hands flat on the floor in front.
- Turn the lower body to the right whilst balancing on the toes, both knees together.
- Lean the body forward onto the hands with the elbows pointing back at a 90 degree-angle.
- Lean the left thigh onto the right elbow and extend the left leg to the right, at the same time extend the top right leg to the back.
- Keep both the hips on top of each other and perpendicular to the floor, with the hips in the middle of both elbows without leaning onto the left elbow.
- Keep the chest and spine parallel to the floor.
- Keep the chin forward and look forward.
- **Deductions:**
- Hands not flat on the floor
- Legs not straight
- Toes not pointed
- Shoulders not in one line
- Arms/elbows not bent to a 90 degree-angle
- Chin not forward and eyes not looking forward
- Hands much wider than shoulder width
- Elbows not pointing back
- Chest dropped
- Shoulders shrugged
- Spine and legs not parallel to the floor
- Hips not perpendicular to the floor
- **Less skills:**
- Body being supported by both elbows (-2)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
- **Examples of 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 no 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

PEACOCK LOTUS

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
 -
 - **Examples of 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: 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 Lotus (all elements of Peacock Lotus must be demonstrated)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

Difficulty	7
Characteristics	Strength
Group	Lifts



COCK

- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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)
- Going into a Headstand and folding down (-1), all the less skills execution deductions of a Headstand are valid
-
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Going into Handstand, folding into a Lotus Position and then folding down into Cock Pose, all the less skills execution deductions of a Handstand are valid

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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 as high as possible close to the buttocks so that the front of the tibia is parallel to the floor and knees stay against the armpits
- Lift the head and look forward, bring the chin parallel to the floor.
- **Examples of 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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 back 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.
 - **Examples of 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

OM

Difficulty	9
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Lift



- **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 with max. expression to reach:**
(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. Hold for at least 3 seconds
- 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

Examples of 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)
- Not holding the extended leg for 3 seconds (-0.5)

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:

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

Accepted Flourishes: leg behind the head with no hands

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
- **Examples of 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 arm is bent
- Body is tilted or uneven
- Legs are bent
- **Extra Skill:**
- Balancing with hand fully turned back with the fingers facing back (+1)
- 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 (+2)
- Folding and unfolding the Lotus position (+1)
- **Less Skill:**
- Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- The extended arm stretched alongside the body

ONE ARMED PEACOCK LOTUS

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 and the legs in a Lotus position.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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 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.
- **Examples of 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 arm is bent
- Body is tilted or uneven
- 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 fully turned back with the fingers facing back (+1)
- Transition from Peacock Lotus 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 (+1)
- **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)

TWISTED STAFF

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Lifts



- **Direction to face when performing the posture:** Facing the Judges.
-
- **Minimum Expression:** The Athlete must have one leg behind the head, maintaining balance only on the hands. The extended leg must extend in the opposite direction.
-
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (Instructions for Right Side)
- Sit on the floor cross-legged with the left 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. Maintaining free movement of 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.
- Twist the upper body to the left facing the judges and place the hands shoulder width apart. The head should be up with the chin parallel to the floor.
- Lean the upper body forward and push the hands against the floor, lift the hips up and extend the left leg to the right leaning the left thigh on the right elbow.
- Point the toes and keep both arms at a 90 degree-angle with the elbows pointing back, maintaining the shoulders, spine and hips parallel to the floor, ideally the hips on the top of each other.
- Keep the chin forward and look forward.
- **Deductions:**
- Struggling and struggling to get the leg behind the head
- Shoulders not in one line
- Head not up and looking forward
- Leg behind head slipping out or not securely placed
- Extended leg is bending
- Extended leg not parallel to the floor (higher/lower)
- Hands not flat on the floor
- Hands wider than shoulder width
- Arms/elbows not bent to a 90 degrees-angle
- Spine not parallel to the floor
-
- **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:**
- Hips being supported by both elbows (-2)

BOW LEGGED PEACOCK

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 or hips
-
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- 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 or hip bones(according to the body proportions) 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 or hip bones(according to the body proportions)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.
-
- **Examples of 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: NONE

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

ONE ARMED BOW LEGGED PEACOCK

Difficulty	10
Characteristics	Balance, Flexibility, Strength
Group	Lifts

COMING SOON

- **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 have both knees bent with the feet staying in place under the ribs or hips
-
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- 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 or hip bones(according to the body proportions) 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 or hip bones(according to the body proportions)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 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 knees 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.
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Hand not turned back
- Palm not flat on the floor
- Extended arm is bent
- Body is tilted or uneven
- 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:** NONE
- **Less Skill:**
- Balancing with hand fully turned back with the fingers facing back (+1)
- Transition from Bow legged 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)
- Balancing on the fingers or fingertips, palms up off the floor (-1)
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
- Lifting knees up higher than the line of the Body
- The extended arm stretched alongside the body

INVERSIONS

- **HEADSTAND (5, B)**
- **SHOULDERSTAND (5, B)**
- **HEADSTAND LOTUS (6, B)**
- **SHOULDERSTAND LOTUS (6, B)**
- **TIGER (7, B, S)**
- **HANDSTAND (8 B, S)**
- **TIGER LOTUS (8, B, F, S) p**
- **TIGER SCORPION (8, B, F, S)**
- **HANDSTAND LOTUS (9, B, F, S)**
- **TIGER LOTUS SCORPION (9, B, F, S)**
- **HANDSTAND SCORPION (9, B, F, S)**
- **PALM TREE (9, B, S)**
- **BOW LEG HANDSTAND SCORPION (10, B, F, S)**
- **HANDSTAND LOTUS SCORPION (10, B, F, S)**
- **ONE ARMED HANDSTAND (10, B, S)**
- **ONE LEG BEHIND THE HEAD HANDSTAND (10, B, F, S)**
- **TWO LEGS BEHIND THE HEAD HANDSTAND (10, B, F, S)**

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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:**
- Placing the hands in front of the shoulders, keeping the head on the floor and extending the arms simultaneously into a straight position anywhere in front of the body with the palms facing down (+1)
- Placing the hands in front of the shoulders, keeping the head on the floor and extending the arms first in front of the body and then to the sides of the body with the palms facing down (+1.5)
- Placing the hands in front of the shoulders, keeping the head on the floor and extending the arms first in front of the body, then to the sides and then back in front of the shoulders with the palms facing down (+2)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Pressing into the Headstand position with bent knees (-1)
- Pressing into the Headstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
- Kicking or jumping into the Headstand position (-2)
- **Accepted Flourishes:** Palms facing up in the versions with extended arms.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of deductions specific to the Posture:**
- Legs not straight 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.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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:**
- Pressing into the Headstand position with bent knees (-1)
- Pressing into the Headstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
- Kicking or jumping into the Headstand position (-2)
-
- **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

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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

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 with max. expression to reach:**

- 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.

• **Examples of 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:

- Pressing into the Headstand position with bent knees (-1)
- Pressing into the Headstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
- Kicking or jumping into the Headstand position (-2)
- Kicking into the Tiger position without first going into a Headstand (-2)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
- **Examples of 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.

TIGER LOTUS

Difficulty	8
Characteristics	Balance, Strength, Flexibility
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 and legs in Lotus.
-
- **Traditional 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.
- Bring the legs into the Lotus Position.
-
- **Deductions:**
- Elbows wider than shoulder width
- Knees bending when lifting legs up
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- 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:**
- Pressing into the Headstand position with bent knees (-1)
- Pressing into the Headstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
- Kicking or jumping into the Headstand position (-2)
- Kicking into the Tiger position without first going into a Headstand (-2)
- Legs put in Lotus while balancing in the headstand (-2)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - Sit on the floor in a kneeling position with the profile to the Judges.
 - Come forward and grab 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.
- **Examples of 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:**
 - Pressing into the Headstand position with bent knees (-1)
 - Pressing into the Headstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
 - Kicking or jumping into the Headstand position (-2)
 - Kicking into the Tiger position without first going into a Headstand (-2)
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
 - Feet under the chin

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 with max. expression to reach:

- 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.

Examples of 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:

- All the less skills execution deductions of a Handstand are valid
- Pressing from Cock Pose to Handstand Lotus (-1)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

TIGER LOTUS 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 bend the spine backwards, whilst balancing on the hands and forearms only with the body in an inverted position and legs in Lotus. The thighs in the Lotus position must come to at least a 45 degree-angle to the floor.
- **Traditional 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.
- Bring the legs into the Lotus Position.
- Bring the hips over the head and bring the knees forward until the thighs are parallel to the floor.
- **Deductions:**
- Elbows wider than shoulder width
- Knees bending when lifting legs up
- Wrong leg (left leg) folded in first into the Lotus Position (-1)
- 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)
- Touching the head to the buttocks (+1)
-
- **Less Skill:**
- Pressing into the Headstand position with bent knees (-1)
- Pressing into the Headstand position in a straddle position, with the legs open apart (-1)
- Kicking or jumping into the Headstand position (-2)
- Kicking into the Tiger position without first going into a Headstand (-2)
- Legs put in Lotus while balancing in the headstand (-2)

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 with max. expression to reach:**
 - 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.
 -
 - **Examples of 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)
All the less skills execution deductions of a Handstand are valid
- 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 with max. expression to reach:

- 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.

Examples of 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

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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 or hip bone(body proportions) 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 or hip bone(body proportions) 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.
-
- **Examples of 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
- 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:

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)
 Pressing from Wheel position into Bow legged handstand scorpion (-0.5)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

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.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
- **Examples of 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
- 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)

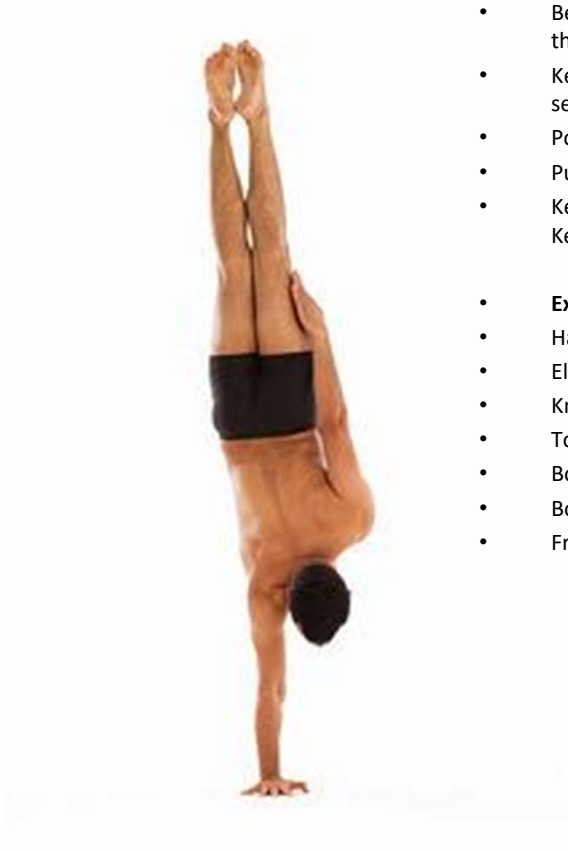
Less Skill:

All the less skills execution deductions of a Handstand are valid
Pressing from Cock Pose to Handstand Lotus (-1)
Pressing from Wheel position (-0.5)

Accepted Flourishes: NONE.

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 hand with the body in an inverted position.
- **Recommended execution with max. expression to reach:**
- (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.
- **Examples of 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:**
All the less skills execution deductions of a Handstand are valid
Having the legs apart in the final expression of the posture (-1)
- **Accepted Flourishes:**
Having the free arm against the body, must be still

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- (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 the foot behind shoulder so that knee is in line with the toes and the 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.
- **Examples of 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:

- 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

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 with max. expression to reach:**
- 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.
-
-
- **Examples of 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.