

# FINA 2013-2017 Judge's Scoring Scale

## Adopted By SJDA in 2016

**For a complete description of judging rules, please refer to the SJDA Judging Manual**

A judge's award can range from zero (0) to ten (10) points for a dive.

Awards are given in half point increments according to the following scale:

<b>Excellent</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>Very Good</b>	<b>8.5 - 9.5</b>
<b>Good</b>	<b>7.0 - 8.0</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>5.0 - 6.5</b>
<b>Deficient</b>	<b>2.5 - 4.5</b>
<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<b>0.5 - 2.0</b>
<b>Completely Failed</b>	<b>ZERO</b>

When judging a dive a judge must not be influenced by any factor other than the technique and execution of the dive. The dive must be considered without regard to the approach to the starting position, the difficulty of the dive or any movement beneath the surface of the water. The points to be considered in judging the overall impression of a dive are the technique and grace of:

1. The starting position
2. The approach
3. The take-off
4. The flight
5. The entry

During the course of a diving contest, the judging of dives becomes a process of comparison. Given this fact, it is recommended that the scale be used as a "flexible" scale to apply to a particular contest, not a "straight" scale to apply equally across all levels of competition – Novice to Junior Olympic.

To illustrate, in a younger age group contest, a diver who performs a very good forward 1½ somersaults in pike position should be awarded between an 8 ½ and 9 ½ under the "flexible" scale principle. In contrast, we would expect an older Novice or Junior Olympic diver to perform the same dive with a stronger takeoff, higher jump, and tighter position on the entry to receive a score in the Very Good range (8 ½ to 9 ½).

If the principle of a straight scale were applied, it would be difficult for a younger age group diver to be awarded higher than a 5, based on what we would expect to see from an older Novice or Junior Olympic diver.

Using the straight scale principle may result in discouragement on the part of the younger, less experienced divers as well as reducing a judge's ability to discriminate between the quality of performance of dives because of the smaller range of awards to work with.

When judging, it is important to use the scale as a "flexible" scale to compare divers in a particular contest, rather than a "straight" scale to apply across all diving competitions.