

**Subject: FW: Level 7 Beam clarification**  
**Date:** Thursday, February 23, 2006 10:12 AM  
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>To:

>Subject: Level 7 Beam clarification  
>Date: Wed, 22 Feb 2006 18:02:54 -0500

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>There have been some questions regarding the acro special requirement  
>for Level 7 Beam.

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>Part of the acro requirement is a series with a minimum of 2 "A" or "B"  
>elements with or without flight. One of the elements must pass through  
>an inverted vertical position while in support on the hands (handstand).

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>It also states that roll elements may be included in the series provided  
>that the other element passes through a handstand position.

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>The series in question is a kick up to handstand, then step back down to  
>immediate backward roll (either stepping down onto one foot or onto two  
>feet to initiate the roll).

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>The confusion lies in the words "passes through a handstand position",  
>as some people interpreted that to mean a kick-up to handstand and  
>step-down would not fulfill a "passing through vertical" element.

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> I spoke with both Cheryl Hamilton and Tom Koll regarding this specific  
>connection. We all agree that the original intent when we changed Level  
>7 to an optional level was to keep the difficulty requirements similar  
>to what was expected in the old Level 7 compulsory routine. That was  
>why we allowed them to continue to use a handstand in the series,  
>whereas the other levels may not.

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>We will try to clarify this at the May committee meetings by changing  
>"passes through vertical" to "achieves vertical" or something similar as  
>the intent was to consider the handstand as an element that goes through  
>(to) vertical.

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>Therefore, provided that the connection from the step down from the

>handstand into the backward roll is continuous, this would be a  
>legitimate connection for Level 7 gymnasts.  
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>If this has been a problem in your state/regions, please distribute this  
>information by posting on your web site or by direct e-mail to judges  
>and coaches.  
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>Thanks you.  
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>Connie Maloney  
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>Women's Jr. Olympic Program Manager  
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