



Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

A Structured Framework for STAR 6–Gold / Diamond Dance Test Readiness

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

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INTRODUCTION

Ice dance testing in Canada has evolved significantly over time, transitioning from a traditional evaluation model to the current STAR-based assessment system used by Skate Canada.

Historically, dance tests were evaluated using broad criteria such as timing, execution, and pattern, with ratings including Excellent, Good, Satisfactory, and Needs Improvement. While this system provided a general overview of performance, it often lacked clear definitions of what was required to achieve a passing standard. As a result, expectations could vary between evaluators, and skaters were not always provided with specific, actionable feedback.

With the introduction of the STAR 1–Gold system, Skate Canada shifted toward a more structured, criteria-based approach. This modern system separates assessment into clearly defined components such as Accuracy, Edge Quality, Carriage/Clarity, and Character/Rhythm. It also incorporates mandatory requirements and identified focus areas within each dance. This evolution has improved consistency and accountability in evaluation, while more closely aligning assessment with skill development.

Despite these improvements, the current system can present challenges in a training/development environment. The use of multiple criteria, dance-specific requirements, and varying terminology may make it difficult for skaters to clearly understand what is required to meet the passing standard. In particular, the distinction between performance levels such as Bronze, Silver, and Gold does not always clearly communicate which level represents a successful test.

The purpose of this guide is to offer an expansion and development insight of the current Skate Canada framework. It does not replace or alter official testing standards; rather, it translates those standards into a consistent and accessible development model.

This guide introduces a simplified and structured pre-assessment approach based on two core areas:

- Technical Execution
- Performance Execution

Within this framework, all criteria used in pre-assessment are directly aligned with Skate Canada’s established assessment components. Focus Areas identified in official dance assessments are also integrated into the development and pre-assessment process to ensure that key elements of each dance are addressed.

A revised rating scale is introduced:

- Below Standard
- Standard
- Above Standard

This terminology clearly defines the passing level and supports skill progression. “Standard” represents the level required to successfully pass a test, while “Below Standard” and “Above Standard” indicate areas requiring improvement or exceeding expectations.

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The intent of this system is to:

- Improve clarity and consistency in development and assessment
- Provide skaters with a clear understanding of expectations
- Support coaches in delivering structured and effective instruction
- Maintain full alignment with Skate Canada testing standards

This guide is intended as a development and pre-assessment tool to support skaters in preparing for dance assessments within the Skate Canada system.

1. PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE

This guide provides a structured approach to developing ice dance skills based on two core areas:

- **Technical Execution** (foundation of the dance)
- **Performance Execution** (quality and presentation of the dance)

The goal of this system is to:

- Clearly define what is required to meet the passing standard
- Provide consistent assessment criteria across all dance levels
- Align with Skate Canada standards while improving clarity for training

2. ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

Rating System

- **B – Below Standard:** Performance does not meet required level
- **S – Standard:** Meets passing requirements (passing level)
- **A – Above Standard:** Exceeds expectations with consistency and confidence

B = Below Standard	S = Standard	A = Above Standard
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Passing Requirements

- **Technical Execution:** All criteria must be Standard or better

<i>Technical Execution</i>	B	S	A	COMMENTS
Timing				
Accuracy				
Edge Quality				
Technical Execution: <input type="checkbox"/> 3/3 must be Standard or better				

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- **Performance Execution:**

- STAR 6–8: 3 of 4 must be Standard or better
- STAR 9–Gold / Diamond: 4 of 4 must be Standard or better

<i>Performance Execution</i>	B	S	A	COMMENTS
Power & Flow				
Form & Control				
Pattern Placement				
Expression				
Performance Execution: <input type="checkbox"/> 3/4 must be Standard or better (<i>STAR 6 - 8</i>)				
Performance Execution: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/4 must be Standard or better (<i>STAR 9 - DIAMOND</i>)				

- Both sections must meet requirements for a result of **Ready to Test**

Technical Execution:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Both <i>Executions</i> must be YES to receive an overall assessment of READY TO TEST
Performance Execution:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Result of Assessment:	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>READY TO TEST</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>NEEDS IMPROVEMENT</i>

Technical Execution can only be assessed after Two Full Pattern Sequences are completed

3. ALIGNMENT WITH SKATE CANADA STANDARDS

3.1 Relationship Between B / S / A and Skate Canada Ratings

Assessment Marking	Skate Canada Equivalent	Meaning
B (Below Standard)	Bronze	Does not meet required level
S (Standard)	Silver	Meets passing requirement
A (Above Standard)	Gold	Exceeds required level

3.2 Purpose of Terminology

The terms Below Standard, Standard, and Above Standard are used to:

- Clearly define the passing level
- Remove ambiguity in assessment language
- Support training and development rather than ranking
- Maintain consistency across all levels

3.3 Maintaining the Standard

- Standard represents the Skate Canada passing level
- This system does not lower or modify expectations
- All requirements remain consistent with official assessments

3.4 Alignment with Dance Criteria

Assessment Criteria	Skate Canada Equivalent
Technical Execution	
Timing	Timing
Accuracy	Accuracy / Focus Areas
Edge Quality	Edge Quality / Focus Areas
Performance Execution	
Power & Flow	Accuracy / Edge Quality
Form & Control	Carriage/Clarity
Pattern / Ice Coverage	Accuracy / Focus Areas
Expression	Character/Rhythm

3.5 Focus Areas

Focus Areas identify key steps, turns, or sequences within each dance.

- Primarily assessed under Accuracy and Edge Quality
- May influence Pattern Placement
- Must be demonstrated consistently

Failure in a Focus Area will typically result in a Below Standard assessment.

3.6 Use of Development for STAR 1–5

While this guide is designed primarily for STAR 6–Gold / Diamond dance development and pre-assessment, the principles outlined can also be applied to earlier stages of development within STAR 1–5.

At these levels, the focus should remain on introducing and reinforcing fundamental skating skills, including timing, basic accuracy, edge control, and pattern awareness. The criteria presented in this guide may be used as a simplified reference to support early skill development, rather than as a formal pre-assessment standard.

Coaches may adapt the structure by:

- Emphasizing basic timing and rhythm patterns
- Developing foundational edge control and balance
- Introducing simple pattern tracking and lobe awareness
- Encouraging early expression and movement quality

At the STAR 1–5 level, expectations should be adjusted to reflect the stage of development. The goal is to build familiarity with the core components of ice dance, rather than to meet the full Standard required for higher-level assessments.

This approach supports a smoother transition into STAR 6 and beyond, where these criteria become more formally assessed and consistently applied.

4. TECHNICAL EXECUTION

4.1 TIMING

Definition

Timing refers to the ability to perform movements in alignment with rhythm, tempo, and musical structure. Skating should match the beat and phrasing of the music. Consistency of timing should be maintained throughout the performance. Errors should not disrupt flow or structure. Strong timing enhances rhythm, phrasing, and overall musical alignment.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timing is inconsistent; frequent errors disrupt flow and rhythm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timing is correct; minor errors do not disrupt rhythm or structure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timing is consistent and confident; enhances rhythm, phrasing, and overall musical alignment.

4.2 ACCURACY

Definition

Accuracy refers to the correct execution of steps, technique, pattern, and movements in accordance with defined structure and sequence. Movements should be performed in the correct order and remain clearly recognizable. Errors should be minimal and not impact overall performance. Consistency should be maintained throughout. Strong accuracy demonstrates precision, clarity, and reliability.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steps or turns are incorrect or out of sequence; steps lack clarity. Technique is weak or incorrect. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steps and turns are correct; steps remain clear and recognizable. Technique is adequate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steps and turns are clean, precise, and consistently executed. Technique is strong and confident.

4.3 EDGE QUALITY

Definition

Edge Quality refers to the clarity, depth, and control of edges and turns. Edges should be well-defined and demonstrate consistent control and balance. Depth should be appropriate and maintained throughout execution. Steps should show stability and confidence. Overall quality is reflected in consistency, control, and edge definition.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Edges are flat, unclear, or lack control; balance is inconsistent. Limited variety of turns used.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Edges are clear with control and appropriate depth. Some variety of turns used.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Edges are clean, controlled and show consistent depth and confidence. Many turns are used.

5. PERFORMANCE EXECUTION

5.1 POWER & FLOW

Definition

Power & Flow refer to the ability to generate energy and sustain continuous movement across the ice. Movement should maintain consistent speed and avoid interruption. Power should be efficient and appropriate to the movement. Flow should remain smooth and continuous throughout. Overall quality is reflected in consistency, ease, and control of movement.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Movement is slow, laboured, or inconsistent; flow is interrupted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Movement is continuous with adequate power and flow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Movement is strong, continuous, and effortless with consistent speed.

5.2 FORM & CONTROL

Definition

Form & Control refer to posture, alignment, carriage and the clarity of movement throughout execution. Body position should be maintained with stability and control. Movements should be clearly defined and consistent. Balance should be maintained throughout performance. Overall quality is reflected in refinement, control, and consistency.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posture and control are inconsistent; movements lack clarity. Transitions are weak. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posture and control are maintained; movements are clear. Transitions are adequate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posture is strong, with clean lines, and controlled, refined movement. Transitions are strong.

5.3 PATTERN / ICE COVERAGE

Definition

Pattern / Ice Coverage refers to the ability to place skating accurately within the intended pattern or program structure. Movements should align with correct placement and direction. Use of the ice should be balanced and effective. Control of direction and spacing should be maintained throughout. Overall quality is reflected in consistency, accuracy, and control of placement.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placement is inconsistent or incorrect; movements do not align with the intended pattern. Use of the ice is limited or uneven. Multi-directional skating is limited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placement aligns with the intended pattern, with minor deviations. Use of the ice is moderately appropriate. Multi-directional skating is adequate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placement consistently aligns with the intended pattern. Use of the ice is confident, controlled, and well-balanced throughout. Multi-directional skating is strong.

5.4 EXPRESSION

Definition

Expression refers to the ability to convey rhythm, style, and character through movement. Movements should reflect the style and intent of the music. Connection to the music should be consistent throughout. Projection and presence should be appropriate to the performance. Overall quality is reflected in clarity, consistency, and musical interpretation.

Below Standard	Standard	Above Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expression is inconsistent or unclear; limited connection to rhythm, style, and musical character. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expression reflects rhythm and style with some consistency; connection to the music and character is moderately evident. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expression is clear and consistent; strongly reflects rhythm, style, and musical character with confident projection and presence.

6. READY TO TEST STANDARDS (Star 1 - 5)

At the STAR 1–5 level, assessment is development-based and focused on the introduction and progression of fundamental ice dance skills. The criteria outlined in this guide may be used as a reference to support development; however, expectations should be adjusted to reflect the skater’s stage of learning.

A skater is considered to meet the passing standard when the overall performance demonstrates basic control, understanding, and continuity of the dance.

Dance Standards	
Timing Timing	Steps are mostly in time with the music/tempo; basic rhythm is maintained
Accuracy Accuracy / Focus Areas	Steps and turns are generally correct; dance remains recognizable
Edge Quality Edge Quality / Focus Areas	Edges are present with basic control, balance and depth
Power & Flow Accuracy / Edge Quality	Movement is generally continuous with developing speed and flow
Form & Control Carriage/Clarity	Posture and body control are developing; movements are mostly clear
Pattern / Ice Coverage Accuracy / Focus Areas	Pattern is generally followed with basic lobe shape and direction
*Expression Character/Rhythm	N/A

Additional Considerations

- Minor errors are expected and acceptable at this stage of development
- Performance should demonstrate progression toward consistency and control
- Focus Areas should be introduced and are required to obtain a passing standard
- Overall performance should reflect a developing understanding of the dance structure and rhythm
- ***Expression** (Character/Rhythm) is not formally assessed at the STAR 1–5 level, but should be introduced and developed to support progression into higher-level assessments

7. READY TO TEST STANDARDS (Star 6 - Gold / Diamond)

B = Below Standard

S = Standard

A = Above Standard

Technical Execution	
Timing Timing	<p>B: Timing is inconsistent; frequent errors disrupt flow and rhythm.</p> <p>S: Timing is correct; minor errors do not disrupt rhythm or structure.</p> <p>A: Timing is consistent and confident; enhances rhythm, phrasing, and overall musical alignment.</p>
Accuracy Accuracy / Focus Areas	<p>B: Steps or turns are incorrect or out of sequence; steps lack clarity. Technique is weak or incorrect.</p> <p>S: Steps and turns are correct; steps remain clear and recognizable. Technique is adequate.</p> <p>A: Steps and turns are clean, precise, and consistently executed. Technique is strong and confident.</p>
Edge Quality Edge Quality / Focus Areas	<p>B: Edges are flat, unclear, or lack control; balance is inconsistent. Limited variety of turns demonstrated.</p> <p>S: Edges are clear with control and appropriate depth. Some variety of turns demonstrated..</p> <p>A: Edges are clean, controlled, and show consistent depth and confidence. A range of turns are demonstrated.</p>

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Performance Execution	
Power & Flow Accuracy / Edge Quality	<p>B: Movement is slow, laboured, or inconsistent; flow is interrupted.</p> <p>S: Movement is continuous with adequate power and flow.</p> <p>A: Movement is strong, continuous, and effortless with consistent speed.</p>
Form & Control Carriage/Clarity	<p>B: Posture and control are inconsistent; movements lack clarity. Transitions are weak.</p> <p>S: Posture and control are maintained; movements are clear. Transitions are adequate.</p> <p>A: Posture is strong, with clean lines, and controlled, refined movement. Transitions are strong.</p>
Pattern / Ice Coverage Accuracy / Focus Areas	<p>B: Placement is inconsistent or incorrect; movements do not align with the intended pattern. Use of the ice is limited or uneven. Multi-directional skating is limited.</p> <p>S: Placement aligns with the intended pattern, with minor deviations. Use of the ice is moderately appropriate. Multi-directional skating is adequate.</p> <p>A: Placement consistently aligns with the intended pattern. Use of the ice is confident, controlled, and well-balanced throughout. Multi-directional skating is strong.</p>
Expression Character/Rhythm	<p>B: Expression is inconsistent or unclear; limited connection to rhythm, style, and musical character.</p> <p>S: Expression reflects rhythm and style with some consistency; connection to the music and character is moderately evident.</p> <p>A: Expression is clear and consistent; strongly reflects rhythm, style, and musical character with confident projection and presence.</p>

Execution Standard must be consistent with the applicable Skate Canada assessment level.

8. TRAINING STRUCTURE

Weekly Rotation	Session Structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Timing ● Accuracy ● Edge Quality ● Power and Flow ● Form and Control ● Pattern / Ice Coverage ● Expression 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warm-up 2. Skill development 3. Pattern drills 4. Full dance 5. Feedback

9. TEST PREPARATION

A skater is Ready to Test when:

- Technical Execution meets Standard
 - *Consistently & consecutively on 3 pre-assessments*
- Performance Execution meets Standard
 - *Consistently & consecutively on 3 pre-assessments*
- Two full patterns are completed consistently
- Errors do not disrupt performance
- All assessed criteria meet Standard (S) or higher.
 - **Exception:** STAR 6-8 may have one (1) Performance Execution below Standard (S)

10. DEVELOPMENT & ASSESSMENT FOCUS

This section provides dance-specific training & assessment guidance through the use of official pattern diagrams and identified key elements. Each dance will include the full pattern layout, with highlighted Focus Areas and step sequences for both B Steps and A Steps (Lead and Follow).

The patterns used are **Skate Canada approved** and are distributed through the **Dance Assessment Guide**. These diagrams reflect the prescribed structure, placement, and timing of each dance and should be used as the standard reference during training.

10.1 Pattern Diagrams

Each dance includes a pattern diagram designed to:

- Illustrate the overall structure and timing of the dance
- Show lobe placement and direction
- Support accurate tracking and ice coverage

Diagrams should be referenced regularly to ensure consistency and correct pattern placement.

10.2 Focus Areas

Each diagram will clearly highlight the **prescribed Focus Areas** identified by Skate Canada.

Focus Areas represent key steps, turns, or sequences that are critical to successful execution. These are provided for both:

- B Steps (Lead)
- A Steps (Follow)

Focus Areas must be performed correctly and consistently, as they directly influence assessment.

10.3 Performance Beyond Focus Areas

Skaters must demonstrate consistency across the entire dance, not only within highlighted sections.

Assessment will also consider:

- Continuity and flow between elements
- Consistent timing throughout
- Accurate and repeatable pattern placement
- Control, posture, and overall presentation

Successful execution of Focus Areas alone does not ensure a passing standard if overall performance is inconsistent.

10.4 Dance Development Focus

Each dance will include a dedicated development section identifying key areas of emphasis. These are intended to:

- Identify key assessment variables within each dance
- Highlight common challenges related to those variables
- Guide targeted practice areas
- Reinforce application of core skills within the pattern

10.5 Training Approach

Training should follow a structured progression:

1. Understand the full pattern
2. Isolate and develop Focus Areas
3. Reinforce technical execution
4. Integrate into full pattern
5. Build consistency and performance quality

The objective is to ensure skaters demonstrate both accurate execution of key elements and consistent performance across the entire dance.

10.6 Consistent Criteria

The following are consistent training and assessment criteria used to determine the outcome of a pre-assessment and Skate Canada Dance Assessments:

- Successful Focus Areas
- Correct Timing
 - Timing Errors are allotted per dance and per pattern (Lead & Follow).
 - Pre-Assessments recognize Timing Errors surpassing the allotted amount as an area Below Standard.

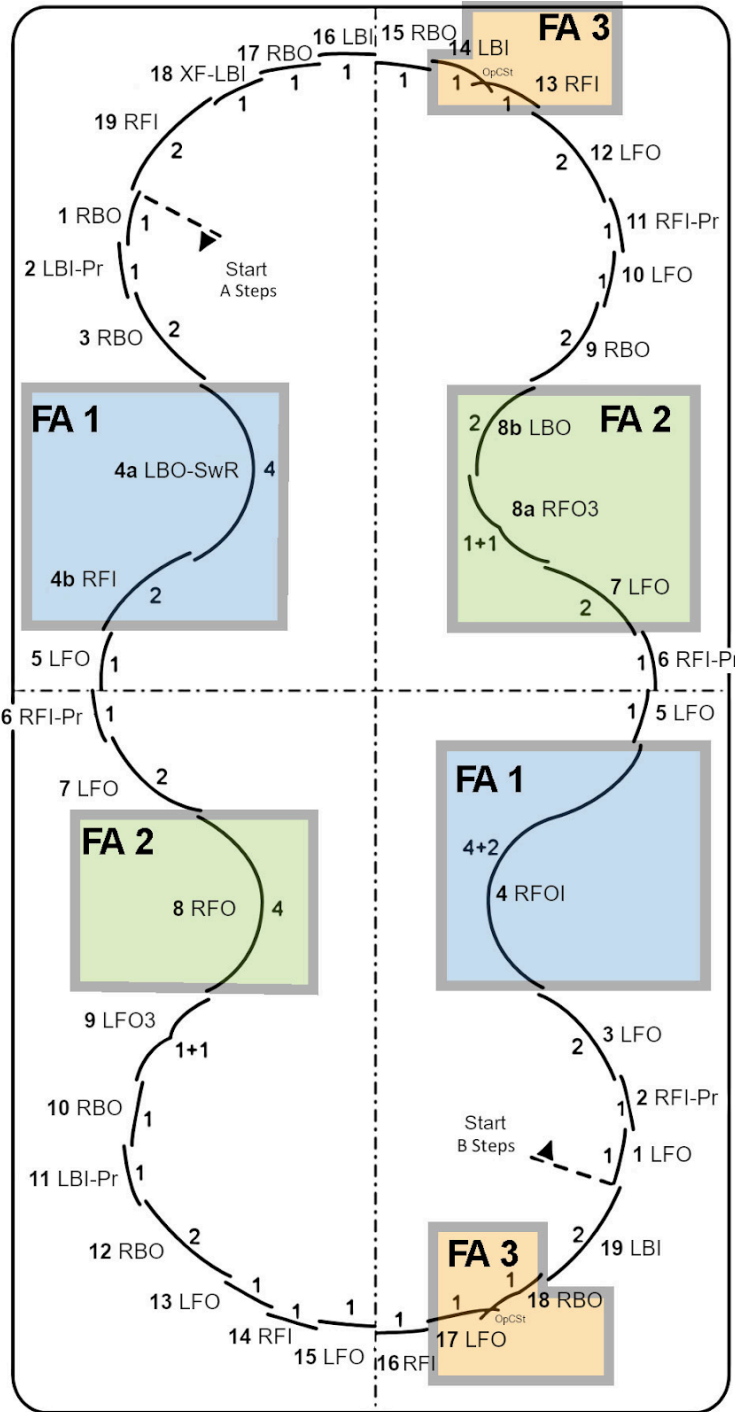
***Note** - Steps identified as A Steps and B Steps with Skate Canada are referred to as Follow & Lead, respectively.

10.7 STAR 10 - Diamond Dances

For STAR 10 through Diamond dances, proper posture and positioning are considered established skills and are no longer a primary focus of development or assessment. Skaters are expected to consistently demonstrate appropriate form, carriage, and line in accordance with the established standards, style, and rhythm of the applicable dance.

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STAR 6A - Ten-Fox



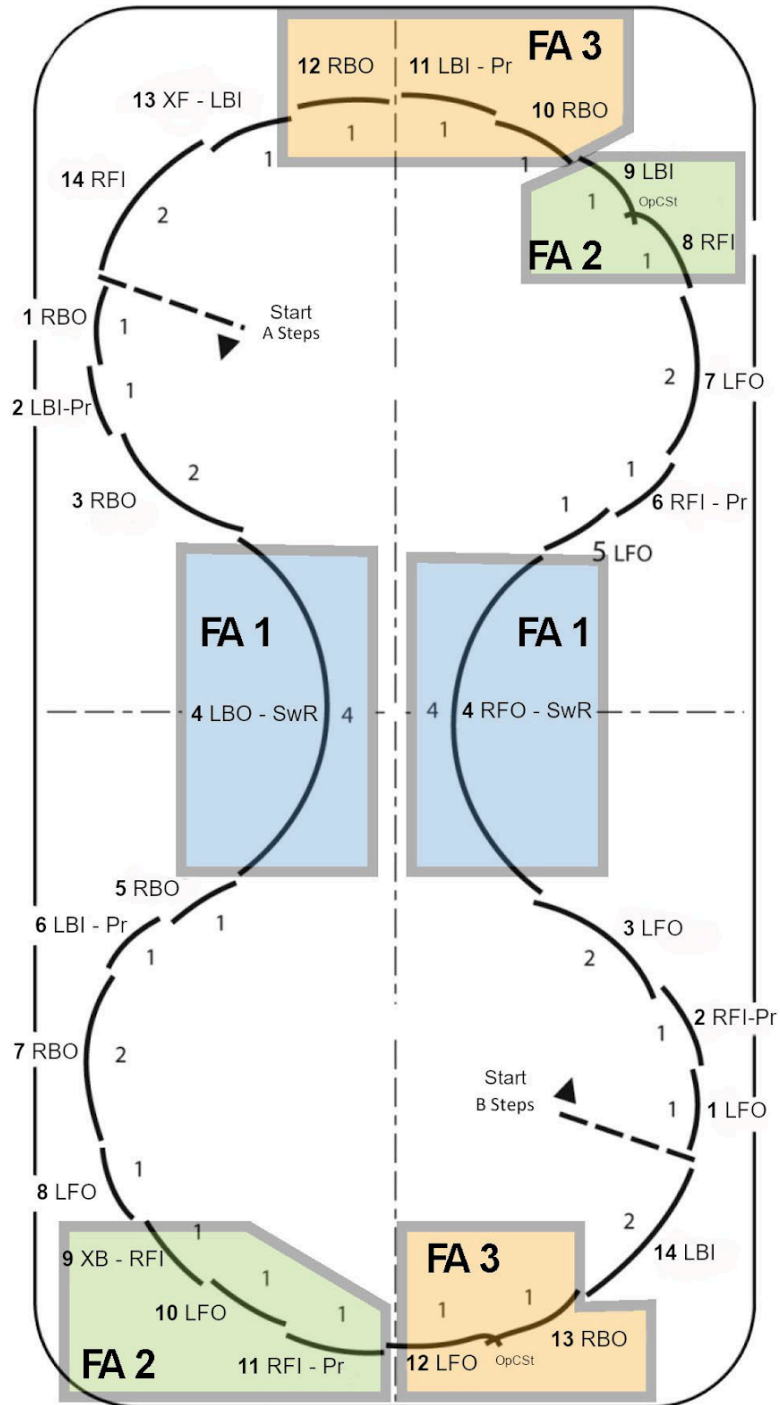
Development & Assessment Focus

Lead: Consistent Criteria, proper change of edge, strong arm & free leg positions

Follow: Consistent Criteria, proper entry edges, strong arm & free leg positions

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STAR 6C - Fourteen Step



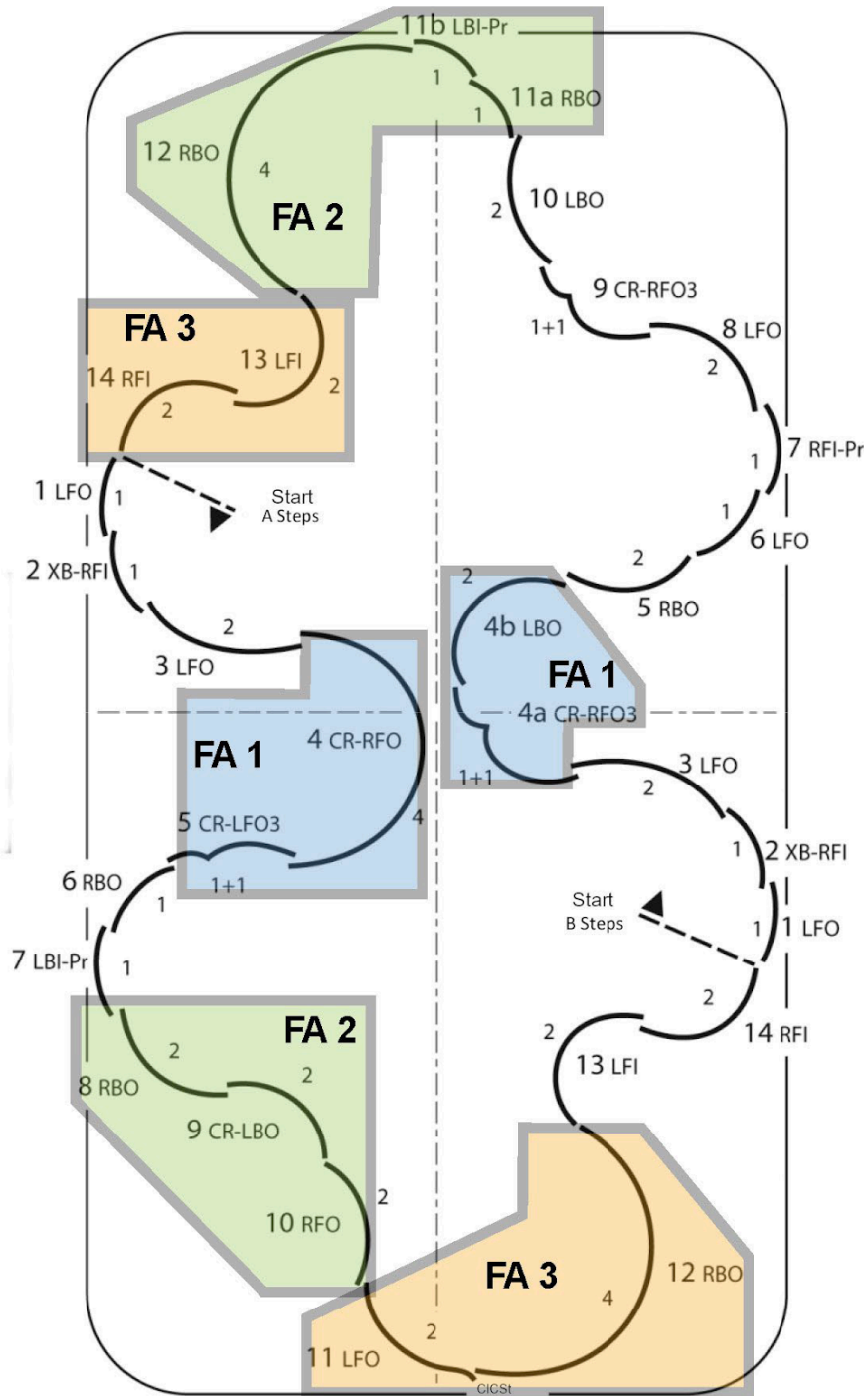
Development & Assessment Focus

Lead & Follow:

Consistent Criteria, extension of free leg on swingroll, tidy feet on ends, C-Steps, posture

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STAR 7A - Foxtrot



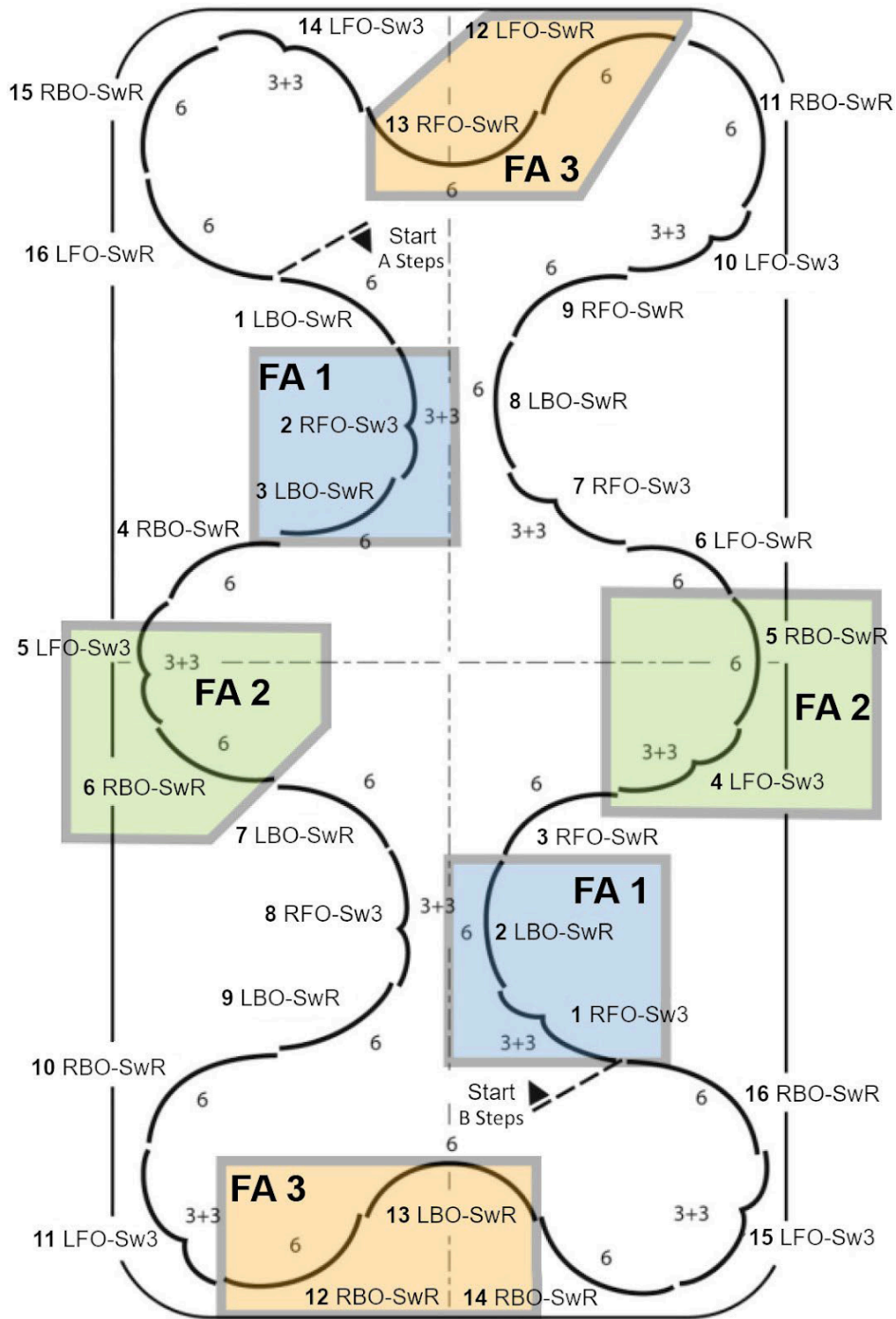
Development & Assessment Focus

Lead & Follow:

Consistent Criteria, free leg extension, flow of quick edge change, upper body control

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STAR 7C - American Waltz



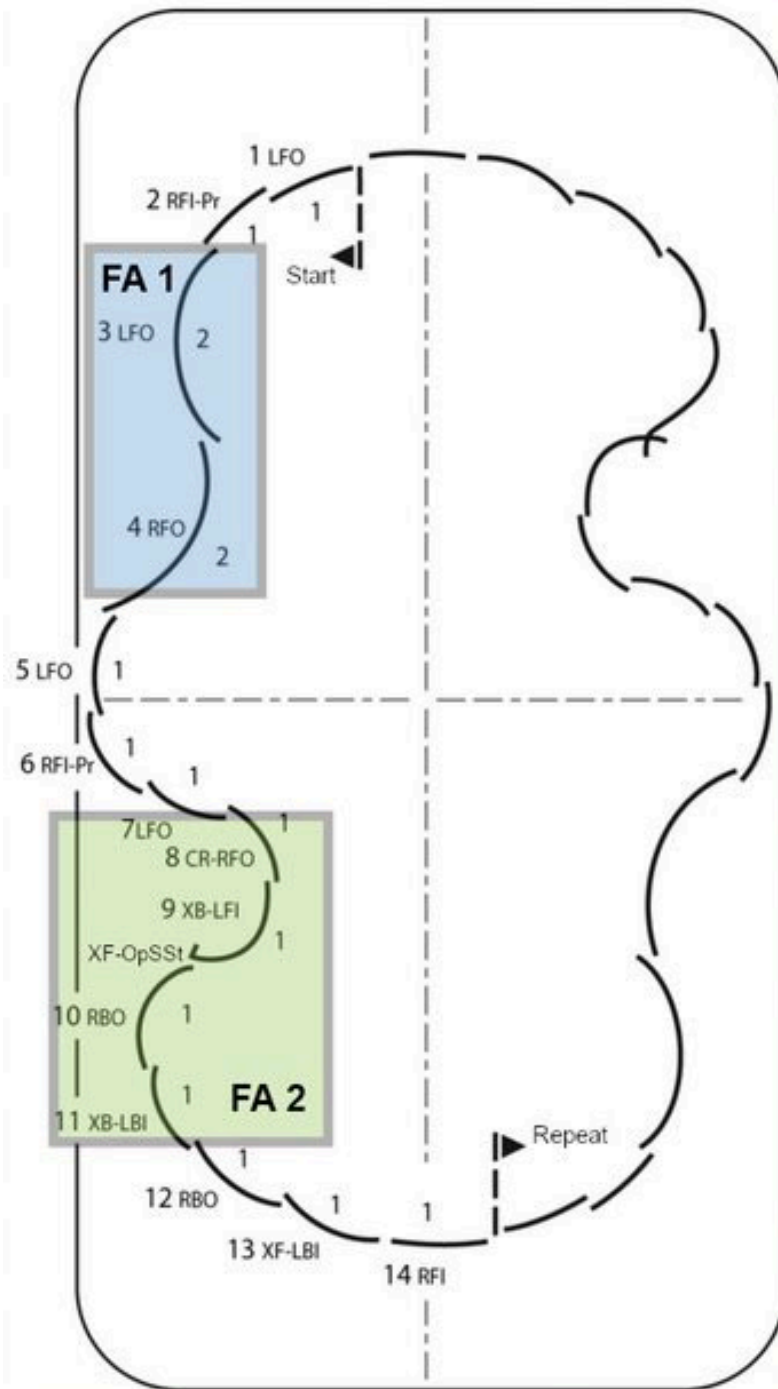
Development & Assessment Focus

Lead & Follow:

Consistent Criteria, depth of edge, lobe distinction, free leg extension, posture, 3-turn quality

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STAR 8A - Killian

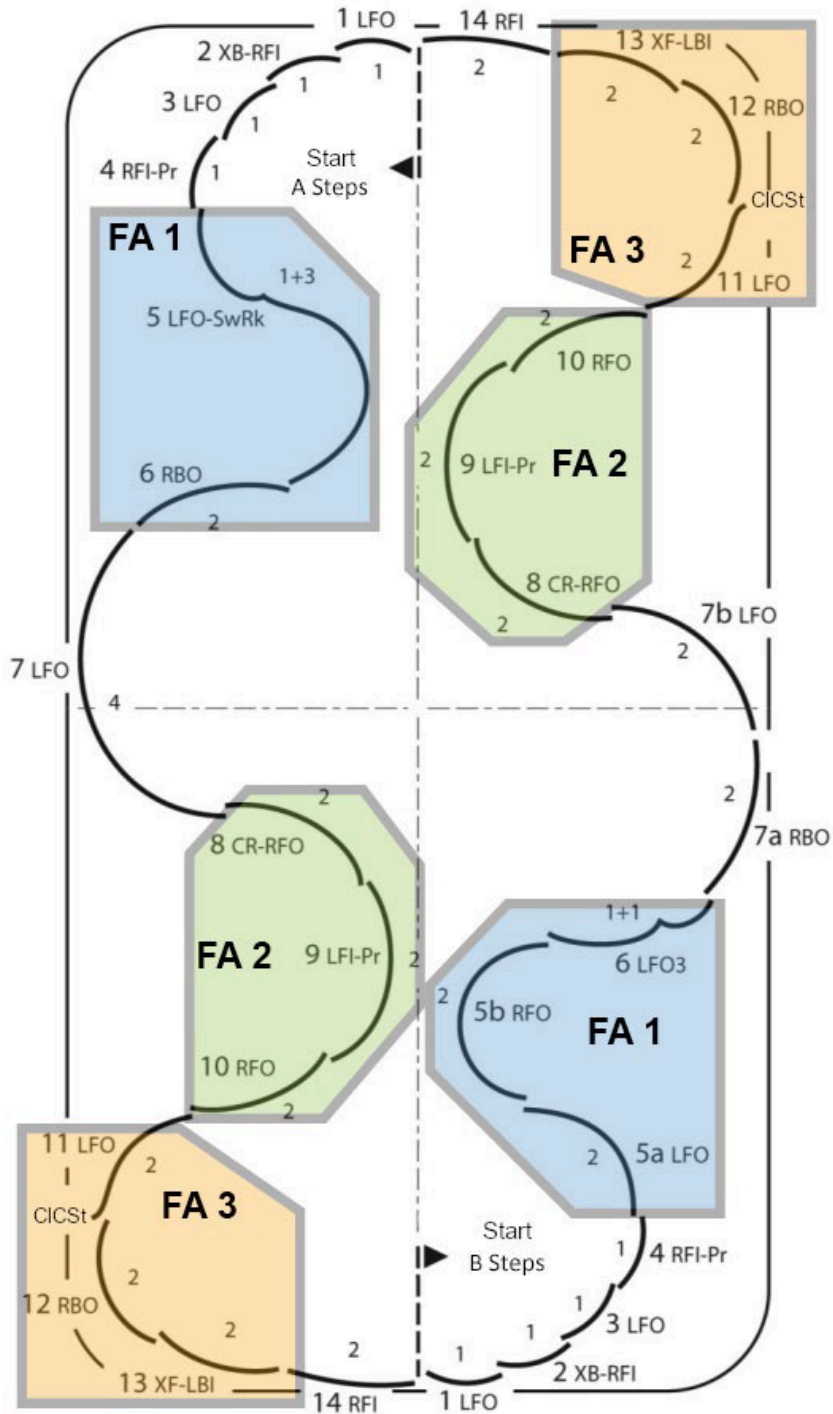


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, continuous speed, extension, S-Step change of edge, posture, foot placement

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STAR 8B - Rocker Foxtrot



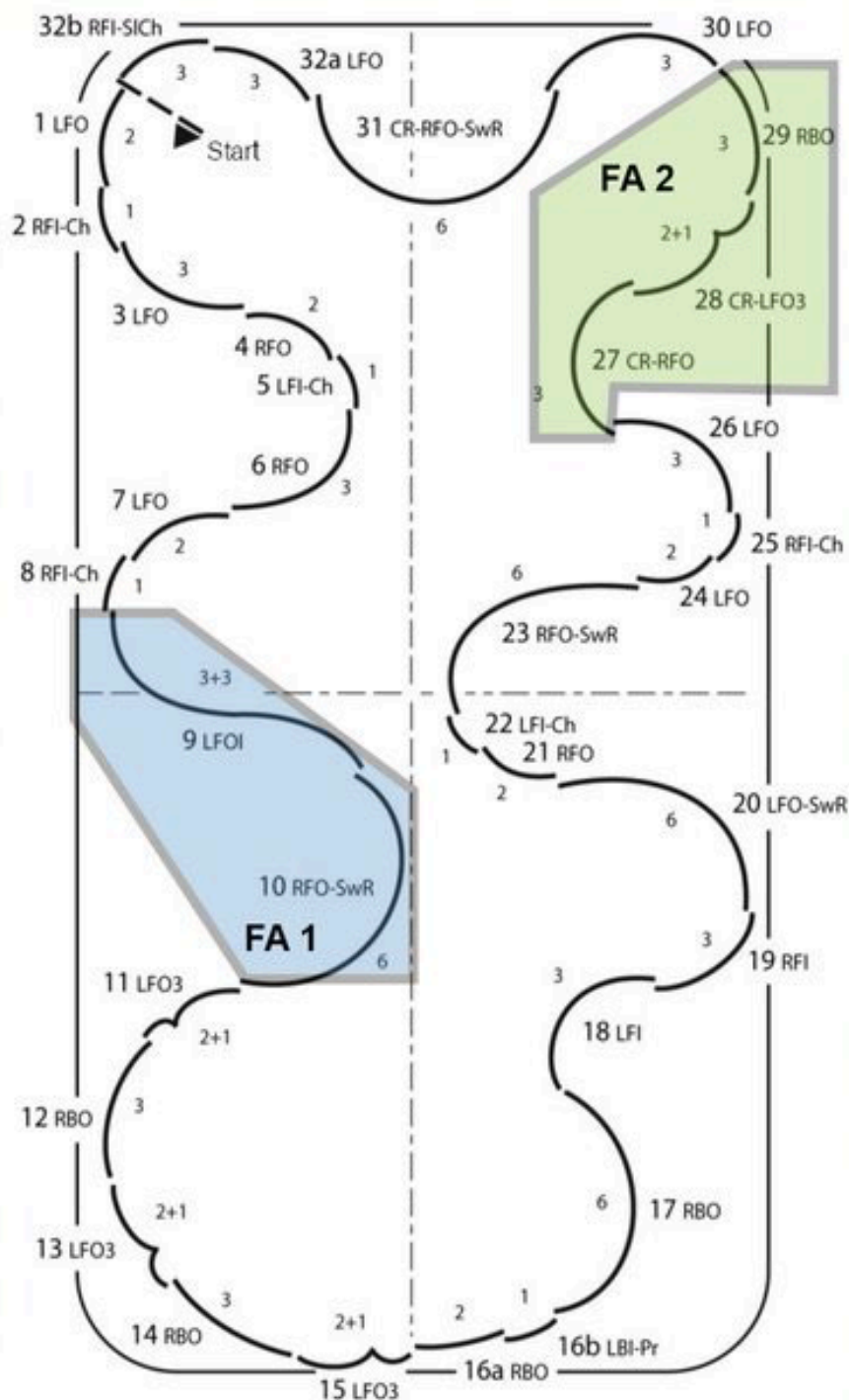
Development & Assessment Focus

Lead: Consistent Criteria, free leg positions, edge & lobe depth, posture

Follow: Consistent Criteria, free leg positions, edge & lobe depth, Rocker change of edge, posture

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STAR 8C - Starlight Waltz (Lead)

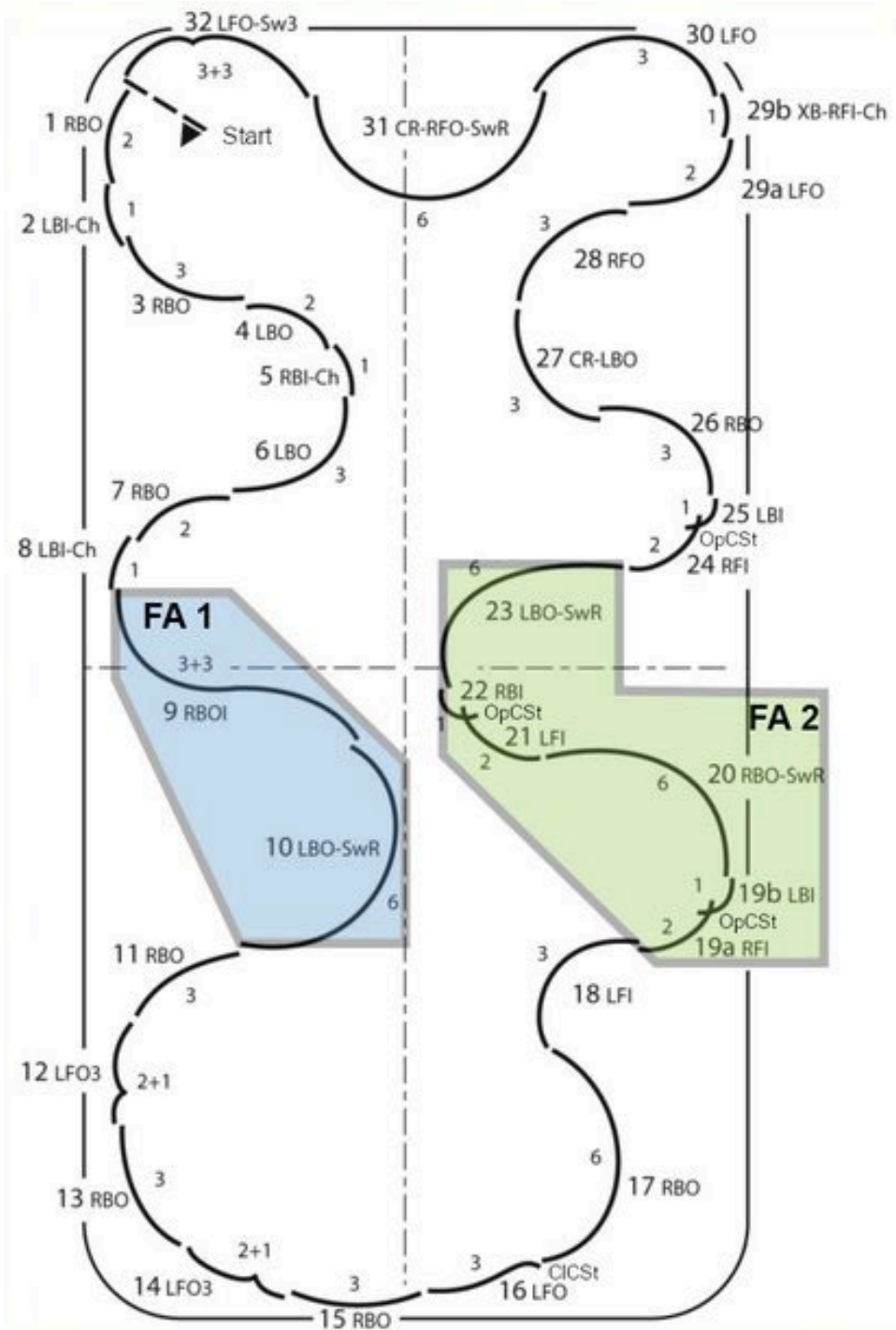


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, lobe size, change of edge, 3-turn quality, speed, free leg extension, posture

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STAR 8C - Starlight Waltz (Follow)

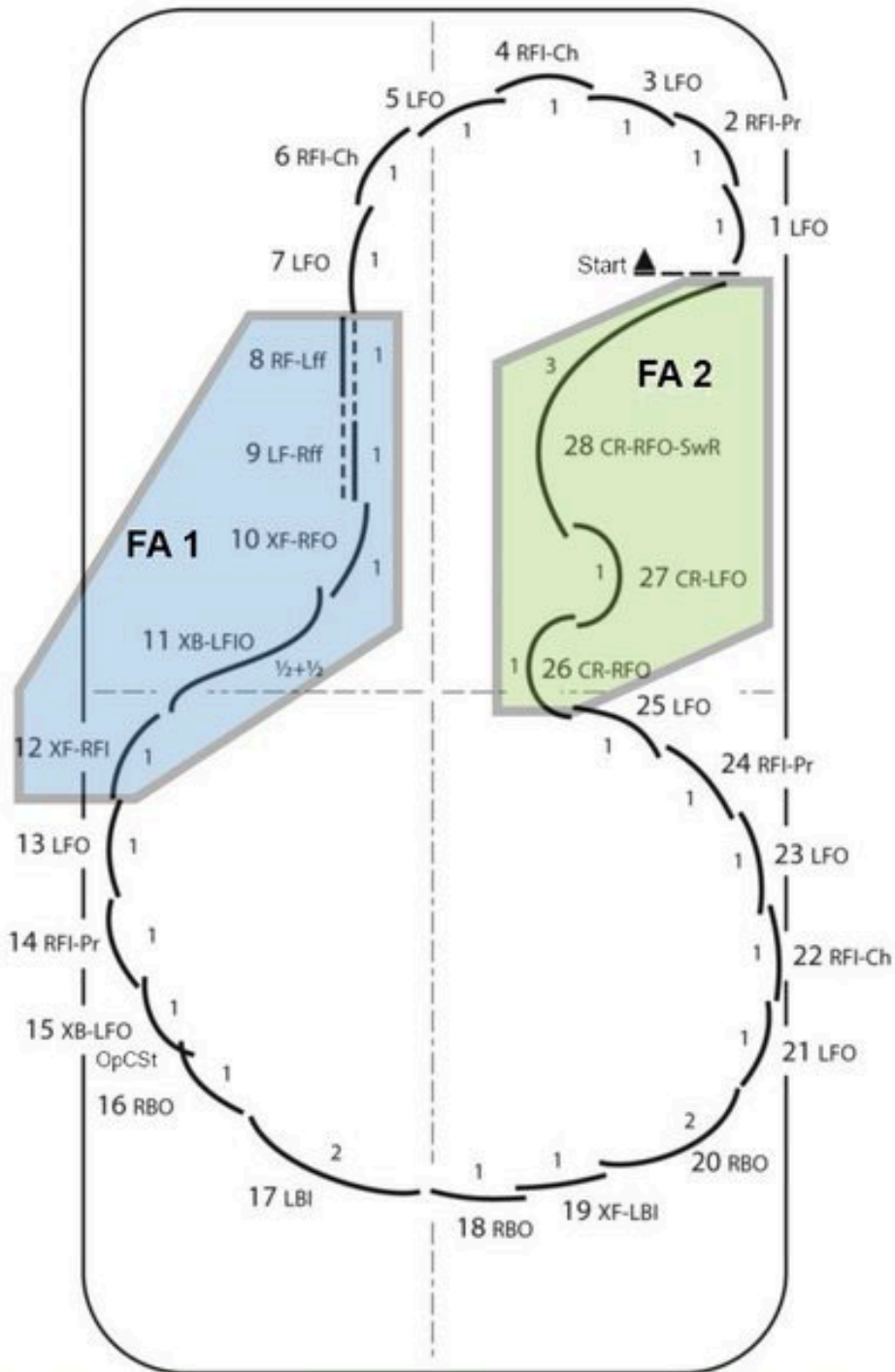


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, lobe size, change of edge, 3-turn quality, speed, free leg extension, C-Steps, posture

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STAR 9A - Paso Doble (Lead)

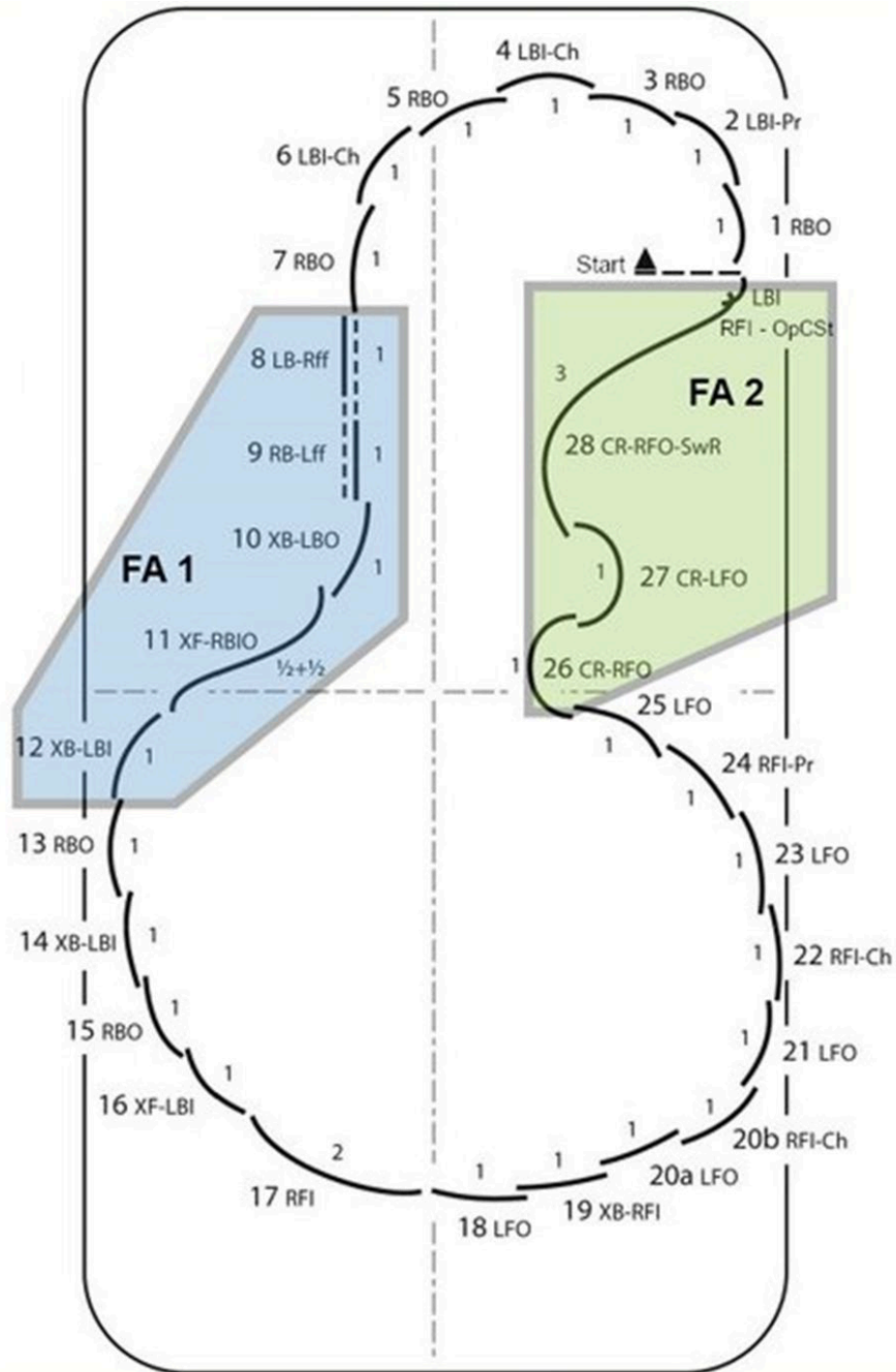


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, speed, foot placement, change of edge, cross roll depth, free leg extension, sharp movements, posture

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STAR 9A - Paso Doble (Follow)

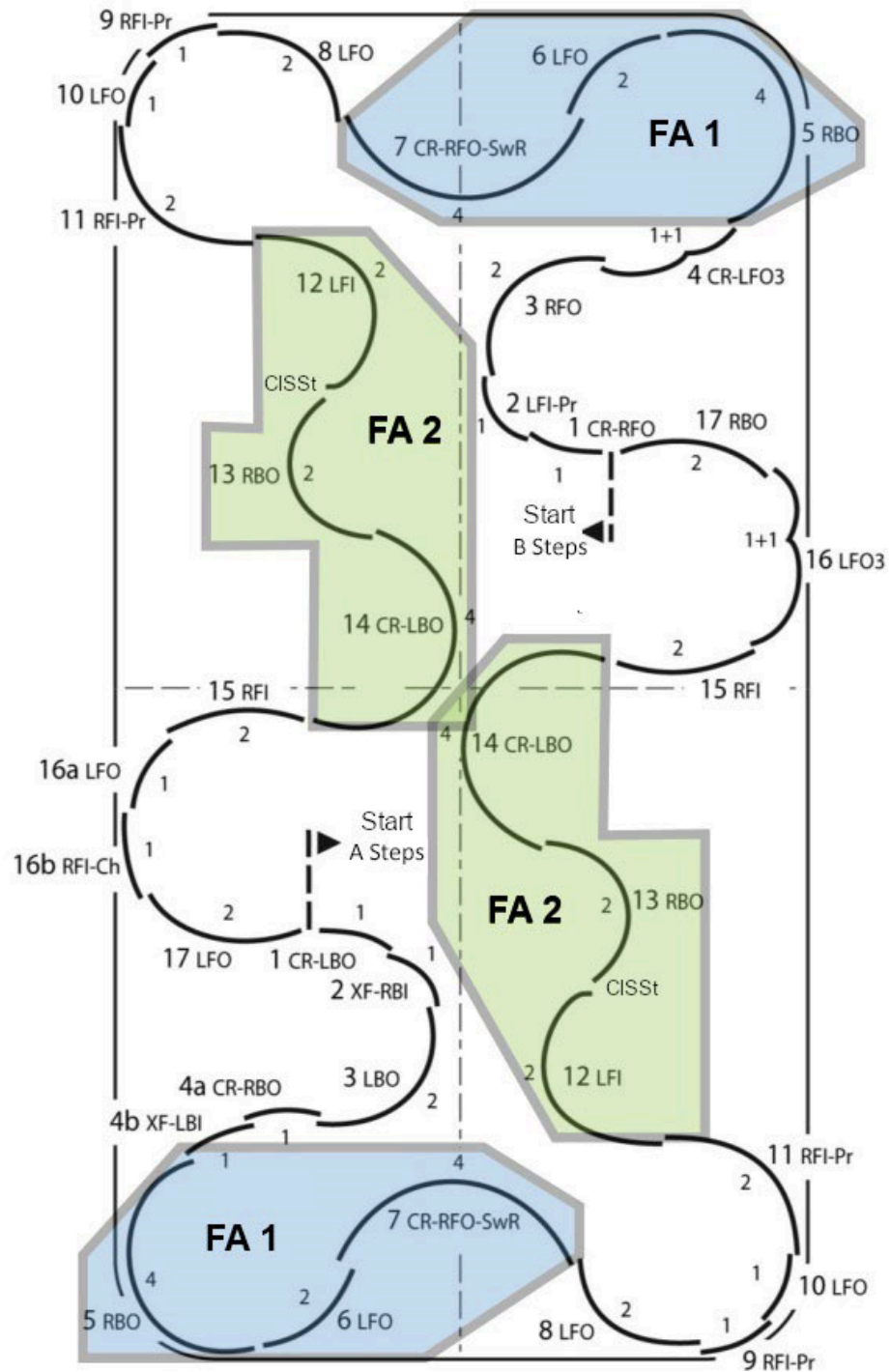


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, speed, foot placement, change of edge, cross roll depth, free leg extension, sharp movements, posture

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STAR 9B - Blues



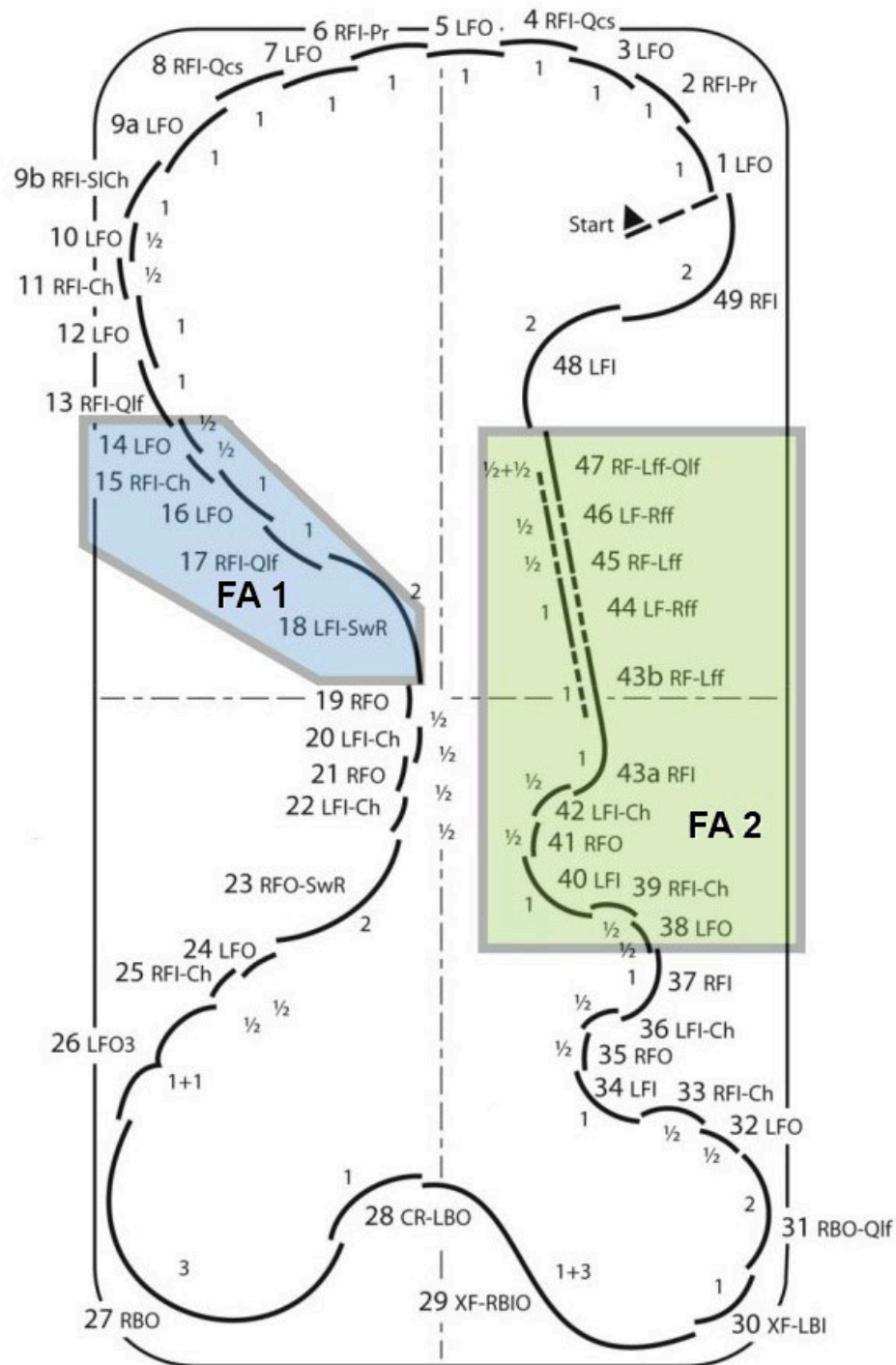
Development & Assessment Focus

Lead & Follow:

Consistent Criteria, depth of edge, lobe distinction, free leg extension, knee bend, posture, flow, S-Step

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STAR 9C - Silver Samba (Lead)

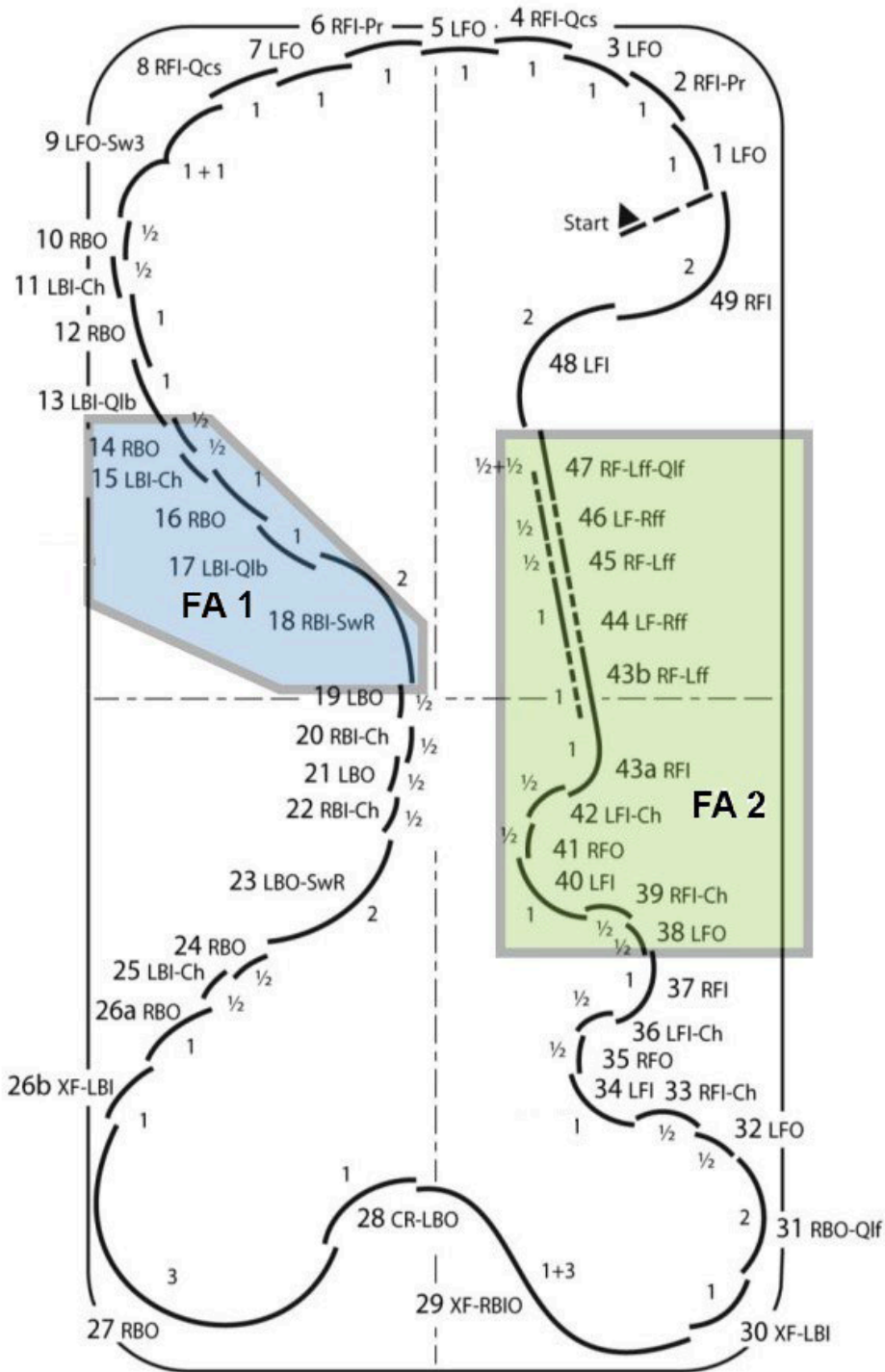


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, speed, power, foot placement, change of edges, free leg extension, sharp/quick movements, posture

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STAR 9C - Silver Samba (Follow)

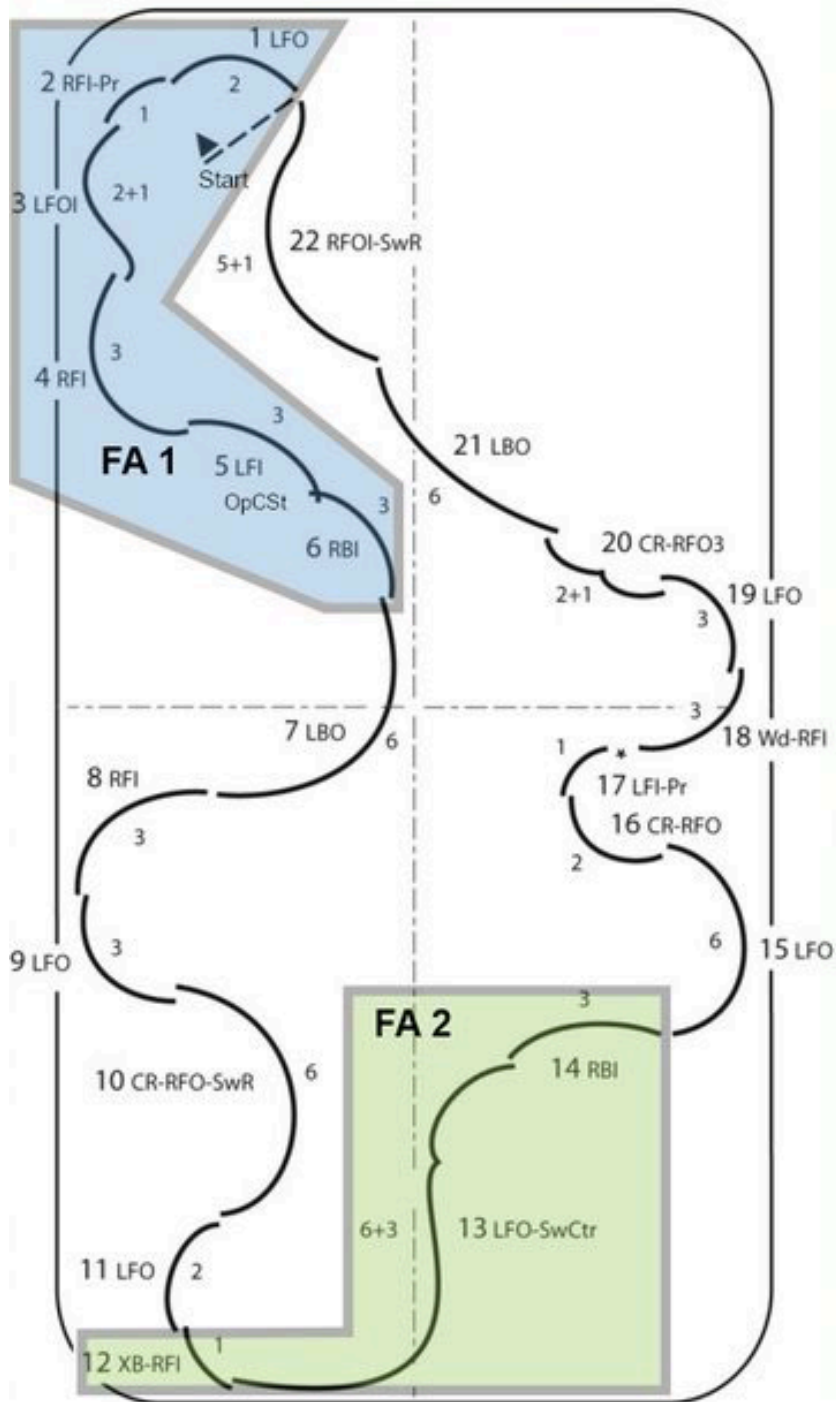


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, speed, power, foot placement, change of edges, free leg extension, sharp/quick movements, posture

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STAR 10B - Westminster Waltz (Lead)

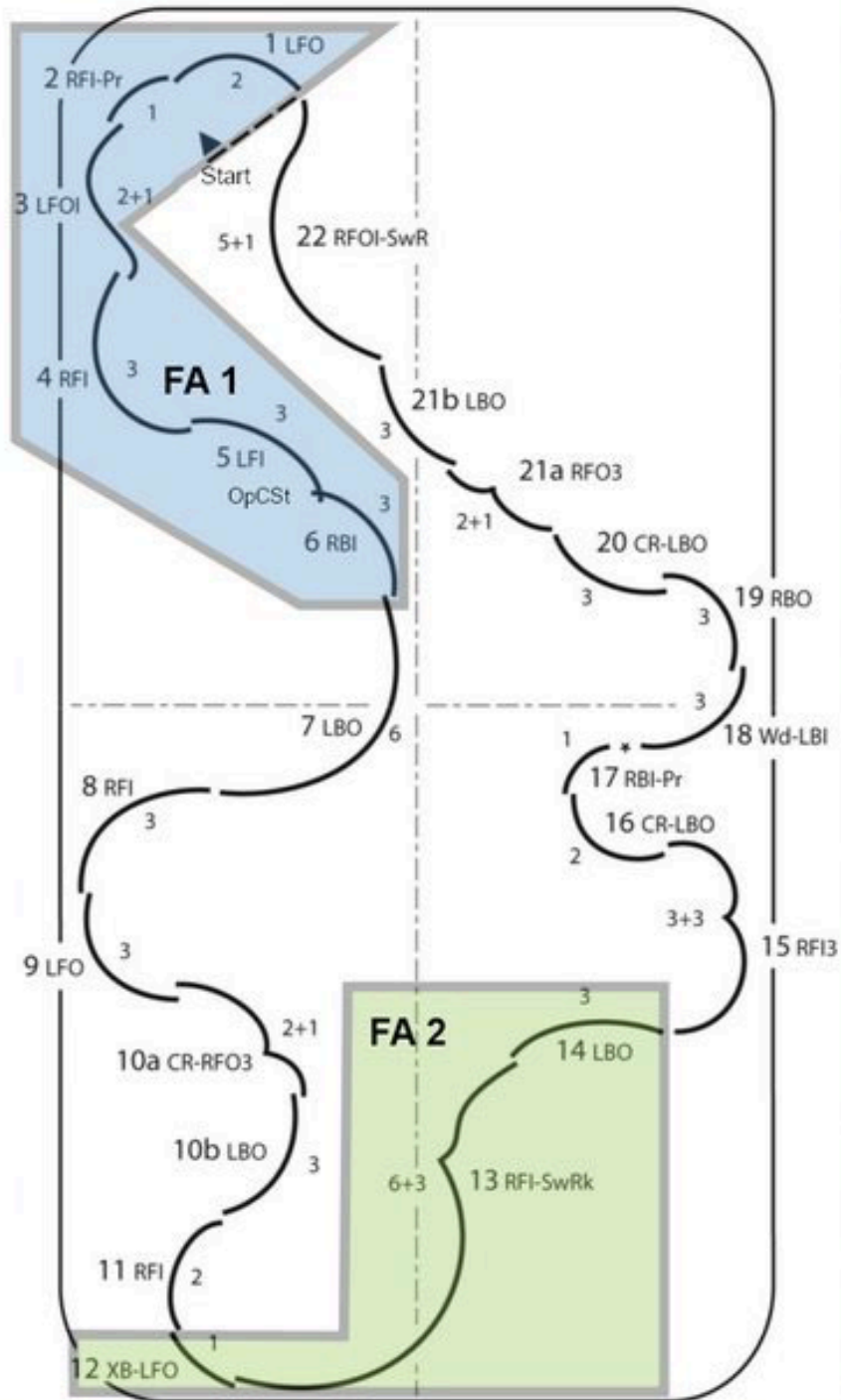


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movement, ease/depth of edge, free leg extension, C-Step, Counter, knee bend

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STAR 10B - Westminster Waltz (Follow)

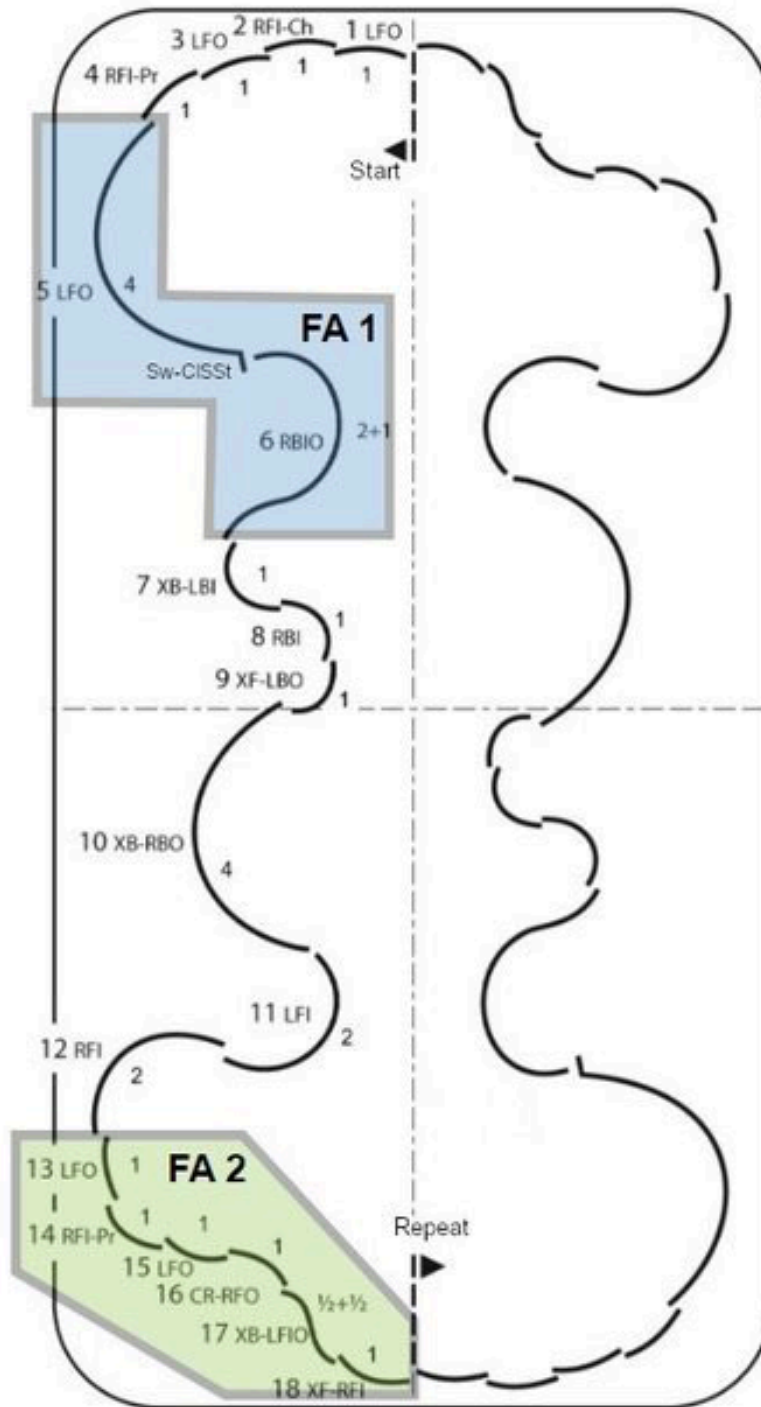


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movement, ease/depth of edge, free leg extension, C-Step, Rocker, knee bend

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STAR 10C - Quickstep

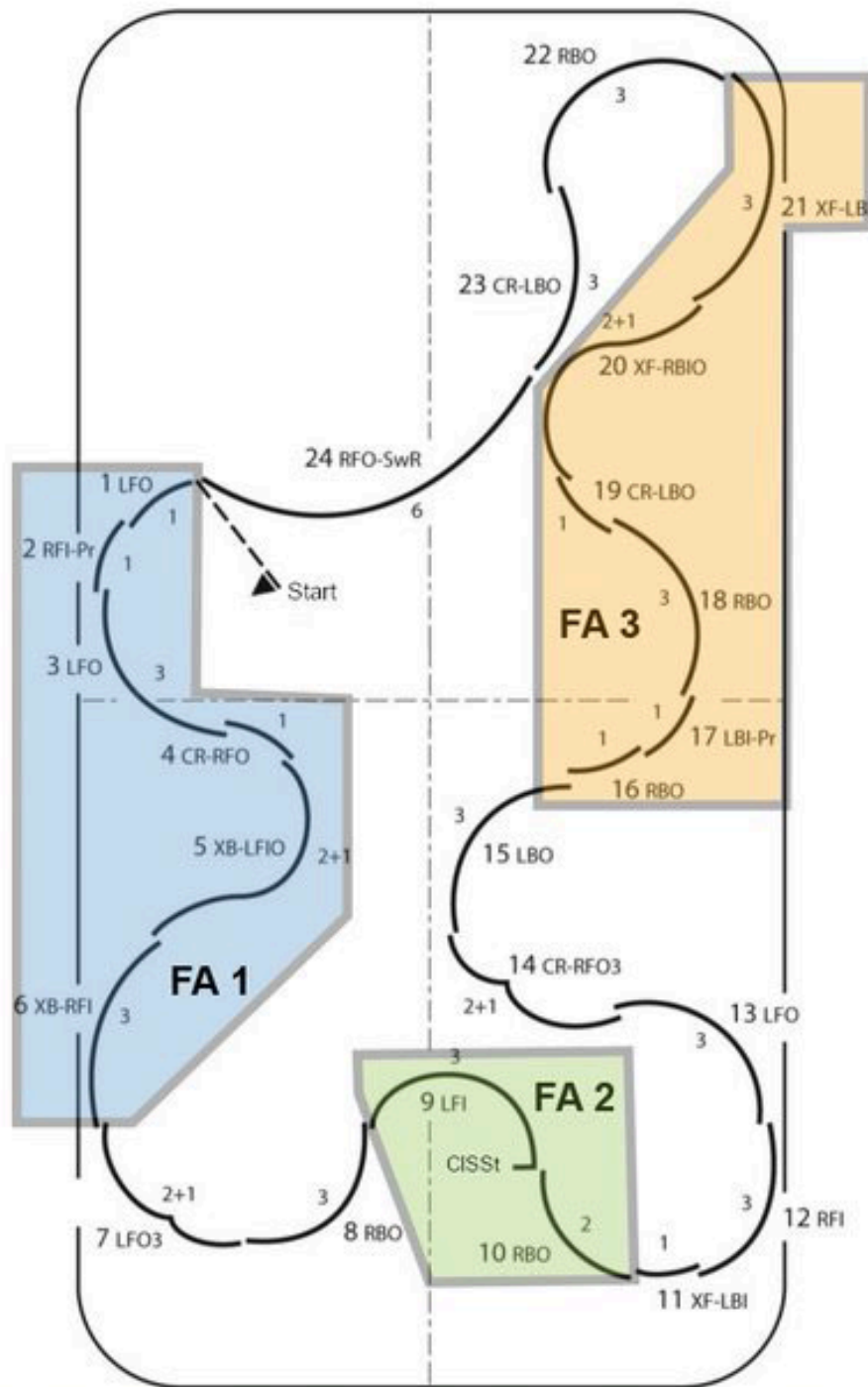


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, speed, power, S-Step, quick-change of edge, free leg extension, foot placement

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STAR Gold A - Viennese Waltz (Lead)

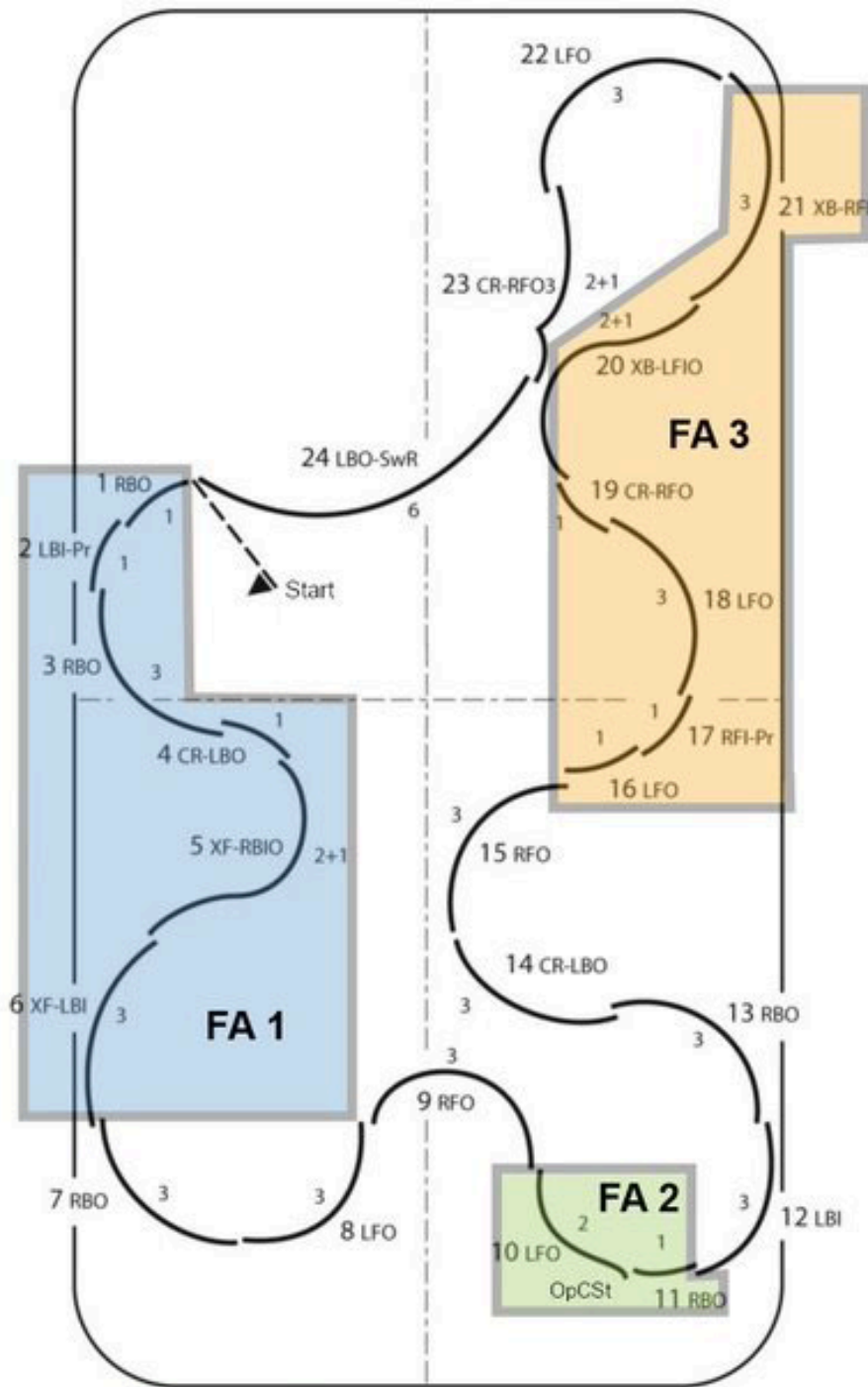


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movement, quick-steps, change of edge, S-Step, free leg extension, lobe distinction

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

STAR Gold A - Viennese Waltz (Follow)

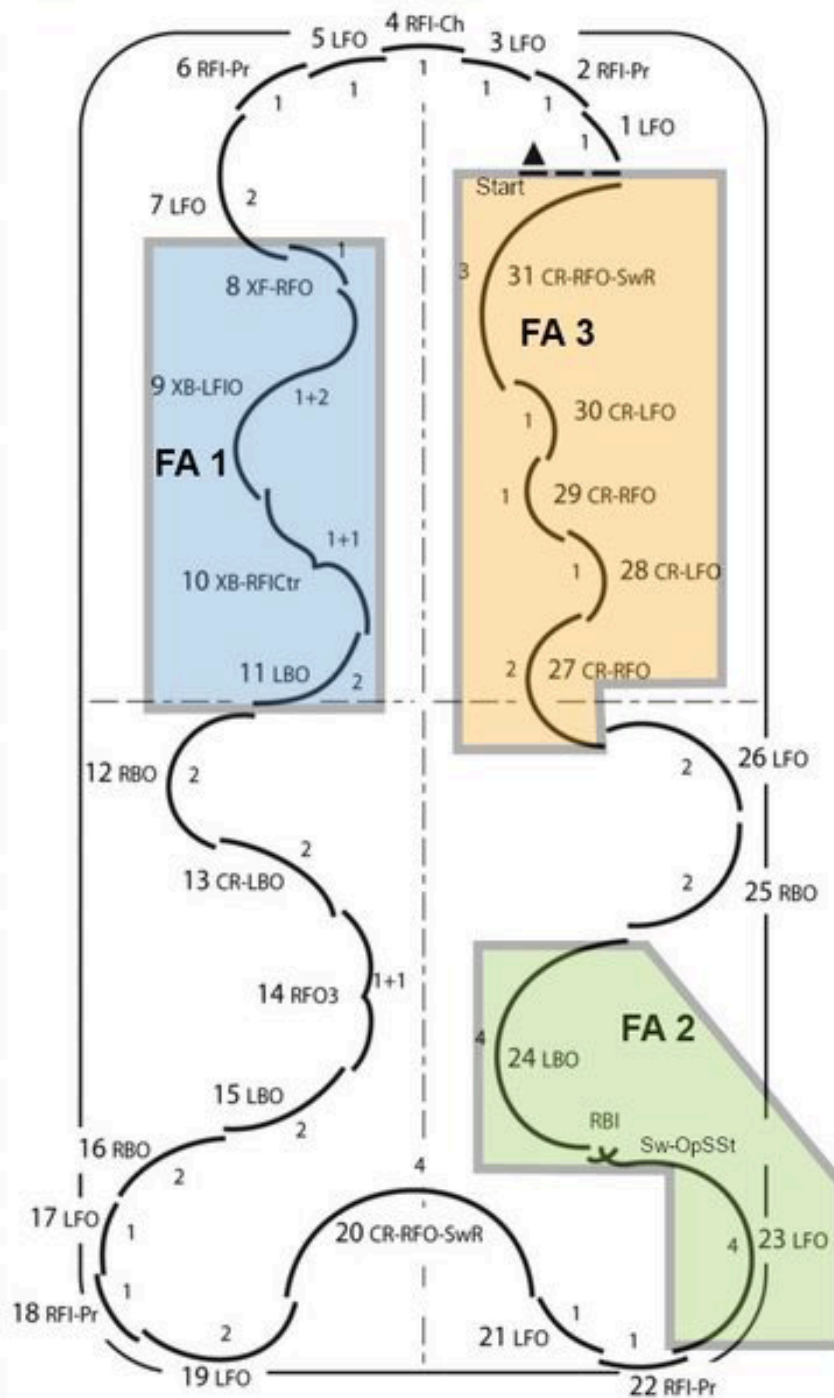


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movement, quick-steps, change of edge, C-Step, free leg extension, lobe distinction

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

STAR Gold B - Argentine Tango (Lead)

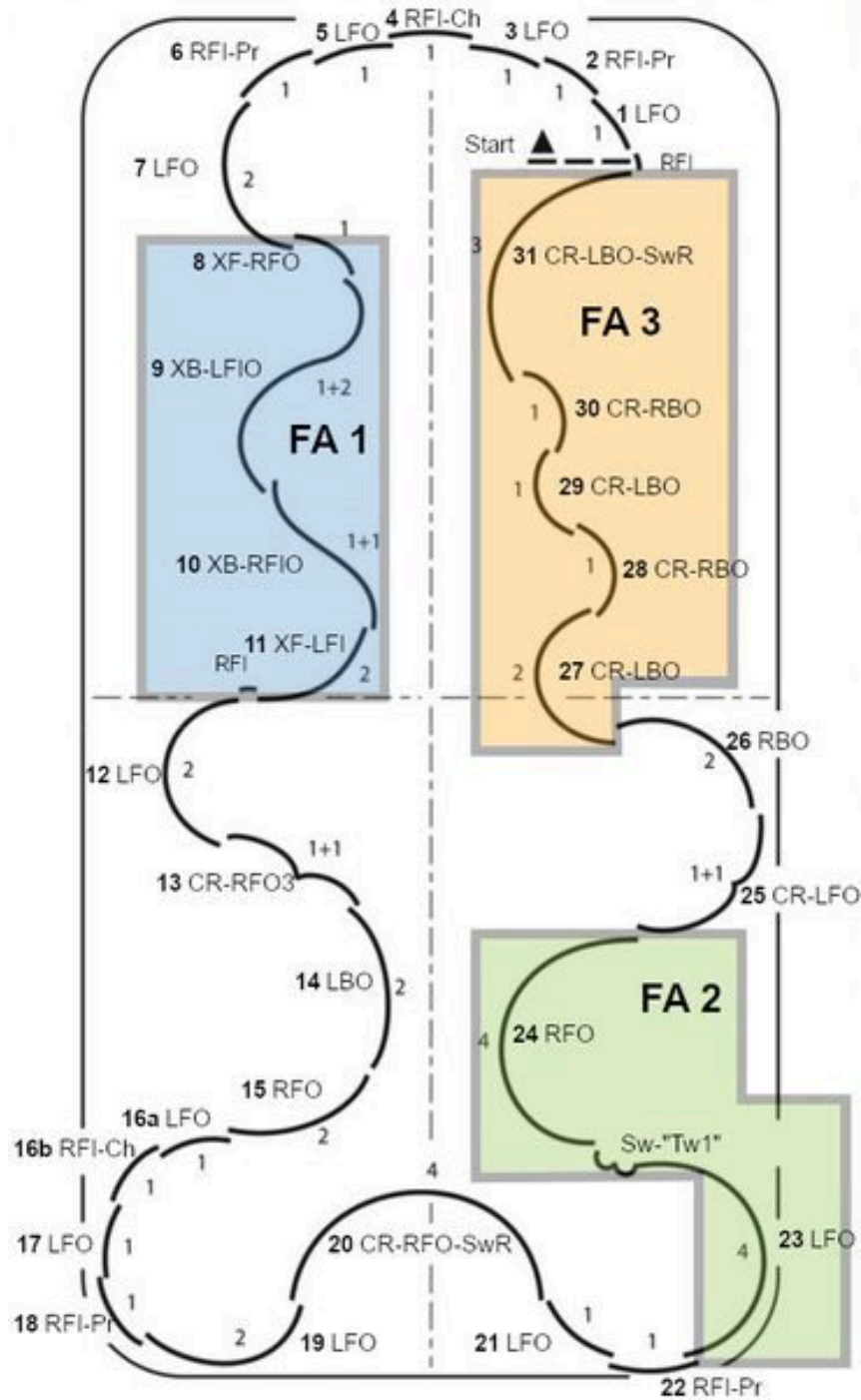


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of quick/sharp movements, Counter, S-Step, cross rolls, ease/depth of edge

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

STAR Gold B - Argentine Tango (Lead)

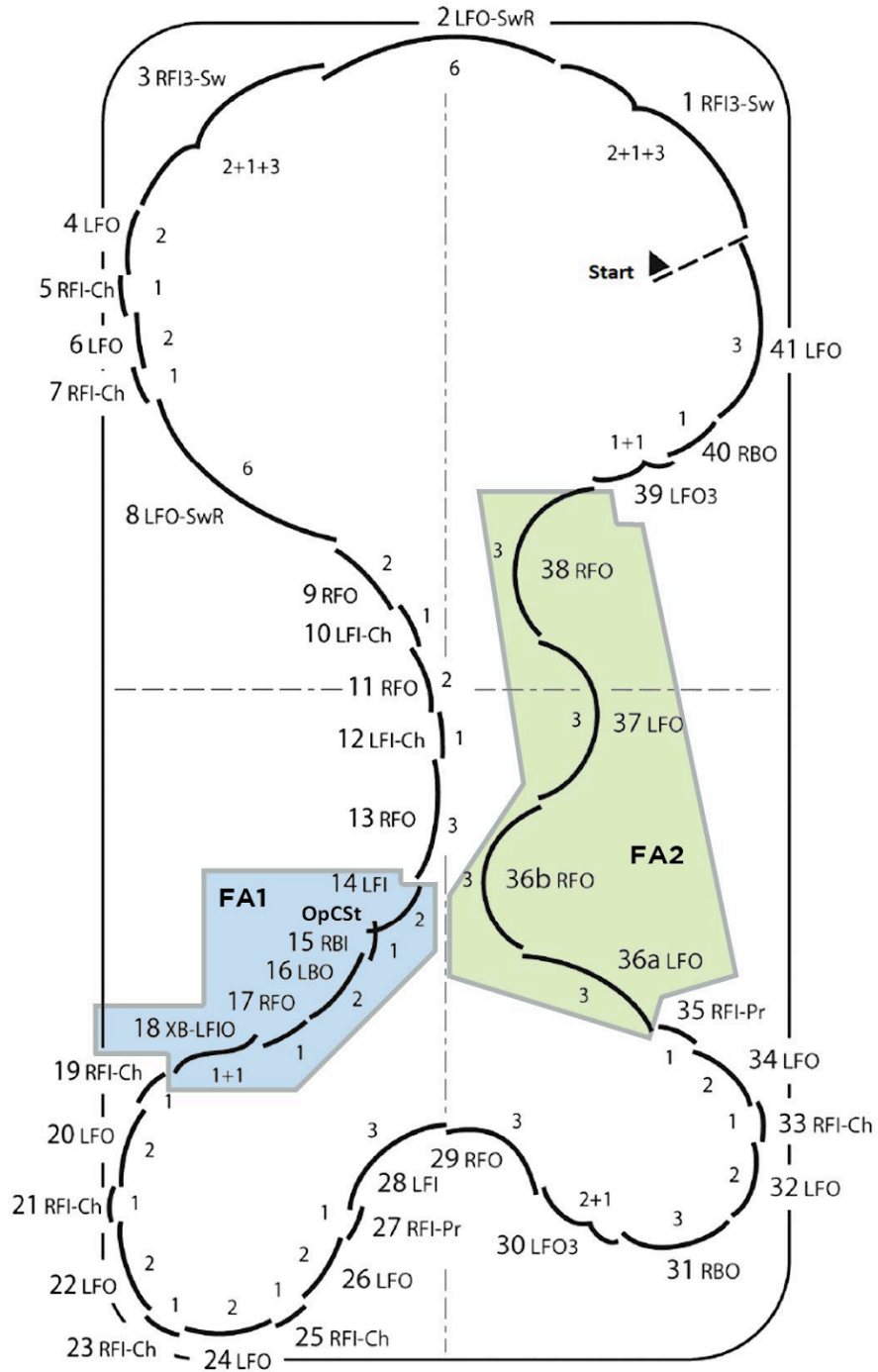


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of quick/sharp movements, change of edge, twizzle, cross rolls, ease/depth of edge

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond A - Ravensburger Waltz (Lead)

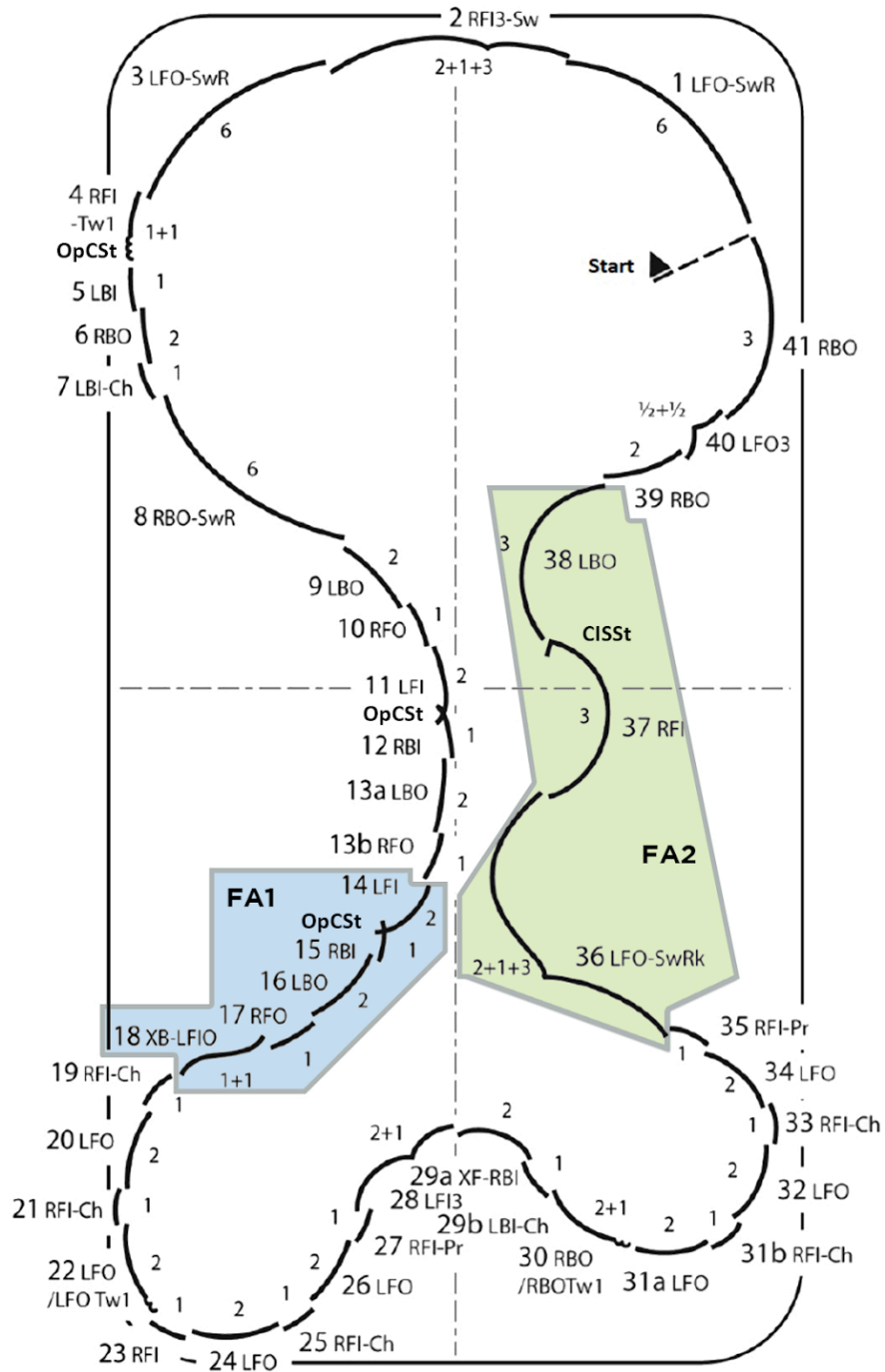


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movements, ease/depth of edge, control of multi-direction skating, C-Step

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond A - Ravensburger Waltz (Follow)

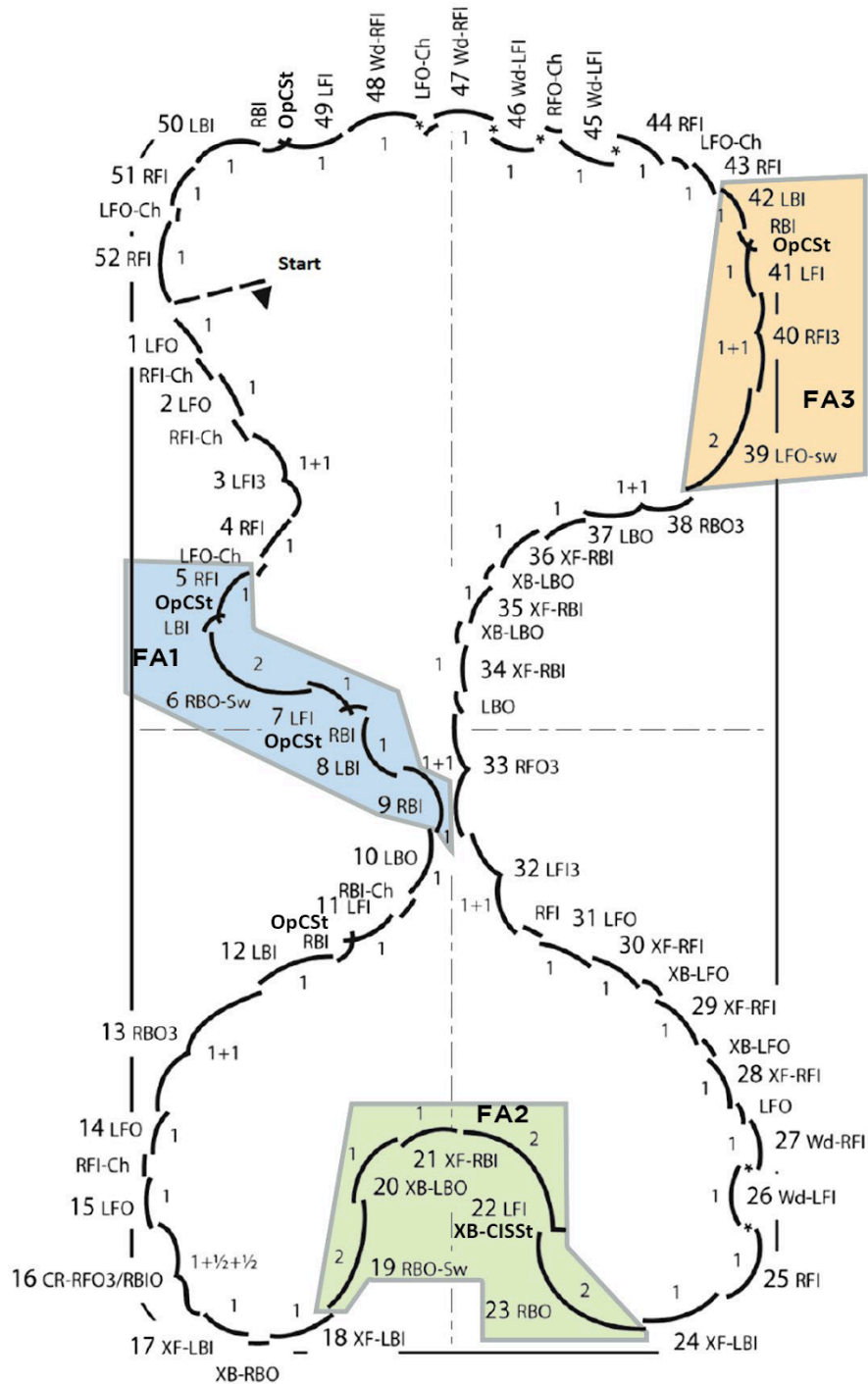


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movements, ease/depth of edge, control of multi-direction skating, twizzle, C-Step, S-Step

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond C - Yankee Polka (Lead)

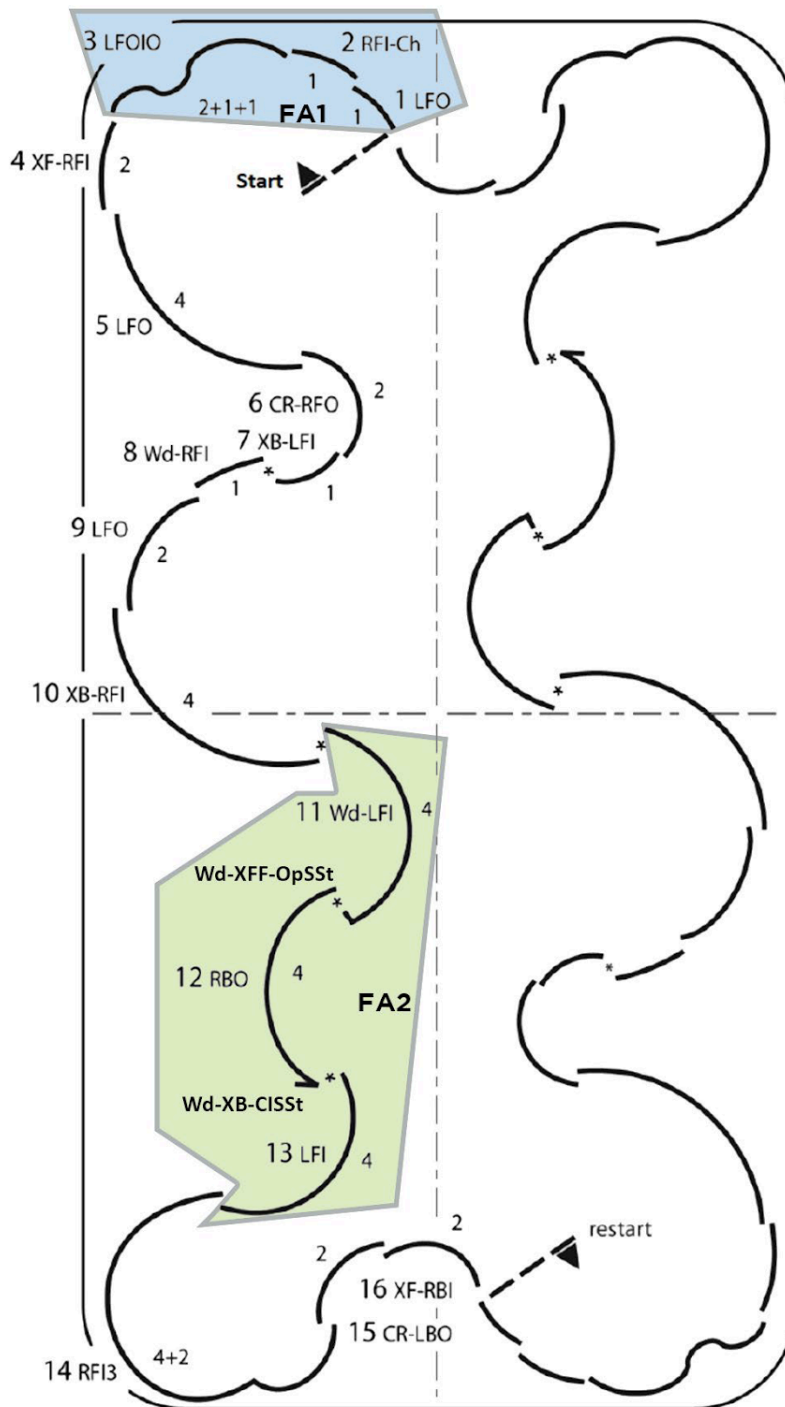


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of quick/"bouncy" movements, control of multi-direction skating, edge of wide step, C-Step, S-Step, free leg control

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond D - Rhumba

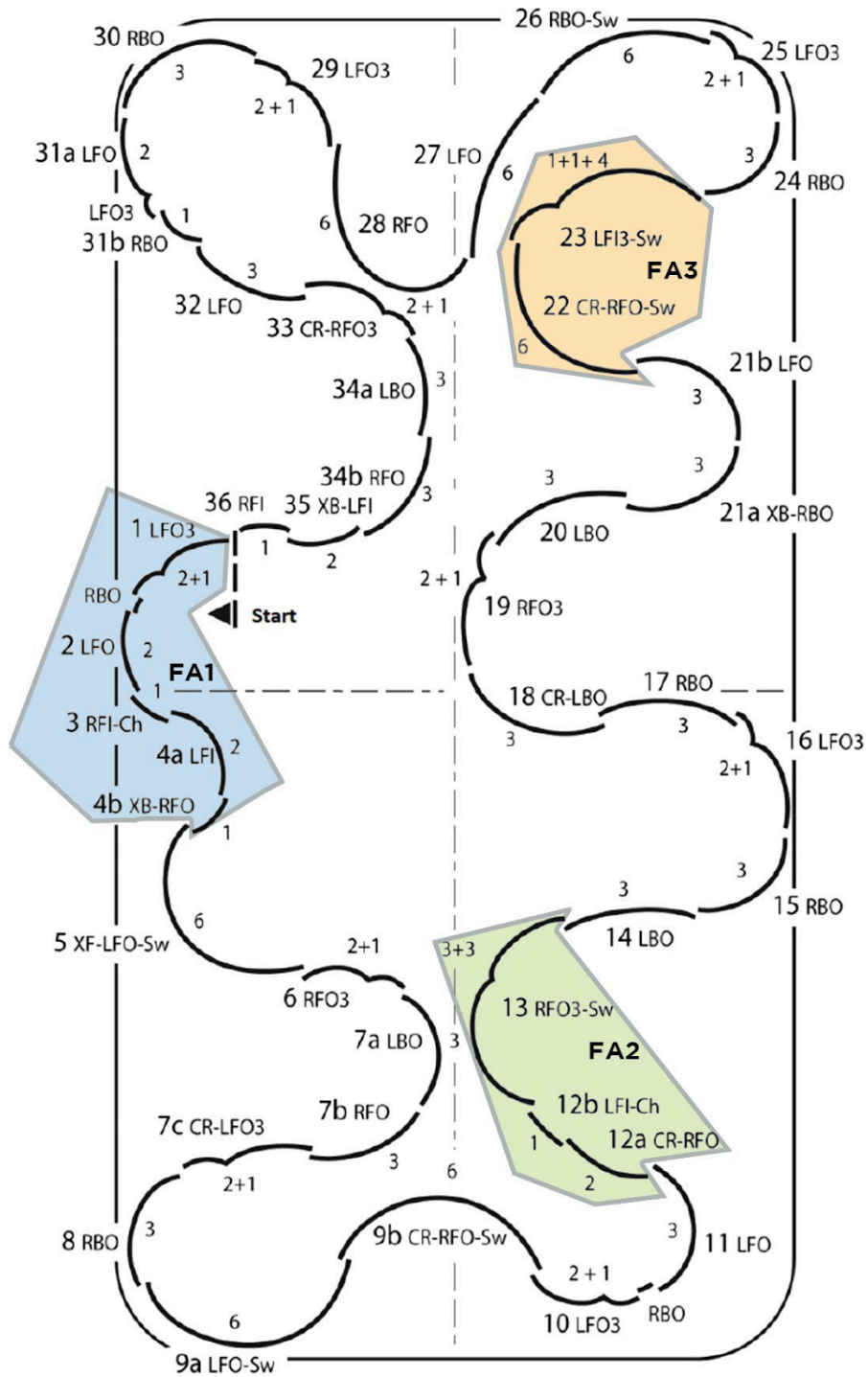


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movements, control of multiple quick edge changes, S-Step, free leg control, body lean

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond E - Austrian Waltz (Lead)

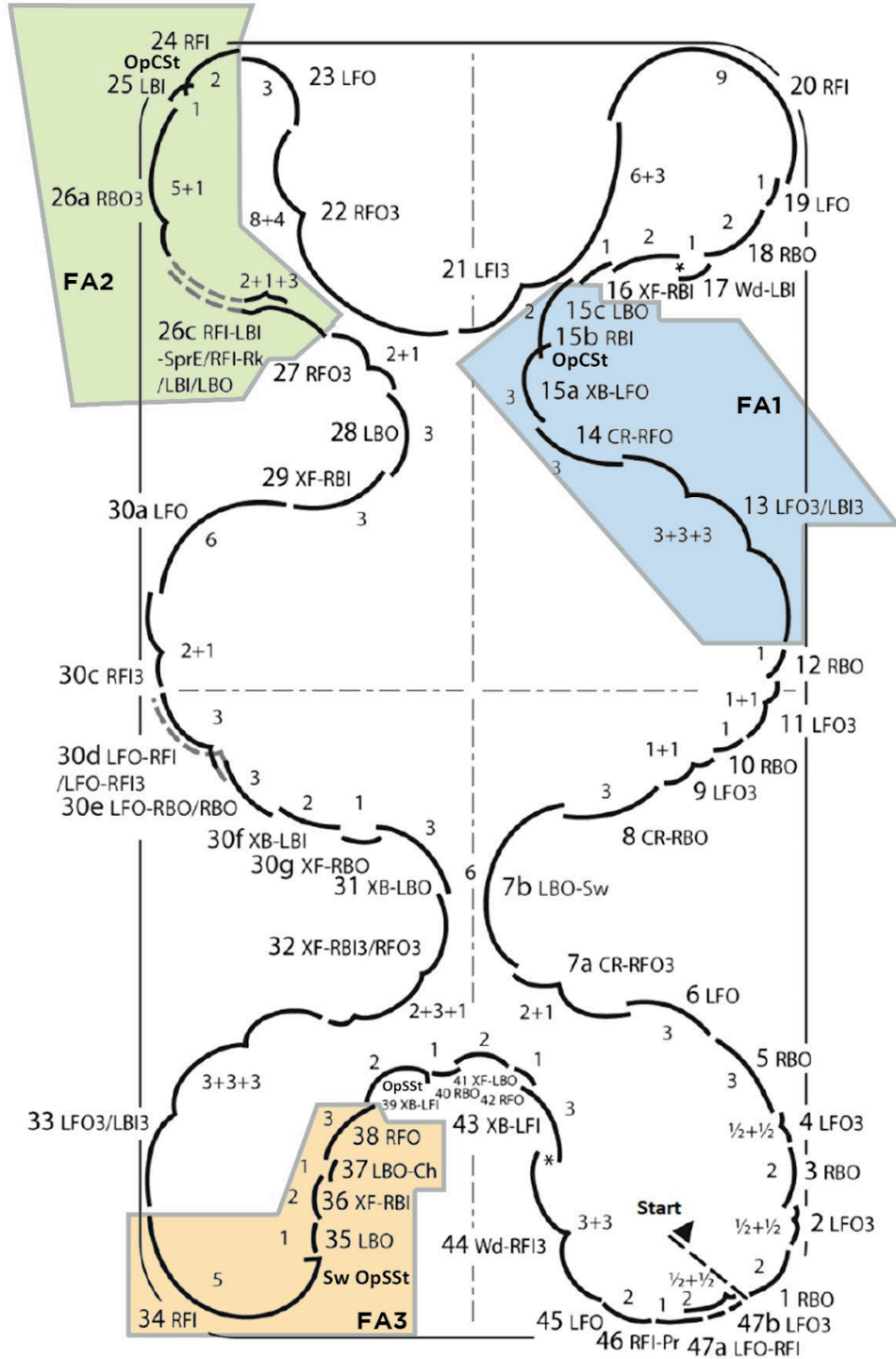


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movements, ease/depth of edge, control of multi-direction skating, lobe distinction, foot placement

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond E - Golden Waltz (Lead)

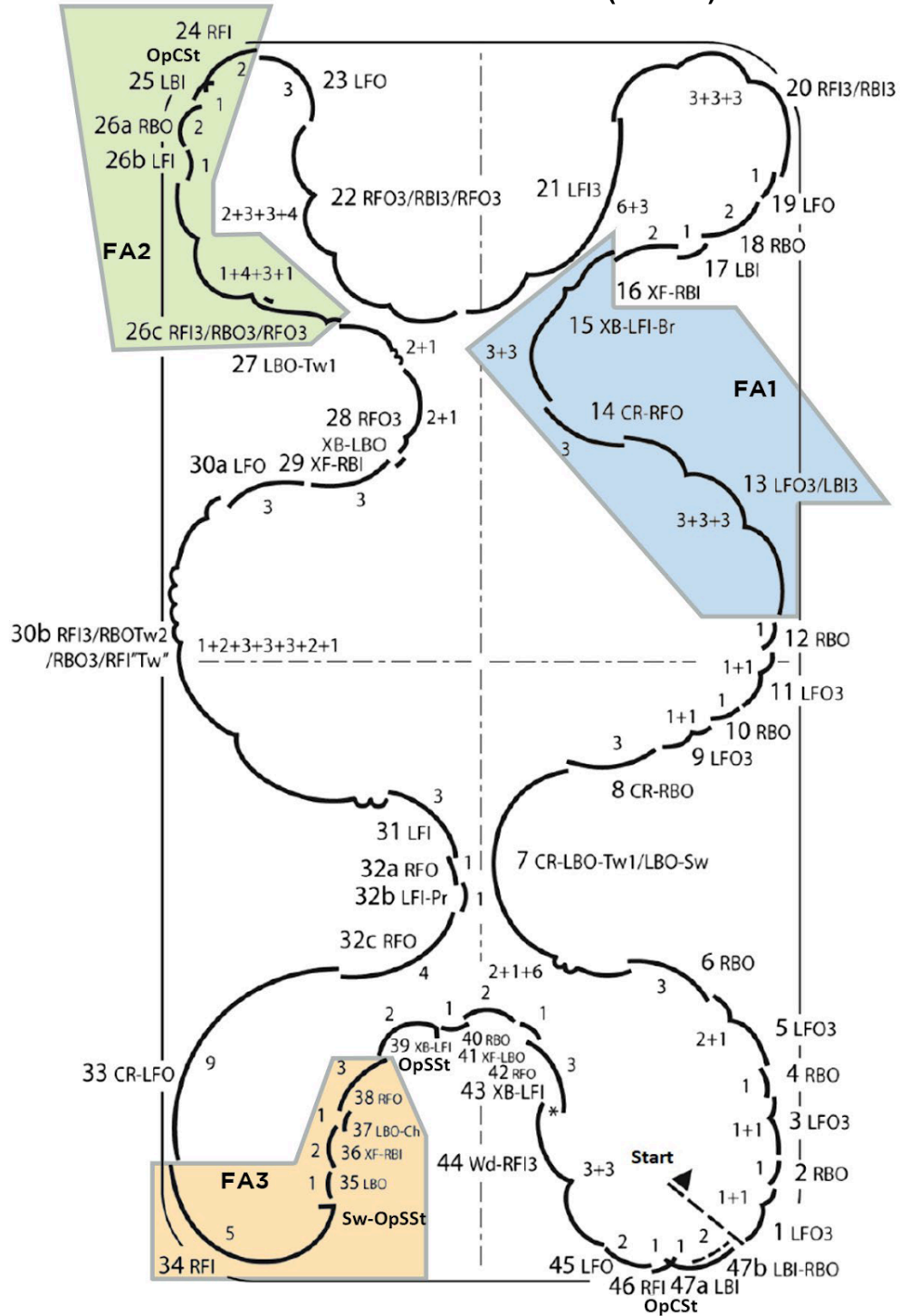


Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movements, ease/depth of edge, control of multi-direction skating, S-Step, lobe distinction, foot placement

Ice Dance Development & Pre-Assessment Guide

Diamond E - Golden Waltz (Follow)



Development & Assessment Focus

Consistent Criteria, power, flow of movements, ease/depth of edge, control of multi-direction skating, twizzles, S-Step, bracket, lobe distinction, foot placement, body lean

11. SKATE CANADA STAR 6 - Diamond Standards

	6	7	8 & 9	10	GOLD	DIAMOND
Accuracy Correct steps, technique, pattern.	Skater executes correct steps with mostly correct technique and generally neat foot placement. Consistent shape to pattern with limited		Skater executes correct steps with correct technique and neat foot placement. Clear lobes skated with minor deviations from the pattern.		Skater executes correct steps with strong technique and neat foot placement. Clear lobes are skated following	Skater executes consistent steps with very strong technique and precise foot placement. Clear and consistent lobes are skated, enhancing the pattern.
Edge Quality Balance, control, depth of edge, power and flow.	Edges correct but may be shallow. Skater demonstrates some examples of control and balance but may be limited. Skater has adequate power and flow.		Edges correct with some depth demonstrated. Moderate balance and control demonstrated. Skater has moderate power and flow.		Edges well defined with good depth. Skater moves easily across the ice, handles direction changes easily and maintains strong balance and control throughout. Skater has good power and flow.	Clean edges, well defined with good depth. Skater moves easily across the ice, handles direction changes easily and consistently demonstrates strong balance and control throughout. Skater has very good power and flow.
Carriage/ Clarity Style, body line, posture and unison (as applicable)	Skater has comfortable upright carriage and generally good posture. Skater demonstrates reasonably strong core. Body lines are generally pleasing. Movements may lack precision and appear rushed or incomplete.		Skater demonstrates good posture with ease. Core balance is generally strong and body lines are mostly pleasing. Movements are generally precise and clear with unison and management of holds in development (if applicable).		Skater demonstrates clear posture and poise. Core balance is strong and solid. Body lines are pleasing and confident. Movements are precise throughout and unison with the partner (if applicable) is evident. Easy management of holds.	Skater demonstrates correct posture and clear poise. Core balance is effortlessly strong and solid. Body lines are pleasing and confident. Movements are precise and purposeful throughout.
Character /Rhythm Ability to interpret rhythm.	Skater's ability to express the music's character, rhythm, and feeling is limited		Skater briefly expresses the music's character, rhythm, and feeling.		Skater expresses the music's character, rhythm, and feeling with confidence and conviction.	Skater consistently expresses the music's character, rhythm, and feeling with confidence and conviction.