



# Individual/Doubles Prelims Procedures/Tips for Judges

1. Stackers come from “**on-deck**” table to your competition table. (**NOTE:** Once a stacker starts stacking at the on-deck table, they are **committed** to “compete” at your competition table and cannot choose to leave and compete later.)
2. Stacker will give you their **preprinted Individual Prelim Time Sheet** or **Doubles Prelim Time Sheet**. Confirm Stacker’s information on the Time Sheet.
3. There are **up to 2 warm-ups allowed** prior to each competition stack however a stacker may choose to do only one or none at all. Warm-ups for each competition stack must match that stack, must be done before the first actual timed try and may not be done in-between subsequent tries of that same stack. A single up stack of any kind constitutes a warm-up and is counted as a scratched try. **Individual Prelims** *must be done in the following order: 3-3-3, 3-6-3, then Cycle.* **Doubles Prelims:** *Special Stackers do 3-6-3; all others do the Cycle.*
4. Judge says “**Reset Timer and Start When Ready**”. The Stacker(s) places their hands on the touch pads of the StackMat® Timer and may begin their attempt any time after the green light on the StackMat® comes on. (*Note: If a “hiccup” occurs the Judge will allow the Stacker(s) to go again. A “hiccup” is an accidental starting and stopping of the timer.*)
5. Look for infractions which constitute a “**Scratch**”:
  - ▶ **(S1) Improper starting and stopping hand positions** on the StackMat® Timer. (Must be **hands** - no wrists or arms; no cup contact on start; stopping with one hand on Timer before the other is OK; hands may touch cups on stop but no holding, or appearing to hold cups.)
  - ▶ **(S2) Cups must be stacked on the surface of the StackMat.®** “**Off**” equals one or more cups not touching the top of the mat or timer.
  - ▶ **(S3) Stacking sequence:** Work from left to right or right to left. (Down stacking must follow same sequence as up stacking.)

#### **Doubles only:**

1. On a Doubles Team, the Stacker on the **right side** must use their **right hand** only, while the Stacker on the **left side** must use their **left hand** only. Partners can choose to **switch sides** between tries.
2. Each individual stack of cups, in both the up stacking and down stacking phases, must be **handled by both Stackers**. The one exception to this rule is the down stack of the last “3” in the transition from the 3-6-3 to the 6-6. That last “3” may be down stacked by only one of the two Stackers.

- ▶ **(S4) Fumbles** not corrected properly (Tipper, Slider, Toppler, Slanter-two types)
- ▶ **(S5) Hands on two stacks of cups:**
  - A. **Up stacking phase—NO**, hands cannot be on two stacks at same time.
  - B. **Up stacking** one set while down stacking another—**NO**, hands cannot be on two stacks at same time.
  - C. **Down stacking phase—YES**, but:
    - i. **Must use both hands to begin** down stacking the **first two** stacks in the 3-3-3 and 3-6-3.\*
    - ii. After doing above, stacker **may** down stack **second** stack while finishing **first** and may down stack **third** stack while finishing **second**.

## D. Cycle

### i) Transition from 3-6-3 to 6-6

Stacker's hands may be on each stack of 3 at the same time, however the up stack of the first six cannot be attempted until the down stack of the last three has been completed. The last stack of 3 must be brought over to the first stack of 3.

*(Note: A Stacker may re-position the first stack of 3 by sliding the cups along the surface of the StackMat. The entire lip of the bottom cup must be in contact with the surface of the StackMat during this re-position. After the last stack of 3 has been down stacked, a Stacker may then begin up stacking the first 6 stack.)*

### ii. Down stacking the 6-6

**Must** use **both** hands to begin down stacking the **first 6 stack** and then other 6 can be down stacked at same time. \*

### iii. Single cups in the Cycle may be handled at the same time.

*\*Allowances will be made for stackers with disabilities that prevent them from using both hands.*

### ► (S6) False Stop

The StackMat® **Timer is stopped before** the sequence is complete (not to be confused with a "hiccup").

*(Note: All cups must be down stacked and up right before the Timer is stopped. If a stack(s) of cups are still in motion once the Timer has been stopped, they must come to a rest on their own, in a down stacked and upright position on the stacking surface; otherwise an infraction will occur.)*

*NOTE: If someone other than the stacker touches a fumbled cup(s), the stacker simply retrieves the cups(s) and continues.*

6. Record times to **1/100** of a second. (Examples: 6.52 or 15.43)
7. **Record "Best Time"** on the Individual Prelim Time Sheet / Doubles Prelim Time Sheet. Include your signature and the table # where you are judging. Keep this for a Division Manager or Runner to pick up.
8. Complete the "My Best Prelim Times" sheet provided by the Stacker(s).

### **Judge's Etiquette**

- ✘ Do not eat or drink while judging.
- ✘ Leave nothing on the table (clipboard in lap, water bottle set next to table leg).
- ✘ Do not lean on the table while judging.

***Be consistent, focused, and sensitive.  
Encourage, and take time to teach when appropriate.***