

The British JISC Stunt Register

The Stunt Register was formed in 1973. It was created by a group of Equity members, actors and background artists who branched into performing stunts. They got together with Equity to form The British Equity Stunt Register. In 1982 the '6 skill' entry system was formed and since 1973 to date, there have been approximately 400 members.

The register is divided up into three sections: Probationary, Intermediate and Full members.

Probationary members - Must complete minimum of 5 years work and relevant experience to be eligible for upgrade to Intermediate level. Probationary members can only work on productions as a stunt performer under the supervision and direction of a full member of the register e.g. Stunt Co-coordinator.

Intermediate members - Must complete the probationary period and may work on their own without supervision where they are the only person involved in the stunt. However, they may not supervise any other stunt performers or actors. They can apply for upgrade to full membership on completion of the relevant work and experience. They must spend a minimum 2 years as an intermediate member.

Full members - Will have successfully completed the probationary and intermediate stages of the register giving them a minimum of 7 years work and experience with stunts. They are therefore, considered to be experienced stunt performers who can act as Stunt Co-coordinators.

STUNT COMMITTEE

The committee is the appointed governing body for the register and members of the stunt register vote each member of the committee on. There are usually 12 members of the committee and it is their responsibility to govern and represent all members of the register. They assess and evaluate skills and qualifications of potential members applying to the register and assess all current membership upgrades.

HOW TO BECOME A STUNT PERFORMER IN THE UK

There are many people out there that say you don't need to be on the JISC Stunt Register to do stunts. Let's put that right straight away. They are usually people who are not on the register and are not working as regular stunt performers.

The truth is, if you want to become a recognised 'working professional' stunt performer/co-coordinator you **have to be on the register!**

The register is the only recognised body for all areas of action within the movie/TV industry within the UK, and production companies source all stunt performer/co-coordinators through the register.

How do you become a member?

You have to reach County/competitive standard in 6 sporting disciplines in the following categories. No more than 2 sporting disciplines per category are required (see examples below):

- 1) Fighting -- example: Karate (Brown Belt and above)
- 2) Falling – example: Trampoline and High Diving Stunt Test (counts as 2 in one area)
- 3) Water – example: Padi Dive Master
- 4) Strength and Agility – example: Gymnastics Stunt Test
- 5) Riding and Driving – example: Competitive Motocross

And what else is required?

You must be over 18 years old. And provide evidence of qualifications to the required standard in a minimum of 6 sports in the 5 categories outlined above. The fighting category is compulsory.

Applicants must also produce evidence of 60 days work in front of camera that must not include any stunt work.

For further information on the entry requirements and to obtain an information pack, please contact Equity www.equity.org.uk or email: info@equity.org.uk