

## SHORT HISTORICAL NOTES XXIV

Anton Gajdoš, Bratislava, Slovakia

Ph.D. Anton Gajdoš born on 1.6.1940 in Dubriniči (today Ukraine) lives most of his life in Bratislava (ex TCH, nowadays SVK). He comes from gymnastics family (his brother Pavel have world championship medals) and he devoted his life to gymnastics. His last achievement is establishment of Narodna encyklopedia športu Slovenska ([www.sportency.sk](http://www.sportency.sk)). Among his passion is collecting photos and signatures of gymnasts. As we tend to forget old champions and important gymnasts, judges and coaches, we decided to publish part of his archive under title Short historical notes. All information on these pages is from Anton's archives and collected through years.



### Aljaž PEGAN (June 2, 1974 Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Aljaž Pegan started his career at TVD Partizan Vič under his the first coach Boris Pavliha. Before puberty he moved to TVD Partizan Trnovo where he worked with Jože Mešl, who was also coach of Alojz Kolman. Aljaž Pegan since his first appearances at gymnastics competitions showed elegance and technical mastership. In junior and beginning of his senior days, he competed in all around. Those who were in TVD Partizan Trnovo knew that his gymnastics had greatly depended on gymnastics hall, which was approximately 12m x 12m. Mostly horizontal bar and parallel bars were in focus of Aljaž. Since 1992 FIG started with specialist's competitions and according to conditions he had, that was something for his acrobatics knowledge on horizontal bar and parallel bars.

Code of Points sometimes did not gave him any bonus, despite his attractive figure (he was slightly taller than other gymnasts) and smooth, elegant movements and very difficult exercise.

With Jože Mešl they mastered two elements with Pegan's name. The first was on high bar: doble salto forward tucked over bar with half turn – Gaylord with half turn – Pegan. At the beginning it was D difficulty in Code and it took many years before FIG raised difficulty. Not many gymnasts performed Pegan in his exercise, but Vlasios Maras even upgraded Pegan's element into piked position. The second element was on parallel bars: from handstand Diamidov on one rail and one turn on one rail. Also element on parallel bars had no many repetitions with other gymnasts, the most famous was Epke Zonderland. In the present Code of Points Pegan's element on parallel bars is not anymore evaluated as difficulty element as it is sum of thwo independent elements.

In 2013 he finished with competing, but is still involved in gymnastics as vice president of Slovene Gymnastics Federation, technical adviser for Turkish Gymnastics Federation and serves as elected athletes representative in FIG.

As he was apparatus specialist he could not qualify for Olympic Games. The closest he was in 2007, when he was 2<sup>nd</sup> at World Championship, but to qualify for Beijing 2008 he should win. Despite he was not at OG, his case was one of which made FIG to start changing qualifying criteria for OG.

### European Championship

1994 Prague (CZE)	Horizontal bar 1.
2000 Bremen (GER)	Horizontal bar 3.
2004 Ljubljana (SLO)	Horizontal bar 1.
2007 Amsterdam (NED)	Horizontal bar 2.
2008 Lausanne (SUI)	Horizontal bar 3.

### World Cup

2000 Glasgow (UK)	Horizontal bar 2., Parallel bars 3.
2002 Stuttgart (GER)	Horizontal bar 1.
2006 Sao Paulo (BRA)	Horizontal bar 3.

### World Championships

1994 Brisbane (AUS)	Horizontal bar 4.
1996 Puerto Rico (PUR)	Horizontal bar 4.
2002 Debrecen (HUN)	Horizontal bar 2.
2005 Melbourne (AUS)	Horizontal bar 1.
2006 Aarhus (DEN)	Horizontal bar 2.
2007 Stuttgart (GER)	Horizontal bar 2.

53.

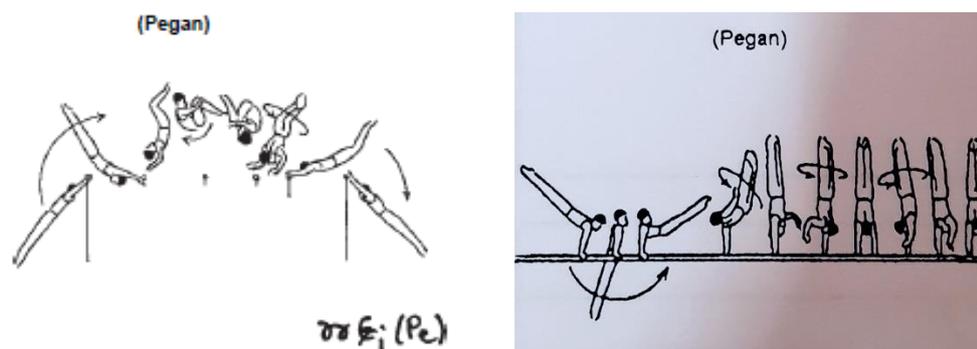
Gaylord with  $\frac{1}{2} t$ .

Figure 1. Element Pegan on horizontal bar and parallel bars (FIG Code of points, 2021, 1999).



Figure 2. Aljaž Pegan and Anton Gajdoš.

Figure . Aljaž Pegan signature.