

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITION

1. All competitors must hold a full weekend pass to any SS Productions Event and pay all competition fees.
2. All competitors must report to registration prior to competition and have a Bib Number assigned to them.
3. All competitors must sign a waiver and are responsible for reading these guidelines.
4. Staff members may compete in the division they qualify for, with prior approval.
5. All contests must have a minimum of five (5) couples to be a valid contest.

CONTESTANTS' MEETINGS

1. SS Productions Event will not be holding contestants meetings.
2. If you have any questions regarding the competition, you may ask the Chief Judge.
3. You may also petition for change of dance level through an offered petition form.
4. You will have line ups prior to each division. The area for lining up will be announced prior to the division start.
5. **IMPORTANT NOTE: IF YOU ARE NOT IN LINE WHEN YOUR HEAT IS WALKING IN TO THE COMPETITION AREA, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO DANCE. PLEASE BE AWARE OF SCHEDULED COMPETITION TIMES AND BE PREPARED (WITH YOUR BIB NUMBER) TO DANCE.**

JUDGES

1. There will be a minimum of five Judges for all competitions. In addition, SS Productions Event will have a Chief Judge and Alternate Judges available.

SCORING SYSTEM

1. Contests are scored by computer and relative placements or averages.
2. Contestants will be judged as a individual in the preliminaries and/or semi-finals and as a couple in any finals.

MUSIC AND VIDEO

1. Music for the Strictly Swing, Pro-Am and Jack & Jill competitions will be the responsibility of its DJs.
2. Rising Star and Pro-Am Spotlight:
 - a. Couples are responsible for their own music selection.

FLOOR TRYOUTS

1. See Schedule

POSTING OF RESULTS

1. The results of all the competitions will be posted after the final awards are awarded.
2. The results of all the competitions will be posted on the website as soon as possible.

PROCEDURE FOR COMPETITIONS

1. Line ups will be announced in the main ballroom prior to your competition.

2. You must line up and check in with the contest coordinators in the designated locations.
3. If you are not in line and checked in by the time the contest is ready to begin, you will be scratched.

WSDC JACK & JILL COMPETITIONS

1. Newcomer, Novice, Intermediate, Masters, Advanced and All Star:
2. There will be Preliminaries, Semi-finals and Finals as needed depending on the number of dance entries.
3. Contests are judged by relative placement.
4. For Preliminaries and Semi-finals, contestants will be judged individually; in the Finals you will be judged as a couple.
5. You will be dancing for a period of 1½ -2 minutes. The number of contestants brought back for the finals will be determined in advance or where a natural break occurs when possible.
6. All Star dancers must compete in the Jack & Jill in order to receive a discounted pass.

NON WSDC JACK & JILL COMPETITIONS

1. Pro-Am (for Newcomer/Novice, Intermediate, or Masters dancers.)
 - a. Multiple on-staff professionals will be assigned randomly.
 - b. You will be dancing to a minimum of 3 songs appropriate to your division.

SCHEDULED COMPETITION TIMES

1. Check out event schedule on website (start times are flexible – always SUBJECT TO CHANGE based on number of contestants, etc)
2. Changes in competition start times will be posted near registration, at the entrance of the ballroom, the entrance to the workshop area and/or will be announced in the main ballroom as well as at the beginning of any workshop.

COMPETITION RULES

1. SS Productions Event Sportsmanship Expectations:
 1. Sportsmanship is a fundamental aspect of our competition. Competing at an event is a privilege, not a right. The event director may flag a competitor's behavior as un-sportsman like. Said behavior will be reviewed by the Chief Judge. Redress for violations can include but are not limited to dropping in placement, or removal from competition.
2. Rising Star Division:
 1. This division is offered for all styles of Swing: West Coast Swing, Lindy Hop, Hustle, Shag and Hand Dance or any other style of popular Swing Dance.
 2. This contest is open to any couple where either dancers in the partnership have never placed in the top 5 of a NASDE open professional division.
 3. Couples dance in a solo format.
 4. Routines must include at least 75% swing content.
 5. Lifts are allowed, but not required.
 6. Routines must be a minimum of 2 minutes but no more than 3 minutes in length.

7. Time and judging starts at first movement of performance with or without music and it ends when the music stops.
 8. Costumes are required.
 9. Separate entrances are permitted but the couple must physically join together within 32 beats of music.
 10. Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries. Short breakaways happen in 8 beats or less.
 11. Dance order will be chosen at random and posted prior to the division start time.
 12. Competitors must select their own music.
 13. Minimum number of competitors for prize money is 5 couples.
3. Pro-Am Spotlight Division:
1. This division is offered for all styles of Swing: West Coast Swing, Lindy Hop, Hustle, Shag and Hand Dance or any other style of popular swing dance. Students enter with their teacher and perform a choreographed routine to music they choose. Couples dance in a solo format. Both the teacher and amateur's performance is considered by the judges. Dance order will be chosen at random and posted prior to the division start time. Music provided by the competitors must be a single track on a clearly labeled CD at least 2 minutes long and no longer than 3 minutes.
 2. Leads and follows are judged in separate divisions.
 3. Costumes are encouraged, but not required.
 4. Time and judging starts at first movement of performance with or without music and it ends when the music stops.
 5. Lifts, drops, tricks and stunts are allowed but not required.
 6. No props are allowed.
 7. Routines must be at least 75% recognizable of the style of the performance.
4. Strictly Swing Division:
1. This division consists of swing dancing that encourages lead and follow partner dancing at its best. Although swing includes amalgamations and patterns that are familiar to many dancers, the essence of lead and follow must be maintained in and out of these patterns. Strictly Swing division is not meant for long and extended pre-choreographed phrases. Choreography "on the fly" is the objective.
 2. Competitors may dance in their level, based on the partnership, as well as dance in another division above their level with a different partner.
 3. Drops, leans and other partner weight support moves are allowed as long as both partners keep at least one foot on the floor.
 4. Length of performance is at the promoter's discretion.
 5. Costumes are not allowed. However, matching or complementary outfits suitable for social dancing are acceptable.
 6. This division will be danced in heats and/or spotlight at the promoter's discretion.
 7. Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries.
 8. Pre-choreographed routines are not allowed.
 9. Dancers must maintain their own physical contact with the floor during partner weight support moves.

5. Pro-Am Strictly Swing Division:

1. Students enter with a professional. This division is designed to highlight social Swing dancing skills at a performance level with an emphasis on lead/follow technique.
2. All divisions must consist of one professional dancing with one amateur. Professional is defined as a dancer that makes income from performing or teaching west coast swing. Amateurs are defined as someone who does not teach dancing on a regular, ongoing basis or income from teaching west coast swing. This division will be danced in a “strictly” format; heats will have multiple couples on the floor.
3. Couples must remain in contact unless executing a spin.
4. No acrobatic moves, or lifts – but drops, slides, leverages are ok.
5. No choreographed entrances or exits.
6. Couples dance to a minimum of 2 songs appropriate for their division.
7. Costumes and props are not allowed although coordinating attire is acceptable.
8. Only the Amateur is judged in his/her respective lead/follow category.
9. Pros can dance with a maximum of 5 students in any one-dance level.