

Motown Dance Championships Competition Rules 2007

General Competition Requirements

Eligibility – Each competition is open to all competitors in good standing who:

1. Hold a weekend pass
2. Register by the entry deadline (see the weekend schedule)
3. Complete any required entry forms, waivers and pay the entry fee
4. Meet any other specified entry requirements outlined in these rules

Multiple Registrations

Each eligible competitor may enter one WCS Jack & Jill level, one Hustle Jack & Jill level, and one Strictly Swing level. Any contestant who enters the Classic division and the Strictly Swing division must compete with a different partner in each division.

Waiver Forms

Each contestant must sign the appropriate waiver form. No contestant will be permitted to compete without a signed waiver form. All contestants under the age of eighteen must have a parent or guardian sign any required forms.

Changes to These Rules

The Organizer will make every effort to conduct all competitions in accordance with these rules. However, the Organizer reserves the right to make any changes in schedule or format deemed necessary for any competition.

Competitors Responsibilities

1. **Plan Ahead** – Competitors should check the weekend schedule in advance in order to meet registration deadlines and competition meetings. The schedule is subject to change, so check the schedule again at the event.
2. **Know the Rules** – All competitors should read these rules carefully prior to the contestant meeting for their competition. Competitors are responsible for adhering to these rules whether they have read them or not. Questions about the rules should be asked at the contestant meeting, or addressed in advance to the Chief Judge.
3. **Attend the Contestant Meetings** – All Jack & Jill competitors must attend the contestant meeting related to their competition. In all other divisions, a couple may choose to be represented by one partner. All competitors are responsible for all matters discussed at the meeting as if everyone had attended.
4. **Be Prepared to Compete** – Competitors should be present in the ballroom at least 10 minutes prior to the start of their competition. Competitors are responsible for their bib numbers. Any change in partnership for the couple's competitions may require an additional entry fee as well as a new entry form and waiver. Any cancellation by a competitor or couple after the registration deadline will result in the loss of the entry fee.

Jack & Jill Division

Definition - The Jack & Jill competitions are designed to highlight social dance skills in spontaneous swing/hustle dancing and the ability to dance well with a variety of partners. Luck-of-the-Draw will come into play with both partners and music.

General Information

Competitors enter as individuals, are randomly assigned partners, and dance to music selected in advance by the competition DJ. Each division must have at least 5 leaders and 5 followers to run the competition. There is no maximum number of competitors.

After the contestant meeting for a division, no changes will be allowed. Male competitors must enter as "leaders" and female competitors must enter as "followers". Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries. No lifts allowed.

Division Qualifications

Our rules are based on the World Swing Dance Council recommendations. If you are not comfortable dancing in the division where these qualifications place you, please submit a petition to the Chief Judge to dance up or down. Most reasonable petitions will be approved. If you have ever received money for teaching a dance lesson, you must compete at an Intermediate level or higher regardless of the number of WSDC points you have.

Strictly Swing

Definition - 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. Drops, leans, circular movements and other partner weight support moves are allowed as long as both partners keep at least one foot on the floor.

General Information

1. Length of performance is at the promoter's discretion.
2. Costumes are not allowed. However, matching or complementary outfits suitable for social dancing are acceptable.
3. This division will be danced in heats and/or spotlight at the promoter's discretion.
4. Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries.
5. Pre-choreographed routines are not allowed.
6. Dancers must maintain their own physical contact with the floor during partner weight support moves.
7. At most five partner weight support moves are permitted.
8. Competitors will be one Male Leader and one Female Follower except in Pro/Am where the Pro may either lead or follow.
9. Guidelines for expected swing content are 90% in Strictly Swing according to NASDE rules. It is at the judges' discretion to determine that the swing content requirement has been met.
10. An individual is not permitted to dance twice within the same division. An individual may dance in both Pro/Am and another Strictly Swing division.

Pro/Am West Coast Swing and Hustle

1. Each Pro is allowed to dance with 5 amateurs per division. See the event schedule for a listing of divisions.
2. Divisions work on an honor system. Please place yourself in the appropriate level.
3. Each Pro can dance as the leader or follower with a maximum of 5 amateurs.
4. Competitions will run in a heated format.
5. Leader amateurs will be judged against leader amateurs and follow amateurs will be judged against follow amateurs.
6. If you have ever received money for teaching a dance lesson, you are considered a Pro.

Pro/Am Solo West Coast Swing

The Pro/Am solo division consists of one professional and one amateur performing a choreographed routine to music chosen by the couple. Please refer to the rules for the Classic Division with the exception that lifts will be allowed.

Classic Divisions

Swing dancing that allows choreography with an "on the ground" approach to the dance. Drops, leans, circular movements and other partner weight support moves are allowed as long as both partners keep at least one foot on the floor.

General Information

1. Performance time is a minimum of 2 minutes and maximum of 3 minutes.
2. Costumes are allowed and encouraged.
3. Time and judging starts at first movement of performance with or without music.
4. Guidelines for expected swing content are 80% in Classic according to NASDE rules. It is at the judges' discretion to determine that the swing content requirement has been met.
5. Separate entrances are permitted but the couple must physically join together within 32 beats of music.
6. Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries.
7. Dancers must maintain their own physical contact with the floor during partner weight support moves.
8. At most five partner weight support moves are permitted

Division Qualifications

Classic A – This division is open to all competitors.

Classic B – This division is open to competitors that compete at a Novice or Intermediate level only. No dance instructors or Advance level point holders may enter this division.

The Organizer reserves the right to adjust the prizes, and or cancel divisions contingent on the number of entries. A minimum of 5 entries may be required to run a division. If a division is cancelled, entry fees for that division will be reimbursed.