

Requirements for Competition

1. Hold a ticket to the event, and have paid the entry fee(s) for the competition in which they are competing.
2. All contestants must be at least 18 years of age, or have parent or guardian's consent.
3. Must have a "Bib Number" which has been assigned to them at registration, and worn during competition unless otherwise indicated.
4. All contestants must have signed a waiver and are responsible for reading the guidelines set forth herein.

There must be a minimum of three (3) couples in each category to be a valid competition.

Definition of Levels

Advanced/Champion: (a) If you are a full or part-time dance instructor; (b) skilled at an advanced level of Swing dancing; (c) have placed first through fifth in any state or national recognized Jack & Jill dance competitions; or (d) recognized as an advanced or champion dancer by the World Swing Dance Council's Point Registry ("WSDC").

Intermediate: (a) Anyone who is skilled at an intermediate level of Swing dancing, or (b) has danced in Jack & Jill contests at any recognized state or national event in the intermediate or advanced categories, and have not accumulated enough points to place them in the Advanced category by WSDC's Point Registry.

Novice: (a) Anyone who is skilled at a novice level of Swing dancing; or (b) has not placed first through third in any recognized state or national novice competition, or have not accumulated enough points to place them in the Intermediate category by WSDC's Point Registry.

Masters/Advanced: Must be at least 55 years of age, and (a) if you are a full or part-time dance instructor; or (b) skilled at an advanced or champion level of Swing dancing; or (c) have placed first through fifth in any state or national

10. Young America and Young Adults (open to all levels): Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced and must be at least 6 - 17 years of age and have parent or guardian's consent.

CONTESTANTS' SIGN-UPS

Pre-registering is recommended and is always a good idea. However, if you are not able to pre-register, you will be able to register at the event on August 12th and 13th, 2005 (see schedule for times). There will not be any sign-ups after the designated hours given for sign-ups.

recognized Jack & Jill dance competitions; or (d) recognized as an advanced dancer by the WSDC's Point Registry.

Young America: Must be at least 6 - 13 years of age, and have parent or guardian's consent.

Young Adult: Must be at least 14 - 17 years of age, and have parent or guardian's consent.

CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION

JACK & JILLS

1. Novice
2. Intermediate
3. Advanced/Champion
4. Masters - Advanced (55 years)
5. Young America & Young Adult (all levels)
(Ages: 6 through 17 years of age)

COUPLES

If one partner qualifies for a higher level, then the couple must dance in the higher level.

CLASSIC

6. Classic A & B

Classic A: Novice and Intermediate, Classic B: Advanced and/or Champions (must be at least 18 years of age).

7. Young America (open to all levels)
Novice, Intermediate and Advanced, must be at least 6 - 13 years of age and have parent or guardian's consent.

8. Young Adult is (open to all levels)
Novice, Intermediate and Advanced, and must be at least 14 - 17 years of age and have parent or guardian's consent.

OPEN STRICTLY SWING

9. Open to all levels: Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters and Champions (must be at least 18 years of age).

JUDGES' MEETING

There will be a judges meeting Saturday, August 13, 2005 at 12:00 p.m. in Rm. 116 (Hospitality Suite).

CONTESTANTS' MEETINGS

There will not be any contestants' meeting. Please be sure to read all the rules set forth herein, and ask the Chief Judge if you should have any questions regarding the competition.

JUDGES

There will be a minimum of five (5) Judges; Chief Judge, and two (2) or three (3) Alternate Judges. The Judges will not be available for discussion regarding your scores. *All Judges' decision are final.*

SCORING SYSTEM

Scored used the Relative Placement System and by computer.

MUSIC

Music for the Jack & Jill competitions will be the responsibility of the sponsoring entity, and depending on the number of entries, you may be asked to dance any where from one to three songs in the preliminary and final rounds.

Classic Couples Only:

Tryouts: Saturday morning, August 13th, 2005, from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. - you are welcome to use the Ballroom for your tryouts and depending on the number of competitors and time permitting, it may not be possible to accommodate all your needs for practicing to your music.

Music: Couples are responsible for their own music selection. Music must be cued on a CD, labeled with the contestant's name and should be given to the DJs upon arriving at the event.

It is always a good idea to have an extra copy of your CD, just in case something goes wrong with the original one.

POSTING OF RESULTS

The results of the competitions will be posted after the awards presentation and/or before the close of the event. The location of the posting will be announced at the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony.

GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITIONS

Competitors may compete in one Jack & Jill, two couple's competition (i.e., Strictly Swing, and or Classic).

It is important that you be in the ballroom at the time of your competition with your bib number – make sure to check the times that you are competing and that no schedule changes have occurred. Unfortunately, if you are not in the ballroom when your name is called, you will not be able to dance in your designated competition.

JACK & JILL COMPETITION (All Levels)

It will be determined by the number of competitors that have entered whether to have preliminaries, call backs, and possibly semi-finals. Preliminaries will be judged individually and in the finals as a couple. You

will be dancing for approximately a period of 1 ½ - 2 minutes. There is a requirement of a minimum of 90% recognizable West Coast Swing dancing. A penalty will be assessed if less than the required percentage of Swing dancing and/or any other infraction of the rules. *There will be no lifts, drops, aerials or gymnastic moves.*

OPEN JACK & JILL - (All Levels)

One round - Finals. You will dance for a period of 1 ½ or 2 minutes. If we have uneven number of contestants, someone will have to dance again. Selection of those dancers will be determined at the time of competition. There is a requirement of a minimum of 90% recognizable West Coast Swing dancing. A penalty will be assessed if less than the required percentage of Swing dancing and/or any other infraction of the rules. *There will be no lifts, drops, aerials or gymnastic moves.*

COUPLES COMPETITION

Strictly Swing

It will be determined by the number of competitors that have entered whether to have preliminaries, and possibly semi-finals. You will be judged as a couple, and all dancing should be lead/follow. Pre-choreographed routines are not allowed. You will be dancing for approximately 1 ½ - 2 minutes. There is a requirement of a minimum of 90% recognizable West Coast Swing dancing. A penalty will be assessed if less than the required percentage of Swing dancing and/or any other infraction of the rules. *There will be no lifts, drops, aerials or gymnastic moves.*

Classic

Finals: Costumes, planned entrance and exit, and have a choreographed routine. Contestants may make separate entrances, but must join together within 32 beats of music. Your dance time must not be less than two (2), but not more than three (3) minutes. Your routine requires a minimum of 80% Swing dancing. A penalty will be assessed if less than the required percentage of Swing dancing and/or any other; infraction of the rules. *There will be no lifts, drops, aerials or acrobatic moves.*

Classic - Young America and Young Adult

Finals: Costumes, planned entrance and exit, and have a choreographed routine. Contestants may make separate entrances, but must join together within 32 beats of music. Your dance time must not be less than two (2), but not more than three (3) minutes and include any recognized style of swing dancing and must be at least 80% recognizable swing content. A penalty will be assessed if less than the required percentage of Swing dancing and/or any other; infraction of the rules.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Good sportsmanship is required in all competitions on and off the floor. Any behavior from a contestant that is in poor taste could result in the loss of an award for that event.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The Judges are primarily looking for the three "T's" (Timing, Teamwork and Technique).

Timing: Swing is danced beginning on the downbeat. Timing extends to a much finer distinction than a single beat. It includes whether a competitor is fractionally ahead or behind the beat as well as matching the syncopated rhythm of the music.

Teamwork: The ability of the partners to work as a “TEAM.” One person should not be obviously "out dancing" the other. TEAMWORK is essential in good dancing.

Technique: "How Well You Do What You Do": We are looking for good “technique” – the execution of your upper and lower body lines; proper foot placement, spins, turns, etc. - how the body looks in motion and in conjunction with your partner.

Content (Choreography): "What You Do": The content is the Choreography (material) planned or spontaneous that you use to interpret the music.

Showmanship: "How Well You Sell What You Do": Showmanship is the ability of the dancers to keep the audience's attention for the length of the performance in their presentation of the dance.