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Competition Rules

Preface

We are really looking forward to the competitions! Above all, they should be fun and fair. Our competitions are judged according to the rules of the World Swing Dance Council (WSDC); please therefore observe the following rules. They supplement our Terms of Participation (§ 4a); in the event of conflict, the Terms of Participation prevail. The German version is binding; this English version is a convenience translation.

1. Registration and Participation

Valid ticket: You need a valid Full or Event Pass to take part.
Registration and entry fee: Registration opens on scoring.dance shortly before the event and closes on the competition day. The entry fee is EUR 15.00 including VAT per division; if you compete in several divisions, you pay it for each division.
Contract and start: Your competition registration becomes binding upon our confirmation (§§ 2 and 4a of the Terms of Participation). You may only compete once the entry fee has been paid and you have received your competitor number (bib) at check-in.

2. Jack and Jill, Divisions

We hold Jack and Jill competitions only. You therefore do not need a fixed partner: partners and music are drawn at random in the preliminary rounds (prelims and semis), where the judges assess your individual performance. In the final, you are judged together as a couple.
We offer the following divisions: as skill divisions based on WSDC points, Newcomer, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and All-Star, and as age divisions, Sophisticated and Masters according to the WSDC age limits. WSDC points are awarded in all of these divisions in accordance with the WSDC rules, currently only if at least five different leaders and five different followers compete in the final.

3. Primary and Secondary Role

Your role as leader or follower is independent of your gender; you are welcome in both roles. You may not compete twice in the same division, for example not as leader and as follower in Novice. You may, however, compete in your secondary role in another division, for example as Intermediate leader and Novice follower. In each role you may enter no more than one skill division.

4. Points, Levels and Petitions

You may only compete in divisions for which you are eligible in the respective role according to the official WSDC points. Requests to change level (petitions) follow the WSDC rules: you may move no more than one level up or down. Petitions down (primary role only) are decided by the Head Judge of this event; they apply to this event only, but there to all competitions. Petitions up are submitted to the WSDC Chief Judges Committee.

5. Minimum Number of Participants, Merger and Cancellation

A division is judged only if at least five leaders and five followers are registered. If fewer registrations are received, we may merge or cancel divisions; we will inform you without undue delay. If a division is cancelled, we will refund your entry fee in full. The same applies if you do not wish to take part in a merged division and tell us so before it begins (§ 4a.3 of the Terms of Participation).

6. Schedule and Punctuality

Schedule and rounds: The number of rounds and the exact schedule depend on the number of participants and may change at short notice. We announce changes via a notice at check-in. Please check the schedule regularly and be on time.
Marshalling: Be in the marshalling area at least 15 minutes before your heat begins. Wear your bib clearly visible.
Call: You will be called at marshalling no more than twice. Anyone missing at the second call will be replaced by an alternate and is out of the competition. Anyone not present after marshalling has closed may be excluded from the competition. In both cases the entry fee will not be refunded, unless we failed to announce a change to the schedule as set out above.
Reporting errors: If you notice an error in the start or marshalling lists, please report it immediately to the scorer, the competition management or the Head Judge.

7. Dancing, Safety and Fairness

Swing content: As a guideline, 90 % swing content applies. Pre-rehearsed choreography is not allowed. The lead-follow connection must be maintained throughout, except for spins, turns, short break-aways or to recover.
No lifts or aerials: Moves in which both feet of a partner leave the floor are prohibited in Jack and Jill competitions and lead to disqualification.
Appropriate dancing: Dance in a way that is appropriate for all spectators. We do not tolerate sexualising or abusive behaviour towards your partner.
Floorcraft: Watch your slot and the couples around you.
Fairness and sportsmanship: Always treat your partners, the judges, the organising team and other participants with respect. Unsporting behaviour, such as visibly rolling your eyes at a partner, disparaging gestures or arguing loudly with the judges, is not tolerated. A Jack and Jill is teamwork: a smile and mutual support bring out the best in both of you.
Consequences: Breaches of these rules are sanctioned by the Head Judge at his or her discretion, depending on their seriousness, from point deductions to disqualification. Further measures, such as exclusion from the event, are governed by our Code of Conduct and § 11.6 of the Terms of Participation.

8. Judging, Results and Decisions

Judging: Finals are judged under the WSDC relative placement system by at least five judges; tie-breaks follow the WSDC rules.
Protection of participants: Where a report of harassment, discrimination or abusive behaviour towards another person has been made against a person, or a measure under our Code of Conduct has been imposed on them, the Head Judge may prevent these two persons from being paired in the preliminary rounds or assign them to different heats. In the final, the random draw remains.
Awards and results: The awards ceremony takes place at the event. We expect all finalists to attend unless they have excused themselves to the organisers in advance. Please do not discuss placements with the judges before the awards ceremony; if you have concerns, contact the competition management. We will publish the results of all rounds on our website no later than three days after the event, where they will remain accessible for at least 30 days, and report them to the WSDC.
WSDC rules: For division assignment by points and age limits, petitions, the relative placement system and tie-breaks, the WSDC Registry Event Rules for 2027 in the version published on worldsdc.com/rules at the time of your registration apply in addition, unless these Competition Rules or our Terms of Participation provide otherwise.
Decisions: During the competition, the Head Judge (Chief Judge within the meaning of the WSDC rules) decides on judging, division assignment and the interpretation of these rules. Statutory rights remain unaffected.
Photos, videos and results: The competitions are photographed and filmed. Together with the results, we publish the names and scores of the participants and photographs of the finalists. Details and your right to object to the use of recordings are set out in § 12 of our Terms of Participation and in our privacy policy.

We wish you every success, strong nerves and, above all, lots of fun dancing!