

## **BUDAFEST COMPETITION RULES**

### **Competition Organizer**

Final decision on any matter pertaining to these competitions rests solely with the organizer(s) of BudaFest.

### **General Competition Requirements**

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

1. hold an Event Pass (Workshop Pass, Joker Pass, Party Pass, All Star Pass) and pay all associated registrations fees;
2. register by the official entry deadlines(s) as outlined in the weekend schedule;
3. pay the required entry fee(s) and complete any required entry forms.
4. meet all other specific entry requirements as outlined in these rules.

### **Contest Requirements:**

1. Entries: All contest must have a minimum of five (5) entries to be a valid contest.
2. Judges: There will be a minimum of seven (7) Judges for all competitions.
3. Scoring System: Contests are scored by computer using relative placement. Contestants will be judged in the preliminaries, quarter-finals and/or semi-finals as an individual in Jack & Jill competitions and as a couple in any finals.

### **Role/Gender Requirements:**

Persons of any gender can chose to dance either lead or follow, as they prefer. We encourage you to register in whichever role you would like to when dancing. However, each competitor may enter one skilled division as either a Leader or a Follower, within their respective skill level division.

### **Appropriate Behavior and Dress Code:**

Any action that the judges believe would make them uncomfortable in a social dance setting (such as wearing inappropriate attire or showing disrespect toward one's partner, other dancers, or the event) is prohibited. Competitors should check with the Organizer or Chief Judge in advance if they have any questions.

Competitors are encouraged not to wear jeans or "too casual" attire for competitions. Please dress in appropriate attire; if you have a clothing issue, please contact the chief judge for prior approval.

### **Responsibilities of Competitors**

1. Competitors should check the weekend schedule in advance in order to arrive in time to meet registration deadlines. They should bring appropriate competition attire. They should also plan ahead so as to be on time for all marshaling and competitions. Competitors are responsible for checking at the event for any changes to previously announced schedules, which are always subject to change.
2. All competitors should read these rules carefully prior to attending 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 addressed to the Organizer or the Chief Judge.
3. Competitors should be present in the ballroom or in the marshaling area at least 15 minutes prior to the start of their competition marshaling.
4. Any cancellation by a competitor or couple after the registration deadline will result in the loss of the entry fee.

## **BudaFest**

### Competition Rules (2018)

5. Competitors must demonstrate good sporting conduct at all times, both on and off the dance floor. Competitors may not speak to judges regarding their placements or scores until after the awards have been given. It is bad sportsmanship to badger or argue with judges about placements and scores. Competitors must also refrain from any behavior that the judges deem inappropriate. Failure to adhere to this code of behavior may result in disqualification.

#### **Petitions for Division Reclassification**

The (WSDC) World Swing Dance Council Points Registry is used to determine eligibility for the West Coast Swing Jack & Jill skill levels. Current WSDC points information is available online at [www.swingdancecouncil.com](http://www.swingdancecouncil.com) for anyone to look up which division they have qualified for.

Competitors are expected to honor this system when registering. Breach of this honor system will lead to disqualification of the competitor.

In the event that competitors feel uncomfortable with their assigned classification, they may petition for reclassification on their entry form by providing a brief, written explanation of the reason(s) for their request. Petitions for reclassification will be reviewed by the Chief Judge, and contestants will be notified as quickly as possible of the outcome. The Organizer reserves the right to reclassify any contestant for any reason.

#### **Changes to These Rules**

The Organizer reserves the right to make any changes in schedule/format deemed necessary for any competition.

### **DIVISION RULES**

#### **JACK & JILL DIVISIONS**

Competitors enter as an individual and dance with a randomly chosen partner. The DJ picks the music. Leaders and followers are randomly paired and there will be several partner changes during the preliminary and semi-final rounds. Competitors are scored individually on timing, technique and teamwork in the preliminary heats. Those scoring the highest will be called back later to dance in a final round. In the final, individuals are randomly paired, then scored as a couple. The DJ picks the music. Music tempo and style will vary. All songs will be appropriate for the dance division entered.

Each competitor may enter one skilled division as either a Leader or Follower, within their respective skill level division.

#### **Division Qualifications:**

**WSDC Newcomer:** A beginner or competitor that has never competed and has no points. However, if the competitor has previously competed in a novice level competition, the competitor is strongly encouraged to enter the novice division.

#### **WSDC Novice:**

- Competitors with no or less than 30 Novice points
- Any Novice competitor that has already earned 15 Novice points by December 31, 2017 will be allowed to dance in Intermediate with Petition. Petition form is available at the competition registration.

## **BudaFest**

Competition Rules (2018)

### **WSDC Intermediate:**

- Competitors with less than 45 points in Intermediate
- Competitors with no Intermediate points can dance in this division if they have earned at least 16 points in Novice
- Competitors who have already earned 15 Novice points by December 31, 2017 and willing to Petition for Intermediate. Petition form is available at the competition registration.

### **WSDC Advanced:**

- Competitors with less than 60 points in Advanced
- Competitors with no Advanced points can dance in this division if they have earned at least 30 points in Intermediate.
- Competitors with All Star points failing to meet the requirement to dance in the All Star division

### **WSDC All Star:**

- Competitors who have earned at least 45 points in Advanced accumulated within the last 36 months' period
- Competitors with All Star points can stay in the category if they earned at least 3 All Star points within the last 36 months' period.
- Competitors willing to return to All Star category need to accumulate at least 10 Advanced points within the last 12 months' period.

**Sophisticated:** For competitors who are at least 35 years old by the end of the event. Competitors may also dance in a skill level Jack & Jill (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, All Star)

### **STRICTLY SWING DIVISIONS:**

Sign up with your partner. We pick the music. Different skill levels are offered. Each is a separate contest. Couples will dance in heats for several short songs. Judges will evaluate the couples based on their demonstration of good social dancing skills, timing, technique, connection, lead and follow, presentation and showmanship. Strictly Swing division is not meant for long and extended pre-choreographed phrases.

Strictly Swing contests offered:

1. Novice / Intermediate
2. Open

For these divisions a couple must enter the highest skill level either of them qualifies for based on WSDC points (If either partner qualifies for Advanced or a higher WSDC level, then the couple must enter the Open division).

Specific:

1. Contestants must be at least sixteen (16) years or older by the end of the event to participate.
2. Length of performance is at the promoter's discretion.
3. Costumes are not allowed. However, matching or complementary outfits are acceptable and encouraged.
4. This division will be danced in heats for preliminaries and semi-finals (if needed).
5. Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries.
6. Pre-choreographed routines are not allowed.
7. Dancers must maintain their own physical contact with the floor during partner weight support moves.
8. Lifts are not allowed.

**BudaFest**

## Competition Rules (2018)

9. The same partners may not dance together in a Strictly Swing contest and a choreography contest.
10. You may lead at one level and follow at the next higher or lower level.
11. You may not enter 2 levels dancing the same role.
12. You may not enter the same level dancing both roles.

**Errors and Violations:**

1. Pass – The performance was reviewed and passed. No action is taken.
2. An Error – An error is a minor and apparently unintentional breaking of the rules. It is a mistake. If the review panel agrees it is an error, no action will be taken. It will be assumed the error was reflected in the Judges' score.
3. Violation – A violation is a breach of the rules. Violations submitted by the referee or any of the judges will be reviewed by a review panel. If the violation is Passed by the Review Panel no action will be taken. If the Violation fails the review panel, the couple may be awarded last place and disqualified from winning any prize money. The severity of violation is at the discretion for the chief judge; the chief judge may consult with the judging panel for violation penalties.