AUSTIN SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS (ASDC)
COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Mission Statement
"Our competitive dance program fosters a fun, friendly, and organized space where dancers can collaborate, create, and showcase their unique styles."

Competition Organizer
Austin Swing Dance Championships (ASDC) is sponsored by Glindo LLC, Inc. Final decision on any matter pertaining to these competitions rests solely with the organizer.

General Competition Requirements

General Eligibility:
1. All attendees must adhere to the ASDC Code of Conduct at all times throughout the event.
2. Hold a full weekend ticket and pay all associated registration fees.
3. Register by the official entry deadlines(s) as outlined in the weekend schedule.
4. Pay the required entry fee(s) and complete any required entry forms, including signed waivers.
5. Competitors must be at least 14 years old for all competitions.
6. Meet all other specific entry requirements as outlined in these rules.

Contest Requirements:
1. **Entries:** All contests must have a minimum of five (5) entries to be a valid contest.
2. **Judges:** There will be a minimum of five (5) Judges for all competitions finals.
3. **Scoring System:** Contests are scored by computer and relative placement.
4. **Waiver:** Contestants must sign a waiver; those under 18 require a parent or guardian's signature.
5. **Photos/Videos:** By entering, contestants consent to use of their likeness in future event promotions.

Role/Gender Requirements
ASDC Swing welcomes all genders to compete as either lead or follow, in their preferred role.

Appropriate Behavior and Dress Code:
We encourages expressive and exciting performances without compromising dance quality, good taste, or respect for others. Any action or attire considered inappropriate in a social dance setting, including disrespect toward a partner, other dancers, or the event, is prohibited. Competitors with questions about their routine or attire should consult the Organizer or Chief Judge in advance.

Responsibilities of Competitors:
1. **Knowing the Rules:** All competitors should read these rules carefully prior to attending their competition. Competitors are responsible for adhering to these rules whether they have read them or not. Questions about the rules should be asked, or addressed in advance to the Organizer or the Chief Judge.

2. **Being Prepared to Compete:** Competitors should be present in the ballroom at least 15 minutes prior to the start of their competition. Competitors are responsible for checking at the event for any changes to previously announced schedules, which are always subject to change. Any cancellation by a competitor or couple after the registration deadline will result in the loss of the entry fee.

3. **Demonstrating Good Sporting Conduct:** Competitors must demonstrate respect and good sportsmanship at all times, both on and off the competition floor, including toward fellow dancers, judges, and the hosting venue. Questions regarding placements or scores must be withheld until after the awards. Badgering or arguing with judges, or any behavior deemed inappropriate, may result in disqualification.

Petitions for Reclassification:
Competitors should register at their WSDC-earned skill level. Requests for reclassification must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation before the applicable registration deadline. Petitions will be reviewed by the Organizer and Chief Judge. The Organizer reserves the right to reclassify any competitor.

Changes to These Rules:
The Organizer will follow these rules but may adjust schedules or formats as needed.

Division Rules

Jack and Jill Division

Jack & Jill competitions are designed to highlight social dance skills in spontaneous swing dancing and the ability to dance well with a variety of partners. A bit of “luck of the draw” comes into play as well.

Format:
Competitors enter individually and are randomly paired to dance. Preliminary and semi-final heated rounds may be held based on entries. Divisions require minim 5 leads and 5 follows; no maximum.

Age-Based Division Eligibility:
If offered by the event, competitors may enter multiple age-based WSDC Jack & Jill divisions. Competitors 35+ may enter Sophisticated, while those 50+ may enter both Masters and Sophisticated.

Division Qualifications/Skill Levels:
For WSDC Competitor specific rules about skill levels and points registry, please see https://www.worldsdc.com/rules/wsdc-points-registry-rules/

WSDC Jack & Jill Divisions Offered at ASDC:
Please visit austinswingdance.com for the current year’s list of available competition divisions.

Non-WSDC Jack & Jill Divisions Offered at ASDC:
Please visit austinswingdance.com for the current year’s list of available competition divisions.

Strictly Swing Division

Swing dancing that encourages lead and follow partner dancing at its best. Familiar patterns and combinations are allowed, but lead and follow connection must be maintained throughout. Extended pre-choreographed sequences are not permitted. Drops, leans, circular movements, and other partner weight-support moves are allowed, provided both partners keep at least one foot on the floor. Choreography "on the fly" is the objective. Champions Division is exempt from the one-foot-on-the-floor requirement.

Specific:
1. Expected 80% swing content, judges have discretion to determine whether the requirement is met.
2. Contestants must be at least fourteen (14) years or older by the end of the event to participate.
3. This division will be danced in heats for preliminaries and semi-finals (if needed).
4. Dancers are not permitted to dance with the same partner in Strictly Swing and a Routine division.
5. Lifts, aerials, acrobatic moves, and drops are not allowed, Champions division is exempt from this.

Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, All Star: For these divisions, a couple must enter the highest level either partner is *required* based on the WSDC points they have earned and the WSDC level criteria for Jack & Jill.

Strictly Swing Divisions Offered at ASDC:
Please visit austinswingdance.com for the current year’s list of available competition divisions.

ProAm Strictly Swing Division

Pairs amateur dancers with professional instructors, allowing students to showcase their skills. Students compete with their teacher, but only the amateur is evaluated. Couples dance in a heated format, to two songs of approximately 1½ minutes each. Student’s are judged on their entered role.

Specific:
1. Amateurs are defined as someone who does not teach dance regularly or earn a significant income from it.
2. A professional is defined as someone who earns a significant income teaching or performing dance.
3. All dancing must be lead/follow. Pre-choreographed sequences and lifts are not permitted.
4. Amateurs may enter their secondary role at the same skilled level or one level down.
5. Each professional is limited to a maximum of five (5) entries in each ProAm Strictly division offered.

ProAm Strictly Swing Divisions Offered at ASDC:
Please visit austinswingdance.com for the current year’s list of available competition divisions.

ProAM Mixed Routine

This division is designed to highlight a performance between a Professional and an Amateur. Students enter with their teacher and perform a choreographed routine to music they choose. Couples dance in a solo format, dance order will be chosen at random and posted prior to the division start time.

Specific:

1. Time limit must be a minimum of 1 ½ minutes and a maximum of 2 ½ minutes.
2. Expected 50% swing content, judges have discretion to determine whether the requirement is met.
3. Competitors must consist of one “amateur” and one “Professional”.
4. Each professional is limited to a maximum of five (5) entries
5. Amateurs are defined as someone who does not teach dance regularly or earn a significant income from it.
6. A professional is defined as someone who earns a significant income teaching or performing dance.
7. Pros with multiple Amateurs must accept their drawn dance order with each Am.

Rising Star Division (RST)

ASDC follows the Rules set forth by the Rising Star Tour.
Please visit risingstartour.com for division rules and specifics.