

# Classic Competitions

## COMPETITOR RULES & GUIDELINES

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: Syllabus and Open

#### Age Category Participation

Age categories are defined as follows:

- Pee Wee              Age 9 years old and younger.
- Pre-Teen            Age 10 – 12 years old, or in 7th grade or below.
- Junior                Age 13 – 15 years old, or in grades 7 – 9.
- Youth                Age 16 – 18 years old, or in grades 10 – 12.

#### Partner Categories

- Regular syllabus events will be Boy/Girl couples.
- If a girl is dancing as a lead in regular syllabus categories, she must follow the men's dress code.
- Solo syllabus events are non-partnered.
- Solo syllabus events are not divided by proficiency level.

#### Proficiency and Syllabus Levels

Couples are expected to compete at their appropriate proficiency level, and must dance figures according to the syllabus level:

- Newcomer\*:      First year. Restricted to Bronze syllabus figures.
- Bronze:            Beginning.
- Silver:             Intermediate. Silver 1 is early intermediate, Silver 2 late intermediate.
- Gold:                Advanced. Gold 1 is early advanced, Gold 2 late advanced.
- Couples who enter below their proficiency level will be disqualified.
- Each couple may enter only one syllabus level per dance.  
*For example*, dancers entering Bronze Waltz may not also enter Silver Waltz, unless they are a member of two different classes and have a partner from each class.
- \*Newcomer: Competitors may not participate in Newcomer Syllabus events if they have danced for more than one year (12 months) as individuals, regardless of partnership. Couples who compete in open events may not enter the newcomer category, regardless of their duration in dance.
- Pee Wee/Pre-Teen syllabus: Pre-Teen couples who are 9 years old or younger must choose to compete in either the Pee-Wee or Pre-Teen category, but not both. The Pee-Wee category is not intended for couples who are part of Pre-Teen teams but are still 9 years old or younger.

## Open Competition Levels

- Novice: Dancers in their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year of open competition, regardless of partnership.
- Pre-Champ: 3 Dances
- Champ: 5 Dances (4 smooth).
- Couples are expected to compete at their appropriate level for open competition.
- Open dancers may enter syllabus events in the same style, at the highest level offered.
- Novice couples may enter syllabus events below gold.
- Each couple may enter only one open category per dance for both age and level.  
*For example*, dancers entering Pre-Champ Latin may not also enter Open Latin.

Open	Novice	Pre-Champ	Champ
Rhythm	C/Sw	C/R/Sw	C/R/Sw/M
Smooth	W/F	W/T/F	W/T/F/VW
Latin	S/R	C/S/R	C/S/R/P/J
Ballroom	W/Q	W/T/Q	W/T/VW/F/Q

## Costume and Dress Code Rules

### Syllabus Events (Newcomer, Bronze, Silver, Gold)

- BOYS (all ages): White long-sleeve button-up shirt or tuxedo shirt, tie, dark dress pants or Latin pants, and dark shoes. Optional all-black accessories are allowed, including a vest, cummerbund, or suspenders.
- GIRLS (all ages): Black skirt to the top of the knee or longer, and a black top. The top must not be sleeveless, sheer, low-cut, or show the midriff when arms are raised. Black dance trunks are required, and no stoning is allowed.
- PEE WEE GIRLS are not required to wear all black; they may wear a party dress.

### Open Events (Smooth, Rhythm, Ballroom, Latin)

- BOYS (all ages): Must wear a costume appropriate to the style, with the front not being sheer. Shirts must be closed to a point three inches above the waist.
- GIRLS (all ages): Must wear a costume appropriate to the style with straps over both shoulders. Designs that show cleavage are not allowed. Lower backs must be covered from a point three inches above the waistline with colored or heavily stoned fabric. Nude fabric in the bodice below the bustline must be covered with stones. Skirts must encircle the body and may be broken or slitted from the trunk line down but must cover the legs to mid-thigh when not in motion.