



RULES & REGULATIONS

LIST OF CONTENTS

Preamble	pg. 3
A. General	pg. 3
Rule A.1 (Controlling Organization)	
Rule A.2 (Application)	
Rule A.3 (Control of the Regulations)	
Rule A.4 (Authority of the Presidium/ National Council)	
Rule A.5 (Application of these Rules)	
Rule A.6 (Fees for WDSF Competitions)	
B. Rules for Competition Production - in general	pg. 4
Rule B.1 (Competition Types & Divisions)	
Rule B.2 (Eligibility and Participation in Competitions)	
Rule B.3 (Granting of Competitions) Internationally & Nationally	
Rule B.4 (Invitations)	
Rule B.5 (Reimbursement of Expenses)	
Rule B.6 (Production)	
C. Rules for Chairperson and Adjudicators	pg. 6
Rule C.1 (Chairperson and Adjudicators)	
Rule C.2 (Chairperson)	
Rule C.3 (Duties of Chairperson & Invigilator)	
Rule C.4 (Adjudicators)	
Rule C.5 (Duties of Adjudicators, Conflict of Interest)	
Rule C.6 (Dress Regulations for Chairperson and Adjudicators)	
D. Rules for Couples/Individual Competitors	pg. 11
Rule D.1 (Membership)	
Rule D.2 (Couples/Individual Competitors)	
Rule D.3 (Doping Control and Doping Infringements)	
Rule D.4 (Advertising and Competition Numbers)	
E. Rules for Competitions – Couples/Individual Competitors	pg. 14
Rule E.1 (Partner)	
Rule E.2 (Age Restriction)	
Rule E.3 (Music)	
Rule E.4 (Grades of Competitions)	
Rule E.5 (Choreography and Syllabus)	
Rule E.6 (Lifts)	
Rule E.7 (Prize Money)	
Rule E.8 (Rules for Adjudication)	
Rule E.9 (Health and Welfare of Athletes)	
Rule E.10 (Competition Dress)	

Attached Appendix

1. DFI Competition Application
2. Standard Ballroom Syllabus
3. Latin Syllabus
4. Dress Code & Regulations
5. Guidelines & Regulations for Provisional & Professional Exams
6. Structure of Provisional and Professional Exams
7. Guidelines & Regulations for Medallist Exams
8. Structure of Medallist Exams

PREAMBLE

DFI (DanceSport Federation of Ireland) **Competition Rules** apply to DanceSport governed by WDSF (the World DanceSport Federation) and all of its Members.

They govern the activities of WDSF Member body (herein referred to as DFI) and all persons who are members of such Member bodies or who are registered with or affiliated with such Member bodies, as well as foreign national or international bodies recognised by DFI.

The principal purpose of any application and interpretation of these **Rules** is the best interests of DFI.

Anti-doping

Doping is forbidden, according to the terms of the WDSF Anti-Doping Code. DFI recognises the Anti-doping policies of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and adopts and applies a WDSF Anti-Doping Code corresponding to the WADA Anti-Doping Code. DFI also complies with Sporting Ireland Anti-Doping policy. All Participants in DFI DanceSport, including athletes, couples, individual competitors, formations, Chairperson and Adjudicators, must abide by the WDSF Anti-Doping Code and all related WADA regulations and policies.

A. General

Rule A. 1 Controlling Organization

DFI is a member of The World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) which is the governing body for all DanceSport competitions and athletes including competition at all levels, internationally and in each country including through that country's WDSF member body. The only DanceSport competitions that WDSF does not claim to govern and maintain jurisdiction over are those specially declared to be excluded, or to be excluded for a period, by the authority of the DFI National Council.

Rule A.2 Application

- 2.1 These **Rules** apply to all DanceSport Competitions granted by DFI, including but not limited to; Standard, Latin-American, American Smooth, American Rhythm, Old Time and Modern and Latin Sequence, New Vogue, Freestyle, Rock 'n Roll, Country Jive, Cheerleading, Cheerdance, Hip Hop, Breaking, Urban, Street, Baton Twirling, Country and Line Dance - provided always that Rules are administered by DFI.
- 2.2 Every competitor who competes in a competition granted by DFI must have DFI member status. Competitors who reside in Republic of Ireland must be registered with DFI. Those who have a Republic of Ireland Passport must be registered with DFI. Those who live outside of the Republic of Ireland must be registered with a member body recognised by DFI.

Rule A.3 Control of the Regulations

- 3.1 The DFI Dance Sports Director must ensure that these **Rules** are followed at competitions granted under these **Rules**. The Dance Sports Director may delegate this responsibility to a Chairperson or Invigilator. Notice needs to be given in writing by The NC to the person who will be responsible on the day of an event granted under these Rules.

Rule A.4 Authority of DFI – The Presidium (hereafter referred to as National Council or NC)

- 4.1 The National Council at any stage should be able to change a Rule.
- 4.2 The NC is responsible for enforcing these **Rules**.
- 4.3 The NC shall have the authority to make decisions on matters not covered by these **Rules**.
- 4.4 The NC may impose supplementary rules for specific events.

- 4.5 Rule Authority of The NC. The NC shall change the rules in person, at a DFI Presidium meeting or by email correspondents only. Provided that The NC members must vote in person at The NC meeting or by email only.
- 4.6. The rule change will become valid when the DFI Presidium has notified all registered DFI teachers by email correspondence. The email must include the wording of the new rule and the start date of the rule.

Rule A.5 (Application of these rules)

DFI is responsible for compliance with the WDSF Competition Rules in Ireland and imposes these rules as guidelines for own rules.

Rule A.6 (Fees for DFI Competitions)

- 6.1 The DFI **Financial Regulations** include the maximum fees which may be charged by The NC for the granting of Championships, Cups and competitions under these **Rules** (also called “DFI Competitions” in these **Rules**). Fees published on DFI Competition Application. (Attached in Appendix).

B. Rules for Producing Competition

Rule B.1 (Competition Types & Divisions)

- 1.1.1 There are the following types of competition:
- 1.1.2 Ballroom: Individual competitions/Couples/team competitions/student-teacher/medallist, Pro/Am events.
- 1.1.3 Latin: Individual competitions/Couples/team competitions/student-teacher/medallist, Pro/Am events.
- 1.1.4 Urban/Hip Hop Individual competitions/couples/Teams/Crews competitions.
- 1.1.5 Salsa: Individual Competitions/Couples/Teams competitions
- 1.1.6 Rock n’ Roll: Couples/Teams competitions
- 1.1.7 Sequence: Couples/Teams competitions
- 1.1.8 Formation: Teams competitions
- 1.1.9 Breaking: Individuals, Battles.
- 1.1.10 Any other style or type deemed covered under these rules.

Rule B.2 (Eligibility and Participation in Competitions)

- 2.1 Athletes, couples, formation teams and teams may not participate in competitions which have not been previously approved in writing by the DFI or a WDSF Member Federation or for which authorisation to compete has not been granted by The NC.
- 2.2 Subject to WDSF’s **Statutes** and **Competition Rules**, and subject to the policies established by the General Meeting and any agreements or policies made by The NC, the admission of competitors to international or other competitions (including all amateur competitions) is governed by the relevant WDSF Member body.
- 2.3 In order for athletes to be eligible to compete in the following major WDSF Competitions:
- WDSF World Championships,
 - WDSF World Cups,
 - WDSF Continental Championships,

- WDSF Continental Cups,
- WDSF Grand Slams,
- Asian Games,
- Asian Indoor Games,
- WDSF Games,
- World Games,or
- Any future Olympic level Games,

2.4 Any DFI member that wishes to receive ranking points to qualify to represent Ireland at the WDSF World or European Junior, Youth, Adult or Senior Standard or Latin Championships must participate in Irish Open DanceSport Championships annually, and 5 of the following competitions:

All Ireland Championships – September

City of Dublin Championships – October

The Competition – December

Emerald Open – February

Dublin Open – April

Fingal Open – May

2.4.1. Competitors wishing to represent Ireland at any National or International competitions through DFI – WDSF Irish member body - must be registered with DFI as competitors for at least 3 months and have danced in at least 3 DFI ranking events . Please see events listed below;

All Ireland Championships – September

City of Dublin Championships – October

The Competition – December

Emerald Open – February

Dublin Open – April

Fingal Open – May

The Irish Open - June

2.5 Also, any DFI member that wishes to receive funding towards WDSF World or European Junior, Youth, Adult or Senior Standard or Latin Championships must have competed in DFI competitions for at least one year (12 months) and have taken part in at least 5 events as mentioned in Rule 2.4 in that year (12 months).

Rule B.3 (Granting of Competitions) International & National

- 3.1 The DFI Presidium grants the right to organize and produce DFI Championships, Cups and competitions defined in these **Rules**; see also the DFI **Financial** Regulations re: fees for such grants.
- 3.2 Except for International Invitation Competitions for couples and International Invitation Competitions for Formation Teams, The NC may not grant any of these Championships, Cups or competitions unless they have previously been offered to WDSF Member bodies in writing.
- 3.3 The NC may grant these Championships, Cups or competitions directly to bidders such as governments of cities or countries, subject to prior approval in writing by DFI.
- 3.4 International Invitational Competitions must be registered with DFI. The organization of these competitions shall be as freely decided by DFI.
- 3.5 Promoters must have applied in writing at least 60 days prior to proposed competition date. Please see Competition Application in Appendix at end of these rules.
- 3.6 All fees must be paid at the time of submitting application.
- 3.7 DFI reserves the right to refuse application. If this is the case, promoter must be informed in writing no shorter than 50 days before the event.
- 3.8 An Organiser wishing to hold a DFI competition/championship must submit the panel of judges at least 30 days in advance of the competition. The DFI National Council must reply to the organiser within 7 days of receiving the list of judges. The DFI National Council has the right to refuse a request of any judge or judges.
- 3.9 Promoters of competitions cannot use images of students in advertising materials to promote their event, this includes social media or printed material. The only exception to this rule is for Breaking Dance Competitions.

Rule B.4 (Invitations)

- 8.1 Invitations to International Invitational Competitions must be arranged between DFI and the relevant WDSF Member body. Each invitation must contain the date of registration of the competition by WDSF.
- 8.2 Any member of DFI who receives an invitation to officiate, as an adjudicator, at any international or overseas competition, must contact the National Council immediately. A copy of the official invitation must be sent to the National Council and only on the approval of the invitation by the National Council, can the invitation be accepted.

Rule B.5 (Reimbursement of Expenses)

- 5.1 The minimum reimbursement of expenses required to be paid to competition couples, Chairperson and Adjudicators for WDSF World Championships, WDSF Open World Championships, WDSF Continental Championships, WDSF Subcontinental Championships, WDSF World Ranking Tournaments, WDSF World Cups, WDSF Continental Cups, WDSF World Formation Championships, WDSF Continental Formation Championships, International Invitational Competitions for Formation Teams, WDSF World Cups Formations and WDSF Continental Cups Formations, WDSF World Championships Showdance and WDSF Continental Championships Showdance may be set by The NC. The NC shall publish these minimum payments from time to time.

Rule B.6 (Production)

- 6.1 Follow Spotlights may not be used in any WDSF-granted competitions except as permitted under these Rules.
- 6.2 Follow spotlights may only be used during solo dances to illuminate each and every couple in the same way.
- 6.3 Any direct glare of the competing couple has to be avoided by suitable measures such as positioning the spotlights as high as possible.

C. Rules for Chairperson and Adjudicators**Rule C.1 (Chairperson and Adjudicators)**

- 1.1. Under these **Rules** a chairperson (non-voting) or Adjudicator is from a country if he or she holds a valid and subsisting WDSF License issued by that country's WDSF Member body and is either a citizen of that country or resided in that country for at least 183 days during the twelve months previous to the date on in which the relevant competition is produced.

Rule C.2 (Chairperson)

- 2.1 A Chairperson of Adjudicators (non-voting) appointed or confirmed by the DFI Presidium is responsible for the supervision and control of every competition. When a chairperson has not been appointed by DFI - the organizer must appoint a chairperson (non-voting).

Rule C.3 (Duties of Chairperson of Judges)

- 3.1 The Competition Organiser shall appoint a person to be Chairperson of the Judges (COJ) panel. This person is responsible to the Organiser and Executive Committee for ensuring that all facets of the competition are run according to the rules.
- 3.2 The COJ, who may form part of the Judging panel, must hold a qualified scrutineer's certificate and be a qualified Judge in the style of dancing in which the competition is being danced UNLESS special permission is granted by the National Executive Committee for a non-certified scrutineer in this position. If special permission is given, the Organiser receiving this special concession must provide a fully qualified person for Chairperson of the Judges panel within 3 years of that special permission being granted.
- 3.3 The COJ is required to inspect the marks after each round and is responsible for their correct interpretation.
- 3.4 The COJ, in consultation with the Organiser, shall determine the number of couples who should be elevated to the next round provided always that at least 50% of the competing couples/individual competitor/teams taking part be so elevated.
- 3.5 The final round of any competition should include a maximum of 8 couples/individual competitors.
- 3.6 The duty of supervision; the competitors conducts in relation to other competitors, the scrutineer, and the judges – shall be the responsibility of either/and: COJ, DanceSport Director, the Invigilator. Any infraction should be reported to the National Council.
- 3.7 The duty of the Chairperson is to supervise and control DFI Competitions under his or her supervision and to enforce these **Rules** and other WDSF rules and regulations, including as follows:
 - 3.7.1 To examine the dance floor, including its dimensions and quality.

- 3.7.2 To ensure the readiness of the check-in team and the accuracy and completeness of registration forms.
- 3.7.3 To check the readiness of scrutineers and the computer team and to check all forms used by adjudicators and scrutineers.
- 3.7.4 To ensure that first-aid personnel are present at the competition venue.
- 3.7.5 To check lighting and ensure that it is sufficient.
- 3.7.6 To examine the athletes' changing rooms and ensure that their condition is satisfactory.
- 3.7.7 To examine the adjudicators' changing rooms and ensure that VIPs and other guests have available for their use a separate hospitality room.
- 3.7.8 To check the sound system and ensure that it has pitch control.
- 3.7.9 To instruct the music maker ("the DJ) about correct tempi and duration of music.
- 3.7.10 To check the assigned places for the Adjudicators and ensure that they have optimal conditions for their work.
- 3.7.11 To check the positioning of the display board for all the results and heat allocations.
- 3.7.12 To ensure that the scrutineering team is separated from the audience and any unauthorised visitors.
- 3.7.13 To study the competition schedule and ensure that the breaks between rounds are not shorter than 20 minutes.
- 3.8 The duty of the Chairperson regarding Adjudicators is:
 - 3.8.1 To ensure that all the appointed Adjudicators are present at the venue before competition commences and to find a qualified substitute adjudicator if necessary.
 - 3.8.2 To meet with all Adjudicators before the start of the competition and instruct them on the specific circumstances of the competition and their duties.
 - 3.8.3 To ensure that Adjudicators are present in the competition hall at least 5 minutes before the commencement of each heat.
 - 3.8.4 To ensure that during breaks Adjudicators stay in an assigned room or separate area in the hall.
 - 3.8.5 To observe the behaviour of Adjudicators regarding the DFI & **WDSF Adjudicators Code of Conduct and Ethics** ("the **Code**").
 - 3.8.6 To make all reasonable efforts to stop or prevent any unethical conduct by participants, coaches or spectators towards Adjudicators.
- 3.9 The duty of the Chairperson during competition is:
 - 3.9.1 To determine the number of heats and number of couples in each heat for every round, according to these **Rules**.
 - 3.9.2 To ensure that mixed heats are used beginning with the commencement of heats of 96 or fewer couples in WDSF ranking competitions and from the first round, including re-dance, in WDSF Championships.
 - 3.9.3 To limit the number of competitors in a heat, if there is potential danger to any athletes' safety.

- 3.9.4 To inspect the marks and confirm the number of competitors qualified for the next round.
- 3.9.5 To ensure that competitors dance in their assigned heats, and that all competitors are on the floor for their heats.
- 3.9.6 To ensure that the list of competitors qualified for the next round is compiled according to starting number and displayed together with the heat assignment on the result board, before the commencement of the next round.
- 3.9.7 During the breaks, check the scrutineers' work.
- 3.9.8 To make decisions on any question that arises during the competition.
- 3.9.9 To check the competition dress of all athletes before the commencement of the first round if possible or during the first round and ensure that all are in accordance with these **Rules**, and if any breach occurs to instruct the athlete who is in breach to comply with these **Rules** or face disqualification in the next round.
- 3.9.10 To ensure that only the Chairperson and the scrutineers have access to the marks until they are delivered to the competition organizer.
- 3.10 The duty of the Chairperson at the end of the competition is:
- 3.10.1 Upon completion of the competition, to inspect all the marks and compilation sheets and ensure that the organizer submits them to the WDSF Sports Director within 48 hours.
- 3.10.2 To write a report on the competition and send it to the WDSF Sports Director within 7 days.
- 3.11. To instruct the competition organizer to retain the original Adjudicators' marking sheets for inspection if required for a period of 30 days after the competition, after which they may be destroyed.
- 3.12 The COJ shall ensure that only he/she and the Scrutineer shall have access to the Judge's marks until the end of the competition.
- 3.13 The COJ shall further ensure that all recalled competitors return to the dance floor before the next round commences, that competitors dance in their assigned heats when necessary; that music played for the competition is played at the correct tempi. While the dancing is actually in progress, the COJ has overall responsibility for the following:
- a) Tempi.
 - b) Length of time danced in each dance.
 - c) That the right number of couples are in fact on the floor at the start of the round.
 - d) Stopping the dance if any of the above conditions are not observed.
- 3.14 The COJ will ensure that competitors reaching the final must dance in one heat.
- 3.15 The COJ will ensure that sufficient time is provided between rounds and events for the same age category.
- 3.16 When more than one competition is taking place - the COJ shall be responsible for the rotation of Judges and seeing that the Judges are actually in place before the start of the competition.
- 3.17 Duty of the Invigilator:
- 3.17.1 Invigilator: In all competitions the Syllabus and Rules must be invigilated by a minimum of one qualified Invigilator who shall be appointed by DFI National Council.

- 3.17.2 Invigilator will ensure that the dress code is in regulation with the current restrictions that are approved by the National Council and are on the DFI website.
- 3.17.3 If there is a Dress Code infringement – the Invigilator will approach the teacher of the school involved to resolve the issue. This can be done by either; A) Change of dress/dance gear by competitor, or B) excluded from the event.
- 3.17.4 The Invigilator shall also ensure that the current syllabus is adhered to. Failure to do so by any competitor, the Invigilator shall take the following steps;
- 3.17.4.1 If the syllabus isn't adhered to in a round event preceding the final, the Invigilator will approach the school and request that the teacher change the choreography to suit the syllabus.
- 3.17.4.2 If the infringement is still happening, the invigilator may exclude the competitor from the event.
- 3.17.4.3 If the infringement happens during a final, the Invigilator may place the competitor/s to last place through the scrutineering official. The Invigilator is not required to inform the competitor or teacher of this ruling/action.
- 3.17.4.4 The Invigilators decision on the day is final.
- 3.18 In all competitions the Invigilator reports to the National Council or member of National Council present at the event.
- 3.18.1 A report on infringements, if any, is given to the National Council in writing within 7 days of the event.

3.19 Rule Lifts

- 3.19.1 Lifts are not permitted in either category.
A lift is any movement during which one member of a couple has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of the other partner.
- 3.19.2 The Chairperson may disqualify couples who perform lifts during competition.

Rule C.4 (Adjudicators)

- 4.1 A minimum of seven (7) WDSF Adjudicators shall officiate at WDSF World Championships, WDSF Open World Championships, WDSF Continental Championships, WDSF World Open Competitions, WDSF International Open Competitions and WDSF World Cups.
- 4.2 A minimum of five (5) Adjudicators shall officiate at all International and Championship level events in Ireland.
- 4.3 A minimum of three (3) Adjudicators shall officiate at non-Championships or Open competitions.

- 4.4 Adjudicators must hold a valid and subsisting qualification recognised by DFI to judge any competitions governed by these Rules except International Invitational Competitions and International Invitational Competitions for Formation Teams.
- 4.5 The composition of the Judging panel for any Championship must be consistent throughout all rounds of the event.
- 4.6 Judges are under no obligation to justify their adjudication of competition couples/individual competitors.
- 4.7 During a competition or in the intervals between competition rounds, a Judge may not discuss any competitor's performance with that or any other competitor, or with any spectator, except in his capacity as Chairperson of Judges.
- 4.8 When there is more than one heat in a round and each Judge has been requested to vote for a certain number of couples/competitors to go forward to the next round, the number of couples/competitors eliminated from each heat to make up this number shall be at the discretion of each voting Judge. In all rounds the Judges must vote for the full number of couples/competitors required by the Chairperson of Judges to be returned.
- 4.9 In the final of a competition a Judge may not "tie" two or more couples in any one or more dances.
9. Judges who cohabit may serve on any Judging panel at the same time.
- 5.1 If an advertised Judge is unwilling or unable to officiate and it is not reasonably possible to find an eligible replacement, the remaining Judges shall judge as if there were a full Judging panel according to these Rules and an explanation in writing shall be sent to DFI. The circumstances must also be announced to the competitors before the commencement of the event.
- 6.1 No overseas adjudicators may judge in Ireland, at any DFI competition or championship, within the same 18-month period. Breaking competitions are exempt from this rule.
7. For WDSF World Championships, WDSF Open World Championships, WDSF Continental Championships, WDSF Sub-Continental Championships, WDSF World Open Competitions, WDSF World Cups, WDSF Continental Cups, WDSF World Formation Championships, WDSF Continental Formation Championships, WDSF World Cups Formation, WDSF Continental Cups Formation, WDSF World Championships Showdance and WDSF Continental Championships Showdance, Adjudicators must be nominated by the WDSF Presidium.
8. For WDSF World Championships, WDSF Open World Championships, WDSF Continental Championships, WDSF Sub-Continental Championships, WDSF World Ranking Tournaments, WDSF World Cups, WDSF Continental Cups, WDSF World Formation Championships, WDSF Continental Formation Championships, WDSF World Cups Formation, WDSF Continental Cups Formation, WDSF World Championships Showdance and WDSF Continental Championships Showdance, each Adjudicator must be from a different country.
9. For all competitions the Adjudicators must be recognized by the DFI Presidium.

Rule C.5 (Duties of Adjudicators, Conflict of Interest)

- 5.1 Adjudicators must evaluate the performance of the competitors or formations in relation to each other and in accordance with valid DFI and WDSF adjudicating guidelines.
- 5.2 Adjudicating must not be influenced by earlier competition results, club membership, judging of other Adjudicators, the opinion of the competitors, coaches or other persons.
- 5.3 The competition programme must not be used by Adjudicators during judging a competition.
- 5.4 Adjudicators may not discuss the performance of any athlete, couple or formation before, or during, any competition.

- 5.5 An Adjudicator shall not judge a competition, and shall retire from the panel adjudicating that competition, where any athlete competing in that competition is a member of that Adjudicator's immediate or extended family, including *de facto* relationships, or where that Adjudicator has a personal relationship to or with any athlete competing in the competition which makes it inappropriate for that Adjudicator to serve as an Adjudicator. For greater clarity, the words "immediate and extended family" include anyone to whom the Adjudicator is related by blood or marriage, to the degree of first cousin or closer, or by adoption order, or with whom the judge lives or cohabits.
- 5.6 An athlete may not adjudicate or chair DFI DanceSport competitions until after declaring in writing that he or she has ceased to compete.
- 5.7 A visiting Adjudicator engaged to adjudicate at any recognized DFI competition held in the Republic of Ireland, may not teach competitive lessons to athletes taking part in the event, two weeks prior to the competition.

Rule C.6 (Dress Regulations for Chairperson and Adjudicators)

- 6.1 In all competitions granted under these **Rules**, Chairperson, Adjudicators, and all other officials (including, but not limited to, any speaker, Chairperson, scrutineer, or other manager) serve as a team and shall dress or costume as follows:
- Men: Lounge wear for daytime sessions, black or midnight-blue business suit, dress shirt, for Evening sessions.
- Women: Lounge wear for daytime sessions, formal evening attire for evening sessions.

D. Rules for Competitors

Rule D.1 (Membership)

- 1.1 All competitors in a DFI Competition must be a member of DFI or a member of an officiating Organisation recognized by DFI.
- 1.2 All Competitors, resident in the Republic of Ireland, must be registered with DFI or registered with an officiating Organisation recognized by DFI.
- 1.3 All Principal teachers/ Business Owners of Dance Schools/dance teachers/Coaches must be registered members of DFI and/or a member of an officiating body recognised by DFI.
- 1.4 To enter students into competitions, teachers/coaches must ;
- 1.4.1 Have fully paid up membership and have aligned themselves with CPD (Continuous Professional Development) .
- 1.4.2 Must have taken at minimum - a Provisional exam with DFI, or with an officiating organisation recognized by DFI.
- 1.4.3 New members to the teaching/coaching category have a six-month period to comply with CPD.
- 1.4.4 Please see 'Guidelines & Regulations for Exams' and 'Structure of Exams' in the appendix for up-to-date information on examinations and processes.

- 1.4.5 Membership. A registered DFI athlete or member, who wishes to represent Ireland and DFI, may not hold a membership with any other WDSF national member body at the same time.

Rule D.2 Couples & Individuals (Solo)

- 2.1 Definition of a couple:
- 2.1.1 A couple consists of two people.
- 2.2 Definition of a Solo:
- 2.2.1 An individual competitor dancing on their own.
- 2.2 couples representing a country and couples of mixed citizenships.
- 2.2.1 A couple may only represent a country in any WDSF Championship or WDSF Cup if one of the partners holds a valid and subsisting passport of the represented country at the time of registration and the time of the relevant competition.
- 2.2.2 A couple may only represent a country at any other WDSF Competition if each partner is permitted to compete by DFI representing that country at the time of registration and the time of the relevant WDSF Competition.
- 2.2.3 A competitor who has represented one country in any WDSF Championship or any WDSF Cup is not permitted to represent any other country in any WDSF Championship or WDSF Cup competition until a period of 12 months has elapsed since the last representation.
- 2.2.4 A competitor who has represented one country in any WDSF World Ranking Tournament or any Open Competitions governed by other rules is not permitted to represent another country in any WDSF World Ranking Tournament until a period of eight (8) months has elapsed, except when that competitor has received prior consent in writing to the change in representation from each of the two relevant WDSF Member bodies, and then the competitor may immediately represent the new country. The period of eight (8) months referred to above starts with the last date on which the competitor represented the former country in a WDSF Competition governed by other rules. The WDSF Member body representing the newly representing country must contact the athlete's former WDSF Member body to request agreement for the change of representation. If the former WDSF Member body does not reply within one month the athlete may register with the new WDSF Member body and represent the new WDSF Member body.
- 2.2.5 A competitor who has represented a country in any World and Continental Championship or Cup in a different DanceSport system is not permitted to represent any country in any World or Continental WDSF Championship or WDSF Cup competition until a period of 12 months has elapsed since the last representation.
- 2.3 Competitions under IOC Rules
- 2.3.1 In competitions of the IOC, OCA and the IWGA couples of mixed nationality are not permitted. According to the **Olympic Charter** a competitor represents his or her country. Each competitor must hold a valid and subsisting passport of the WDSF Member body's country represented at the time s/he is appointed to represent that country and at the time of the relevant IOC, OCA or IWGA competition. An athlete may only represent a country in IOC, OCA or IGWA competitions if s/he is permitted to compete by the WDSF Member body for that country and has been so permitted for a continuous period of six (6) months before the date of the relevant competition.
- 2.4 Athletes returning to WDSF DanceSport System
- 2.4.1 An athlete who has previously been registered in the WDSF DanceSport system or WDSF PD, who returns to the WDSF DanceSport system after competing or otherwise participating in a dancing system or dancing competition system which was not registered in the WDSF DanceSport system, may not represent any country or WDSF Member body in any WDSF

competition until three (3) months after his or her most recent participation in a dancing competition that was not registered in the WDSF DanceSport system.

- 2.4.2 An adjudicator who holds a WDSF Adjudicator's Licence may resume competing as an athlete immediately after surrendering his or her WDSF Adjudicator's Licence to the WDSF Sports Director.
- 2.5 Registration and Identification of Athletes
 - 2.5.1 All athletes participating in WDSF Championships, WDSF Cups and WDSF World Ranking Tournaments must be registered with WDSF in the WDSF Registration System. Only an athlete's WDSF Member body may apply for such registration.
 - 2.5.2 All participants in WDSF-granted Competitions must be identified by a WDSF ID Card.
 - 2.5.3 Each WDSF Member body is authorized to issue Athlete License Books or License Cards to its registered athletes.
 - 2.5.4 Athlete License Books or License Cards must include a photograph of the athlete, according to forms and standards prescribed by The NC from time to time in an Operating Policy, as well as according to the requirements of relevant Government Sports Authorities.
 - 2.5.5 Representation - DFI registered athletes and members may only represent the Irish WDSF national body, the DanceSport Federation of Ireland, at national and international competitions and are not permitted to represent any other WDSF national member body at the same time.

Rule D.3 (Doping Control and Doping Infringements)

- 3.1 Doping Control and Doping Infringements
 - 3.1.1 Doping Controls and the administration of Doping Infringements (disqualification, suspension) follow the Anti-Doping Rules of the WDSF and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
 - 3.1.2 Doping Infringements are punished under the jurisdiction of the WDSF.

Rule D.4 (Advertising and Competition Numbers)

- 4.1 Competition Number Cards may only be used if they comply with the requirements set out in Appendix to these Rules.
- 4.2 Advertising by up to four sponsors is allowed on a couple's competition costumes. A man or boy may advertise up to three sponsors, and a woman or girl may advertise only one sponsor. The size of the advertisement may be no more than 40 square cm for each sponsor. Such advertising may only be displayed and located on the waist, chest or sleeves. Each reproduction of any flag displayed on an athlete's costume constitutes one (1) sponsor for the purpose of this Rule.
- 4.3 Advertising on a couple's Competition Number Card may not exceed 20% of the size of the competition number on that card.
- 4.4 The size of couples' competition number card may not exceed DIN A5 plus 20 % reserved for advertising. Couples must accept the Competition Number Card as issued and may not tamper with or reduce the size of the number card.
- 4.5 The number on any Competition Number Card on WDSF Championships and/or Cups shall be a minimum of two Arabic numerals and may not exceed three numerals.

E. Rules for Competitions (Competitors)

Rule E.1 (Partner)

- 1.1 Attachment to more than one partner in each age division and dance style at the same time is not permitted.

Rule E.2 (Age Restriction) For Open Events (Solos, Couples, Teams) and Student/Teacher (Medallist)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Age at Year of Competition</u>
Under 5's Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 4yrs of age or less in that year.
Minor 1 - Under 6's Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 5 yrs of age or less in that year.
Under 7's Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 6 yrs of age or less in that year.
Minor 2 - Under 8's Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 7 yrs of age or less in that year.
Juvenile Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 11 years of age or less in that year.
Juvenile 1 Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 8 & 9 yrs of age or less in that year.
Juvenile 2 Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 10 & 11 yrs of age or less in that year.
Junior Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 15 yrs of age or less in that year.
Junior 1 Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 12 & 13 yrs of age or less in that year.
Junior 2 Girl/Boy/Mixed	Reached 14 & 15 yrs of age or less in that year.
Youth	Reached 16 th , 17 th or 18 th Birthday in that year.
Under 21's	Reached 16 th , 17 th , 18 th , 19 th or 20 th birthday in that year.
Adult 1 Lady/Gent/Mixed	Reached 16 yrs of age or more in that year.
Adult 2 Lady/Gent/Mixed	Reached 26 yrs of age or more in that year.
Adult 3 Lady/Gent/Mixed	Reached 50 yrs of age or more in that year.
Adult 4 Lady/Gent/Mixed	Reached 60 Yrs of age or more in that year.
<u>Adult Mixed Under 35 yrs</u>	<u>Reached 16 yrs to 34 yrs of age in that year.</u>
<u>Adult Mixed Over 35 yrs</u>	<u>Reached 35 yrs of age or more in that year.</u>
Senior 1	35 yrs & Over – One of the partnerships must be 35 yrs or over, and the other no younger than 30 yrs.
Senior 2	50 Yrs & Over – One of the partnerships must be 50 yrs or over, and the other no younger than 45 yrs.
Senior 3	60 yrs and over – one of the partnerships must be 60 yrs or over, and the other no younger than 50 yrs.

Professional	Must be over 16 yrs to dance in Professional competition.
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Note: 1 - SENIORS: This is a DFI rule, and it may not apply at non DFI events.

Note: 2 – YOUTH: Junior 2 may also dance in this grade.

AGE GROUPS IMPLEMENTED SINCE 2018

Putting two age groups together, such as Juvenile I and II as well as Junior I and II to one joint age group, is an option under Rule E-2. Junior I couples are allowed to compete in Junior II, Junior II couples are allowed to compete in Youth, Youth couples and Senior couples are allowed to compete in competitions of the Adult age group if they want. It is not allowed that Juvenile II couples compete in Junior I age group on the reason of the syllabus. In all age groups one partner of a couple can be younger, except in the Senior age groups. The rule should enable couples and coaches to plan the careers on a long-term basis, given that the age group classification of athletes does not depend on their birthday but on their year of birth, as in most other sports too.

Juvenile I: reach 9th birthday or less in the calendar year
 Juvenile II: reach 10th and 11th birthday in the calendar year
 Junior I: reach 12th and 13th birthday in the calendar year
 Junior II: reach 14th and 15th birthday in the calendar year
 Youth: reach 16th, 17th and 18th birthday in the calendar year
 Under 21: reach 16th to 20th birthday in the calendar year

Adult: reach 19th birthday or more in the calendar year

Senior I: one partner must have reached his or her 35th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 30th birthday or more in the calendar year.
 Senior II: one partner must have reached his or her 45th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 40th birthday or more in the calendar year.
 Senior III: one partner must have reached his or her 55th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 50th birthday or more in the calendar year
 Senior IV: one partner must have reached his or her 65th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 60th birthday or more in the calendar year, except in Open Competitions.

Rule E.3 (Music)

3.1 Time allowed and tempi

In all rounds of competitions, the music played shall be a minimum of one and a half minutes duration and a maximum of two minutes. In the Paso Doble the music shall be played at least up to the second highlight and at maximum to the 3rd highlight, provided always that the Chairperson may extend the maximum duration for any dance or dances if in his or her opinion a longer duration is necessary for fair adjudication of that dance or those dances in an event. In an event where it is uncontested (only one couple/individual competitor competing in the event) – the minimum time allowed can be changed subject to approval from the COJ.

3.2 The tempi for each dance shall be:

Waltz 28 – 30 bars/min	Samba 50 – 52 bars/min
Tango 31 – 33 bars/min	Cha-Cha-Cha 30 – 32 bars/min
Viennese Waltz 58 – 60 bars/min	Rumba 25 – 27 bars/min
Slow Foxtrot 28 – 30 bars/min	Paso Doble 60 – 62 bars/min
Quickstep 50 – 52 bars/min	Jive 42 – 44 bars/min

3.3 Type of music

In all DFI competitions the music must have the character of the dance being performed, for example no disco music may be played for Latin-American dances.

- 3.4 Dance order
The sequence of the dances in a DFI Competition is compulsory except with the prior written approval of the WDSF Sports Director.

3.5 10 Dance Competitions

In 10 Dance competitions, all 10 dances are performed.

Rule E.4 (Grades of Competitions)

4. Grades of Competitions

4.1 Open Events: (Solos/Couples/Teams)

- E Class (Starters)
- D Class (Beginners)
- C Class (Novice)
- B Class (Intermediate)
- A Class (Pre-championship)
- CH Class (Championships)
- S Class (Open International Championships)

4.1.1 Names of Student/Teacher (Medallist) Events as follows;

- Starters (E Class)
- Level 1 – 3 (Beginners/D Class)
- Level 4 – 5 (Novice/C Class)
- Level 6 – 9 (Intermediate/B Class)
- Level 10 (A Class)
- Championships (S Class)

- 4.1.3 A competitor's grade in one division of dancing has no effect upon his/her grade in another division. However, in Student/Teacher or Medallist events, a competitor who competes at Level 5 in either Ballroom or Latin, or above, cannot compete in a lower grade, i.e. Starter or Beginner Grade in Open Events in that division.
- 4.1.4 A win in an individual competitor or Student/Teacher, or Medallist event is considered a win in the same discipline even if/when the competitor dances in a partnership – i.e. a C Class Solo in Latin cannot compete in D Class Latin in Couples - a win is a win and will count in the grade towards each individual competitor.
- 4.1.5 Starter: Competitions in this grade are one or two dance events.
Starter grade is only for couples/competitors who have never danced a grade higher than Starter. When a Starter wins 1 (one) competition they must move to Beginner grade. A Starter may only dance in 3 Starter competitions and then must move up to Beginner grade, regardless of results. The life of a Starter is 6 months from the time of their first competition, regardless of dancing 3 competitions or less.
- 4.1.6 D Class (Beginner): Competitions in this grade are one, two or three dance events. When a beginner grade couple/competitor wins 2 (two) competitions in which there are six or more couples/competitors participating, the couple/competitor is promoted to C Class (Novice grade).
- 4.1.7 C Class (Novice): When a novice grade couple/ competitor wins 3 (three) novice competitions in which there are six or more participating couples/ competitors or wins any competition

except one dance events in any higher grade in which there are six or more participating couples /competitors, the couple/competitor is promoted to B Class (Intermediate grade).

- 4.1.8 B Class (Intermediate): When an intermediate grade couple/competitor wins 3 (three) intermediate competitions in which there are six or more participating couples/competitors or wins any competition except a one dance event in any higher grade in which there are six or more participating couples/competitors, the couple/competitor is promoted to A Class (Pre-championship/Championship grade).
- 4.1.9 A Class (Pre-Championship to Championship): When a pre-championship grade couple/competitor wins any Championship in which there are six or more participating couples/competitors, the couple/competitor is promoted to championship grade in their age group.
- 4.1.10 Championship to International: Couples/competitors who have danced for their country in official international championships or international team matches.
- 4.1.11 The grade achieved in Adult and Youth age groups, or any combination thereof, is the grade of the competitor for all competitions and championships in the division. In the case of international team matches where the organisers have specified that one or more couples/competitors from each Team should be dancers of pre-championship Grade or lower only Championship Grade competitors should be upgraded to International Grade.
- 4.1.12 A Juvenile Championship level couple/competitor may move back to Novice level when they advance into the Junior category. However - this does not apply for Juniors advancing to the Adult level.
- 4.1.13 In the event of a partnership terminating, neither member of the partnership may dance at a lower grade.
- 4.1.14 Note: Where it states, “in which there are six or more couples/competitors”, “competitors” means Solos or individual competitors.
- 4.1.15 To enter students into competitions, teachers/coaches must be an active and fully paid-up member of DFI. Members must align themselves and be up to date with their CPD (Continuous Professional Development)
- 4.1.16 It is possible for competitors to dance up a level, ie, a D Class competitor may compete in a C Class event. The following table outlines each class and the level of class which competitors may compete. Please note the exception for E Class.

Class	Level
E Class	may only compete in E Class events
D Class	may compete in D and C Class, and All Classes events
C Class	may compete in C, B, A, All Classes and S Class events.
B Class	may compete in B, A, All Classes and S Class events.

A Class	may compete in A, All Classes and S Class events
S Class	may compete in S Class events.

- 4.1.17 Competitors may only compete in two events in each discipline at any one event or at any one day of a two day event, ie; two ballroom events in one day.
- 4.1.17.1 Should an event have Student/Teacher Ballroom and Latin along with Open events, ie D, C,B,A events in Ballroom and Latin. Competitors are allowed to dance their two events in each of these styles, providing that Student/Teacher and the Open events are ran in two separate sections in the same day, for example, Session 1 Student/Teacher, Session 2 Open Events.
- 4.1.18 New members to the teaching/coaching category have a six-month period to comply with CPD.
- 4.1.19 In Student/Teacher (Medallist) events Please note the following:
- A) Juveniles/Juniors/Youth Competitors may dance up to 2 competitions in each discipline at any one event at their own Level and/or a Combined Level of their ranking.
 - B) Competitors must have taken a medal exam in the discipline they are competing within the last 12 months.
 - C) Students may dance with a teacher/coach or another student of a higher grade.
 - D) Accompanied Partner must wear all black while competing on the floor with student. Exception to this rule is if the Accompanied Partner is also competing, then dance wear is permitted, however the number must be taken off or not shown on the Accompanied Partner.
 - E) No school logo dance wear is allowed on competition floor.
 - F) A Teacher/coach/accompanying Student (of a higher grade) may compete with up to 3 students in one event. If there are heats within this event, it is up to the discretion of the teacher/coach to separate which competing student goes into which heat.
 - G) If there are switches in any one event, it is up to the teacher/coach/accompanying student (of a higher grade) to switch dance partners during the allotted time of the music. It is not the responsibility of the Master of Ceremony.

4.2 WDSF Member Body Championship –
4.1.1. Adult, Youth and Junior II

a) Types of competition are held:

aa) In the Standard dances
(Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep)

ab) In the Latin American dances
(Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive)

ac) Over ten dances (Standard and Latin American)

b) Invitations:
Invitations must be sent to all WDSF Member bodies.

c) Eligibility:
Every WDSF Member body has the right to nominate two couples for WDSF World Championships.
WDSF World Ten-Dance Championships: Only one couple may represent each Member body.

d) Reimbursement of expenses:
WDSF offer No travel expenses, two nights' hotel accommodations.
DFI at the discretion of The NC may subsidise towards travel expenses.
See also Rule B 5 and Appendix

4.1.2. Senior Events -

a) Types of competition WDSF Member Body Senior Championships are held:

aa) In the Standard dances
(Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep)

ab) In the Latin American dances
(Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive)

b) Invitations:
Invitations must be sent to all WDSF Member bodies.

c) Eligibility:
Every WDSF Member body has the right to nominate two couples.

d) Reimbursement of expenses:
WDSF offer No travel expenses, two nights' hotel accommodations.
DFI at the discretion of The NC may subsidise towards travel expenses.
See also Rule B 5 and Appendix

5. Choreography & Syllabus

5.1 Subject to these **Rules**, all choreographies in all Standard and Latin Championship/Ten dances in all DFI granted championships, cups and other competitions, are open choreographies.

5.2 E CLASS: Starters

Restricted syllabus is basics only. Dances are; Waltz, Quickstep, Cha-cha, Samba. Please see document 'Syllabus for Standard' and 'Syllabus for Latin' attached.

5.3 D CLASS : Beginners (Under 8's/Juveniles/Juniors/Adults) may only dance the prescribed figures from the **Bronze Syllabus**. Restricted syllabus to **Bronze** only in both Standard & Latin.

Only the figures, amounts of turns, and entries and exits that are used up to Bronze Syllabus may be used.

Please see document ‘Syllabus for Standard’ and ‘Syllabus for Latin’ attached.

- 5.4 C CLASS: Novice (Under 8’s/Juveniles/Juniors/Adults)
All figures from the book.
Please see document ‘Syllabus for Standard’ and ‘Syllabus for Latin’ attached.
- 5.5 B CLASS: Intermediate – (Under 8’s/Juveniles/Juniors/Adults) All figures from book as detailed in point 5.4.
- 5.5.1 B Class: Juniors/Adults may dance all figures from the book and can dance non restricted figures in their choreography.
- 5.6 A CLASS: Pre-Championship/Open: Non restricted
- 5.7 CH CLASS: Championship: Non restricted
- 5.8 S CLASS: International Championship level: Non restricted
- 5.9 In all competitions governed by this Rule E.4 there is a uniform restricted syllabus for all Juvenile age groups, which is prepared and amended from time to time by a Commission of the DFI Presidium.
- 5.10 In all competitions the Syllabus must be invigilated by a minimum of one qualified Invigilator who shall be appointed by DFI but whose appointment must be confirmed by DFI Presidium.
- 5.11 In all competitions the Invigilator reports to the Chairperson or DanceSport Director. If a couple breaches the Syllabus restrictions in the first round of a competition, the Chairperson shall warn them, and if they breach the Syllabus in the next round or final, the Chairperson shall disqualify the couple.

Rule E.6 (Lifts)

- 6.1 Lifts are not permitted in either category.
A lift is any movement during which one member of a couple has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of the other partner.
- 6.2 The Chairperson may disqualify couples who perform lifts during competition.

Rule E.7 (Prize Money)

- 7.1 In DFI DanceSport Competitions prize money can be paid from time to time, provided always that an organizer has prior written approval of the DFI Presidium. This prize money must only be used to further the dance education/career of the winning competitor. It can be claimed with receipts for the dance education/career advancement – not for profit of said competitor.

Rule E.8 (Rules for Adjudication)

- 8.1 Marking
- 8.1.1 Closed marking shall be used in the finals of competitions. Open marking is not permitted at DFI Competitions except to display couples’ places in each dance and is not permitted to display the individual placing of each couple by each Adjudicator of the dances, however the organizer may seek permission from the Chairperson to use the Open Marking System.
- 8.1.2 The Skating System shall be used.

- 8.2 Selection of Heats; Semi-Finals and Finals.
- 8.2.1 All DFI competitions should have the facility of running at least a first round, semi-final and final of competitions.
- 8.2.2 Starting with the first round, the selection of all heats shall be random but not rotating through the five dances.
- 8.2.3 At least 50% of the participating couples/competitors shall be recalled to the next round.

Rule E.9 (Health and Welfare of Athletes)

- 9.1 There must be a break of at least 20 minutes between the rounds of a competition.
- 9.2 Finals for Juveniles, Juniors
- 9.2.1 All Finals and prize presentations for Juvenile athletes must be concluded before 21:00 (9:00 P.M.)
- 9.2.2 All Finals and prize presentations for Junior I athletes must be concluded before 22:00 (10:00 P.M.)
- 9.2.3 All Finals and prize presentations for Junior II athletes must be concluded before 23:00 (11:00 P.M.)

Rule E.10 (Competition Dress)

- 10.1 In all competitions granted under these **Rules**, competitors shall dress or costume according to the DFI **Dress Regulations**, which form a part of these **Rules**.
- 10.2 Each athlete may change costume up to three (3) times in all the rounds of any competition, provided always that no change of dress, or additional use of accessories or colours, is permitted during any round of a competition.
- 10.3 The Chairperson, or the DFI Sports Director, may disqualify any couple at a competition when either partner is not dressed or costumed according to these **Rules**, and in addition to its other powers under the *WDSF Statutes* the NC may suspend from competitions for a limited period of time any competitor who breaches this Rule.