

IDSF

COMPETITION

RULES

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IDSF COMPETITION RULES

Rule 1

Controlling organization

The International Dance Sport Federation (IDSF) is the governing body for all DanceSport competitions and athletes, including amateur competition at all levels, in each country through that country's IDSF Member Federation, and internationally. The only DanceSport competition that the IDSF does not claim to govern and maintain jurisdiction over are those specially declared to be excluded, or to be excluded for a period of time, by the authority of the IDSF Presidium.

The IDSF is the sole authority worldwide for the determination of amateurs' status. Subject to IDSF's Statutes and Competition Rules, and subject to the policies established by the General Meeting and any agreements or policies established or entered into by the Presidium, right of entry by competitors to IDSF national or international competitions (including all amateur competitions) is delegated to the relevant IDSF member body.

Rule 2

Application

1. These RULES apply to all international IDSF DanceSport Competitions organized by an IDSF-member association, including but not restricted to Standard, Latin-American, New Vogue, American Style, Rock'n Roll, Old Time and Modern and Latin Sequence. Rules for Rock'n Roll are administered by the IDSF Associate Member the World Rock'n Roll Confederation.
2. The IDSF Presidium is responsible for seeing that these RULES are observed.
3. For specific events the Presidium may impose supplementary rules on the organizer.
4. All competitors in IDSF Competitions must be a member of the national IDSF member association.

Rule 3

Prize money

In IDSF DanceSport Competitions prize money can be paid up to the amount of prize money paid by IDSF in IDSF World Open. If an organizer offers more prize money than in IDSF World Open he needs the approval of the IDSF Presidium.

Rule 4

Advertising

1. In all IDSF granted DanceSport Competitions advertising of up to two sponsors per person on competition dress is permitted up to 40 square cm for each sponsor. The place of the advertising is on the waist, chest or sleeves.
2. Advertising on the competition number of the couple is limited to 20 % of the size of the competition number.

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Rule 5

Grades of competitions

1. IDSF World Championships

1.1 Adult and Youth and Junior II

a) Types of competitions:

IDSF World 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)
- ac) over Ten Dances (Standard and Latin American)
- ad) in Formation dances (Standard and Latin American),
RULE 14, paras 2-13 must be observed. -only Adult

b) Invitations:

Invitations are to be sent to all IDSF member associations.

c) Entitled to participate:

Every IDSF member association has the right to nominate two couples.

IDSF World Ten Dance Championships

Only one couple may represent each member association

IDSF World Formation Championships:

Two teams of each category must be invited from each member country.

d) Reimbursement of expenses:

Reimbursement of expenses, see RULE 8.

1.2 Senior

a) Types of competitions:

IDSF World 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 are to be sent to all IDSF member associations.

c) Entitled to participate:

Every IDSF member association has the right to nominate two couples.

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- d) Reimbursement of expenses:

No travel expenses, one overnight hotel accommodation.
Chairman and Adjudicators according to RULE 8.

- e) Age limit:

Competitors in International Senior Championships must in the calendar year in which the Championship is held have reached at least their 35th birthday (both partners).

2. IDSF Continental Championships Adult and Youth

- a) Types of competitions:

IDSF Continental 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)
- ac) over Ten Dances (Standard and Latin American)
- ad) in Formation dances (Standard and Latin American),
RULE 14, paras 2-13 must be observed.

- b) Invitations:

Invitations are to be sent to all IDSF member associations in the relevant continent. For sport's communication Israel is counted to Europe.

- c) Entitled to participate:

Every IDSF member association has the right to nominate two couples.

IDSF Continental Ten Dance Championships:

Only one couple may represent each member association.

IDSF Continental Formation Championships:

Two teams of each category must be invited from each member country.

- d) Reimbursement of expenses:

Reimbursement of expenses, see RULE 8.

3. IDSF Sub-Continental Championships

- a) Types of competitions:

Sub-Continental 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)
- ac) over Ten Dances (Standard and Latin American)

- b) Invitations:

Invitations are to be sent to all IDSF member associations of the concerned Sub-Continent. It is not allowed to invite couples from other Sub-Continents than the concerned Sub-Continent.

- c) Each invited member association has the right to nominate two couples. The organizer may invite one further couple from each participating country.

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- d) Reimbursement of expenses:
Reimbursement of expenses, see RULE 8.

4. IDSF World Ranking Tournaments

There are 4 categories of IDSF World Ranking Tournaments:

- a) IDSF SUPER WORLD CUP
- b) IDSF WORLD OPEN

The IDSF will conduct a series of IDSF World Open Competitions in Standard and Latin, which will be „IDSF World Open“ with prize-money and points for the IDSF Computer World Ranking List.
- c) IDSF INTERNATIONAL OPEN

The IDSF will conduct a series of IDSF International Open Competitions in Standard and Latin with points for the IDSF Computer World Ranking List in accordance with the Presidium.
- d) IDSF OPEN

The IDSF will conduct a series of IDSF Open Competitions in Standard and Latin with points for the IDSF Computer World Ranking List in accordance with the Presidium.

Detailed regulations for the conduct of these tournaments will be issued from time to time by the Presidium.

5. International Invitation Competitions

- a) Definition of an International Invitation Competition:

Except for International Team Matches and Formation competitions a competition may only be described as an „International Competition“ if it involves couples from at least four countries.
- b) Invitations:

Invitations are to be sent only to IDSF member associations unless decided otherwise by the Presidium.
- c) Reimbursement of expenses:

The reimbursement of participants shall be subject to agreement between the member associations.

6. International Invitation Competitions for Formation-Teams

- a) Definition of an International Invitation Competition for Formation-Teams:

A competition may only be described as an „International Formation Competition“, if it involves formation-teams from at least four countries.

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- b) Invitations:

Invitations are to be sent only to IDSF member associations unless decided otherwise by the Presidium.
 - c) Reimbursement of expenses:

The reimbursement of participants shall be subject to agreement between the member associations.
7. IDSF World Cups
- a) Types of competitions:

IDSF World Cups 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 are to be sent to all IDSF member associations.
 - c) Entitlement to participate:

Only one couple will be accepted from each invited member association.
 - d) Reimbursement of expenses:

Reimbursement of expenses, see RULE 8.
8. IDSF Continental Cups
- a) Types of competitions:

IDSF Continental Cups 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)
 - ad) in Formation Dances (Standard and Latin American), Rule 14, Paras 2-13 must be observed.
 - b) Invitations:

Invitations are to be sent to all IDSF member associations in the relevant continent. For sport's communication Israel is counted to Europe.
 - c) Entitlement to participate:

Only one couple/formation team will be accepted from each invited member association.
 - d) Reimbursement of expenses:

Reimbursement of expenses, see RULE 8.
9. International Team Matches
- a) Types of competitions:

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International Team Matches 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:

International Team Matches are subject to arrangement between the member associations, but may only be held once in any year in the same country and between the same member associations.

c) Entitlement to participate (Definition of a team):

Each team must consist of at least four couples chosen according to national ranking and must not be varied during the competition.

d) Reimbursement of expenses:

The reimbursement of participants shall be as freely agreed between the member associations concerned.

10. Open Competitions

1. Participation is only allowed for couples of IDSF member associations. Couples from countries and associations not affiliated in the IDSF shall only be permitted to participate at the IDSF Presidium's discretion.
2. Open Competitions with the status "Rising Stars" can be held as "IDSF Open Rising Stars Competitions" in the age group Adult. Couples on the places 1 to 50 of the actual IDSF Computer World Ranking List are not allowed to participate in these "IDSF Open Rising Stars Competitions".

11. Lifts new

Lifts are not permitted in either category.

Note: A lift is any movement during which one of the dancers has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of the partner.

The chairman can disqualify couples using lifts in their dance performance.

12. 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 duration for the Waltz, Tango, Slow Foxtrot, Quickstep, Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha and Rumba, the time for the Viennese Waltz and Jive shall be a minimum of one minute and a maximum of one and a half minutes, and in the Paso Doble the music shall be played as a minimum up to the second high light and as a maximum to the end (3rd high light) provided always that the Chairman may extend the maximum duration if in his or her opinion a longer duration is necessary for fair adjudication of a dance in an event.

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.

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Type of music:

In all IDSF competitions the music must have the character of the dances, for example no disco music in Latin-American dances.

13. Restrictions of syllabus

1. In all IDSF granted competitions under RULE 5 there is an uniform restricted syllabus for all juveniles age groups. There is only one restriction. The restrictions of syllabus are worked out by a commission installed by IDSF. The restrictions or changing of the restrictions are effective 12 month after publishing by circular to all IDSF member associations.
2. The restricted Syllabus has to be observed by a minimum of one qualified person. The qualified person shall be nominated by the national IDSF member association and needs the confirmation of IDSF.
3. The qualified person reports to the chairman. In case of a breach of the restrictions in the first round of a competition, couples shall be warned by the chairman. If there is again a breach of restrictions in the next round or final, the couple shall be disqualified by the chairman.

Rule 6

Right to organize competitions

1. The Presidium grants the right to organize competitions by RULE 5 paras 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 and levies a fee, see FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (Appendix to the STATUTES).

Theses competitions, except competitions RULE 5 para 5 and 6, must have been previously offered to the members by circular.
In special cases the Presidium is authorised to grant events directly to bidding Cities or Countries, subject to the prior approval in writing by the National Member Body.
2. Competitions covered by RULE 5, paras 5 must be registered by IDSF. The fee for registration is CHF 20,00. The organization of theses competitions shall be as freely decided by the national member association.

Rule 7

Invitations

Invitations to International Invitation Competitions must be arranged between the member associations concerned. The invitation must contain the date of registration of the competition by IDSF.

Rule 8

Reimbursement of expenses

The minimum reimbursement of expenses to competition couples, chairman and adjudicators for competitions covered by RULE 5, paras 1-4, 7 and 8, will be fixed by the Presidium.

Members will be notified of the amounts in advance.

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Rule 9

Anti-doping

Doping is forbidden, according to the terms of the IDSF Anti-Doping Code.

Rule 10

Procedure for International Competitions

1. A chairman (non-voting) appointed or confirmed by the IDSF Presidium is responsible for the control of IDSF authorized competitions. In international competitions when a chairman has not been appointed by IDSF the organizer must appoint a chairman (non-voting). The chairman must hold a valid IDSF Chairman's License at the time of the relevant competition.
2. **Adjudicators:**

A minimum of seven adjudicators should officiate at international competitions covered by RULE 5, para 1, 2, 4a-c and 7, a minimum of five adjudicators in paras 3, 5, 6, and 8, a minimum of three adjudicators at Team Matches.
3. For competitions under RULE 5, except paras 5 and 6, adjudicators must have an IDSF licence.
4. Adjudicators for competitions covered by RULE 5, paras' 1-4a+b, 7 and 8 must be nominated by the IDSF Presidium.
5. For competitions under RULE 5, paras 1-4, 7 and 8 the adjudicators must all be invited from different countries.
6. For all international competitions the adjudicators must be recognized by the IDSF Presidium.
7. An adjudicator shall not judge a competition, and shall retire from the panel adjudicating that competition, where any person 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 competitor in the competition which makes it inappropriate for him/her 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.

Rule 11

Age Restriction

1. The following age division is obligatory in all international competitions and championships:

Juvenile I:	reach	9 th birthday or less in the calendar year
Juvenile II:	reach	10 th and 11 th birthday in the calendar year
Junior I:	reach	12 th and 13 th birthday in the calendar year
Junior II:	reach	14 th and 15 th birthday in the calendar year
Youth:	reach	16 th , 17 th and 18 th birthday in the calendar year
Adult:	reach	19 th birthday or more in the calendar year
Senior I:	reach	35 th birthday or more in the calendar year
Senior II:	reach	45 th birthday or more in the calendar year

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Putting two age-groups together, such as juvenile I and II as well as junior I and II in one class, is optional. Youth couples are allowed to participate in adult competitions. In all age sections one partner of a couple can be younger, except in the seniors

2. When nominating couples, member organizations must give dates of birth.

Rule 12

Competition Dress

For all IDSF granted competitions under RULE 5, competitors dress applies according to the IDSF Dress Regulations. These IDSF Dress Regulations are components of the IDSF competition Rules

For all age divisions:

The buttock of the female partners must be covered all the time as a minimum, tangas are not allowed. The chairman, or the IDSF Sports Director, has the right to disqualify any couple at the competition not dressed according to this Rule. Furthermore the Presidium is entitled to suspend such couples from competitions for a limited period of time.

Rule 13

Couples

1. Definition of a couple:

A couple consists of a male and a female partner

2. Couples of mixed citizenship.
 - 2.1. A couple can only represent a country in any IDSF Championship or 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. A couple can only represent a country in any International Competition each partner is permitted to compete by the represented IDSF Member at the time of registration and the time of the relevant International Competition.
 - 2.3. A competitor having represented one country in any IDSF Championship or any IDSF Cup is not permitted to represent another country in any IDSF Championship or IDSF Cup competition until a period of 12 months has elapsed since the last representation.
 - 2.4. A competitor having represented one country in any IDSF World Ranking Tournament or any Open Competitions governed by other rules is not permitted to represent another country in any IDSF World Ranking Tournament until a period of eight (8) months has elapsed, except when the competitor has received consent in writing to the change in representation from each of the two relevant IDSF Members, 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 an IDSF World Ranking Tournament or an Open Competition governed by other rules.
 - 2.4.1. In competitions during events of IOC and IWGA couples of mixed nationality are not allowed. According to the Olympic Rules a competitor represents his or her nation.. Each competitor must hold a valid and subsisting passport of the IDSF Member country represented at the time s/he is appointed to represent that Member and at the time of the relevant IOC or IWGA event. An athlete may only represent a country in IOC, OCA or IWGA events if s/he has is permitted to compete by the IDSF Member for that country and

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has been so permitted for a continuous period of six (6) months before the date of the event.

2.5. IDSF Formation Championships/Cups :

In IDSF Championships/Cups at least 12 competitors per team must hold a valid and subsisting passport of the represented IDSF member country at the time s/he is appointed to represent that Member and at the time of the relevant Championship or Cup.

Rule 14

International Formation Championships

1. Formation Championships may be held in two styles:
 - a) in the Standard dances
 - b) in the Latin American dances
2. Competition dress:
Standard section: The men's dress must be black or midnight-blue.
Latin section: The men's dress in colours is permitted, but all men of a team must have the same colour of dress. No properties are allowed.
3. Teams in the Standard category must base their routines on the Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep with an optional maximum of 16 bars based on any dance including Latin American.
4. Teams in the Latin American category must base their routines on the Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba, Paso doble and Jive and any other Latin American rhythm with an optional maximum of 16 bars in any dance, including Standard dances.
5. Solo work in the Standard category shall be restricted to 8 bars in any one dance used with a maximum of 24 bars over the whole presentation. This does not apply to the Latin American dances in which solo work is normally a part.

Lifts are not permitted in either category.

Note: A lift is any movement during which one of the dancers has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of the partner.
6. In all championships teams shall consist of six or eight couples. No person may dance in more than one team in the same event.
7. At any stage in a championship team members may be replaced by up to 4 reserves.
8. No Formation team shall dance a routine exceeding 6 minutes including entry and exit. Of these 6 minutes, no more than 4 ½ minutes shall be judged and must be clearly identified in recognisable fashion (beginning and end).

Teams not complying with these requirements may be disqualified by the chairman.
9. Adjudicators experienced in formation work should be selected. No less than 7 adjudicators from different countries must be engaged.
10. Tapes or other audio systems shall be used.
11. Adequate arrangements must be made for team rehearsals, an equal amount of time being allocated to each team in the ballroom and with the music.
12. A chairman must be appointed. He must attend rehearsals and warn any team infringing the Rules. If the Rules are infringed during the contest, he will have the right to disqualify the team(s) after consultation with the adjudicators.

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The dance routine and music used at the rehearsal are the only permitted during the competition. No change of dress is permitted during the competition.

13. When there are more than 5 teams in a competition a second round must be held.

Rule 15

Authority of the Presidium

The presidium shall have the authority to make decisions on matters not covered by these RULES.

Rule 16

Application of these RULES

The national member associations are responsible for compliance with the IDSF COMPETITION RULES in their respective countries and should use them as guide-lines for their own rules.

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RULES FOR ADJUDICATION

1. International Competitions covered by RULE 5, (1) - (4), (7), (8), and (10) shall comprise at least a first round, semi-final and final. The semi-final must always be danced in two heats in International Competitions covered by Rule 5 (1) and (2).

The semi-final in any International Competition must be danced in two heats on a floor with an area of less than 250 square metres.

No more than 10 couples should dance in each heat of a competition round, up to the quarter-final in International Competitions covered by Rule 5, paras 1 and 2.

Open marking shall be reserved for finals.

2. In IDSF Championships and IDSF Cups with an entry of more than 20 couples, except for Ten Dance, the re-dance system shall apply from the first round. Two qualifying rounds shall be held to allow all couples the opportunity of dancing twice. In IDSF World Ranking Tournaments the "Regulations for IDSF World Ranking Tournaments" have to be observed. The chairman shall decide the number of couples to be re-called from both qualifying rounds.
3. At least 50 % of the participating couples shall be re-called to the next round excluding the FINAL, except in Ten Dance, in which at least two thirds of the participating couples shall be re-called only after the first round to the next round. This provision does not apply for IDSF World Ranking Tournaments.
4. International Ten Dance Competitions shall comprise no more than first round, quarter final, semi-final and final.
5. In all IDSF World and IDSF Continental Championships (only age group "Adult") the "revised competition format" must be used. Additional there is the possibility to use this format in all IDSF granted competitions (only age group "Adult") if the national IDSF member association applies for using this format."

"Revised competition format" in the Standard and the Latin Discipline means the provision of two (2) solo dances, one (1) at the beginning and another one (1) at the end of the final, with each couple performing for one (1) minute in each solo dance, and that all couples return to the floor after the solo dances for a further one (1) final minute of group competition in that dance.

"Revised competition format" in the Ten Dance Discipline means the provision of one (1) solo dance per discipline at the end of the finals, with each couple performing for one (1) minute in each solo dance, and that all couples return to the floor after the solo dances for a further one (1) final minute of group competition in that dance. The solo dances in the Ten Dance Discipline are fixed with Quick Step in Standard and Jive in Latin.

6. In finals adjudicators shall place couples. 1 is the best place marking. The same placing must not be given to more than one couple.
7. In international competitions under Rule 5, para 1-4, 7, 8 and 10, no more than 6 couples should participate in the final, but if more than 6 couples qualify, the chairman will decide on the number of participate.
8. Closed marking, shall be used in the final of international competitions. The organiser may seek permission from the chairman to use the Open Marking System. The Skating System shall be employed.
9. In International Competitions under Rule 5, paras 1-4, 7 and 8, the organizer must display marking sheets upon conclusion of the competition.

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10. Team Matches (incl. International Team Matches)

Marking:

In each round open marking shall be employed, couples being assessed as 1, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3. "1" being the best mark.

For equal performance, identical markings may be given. In all dances the same couples must always dance against each other. Interchange of couples is not allowed.

The marks shall be added together to produce a result.