

Ceroc & Modern Jive Dance Company

2018 - General Information and Rules

WEST COAST SWING



Contents:

- A – Competitor Entry and Registration
- B – Competitor Qualification
- C – World Swing Dance Council (WSDC)
- D – Format of Heats and Finals
- E – Judging Criteria
- F – Permitted Moves and Aerials
- G – Other Information

SECTION A: COMPETITOR ENTRY AND REGISTRATION

1. Competitor entries open on **1st March 2018** and STRICTLY close on **1st June 2018**. To be fair to competitors working on choreography, we require notification of all definite **Classic routine entries by 30th April 2018** to ensure there are enough entries for this category to go ahead. Insufficient notifications by this date will result in this category either being cancelled or converted to a People's Choice award.
2. Every competitor must submit an online entry.
3. Spaces are limited so entries are accepted on a first come first served basis. Some categories will fill before the closing date. Classic division will only go ahead when a minimum of 3 routines are entered. Pro Am routines are awarded on a People's Choice basis regardless of the number of entries and therefore there is no minimum number required. For all other categories, the minimum number required is 5 leaders and 5 followers.
4. **There will be no refund for competitors who withdraw** either before or during the event.

SECTION B: COMPETITOR QUALIFICATION

1. This competition is a WSDC registry event and qualification for each level is therefore in accordance with the WSDC Points system. Competitors are expected to immediately advise the Event Director of any change to their points status between the time of registration and the day of the competition if it affects their level.
2. **NOVICE:** Dancers without an WSDC member number and/or with less than 16 WSDC Novice points are required to dance in Novice level.
Dancers with up to 30 Novice points may still choose to dance in Novice level even if they previously moved to Intermediate level on the old WSDC points system (before the rules change on 3rd January 2018), provided they have not yet accrued any points at a level higher than Novice.
3. **INTERMEDIATE:** Dancers with 16 or more Novice points and no points at a level higher than Intermediate are ALLOWED to dance in Intermediate. Dancers with 30 or more Novice points and no points at a level higher than Intermediate are REQUIRED to dance in Intermediate.
Dancers with up to 45 Intermediate points may still choose to dance in Intermediate level even if they previously moved to Advanced level on the old WSDC points system (before the rules change on 3rd January 2018), provided they have not yet accrued any points at a level higher than Intermediate.
4. **ADVANCED / ALL STAR:** Dancers with 30 or more Intermediate points and no points at a higher level are ALLOWED to dance in Advanced. Dancers with 45 or more Intermediate points are REQUIRED to dance in

Advanced. At this event Advanced and All Star is combined and Advanced points are awarded.

NOTE: If less than 5 couples enter this level, the Event Director may change the category to Invitational Jack n Jill (no points applicable) whereby an Advanced/All Star level dancer may invite an Intermediate dancer up to that level. The Intermediate dancer may still compete in Intermediate Jack n Jill as well. This is the only occasion where a competitor may dance in two levels of Jack n Jill.

5. **PRO-AM STRICTLY SWING:** Pro-Am couples must consist of a teacher (or regular co-teacher) and a student. The student must qualify for no higher than Novice level, and must not be dancing at Intermediate level at this competition if they fall into the points bracket that allows that choice (unless they are dancing up in Strictly Swing based on partner level). Teachers may compete with up to two students, and must not be competing with the same student in any other category of this competition (including Pro Am Routine) or have competed with the student in any previous competition.
6. **CLASSIC:** One couple of any level performing a choreographed West Coast Swing routine of between 2 and 4 minutes duration.
7. **PRO AM ROUTINE:** One couple comprising a teacher (or regular co-teacher) partnered with a student qualifying for no higher than intermediate level as above, performing a choreographed West Coast Swing routine of between 2 and 4 minutes duration. Pro Am routines are awarded by a 'People's Choice' vote and not by the event judging panel.
8. Competitors wishing to compete at a Jack n Jill level for which they do not qualify must submit a **Petition Form**, available from the event page www.ceroc.com.au/events/championships. Petitions are considered from dancers requesting to dance up OR down ONE level only and will be reviewed by the Event Director and/or Head Judge. The competitor will be advised before the day of the competition whether their petition has been approved.
9. In cases where one partner qualifies for a higher level than the other, the Strictly Swing partnership must compete at the level appropriate for the more experienced member (not applicable to Pro Am). Each partner will still compete in Jack n Jill at their actual qualifying level, (ie are permitted to compete at different levels of the competition), subject to agreement by the Event Director on a case by case basis, following the general recommendation that dancers do not compete in categories more than one level apart.
10. In Jack n Jill, this event follows the traditional format whereby females must dance as followers and males must dance as leaders. In all other categories any gender combination is permitted, with the understanding that this is NOT a Battle of the Sexes style competition and all competitors must execute moves and dress in costumes appropriate to the nature of the event. Any competitors not respecting this basic etiquette may be disqualified from the competition.
11. In line with WSDC recommendation we encourage, but don't enforce, that dancers have a different partner for each category of the competition.
12. The Event Director and/or Head Judge reserves the right to the final decision on eligibility to compete in each category.

SECTION C: WORLD SWING DANCE COUNCIL (WSDC)

1. WSDC points are only applicable to the Jack n Jill category. WSDC points are granted to all or some Jack n Jill finalists at all WSDC registry events, and the number of points earned is dependent upon how many competitors are entered in the relevant Jack n Jill level:

WSDC Tier	1st place	2nd place	3rd place	4th place	5th place	Additional
Tier 1: 5 to 10 competitors	3	2	1	0	0	0
Tier 2: 11 to 19 competitors	6	4	3	2	1	0
Tier 3: 20 to 39 competitors	10	8	6	4	2	1 (up to 12 th place)
Tier 4: 40 to 79 competitors	15	12	10	8	6	1 (up to 15 th place)
Tier 5: 80 to 129 competitors	20	16	14	12	10	2 (up to 15 th place)
Tier 6: 130+ competitors	25	22	18	15	12	2 (up to 15 th place)

2. Names and placings of all finalists will be submitted to WSDC by the Scoring Manager no later than ten days after the event, and the register of points can be viewed on the WSDC website.
3. Points earned are instantly recognised – ie a competitor's qualification for an event will be based on points earned up to the day before that event.

SECTION D: FORMAT OF HEATS AND FINALS

1. **Novice Jack n Jill and Strictly Swing** - Heats/Semis (dependant on number of entries) followed by a mini spotlight (3 or 4 couples at once) plus All-Skate final.
2. **Intermediate Jack n Jill and Strictly Swing** - Heats/Semis (dependant on number of entries) followed by a mini spotlight (3 or 4 couples at once) plus All-Skate final.
3. **Advanced/All Star Jack n Jill and Strictly Swing** - Heats/Semis (dependant on number of entries) followed by a spotlight plus All-Skate final.
4. **Pro-Am** - Straight Final across two heats, to allow one teacher to compete with two students if required.
5. The Event DJ will provide music for all Jack n Jill and Strictly Swing categories. Classic and Pro Am Routine competitors must provide their own music to julie@ceroc.com.au **no later than 1st June 2018**. Music for each routine should be no less than 2 minutes and no more than 4 minutes in duration.
6. In Jack n Jill heats and semi finals, competitors will dance with a minimum of three different partners, and will be judged as individuals. In the final, dancers will be randomly assigned one partner and will be judged as a couple. In line with WSDC recommendations, in the West Coast Swing competition Jack n Jill finalists are permitted to be matched with their current Strictly Swing, Classic or life partner.
7. The organisers reserve the right to change the running order and competition format if necessary without consultation for any reason including but not limited to competitor numbers or time restraints. For this reason, competitors are encouraged to remain inside the event room at all times to listen for announcements, and event staff will not be held responsible for competitors missing heats/finals etc for any reason.

SECTION E: JUDGING CRITERIA

1. The key judging criteria of the competition is on the rhythm and timing applicable to West Coast Swing. Each dancer must demonstrate the fundamental footwork and body movement of West Coast Swing. For clarification on the difference between the two styles in the two separate days of this competition weekend, please read the document "What is Modern Jive and What is West Coast Swing?" on our website.
2. All dancing in the Strictly Swing and Jack n Jill sections must have 90% recognisable West Coast Swing content. In the Classic division 80% content is acceptable.
3. In all categories except Classic and Pro Am Routine, the emphasis is on freestyle lead/follow dancing with musical interpretation.
4. In addition to the **number one judging criteria of timing**, judges will also be looking for: good lead & follow/connection; style & flow; musical interpretation; performance attitude; entertainment value; sense of fun; variety of moves; and X-Factor/chemistry. Judges will consider the level of the category when assessing some of these criteria. Judges will also consider dancers' use of space and safety with consideration to other couples on the floor. Whilst costumes are not part of the judging criteria, dancers at all levels are encouraged to choose costumes that will enhance their body movement and stand out on the competition floor.
5. Couples in all heats, semi finals and finals are required to dance within the space allocated to them on the floor - travel across the floor is not permitted apart from in Classic and Pro Am Routine. Penalties may be applied if competitors lack spatial awareness or perform a move irresponsibly which causes movement into another couple's dance space or injury or collision with another couple.
6. Competitors must be ready at the marshalling area in plenty of time before their heat, otherwise they could forfeit their entry. If a competitor is not ready after 3 calls by the MC, they (in Jack n Jill) and their partner (in all other categories) will be eliminated from the competition.

SECTION F: PERMITTED MOVES AND AERIALS

1. Moves allowed in West Coast Swing Jack & Jill and Strictly Swing (all levels) and Pro Am are: **floor moves only**.
2. In Classic division, a maximum of 5 weight bearing moves are permitted, and the dancers must maintain physical contact with the floor during those moves. Breakaway dance must be no longer than 8 beats duration.

SECTION G: OTHER INFORMATION

1. All participants at this event are required to act in a safe, courteous and responsible manner. Any competitors deemed by the Event Director to be behaving offensively or to be under the influence of alcohol or other substance which may cause harm or offence will be disqualified from the competition.
2. Parts of the event will be recorded by film, video and photograph; these may be used by CMJ for promotional purposes without any obligation.
3. Competitors and spectators are permitted to video **for personal use only** the Heats and Semi Finals. All Finals, Classic Routines and any performances will be professionally filmed and offered for sale. **PERSONAL VIDEOING OF THE FINALS, CLASSIC ROUTINES AND ANY PERFORMANCES IS NOT PERMITTED**.
4. Handheld stills cameras are permitted.
5. The Event Director/s accept no responsibility for loss or injury to persons or possessions at the event.
6. For all other rules and guidelines, refer to the World Swing Dance Council website.