

2020 Competitor Information & Rules

Please note that all competition events differ in their qualification requirements and rules, so please read this rules document carefully.

Thank you for respecting the right of each Event Director to implement a set of rules that they believe to be appropriate for their event.

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SECTION A: COMPETITOR ENTRY & REGISTRATION

Competitor entries STRICTLY close on **20th May 2020**. To be fair to competitors working on choreography, we require notification of all definite **Choreographed Routine entries by 20th April 2020** to ensure there are enough entries for these categories to go ahead.

Spaces are limited in some categories so entries are accepted on a first come first served basis. Some categories may fill before the closing date. Two and three person categories will only go ahead if a minimum of 5 couples/triples enter. Choreographed Routine categories will only go ahead if a minimum of 5 Teams/Showcases enter. If a Team/Showcase category does not go ahead, the dancers MAY be invited to be included as a non competitive performance.

There will be no refund for competitors who withdraw either completely or partially after the closing date.

SECTION B: COMPETITOR QUALIFICATION

What Is My Level?

The levels in this competition are:

1. Beginner
2. Intermediate <2 Years
3. Intermediate Plus
4. Advanced
5. Champions

A competitor's level is determined by one or more of the following, specific details of which are in Section C:

1. Their previous competition places of 1st, 2nd, 3rd (see below)
2. The length of time they have danced Modern Jive
3. Their teacher/demonstrator status
4. Event Director approval/discretion

Competition Places for Qualification

Where previous competition places are considered to determine progression to the next level, the following applies:

1. Only places awarded at or prior to this event the previous year are considered (the Calendar Year Rule)*
2. Only places in categories that had a **minimum of 6 entries** are considered**
3. Only places at major recognised events with comparable levels and qualification requirements are considered***

* This is voided by any other qualification that may occur during the year, eg becoming a teacher; placing in a level when 'dancing up' (see below). **Please note the calendar year rule is currently under review and may no longer apply in the rules in 2021.**

** It is the responsibility of the competitor to advise the Event Director at the time of submitting their entry if this is applicable to their entry.

*** Currently including but not limited to (in Australia): ACDC Sydney (previously CMJ), VMJC Melbourne, QMJC Gold Coast. Major international events with *comparable levels and qualification requirements* are also considered. **Places gained at events that do not have directly comparable levels and qualification requirements may or may not be applicable - see 'Competition Places at Other Events' for more details.**

Competitors qualifying for a higher level of Freestyle via a placing automatically qualify for that higher level in DWAS by default and vice versa.

Competitors found to be withholding information on relevant prior places or other qualifying criteria on their entry form may be disqualified. Any relevant information occurring between submission of the entry form and the actual competition needs to be disclosed by the competitor before the start of the weekend event.

Competition Places at Other Events

The identification of a competitor's level can be complex in cases where they have competed at events operating under a different qualification system.

Below is an APPROXIMATE guide on whether places gained at other events will be relevant to qualification at ACDC.

Unless you have ONLY competed at events with a comparable qualification system to ACDC, you may have to submit an enquiry to the Event Director for a decision on your level before submitting your entry form.

LEVEL (AUS/NZ POINTS SYSTEMS)	HOW THAT LEVEL IS GENERALLY DEFINED ON POINTS SYSTEMS	HOW WE TRANSLATE/COMPARE THAT LEVEL TO ACDC LEVELS (GENERAL AND APPROXIMATE ONLY)
Level 1	Newcomers and Beginners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginner • Intermediate <2yrs (in some cases)
Level 2	Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate <2yrs (in some cases) • Intermediate Plus (in some cases)
Level 3	Experienced/Early Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Plus (in some cases) • Advanced (in some cases)
Level 4	Advanced and Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced (in some cases) • Champions
Level 5	Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champions

Please note the above is only a guide and we intend no offence to anyone who has competed in a level that has a definition that they feel is lower than their actual ability.

As the points systems are usually based on a competitor's competition history, the time factor for dancers with more or less than one and two years experience that is used ACDC and some other national competitions does not easily translate.

Our general rule at ACDC is therefore as follows:

1. If you qualify for a **time based level** at ACDC (ie **Beginner, Intermediate <2 Yrs and Intermediate Plus**) but qualified at another event for a level lower than the comparable level in the table above, then your result from that level **will not be applicable for qualification at this event**.

EXAMPLE 1: If you qualify for Intermediate Plus at ACDC because you have been dancing Modern Jive for more than two years, but competed at Level 1 at a points based event because you are new to competitions, your result from that event will not be considered relevant to your qualification for ACDC.

2. If you qualify for a level at ACDC that is **based on competition placings** (ie **Advanced and Champions**) but qualified at another event for a level **HIGHER** than the comparable level in the table above, then your result from that level **MAY be applicable for qualification at ACDC** but may not necessarily be considered for the purpose of staying at that level (see reference in 'Dancing Up' below).

EXAMPLE 2: If you don't yet qualify for Champions at ACDC but have competed in Level 4 at a points based event, your result may or may not count for your Advanced status and is unlikely to mean instant qualification to stay in Champions level at ACDC.

As a general summary, if you placed in a category at another event and were competing against dancers who qualify for a lower level than you (at ACDC), your place is unlikely to count for qualification at ACDC.

In all cases the minimum 6 entries rule applies for any result to be considered.

In addition, places awarded in categories with the required minimum 6 entries but with insufficient judges at the highest level (sometimes resulting in a self judging system) may or may not be considered.

In cases of 'may or may not be applicable/considered' please contact the ACDC Event Director for decision on your level before completing your entry form and committing to partnerships.

Dancing Up

DWAS: In very exceptional cases, competitors may be approved by the Event Director to 'dance up' **one level** higher than their actual qualifying level in DWAS. Competitors 'dancing up' who do not place 1st, 2nd or 3rd at that level may revert to their actual level at future events, provided they are not breaching any time based progression rules. Competitors who place when 'dancing up' must then stay at that level (for both DWAS AND Freestyle), and the Calendar Year rule becomes void.

Freestyle (not including Pro Am): When one partner qualifies/is considered eligible for a higher level than the other, the Freestyle partnership must compete at the level appropriate for the more experienced member. In a 'dance up' situation, the two dancers must be no more than one level apart unless prior approval for an exception has been granted by the Event Director. The dancers will both still dance at their individual level for DWAS. It is important to note that competitors who place when 'dancing up' must then stay at that level (for both Freestyle AND DWAS), and the Calendar Year rule becomes void.

Competing at Multiple Levels

With the exception of the Pro in Pro Am Freestyle, dancers are not permitted to compete in two levels of the same category.

For example, a dancer may compete at their own level in Advanced DWAS and 'dance up' to their partner's level in Champions Freestyle, however they may NOT dance in Champions Freestyle AND in Advanced Freestyle.

Note that **Intermediate Plus Over 40s Freestyle and Intermediate Plus Freestyle are two different categories**, therefore an Intermediate Plus Over 40s Freestyle entrant may 'dance up' one level to Advanced Freestyle (Open Age) due to a higher level partner as well as entering Intermediate Plus Over 40s Freestyle, on the understanding that if they place in Advanced Freestyle they will no longer be eligible for the Over 40s category at our future events as it is purely for dancers who qualify for Intermediate Plus.

Likewise, a competitor who is over 40 but **below** Intermediate Plus may dance up to Intermediate Plus Over 40s Freestyle due to their partner's higher level, however this is **ONLY** available to one level below, ie Intermediate <2yrs. If that couple should place in Over 40s the lower level dancer shall not be considered Intermediate Plus until the relevant amount of time has passed to take them over 2 years.

Lead/Follow Roles

In categories where both halves of the partnership have made the decision to compete as a non traditional partnership (ie not necessarily a male leader and a female follower), any gender combination in any role is permitted, on the understanding that the person taking the role of leader remains the leader for the duration of the dance (lenience given in Triples, Steals, Showcase and Team where a dancer may swap roles at any point during the dance).

On this basis, DWAS competitors identified as females must dance as followers and those identified as males must dance as leaders.

In categories where any combination is permitted, it is on the understanding that it 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.

Minimum Age

All competitors must be 15 years or over. Competitors under this age may apply to the Event Director for an exception. Any competitors under the age 18 will be asked to provide written consent from their parent/guardian and must have a parent/guardian present at the competition venue with them at all times.

SECTION C: COMPETITION LEVELS

Summary Table

LEVEL	PROGRESSION TO THIS LEVEL	QUALIFICATION FOR THIS LEVEL
Beginner	This is the entry level, there is no progression to this level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 12 months Modern Jive experience • No other qualification for any higher level
Intermediate <2 Years	Time based progression after one year Modern Jive experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1 year but less than 2 years Modern Jive experience. • No other qualification for any higher level. • Regular beginner class demonstrators (even if they have less than one year Modern Jive experience), assuming no other qualification for any higher level. • <i>Beginner mainstream and progression/consolidation teachers may NOT enter this level.</i>
Intermediate Plus	Time based progression after two years Modern Jive experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 2 years Modern Jive experience. • No other qualification for any higher level. • Regular intermediate class demonstrators, assuming they do not meet the criteria for any higher level. • Teachers who teach Beginner mainstream or progression/consolidation classes, assuming no qualification for any higher level. • <i>Teachers of intermediate classes (or higher) may NOT enter this level.</i>
Advanced	After placing the relevant number of times at Intermediate Plus level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st place (with or without the same partner) on TWO or more occasions, or any combination of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place on THREE or more occasions in one category* at Intermediate Plus level, prior to or at this event the previous year. • Teachers of intermediate (or higher) Modern Jive classes, assuming no qualification for any higher level. • Teachers/professionals of other dance styles may be approved by the Event Director to enter at this level. • In addition, previously qualifying Champions level dancers may apply before the closing date to dance at Advanced level if they have not placed in the last 4 years in a Champions Freestyle/DWAS competition at a recognised major event AND they are now partnering a different dancer to the one(s) with which they qualified/entered.
Champions	After placing the relevant number of times at Advanced level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st place (with or without the same partner) on TWO or more occasions, or any combination of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place on THREE or more occasions in one category* at Advanced level, prior to or at this event last year. • Modern Jive Directors and Teachers who do not generally compete may be approved by the Event Director to enter at this level.

*Note that the 2 x 1st places or 3 x 1st/2nd/3rd places must be in ONE CATEGORY - ie either DWAS or Freestyle (open age – not including Over 40s). For example: Placing once in DWAS and twice in Freestyle (or vice versa) does NOT total 3 places. Someone placing 3 times (or getting 2 x 1st places) in DWAS will progress to the next level in both DWAS & Freestyle, and likewise someone placing 3 times (or getting 2 x 1st places) in Freestyle will progress to the next level in both DWAS & Freestyle.

Important Information on Progressing from Intermediate Plus to Advanced

Prior to 2019 the ruling was that progression to this level would occur after one placing of 1st, 2nd or 3rd. Those who have already progressed to Advanced based on this previous rule may CHOOSE to stay in Advanced or are eligible to return to Intermediate Plus provided they do not meet the other criteria for any higher level and have not yet placed at Advanced level.

SECTION D: COMPETITION CATEGORIES

A tabulated summary of categories at this event is on the following 4 pages. Notes and definitions to accompany the summary are below:

Definitions – Music

BPM means 'beats per minute' and all BPMs are approximate.

Where a BPM is specified in the summary table, the music is chosen by the Event Director and will have a time signature applicable to Modern Jive.

Where a time limit is specified in the summary table, music is provided by the competitor and must be submitted in mp3/mp4 format by the closing date. Please note that this time limit is **the duration of the music track** (not including any bow/reprise), not the amount of time actually dancing, so use the time wisely.

Music provided by the Event Director will have **no explicit lyrics** and music provided by competitors for choreographed routine categories is expected to be the same. While we take every care to ensure all music is fit for the general public, we can take no responsibility for songs with hidden meanings or implications *perceived* as offensive by an individual.

Definitions – All Skate / Rapid Fire / Spotlight

'All Skate' means a group of couples on the floor at the same time.

'Rapid Fire' means one continuous song with individual couples moving on and off the floor one at a time.

'Spotlight' means one couple on the floor for the duration of the song/s.

Additional details on the format of heats/semis/finals are in Section H.

FREESTYLE & DANCE WITH A STRANGER (DWAS) CATEGORIES

- Definition of **Freestyle**: Couples enter as a fixed partnership and are judged as a couple throughout the competition.
- Definition of **DWAS**: Leaders and followers enter individually and rotate during heats/semi finals to a variety of partners of the same level. The judges choose the top leaders and top followers to go to the final where they will dance with ONE randomly selected partner and be judged as a couple. In the case of limited numbers, straight finals may be run.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	FULL AERIALS ALLOWED?	BABY AERIALS ALLOWED?	MUSIC	OTHER NOTES
Beginner Freestyle	See above definition	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	
Beginner DWAS	See above definition	NO	NO	116-132 BPM	
Intermediate <2yrs Freestyle	See above definition	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	
Intermediate <2yrs DWAS	See above definition	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	
Intermediate Plus Freestyle (open age)	See above definition	YES	YES	110-150 BPM	
Intermediate Plus DWAS (open age)	See above definition	NO	YES	110-150 BPM	
Intermediate Plus Freestyle (over 40s)	See above definition	YES	YES	110-150 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Plus dancers who are over 40 years young may CHOOSE to enter this category AS WELL AS the standard Intermediate Plus category, however <u>not with the same partner</u>. • This is a more recreational category aimed at those who prefer not to compete against the younger and perhaps more competitive dancers, and placings awarded in this category will not count towards progression. • As there is no progression beyond this level (unless via progression up from the standard Intermediate Plus category), competitors who place are permitted to continue entering this category an unlimited number of times.
Intermediate Plus DWAS (over 40s)	See above definition	NO	YES	110-150 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above (disregarding reference to not entering with the same partner)
Advanced Freestyle	See above definition	YES	YES	110-165 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Format of the Final will be a two song All Skate plus a Rapid Fire (64 straight counts per couple)
Advanced DWAS	See above definition	NO	YES	110-165 BPM	
Champions Freestyle	See above definition	YES	YES	100-165 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Format of the Final will be a one or two song All Skate plus individual Spotlights
Champions DWAS	See above definition	NO	YES	100-165 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Format of the Final will be a one or two song All Skate plus individual Spotlights

PRO AM CATEGORIES

- Definition of **Pro**: A Modern Jive teacher or a Champions qualified competitor.
- Definition of **Am**: A Modern Jive student at the relevant level (see below).
- In the spirit of Pro Am, a **Pro is not permitted to partner with an Am who qualifies for the same level as them**. Therefore a Beginner Progression/Consolidation teacher who qualifies for Intermediate Plus level can only partner with an Am of Beginner or Intermediate <2 Years level.
- A Pro Am **Freestyle** partnership must not be competing together in any other category of this competition or have competed together in any previous Modern Jive competition. (*see exception below)
- A Pro Am **Showcase** partnership must not be competing together in any other category of this competition, however may have competed in Pro Am *Freestyle* at a prior event. Entering the same Pro Am Showcase routine together at another event is also permitted (and encouraged!).
- For the purpose of the above rules, dancing in a Team with partner swaps where the couple dance together for a small portion of the routine is not considered applicable.

** Exception will be made for Interstate Competitors (only) to dance Pro Am Freestyle with a partner they have competed with in Pro Am before (but not to compete with them in other categories on the same day), provided they have not placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd together. This is on the basis of sometimes limited numbers travelling from interstate and often limited options for partnering in this category as a result.*

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	FULL AERIALS ALLOWED?	BABY AERIALS ALLOWED?	MUSIC	OTHER NOTES
Beginner & Intermediate <2yrs Pro Am Freestyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Pro, and one Am of either Beginner or Intermediate <2 Years level, entered as a partnership and judged as a couple however with the focus on the ability of the Am. 	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Leaders and Student Followers are judged and awarded in separate heats and finals. Ams may only enter once in the category as either a Leader OR a Follower. • Pros may enter with only one student in this level (but may enter two levels).
Intermediate Plus Pro Am Freestyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Pro who qualifies for higher than Intermediate Plus, and one Am of Intermediate Plus level, entered as a partnership and judged as a couple however with the focus on the ability of the Am. 	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Leaders and Student Followers are judged and awarded in separate heats and finals. Ams may only enter once in the category as either a Leader OR a Follower. • Pros may enter with only one student in this level (but may enter two levels).
Pro Am Showcase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Pro, and one Am (see definition above) of either Beginner; Intermediate <2Years; or Intermediate Plus level, dancing a set piece of Modern Jive choreography to their chosen music. • Please read Section E for vital information on Modern Jive content in your choreography. • Please read the additional notes on the next page. 	YES	YES	1 to 1.5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 5 entries for this category to go ahead. Early entry therefore required by 20th April 2020. • Student Leaders and Student Followers are judged and awarded in two separate subcategories. For this reason each dancer must take on one role of either leader OR follower and is not permitted to swap during the routine. • Ams may only enter EITHER Pro Am Showcase OR the general Showcase category and with one routine only. • Pros may enter in BOTH Pro Am Showcase AND general Showcase and with more than one routine in both. • Maximum 12 Student Leader and 12 Student Follower entries.

Additional Notes for Pro Am Showcase

Routines must be choreographed specifically for a Pro Am Showcase competition and be in the spirit of mentoring.

It is expected that the Pro half of the partnership will have created the choreography, however input may be sought in the case where they have limited choreography experience.

It is not permitted to enter a routine that has been choreographed and adapted from an existing Showcase or Team routine, or that has wholly been choreographed by someone outside of the partnership.

Students should be aware that if the Pro half of the partnership is a teacher and/or experienced choreographer, they may charge private lesson rates for all or part of their time – rates vary but are generally between \$70 and \$100 per hour. As a minimum, room hire fees may be payable by the student for rehearsals of Pro Am routines. Both halves of the partnership should discuss this and be clear on any financial expectations before choreography commences.

In addition, we have worked together with **Ignite/QMJC (21st-23rd August 2020 on the Gold Coast)** to bring you this exciting new category at both events. We therefore suggest initial discussion with your potential partner regarding availability to also attend Ignite/QMJC to have a second opportunity to perform your routine. The same set of rules for Pro Am Showcase apply at both events for this reason.

TEAM & SHOWCASE CATEGORIES					
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	FULL AERIALS RULE	BABY AERIALS RULE	MUSIC	OTHER NOTES
Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A team of minimum 3 couples of any level, dancing a set piece of Modern Jive choreography to their chosen music. Please read Section E for vital information on Modern Jive content in the choreography. 	YES	YES	2.5 to 4 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 5 team entries for this category to go ahead. Early entry from the team leader is therefore required by 20th April 2020 Maximum 12 Team entries. Triples and Steals entries not permitted. There is no progression beyond this level - competitors who place are permitted to continue entering this category an unlimited number of times.
Showcase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two dancers of minimum Intermediate Plus level, dancing a set piece of Modern Jive choreography to their chosen music. Entries from partnerships below Intermediate Plus are subject to approval by the Event Director. Please read Section E for vital information on Modern Jive content in the choreography. 	YES	YES	2.5 to 4 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 5 entries for this category to go ahead. Early entry is therefore required by 20th April 2020 Maximum 12 Showcase entries. There is no progression beyond this level - competitors who place are permitted to continue entering this category an unlimited number of times.

NOVELTY CATEGORIES					
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	FULL AERIALS RULE	BABY AERIALS RULE	MUSIC	OTHER NOTES
Open Level Triples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One leader dancing with two followers. Connection must be maintained between all three dancers at the same time for the majority of the dance. Lead/follow roles may swap within the dance. 	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited to 12 triplets. Open to all levels. There is no progression beyond this level - competitors who place are permitted to continuing entering this category an unlimited number of times.
Open Level Steals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually two leaders with one follower, with the leaders seamlessly swapping in and out of the dance to continuously 'steal' the follower. Apart from during the steal, only one leader and one follower must be connected at one time for the majority of the dance. Dancers choosing to enter as two followers with one leader would be unusual, however not a reason for disqualification. Lead/follow roles would usually not swap within the dance, however this would not be a reason for disqualification. 	NO	YES	116-132 BPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited to 12 triplets. Open to all levels. There is no progression beyond this level - competitors who place are permitted to continuing entering this category an unlimited number of times.

SECTION E: TEAMS & SHOWCASES – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Modern Jive Content

Choreographed routines must show clear demonstration of a combination of the Modern Jive fundamentals the majority of the time during the dance. Modern Jive fundamentals include:

1. Connection to a partner
2. Concertina motion
3. Consistent timing based on directional lead/movement on the upbeat

These fundamentals must be demonstrated by all participants in the routine and are encouraged to be enhanced by, not overtaken by, other elements such as breakaway dancing and other movement/styling that may or may not be borrowed from other dance styles, as long as these elements are used to show good interpretation of the chosen music, and sufficient evidence of the listed fundamentals are present for the majority of the routine in the judge's opinion.

Examples of elements choreographers are encouraged to incorporate to provide variety and entertainment in their routine include:

1. Dips/Drops
2. Aerials (Baby and/or Full)
3. A limited amount of Breakaway Movement
4. Formation Changes (Teams)
5. Partner Swaps (Teams)

While there is no fixed percentage of Modern Jive content required, judges will essentially be scoring routines highest that are a combination of the following (in no particular order) in addition to the criteria in the table in Section I:

1. Overall recognizable as Modern Jive for a Modern Jive dance competition
2. Demonstrating evidence of a combination of the fundamentals the majority of the time
3. Well choreographed
4. Well executed
5. Using music with a time signature that allows the fundamentals to be easily identifiable

Choreographers should consider that routines including any of the following elements *may* not be scored as highly as routines that demonstrate a higher quota of Modern Jive dancing:

1. Use of non musical narrative
2. Choreography for dancers to remain still and/or enter/exit the floor mid routine
3. Breakaway dancing for more than two consecutive minor phrases
4. Routines at the minimum allowable duration

These rules are designed to encourage creativity in choreography however it must be stressed that this is a Modern Jive competition and evidence of the listed Modern Jive fundamentals must be demonstrated the majority of the time.

In addition competitors are advised to understand that judges will have different opinions and may place higher importance on some elements than others. Hence the recommendation for variety in routines and the existence of an entire panel of judges to arrive at a final combined result.

Routine Disqualification

Judges will only report a routine for disqualification if they feel it is **clearly identifiable as a different dance style** to Modern Jive and therefore not appropriate for entry in a Modern Jive competition.

Minimum two judges must report a disqualification in order for action to be taken and the Head Judge will make a final decision on whether action is warranted.

Action on Insufficient Demonstration of Fundamentals

Any routine that is considered by a judge to be essentially a Modern Jive routine but not demonstrating the listed fundamentals the majority of the time, will simply be scored lower than other routines by that judge. Judges are asked to flag on their score sheets whether this was their deciding factor, and if so, competitors will be advised of such by the Event Director after the event (with judges remaining anonymous).

On calculation of the overall scores from the entire judging panel, if a routine has a final result of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place yet was also flagged by minimum two of the judging panel (or the Head Judge), a review will be conducted by the panel and the Head Judge will make a final decision on whether action is warranted. Maximum penalty will be a downgrade of final placing to a non podium placing.

Routine Music

Routine tracks will not be used by the Event Director in any of the Freestyle/DWAS categories scheduled before performance of the routine. The track may be used for a category scheduled after performance of the routine. For this reason all Team leaders and Showcase competitors must advise of their music choice by the early entry date of **20th April 2020**. It is always possible that another Showcase/Team will have chosen the same music – in this case, all parties involved in the same choice will be notified before the event out of courtesy, and multiple entries using the same music will be permitted.

The actual music track, including any optional bow/reprise must be submitted in mp3/mp4 format by the general closing date of **20th May 2020**.

The time limit of 2.5-4 minutes for Showcases and Teams, and 1-1.5 minutes for Pro Am Showcase is **the duration of the music track** (not including any bow/reprise), not the amount of time actually dancing, so use the time wisely.

Routine music must have **no explicit lyrics**.

Other Team & Showcase Information

The minimum number of couples in a Team is 3. There is no maximum, however team leaders should consider synchronicity when presenting large teams.

Triples / Steals dancing is permitted as a small component of a Team routine, however a specific Triples/Steals routine is not permitted either in Showcase or Team Cabaret.

Teams and Showcase entrants will be offered one timeslot for a short Floor Trial/Rehearsal. Due to time limitations at the event, no alternative can usually be offered.

SECTION F: AERIALS

Permitted Aerials – Summary Table

DANCE WITH A STRANGER	Baby Aerials	Aerials
Beginner DWAS	No	No
Intermediate <2yrs DWAS	Yes	No
Intermediate Plus DWAS	Yes	No
Int Plus Over 40s DWAS	Yes	No
Advanced DWAS	Yes	No
Champions DWAS	Yes	No
FREESTYLE	Baby Aerials	Aerials
Beginner Freestyle	Yes	No
Intermediate <2yrs Freestyle	Yes	No
Pro Am (all levels)	Yes	No
Int Plus Over 40s Freestyle	Yes	Yes
Intermediate Plus Freestyle	Yes	Yes
Advanced Freestyle	Yes	Yes
Champions Freestyle	Yes	Yes
OTHER	Baby Aerials	Aerials
Triples	Yes	No
Steals	Yes	No
Pro Am Showcase	Yes	Yes
Showcase	Yes	Yes
Team Cabaret	Yes	Yes

Aerials Definitions

Floor move: The move involves both partners keeping one or more of their feet on the ground. Includes dips and drops.

Baby Aerial: The move is aerial by nature and the majority of either partner's weight is below chest height of their partner.

Aerial: The move is aerial by nature and the majority of either partner's weight is above chest height of their partner.

Please remember that this is a dance competition, not an acrobatics competition, so whilst aerials can be spectacular, they must be executed safely and seamlessly and integrated smoothly into the dance with appropriate timing and interpretation of the music.

SECTION G: JUDGING AND SCORING

Callback System in the Heats

In the heats and semi finals, competitors are judged comparatively against ALL competitors across the round. Judges are asked to select a number of 'Definites' and a number of first and second choice 'Alternates' to go through to the next round, based on the criteria and guidelines given in the Judging Criteria section below. This 'callback' system differs to a 'ranking' system that compares competitors only against the other competitors in the heat in which they are dancing.

With a callback scoring method used during the rounds, there is the potential for more than one competitor to have the same score (this is not possible during the Finals when using the ranking system). Therefore, the exact number of competitors who will progress to the next round will not be determined until the scores from each round have been processed. In all cases the Event Director will have provided the Scoring Manager with a desired number, however if this precise number cannot be achieved due to a tie, the Scoring Manager and/or the Head Judge/Event Director will make the decision on whether to progress more or less competitors to the next round, without looking at who those competitors are. The preference will be to progress more rather than less, however this may not always be possible.

Ranking System in the Finals

In all Finals and in the Showcase and Team categories, all competitors will be ranked in order 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc based on the judging criteria.

Transparency of Scores & Results

Time permitting, results from all judges may be posted on the foyer noticeboard throughout the day so competitors can get a real picture of how they have performed in the rounds and finals. **Competitors will be identified by bib numbers only, and all judge names will be anonymous.** Photography and/or posting on social media of the scores is strictly prohibited (heats draws and finals are permitted, as they do not show scores).

Competitors are encouraged to understand that whilst our judges are carefully chosen for their expertise, experience, and ability to judge impartially and fairly, apart from in Spotlight dances they may or may not see something great and/or something not so great at any given time during the few minutes they have to look at all dancers on the floor. For this reason it is not unheard of for six judges to select a couple as a 'Definite' and one judge not to select that couple at all, or in the Finals for one judge to rank a couple 1st and for another judge to rank them 5th for example. We ask competitors to be prepared for this and to use the transparency of scores as an opportunity for an insight into how they are being scored and ranked in general across the competition. If your scores aren't as good as you expected, try not to take it to heart, and do also consider that competition results are only indicative of how you danced on that particular day and of course comparatively against your fellow competitors in that event.

All scores are final.

Scoring Staff

Many of our event staff are volunteers who also have the opportunity to dance in the competition as a competitor. In cases where a member of the scoring team is in the competition, a procedure is in place to ensure they do not input any scores for their heat/semi final/final.

Judge/Competitor Communication & Etiquette

We ask that all competitors respect that our judges have a very busy and very important role on competition days, and therefore may not be able to interact with you in the same way as they would in other environments. The following guidelines apply:

1. Competitors are not permitted in the judges seating area.
2. Competitors may not approach the judges during the course of the competition day for advice and reasons for scores/rankings and/or what they should do in order to proceed to the next round. Competitors may ask judges for feedback AFTER the event and it is the judge's personal choice whether or not to provide it.

3. If choosing to give feedback after the event, judges will discuss only what they thought of the performance, and how the competitor can improve for the next competition. Judges are not expected to pass judgement on where a competitor placed and whether or not they (or other competitors) deserved that place.
4. Judges are entitled not to reveal any of their scoring decisions.
5. Judges score the competitors based on what they see on the floor in the time allocated. Any prior knowledge of how competitors usually dance or have danced previously is irrelevant.
6. Judges will score independently without discussion with other judges.
7. Judges are not permitted to judge a life partner or close family member. In some cases you may see a judge on the DWAS panel who is judging the opposite lead/follow role to their life partner / family member.
8. Most judges are generally teachers and directors of groups that have people dancing in the competition. Judges will not cheer for their group whilst judging or sitting in the judges area, however when outside of the judging area and during the trophy presentation they will of course show support for their group.
9. The decision on which judges are on the panel at any given time is at the discretion of the Event Director and/or Head Judge. Competitors may not request exclusion of any judge from the panel.

SECTION H: FORMAT OF HEATS/SEMIS/FINALS

Floor Positioning

Apart from in Teams, Showcase, Spotlights and Rapid Fire, multiple couples will dance at once and all are required to dance within the space allocated to them on the floor by the MC. Travel across the floor is not permitted.

In categories with a large number of entries across 3 or more heats in the first round, to allow the judges ample opportunity to make their decision fairly and comparatively across ALL heats, competitors may be required to return to the floor for a short second look from the judges. In this case the floor can become very full so all competitors are required to consider this reduced spacing and pay extra attention to floorcraft and safety.

Penalties may be applied if dancers lack spatial awareness or perform a move irresponsibly which causes movement into another couple's dance space or injury or collision with another couple on an All-Skate floor. (See our Breach of Rules policy for information on penalties.)

Repechage

Some competitors may be familiar with a repechage system whereby they dance again for a second chance to get through to the next round. **At this event there is no repechage** due to the callback scoring system whereby judges will score competitors across ALL heats in the round and not just against those in the heat in which they are dancing (see previous section 'Judging and Scoring').

DWAS Format

In **DWAS Heats and Semi Finals**, competitors will dance with a minimum of three different partners, and will be judged as individuals. In the DWAS final, dancers will be allocated one partner and will be judged as a couple.

Where an uneven number of leaders and followers have entered DWAS, some leaders/followers will be randomly chosen to dance again to make up the numbers but not be judged. Where possible, only dancers of the same level will be randomly selected for this purpose.

In **DWAS Finals**, partners will be allocated with a dice roll or similar random selection method. Dancers may not be matched with a partner they are competing with in any other category of the event that weekend. Each competitor is responsible for highlighting any conflict in this area before the music commences and failure to do so may result in disqualification of both partners. In the unlikely case where an unresolved number of conflicts occur after three dice rolls, the Event Director reserves the right to match partnerships.

Marshalling and Scheduling

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 on the floor after 3 calls by the MC, they (in DWAS) and their partner/s (in Freestyle/Triples/Steals/Pro Am/Over 40s/Showcase/Team) will be eliminated from the competition.

The Event Director reserves the right to change the format of any heats/semi finals/finals due to competitor numbers, time restraints, or other reasons. The running order could therefore change at any time, so competitors (or a representative who can contact them) are required to remain inside the event room at all times to listen for announcements regarding any change, and **event staff will not be held responsible for competitors missing heats/finals etc for any reason.**

Number of Songs

	NUMBER OF SONGS	DURATION OF SONGS (dependant on the level and/or the number of competitors in the heat/final)
DWAS Heats & Semi Finals	ONE song with rotation within the song	1.5 to 4 minutes
DWAS Finals (except Champions)	TWO songs with a position change between songs	1.5 to 2 minutes per song
DWAS Champions Final	TWO songs (one All Skate, one Spotlight)	All Skate (group): 1.5 to 2 mins Spotlight: 2 to 2.5 mins
Freestyle Heats & Semi Finals	TWO songs with a position change between songs	1.5 to 2 minutes per song
Freestyle Finals (except Advanced & Champions)	TWO songs with a position change between songs	1.5 to 2 minutes per song
Freestyle Advanced Final	THREE (two All Skate, one Rapid Fire)	All Skate (group): 1.5 to 2 minutes Rapid Fire: 64 straight counts per couple
Freestyle Champions Final	FOUR (one All Skate, one 3 song Spotlight)	All Skate (group): 1.5 to 2 mins Spotlight: 3 to 3.5 mins

Champions Freestyle Final Song Choices

The Spotlight component of the **Champions Freestyle Final** will involve three songs for each couple. Two songs are preselected by the Event Director (totalling approximately 2.5 minutes and the same songs for each couple). The third song of approximately 1 minute (which may be played either first or last) will be one of three choices provided by every couple entering Champions Freestyle before the closing date for entries.

Requirements of song submissions:

1. In line with the speed range in the Champions level heats, your three choices must be **between 100 and 165 BPM** and have a 4/4 (or equivalent) time signature suitable for Modern Jive.
2. Please send to julie@ceroc.com.au the EXACT TITLE AND ARTIST of the track including information on any remix versions (**or preferably attach it as a mp3/mp4 file**) to ensure the correct version is played for you. If you do not send the actual music file, the track must be available for us to legally purchase and we take no responsibility if the incorrect version is played.
3. Songs must not contain offensive / explicit lyrics.
4. Songs that are being used by Teams or Showcases or that have already been allocated to any Finals after the Champions Freestyle Final will not be used. Songs scheduled to be played before the Champions Freestyle Final may be allowed. In the unlikely event that all three submissions are unusable, competitors will be contacted before the event and asked to submit more choices.
5. We recommend that consideration is made to the content of the actual first minute of the track as that is the part that will be played in the Spotlight.
6. If we don't receive your three choices by the closing date, we will select a song for you, no exceptions.

SECTION I: JUDGING CRITERIA

General Criteria

The number one judging criteria at this competition is **timing**. Each dancer must demonstrate the fundamental timing, footwork, and body movement of Modern Jive.

In all categories except Triples, Showcase and Team the emphasis is on freestyle lead/follow dancing.

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.

Judging Criteria – Summary Table

CATEGORY	JUDGING CRITERIA
FREESTYLE AND DWAS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timing 2. Evidence of Modern Jive fundamentals – footwork and concertina action 3. Considerate and clear lead and follow, with good connection and technique 4. Style and flow 5. Musical interpretation 6. Variety of moves 7. Performance attitude / entertainment value / X Factor / chemistry
	JUDGING CRITERIA
PRO AM FREESTYLE	All of the above with the focus on the STUDENT's ability within the partnership
	JUDGING CRITERIA
TRIPLES and STEALS	All of the above with a focus on FUN whilst still demonstrating quality dancing
	JUDGING CRITERIA
SHOWCASE (see Section E for content rules)	<p>In no particular order:</p> <p>Choreography – innovative, creative and musically interpretive content</p> <p>Dancing – timing, style, quality of movement, posture, fluidity, connection, evidence of modern jive fundamentals</p> <p>Overall Presentation – performance attitude, energy, mood, entertainment value</p>
	JUDGING CRITERIA
PRO AM SHOWCASE (see Section E for content rules)	The same as Showcase with the focus on the STUDENT's ability within the partnership
	JUDGING CRITERIA
TEAM (see Section E for content rules)	<p>In no particular order:</p> <p>Choreography – innovative, creative and musically interpretive content</p> <p>Dancing – timing, style, quality of movement, posture, fluidity, connection, evidence of modern jive fundamentals</p> <p>Overall Presentation – performance attitude, energy, mood, entertainment value</p> <p>Teamwork – synchronicity and formations</p>

SECTION J: OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The Event Director is not permitted to enter any part of the competition apart from the Team and Pro Am categories.
2. The Event Director is permitted to be on the judging panel.
3. All participants at this event are required to act in a safe, courteous and responsible manner. Any competitors deemed by the event staff to be dancing or behaving inappropriately or offensively, or to be under the influence of alcohol or other substance which may cause harm or offence may be disqualified from the competition.
4. For all categories apart from DWAS, competitors must compete with the designated partner with whom they enrolled (for that category), for the duration of that category throughout the competition – ie if one half of the partnership forfeits, the entire partnership will forfeit their entry in that category of the competition.
5. In Dance With A Stranger, competitors are not permitted to refuse a partner allocation. Obvious and serious negative reactions following the allocation of, or rotation to, a partner may result in disqualification.
6. Parts of the event will be recorded by video and stills photography and images may be used by the event organisers without any obligation.
7. Competitors and spectators are encouraged to video **for personal use only** the Heats and Semi Finals. All Finals, Teams and Showcases will be professionally filmed by a single wide angled camera and offered for sale. **PERSONAL VIDEOING OF THE FINALS, TEAMS AND SHOWCASES IS NOT PERMITTED.**
8. Handheld stills cameras are permitted.
9. There is no allocated seating at the event. We encourage you to sit in the areas designated for each state/country. Some spaces in the front rows will be reserved for spectators and we ask competitors to ensure these seats are vacated should a spectator require one.
10. Ceroc & Modern Jive Dance Company and the Event Director accept no responsibility for loss or injury to persons or possessions at the event.

Good luck and have fun!

And remember, just because you're not a winner doesn't mean that you're a loser 😊

So dance your best, cheer your loudest and if you have any queries please contact julie@ceroc.com.au BEFORE the event date.