



# World Swing Dance Council

407 Dahlia Corona del Mar, CA 92625 www.swingdancecouncil.com

## WSDC Points Registry Document and Rules

Division / Skill Level	Definition
WC101 / Newcomer	Skill level - beginner or new competitor; have earned no points; not offered at all events
Novice	Skill level - have earned less than 15 Novice points
Intermediate	Skill level - have earned 15 or more Novice points; and less than 30 Intermediate points
Advanced	Skill level - have earned 30 or more Intermediate points
All Star	Skill level - have earned 45 or more Advanced points within 3 years prior to this event
Champions/Invitational/Pro	Skill level - as defined by the event
Junior	Age based - less than 18 years of age (all skill levels)
Masters	Age based - more than 50 years of age (and often, plus skill level requirements)

This new structure/points recorded was effective February 1, 2015, and past points will not be affected. This version is just a clarification **July 1, 2015**. The Tiers are based solely on the number of Competitors and not the size of the Event. The Competitor's Points Registry must be used to determine dancers' qualified skill level for both the Promoter and the Contestant.

Points are recorded for current WSDC Registry Member Events for Jack & Jill competition results only and only for the divisions listed above. Points that are recorded but don't move you to another level/division: Juniors, Newcomer, Masters, All Star, and Champion/Pro/Invitational. Points that are recorded but DO/CAN move you to another level/division: Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced. Points will be recorded based on the Tiers below which is determined by number of Competitors.

*The Event Director* is responsible to report the results of Jack & Jill competitions to the WSDC **within 10 days of their event**. They are responsible for advising the WSDC how many contestants were in each category, thereby setting up the Tier level for recording points, as stated below. Event Directors are responsible for informing contestants of the point structure detailed below, and skill levels as defined above, as well as having a Petition Process in place. **Points are not input into the database until full results and dollar surcharge are turned into the WSDC from the Event Director.**

*The Competitor* is responsible for knowing your WSDC assigned competitor ID number, and informed of these rules. Please use your ID number when signing up for J&J contests at Events. Competitors should know what division they should be competing in but use the Points Registry for rules if you are unsure.

**Points are recorded as follows:** When number of competitors is "uneven", points will be recorded (Tiered) separately by leader/follower. The minimum number of couples (even leaders & followers) to make a contest eligible for recording/tracking is five (5). Should a Tier 2 contest have more than 10 finalists or a Tier 3 contest have more than 15 finalists, those contestants placing beyond 10<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> place (respectively) in the final results *will not receive a finalist point*.

Tier / # of Competitors	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	4 <sup>th</sup> Place	5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Additional
Tier 1 = 5-15	5	4	3	2	1	0
Tier 2 = 16-39	10	8	6	4	2	1 point 6th up to 10 <sup>th</sup>
Tier 3 = 40+	15	12	10	8	6	1 point 6th up to 15th

**TIER 1 - 5 to 15 Competitors** (Could be run as a "finals only", or perhaps semi and final)

**TIER 2 – 16 to 39 Competitors** (Should at least be run as a semi/final, but could be prelim / semi / final)

**TIER 3 – 40+ Competitors** (With this number of competitors, should be 3 rounds – prelim / semi / final)

#### **ADDITIONAL CONTEST POINTS RECORDING RULES:**

- 1) The WSDC only tracks and records points for Jack & Jill contests. Points will only be recorded for those who danced in the final round only.
- 2) Each Competitor may only dance/compete in **one skill level division**.
- 3) Points are tracked and recorded for either Leader or Follower role. Only points from ONE skill level competition per Event will be recorded. Each competitor has only one WSDC Competitor ID number and is only listed once in the Registry, but will have their earned points separated between Leader and Follower. The competitor's total points will include points earned in both roles, for the total earned points needed to advance to the next level.
- 4) Contests where the leader or follower dances and places twice in that division, that individual will only be awarded points in the highest of the two placements.
- 5) For Events that combine divisions (i.e. Novice/Intermediate), points will be tracked for all contestants in the lower of the two divisions.
- 6) For Events that have different category names per division, we may not record them. Note what divisions **are recognized** by the WSDC (see the table on page one).
- 7) For Events that are held over New Years' holiday, points will show as of December-end of that year (versus using January of the New Year).
- 8) Points received prior to the last five (5) current years will not show on the Event Director's copy of Registry Books. They will be archived and available to see on the website (in other words, they are not "taken away").

Novice: A Competitor must stay in Novice until they have earned at least 15 points in Novice.

Intermediate: A Competitor must have earned at least 15 points in Novice, and stay in Intermediate until they have earned at least 30 points in Intermediate.

Advanced: A Competitor must have earned at least 30 points in Intermediate in order to move into Advanced.

All Stars: Not all events offer this division, and it's elective to enter if you qualify. At least one of the qualifications to dance in All Stars is that the competitor has at least 45 current points in Advanced (earned within last 3 years).

**Petitions:** All Events should offer Petitions and it can be on the sign-up form. For fairness, a committee, including the Chief Judge, would consider the requested reclassification/petition after reviewing the dancer's record. For Competitors, please note that if you have petitioned to dance in a higher/lower division at one Event, this does not "carry over" to the next Event. You may need to petition at the next Event as well. Petitioning should only be to dance **one level up or down only**, or to stay in current division. If a Competitor goes above or below one level from their qualified Skill Level, and the competitor finals or place in that division, that competitor will NOT receive any points for that competition. Once you have competed/earned (current) points in a higher division, you should stay in that division!

Some valid Petitioning reasons:

- points earned in a very small or very large competition (i.e. recognized by the Tiers)
- points are old (perhaps over 7 years)
- accomplished dancer who has not competed at many Registry events to earn points and wants to dance 'up'
- qualified instructor, but without competition points, who should not be competing against their own students

The Points Registry is available at [http://www.swingdancecouncil.com/registry\\_search.asp](http://www.swingdancecouncil.com/registry_search.asp). A published version (hard copy or soft copy), detailing the individual results up to 60 points and showing the past five (5) years of competing, is given to the Event Director (WSDC Members only) just prior to their Event.



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## **WSDC Registry Event RULES / REQUIREMENTS**

*As of January 1, 2007, the following are requirements for an event / competition to be a WSDC Registry Event  
(Updated 1-1-09) (Updated 1-1-10)(Updated 9-1-10)(Updated 1-1-12).(Updated 7-1-15)*

### **1) PROMOTING ENTITY:**

Registry Events are organized and hosted by Professional Members of the WSDC who are in current good standing, have submitted a Registry Event application and have had the event approved as a Registry Event by the WSDC Board of Directors.

1. Existing Members shall have:
  - a) Paid their annual July 1st – June 30th dues and submitted their membership and event info within the established deadlines and grace periods.
2. New Members (or Existing Members, previously without a Registry Event, desiring to add an event) shall:
  - a) Submit a membership application at least six (6) months prior to a proposed event. The application submission shall note a proposed event date and location, and general information such as proposed competition divisions and structures, format, proposed staff, etc.
  - b) Have an established event, with a minimum of one (1) year of history completed. The event must have been run in accordance with these requirements (as if it already were a Registry Event) to be eligible for application as Registry Event. New, 'start-up' events are asked to join as a Professional or Associate Professional member, with the first year event listed on our Other Event calendar; and then may apply for Registry Event status after successfully completing their first year.
  - c) Review the calendar to identify any existing Registry Events that will occur within four (4) weeks or less of the proposed event date and within a four hundred (400) mile radius of the proposed event location, to identify any concerns and conflicts of interest.
3. Existing Members wishing to make changes in time or location (city) to their Existing Registry Event are subject to the approval of the WSDC Board of Directors, and shall:
  - a) Notify the WSDC Board of Directors of the proposed change of time and/or location at least six (6) months prior to the event.
  - b) Review the calendar to identify any existing Registry Events that will occur within four (4) weeks or less of the proposed new event date and within a four hundred (400) mile radius of the proposed new event location, to identify any concerns and conflicts of interest.
4. All Members shall:
  - a) Agree to comply with all of the following requirements.

- b) Pay annual dues as established by the WSDC. Current dues are: \$200 per 7/1-6/30 year; which includes the right to host and organize one (1) Registry Event. Those Members having additional existing Registry Events, as approved by the WSDC Board of Directors, shall incur additional annual dues of \$100 per additional Registry Event.  
*After 30 days past due, Professional Members shall incur a \$25 late fee. After 60 days past due, membership will be considered un-renewed, and the member and their event(s) shall be dropped from the membership listings and event calendars. If the membership is not renewed within 120 days of the due date, the Registry Event status cannot be reinstated and the member/event would become a new event, on the Other Events calendar, subject to all requirements for eligibility (including a new, first year of history) for future reapplication as a Registry Event.*
- c) Conduct their event, contest and business functions in an ethical manner; provide fair, unbiased and un-tampered competitions, judging and scoring; and shall meet their financial obligations and stated rules / policies.  
*Violations will result in fines up to \$1000 and/or loss of Registry Event status.*
- d) Acknowledge that any membership (new applications, event changes, renewals, new event ownership entities, reinstatements) shall be accepted at the discretion of the WSDC Board of Directors; and that the WSDC reserves the right to deny any memberships and any additional events.

## **2) COMPETITOR SURCHARGE:**

Registry Events must provide a surcharge to the WSDC, at the rate of \$1 per competitor for all competitors entering the Jack & Jill competitions which are tracked by the WSDC Competitors Registry (see the attached Points Registry Documents for current divisions tracked and points structure). The competitor surcharge may be included within the established entry fee or added on to the established entry fee. The surcharge payment is due to the WSDC within ten (10) calendar days after the close of the event.

*If the results and surcharges are not remitted within 30 days after the event, a \$25 late fee shall be assessed. After 60 days and 90 days past the event, additional \$25 late fees shall be assessed. If the results and surcharges are not remitted within 120 days after the event, the member shall be in default and the event results will NOT be recorded; and the event will lose its Registry Event status. The member/event would become a new event, on the Other Events calendar, subject to all requirements for eligibility (including a new, first year of history) for future reapplication as a Registry Event.*

## **3) COMPETITION RESULTS:**

Registry Events must report the results of the Jack & Jill competitions tracked by the WSDC Competitors Registry to the WSDC (utilizing the form / format provided by the WSDC) and include the WSDC Competitor ID numbers. To be in compliance, and out of respect for *your* competitors, the WSDC must receive the results within ten (10) calendar days after the close of the event so that the WSDC can provide the most current Registries to following events. Results will be only recorded upon receipt of the Competitor Surcharge remittance.

#### 4) EVENT STRUCTURE:

Registry Events must comply with the following minimum event structure / organization, unless otherwise acknowledged and approved by the WSDC Board of Directors:

1. Registry Events must be a minimum of three (3) days.
2. Registry Events must be open to any dancer (national / international). Restricted or closed city, state or regional events are not eligible.
3. Registry events must be held in a typical hotel setting with appropriate ballroom and guest rooms available.
4. Registry Events must offer a minimum of two (2) WSDC Registry Jack & Jill Tier I size skill level divisions; with a minimum of sixty (60) unique total Registry Divisions' Jack & Jill contestants.
  - a. If an event has less than sixty (60) unique contestants, that year's results will still be posted and the appropriate Registry points awarded; but the event will lose its Registry Event status.
  - b. However, the event may 'petition' to the WSDC Board of Directors to maintain / continue their Registry Event status and have a one (1) year probation to build their competitor base above the required minimum.
  - c. If, after the probation year's event, the event *still* has less than the required minimum number of competitors, the event will not be renewed as a Registry Event (but could continue as an Other Event). The probation year's event results would still be posted and appropriate Registry points awarded. The professional member could reapply for Registry Event approval in the future, if it were to consistently reach the sixty (60) contestant minimum; but the event would be subject to the new event approval process.
5. Registry Events must occur annually, and must maintain the same time frame and location (city) from year to year. Changes in time frame and/or location must be approved by the WSDC Board of Directors.
  - a. A one week change, earlier or later, than an event's traditional weekend is acceptable without WSDC Board of Directors approval. Events that are tied to a specific date or holiday may freely float between the weekend before or after that specific date, dependant upon which day of the week that specific date falls in any given year.
  - b. A change from one city to another city in the same metropolitan area (and within a reasonable distance) shall not be considered a change in location.
6. Registry Events will be allowed a one year break in the annual occurrence (either a 'Cancellation' of the current year, or going 'On Hiatus' for the upcoming year), without losing their Registry Event status, without losing their time-frame and location position on the event listing (i.e. for notification of potential new event conflicts) and without being subject to reapplication to and re-approval by the WSDC Board of Directors. The one year break is automatically allowed with the following:
  - a. Notifying the WSDC that the event is 'Cancelled' for the current year or selecting 'On Hiatus' status for the following year.
  - b. Maintaining continuous, paid-up membership (i.e. no refund of current dues if 'Canceling' in the current year and renewing / paying their dues for the 'On Hiatus' year). The event will then continue to be listed as a Registry Event with a "Cancelled for <year>", "Postponed until <year>", or "On Hiatus for <year>" note as appropriate.
  - c. If the event is *not* held in the year following the 'hiatus' year (i.e. is not held for two consecutive years) and is then re-established, it would subject to the new event approval process.

## 5) COMPETITION RULES & FORMAT:

The following requirements must be met in the contest structure / contest format for the Jack & Jill competitions tracked by the WSDC at a Registry Event, unless otherwise acknowledged and approved by the WSDC Board of Directors:

1. Each Registry Event may only offer one (1) WSDC Registry contest for each WSDC skill or age level Jack & Jill. Each Registry Event must offer a minimum of (2) WSDC Registry Jack & Jill divisions.
2. Each competitor may enter only one (1) WSDC skill level Jack and Jill. Each competitor may enter only one (1) age level appropriate WSDC Jack & Jill.  
*Violations will result in that event's contest results NOT being entered in the WSDC Competitors Registry and the event's surcharges will NOT be accepted. The event will lose its Registry Event status.*
3. Each competitor may enter as either a Leader or Follower, within their respective skill level division, at any given Registry Event that allows the option; or enter as traditional Male/Leader or Female/Follower roles at Registry Events that maintain traditional roles.  
*Violations (competitors dancing in one division as a Leader and also in one division as a Follower) will result in that event's contest results NOT being entered in the WSDC Competitors Registry and the event's surcharges will NOT be accepted. The event will lose its Registry Event status.*
4. Chief Judge and Scoring / Tabulations functions and duties must be provided by separate individuals; and both functions must be independent of the event sponsor/director and/or owner(s).
5. The event director and/or owner(s) must not compete in any contests at their event.
6. The Chief Judge must not compete in any contests at the event.
7. The Scoreperson must not compete in any contests at the event.
8. The WSDC Competitors Registry must be utilized to determine the appropriate division for a competitor to enter. Any exceptions to the Registry must be via the petitioning process with appropriate approval.  
*Violations will result in fines of up to \$10 per improperly placed competitor and/or the loss of Registry Event status.*
9. Competitions must not be artificially 'evened up' via shifting of competitors from one division to another, changing competitors' divisions, adding 'walk-on' competitors from the audience (i.e. not pre-signed up), adding 'stand-in' dancers, etc.
10. The integrity of any random and/or unbiased functions must be maintained. Rotations (typically, in preliminary heats) shall be determined by the rolling of dice, a random number generator, or the drawing of number cards. Determining which dancers dance more than once (in uneven preliminary heats) shall be random. The pairing of partners in the finals and determining the order of dance shall be via a random computer function or the drawing of dance partner names and/or dance order 'on the floor'.
11. All contest results / awards must utilize judges making independent decisions and the scores properly compiled, tabulated and reviewed.
12. Finals contests' results must be tabulated utilizing the Relative Placement Scoring System. Preliminary contests must utilize the Callback System for determining finalists. All scoring shall be computerized; and shall be tabulated by someone thoroughly trained and knowledgeable in the Callback and Relative Placement scoring systems. A computerized scoring system shall allow for placing competitors within the various divisions and contests, randomly assign competitors to heats in the preliminary rounds, create information populated preliminary individual and couples contest judging sheets, tabulate

call-backs and rank them, create call-back announcement sheets, carry-forward contestants to finals contests, randomly assign competitors in order or place in order per drawing-for-order, randomly assign partners (if needed), create information populated finals contest judging sheets, tabulate and rank finals contests results and provide results / announcement / posting sheets.

13. Group judging decisions (whether 'on the floor' or 'in the back room'), 'tap out' eliminations during the contest (whether by an individual judge or as a group), instantaneous (i.e. 'on the floor') decisions / awards, etc. are *not* acceptable.
14. A minimum of five (5) judges are required for finals contests (for relative placement); an even number of judges shall not be used. If judges are judging one sex only (typically in preliminary contests), a minimum of six (6) total judges (three judging each sex) is required. (*Note: The WSDC recommends seven (7) judges or more to be utilized for all finals competitions (Relative Placement Scoring), and eight (8) to ten (10) judges (4-5 judges judging each sex) to be utilized for all Preliminary competitions (Callback Scoring) if at all possible; but the limitations that may be imposed due to staff size, schedule constraints and judging expenses is recognized.*)
15. Any potential (real or perceived) conflicts, whether favoritism or bias – positive or negative, between any judges and competitors shall be identified; and judging assignments shall be determined around the conflict. Direct conflicts include immediate family / spouse / romantic relationship partners, and business (competition / coaching / teaching) partners.

*Unless noted otherwise specifically above, a violation to any rule is subject to fines of up to \$1000 and/or loss of Registry Event status.*

#### **ADDITIONAL EVENT / COMPETITION RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) The WSDC *recommends* that all contestants shall be Adults (competitors having reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday on or before the close of the event). Junior divisions (those less than 18 years of age) are desired and encouraged by the WSDC. The WSDC recommends that minors and adults shall not compete together, nor against each other.
- 2) Results postings shall be open to competitors, and shall be posted for a pre-determined, limited time period and monitored. The WSDC *recommends* that a) postings shall reference the judges by a designation, with a separate listing of the judges' names with those designations, b) the posting of Callbacks shall include only those competitors with at least one (1) callback or alternate, and c) that the posting of Finals contests shall include only the top 10-12 placements.
- 3) The WSDC *recommends* avoiding combining divisions of skill levels of dance competition, if at all possible; but the limitations that may be imposed due to lack of entrants, time / schedule constraints, judges' fees and award costs, etc. is recognized.
- 4) If an event has a variety of partner competitions, the WSDC *recommends* that a competitor shall have a different partner for each partnered division. If a partnership consists of competitors of different levels, the WSDC recommends that the couple shall compete at the *higher* level.

*These minimum rules for WSDC Registry Events have been developed for consistency among WSDC Registry Events / competitions and for fairness to all competitors and events. The rules are continually evolving and subject to change.*

*The rules are enforced by the WSDC Executive Board. The WSDC reserves the right to revise / add / delete rules, accept events and assign penalties and violations at its discretion. Unless otherwise approved, any WSDC Professional Member / Registry Event that does not comply with the above REQUIREMENTS will be considered 'in default' of their membership; subject to penalties and/or loss of WSDC Registry Event status as outlined above. Members in default may reapply for WSDC membership as new member, subject to approval by the WSDC Board of Directors.*

The WSDC serves to promote, encourage and enhance swing dancing on a national and world level; and respects the interests of both new and existing members of the entire swing dance community.