

# 2011 UCWDC® Rules

## Updates and Clarifications

Hello Dancers! We continue working on improving our sport and bringing new people into our Country Western dance family. This year we will improve communication between the judges and competitors by releasing the judges' names with the competitors' scores. To help explain our standards, etiquette and judging process we will have Competitors' meetings at each event. Please help us to make this transition smooth and informative for all. Our VP of Judge Certification, Kathy St. Jean, is working hard on this process. Please take time to thank her for her hard work!

We have resolved not to change the body of these rules for Couples, ProAm and Line Dance for the next three years. We will concentrate on and continue to update the Syllabus, Appendices (Judge Certification, Glossary, etc.), Troupes and Teams, and any wording if clarifications are necessary. We are working towards having separate documents for each Dance Type (Couples, Line Dance, ProAm and Groups/Teams) as well as a formatting for the rules that is easier to read. We will continue to review our rules as well as collect your comments and suggestions for change.

Details for these rule changes and clarifications as well as the complete UCWDC® Rules, Contest Procedures and Scoring Format are available at [www.UCWDC.org](http://www.UCWDC.org).

We hope you have a fabulous 2011 Dance Season. Good luck to all!

*Beth Emerson*, Vice President of Rules

### For All Dance Types

- **Current Associate Membership** will be required for all competitors in UCWDC® divisions. For new dance competitors, their first Dance Season will cost just \$5. Also a one-time membership will cost \$4 per person (this single event membership will **NOT** accrue Worlds Eligibility and can never be converted into one that does, but will give you points towards Points Championships).
- **Competitors who dance both Showcase Open and Classic Open divisions** may combine their overalls for Worlds Eligibility -Classic may be either Intermediate or Advanced in Line Dance or II or I in Couples. That is, one event may be Classic and two Showcase or vice versa. This is a clarification, not a change. If a competitor is in Line Dance Open Intermediate (or Couples Open II) and Showcase those events may also be combined.
- **Invigilation** is used now for Syllabus divisions and may be used in other situations. Possibilities include Line Dance Vanilla and Basic Rule as well as Movement Limitations.
- **Judges' names will be released** with competitors' scores and the Comment Markings Appendix will be removed.
- **Newcomer Costuming:** The wording for Newcomer costuming has been clarified. It now reads: Contestants in Divisions Syllabus A and B, IV and ProAm Newcomer and Line Dance Newcomer are not allowed to wear costumes that have any sequins, rhinestones or other sparkly embellishments, or metallic threads woven into the costume. This does not include jewelry, hatbands, belt buckles.
- **The Olympiad Appendix** has been reviewed and the Olympiad solo dance short program will be 2 - 2 1/2 minutes without internal requirements

# 2011 UCWDC® Rules Updates and Clarifications

## For Couples, ProAm and ProPro

- **Couples dancing in multiple divisions with separate partners** must compete at the same skill level.
- **We've formed a Classic Music Committee** chaired by Glenn Cravalho which will publish a list of music used for Classic Couples and ProAm Divisions. The information published will be Name of song, name of artist, name of cd, tempo the song was played, phrase list (ie 4, 8, 8, 4, 8, 4 ...). These songs will be reviewed and songs not appropriate for that dance will be removed. Classic music at Worlds will be chosen from this list.
- **Couples, ProAm and ProPro Showcase Divisions** (except Masters and Crown) will have the same rules and Acrobatics (not Aerials) will be allowed in those Showcase Divisions
- **Couples, ProAm and ProPro Classic Divisions** (except Masters and Crown) will have the same rules. Syllabus and Div IV and Newcomer will continue to have the same additional limitations.
- **Ascension to Crown** – Gold Combined includes novices, so Gold Combined winners are not eligible for Crown. The wording in the rules will specify that only Crystal I (once the competitors turn 40), Diamond I and Silver I and Advanced are ascension divisions to Crown
- **Masters' Showcase** movement limitations will be removed. There will be no movement limitations in Masters' Showcase.

## For Troupes and Teams

- **Team Rules** are complicated! We are working on making these rules far simpler. We thank JP Oster for leading this effort. Please contact him if you have ideas in this area.
- **Wheel Chair divisions** – Wheel Chair competitors wish to be included with regular divisions so language has been added to clarify that they may enter ShowTime and/or Team Cabaret divisions.

## For Line Dance

- **Journeyman or Masters Certified Judges** that are not actively competing in Line dance will be able to Judge Line Dance at worlds.
- **Line dance judges at Worlds** will be given no more than two levels to judge. (Newcomer/Novice for example). These judges will be informed in advance of Worlds and will be required to learn the classic line dances by step sheet and video, and demonstrate the vanilla prior to judging at worlds.
- **Step sheets** will be provided and used during the classic line dance contests.
- **RisingStars** Division will continue through age 19 (RisingStars competitors must be at least 14 and under 20) and advanced teens may make a choice the year they turn 18. They may move to Line Dance Open Advanced or continue to dance in RisingStars until the year they turn 20. Once made that choice is final.
- **Choreography Music Length** will be 1 ½ minutes except for ABC dances which will be 2 minutes.