



159 N. 25th Street, Camp Hill, PA, USA, 17011-3609

## Introduction to 2020 Rule Changes

Hello Dancers,

Congratulations to all of you who competed at the Country Dance World Championships (Worlds)! Also thank you to all who attended Worlds whether you were there to support your friends and family who competed, or to take workshops and dance. There's no place like Worlds!

This is a big year for us, and I hope a big step forward. The new cycle of rules is 2020-2022 and is being released as four booklets – one for each Dance Type: ProAm, Line Dance, Couples, and Teams. The booklets and associated documents (used to be appendices) are all available at [www.ucwdc.org/rules](http://www.ucwdc.org/rules). Each booklet will only have the rules for that Dance Type. We hope this will make the rules easier to understand. Here are the major changes that are included in the new rules.

### **Newcomer costume rules are relaxed**

For the past two years, we have allowed junior newcomers to wear 'bling' on their costumes. Many off the rack costumes (and regular clothing!) have bling. This is now extended to all Newcomers. Newcomers now have the same costume rules as competitors in higher levels. All of these competitors- including newcomers- may wear costumes with or without bling. Have fun! Syllabus competitors will continue with existing costume restrictions- no change from last year

### **Couples music length is 1 ½ minutes**

This has been requested and now is the time! Couples music will no longer be 2 minutes, but is now 1 ½ minutes (90 seconds). Now the couples will join the Masters and Crown couples as well as all Classic ProAm who already dance to 1 ½ minutes.

### **Some ProAm Juniors may dance with their female instructors**

Our sport attracts more girls than boys and we want to encourage all our juniors as much as possible – they are our future! Competitors in the ProAm Female Junior Primary and Junior Youth divisions may dance with their female instructors at all levels. Competitors in the ProAm Female Junior Teen divisions may dance with their female instructors at the Newcomer and Novice levels.

I hope this Dance Season is your best ever, socially and/or competitively, and I look forward to seeing you in 2021 at Worlds in San Antonio, Texas.

See you dancing!

Beth Emerson  
UCWDC® Vice President of Rules,  
Contest Procedures and Scoring Format