



Divisions offered at the Country Dance World Championships

DanceHall Jack & Jill

- Progressive Freestyle (No Lifts)
- Stationary Freestyle (No Lifts)

DanceHall Freestyle Strictly

- Progressive Freestyle Strictly (Lifts allowed)
- Stationary Freestyle Strictly (Lifts allowed)

Line Dance Improver

Line Dance Intermediate/Advanced

*Line dances are posted at
www.ucwdcworlds.com*

DanceHall Rules

- Couples will consist of a lead dancer and a follow dancer.
- Competitors are expected to dress in casual or country western attire. Costumes and any unsafe clothing and footwear are not allowed, judges will determine any attire where there is concern.
- A maximum of 8 couples/ line dancers will dance on the floor at any one time during the competition.
- Each level of Line Dance has 2 dances that will be performed in semi-finals and finals. Stepsheets and other information is posted on the Worlds website.
- Competitors begin with one (1) wall of “vanilla”, which is a complete rendition of the entire step description without variation.
- Couples competitions will dance a minimum of 2 random songs per heat.

Heats/Rounds:

- All heats will or should have an equal or similar number of couples/line dancers on the dance floor in each heat except where not possible.
- If there are 8 couples/line dancers or more then there will be 2 heats minimum, with a finals round.



- If there are 20 or more couples/line dancers, there will be a “semi-finals” round of 8 where 5 will be selected to go into a finals round.

Finals Round:

- After all the heats, 5 couples/line dancers will be selected by the judges to go into a finals round.
- The finals round will be the last round with contestants receiving 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

Judging Criteria:

- The judging will be based on the items provided below and final score will be a single placement for each competitor:
 - Execution of Required Dance Style (Progressive, Stationary or Line Dance based on Stepsheet criteria)
 - Timing and Rhythm
 - Footwork and Technique
 - Musicality and Interpretation
 - Creativity and Showmanship
 - Overall Appearance and Style
 - Audience Appeal and Response During the Competition
- Judges will have a dancing background and understand the criteria to judge the competition.
- In the semi-final, Jack and Jill Couples panels generally consist of 3 Leaders and 3 Followers judging those roles. In the finals, the judge panel can be reduced to 5 judges or increased to a greater odd number. Line Dance panels can consist of 3 judges or a greater odd number.

Competitor Dancefloor Rules:

- Any form of dangerous behavior, such as dropping a partner on the floor or running into other competitors, will constitute a disqualification.
- Any form of fighting or unsportsmanlike conduct will result in immediate removal from the competition based on the Contest Coordinator’s decision.
- If a dancer is dropped while doing a dip or lift or drop, that couple will no longer be allowed to perform any dip, drop or lift after the first fall or they will be removed from the competition dance floor upon second attempt or immediately thereafter with no explanation until after the round.



- If a dancer is injured, the competition will stop. Competitors are to clear the area. The competition can only resume when the injured competitor is clear of the dance floor and the Contest Coordinator has made the decision it is safe to continue the competition.
- A “lift” is defined in the competition where both of a partner’s feet are off the floor and their body weight is lifted by the other partner “at” or “near” the shoulder of the lead. An “aerial” will be defined as a lift where the follow is lifted “above”, “at”, or “around” shoulder height. Lifts and aerials are prohibited in competition except for Stationary Freestyle Strictly and Progressive Freestyle Strictly. Exception – ‘Princess dips’ are allowed in all couples contests including Jack & Jills.
- Aerials and flips are allowed at the Intermediate/Advanced level in Line Dance.

Qualifications

- All contestants must be at least **18 years of age**.
- Must be registered online or in person by the published cut off day and time, including a signed liability waiver.

Prizes

The overall top three placements will be awarded.

DanceHall Jack & Jill: Cash Prizes

DanceHall Strictly and Line Dance

- First Place: BAC Belt Buckle sponsored by Robert Royston [BAC1873](#)
- Second Place: General prizes
- Third Place: General prizes

Contest Regulations

- All songs will be selected at random.
- Judges will be selected prior to the contest and are not allowed to compete.
- Dancers will dance to randomized songs. Organizers reserve the right to shorten the length of songs in the event of time constraints.
- Lifts, drops and aerials are **only** allowed in Stationary Freestyle Strictly and Progressive Freestyle Strictly.



- One entry per person. No person can compete twice with a different partner. No person can compete both skill levels in Line Dance.
- Judging begins when music begins.
- The number of couples in the contest will determine the length of the contest.

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