

## **1.0 APPLICATION**

- 1.1 These competition rules will apply to all Ontario athletes irrespective of category and grade and will cover International Standard and Latin-American style dancing, North American Style Smooth and Rhythm DanceSport competitions. Athletes from other jurisdictions are expected to also abide by these rules when competing in Ontario.

## **2.0 DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR ATHLETE**

- 2.1 Amateur status will be deemed lost if a danceSport dancer:

- a) Sells or converts into money a prize won for dancing.
- b) Receives expenses from ODS, CDS or other Association for dancing in a competition over and above that for travel, accommodation and a meal allowance as duly authorized by the Executive.
- c) Participates in a dancing competition for which a cash or money voucher prize is offered, unless the Executive grants permission and a trust fund set up for this purpose by ODS.
- d) Accepts remuneration in cash or kind for the use of their name or performance as a dancer in an advertisement.
- e) Declares himself/herself to be a professional dancer by advertisement or otherwise.
- f) Takes an entrance examination to any of the professional ballroom dancing bodies or Associations.
- g) Acts or assists as a teacher of DanceSport except as provided for under CDS rule 8.3. (See Appendix 1 for details)
- h) Acts as an organizer, or promoter, directly or indirectly, of any DanceSport event that is non charity in nature
- i) Participates in a competition or team match, which is limited to professionals only.

- 2.2 An athlete can present a demonstration of DanceSport at an event but prior permission of the Executive is required. All monies paid to the couple must be placed in their trust account held by the treasurer. An administrative fee as set from time to time by the ODS Executive will be charged against the trust account.

- 2.3 An athlete can accept a prize in the form of a travel voucher towards the cost of travelling to a DanceSport event.

- 2.4 Athletes may dance in mixed professional-amateur (Pro-Am) competitions provided the amateur athlete accepts no prize money.

## **3.0 LICENSING OF COMPETITORS**

- 3.1.1 Residents of Ontario must be members of ODS to compete in sanctioned DanceSport competitions in Ontario.

- 3.1.2 Definition of a couple: A couple consists of a male and a female partner.

- 3.1.3 To compete outside Ontario, ODS members must pay an additional fee to ODS in order to be placed on the National Registry of Athlete Dancers (CRAD) maintained by CDS. This fee is an integral part of the annual ODS fee.
- 3.2 Athletes from outside Ontario within Canada must be members of their Regional Association and listed on the National Register (CRAD) in order to compete in Ontario.
- 3.3 Competitors from outside Canada must be members of the appropriate amateur body having jurisdiction where they reside, in order to compete in Ontario.
- 3.4 In order for athletes to compete, they must be a member of ODS or other recognized amateur association for at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Application for ODS membership will be in writing on the appropriate form supplied by ODS, and must be completed in full and signed by the applicant.
- 3.5 All competitors must show their current membership card when obtaining their competitor numbers at a competition.
- 3.6 Couples made up of dancers residing in different Provinces must make specific arrangements:
- a) Each athlete obtains membership in the Province where they reside.
  - b) Each dancer then informs both Provincial Associations concerned about the mixed membership within the partnership and in which Province the partnership intends to compete for championship purposes.
  - c) This partnership will then only be permitted to compete in Closed Provincial championship events in the Province selected and can only become champions in that Province.

3.6.1 **International Partnerships** (from the CDS Rule Book Rule 7(4))

In Canadian Closed Championships or Regional Association Closed Championships, one member of a partnership must be a Canadian Citizen.

The second member if not a Canadian citizen:

- a) must satisfy the Board that under Canadian law s/he is permitted to travel out of and into Canada.
- b) must satisfy the Board that s/he has elected in writing his or her intention to compete in DanceSport for Canada only during the calendar year prior to the said Championship.

And

- c) He/she has not represented another country in a DanceSport competition during the 8 months prior to the said Championships except when the competitor has received consent in writing to the change in representation from each of the two relevant WDSF Members, and then the competitor may immediately represent Canada.
- d) A competitor having represented one country in any WDSF Championship or any WDSF Cup is not permitted to represent another country in any WDSF Championship or WDSF Cup competition until a period of 12 months has elapsed since the last representation. Therefore would not be eligible to compete in the Canadian Closed Championships or its qualifiers until the one year has elapsed.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT the Board may in its absolute discretion require such proof either before or after such Championships as it deems fit and necessary when considering whether such second member has complied to its satisfaction with any part of this subrule 7(4) This rule will also apply to the Ontario Closed Championship.

- 3.7 At the Championship level, athletes cannot compete with more than one partner in the same discipline (Standard, Latin, Rhythm, & Smooth) at an event. An event covers multi day competitions. (Means that a person can have a different partner for Standard & Latin)

#### 4.0 COMPETITION GRADES

NOTE: 1) All bylaws, which refer to beginner(s) and novice(s) grades, shall have the word "beginner(s)" deleted, and bronze and silver categories inserted and all reference to novice(s) grade shall be replaced by gold category. (This will apply if you are transferring your wins over to the medal system or if competing outside the province, where they do not use the medal categories.)

- 4.1 Six grades of competition are provided for amateur youth and adult dancers, which in ascending order are:

New comers	-	which consist of any 1 or 2 dance out of 5
Pre-Bronze	-	which consist of any 2 dances out of 5
Bronze	-	which consist of any 3 dances out of 5
Silver	-	which consist of any 3 dances out of 5
Gold	-	which consist of any 4 dances out of 5
Pre-Championship	-	which consist of any 4 dances out of 5
Championship	-	which consist of any 4 or 5 dances out of 5

- 4.1.1 Six grades of competition are also provided for Juveniles and Juniors. The syllabus will be the same as in adult categories.

Dancing up rules will apply the same as in adult categories.

Graduation will be as follows: When you graduate to Junior or Youth, you will keep the same category, but do not have to count wins earned in the same category. Example: If you are a junior gold and have two (2) junior gold wins, you would graduate to youth gold but with **no** gold wins.

- 4.2 The normal entry level for competitors is Newcomer. However, athletes may enter at any level.
- 4.3 The lowest level at which the rules permit a couple to compete is called their minimum level. An Ontario competitor's minimum level is determined by ODS, which has jurisdiction over this matter for its members, no matter where they may be competing. This however, does not preclude jurisdictions elsewhere from refusing to accept a competitor's minimum level under the rules it applies and requiring them to compete at a different grade.
- 4.4 A partnership must compete at the highest minimum level of either athlete.
- 4.5 Dancers taking up residence in Ontario must compete at least at the same minimum level for which they were qualified under the rules of the association that had jurisdiction in the area they previously resided in.

- 4.6 ODS reserves the right to refuse to accept the minimum level claimed by competitors from outside Ontario and requiring that they compete at a different grade at Ontario events.
- 4.7 It will not be necessary for a competitor to hold or to have passed the equivalent of any medal, test or certificate to participate in these grades.
- 4.8 If a competitor does not dance all of the dances in his/her event then he/she will be disqualified.

## **5.0 GRADUATION THROUGH THE GRADES**

- 5.1 You will graduate to the next level after 3 wins.
- 5.2 When competitors are disqualified from competing at a given minimum level by any rule, the next higher grade becomes the competitor's new minimum level.
- 5.3 Competitors can decide to graduate from any minimum level if they wish and at any time by notifying the Membership Chairperson.
- 5.4 For the application of the above graduation rules, the following apply:
  - 5.4.1. A win must be in a competition with an entry of at least 6 couples in order to count towards graduation.
  - 5.4.2 Wins gained anywhere count towards an Ontario competitor's graduation providing they meet the requirements of 5.4.1 and 5.4.2. Competitors are honour bound to report to the Membership chairman within 30 days, any wins that affect their minimum level.
    - 5.4.3.1 Wins in competitions restricted to the students of a particular studio, club or school will not count towards a competitor's graduation.
    - 5.4.3.2 If you compete outside the province, your wins in the category you compete in, will count, no matter how many dances they had in that category. (e.g. Quebec has only 3 dances in pre-championship and will be using blocks of 2 dance silver categories. The USA has 2 dance novice events but it uses gold syllabus, therefore it is considered a gold win)
  - 5.4.4 Graduation from one grade to the next will apply to members as individuals, not as couples.
- 5.4.5. **Exceptions**
  - 5.4.5.1 A competitor who has danced in the first round of a competition shall, if selected to go forward, be entitled to compete in subsequent rounds held on a later date even if in the meantime, the competitor has graduated as a result of another competition

## **6.0 DANCING UP IN GRADE**

- 6.1 Competitors may dance in a competition at only the next level up from their lowest level of competition. Example: from silver to gold, but not from Silver to Pre-Championship. This rule applies in Ontario.
 

When dancing outside the province, the rules of that province or country prevail. Couples are permitted to dance more than one level up from their Ontario level provided

it is within the rules of that jurisdiction. Any wins will be counted towards your Ontario graduation.

- 6.2 If there is a competition at an event in a competitor's minimum level, the competitors must enter that competition before they are permitted to dance up in a higher grade. If there is no competition in the competitor's minimum level, then they may dance up at the higher grade. For the application of this rule, dancing in a competition restricted to Seniors I,II, III, and IV will be considered as dancing at the Adult grade.
- 6.3 Any partnership that wins in a higher category that had at least 6 couples in the event must graduate immediately, irrespective of the number of wins gained at the lower level. This particular win will get counted as one of the 3 wins at the new grade level.

## **7.0 AGE CATEGORIES**

- 7.1 Competitors will compete in the following age categories:

Age restrictions (effective January 1, 2014):

- |              |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Juvenile I:  | reach 9th birthday or less in the calendar year                                                                                                                                 |
| Juvenile II: | reach 10th or 11th birthday in the calendar year                                                                                                                                |
| Junior I:    | reach 12th or 13th birthday in the calendar year                                                                                                                                |
| Junior II:   | reach 14th or 15th birthday in the calendar year                                                                                                                                |
| Youth:       | reach 16th, 17th or 18th birthday in the calendar year                                                                                                                          |
| Under 21:    | reach 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th or 20th birthday in the calendar year                                                                                                              |
| Adult:       | reach 19th birthday or more in the calendar year                                                                                                                                |
| Senior I:    | One partner must have reached his or her 35th birthday in the calendar year and the other partner must have reached his or her 30th birthday in the calendar year.              |
| Senior II:   | One partner must have reached his or her 45th birthday in the calendar year and the other partner must have reached his or her 40th birthday in the calendar year.              |
| Senior III:  | One partner must have reached his or her 55th birthday in the calendar year and the other partner must have reached his or her 50th birthday in the calendar year.              |
| Senior IV:   | One partner must have reached his or her 65th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 60th birthday or more in the calendar year. |

Putting two age-groups together, such as Juvenile I and II as well as Junior I and II in one class, is optional. Juvenile II are permitted to compete in Junior I events except at Championship level at CCC Qualifier & CCC. Junior II couples are allowed to compete in all Youth events. Youth couples are allowed to participate in adult competitions. In all age groups one partner of a couple can belong to a younger age-group, except in Senior I, Senior II, Senior III or Senior IV.

In all age sections one partner of a couple can be younger, except in Seniors.  
NOTE: There will no longer be average age calculation to determine age eligibility. A couple's age restriction will depend on the oldest member of the partnership

## **8.0 DRESS CODE**

### **Check the WDSF/CDS/ODS Web Sites for the latest Dress Code.**

The current Dress Code is published in a separate document.

If competitors have any doubts about the suitability of their costume they should check with the Executive.

## **8.1 Advertising**

- 8.1.1 In all DanceSport Competitions, a man or boy may advertise up to three (3) sponsors, and a woman or girl may advertise up to two (2) sponsors. The size of the advertisement may be no more than 40 square cm for each sponsor. Such advertising may only be displayed and located on the hip, waist, chest or sleeves. Each reproduction of any flag displayed on an athlete's costume constitutes one (1) sponsor for the purpose of this Rule.

## **9.0 RESTRICTIONS TO ALLOWED FIGURES IN THE GRADES**

- 9.1 Competitors in Juvenile, Junior, Youth, Adult and Senior New comer, Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Silver and Gold events must limit their groups and amalgamations to only figures taught in the equivalent medal grades. These Syllabi for the New Comer to Gold grades will be approved by the ODS Executive. ODS will inform the membership through mailings as new versions are published
- 9.2 While it is recognized that some of the Syllabus figures can be danced in more than one of the dances on an inter-related basis. This inter-relation of figures will NOT be allowed in competition.
- 9.3 In all Latin American dances, the figures must be danced with conventional hold and technique or any modern deviation of the hold, which does not fundamentally change the basic technique of the figures danced.
- 9.4 For all New Comer, Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Silver and Gold competitions, a penalty judge must be present in addition to the normally required judges.
- 9.5 There are no figure restrictions in the Pre-Championship and Championship grades.

## **10.0 TYPES OF COMPETITIONS**

### **10.1 UNRESTRICTED COMPETITIONS**

These contests may be run with the rules left to the discretion of the promoter and athletes may dance in them without penalty provided the approval of the Executive Committee of ODS is obtained in advance by the promoter.

### **10.2 CLOSED STUDIO COMPETITIONS**

Closed studio competitions are those contests, which are promoted and run by a specific studio, club or school and in which entries are limited to the members of that studio, club or school. Members are permitted to participate in these without penalty.

### 10.3

### **CLOSED COMPETITIONS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **10.3.1. QUALIFICATION FOR THE CANADIAN CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP**

No couple may participate in any category at the Canadian Closed Championship in a calendar year unless both members of the couple competed, in the exact same category, with each other in the DanceSport Competition designated by their Regional Board as the Official Regional Qualifying Competition, with that Official Regional Qualifying Competition being held in the same calendar year as the Canadian Closed Championship. Only one Official Regional Qualifying competition can be designated by each Regional Board. All couples from that Region must compete in this one Official Regional Qualifying Competition in order to qualify to compete in the Canadian Closed Championships. Each Regional Board shall provide to the promoter of any Canadian Closed Championship a list of competing couples, who are eligible to compete under this Rule, a minimum of 3 weeks prior to the event. An Athlete can only compete in one Official Regional Qualifying Competition per year.

The Regional Board must submit the name and date of the Official Regional Qualifying Competition for the Canadian Closed Championship to the CDS Board no later than September 1st of the year prior to the next Canadian Closed Championship. The date of each Regional's Association Official Qualifying Competition for the Canadian Closed Championship must be held a minimum of 3 weeks prior to the Canadian Closed Championship. The date of each Regional's Association Official Qualifying Competition for the Canadian Closed Championship will be published on the CDS and Regional Association web sites.

Notwithstanding this requirement, the CDS Board may waive the application of this Rule in an exceptional case where a couple has not competed in the Official Regional Qualifying Competition. An application for a waiver must be filed with the CDS Board by the Regional Board prior to their Official Regional Qualifying Competition or no later than 5 days after their Official Regional Qualifying Competition. The CDS Board may add certain conditions which must be met in order to grant such a waiver. A waiver may be granted if a couple's CCC Regional Qualifier is the same weekend as a WDSF World Championship that they are competing in. In such cases the couple must compete at a subsequent CDS recognized Canadian Closed or Canadian Open Championship prior to competing in any subsequent WDSF World Championship or World Cup. No waiver will be granted for a new partnership that was created after the Official Regional Qualifying Competition of their Regional Association.

The Statement on the Entry Form, which must be completed and signed by all Canadian Closed Competitors, shall read as follows:

[I competed or will be competing with the same partner in the Official Regional Qualifying Competition in the exact same category for which we wish to enter these Canadian Closed Championships] followed by a "Yes" and a "No" box for a response and both their signatures. {effective March 20, 2017}

The promoter shall not accept any such entry form unless the Statement above is completed.

#### **10.3.2. PROVINCIAL AND AREA EVENTS (Closed Competitions)**

Entries shall be restricted to competitors where both must be ODS members a minimum of one month prior to the Championship deadline if they wish to compete in it. For CCC Qualifier, provided that they meet the requirements of Rule 3.6.1 additional requirements could be applied.

#### 10.4 **OPEN COMPETITIONS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS**

10.4.1. Any bona fide athlete may dance in an open contest provided he or she does not infringe the rules and regulations of CDS.

10.4.2. Competitors from outside Ontario will be eligible to compete in any open competition by either reciprocal or affiliated recognition or if both members of a competing couple meet the requirements and rules of CDS.

#### 10.5 **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

In International contests ODS will recognize CDS rules.

#### 10.6 **QUALIFYING**

In order to qualify for the final of any competition, competitors must dance in all rounds. It is not permissible for a dancer to pass into later rounds of any competition unless the partnership competes in the first and each subsequent round of the contest.

#### 11.0 **CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

11.1 Rules and regulations covering competitors and competitions for championships will be as in Schedule B of the National Board (CDS) "Championship Rules". These will apply to all dancers and competitions within the jurisdiction of ODS.

11.2 Provincial and National Championship events will be run in accordance with CDS's rules governing recognition, judging and conditions applicable to closed and open competitions (See CDS Schedule B - Championship Rules).

11.3 All dancers entering a championship must be members in good standing of ODS or with other member Associations within CDS or recognized by CDS.

#### 12.0 **SELECTION OF THE ONTARIO CHAMPIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES**

12.1 The Association will register all Ontario Dancesport competitors so that recognition may be accorded reigning champions and bring order to the competitive field.

12.2 ODS will use the **Ontario Closed Championship** to choose Ontario's official representatives for the National Interprovincial Competitions and team matches. The semi-final and/or final rounds of the championships (Standard & Latin) may be split into two heats.

12.3 The couples will be placed first to sixth, in both Standard & Latin American categories, and from these positions will be selected the Ontario representatives, depending upon availability, in order of merit. The 10 Dance representatives will be the highest placed couple in both categories, in order of merit.

12.4 In the event that none of the qualified competitors are available, the Executive may at their discretion nominate the competitor to fulfil the needs from the general register of competitors.

12.5 Any athlete chosen to represent Ontario must be a member in good standing of the Association. In Canadian Closed Championships or the Ontario Closed

Championships, one member of a partnership must be a Canadian Citizen. The second member, if not a Canadian citizen, must satisfy the Board that:

- a) Under Canadian law he/she is permitted to travel out of and back into Canada;
  - b) He/she has elected in writing his or her intention to compete in DanceSport exclusively for Canada during the calendar year prior to the said Championships; and
  - c) He/she has not represented another country in a DanceSport competition during the 8 months prior to the said Championships except when the competitor has received consent in writing to the change in representation from each of the two relevant WDSF Members, and then the competitor may immediately represent Canada. A competitor having represented one country in any WDSF World Championship or any WDSF World Cup is not permitted to represent Canada in any WDSF Championship or WDSF Cup competition until a period of 12 months has elapsed since the last representation. Therefore they would not be eligible to compete in the Canadian Closed Championships or its qualifiers until the one year has elapsed.
- 12.6 Athletes chosen to represent Ontario at the Closed Canadian Championship with a view to representing Canada at an international event must be members of ODS as evidenced by a current membership card and entry in the Official Master Register. Such representatives must possess the required qualifications dictated by CDS. ODS will only sponsor financially the ODS member if an interprovincial partnership should win the Ontario Closed.
- 12.7 All negotiations for the appearance of Ontario competitive dancers in provinces outside Ontario shall be carried out between ODS and the corresponding governing body of the province concerned. Any Ontario teams intending to accept an invitation to participate in a contest in another province must obtain permission from ODS. This only applies where competitors or teams are invited as 'Representatives of Ontario'.
- 12.8 All negotiations for the appearance of Canadian competitive dancers in countries outside Canada shall be carried out between CDS and the corresponding governing body of the country concerned. Any Canadian teams intending to accept an invitation to participate in a contest in another country must obtain permission from CDS. This only applies where competitors or teams are invited as 'Representatives of Canada'.
- 12.9 All decisions respecting Canadian entries in WDSF World (Open and Closed) Championships are at the absolute discretion of the CDS Board. For further clarification, but not to limit the generality of the preceding sentence, neither the CDS Board nor the CDS General Meeting is obliged to choose any certain couple for entry in WDSF World (Open and Closed) Championships. CDS does not have any obligation to any couple registered in CRAD to enter them in any WDSF World (Open and Closed) Championship, or to enter any Canadian couple in any WDSF World (Open and Closed) Championship in any year. Entry by Canadian couples in WDSF World (Open and Closed) Championships is a privilege, not a right, and is based on all considerations which the CDS Board or CDS General Meeting chooses in their absolute discretion to take into account.

Once an entry in a WDSF World (Open and Closed) Championship is made by CDS, it can be revoked by the Board in its absolute discretion and replaced by another entry in its absolute discretion, or not replaced by any entry whatsoever, as the CDS Board or the CDS General Meeting in its absolute discretion deems to be in the best interests of the sport.

All couples wishing to compete in a WDSF Closed and Open World Championships must compete in the Canadian Closed Championships and its qualifiers in that same

year at the same age and style that they wish to compete in at the WDSF World Closed and WDSF World Open Championships.

The selection of CDS representatives to the WDSF World Championships or WDSF World Cups will be decided by the CDS Board after each night of the Canadian Closed Championships. If a couple notifies CDS and/or CDS becomes aware of and confirms that the couple has split then the couple will be taken off the list and will not be considered for future invitations

It will be at the CDS Board's discretion if athletes who have competed in National, Continental, or World Championships/Cups of another Dancesport system will receive financial bursary to represent CDS at WDSF World Championships or Cups.

### **13.0 PENALTIES FOR RULE VIOLATIONS**

13.1 A special sub-committee chosen from the Executive and made up of the President, Vice-President, Membership Chairperson and three other members will consider all violations. Disciplinary action where necessary, will be in accordance with the Association's rules and regulations. In the case of non-ODS members, the committee will recommend what action should be taken.

### **13.2 DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS**

Warnings will no longer be given for violations. The competitor will not be allowed to compete, if he or she is not dressed in accordance with the dress code rules. Penalties for not adhering to the dress code, will apply to adult and youth as well as juvenile and junior categories.

### **13.3 OTHER RULE VIOLATIONS DURING COMPETITION**

- Couple is warned by penalty judge for any infraction in the first round of a competition.
- If the infraction is repeated in subsequent rounds except the final, the couple must receive 0 points in that particular dance for that round.
- If the infraction occurs in the final round then:
  - a) for the first violation they are reduced one placing in that dance;
  - b) for the second and any subsequent violations the couple must be placed last in that dance.
- In the case of a tie, the couple with the least number of infractions is placed higher.

### **14.0 REINSTATEMENT (See CDS Rule 9)**

14.1 DanceSport Professional dancers (hereinafter referred to as "Professionals") who wish to regain amateur status must apply in writing to ODS or authority in which they reside. ODS may, upon receipt of such application, decide whether reinstatement of amateur status (hereinafter referred to as "reinstatement") should be granted, and, if so, under what conditions and terms it should be granted and will forward their recommendation to the CDS Board for the final decision.

A non-refundable processing fee of \$150 must accompany this application. Payable \$100 to ODS & \$50 to CDS. {effective April 1, 2010}

- 14.2 When considering applications for reinstatement made by Professionals, ODS will examine certain criteria in its consideration, including but not limited to the following:
- a) Total amount of money and money's worth earned as a Professional;
  - b) Style and level of dancing attained, taught and demonstrated, or any of them;
  - c) Total amount of time spent teaching dancing or engaging in other dance related activities as a Professional;
  - d) Professional training and Professional exams taken, and the results thereof;
  - e) Professional competitions entered and the results;
  - f) Current or past membership in a recognized Professional Association, length of membership therein, offices held therein, and classification granted or attained therein; and
  - g) Time elapsed since last activity as a Professional.
- 14.3 If an athlete loses amateur status due to conduct prejudicial to the sport of dancing, or if ODS or ODS's management committee or equivalent resolves that reinstatement is unfair to other amateur dancers (referred to in these Rules as "Amateurs"), it may refuse reinstatement to such a dancer.
- 14.4 If an applicant athlete disagrees with CDS's refusal to reinstate that athlete as an amateur, an appeal lies to the CDS Board.
- 14.5 Should an amateur athlete be reinstated and they again breach their amateur status, reinstatement would not be granted a second time. {effective April 1, 2010}
- 14.6 The waiting period for reinstatement as an amateur and prior to admission to ODS and CDS shall be a minimum of six months from the last professional activity of the applicant. This waiting period could be lengthened at the recommendation of ODS or CDS Board. {effective April 1, 2010}
- 14.7 A reinstated athlete will receive no funding from CDS or ODS for a minimum of two (2) years. {effective April 1, 2010}
- 14.8 A reinstated dancer cannot stand for an ODS or CDS position on the ODS or CDS Board for a period of two (2) years after reinstatement. {effective April 1, 2010}
- 14.9 A reinstated athlete has only a period of 30 days within which he/she must become an ODS member. If he/she does not, then his/her reinstatement is null & void. {effective April 1, 2010}
- 14.10 Please refer to Schedule H: Guideline on Reinstatement of an Amateur Dancer in the CDS Rule Book, for details on eligibility and the reinstatement process.

**15.0 BASIC COMPETITION RULES**

Promoters **MUST** follow these rules if they wish ODS to sanction the competition for ODS competitors.

- 15.1 A maximum of seven (7) or less couples constitute a final. Eight (8) or more couples necessitate a semi-final.
- 15.2 It is compulsory that at least 50% of the competitors taking part shall pass forward to the next round.
- 15.3 Semi-finals: Due to recent Rule changes by the WDSF and CDS, it is permitted (but not compulsory in Ontario) to dance the semi-final in two heats.  
Competitors reaching the final **must** dance in one heat.  
(The only exception to this is if the floor is too small **and** an ODS executive has given prior approval. In this case the heats must be mixed for each dance so that all competitors have an equal chance. Usually this would only be considered for the Quickstep.)
- 15.4 The floor size must be adequate. (Championship rules state: sixty (60) by thirty-five (35) feet) (18.5m. X 11m.)
- 15.5 Separate changing rooms for male and female competitors shall be provided.
- 15.6 The dances competed in must be the same ones advertised on the flyer.
- 15.7 The same piece of music shall be played for all heats in a round, but a different piece of music may be played in subsequent rounds.
- 15.8 There must be adequate intervals of time between rounds and competitions.
- 15.9 In all rounds the music played shall be a minimum of one and a half (1 1/2) minutes and a maximum of two (2) minutes duration for the Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot, Quickstep, Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha Rumba and Jive.  
b) the required duration of competition for the Paso Doble shall be as a minimum up to the second highlight and as a maximum up to the end (3rd highlight).
- 15.10 The tempi for each dance shall be:
- |                |                |            |                |
|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| Waltz          | 28-30 bars/min | Samba      | 50-52 bars/min |
| Tango          | 31-33 bars/min | Cha-Cha    | 30-32 bars/min |
| Viennese Waltz | 58-60 bars/min | Rumba      | 25-27 bars/min |
| Slow Fox-trot  | 28-30 bars/min | Paso Doble | 60-62 bars/min |
| Quickstep      | 50-52 bars/min | Jive       | 42-44 bars/min |
- 15.11 A minimum of five (5) judges shall be used. It is recommended that an odd number of judges be used. All judges must hold a qualification recognized by ODS.
- 15.12 Judges are under no obligation to justify their adjudication of competition couples.  
During the competition or in the interval between competition rounds, a judge may not discuss any competitor's performance with that or any other competitor, or with any spectator, except in his or her capacity as Chairperson of judges.
- 15.13 Where there is more than one heat in a round and each judge has been requested to vote for a certain number of couples to go forward to the next round, the number of couples selected from each heat to make up this number shall be at the discretion of

each voting judge. In all rounds the judges must vote for the full number of couples required to be returned.

- 15.14 In the final, a judge may not 'tie' two or more couples in any one or more dances.
- 15.15 Judges who cohabit must not serve on any judging panel at the same time.
- 15.16 No judge may judge a competitor to whom the judge is related, married to, or with whom the judge cohabits, unless each obtains prior authorization in writing from the organizer and ODS. A relation shall be defined as a member of one's immediate family from grandparents down to grandchildren.
- 15.17 A penalty judge **must** be hired for all medal competitions.
- 15.18 A chairperson of judges is only compulsory for championships and must hold a qualified scrutineer's certificate and suitably recognized adjudication credentials.
- 15.19 Promoters are not allowed to hold practice rounds of competitors of a particular event in front of the judges.
- 15.20 It is recommended that competitors be notified of recalls prior to the M.C. announcing them. (either by notice board or floor manager).
- 15.21 The promoter must engage a qualified scrutineer. The scrutineer's results along with the list of competitors must be forwarded to the ODS membership chairperson within 2 weeks of the competition.
- 15.22 Competitors shall be given a reasonable opportunity to inspect the scrutineering sheets after the announcement of all of the results and prior to leaving the competition hall.
- 15.23 The M.C. shall announce the final results in the reverse order of merit, from last to first.
- 15.24 Competitors must remain in costume for awards, unless more than one (1) hour has lapsed from the completion of their event. In championship events **all** competitors must remain in costume to receive their award.
- 15.25 No amateur competition may be entitled a Championship, and no amateur Championship may be awarded, without the prior authorization in writing of ODS.
- 15.26 Competitors must dance with the same partner for all categories on the same competition. The only exception is when they are switching to standard or latin.
- 15.27 Effective July 13,1997, ODS will charge **all** promoters, a sanctioning fee to run an Amateur competition.
- 15.28 Lifts are not permitted in any of Standard, Latin or Ten Dance Competitions. For further clarity, a lift is any movement during which one of the dancers has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of the partner. The chairman can disqualify couples using lifts in their dance performance.

## **16.0 Issues not covered by the published rules**

Should any issue arise which is not covered by these rules, it shall be referred to the Executive Committee of ODS for consideration. Their decision shall be final.

### **O.D.S. COMPETITORS' CODE of ETHICS**

1. When a competitor shows up at a competition, he/she must at any time conduct himself/herself in a civil and sportsmanship manner
2. A competitor must be present and prepared to compete one half hour (1/2) before the published and scheduled start time of a his/her competition, since a competition organizer may adjust the published schedule without being obliged to wait.
3. A competitor must register himself/herself only in the categories to which he/she is admissible.
4. A competitor who registers in a competition must accept the judges' decision as being final. No possibility of appeal will be considered except if it can be proven that there was a mistake in scrutineering.
5. No competitor must harass or question a judge on his/her personal reasons for the rank awarded.
6. When a competitor is on the dance floor to participate in a parade and or to receive a trophy or award, he/she must do so in appropriate dance costume. He/she must not at any time wear a studio jacket (windbreaker), robe or any other inappropriate clothing.
7. A competitor who removes a scrutineer's result posting, will be liable to a sanction or discipline.

Appendix 1 Rules of Amateur Teaching (CDS Rule 8)

- 8.01 Competitions between amateurs and professionals are prohibited.
- 8.02 An amateur is one who does not earn his livelihood from participation in DanceSport.
- 8.03 Commercial teaching and coaching activities in DanceSport in Canada shall not be restricted to any limited group of people except on the basis of skill or knowledge. An Athlete loses Amateur Status if he or she works as a dancing teacher, as a paid assistant to a teacher, as a paid dancing partner, or as a paid demonstrator except that an Athlete may teach dancing and coach DanceSport for pay without losing Amateur Status provided he or she:
- a) is at least 16 years of age;
  - b) is a member in good standing of his or her Regional Association and is registered in the Canadian Registry of Athlete Dancers (CRAD);
  - c) meets at least one of the following four criteria:
    - 1.) qualifies according to the competition rules of his or her Regional Association to compete at the Championship Level in that region and has competed at the Championship level for at least 2 years, or alternatively qualifies at a level of competitive skill and accomplishment determined by the Board, and is a member of a couple who places in one of the following {effective March 20, 2017}:
      - i) in the Canadian Closed Championships all the Finalists in Under 21, Adult, and Senior I if a semi-final is held or top three (3) if there is a minimum of six (6) couples in the final and only the champion if only 3 couples are in the final.
      - ii) in the Canadian Closed Championships the top three (3) couples in Youth, Senior II, III, and IV if a semi final is held or only the top two (2) couples if there is a minimum of 6 couples in the final.
      - iii) The Regional champion in either one of the Regional Qualifier or the Regional Closed Championship, which is to be determined by the Regional Association in advance of the competition, in Adult, Under 21, & Senior I levels only if there is a minimum of 5 couples in the final of that category
      - iv) top 2 in the Canadian Ten Dance as long as a Ten Dance Championship was held;
    - 2.) qualifies according to the competition rules of his or her Regional Association to compete at the Championship Level in that region and has competed at the Championship level for at least 2 years, or alternatively qualifies at a level of competitive skill and accomplishment determined by the Board, AND is an Athlete who otherwise is permitted to teach under this Rule 8.03 and who holds a valid and subsisting teaching certificate issued by the Ministry of Education of the Canadian province in which he or she resides or in which he or she works as a school teacher;
    - 3.) has not competed at the Championship level for at least two years but is otherwise a qualified educator who holds a valid and current teaching

certificate issued by the Ministry of Education of the Canadian province in which he or she resides or in which he or she works as a school teacher. In this case, the Athlete may only teach basic fundamentals of DanceSport from Kindergarten to Grade 12 and only within the school environment as part of the physical education or appropriate program at that school. They are not eligible to take the Athlete Teaching exam and do not qualify to have a professional mentor and therefore are not to coach DanceSport or work out of any professional dance location or business.

4.) makes the top 24 in a WDSF World Adult Standard or Latin Championship or top 12 in a WDSF World Adult 10-Dance Championship [World Championship does not include World Cup], and is either a Canadian Citizen or qualifies under Rule 7.04 to represent Canada. In this case, the Athlete must re-qualify pursuant to Rule 8.03 g;

- d) only teaches steps or movements set out in that Regional Association's competitive syllabus, or alternatively steps or movements determined by the Board;
- e) (notwithstanding the terms of any other part of these Rules) submits to the Treasurer and his or her Regional Association on or before January 31st of each year an accounting of :
  - i) his or her earnings from such teaching in the previous calendar year, and
  - ii) a summary of dance related expenses in the previous calendar year.

Athletes should be prepared to make available all receipts for, or reasonable records of, these expenses upon request or audit;

- f) remits to that Regional Association upon its or the Treasurer's request, any earnings from such teaching which exceed the documented dance-related expenses, in trust for his or her future dance-related expenses, or after the lapse of one year without a claim for such expenses, for use by that Regional Association according to law;
- g) pays a fee, as set out in Schedule A to the Corporation's Bylaws, per year or part thereof.
- h) signs the form of Release of CDS and its Board as set forth herein before commencing teaching;

**RELEASE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of Athlete or where an Athlete is not of the age of majority in the Province in which he or she resides, the name of his or her legal guardian on behalf of the Athlete*), the undersigned, in return for (*name of Athlete's Regional Association*) and Canada DanceSport (CDS) to permit me to teach under CDS Championship Rule 8.03, hereby release (*name of Athlete's Regional Association*), CDS and the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) (hereinafter referred to as "the Associations") from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, demands, and damages howsoever arising which hereafter I may have against the Associations by reason of any action or decision which may be taken against me by a third party or third parties in whole or in part because I have engaged in teaching of dancing in any way. In particular, but without limiting the generality of this Release, I understand that many DanceSport adjudicators might take the position that they may not judge an *Athlete* who has taught dancing or coached DanceSport, and that accordingly if I teach as permitted under the CDS Championship Rules, I may be at risk of not being judged by some DanceSport adjudicators. All risks that I undertake by teaching dancing or coaching DanceSport are accordingly my own risks, and I may not look to (*name of Athlete's Regional Association*), CDS or WDSF for any damages, contribution or other relief with respect thereto.

I acknowledge that I have been given the opportunity to seek legal advice regarding my rights and obligations (or the rights and obligations of the minor of whom I am a guardian) under this Release, prior to signing it.

DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

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See CDS Rules for Latest Details and contact ODS for all documents regarding Amateur Teaching.