

# Belly Dance Divisions- Rules

## **Novice**

This division is recommended for dancers who have been line dancing for over 1 year, or who have some previous dance experience.

## **Intermediate**

This division is recommended for dancers who have been line dancing for 2-3 years, or who have three or more years of other dance training. Dance teachers who are new to competition are recommended to begin in this division.

## **Advance**

These divisions are recommended for experienced and accomplished dancers who have been line dancing for over 3 years, or who have an extensive dance background. Split is only allowed in the advance category.

## **General rules for Belly Dancing.**

**Team:** All music must not be more than 2:30 minutes. The organizer remains the right to edit/crop any part of the song if the music chosen by the competitors is more than 2:30 minutes. All music must be recorded into a CD, with only one track in the CD. All CDs must be labeled with the competitors' team name and the length of the track. All CDs must be submitted to the organizer upon registration. Please make at least two copies of the CD, one a competition song and one as the backup. The CDs will not be returned to the competitors.

Split is allowed in the advance category. Bridge is allowed but not in gymnastic moves, both legs must not be in the air. In whatever position, the undergarment must not be revealed.

All Dancers must obey dance floor etiquette. If you are executing a move and by doing so cause interference with another competitor you will not be recalled to the next heat or placed in a final

Vulgar suggestive or crude movements are not allowed. Movements beyond the point of flirtation, humor or comedy, will result in the dancer not being recalled to the next heat or placed in a final

Props are permitted but should not interfere or distract other competitors.

The Dress rules must be in Belly Dance Costumes. Costumes are one's choice, but it should fit well and be tasteful.

Acrobatic/Gymnastic or any other modern dance fusion moves are not allowed during the dance, however restrictions must only be belly dance moves.

## General Information

**Competition Ethics:** Competitors MUST NOT question or consult the Judges about the Competition during the event. A critique service will be offered at certain events.

**Competitors' Meeting:** It is each competitor's responsibility to attend the Competitors Meeting. For teams, at least one team member should attend.

**Competitors' Responsibilities:** It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure they are fully up-to-date with the rules relating to their division. This includes official line dance step descriptions and costume regulations. Competitors should make themselves aware of competitors' registration and meetings. All competitors must be in the competitor's area 15 minutes before they are required to dance. Each competitor's number will be called twice and if the competitor is not on the floor ready to dance they may be disqualified from the dance. All teams must be ready to perform at the assigned time; delays may result in a lower placement.

All competitors are expected to behave in a professional and proper manner. Anyone acting in an unethical or unprofessional way may be disqualified from the event. If competitors do not abide by the published rules they will be disqualified. Improper behavior, competition enquiries, protests or disputes must immediately be brought to the attention of the Event Director. All decisions of the Event Director, Contest Co-ordinator, Judges and Scrutineers are final.

**Judges:** During the competition, judges/officials privy to competition scoring or results must not, under any circumstances or by any means, convey such information to the public or to a competitor. Judges & officials are not restricted from socialising at an event except whilst judging or carrying out official duties.

**Junior/Teenage Competitors:** Competitors aged under 18 must be accompanied by an adult who is held accountable for their conduct at all times. It is the adult's responsibility to convey all the information, step descriptions, dress rules, etc., to the dancer in their care.

**Preliminary Heats:** Preliminary heats are used to eliminate dancers in order to get to a final. Scores from prelims will only be used to decide final placing, if scores from the finals themselves are tied. There may be occasions when another heat is required because of a tie resulting from the judges' marks.

*HIP HOP INDIVIDUAL DANCE:* The scores of all dances will be added together and the overall highest scoring dancers will move forward to the next heat/final. Heats will be held in all divisions with eight or more dancers. A percentage of the dancers in each heat will be recalled to dance again in the next heat until a maximum of seven competitors remain.

*HIP HOP TEAMS:* Preliminary heats until a shortlisted teams remain.

**Step Descriptions:** The Event Director must issue a step description for each line dance offered at the Event. The dances will not include any tags or options. The competitors are required to dance to this sheet only and **must request** the step descriptions from the Event

Director. A step description from any other source is **Not Valid** for the purposes of the competition.

**By competing at any APLC/MIL sanctioned event, you are agreeing to the following statement ” We agree to hold the organizers of this event and their agents harmless for all suits, claims or demands of every kind and character arising out of and in conjunction with this event.**

**We hereby authorize the reproduction, sale, copyright, exhibition, broadcast and/or distribution of any event videotape without limitation. We understand the physical risks of entering dance competitions and social dancing and assume full responsibility for any injury or personal damages resulting from the event.”**

\* Please Note - any competition that does not strictly adhere to these rules will not be classed as a APLC/MIL competition

\* Please note - these rules are subject to change at the discretion of the APLC/MIL.