

# Asia Pacific Dance X'plosion 2011

## COMPETITION RULES

### LINE DANCE

#### Divisional Information

*Moving between divisions is allowed although once you have moved into a higher-level division you cannot move down to a lower division. Dancers will only have to move into a higher-level division in the following competition year if they have won competitions dancing in the same division\*, although this does not apply to Advanced Division. Dancers cannot enter more than two (2) line dance division at any event. (\*this only applies if there are three or more competitors in the division.)*

#### Line Dance Age Categories & Divisions

*Junior: Age 0-12*

*Diamond: Age 45-54*

*Open: Age 13+*

*Gold: Age 55+*

*Crystal: Age 30-44*

#### Recommendations and Promotional Rules for Competitors:

##### *Newcomer*

*This Division is offered in the following categories:*

*Junior: Age 0-12; Open: Age 13+; Crystal: Age 30-44; Diamond: Age 45-54*

*This division is recommended for beginner dancers or dancers who have never competed before. Dancers may compete in this division a maximum of FIVE times (this includes any final you have qualified to dance in), they then must move to Novice or one of the relevant age divisions. If a Newcomer becomes the champion of the competition the previous year, he/she must move into the next highest, relevant division for the competition this year. Variations are not permitted in this division. The official step sheet must be strictly adhered to.*

## **Novice**

*This Division is offered in the following categories:*

**Junior: Age 0-12; Open: Age 13+; Crystal: Age 30-44; Diamond: Age 45-54**

*This division is recommended for dancers who have been line dancing for over 1 year, or who have some previous dance competition experience. Emphasis in this division is on correct vanilla footwork and technique. Minimal variations are allowed in this division, however dancers may not execute any turn/spin of more than 180 degrees on one foot. If a Novice competitor **wins** the competition the previous year, he/she must move into the next highest, relevant division for the competition this year.*

**\*Note: Dancers in the Junior division are only allowed to compete in ONE category, either Junior Newcomer or Junior Novice.**

## **Intermediate**

*This Division is offered in the following categories:*

**Junior: Age 0-12; Open: Age 13+; Crystal: Age 30-44; Diamond: Age 45-54**

*This division is recommended for dancers who have been line dancing for 3-4 years, or who have 3 or more years of other dance training. Dance teachers who are new to competition are recommended to begin in this division. If an Intermediate competitor **wins** the competition the previous year, he/she must move into the next highest, relevant division for the competition this year.*

## **Advanced**

*This Division is offered in the following categories:*

**Open: Age 13+; Crystal: Age 30-44; Diamond: Age 45-54**

*This division is recommended for experienced and accomplished dancers who have been line dancing for over 5 years, or who have an extensive dance background.*

## **Gold**

*This division is offered to dancers who fall into the relevant age category, as outlined above. Dancers who fall into this age category can alternatively choose to dance in the Open age category of any chosen division.*

## Line Dance Rules Summary

- *Dancers need to dance all specified dances to qualify for a placing.*
- *Dancers will be counted in.*
- *V & V Rule – Vanilla & Variation: Dancers must dance the FIRST wall as vanilla. You may use your hands, arms, head and upper body, but you cannot change any of the steps, they must be performed exactly as the official step sheet issued. You will be penalised if the official step sheet is not strictly adhered to. On the second, fourth and all following EVEN walls you may introduce variations. Variations must flow in the same direction of movement as the Vanilla. On the third, fifth and all following ODD walls you must dance vanilla with styling.*

### **Exceptions to the V&V Rule as follows:**

***Newcomer:** Variations are not permitted at all in this division. Newcomer dancers must dance the dance exactly as written in the step sheet – no variations are allowed.*

***Novice:** The V&V rule applies in this division – however only minimal variations are allowed – dancers may not execute any turn/spin of more than 180 degrees on one foot. Excessive variations for this division will be penalised.*

- *All vanilla patterns must be performed exactly as written on the official step descriptions. Dancers must keep to the basic footwork and direction of the dance. No additional turns or variations may be added. Hand/arm work and body styling/movement is allowed. Competitors will be disqualified if they include their own version of the dance during the vanilla walls.*
- *If a dancer leaves the floor for any reason, he/she may be disqualified from that dance; under the rules of the scoring system, this means they would be ineligible for a placing.*

## Costumes – All Divisions

### General

**Male:** You must wear a shirt, trousers or jeans. Hats/caps or any other accessories are optional. If any accessories worn is dropped during the course of the dance, and not retrieved at the earliest opportunity, you will be penalised.

**Female:** You must wear a) dress or b) shirt, top, leotard, or blouse and trousers, skirt or jeans. Any accessories are optional. If any accessories worn are dropped during the course of the dance, you will be penalised.

**For both male and female:** Any type of themed costume or formal dress is not allowed. No form of name or advertising should be displayed on any part of the costume.

### Costume Restrictions

**All Dancers, All Divisions, Male and Female:** See-through or flesh-coloured material used in any part of a dancer's costume that gives an immodest view of underwear or body that may give cause for embarrassment to competitors, judges or spectators, is not allowed. Costumes must be worn for Awards Ceremonies.

### Footwear

Competitors are only allowed to wear dance sneakers, western style boots, latin shoes or practice shoes.

- **All Divisions – costumes and footwear. If you are unsure of the legality of any aspect of your costume or footwear, please check with the organizer before you compete.**

## General Rules – All Divisions

- *Gum chewing is not allowed.*
- *Audio/verbal sound/singing is not allowed. Lip-synching is allowed.*
- *Talking – Competitors must not talk to other competitors, judges or the audience while dancing on the floor in competition. You risk not being recalled to the next heat or not being placed in a final.*
- *Acrobatic moves are not allowed at any point during the dance (this also includes the introduction and 'end poses'). These moves are defined as follows:*
  1. *Any move where both legs are above waist height of the competitor.*
  2. *Any move where the competitor's weight is on one or both hands.*
  3. *Any move where a competitor sits or lies on the floor.*
  4. *Splits are not permitted, except in Advanced category. If splits are performed in any other division the competitor will be penalised. Advanced competitors may use 2 beats of music exempt from Acrobatic Rules Restrictions to recover from the splits.*

*Kicks are allowed, however kicks must not interfere with, or endanger any other dancer on the floor.*
- *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. The offended competitor will not be affected. This also means that variations should flow in the direction of the dance.*
- *Props are not permitted.*
- *Vulgar, suggestive or crude movements are not allowed. Movements beyond the point of flirtation, humour or comedy, will result in the dancer not being recalled to the next heat or placed in a final.*

## General Information

**Competition Ethics:** Competitors **MUST NOT** question or consult the Judges about the competition during the event. They may consult the Judges after the Awards and Presentations, but only with regard to their own performance.

**Competitors' Responsibilities:** It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure they are fully up-to-date with the rules relating to their division/category. This includes official line dance step sheets and costume regulations. Competitors should make themselves aware of competitors' registration due date. All competitors must be in the competitors' area 1 hour before they are required to dance; when the competitors' marshall call their number they are required to report their attendance to the competitors' marshall. 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 competition.

All teams must be ready to perform at the assigned time; delays may result in disqualification. It is the team leader's responsibility to ensure that all team members are present during competitors' roll call.

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 behaviour, competition enquiries, protests or disputes must immediately be brought to the attention of the Organizer. All decisions of the Organizer, Adjudicators and Scrutineers are final.

**Adjudicators:** During the competition, adjudicators/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. Adjudicators & officials are not restricted from socialising at an event except whilst judging or carrying out official duties.

**Adjudicators Meetings:** The reason for calling an adjudicators' meeting and the result will only be conveyed to the dancers involved if necessary. If the Chief Adjudicator feels that a statement is required, then it will be made in general terms only and for the benefit/guidance of all competitors.

**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 adjudicators' marks.

**Step Descriptions:** The competitors are required to dance to the official line dance step sheet and must request the step sheets from the Organizer. A step sheet from any other source is NOT VALID for the purposes of the competition.

By competing in the event mentioned above, 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, or 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 DVD without limitations. We understand the physical risks of entering dance competitions and social dancing and assume full responsibility for any injuries or personal damages resulting from the event."

*\*Please note – these rules are subject to change at the discretion of the Organizer.*

