



ENTRY FEES & CLOSING DATES

An official entry form and release waiver must be completed and signed by all competitors entering Hotlanta the Classic dancesport competition. All entry fees must accompany each entry form when sent to the organizers. Entry forms are available on the website, www.hotlantatheclasic.com.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS SEPTEMBER 30TH. Entries submitted after the closing date and before commencement of the competition **will be accepted if timing allows**. No entries will be accepted without payment in full, by VISA, MASTERCARD, Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Money Order in U.S. Dollars, and made payable through a U.S. Bank. All payments made by credit card will be charged a 4% administrative fee. Please Note: PROFESSIONAL ENTRY FEES INCLUDE GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS to the ballroom for the session in which you are competing and to the Saturday evening after party. Competitors who desire reserved seats who are not on a package may request pricing and availability for reserved seats by emailing aresdanceinc@gmail.com.

All payments are to be made payable and mailed to:

**Ares Dance, Inc.
1071 Soaring Drive
Marietta, GA 30062
Telephone: (770) 403 - 6565**

LATE FEES:

Entries postmarked/submitted after the closing date of September 30th will be subject to a late fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per person.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

- 🔥 All cancellations of entries must be made in writing sent to the organizers via U.S. Mail at Ares Dance Inc., 1071 Soaring Drive, Marietta, GA 30062, or via email to aresdanceinc@gmail.com. No phone cancellations accepted.
- 🔥 **The deadline for a refund on a cancellation is 30 days prior to the date the competition commences.** Qualifying refunds will be processed and made by mail or via electronic fund transfer, such as Zelle, within approximately 60 days following the completion of the competition.
- 🔥 **There will be a minimum of \$100 service charge, or \$1 per entry, whichever is greater, per participant for any/all cancellations.**
- 🔥 ***If the Organizer is notified of cancellations after the deadline for refunds, credit toward the following year will be considered in cases of emergency only and must accompany a Doctor's Certificate.***
- 🔥 **There are no refunds for any cancellations or for cancellations of entries postmarked/submitted after the deadline for refunds (30 days prior to commencement date of the competition event).**
- 🔥 No substitutions will be allowed for entry cancellations taken at the event.
- 🔥 No exchanges or refunds will be made on admission tickets. All ticket sales are final.
- 🔥 Late entries will be approved on a space available basis and if timing allows, and a late fee of \$50 per person shall apply.

GENERAL RULES - ALL DIVISIONS

No responsibility for loss or theft of articles left in the changing rooms, ballrooms, performance or seating areas, or hotel rooms can be accepted by the Organizers, Officials, Judges, or any other Staff at the event, Ares Dance, Inc. or by the National Dance Council of America, Inc. and neither can they be held liable for injury sustained by persons attending this event, whether as spectators, officials, competitors, or guests of the Organizer(s). Everyone attending does so at his/her own risk.

All persons attending this event, whether as spectators, competitors, officials or guests of the organizers, shall be bound by the National Dance Council of America, Inc. Rules and Regulations, and by participating in this event automatically become obliged to adhere to them. Additionally, the organizers reserve the right to refuse admittance into the ballroom and/or entry in a competitive event.

Hotlanta the Classic is Open to Professional and Amateur overseas competitors as well as competitors from North America, Central and South America. All competitors must be registered with the WDC, WDSF or the official recognized organization of their country of residence. All United States competitors must be registered with the National Dance Council of America.

In any competitive division with fewer than three (3) couples entered, the organizers reserve the right to cancel the event. Competitors will be duly notified in advance of such cancellation.

Dancers are required to be in the ballroom a minimum of 30 minutes prior to their scheduled heat and in the "on deck" area two heats prior to their scheduled heat. Any dancer not in the ballroom, ready to compete when the Master of Ceremonies calls is subject to disqualification and forfeiture of that heat.

No couple is exempt from competing in any round of a single or multi-dance event. Any couple who fails to appear at the scheduled time for the first round of any event will be disqualified from the event.

The decision of the judges shall be final.

Video of any event at Hotlanta the Classic is strictly prohibited except for the official video company as designated by the organizer.

Should any point arise which is not covered in the Rules and Regulations Governing Competitions recognized by the NDCA or in these additional rules for the Event, it will be referred to the Organizers, whose decision will be final.

PRO/AM, STUDENT/STUDENT AND MIXED AMATEUR RULES:

For all single dance events, all students may enter in two age categories. Adults may enter their true age division and one lower while Pre-Teen, Junior, and Youth students may enter their true age division and one higher. If a student enters the Youth and an Adult category, the adult pricing will apply for entries in the adult category, while junior pricing will apply for entries in the Youth category.

See entry forms for age categories.

All competitors are expected to conform to the following rules regarding age classification. Entry into the proper division is governed by the age of the amateur competitor on the date of the competition each year:

(a) The Minimum age requirement must be met in all divisions.

(b) The Maximum age requirement would be in effect through the last day of the dancer's birth year.

Example: The Amateur dancer in a Pro/Am B1 partnership (51 to 60) is eligible to remain in this classification until the day before their sixty-first (61) birthday.

Dance Level Categories: Material used should be based on an NDCA approved syllabus such as Dance Vision, AIDA, etc. Closed Single Dance Divisions shall be restricted to syllabus. Open Single Dance Divisions shall not be restricted to syllabus. Open divisions may incorporate figures from the next higher level (e.g. Open Bronze may have Silver figures).

Students may enter at any level of dance plus only THREE CONSECUTIVE higher levels in any one style of dance (American/International) in the **closed single dance categories**. Students may enter in completely different dance levels in the American Style between Smooth and Rhythm and in the International Style between Standard and Latin.

A Pro/Am student may dance the Open Bronze, Open Silver and Open Gold levels (all 3 levels) if the student is in fact a true Bronze level dancer. The student's level will be determined by the single dances entered (A Bronze level student is one who dances the majority of their single dances in the Bronze Level). A student may only dance up in level, never down.

In the **Closed Single Dance Events**, all gentlemen students will be judged separately from the lady students. In Open Single Dance Events, these will be judged combined, not separately.

No teacher will be permitted to compete with one of his/her students against another of his/her students – it is not possible to compete in the same heat with two people!

There is no limit on student entries in Open or Closed Single Dance Divisions, provided there is enough time during each session to allow for all entries submitted.

In any category with three entries or less, the organizer reserves the right to eliminate the age and sex divisions and merge competitors into one category.

Dress Code –Beginning and above levels are open for ball gowns, Latin dresses or matching costumes, but are not mandatory. Evening wear or practicewear is suggested for Newcomers but is not restricted.

Restricted Categories/Closed Division Freestyle – A panel of invigilators may be used for all restricted categories/closed divisions. The categories will be strictly supervised and competitors committing infractions may be disqualified.

Registration – All competing participants must be currently registered with the N.D.C.A. If not registered, participants may register online at www.ndca.org.

CLASSIFICATION OF DANCERS

PROFESSIONAL

A Professional Dancer is one who is any or all of the following (anyone studying for or taking a theory exam will not be deemed a professional unless they declare themselves such as defined below):

- 🔥 Registered as a Professional with the NDCA.
- 🔥 One who partners a Pro/Am Student Dancer or Registered Amateur in Pro/Am Competitions.
- 🔥 Any person who declares himself or herself a Professional by word or deed (Examples: serving as a hired Partner, or participating in Professional Competitions or Team Matches).

AMATEUR

An amateur competitor competes with an amateur partner. An amateur dancer may become a professional in the following manner:

- 🔥 By the declaration of such
- 🔥 By competing against other professionals in an NDCA sanctioned Open Professional or Rising Star event
- 🔥 By acting as a professional partner in an NDCA sanctioned Pro/Am competition event
- 🔥 Pre-Teen, Junior, Youth and Adult Amateur dancers must be registered with the NDCA. With the exception of honor dances and formation teams, amateurs are not permitted to demonstrate at NDCA events.

PRO/AM STUDENT DANCER

The term “Pro/Am” refers to a professional dancer/teacher dancing with their student. In this case the student will be known as a “Pro/Am Student Dancer.”

- 🔥 A Pro/Am Student Dancer competes with a professional partner.
- 🔥 A Pro/Am Student Dancer competes in Ballroom dance purely as an avocation.
- 🔥 A Pro/Am Student Dancer does not teach Ballroom dance under any circumstances. Ballroom dance is any dance that is included in any NDCA sanctioned Pro/Am

competition or championship event and is not limited to the traditional championship dances.

🔥 A Pro/Am Student Dancer may neither demonstrate nor give shows for compensation in any style of Ballroom dance.

🔥 A Pro/Am Student Dancer is permitted to enter Ballroom dance “Pro/Am Scholarship Events” which offer monetary prizes. In this case, any prize money awarded belongs to the Pro/Am Student Dancer, not to the professional, and the Pro/Am Student Dancer may decide how it is to be used.

🔥 A Pro/Am Student Dancers who are found to be in violation of any of the above definitions, will not be permitted to continue to compete in NDCA sanctioned competitions or championships, and the organizers of all NDCA sanctioned competitions and championships will be so notified. Should the Pro/Am Student Dancer cease the activity that violated the above definitions, his or her right to compete as a Pro/Am Student Dancer in NDCA sanctioned competitions and championships may be restored upon application to the NDCA. A waiting period may or may not be required when such reinstatements are made.

*It is within the province of the Ballroom department to discipline by way of suspension and/or fines the professional partner of an amateur competing in Pro/Am competitions who is found to be teaching ballroom dance lessons.

PRO/AM SOLO EXHIBITION and SHOWDANCE

Solo Exhibition and Showdance Events may be danced in any style: American or International.

1. Dances: It is the duty of the Adjudicators to assess the Character of each style as part of their assessment.
2. Time: The time of the solo exhibitions may be up to a total of 3:00 minutes. Formations, Medleys, & Productions may be up to a maximum of 4:00 minutes. The time limit must not be exceeded under any circumstances. The time limit is to include walk on and exit from the floor. Exceeding the time limit leads to direct disqualification.
3. Lifts: Three lifts are permitted for the whole performance. These can be performed anywhere in the show.
4. Music: Music must be submitted via USB Audio media, Flash drive, or emailed. *All music must be on a Flash drive or email with the “Hotlanta Solo Music” or “Hotlanta Showdance Music” in the subject line, and the competitors’ names. Email is the preferred method to aresdanceinc@gmail.com.
5. The Competition: Conditions including lighting must be the same for all couples throughout the show including entrance and exit. Pro/Am and Amateurs will be judged separately.
6. Props: Props are permitted.
7. Order of Dancing: Order of dancing shall be determined by the organizer or chairman of judges.
8. Time between Rounds: There is to be a minimum of 30 minutes between each round of a Showdance.
9. Marking system: The normal system of marking will be applied. (i.e. In the Final the adjudicators will place the couples in order of merit).
10. Chairman of Adjudicators: In all cases the decision of the Chairman of Adjudicators is final.

Pro/Am Multidance

To qualify for all Multidance events, a student must enter the same single dances as the dances of the Multidance event entered. If you have already entered single dances for scholarship events, you are not required to add more single dances for the Multidance event.

All Multidance events are unisex competitions for adults, unless otherwise specified on the entry form.

Closed Bronze & Silver Multidances are restricted to Bronze & Silver students. Closed Multidances are restricted to closed syllabus figures (Bronze restricted to Bronze Syllabus and Silver restricted to Bronze & Silver Syllabus).

Open Multidances are not restricted to any figures.

In any Multidance event with fewer than three entries, the organizer reserves the right to eliminate the age and sex divisions and merge competitors into one division.

Students may enter both the Silver and the Open Multidance in the same style.

Adult students may dance two age levels. Their true age and one below.

PRO/AM MAMBO

1. The Music for each round shall be approximately 1:00 to 1:45 seconds. **The time starts when the music starts.**
All music must be on a Flash drive or email with the "Hotlanta MAMBO" in the subject line, and the competitors' names. Email is the preferred method aresdanceinc@gmail.com.
2. All finalists will dance a solo to the music of their choice, (not to exceed 1:45 seconds, including tags) prior to the final round.
3. Any type of costume is acceptable, however any costumes that reveal the buttocks or other parts of the body indiscriminately, if, in the opinion of the Chairman of Judges, too much flesh is exposed, a couple will be penalized and/or disqualified.
4. There are NO lifts or props allowed.
5. The Competition: Competition will be danced as follows: Group danced together (up to 1.5 minutes), solos for Finalists only (total number of finalists to be determined by the Chairman of Judges), and then Group danced together again for the Final round (up to 1.5 minutes).

Pro/Am Scholarships

To qualify for all scholarship events, a student must enter a minimum of 4 (Smooth) and 5 (Rhythm, Ballroom, Latin) Pro/Am single dances.

All scholarships are unisex competitions for adults unless otherwise specified on the entry form.

Closed scholarships are restricted to Bronze and Silver students. The closed scholarships are restricted to closed syllabus figures (Bronze restricted to Bronze Syllabus and Silver restricted to Bronze and Silver Syllabus).

Open scholarships are not restricted to any figures.

To receive the full prize money advertised/offered in any scholarship event, there must be a minimum of 5 participants. If there are less than 5 participants, the organizer reserves the right to reduce the prize money amount. All Scholarship competitors will receive reduced prize money than offered if the event is held with four or fewer couples.

In Pro/Am Scholarship Events a student may enter two consecutive levels (Closed Bronze and Closed Silver or Closed Silver and Closed Gold) and two age categories (a student's true age category and one age category lower). Students entering the Closed Bronze or Closed Silver Scholarships may enter the Open Scholarship in the same style. Students **MUST** enter the scholarship level corresponding to the level of the majority of single dances.

The Scholarship Events are open to all Pro/Am couples from around the world and may be entered in a student's true age category and one age down.

In any scholarship event with fewer than three entries, the organizer reserves the right to eliminate the age and sex divisions and merge competitors into one division.

Pro/Am Rising Star Events

The Pro/Am student winner of any Rising Star Multidance event of three dances or more held at the United States Dance Championships in Orlando, FL or held at the World Championships at the Embassy Ball, in which a semifinal is held, is ineligible to compete in the same Multidance Level, Style, and Age category at that event in following years at that same event.

NDCA Approved Figures & Restrictions

Reminder: Invigilation may be subjective. If you feel that an Invigilator has cited you for an infraction you do not agree with, it is your right to challenge that Invigilator's warning. If the Invigilator does not agree with you or you feel that you have been cited for an infraction that is within the guidelines set out by the NDCA, please email the name of the Invigilator and a brief summary of the situation to us at aresdanceinc@gmail.com, and we will try to get a clarification for you.

Please visit NDCA.org for current list of approved syllabi.

The Closed Syllabus events, except for those noted as "Open Syllabus": Participants must only use steps from approved syllabi of member organizations of the NDCA as well as the official NDCA Syllabus. An Invigilator with knowledge of these syllabi will be engaged to make sure this rule is enforced. If an infraction occurs during preliminary rounds the couple will be given a warning. If the infraction occurs in subsequent rounds or in the final, the couple will be disqualified.

Student/Student Events

Student/Student events are an accommodation for Pro/Am Student Dancers, and are open only to one adult Pro/Am Student Dancer partnering with another adult Pro/Am Student Dancer – both of whom must comply with the requirements as stated in the definition of a Pro/Am Student Dancer. Student/Student events are not open to amateur dancers who compete in Amateur Competitions and/or Championships at the "Open Amateur" level as defined in the RULES FOR AMATEUR COMPETITORS section.

COMPETITOR'S ATTIRE (KIDS)

For the most up-to-date rules regarding dress/costuming for Pre-Teens, Juniors & Youths, please refer to the most recent NDCA Rule Book.

GENERAL PROFESSIONAL DIVISION RULES

1. Entry into the Professional Rising Star Competition is limited to professionals who have never reached the final round of the Open Professional Events held at the United States Dance Championships or at the World Championships at Embassy Ball. The result of one style does not affect the eligibility for any other Rising Star Competition. Rising Star competitors are also eligible to enter the Open Professional Events.
2. Professional dancers entering Professional and/or Pro/Am events must be registered with the NDCA. Professional overseas competitors must be registered with the WDC, WDSF or the official recognized organization of their country of residence.
3. Entry into the Novice Professional Competition is limited to professionals who each have less than one (1) year of experience competing as a professional. Novice competitors are also eligible to enter the PreChamp, Rising Star and Open Professional Events.
4. Entry into the PreChamp Professional Competition is limited to professionals who each have less than three (3) years of experience competing as a professional. PreChamp competitors are also eligible to enter the Rising Star and Open Professional Events.

PROFESSIONAL CABARET and SHOWDANCE

MUSIC: Flash drive or email with the "HOTLANTA PRO CABARET" OR "HOTLANTA PRO SHOWDANCE" in the subject line, and the competitors' names. Email is the preferred method. Email to aresdanceinc@gmail.com

TIME: The time of the music for the Cabaret and Showdance must be between 3-4 minutes. The time limit must not be exceeded under any circumstances. A time limit exceeded can lead to direct disqualification. The couples will walk onto the floor with the period not to exceed fifteen seconds. At the conclusion of the actual performance, the couples may take their bows, and walk off the floor with a period not to exceed 30 seconds. For the exit the couples can use music. The time length of the exit music is strictly limited to the same 30 seconds. During entrance, performance and exit the couple must be alone on the floor. Timing of the routine shall begin and end with the accompaniment. Music will be faded out if time limit is exceeded.

PROPS: Only hand-held props are permitted during entrance, performance and exit, ie scarfs, hats canes etc.

LIFTS: Lifts are permitted.

ORDER OF DANCING: Order of dancing may be drawn by ballot, at which all the competitors or chosen representatives have a right to be present, or may be determined by the Chairman of Judges.

Top Teacher Prize Money & Points

Proficiency and Pre-Teen/Junior/Youth Pro/Am entries receive half points for top teacher awards.

Photography & Videography Policy

No professional cameras or filming. We have hired professional photographers and videographers for this event where you may purchase professional photos and videos of your performance(s).

You may use your digital camera or cell phone from your seat only. Please do not get up from your seat to photograph the dancers and obstruct the view of others enjoying the competition. Thank you.

Circuits

NDCA Premier Ranking Event

Hotlanta the Classic is a part of the NDCA Premier Ranking Circuit. The NDCA Premier National Ranking Circuit is a conglomerate of NDCA sanctioned competitions around the United States that all use the NDCA Premier software. Dancers accumulate points based upon how they compare to other dancers in their divisions as they participate in the competitions on the circuit. At a special gala event each year prize money is awarded to the top earning ranking dancers in each of 48 categories! Additionally, 280 registrants will receive free complimentary annual registrations with the NDCA each year!

What is the World Dancesport Series?

Hotlanta the Classic Dancesport Competition is honored to be a member of the largest series event, The World Pro/Am Dancesport Series. The World Pro/Am Dancesport Series is a network of over 80 Dancesport events held throughout North America that promotes their events with a highly desired reward system. The series is about giving back to you! Accumulating points is the name of the game! Points will rank you Regionally, Nationally, and get cash back to spend! The top 20 overall students who compete in a World Pro/Am Dancesport event will each receive a Region pin along with their \$100 Voucher Award, which can be used towards Pro/Am entries at any other World Pro/Am Dancesport event outside the region in which you reside.

The placements you receive in our WDSS Multi-Dance Events will earn you points towards the largest Team Match in North America held at the Ohio Star Ball Championships held in November each year.

All Teachers accumulate points towards the top overall teacher award to be presented at the Ohio Star Ball Championships. All necessary information is detailed at <http://www.dancesportseries.com>.

Amateur Competitor Rules & Regulations:

For the most up to date rules, please visit the current NDCA Rule Book.

RULES FOR AMATEUR COMPETITORS

The rules in this section refer to amateur partnerships (one amateur dancer partnered by another amateur dancer)

A. AGE CATEGORY CLASSIFICATIONS

1. Age classifications, “a” through “f”, will become effective on the individual’s actual birthday. On a year where a competitor is going to move from one classification to the next they may make this change anytime during a 60-day period that begins 30 days prior to their birthday and ends 30 days following their birthday.

- a. Pre-Teen I: 9 years old or younger
- b. Pre-Teen II: 10th or 11th birthday
- c. Junior I: 12th or 13th birthday
- d. Junior II: 14th or 15th birthday
- e. Youth: 16th, 17th or 18th birthday
- f. Under 21: At least one of the partners is at least 16 years old, and under 21 years old, on the day of the competition, and neither member of the partnership is over 21 years of age on the day of the competition.
- g. Adult: 19th birthday or greater

(1) Senior I: One partner must have reached his or her 35th birthday or greater and the other partner must have reached his or her 30th birthday or greater.

(2) Senior II: One partner must have reached his or her 45th birthday or greater and the other partner must have reached his or her 40th birthday or greater.

(3) Senior III: One partner must have reached his or her 55th birthday or greater and the other partner must have reached his or her 50th birthday or greater.

2. Organizers may combine age classifications as follows:

- a. Pre-Teen I and Pre-Teen II into a single Pre-Teen classification.
- b. Junior I and Junior II into a single Junior classification.
- c. Senior I, Senior II, and Senior III into a single Senior classification.
- d. Organizers may combine classifications not listed above by obtaining written permission from the Ballroom Director.

3. Organizers may offer additional age category competitions, such as “Under 21”, etc.

4. Competitors may dance “up” or “down” as follows:

- a. Pre-Teen I competitors may dance up one age classification to “Pre-Teen II”.
- b. Pre-Teen II competitors may dance up one age classification to “Junior I”.
 - (1) Pre-teen II competitors who dance up to junior must remain in the approved pre-teen costumes. This rule applies to the individual, not to the couple – if only one member of the partnership is a bonafide Junior age competitor then only that individual may wear a “Junior” costume.
- c. Junior I competitors may dance up one age classification to “Junior II”.
- d. Junior II competitors may dance up one age classification to “Youth”.
- e. Youth competitors may dance up to the Adult classification.
- f. When an organizer combines age classifications (Pre-Teen I & II, Junior I & II or Senior I, II & III) competitors may dance up or down as follows:
 - (1) Only Pre-Teen II age category competitors may dance up into the combined Junior age category.

(2) Combined Juniors may dance up into the combined Youth age category.

(3) Combined Seniors may dance down into the adult age category.

5. The following rules apply to competitors age 18 and under:

a. For Youth, Junior I and Junior II partnerships, one of the individuals may be no more than two age classifications younger.

b. If one of the individuals in the partnership is two age classifications younger, then the younger member of the partnership must request permission in writing from the NDCA Ballroom Department and in turn receive written approval prior to being allowed to

compete. (example – a “Pre-Teen II” girl wishing to compete with a “Junior II” age boy)

(1) If written permission is given for the individual to dance up two age classifications, then that person may not return again to dance in the original younger age classification that they “gave up”.

c. If one of the individuals in the partnership is one age classification younger, then the younger member of the partnership may request permission in writing from the NDCA Ballroom

Department to relinquish their age classification and be allowed to move up one age classification. This request will generally be allowed only if the individual making the request is already within one year of reaching the next age classification.

d. Under no circumstance will a Pre-Teen I, Pre-Teen II, or a Junior I competitor be allowed to compete in the Adult age classification.

e. A Junior II competitor may not apply for permission to dance up as an Adult until they are 15 years old, at which time they would need to apply to the Ballroom Department as noted above.

f. Youth competitors turning 19 years of age in the calendar year may still dance as youths until they have graduated from “High School”.

6. A couple’s age classification eligibility is defined as the age of the older partner for the Pre-Teen I, Pre-Teen II, Junior I, Junior II, Youth and Adult classifications, while it is defined as the age of the younger partner for the Senior classifications.

B. PROFICIENCY CLASSIFICATIONS

Competition proficiency categories may be offered as follows:

1. Syllabus. Restricted to “medalist” level figures (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Novice Bronze, Novice Silver, Novice Gold, Etc).

2. Novice. Open Syllabus. It is recommended that “Novice” competitions generally be restricted to two (2) of the allowed dances for each style.

3. Pre-Championship. Open Syllabus. It is recommended that “Pre-Championship” competitions generally be restricted to three or four (3-4) of the allowed dances for each style.

4. Open Amateur. Open syllabus. All of the dances in each style must be done in this category in all rounds, and in the order prescribed.

C. ELIGIBILITY DEFINITIONS

1. A competitor is eligible to dance in the “Syllabus”, “Novice” and/or “Pre-Championship” proficiency classifications until they accumulate three proficiency points. There is no limit to the number of proficiency points that may be accumulated in the “Open Amateur” level.

2. A competitor receives one point when they either a) place first in their current classification when a quarter-final was danced, or b) dance in the final of a higher proficiency event where a quarter-final was danced.

3. In the “Syllabus” categories proficiency points should be accumulated independently for

each dance.

4. The eligibility to compete in a classification is applied to individual amateur competitors and not the couple as an entity.
5. An amateur couple is only eligible to compete in a classification if both members of the couple are eligible.
6. An amateur competitor's eligibility is based on his/her accomplishments regardless of the number or length of partnerships they have had.
7. It is the responsibility of all amateur competitors to ensure that they are eligible for the category in which they desire to dance.
8. An amateur competitor may enter at most two consecutive proficiency classifications in any particular style and age group at a particular competition.
9. An amateur competitor's ineligibility begins at the conclusion of the competition in which his/her third point was acquired. In this case the word "competition" refers to the entire event (generally a "weekend").
10. An amateur competitor's proficiency level as a Pro/Am shall not be used in determining his/her amateur proficiency level.

D. DRESS AND/OR COSTUMING- PRE-TEENS

Pre-Teens must dress as listed below.

1. Pre-Teen.

a. Boys

(1) Trousers

- (a) Black or dark blue color only
- (b) High waist optional
- (c) Underfoot strap optional
- (d) Satin stripes are allowed.

(2) Shirts

- (a) Plain white or black long sleeved collared shirt only (no wing collars)
- (b) No pleats or ribbing
- (c) Sleeves to be worn at wrist length

(3) Black or dark blue vests are allowed, but sweaters and jackets are not allowed.

(4) Tie – Black color only, may be either straight or bow

(5) Socks – Black or dark blue color only

(6) Shoes- Heel height not to exceed 1.5 inches (must be black)

(7) Materials – Fabrics must be plain, ie: cotton, polyester, cotton/polyester blend, wool blend

- (a) No satin or shiny fabrics
- (b) No rhinestones, glitter, metallic thread, patterns or sequins allowed
- (c) Decorations – not allowed

(8) Makeup – Not allowed

(9) Hairstyle – Long hair must be worn in a pony tail

b. Girls

(1) Skirt with top or simple dress with attached under garment or leotard top with full skirt

(2) Skirts

- (a) Plain or pleated with minimum 1 to maximum 3 half circles. Only three panels total may be used in the construction of the skirt, regardless of how many half circles. One plain simple underskirt allowed which is no larger or longer than top layer, and is the same or similar color as the outer skirt.
- (b) No godets or extra panels may be inserted into the skirt.
- (c) No uneven hem lines, frills, splits, openings, lace, or sequins. Horsehair/Crinoline may be used as part of the construction but not as a trim.

(d) Length of skirt must not be shorter than 3 inches above the knee cap and no longer than 3 inches below the knee cap

(e) At least one of the layers of the skirt must be solid (not sheer).

(3) Bodice

(a) Necklines: Boat, high neck, v-neck, sweetheart, 'peter pan' collar, and regular collar are allowed. Edging or trim of any kind, including ribbon, satin, lace, sequins, etc, is not allowed on the neckline.

(b) Belting, as well as gathering or shirring is permissible from the waist down for a maximum of two inches, provided it is part of the dress itself and not an accessory

(c) Edging or trim on the bodice is not allowed

(d) No backless bodices allowed.

(4) Sleeves

(a) Long, short, elbow length, cap, puff. or sleeveless styles are allowed

(b) Cannot be replaced by trimmings, frills, or edging on the shoulder line

(c) No "finger loops" allowed

(5) Materials

(a) Fabrics MUST be only one color throughout, and the color must be continuously the same.

(b) No rhinestones, glitter, metallic thread, pearls, patterns, sequins, or similar materials allowed.

(c) No use of feathers, fringes, bows, belts, frills or sequins

(d) No flesh color fabric

(e) Any use of color coordinated 'see through' fabric must be lined from waist to shoulder; for use on arms no lining is needed

(f) Lace and/or burnout (also called Devore), or similar fabric, is not allowed.

Lycra, spandex, polyester, plain velvet, satin or jersey is encouraged.

(6) Shoes and Socks

(a) Shoes – Heel height not to exceed 1.5 inches, and must be block heel style if a dance shoe. If the shoe comes with rhinestones on the buckle then they are allowed. If the shoe comes with glitter on the shoe then it is allowed.

(b) Socks: White ankle socks (may have a small amount of lace), flesh colored pantyhose, or light pink or white tights must be worn.

(c) No Fishnet Tights

(7) Accessories, jewelry, and makeup

(a) No use of arm bands, chokers or headbands

(b) No decoration is allowed on dress or in hair

(c) No jewelry is allowed, other than one small earring in each ear

(d) No makeup allowed

(e) Use of fake eyelashes, fake fingernails, colored or glitter hair spray is forbidden

c. For pre-teen one-dance or two-dance events, competition organizers may require that the shirts/tops be white and the trousers/skirts be black.

E. DRESS AND/OR COSTUMING – JUNIOR, YOUTH & ADULT

1. Definition of "Syllabus Dress".

a. Gentlemen. Ballroom and Smooth Divisions: Dress pants, plain shirt and tie, and optional cummerbund or vest or black sweater or tuxedo. No tail suits. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Dress pants, plain or ruffled shirt, optional tie and or vest.

b. Ladies. Ballroom and Smooth Divisions: Cocktail dress without excessive adornment.

No ball gowns. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Leotards and wrap skirts or party/cocktail dresses without excessive adornment.

2. Definition of “Open Amateur Dress”.

a. Gentlemen. Ballroom and Smooth Divisions: Tail Suits. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Latin costumes.

b. Ladies. Ballroom and Smooth Divisions: Ball gowns. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Latin costumes.

3. For “Syllabus” competitions competitors must wear “Syllabus” Dress.

4. For “Novice” competitions competitors may wear either “Syllabus” or “Open Amateur” dress. The competition organizer may stipulate one or the other for this category.

5. For “Pre-Championship” and “Open Amateur” competitions competitors should wear “Championship” costumes.

6. Competition organizers may establish alternative dress and/or costume guidelines if they desire for Juniors, Youths or Adults.

F. SYLLABUS – PRE-TEEN

Couples competing in the “Pre-Teen” category must dance restricted syllabi as noted below.

1. Pre-teen. Couples competing in this age category may only dance Bronze, Silver and Gold syllabus figures from the NDCA Approved Figures, Elements & Restrictions (Appendix 1).

a. No embellishments of standard figures. No change of levels, head rolls, foot flicks, syncopations or delayed timings unless specified within the approved syllabus.

b. In addition to Closed Syllabus Events, organizers may offer open syllabus events for Pre- Teen II provided they do not eliminate any closed divisions as well. Couples dancing in this category must still wear approved costuming for that age level.

G. SYLLABUS – JUNIOR, YOUTH & ADULT

1. Couples competing in the “Junior”, “Youth” and “Adult” categories are not restricted in syllabi unless competing in a “Syllabus” event, or otherwise stipulated by the organizer.

a. No embellishments of standard figures. No change of levels, head rolls, foot flicks, syncopations or delayed timings unless specified within the approved syllabus.