



All Ireland Dance Federation

RULES
for
COMPETITION &
CHAMPIONSHIPS
March 2011

The AIDF are currently restructuring the rules on Streetdance and Rock-n-Roll therefore the rules contained in this edition of the rule book relating these styles are incomplete at the time of going into print.

Special Note to those who will be taking part in British and International Events:

It is important to note that this rulebook is designed to legislate for Freestyle and related dance styles in Ireland and that while a number of rules contained in this rulebook are similar to those in British and International rulebooks there is a number of areas where they differ. It is advisable to consult the relevant rulebook when competing outside Ireland.

A.I.D.F. RULES FOR COMPETITIONS & CHAMPIONSHIPS MARCH 2010

THE A.I.D.F. RULES OF CONTEMPORARY FREESTYLE, STREETDANCE, SLOW-DANCE, SHOW-DANCE, ROCK'N'ROLL AND SALSA COMPETITIONS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

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A.I.D.F. RULES FOR COMPETITIONS & CHAMPIONSHIPS MARCH 2010

THE A.I.D.F. RULES OF CONTEMPORARY FREESTYLE, STREETDANCE, SLOW-DANCE, SHOW-DANCE AND ROCK'N'ROLL COMPETITIONS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

General Section

1. Title & Interpretation:

- 1.1** These rules shall be known as the All Ireland Dance Federation Rules of Contemporary **Freestyle, Streetdance, Show-Dance, Slow-Dance, Rock-n-Roll, and all associated styles** Competitions and Championships.
It should be noted that these rules are incomplete in relation to Streetdance and Rock n Roll. The AIDF are currently in restructuring the rules for these styles.
- 1.2** The All Ireland Dance Federation will be hereinafter referred to as the A.I.D.F. or the Federation
- 1.3** Unless specifically stated to the contrary, the expression 'NEC shall be taken to mean the Governing Committee of the All Ireland Dance Federation.
- 1.4** The member body will be taken to mean the current full members have a right to vote at the AGM, General Meetings and Conference.
- 1.5** The words 'Dance', 'Dancer', 'Dancing', 'Competitor' and 'Competition' shall refer to all above styles Competitions and Championships.

2. Where Applicable

- 2.1** These rules shall operate in the thirty-two (32) counties of Ireland.
- 2.2** Should any point arise not covered in these rules, it shall be referred to the NEC whose decision shall be final.

3. Alteration to Rules

Revisions will be considered once a year and presented with a proposed implementation date at the A.I.D.F. Annual Conference. Such proposed changes must receive a simple majority at Conference. All changes ratified at Conference will be effective immediately or from a date fixed by Conference.

4. Rule Breaches:

Any breaches to these rules may result in disciplinary procedures been taken against the offenders

4.1 Inquiry Committee

The National Executive Committee (otherwise known as the NEC) may, either in its absolute discretion or at the discretion of the Member Body, set up an ad-hoc Inquiry Committee to investigate and examine any complaint against any person or body who is subject to the jurisdiction of these Rules.

Amateur Section - General

5. Registration Amateur Competitors:

- (a)** All amateur competitors residing in the Republic of Ireland must be in possession of an **AIDF Individual Status I.D. Card**
- (b)** Amateur competitors residing outside the ROI must be registered with their resident country's relevant body i.e. the ADFP for UK competitors.
- (c)** Amateur competitors residing in Northern Ireland have the choice of registering with the AIDF or the ADFP

NOTE: This rule applies to all competitive events to include all sections i.e. Solos, Pairs, Trios and Teams and in all styles, i.e. Freestyle, Streetdance Showdance and Slowdance

- 5.1** Registrations for competitive dancers will only be facilitated through a registered school or club.
- 5.2** The registration of competitive dancers with the AIDF is the responsibility the principal dance teacher/ leader / trainer of the relevant schools/clubs

6. Inter School Transfers:

A dancer who moves schools **must register the transfer** with the AIDF through the Principal Teacher of their new school. A Dancer Transfer Notification Form must be completed and returned to the AIDF registrar immediately after the transfer takes place.

6.1 Transfer Re-Voluntary:-

- 6.1.1** A dancer is prohibited from taking part in competitions for 13 weeks when they transfer to a new school/club.
- 6.1.2** This 13 week competition free period will begin only when the AIDF receive the Dancer Transfer Notification Form accompanied by the transferring dancers status card and the relevant fee.

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- 6.1.3 All dancers reregistering with a new school will receive an **ELIGABLE FOR COMPETITIONS DATE. (E.F.C. Date)**
The Principal Teacher will be informed of the EFC Date by email
- 6.1.4 The new registration system does not require the Status ID Card to be changed, the system will be updated and can be checked with the scrutineer or invigilator at any competition venue.
- 6.1.5 Where a dancer is moving schools, the principal/trainer/leader of the new school must inform the principal of the dancer old school of the transfer and send them a copy of the Dancer Transfer Notification Form as a conformation of the move.
(NOTE it is not an AIDF condition or requirement for the Teacher of the dancers' old school/club to sign a transfer form)

6.2 *Transfer Re-School Closure:-*

- 6.2.1 Where a school closes for whatever reason the dancers registered to that school will be permitted to transfer to another school of their choice without having to serve a transfer ban.
- 6.2.2 Transfers as a result of a school closure must be registered within one (3) calendar months of the schools closure.

6.3 *Transfer Re-School Split:-*

- 6.3.1 Where a school is run on a partnership bases involving 2 or more teachers and these teachers for whatever reason decide to go their separate ways then the dancers of such a school will have the option to continue dancing with whichever of the separating teachers they so wish without serving the transfer ban. This ban free transfer will be subject to the teacher informing the AIDF Registrar, re-registering their new school and their dancers.
- 6.3.2 Dancers will be given 3 months to decide which teacher to opt for, after this the transfer will be deemed as a voluntary transfer and subject to the 13 week competition free period (ban).
- 6.3.3 In the case where an employed teacher leaves a school and sets up their own school and dancers wish to join the new school then this will be deemed as a voluntary transfer and dancers will be subject to the 13 week competition free period (ban)

7. *Definition of an Amateur Dancer:*

An amateur dancer is one who uses the Art and Sport of Dancing as a non-remunerative or non-profit making pastime.

8. *Forfeiture of Amateur Status*

An amateur dancer will forfeit amateur status if he/she

- (i) Acts as a teacher of dance with a fee. (SEE NOTE)
- (ii) Takes a teaching qualification or a student teacher examination in any form of dance
- (iii) Acts as a promoter or adjudicator for any form of Freestyle competition or function.
- (iv) Competes for cash (vouchers may be accepted).
- (v) Converts prizes into cash.
- (vi) Accepts remuneration in cash or kind for the use of his/her name as a dancer in an advertisement.

8.1 **Student teachers may dance in amateur competition for a maximum of one (1) year or until they take their exam whichever is the former.)**

- 8.2 An amateur dancer over the age of 18 years is permitted for a maximum of two (2) years to take on the role of teacher's assistant and be compensated for incurred expenses without forfeiting his/her amateur status.

9. *Re-instatement - How to Apply*

Any dancer, who under Rule 8 is deemed to have lost his amateur status and desires to be reinstated as an amateur dancer, must apply in writing to the A.I.D.F. giving full details of the circumstances. An appropriate fee must be paid to cover administration expenses.

The Reinstatement Committee will consider each application on its merits and the applicant shall be allowed to appear in person and or be represented before the Committee. Reinstatement may be refused, postponed or granted *either* unconditionally or subject to such conditions and to operate from such dates as the A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Committee may decide. Any dancer, whose reinstatement has been deferred until a particular date, may not participate in any competition or medal test during the period of suspension. The A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Committee will decide in which grade a competitor will be reinstated.

10. *Right to Appeal*

- 10.1 Any dancer who has applied for reinstatement and is dissatisfied with the decision of the A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Committee may request permission to appeal and attend in person or be represented. The A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Appeals Committee may reduce or increase any period of suspension.
- 10.2 The A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Appeals Committee shall not be the same as the A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Committee, which first heard the case.
- 10.3 The findings of the A.I.D.F. Reinstatement Appeals Committee shall be final.

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10.A Amateur Displays

Displays of dancing may be given. Any monies received for such displays to be paid to the trainer who will keep it in credit for the dancer/s concerned to be used on dance related expenses such as tuition fees, costumes, travel & accommodation etc. Principal teachers will be permitted to retain a 10% commission from such earnings. No individual dancer may receive cash payments.

11. Unrecognized Events, Competitions, Medal Tests and Examinations

An amateur who competes in an unrecognized competition or an event run under rules other than those laid down by the Federation will not be eligible for Federation support in seeking redress to any and all matters relating to such an unrecognized competition or event.

12. Closed Competitions and Championships - eligibility to compete

- 12.1** If a dancer is qualified to compete in two County Championships - one by birth and one by residence - the dancer may not compete in both counties in the same calendar year. If the dancer chooses the county of residence, the dancer may not revert to the county of birth unless it becomes a future permanent address, in which case there must elapse a period of one year before the dancer is allowed to exercise a choice again. This choice shall also determine which closed area championships or competitions the dancer is entitled to enter.
- 12.2** In closed championships or competitions the right of a pair to compete shall be determined by either partner's qualifications, but no pair shall compete in two different county closed or closed national events of more than one country, in the same calendar year, or in any closed area event which does not include the county for which they have elected to dance.
- 12.3** In closed championships or competitions, when a team competes at least 75% of its members must be qualified by birth or permanent residence. In closed events no team shall compete in two different county or country in the same calendar year, or in any closed area event that does not include the county for which they have elected to dance.

13. Medal Tests and Examinations

- 13.1** Dancers who for any reason are ineligible under these rules to take part in amateur competitions are also ineligible to take part in amateur medal tests.
- 13.2** An amateur dancer may partner another amateur in a medal test or a professional in an examination or medal test.
- 13.3** No candidate may enter a medal test except through a qualified teacher of dancing, who is a full member and License holder of the A.I.D.F., which is the examining body.

14. Objection - to Eligibility to Participate

No objection to a competitor's eligibility to take part in a competition or championship shall be considered unless the objection is in writing and includes the complainant full name and address. Such objection, unless admitted by the competitor complained against or satisfactory conclusion found through the competition invigilator before the commencement of the competition section shall be referred to the NEC and the competitor complained about shall be permitted to dance in the competition or championship on the understanding that any prize he may win shall be withheld until the decision of the NEC is known. Should the objection be sustained, the result shall be adjusted accordingly.

15. Judges' Decision Final

Any competitor entering a competition or championship held under the rules of the A.I.D.F. must accept as final the verdict of the judges and their individual markings, and no appeal against that verdict or markings may be made to the NEC or elsewhere except when it can be shown that the actual markings have been incorrectly interpreted.

16. Objection - General

If any competitor, or in the case of a junior or juvenile the, parent/guardian, has an objection against any aspect of the adjudication they should forward an objection to their teacher, who in turn will submit the objection to the NEC.

Amateur Section – All styles:

17. Age Groups -

Eligibility to enter a particular age group will be determined by the age of the competitor on the day of the competition or championship.

17.1 The minimum age for a competitive dancer is 4 years of age

- 17.2** The following age groups will act as a guideline for promoters of all A.I.D.F. Sanctioned competitions or championships

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1. Under 6s (open to 4 and 5 year olds)
2. Under 8's (open to 5, 6, and 7 year olds)
3. Under 10's (open to 8 and 9 year olds)
4. Under 12's (open to 10 and 11 year olds)
5. Under 14's (open to 12 and 13 year olds)
6. Under 16's (open to 14 and 15 year olds)
7. Under 18's Youth (open to 16 and 17 year olds) (Adult)
8. Adult (over 16 where youth doesn't apply)

- 17.3 Under 12, under 16 and adult (over 16 Years) championship programmes must include separate Boy & Girl competitions. However where there are less than 3 boys in any championship boy section, then they must compete with the Championship Girls in the relevant age group
- 17.5 All competitors must dance within their age group and grade. However if an event is not included in the programme, competitors may move up to the next higher age group at the same grade.
- 17.6 The eligibility of a pair to enter a competition is determined by the age of the eldest member of the partnership. Notwithstanding this rule, dancers in Solo events must always dance in their own age group category.
- 17.7 Eligibility to enter a particular age group will be determined by the age of the competitor on the day of the competition or championship.

18. Change of Age Group

When changing age group by birth date dancers may at their discretion compete in competitions one grade lower. Anyone wishing to take advantage of this rule must notify the status official of entering the higher age group. **NO Starter/Novice may return to Beginner.**

19. Grading of Freestyle and Slowdance Competitors, Solo & Pairs:

As and from the 1st January 2006 the AIDF will operate the following status system that will determine the grading of competitive dancers in Freestyle Solos & Pairs and in Slowdance Solos & Pairs. Grading applicable to the various styles are set out below.

There is no facility for a promoter to run an event where a competitor does not require a status card and the individual registration number at an AIDF sanctioned competition.

19.1 Grading All Age Groups excluding U6s

Freestyle

Solo's

Beginner

Starter

Intermediate

Champion

Pairs

Beginner

Starter/Intermediate

Champion

Slowdance

Solo's

Novice (Beg/Starter)

Intermediate

Champion

Pairs

Novice

Intermediate

Champion

19.2 Grading Streetdance

Streetdance competitions will operate open grade

19.3 Under 6 Categories

Under 6 age group will be limited to competing in beginners & starters only

19.4 Initial Registration:

The Principal Teacher/Trainer in consultation with the dancer and their parent/s, will determine at which grade a dancer will initially register in each style, thereafter the grading system set out in this section will determine grading.

19.5 A dancer is entitled to be graded differently in

a) their competing category's i.e. solos & pairs

b) their competing styles i.e. freestyle, slow dance and Streetdance

19.6 Any dancer that has been out of competition for 12 months or more and wish to return to competition may apply to the AIDF secretary for regarding, however, the dancer must dance their first return comp in the grade they had been dancing before they stopped competing and their teacher must inform the invigilator of their intention on the day.

19.7 Status Lives:

The AIDF will operate a system of lives to regulate the grading of competitive dancers. The system will entitle a dancer to three (3) lives in each grade of each style that a dancer competes and lives will be lost in their own grade as per the table set out in 19.5 or by being placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the final of a higher grade competition in which there are 7 or more competitors.

19.8 Changing Status:

On the loss of the 3rd life in their grade the competitor must move up to the next higher grade in that style.

19.9 Loss of Life:

The number of lives lost in any one competition section is determined by the number of competitors in the first round of each category and will operate as follows

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- 1 - 6 inclusive = no loss of life
7 - 12 inclusive = first place only to lose a life
13 - 24 inclusive = first and second place to lose a life
25 or more = first, second and third place to lose a life

19.9.1 Intermediate Solo Grade Dancers: - One of the lives lost by an intermediate dancer must be a first place before they move up to championship grade.

19.9.2 Championship Grade Dancers: - When a championship dancer has lost three lives in accordance with rule 19.5 they will be deemed to be a Premier dancer and will not be eligible to downgrade on their next change of age group. This applies to solos

19.10 Pairs Status:

A pair's status will be determined by the partner who holds the highest **pair's** status in the relevant style.

19.11 AIDF Status Cards: – Solo & Pairs:

(a) AIDF Status Cards are only available through an AIDF registered teacher/trainer of dancing who will be issued with Status Cards upon application.

(b) Under 6 year old competitors should be registered initially as a beginner or a starter. Starter status will not be affected unless the competitor participates in an under 8 or older age group competition.

(c) To ensure all competitors enter the correct age group and grade events, competing dancers must carry their Status ID Cards and produce them at all competitions on request.

(d) A Status ID Card is issued to a competitive dancer through the principal teacher of registered schools but at all times it remains the property of the AIDF and may be withdrawn at any time.

(e) Status ID Card abuse must be reported to the AIDF with the details of the abuse as soon as possible after the abuse takes place.

(f) A teacher does not have the right to withhold a Status ID Card from a dancer without due cause. Should such a cause arise the AIDF must be informed ASAP.

(g) A dancer wishing to move schools must submit their Status ID Card to the principal teacher of their new school who is responsible for reregistering the dancer with AIDF (see rule 5 Registration Amateur Competitors)

19.12 Trios:

Trios will be competed in open grade only and therefore will not come under the status rule.

19.13 Re-grading:

Application may be made to the A.I.D.F. NEC for re-grading of status, each case will be considered on its merits.

20. Competitions that do not affect Status:

20.1 The winning of a competition restricted to bona fide pupils of one school, or a competition confined to medallists, does not in any way affect status.

20.2 Small Inter-schools Competitions i.e. a maximum of three schools attending competition by invitation only, does not affect status. These events must not be advertised.

20.3 Events held with one adjudicator do not affect status.

20.4 The winning of a consolation competition for those eliminated in the earlier round of a larger event does not affect status.

21. Vacant

22. Safety Restrictions.

22.1 Lifts & Acrobatics:

In Freestyle competition lifts, acrobats or gymnastics (i.e. cartwheels, handstands, back-flips, walkovers, arab-springs) are **NOT** permitted in early heats. At the discretion of the organizer restrictions may be lifted in the Final only however for reasons of safety there can be no full rotation of the body, front or back, without the use of hands at any stage.

22.2 Footwear:

Appropriate footwear is recommended at all times. Competitors choosing to wear no foot protection, do so at their own risk.

22.3 Definition of a Lift:

A lift is where one dancer has both feet off the floor with the assistance or support of another dancer.

22.4 Direction of Dance:

For Freestyle & Slowdance competitions dancers must dance in an anti-clockwise direction around the floor.

22.5. Streetdance Floor Positioning (Solo, Pairs & Trios):

All Solo, Pairs & Trio Streetdance routines will be danced on the spot i.e. within the space allocated, approx one (1) square meter for solos two (2) square meters for pairs and three (3) square meters for trios.

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23. *Dress Code (Freestyle):*

Applicable to All Grades

All costumes must be of dancewear fabric (lycra) & design

Tracksuits are **NOT** permitted

Logos are NOT permitted

23.1.A Under 6's Restrictions:

No make-up of any description. No false tan.

23.1.B Under 8's Restrictions:

No make-up of any description.

23.2 Under 10's & Under 12's Restrictions:

False eyelashes, false nails or stones are not permitted on the face in all sections and in all styles

23.3 *Beginner Grade.*

Competitors in Beginner Grade shall have a choice of one or two-piece and a choice of one or two colour dance wear costumes as described below.

Boys: Plain one piece single colour dance costume of basic design, with no added decorations of any type

Or Plain two piece costume consisting of a plain shirt or t-shirt of basic design of one single colour and plain trousers of basic design of one single colour. The top and bottoms may be each of the same or of a different colour, with no *added decorations of any type*

Girls: A simple leotard, unitard or catsuit type costume of basic design in any one single colour of choice with no added decoration of any type. A single circular cutout in the back of the costume is permitted.

Or A plain two-piece costume, consisting of a full-length, single colour top or crop top and a single colour bottom, both of basic design and without added decoration of any type. The top and bottoms may be of the same or of a different colour, with no added decorations of any type

Sweat-pants are permitted, as is a simple hair ribbon.

Suggested beginner costumes fabric: Velour or Lycra.

Notes for Beginners Costumes:

1. Dance ware must be worn
2. *The following details are **NOT** permitted*
3. No Cutouts (other than in costume description above)
4. No glitter or foil material use in costume making

Note Samples of acceptable beginners can be found on the AIDF website

23.4 Starter Grade:

Starter costumes may be of glitter or foil material with no additional decorations of any sort, i.e. rhinestones, sequins & diamantes etc. Cutouts and trimmings are permitted.

23.5 Intermediate Grade:

Intermediate costumes have no restrictions, designs and decorations are at the discretion of the dancer

23.6 Champion Grade:

Champion costumes have no restrictions, designs and decorations are at the discretion of the dancer

24. *Dance-ons:*

A dance-on is solely at the discretion of the promoter. However if applied it may only be used for the final of championship solo and pairs events in which case the time allotted will be 30 seconds for each individual dancer or pairs. A 30 second for freestyle and 40 second slowdance pause will follow the last finalist's solo dance before one minute of dancing with all dancers on the floor. Timing for a dance-on will begin from the first movement.

25. *Music:*

In Solo Couple and Trio events, the music is to be selected by the organizer. Team events, music may be chosen by the trainer, unless it has been specified by the organizer in advance.

It is the trainer's responsibility to ensure team music is recorded on a good quality CD,

The promoter must ensure the correct type of music (tempo) is available for *the dance styles in his/her programme.*

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Amateur Section Teams: – Freestyle, Streetdance, Slowdance & Showdance:

26. Team Competitions may be conducted in three grades and four age groups.

(a) Status Grades:- applies to Freestyle & Streetdance only	(b) Age Groups:- applies to all Styles
1. Beginner	1. Under 12 years
2. Starter/Intermediate	2. Under 16 years
3. Championship	3. 16 years of age and over
4. 25 years of age and over	

26.1 Both Showdance and Slowdance will be competed as open competitions

27. Team Size & Composition: (applies to all styles):

27.1 i) Minimum number in team events for all styles and grades will be six (6) persons in any mix of sexes.
Maximum number in team events for all styles and grades will be twenty-four (24) persons in any mix of sexes

ii) **A promoter for reasons of safety due to venue size only, may restrict team numbers, however, in all such cases the promoter must**

a) Not reduce the numbers to below sixteen (16) people

b) Inform the A.I.D.F. at point of requesting sanction.

c) Give clear and sufficiently advanced notice to the schools involved

27.2 Eligibility to enter is governed by the age of the eldest team member.

27.3 Team Grading:

Status lives will apply, a team must move up the next higher grade on losing three (3) lives in their own grade or being placed in the final of a higher grade in which there were four (4) teams or more competing.

27.4 Teams will lose lives in line with the number of teams competing as set out below:

1 or 2 teams = no loss of life

3 teams = first place only to lose a life

4 teams = first and second place to lose a life

5 or more = first, second and third place to lose a life

27.5 Open Competition & Championship:

Open to all grades, the status of teams entering such competitions will be affected accordingly.

27.6 Team Status Composition%:

Over 25s: At least **75%** of team member must be 25 years of age or over.

Beginner Team: At least **75%** of team members must be of Beginner Team Status

Starter/ Intermediate Team: At least **75%** of team members must be of Starter/Intermediate Status

27.7 Team Status Cards:

Teams wishing to enter AIDF sanctioned team events must register their team details with the AIDF by completing the Annual Team Status Registration Form. Team Status Cards will be issued to the team teacher/trainer. Team Status Cards must be made available for inspection at competition events should it be required.

27.8 Team Members Registration:

All competitive dancers must hold an individual competitors registration numbers. A dancer participating in team events who does not have a solo/pairs status number must register for an individual competitor's registration number.

27.9 Team Name Changes:

The changing of a team name does not constitute the establishment of a new team.

28. Team Time Limits: (timing to commence from the first movement to music)

Freestyle & Streetdance

(a) Beginners Teams Min. 1.5 minutes. Max. 2.0 minutes

(b) Starter /Intermediate Min. 2 minutes. Max. 2.5 minutes

(c) Championship Min. 2.5 minutes. Max. 4 minutes

Slow-dance Min. 2.5 minutes Max. 4 minutes

Show-dance Min. 3.5 minutes Max. 5 minutes

29. Dancers, Dancing against themselves

No person may dance in more than one team in the same style and same competition on the same day, or at a festival, or at an event held over more than one day. **i.e. Dancers are not permitted to dance against themselves.**

30. Showdance (Solos, Couples & Trios)

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- 30.1 Age Groups:**
Showdance Solos, Couples & Trio events will be run under 3 age groups
Under 12 Years (open to competitors up to 11 years of age)
Under 16 Years (open to competitors from 12 to 15 years of age)
Adult (open to competitors 16 years of age and over)
- 30.2 Categories:**
Events may be organized in as follows
Solos only event
Couples only event
Trios only event
Solos & Couples combined event
Couples & Trios combined event
Solos, Couples & Trios combined event
- 30.3** In couples & Trios the age of the oldest dancer will determine the age group being entered.
- 30.4 Grade:**
All categories will be graded as open events.
- 30.5 Time Limits:**
The following time limits will apply to all categories and age groups
Minimum time permitted **1 minute & 30 seconds**
Maximum time permitted **2 minutes & 45 seconds**
- 30.6 Props:**
Props are permitted to assist with a showdance routine however dancers must take their own props on to the dance floor and remove their own props from the dance floor, no other person may assist. This rule will be strictly applied.
- 30.7 Music: (Showdance)**
All must supply their own music recorded on a suitable medium.
- 30.8 Dress: (Showdance)**
Competitors may wear costumes or clothing of their own choice however this must be relevant to their routine and in good taste.

Professional Section:

Professional Competitors Section:

31. Professional Competitors - Minimum Age:

No competitor may compete in professional competitions until after his/her 16th birthday.

31.1. Amateur becoming Professional:

An amateur on becoming a professional is immediately eligible to enter professional competitions and championships

31.2. Professionals Judging and Competing Restriction:

No one may judge a Professional competition who is still taking part in competitive events except with the special permission of the NEC.

Adjudication & Scrutineering:

32. Credentials and Criteria required for Adjudication at A.I.D.F. Sanctioned Competitions and Championships:

- (a) National Adjudicators:** Only current A.I.D.F. Adjudicator license holders may judge at Federation sanctioned events.
- (b) International Adjudicators:** A holder of a current internationally recognized license may also judge at Federation sanctioned events
- (c) Celebrity Adjudicators:** Application for permission to appoint a celebrity adjudicator must be made to the A.I.D.F. prior to the event. Any such appointment must be over and above the minimum number of qualified judges required by these rules for competition or championship.
- (d) Minimum age for competition adjudicators:** The minimum age for adjudicating a competition will be twenty-one (21) years this applies to all Grades of competition.
- (e) Judging Own Immediate Family:** An adjudicator must retire from an adjudication panel for the whole round of a competition if a member of his/her immediate family is dancing.
(Immediate family is defined as first cousin or above)
- (f) Judging Own Team:** Teachers/trainers are not permitted to be on a panel of judges when their own team/s are competing.
- (g) Number of judges required:**
A minimum of five (5) judges is required for Championship events.
A minimum of three (3) judges is required for Ordinary Competition events.

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- (h) **Adjudicator, Scrutineer & Invigilator Fees:** Promoters must remunerate adjudicators and scrutineers using at minimum the federation rate plus agreed expenses.

33. *Appointment of Chairman of Judges and Scrutineers:*

In all championships and competitions the organiser must appoint both a Chairman of Adjudicators and a Scrutineer.

- 33.1 From 1st January 2009 scrutineers officiating at an AIDF sanctioned event must hold a qualification in manual scrutineering from an internationally recognized authority along with a certificate of competence to operate the electronic system being used. It is not sufficient to hold the certificate of competence alone beyond this date.
- 33.2 All qualified scrutineers wishing to officiate at an AIDF sanctioned event must register their qualification with supporting documentation with the AIDF Secretary. The AIDF secretary will hold a register of qualified scrutineers and will circulate a list of these to competition promoters.
- 33.3 An amateur dancer who holds an internationally recognized scrutineering qualification may act as a scrutineer and receive a fee.

34. *Duties of Chairman and Scrutineers:*

- (a) The chairman of the judges is responsible for the correct interpretation of the marks. It is also the chairman's duty to arrange with the organiser the number of dancers to be passed through to the next round.
- (b) The chairman of judges shall be responsible for ensuring that the music played for each dance in all competitions is played at the recognised tempo. All complaints regarding music must be made directly to the chairman of judges.
- (c) The chairman of the judges or invigilator and the Scrutineers must check and sign the competition report form for the event at which they have officiated. The chairman must also list any complaints made to him or her during the event.
- (d) Only the chairman of judges' scrutineer and invigilators shall have access to the marks until the end of the competition
- (e) At the end of a competition the scrutineer sheets must be made available for all teachers to inspect if they so wish.
- (f) The scrutineer may not act as chairman of judges.
- (g) It is the scrutineer's duty, at the discretion of the chairman of judges, immediately to refer to the adjudicator concerned any marking card that has a palpable error or omission.
- (h) *A chairman may serve in a non-voting capacity*

35. *Scrutineering System:*

The AIDF formally recognize the following scrutineering systems as the official systems only to be used at AIDF sanctioned events,

- Scrutelle,
- Scrutinany 3,
- ADFP
- One Dance.

36. **Competition Invigilator**

The NEC will appoint a Panel of Competition Invigilators to officiate at all sanctioned events. The panel will nominate one of their number to cover each event on the AIDF sanctioned event calendar.

- 36.1 Promoters will cover the invigilators fee
- 36.2 The Competition Invigilator will have a dual role. He or she will be
- a) Responsible for ensuring that sanction conditions and rules of the AIDF are being implemented correctly and
- b) where disputes arise will make on the spot rulings which will be binding on the day.
- 36.1 The Competition Invigilator will provide a brief written report on the event for the AIDF and record any incidents including breaches of sanction conditions and competition rules.
- 36.2 Promoters and their staff must cooperate with the Competition Invigilator on all matters relating to the rule book, the status system and conditions of sanctioning. Promoters who fail to cooperate shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Promoters Section:

Competition Sanctioning

37. Definition:

The sanctioning of a Competition or Championship will be deemed simply as "The National Executive Committee of the AIDF giving permission to a named promoter/s to run an event under the AIDF Rules of Competition & Championships".

Promoter/s are responsible for ensuring they are in possession of up to date rules of competition & championships.

37.1 Sanctioning General:

Sanctioning will only be granted on the bases of an application from the named person or persons (not organisations) intending to run the event. Sanction will not be granted to a promoter on behalf of a third person/party.

- 37.2 All Championships and competitions whether open or closed events with the exception of those in 45.9 below must receive prior sanction from the A.I.D.F.

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- 37.3** The AIDF will grant sanctions to promoters on the basis of one (1) event per regions per date. Regions for the purpose of AIDF sanctioning will be Eastern Region (Leinster) Southern Region (Munster) and Northern & Western Region (Ulster & Connaught)
- 37.4** A maximum of ten (10) festivals (weekends) will be sanctioned in a year. Traditional festival dates will receive preference.
- 37.5** The AIDF will not sanction a day competition on a date covered by a traditional weekend festival
- 37.6** Where a traditional weekend festival does not take place the NEC may sanction another event in its place for that year. Where a traditional weekend festival does not take place for two (2) consecutive years then that weekend will be lost to that promoter and the NEC will be entitled to award these dates to another promoter.
- 37.7** To facilitate a yearly events calendar the NEC will look for Sanction Applications **in block** in not later than 1st September of the preceding year for which sanction is required. Applications must be made in writing to the competition secretary outlining the date/s, region and where possible the venue/s. Each date request will be treated separately.
- 37.8** The NEC will convene an annual promoters meeting in September to facilitate the forming of the competition calendar and to avoid competition clashes.
- 37.9** Sanction will not be given nor should it be sought for dates on the dates the NEC have chosen for the AIDF Annual Conference or Special General Meeting.
- 37.10** A Promoter who receives provisional approved for sanction and must confirm within one month of their intention to go ahead with the event and this must be accompanied by
- Full programme of events
 - Proof of adequate insurance cover for the event to be sanctioned
 - The relevant sanction fee, a minimum.
 - Written acknowledgement and agreement of any conditions imposed
 - A list of confirmed adjudicators & scrutineer/s
 - Confirmation of the event venue
- 37.11** Sanction approval will be subject to receipt by the AIDF of the items detailed in rule 44.3.1 above in the allotted time
- 37.12** Where a sanctioned date has been awarded to a promoter and sanction fee paid but subsequently the event is canceled or a change of date is requested due to circumstances within the promoters control the fee will not be returned.
- 37.13** No event must be advertised as having A.I.D.F. sanction before receiving confirmation of the sanction in writing from the NEC.
- 37.14** The granting of a sanction will entitle the promoter use the A.I.D.F. approval on all information and promotion material but only for the event sanctioned.
- 37.15** Competitions not requiring A.I.D.F. Sanction include, closed class competitions and Inter Schools Invitation Competitions where there are a maximum of three schools invited.
- 37.16** From the 1st July 2006 the AIDF will only recognize AIDF sanctioned events in the Republic of Ireland (R.O.I.) and AIDF Status ID Card holders should not present their card at any events in the R.O.I. not sanctioned or recognised by AIDF. Notwithstanding this all AIDF agreements with national organisation in jurisdictions outside the R.O.I regarding recognition of Status ID Cards still stands.
- 37.17** The A.I.D.F. reserve the right to impose restrictions or and conditions on sanction approval.
- 38** ***First-Aid Competition Coverage***
All A.I.D.F. sanctioned events must have in attendance, adequate qualified FIRST-AID personal appropriately equipped for the type of activity being undertaken (i.e. energetic dancing). The AIDF strongly recommend the use of recognized first aid organizations such as The Order of Malta, St. Johns Ambulance & the Red Cross.
- 39** ***Unsanctioned/Unrecognized Events:***
A registered teacher who participates in an unsanctioned/unrecognized competition or an event run under rules other than those laid down by the Federation will not be eligible for Federation support in seeking redress to any and all matters relating to such an unsanctioned/unrecognized event
- 40. A.I.D.F. Recognition:**
Organizers of A.I.D.F. Sanctioned Championships and Competitions must promote this fact in their notices and advertisements.
- 41. Competition Entries:**
Entries to all sanctioned events must be submitted through a school of dancing, Promoters will not accept individual entries.
- 42. Video, Cine Cameras & Phones – Championship and Competitions:**
- 42.1** The use of video cine cameras and phones is strictly prohibited at championships and competitions except in the case of team events where clear permission is given by a teacher to record his/her team only.
- 42.2** A promoter may, subject to the written consent of the teacher/s concerned have all or part of an event recorded for promotional reasons, this may include television recordings.
- 42.3** The Federation reserves the right to similarly record events for promotional reasons this will also be subject to the written consent of the teacher/s concerned.

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43. **Competition Report (Blue Form)**

It is one of the functions of the scrutineer to complete the competition report. The competition report form must be sent to the AIDF registrar no later than one (1) week after a competition. While it is the role of the scrutineer to carry out this task it is the ultimate responsibility of the promoter to ensure that this is done. Failure to submit a competition report within the time frame may result in a €100 penalty on the promoter and possible implications to future sanctioning.

44. **Championship and Competition Titles:**

44.1 All titles both open and closed already in existence will continue to be honored as once a year event subject to

- i) The same organiser making the application.
- ii) All application criteria being fulfilled.
- iii) The A.I.D.F. rules and conditions of sanction being upheld.
- iv) Approval of the NEC

44.2 All new titles both open and closed will be granted at the discretion of the NEC. Such new titles will be granted for one year (January 1st to December 31st) and during that period the event may be held only once.

44.3 Titles once granted may be renewed each subsequent year subject to the conditions laid out in these rules, and no change in organiser personnel. (Titles will not be awarded to organizations) The NEC reserves the right not to renew a title to the same organizer/s.

45. **Geographical Classified Championships:**

45.1 The A.I.D.F. will consider all geographical championship titles be it Town, City, County, Province or Country. All such titles may be applied for as either open or closed events.

45.2 Where boundaries differ from those listed above then the boundaries for which the sanction is required must be clearly defined by the promoter on the application.

45.3 Venues must not be more than five miles outside the area of the championship title.

46. **Commercial Titles:**

- (i) Commercial Invitation Championships. Entry to these events must be strictly by invitation only.
- (ii) All other Commercial Championships must be conducted as Open events.

47. **Definition of Open and Closed:**

47.1 An open Competition or Championship is one in which competitors from outside the area in its title may compete.

47.2 A Closed competition or championship is one in which the competitors must be qualified by birth or resident (12 months immediately prior to the final) of the area covered by the championship or competition.

Miscellaneous:

48. **Etiquette:**

48.1 **Personal:**

- (a) In the interest of safety and fair play the following rules of etiquette will apply in all areas of the dance culture whether it be in the dance school, at competitions, at home or abroad, on or off the dance floor and will apply to professionals and amateurs alike.
- (b) Intimidation and Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated
- (c) Personal and public hygiene must be observed
- (d) Equality laws will be observed at all levels
- (e) Respect for other peoples property, personal belongings and space is essential.
- (f) Good sportsmanship is to be encouraged, observed and practiced.

48.2 **Professional:**

All professionals must maintain a very level of professional etiquette in relation to their business affairs and through their interaction with associates within the profession.

48.2.1 Breaches of etiquette or professional etiquette may be subject to an enquiry committee hearing under rule 4.

48.3 **Schools:**

(a) Schools will be held responsible for the actions/behavior of all individuals accompanying their school to an AIDF sanctioned event; this will include pupils, parents and supporters. As such the school and the principal teacher/trainer of a school where a member of their party is found to have committed acts of intimidation, bullying, vandalism or misbehaves in such a way as to endanger other patrons of the event or puts at risk the future use of a venue will be subject to disciplinary action.

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(b) Schools will also be held responsible for the safety and cleanliness of the area they are allocated at an AIDF sanctioned event. The discarding of food, bottles, glasses or sharp objects will be considered unsafe and unhealthy and will result in disciplinary action being taken against that school and its principal teacher/trainer.

Failure to comply with rules 50.3 will result in a €250.00 fine and or suspension from all future AIDF sanctioned competitions until such time that the fine is paid in full.

49. Teacher Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of all teachers to insure the contents of this rulebook is read understood and its rules observed by the teachers themselves in the first instance and in turn by all their pupils or parents in the case of very young dancers. No excuse will be entertained for failure to abide by the rules herein.

Appendix A

Disciplinary Procedures

An Inquiry Committee must consist of five persons with three constituting a quorum, and the Committee will elect its own Chairman. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

Any person in relation to whom any complaint is to be the subject of investigation by an Inquiry Committee has the right to make representations to the Inquiry Committee.

He/She shall be given not less than 28 days' notice in writing of the date on which the Inquiry Committee is to meet. The Secretary must send him/her the full details of the nature of the complaint 28 days before the Inquiry Committee meeting. He/she shall be permitted to attend the meeting in person and/or he/she may be represented by a friend or representative for the purpose of answering any complaint or allegation made against him and of making any statement by way of explanation that he/she wishes the Committee to consider. The Committee will consider the matter whether or not the person complained about makes representations and whether or not he/she attends the Committee meeting.

An Inquiry Committee is empowered to regulate its own proceedings. An Inquiry Committee cannot take action against a person or body against whom a complaint has been made. The Committee must report its findings and recommendations to the NEC in relation to each matter



All Ireland Dance Federation