



DANCESPORT NEW ZEALAND COMPETITION RULES

Effective: 1 January 2017

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<http://www.dancesport.org.nz/downloads>

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APPENDIX 1 DanceSport New Zealand Competition Titles

SECTION A: GENERAL

1. Title

1.1 These rules shall be known as the DanceSport New Zealand Competition Rules.

2. Effect

2.1 These rules supersede all previous Competition Rules and come into effect on the First (1st) day of January 2017.

3. Purpose and Applicability

3.1 The purpose of these rules is to enact the Competition Rules required under the DanceSport New Zealand Licence and Accreditation Regulations.

3.2 These rules are applicable to all DanceSport New Zealand Licenceholders.

4. Definitions

4.1 In these rules, unless otherwise specified, the definitions of the DanceSport New Zealand Licence and Accreditation Regulations shall apply supplemented by:

4.1.1 "age group" shall refer to the age groups given in Rule 7.4.

4.1.2 "competition status" shall refer to the status' a competition may be granted under Rule 10.2.

4.1.3 "competition styles" means the styles of competitions referred to in Rule 6.1.

4.1.4 "event type" Shall refer to the form of an event given by Rule 5.2.

4.1.5 "grading" shall refer to the grading system of Section C.

4.1.6 "rules" shall mean these DanceSport New Zealand Competition Rules.

4.1.7 "skating system" the established international system for determining the result of events.

4.1.8 "team type" shall refer to the team types given in Rule 7.3.

SECTION B: COMPETING

5. Events

- 5.1** An event is a single contest where teams of athletes compete to determine definitive placements for prizes, awards or other forms of recognition.
- 5.2** The form of every event or event type is determined by a four component hierarchy:
 - 5.2.1 First component is 'Competition Style' described in Rule 6;
 - 5.2.2 Second component is 'Team Structure' described in Rule 7;
 - 5.2.3 Third component is 'Scope' described in Rule 8; and
 - 5.2.4 Fourth component is 'Format' described in Rule 9.

6. Competition Styles

- 6.1** DanceSport New Zealand shall create and maintain a document called the DanceSport New Zealand Competition Styles containing a schedule of basic and composite competition styles.
- 6.2** Each competition style shall clarify a form of dance genre, part genre or inter-genre for the purpose of competing. Each competition style shall specify:
 - 6.2.1 permitted dances;
 - 6.2.2 syllabus and figures;
 - 6.2.3 restrictions;
 - 6.2.4 technique;
 - 6.2.5 competition dress; and
 - 6.2.6 music form, style and tempi.

7. Team Structure

- 7.1** A licensed athlete or group of licensed athletes must form a recognised team within a competition style and register that team with DanceSport New Zealand for the purposes of competing in events.
- 7.2** An athlete or group of athletes of which one or more is an unlicensed athlete may be permitted to form a recognised team within a competition style and register that team with the Organiser on the day for the purposes of competing in certain specified events recognised by DanceSport New Zealand from time to time

7.3 The recognised team types shall be as follows –

Team Type	Description
Athlete Couple	A male and a female licensed athlete
Professional Couple	A male and a female licensed Professional athlete
Professional-Athlete Couple	A licensed Professional athlete and athlete
Teacher-Student Couple	A licensed coach partnered by their student
Partnership Excluded Male	A male athlete who is judged, partnered by another person
Partnership Excluded Female	A female athlete who is judged, partnered by another person
Preliminary Male	A male athlete who is judged, partnered by another person
Preliminary Female	A female athlete who is judged, partnered by another person
Novice Couple	Two athletes configured at the discretion of the organiser
Formation Team	More than two athlete couples

7.4 Teams may be further divided according to age group categories. The recognised age groups are as follows:

7.4.1 Team Age Group Categories

Age Group	Restriction on Team Membership
Juvenile	All members must be under 13 years
Junior	All members must be under 16 years; and No more than half shall be under 13 years of age
Youth	All members must be at least 16 years of age but under 21 years of age unless an exemption is granted under Rule 7.8
Adult	All members must be at least 16 years of age unless an exemption is granted under Rule 7.8
Masters I	One member must have reached his or her 35 th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached his or her 30 th birthday or more in the calendar year.
Masters II	One member must have reached his or her 50 th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached his or her 45 th birthday or more in the calendar year.
Discretionary	At the discretion of the organiser.

7.4.2 The age restrictions for all age groups are determined by the age that falls in the calendar year and is allocated from 1st January of that licensing year.

7.5 A group of licensed athletes may apply to be registered as a team within a competition style by providing the relevant information in writing to the Sports Officer:

7.5.1 competition style;

7.5.2 team type;

7.5.3 age group category; and

7.5.4 list of team members.

7.6 If the team satisfies the specifications of Rules 7.3 & 7.4 for the competition style the Sports Officer shall register the team provided:

7.6.1 no licensed athlete is registered with another team of the same type and age group within the competition style; and

7.6.2 no other rule prevents registration or makes registration unnecessary.

7.7 The new team will be registered from the date confirmation is given to the registering person by the Sports Officer.

7.8 A group of licensed athletes seeking registration as an Adult or Youth team where all licensed athletes are at least 14 years of age of which at least half but not all are at least 16 years of age, will be granted registration if the Sports Officer is satisfied that a guardian or parent of every licensed athlete under 16 years of age has given written consent.

7.9 A team shall be de-registered if:

7.9.1 it has not competed in any events for twenty-four (24) months;

7.9.2 one of its team members forms another registered team of the same type within the same competition style; or

7.9.3 notice has been given in writing by a team member or their guardian or nominee to the Sports Officer

7.10 Team types exempt from the registration requirements of Rules 7.5 and 7.6 are:

7.10.1 Partnership Excluded Male and Female; and

7.10.2 Preliminary Male and Female.

7.10.3 Novice Couple.

7.11 A team that does not meet the conditions and specifications of Rules 7.3 and 7.4 within the competition style shall in every case be void and ineligible to compete in any event.

8. Event Scope

8.1 Every event shall be designated as either Open, Closed, Graded or Specified

8.2 Any event designated as Open shall be open to any team of athletes licensed or otherwise permitted to compete in New Zealand by the WDSF member body for their country.

- 8.3 Any event designated as Closed shall be restricted to teams registered with DanceSport New Zealand
- 8.4 Any event designated as Graded shall be restricted to teams registered with DanceSport New Zealand or DanceSport Australia and additionally subject to Section C: Grade System
- 8.5 Any event designated as Specified may have additional discretionary entrance criteria imposed by the Organiser.

9. Competition Format

- 9.1 All events shall be governed by the provisions of Section D to determine a winning team and placements.

10. Competitions

- 10.1 DanceSport New Zealand may grant organisers the right to organise and run competitions being a championship, festival or the like featuring a program of approved events conferring recognised awards or titles under these rules.

- 10.2 Competitions granted under Rule 10.1 shall be licensed under a recognised competition status. The recognised competition status' are:

Competition Status	Criteria
International	All International competitions in New Zealand run under WDSF rules
National	Competitions considered nationally significant
Regional	Competitions considered regionally significant
Local	Other Competitions

- 10.3 DanceSport New Zealand shall create and maintain a schedule of approved event types for the purposes of Rule 10.1 called the DanceSport New Zealand Schedule of Approved Event Types. The number of dances required for each approved event shall be recorded in the Schedule. No organiser is permitted to run events of a type not entered into this schedule and the Sports Officer may not register a team under Rule 7.3 that is incompatible with every approved event entered in the schedule.
- 10.4 DanceSport New Zealand shall recognise and grant on reasonable terms, the competitions listed in Appendix 1 where the national, regional and nationally and regionally significant titles are awarded. The DanceSport New Zealand Schedule of Approved Event Types (Rule 10.3) shall indicate those events attracting national or regional titles and the competition featuring each titled event.
- 10.5 DanceSport New Zealand shall create and maintain a policy for the granting of competitions and allocation of competition dates.
- 10.6 DanceSport New Zealand shall annually receive applications from organisers by a date as determined by DanceSport New Zealand to grant competitions and may approve applications up to three (3) years in advance.

- 10.7 Organisers applying under Rule 10.6 shall submit applications to the Sports Officer which should include:
 - 10.7.1 proposed name of competition;
 - 10.7.2 proposed date and place of competition;
 - 10.7.3 requested competition status;
 - 10.7.4 proposed approved events types; and
 - 10.7.5 organiser's full contact details.
- 10.8 DanceSport New Zealand shall annually publish and make publicly available a Calendar of all granted competitions.

SECTION C: GRADE SYSTEM**11. Grades**

11.1 Grades shall be assigned to each licensed athlete for all applicable team age groups and competition styles.

11.2 Any event designated as graded is restricted to:

11.2.1 the competition styles listed in the DanceSport New Zealand Competition Styles (refer Rule 6.1);

11.2.2 the team structures Athlete Couple and Teacher-Student Couple; and

11.2.3 the non-discretionary age groups.

11.3 The grades assigned to licensed athletes within an approved competition style shall be:

Juvenile / Junior	Youth / Adult / Masters I & Masters II
Level 1	Level 1
Level 2	Level 2
Level 3	Level 3
Level 4	Level 4
	Level 5

11.4 Every event type approved as graded shall be further divided into grades according to Rule 11.3 where teams compete for elevation points recorded against their grades.

12. Allocation of Grades

12.1 Every athlete when they first licence or relicence after they have not been licensed for five (5) years or more is allocated grades across each applicable approved competition style. The allocation is based upon their previous competition history and determined using criteria approved from time to time by DanceSport New Zealand for this purpose. If there is no competition history then the athlete will be allocated Level 1.

12.2 The grades of a team are determined as follows:

Team Structure	Team grade
Teacher-Student Couple	Takes the grade of the student athlete
Athlete Couple	Takes the grade of the athlete with the highest grade.

12.3 When a Teacher-Student Couple is registered the grades of the two athletes remains unaffected.

12.4 A team may enter and compete in the graded events corresponding to their grade.

12.5 If a licensed athlete changes age group then:

12.5.1 if the licensed athlete is Level 1 or Level 2 the licensed athlete will be allocated a new grade of Level 1 in the higher age group; otherwise

12.5.2 if the licensed athlete is Level 3 or higher in the lower age group the licensed athlete will be allocated a new grade of Level 2 in the higher age group.

Elevation points may not be carried into the higher age group except as referred to in Rules 13.8 and 13.9

12.6 If both licensed athletes have the same grade then the team shall be entitled to dance the next grade up if one exists.

12.7 No team will be permitted to dance graded events when both licensed athlete's grade differs by more than one grade.

13 Elevation of Grade

13.1. Every team competing in any one style of its grade unless disqualified from that event shall have elevation points recorded against each member licensed athlete's grade in that style at the conclusion of the competition as follows:

Competition Status	Minimum number of teams competing	Elevation Points allocated – Athlete couples
National	3	6
Regional	3	2
Local	3	1

13.2 When a Teacher-Student Couple wins an event each athlete's grade and points against their grade remains unchanged.

13.3 Any licensed athlete achieving six (6) or more elevation points shall be elevated to the next level if one exists in the applicable style beginning with zero (0) elevation points against the new level.

13.4 Any licensed athlete part of a team achieving elevation points in an event of a higher level than the licensed athlete's level in that style shall have any elevation points earned added to their elevation points for that competition style.

- 13.5 A licensed athlete may apply to the Sports Officer :
 - 13.5.1 to downgrade one level, if one exists and have zero (0) elevation points recorded against the new level but this is permitted once only within each competition style and age group; or
 - 13.5.2 under special circumstance to be allocated a lower level where the athlete has not competed for an extended period of time at the discretion of DanceSport New Zealand.
 - 13.5.3 to elevate one level if one exists and have zero (0) elevation points recorded against the new level. If under sixteen (16) years of age, the application must be supported in writing by a parent or guardian.
- 13.6 Athlete couples dancing in DanceSport Australia National status events shall earn elevation points as if earned in a DanceSport New Zealand National status event which shall be applied against their grade.
- 13.8 Elevation points received by an athlete in the Adult grade will also be applied against the Youth and Masters I and Master II grades whenever such grades apply to the athlete.
- 13.9 Elevation points received by an athlete in the Masters I grade will also be applied against the Masters II grade wherever such grades apply to the athlete.

SECTION D: COMPETITIONS

14. Organisation

- 14.1 The Organiser shall be solely responsible for every competition granted under Rule 10.1 and the enforcement of all obligations. The Organiser will be responsible for all athletes, officials and spectators at the competition and adhering to all obligations under New Zealand Law.
- 14.2 DanceSport New Zealand shall create and maintain an Officials Manual providing guidelines, standards, codes, duties and procedures for organising, adjudicating and scrutineering competitions granted under Rule 10.1.
- 14.3 An Organiser granted the right under Rule 10.1 to organise and run a competition shall:
 - 14.3.1 be bound by the rules and regulations of DanceSport New Zealand;
 - 14.3.2 within two (2) days report to the Sports Officer any breaches of the rules and regulations by any athlete or official at the competition;
 - 14.3.3 indemnify DanceSport New Zealand against any financial loss;
 - 14.3.4 ensure a copy of the finalised event list is deposited with the Sports Officer or their nominee fourteen (14) days prior to the competition;
 - 14.3.5 provide the Sports Officer with a list of competitors, adjudicators and all other officials together with panels of adjudicators (if known by then) not less than seven (7) days before the competition. Late entries and final panels of adjudicators should be provided to the Sports Officer no less than three (3) days before the competition. The Sports Officer or their nominee will respond via email to the organiser not less than 9pm the day before the competition.
 - 14.3.6 provide the outcome of all events conducted at the competition including scrutineering information within seven (7) days of the conclusion to the Sports Officer or their nominee. If provided electronically the files required to view the results must be supplied.
 - 14.3.7 ensure every team of athletes entering events of a granted competition are licensed and entitled to contest entered events under these rules.
- 14.4 The Organiser shall not unreasonably prevent or obstruct any team from entering any event they are entitled to contest under the rules.
- 14.5 DanceSport New Zealand shall have the right on receipt of a complaint if it believes there has been a material irregularity or if it has good cause to conduct an investigation and if necessary initiate disciplinary proceedings against any parties it believes are in breach of the regulations and rules.

15. Rounds

- 15.1 Every event shall consist of a progression of rounds where teams compete to be selected for the next round. The final round shall determine the winner and placing of athletes
- 15.2 Each round shall be composed of one or more heats where groups of athletes alternatively take the floor to be judged across one or more dances as notified in the event list (Rule 17.3.4). Each heat shall have no less than four (4) teams except Formation Teams. The final round which is composed of one heat shall have no more than eight (8) teams.
- 15.3 The time between any two rounds for the same Amateur event must not be less than ten (10) minutes
- 15.4 The number of teams selected from a round to progress to a next round (if it is not a final) is no less than 50% of the teams across the round.
- 15.5 The announcement of placements in the final round and the winner shall not be made until confirmed by the scrutineer/s and endorsed by the relevant chairperson of adjudicators.
- 15.6 In a circumstance where a tied placing in a final between two or more teams occurs the organiser may opt to re-dance the final consisting only of the tied teams and the same or an alternative panel of adjudicators, to determine a final result. If a tie results in this re-danced final the organiser has the option to ask the tied teams to re-dance again or they shall be declared inseparable.
- 15.7 In a circumstance where a tie for first place occurs the organiser may opt to re-dance the final according to Rule 15.6.

16. Adjudication

- 16.1. The Organiser shall appoint a panel and chairperson, or panels and chairpersons of adjudicators to determine the outcome of events and shall inform all appointments to the Sports Officer no less than three (3) days prior to the competition. For national or international status competitions the panel must be advised no less than thirty (30) days in advance and shall be confirmed by DanceSport New Zealand. For international competitions confirmation is additionally subject to the WDSF or WDSF PD as the case may be.
- 16.2 Adjudication panels shall be composed of an odd number of adjudicators and restricted as follows:

Competition Status	Adjudicator Class in relevant competition style	Minimum Number	Chairperson Class	Representation
International	All Level 3	7	Level 3	No less than 5 countries
National	All level 2 or higher	7	Level 2	No less than 2 countries and 3 regions
Regional	All level 1 or higher	5	Level 1	No requirement
Local	All level 1 or higher	3	Level 1	No requirement

- 16.3 The Organiser of a local status competition may apply for an exemption from Rule 16.2 by providing an explanation to the Sports Officer. The executive shall grant an exemption if it is satisfied that compliance is unrealistic or unreasonable.
- 16.4 In extenuating circumstances, at a local status competition the Organiser may decide to apply an exemption to Rule 16.2 by running a panel of adjudicators consisting of a single judge for one or more events provided a report is lodged with the Sports Officer that demonstrates it would be unreasonable to comply with the requirements of Rule 16.2.
- 16.5 No adjudicator may participate in a panel where:
- 16.5.1 a family member or relative is being judged as part of a team including in-law and de-facto family associations up to first cousin or closer; or
- 16.5.2 they are an athlete and judging a Professional as part of a team.
- 16.6 Adjudicators shall be subject to the guidance and authority of the chairperson for the panel.
- 16.7 All adjudicators and chairpersons of adjudicators shall be bound by the rules and regulations of DanceSport New Zealand.
- 16.8 The chairperson of adjudicators must promptly report any breaches of the rules and regulations by any athlete or adjudicator at the competition to the Organiser and as soon as possible after the conclusion of the event to the Sports Officer if not earlier.

17. Scrutineering

- 17.1 The Organiser shall appoint a panel and chairperson, or panels of scrutineers to record the marks of adjudicators and apply the skating system to determine the progression from one round to the next and the outcome of the final round for every event. The Organiser shall inform all appointments to the Sports Officer no less than three (3) days prior to the competition. For national or international status competitions the panel must be advised no less than thirty (30) days in advance and shall be confirmed by DanceSport New Zealand. For international competitions confirmation is additionally subject to the WDSF or WDSF PD as the case may be.
- 17.2 Scrutineer panels shall be composed of one or more scrutineers and restricted as follows:

Competition Status	Scrutineer Level
International	All Level 2
National	All level 1 or higher
Regional	All level 1 or higher
Local	All level 1 or higher

17.3 No scrutineer may participate in a panel:

17.3.1 if a family member or relative is being judged as part of a team including in-law and de-facto family associations up to first cousin or closer; or

17.3.2 who is part of an adjudication panel including as chairperson at the competition.

17.4 Scrutineers shall be subject to the guidance and authority of the Chairperson of Adjudicators.

17.5 All scrutineers shall be bound by the rules and regulations of DanceSport New Zealand.

18. Disqualification of Athletes

18.1. Disqualification of an athlete from an event is considered a breach of these rules.

18.2 Adjudicators who observe a breach of the rules, Competition Styles or Athlete code of conduct while judging a heat or round, must record a "D" against the affected team on their judging sheet, tablet or other recording medium and continue judging as if, except for the recording of a "D", there was no infringement.

18.3. If two or more 'D's are recorded in the same dance against an athlete or team during a heat or round of the event the scrutineers must immediately refer the matter to the relevant chairperson of adjudicators who shall without delay:

18.3.1 obtain an explanation of the infringement from the relevant adjudicators;

18.3.2 notify the Organiser; and then

18.3.3 resolve the matter with all affected parties with the Organiser acting in the capacity of a mediator if necessary.

18.4 If during the competition a repeat offence of Rule 18.3 is found to occur in a round or heat of the same event and the chairperson of adjudicators is satisfied that a breach has occurred, or the chairperson observes what he or she is satisfied is a breach of the rules then the Organiser must be consulted and the affected team disqualified from the event. The Organiser is required to take all necessary steps within the law to ensure the affected team is prevented from participating any further in the event. The chairperson of adjudicators is required to lodge a detailed report of the incident with the Sports Officer within three (3) days of the event if not sooner.

18.5 If an offence under Rule 18.3 is found to occur in a final the team may be disqualified from that event.

18.6 DanceSport New Zealand will be entitled to conduct an investigation into any disqualification and if necessary initiate disciplinary proceedings against any parties it believes are in breach of the regulations and rules.

APPENDIX 1

DanceSport New Zealand Titled Championships

National Titled	New Zealand National DanceSport Championships New Zealand Open DanceSport Championships New Zealand Teacher and Student National DanceSport Championships
National Status	NZFATD Championship
Regional Titled	Auckland Regional DanceSport Championships Wanganui Regional DanceSport Championships Wellington Regional DanceSport Championships Nelson Regional DanceSport Championships Canterbury Regional DanceSport Championships Otago Southland Regional DanceSport Championships
Regional Status	NZFATD Selection Events