

2022 ACDA New Rules and Amendments

The following are the newest rule changes and amendments to the 2022 ACDA Rules for the upcoming dance season. Please look carefully as we have added some new Divisions as well as revised a few rules to make them clearer.

We as Directors strive to provide a welcoming and transparent atmosphere and want to Thank you ALL for being a part of and supporting the ACDA Dance Organization!

GENERAL RULES

1: We have decided to change the bare midriff rule to the following.

1.14 No Bare midriffs allowed for Primary, Youth or Juniors! Costumes that are appropriate to the dance, the arena, and the competitor wearing them. Remember that how a competitor presents him or herself for performance is part of the final placement, in every dance, according to the style and story of the dance. It is essential to consider that the entire visual or “look” of the performance is judged including costuming as well as steps. (Bare midriff is defined as any bare skin showing on the center part of the torso from the breast line to the waistline, and from side seam to side seam.)

PRO AM & PRO PRO

2: We have created a new Pro Pro Division for new teachers, so that new teachers are not dancing against amateur dancers.

Pro Pro Rising Star and Pro Pro Bronze Rising Star: This division is for new or transitioning professionals who are continuing their dance training with another professional. Rising Star Pros may only have students dancing in Novice and below pro-am divisions. Only the competing pro is judged.

3: A new division has been created for the Advance Level dancers that feel like they have no place left to advance to and would like to try out a higher level of dancing and showmanship.

Pro Am Elite Divisions: This division for those who have won in the advance divisions of Pro AM... You may choose either to do flights like Classic Superstars with a show dance / or the Showcase Format of Two Step, Waltz and a Solo Medley. **YOU MAY ONLY DANCE IN ONE OF THESE DIVISIONS.** (See Couples rules section 2.1)

We will offer 3 divisions:

Open (18 and above),

CB Combined (30 to 49)

SGP Combined (50 and above)

This division is only for Pro-Am dancers who graduate from the Advanced Pro-Am divisions.

4: We will now be allowing professionals to dance genderless roles in ALL pro am divisions with the guidelines set out in the following.

IN ALL PROAM DIVISIONS, MIXED GENDER LEADERS & FOLLOWERS ARE ALLOWED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING RULES: FEMALE PROS MAY DANCE WITH FEMALE AMATEURS AND MALE PROS MAY DANCE WITH MALE AMATEURS. HOWEVER, ALL AMATEURS MUST DANCE THE LEADER OR FOLLOWER ROLE OF THEIR NATURAL GENDER. MALE AMS MUST DANCE AS LEADERS AND FEMALE AMS MUST DANCE AS FOLLOWERS. BOTH PROS AND AMATEURS MUST ALSO ADHERE TO THE EXISTING DRESS CODES FOR THEIR NATURAL RESPECTIVE GENDER. IN NO CASE WILL MALES BE ALLOWED TO DRESS AS FEMALES. FEMALES PROS LEADING WILL BE ALLOWED TO DRESS IN JEANS OR PANTS.

5: We have better defined how and where amateurs and pros may dance in Pro Am and Pro Pro divisions as follows.

1.33 Novice (3): This division is for the student that is no longer considered a beginner level dancer. Couples division I, II, and III rules will apply. Novice dancers are eligible for division III. **Rising Star Pro Pro and Pro Pro Open Teachers are NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE AS AMATEURS IN THIS DIVISION**

1.34 Intermediate (2): This division is for the moderately experienced student. Couples division I, II, & III rules will apply. Intermediate dancers are eligible for division II. **Rising Star Pro Pro and Pro Pro Open Teachers are NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE AS AMATEURS IN THIS DIVISION**

1.35 Advanced (1): This division is for the more experienced student who has advanced in their dance training. Couples division I, II, and III rules will apply. Advanced dancers are eligible for division I. **Rising Star Pro Pro and Pro Pro Open Teachers are NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE AS AMATEURS IN THIS DIVISION**

COUPLES RULES

6: We have now added a new Open Role gender division to some dance categories to be more consistent with other organizations.

2.01 Couples must consist of a leader and a follower. The ACDA Rules & Regulations define a **couple in Country dance as a male and a female**, where the male leads and the female follows. In the new Open Role Category, a couple is defined as a leader and a follower. Open Role Couples may be of any gender combination! Once a leader or follower is established, they must remain so throughout the entirety of the competition. (See 2.12 for definitions and divisions offered)

LINE DANCE RULES

7: The rule has now changed for the plain vanilla wall variation for Novice and above divisions of line dance to the following.

4.06 All Newcomers must perform all walls “plain vanilla”.

All novice and above dancers must perform the first wall “plain vanilla” and may perform variations after the first vanilla at any time!

8: The following line dance changes will offer more dances to the newcomer and novice divisions!

4.3 Line Dance Level Rules:

Six (6) dances will now be offered to all divisions except Primary, with a requirement of three (3) for Newcomer, four (4) for Novice and five (5) for Intermediate and six (6) for Advanced!

Newcomer Line Dance Overall competitors must compete in at least three (3) the offered dances for overall.

Novice Line Dance Overall competitors must compete in at least four (4) of the offered dances for overall.

Intermediate Line Dance Overall competitors must compete in all five (5) of the offered dances for overall.

Advanced Line Dance Overall Competitors Open & Youth must compete in all six (6) of the offered dances for overall.

New Dances of Rise & Fall and Smooth, have been added to the Newcomer Division of line dance.
A new dance of Smooth has been added to the Novice level divisions

Thank you all for voicing your opinions and for letting the ACDA know what you want to see from our organization. We try to listen to everyone and hope that you know we are wanting to progress our dance sport in any way we can. We look forward to seeing you all on the dance floor. Feel free to contact any one on the rules committee members with your Questions and concerns.

Rowdy Dufrene
ACDA Rules Chairman