

Miami Dance Magic Contest Rules 2012

General:

1. Contests are open to all eligible contestants. The contests on our schedule are West Coast Swing. Competitors may dance in as many competitions as they would like for which they are eligible.
2. Miami Dance Magic DJ's provide the music for all Strictly Swing and Jack and Jill format competitions. We have scheduled a masters routine division this year, so the music will be provided from you as the competitor. Your musical selection may be up to 3 minutes and 30 seconds in length. Please check back with us as our schedule and contest mix is subject to change.
3. All competitors are responsible for being in the ballroom a minimum of 10 minutes before each competition to check in with our contest coordinator. Check the posted schedule for competition times.
4. All competitors are judged on their technique, timing and teamwork. They may also be judged on their musicality and interpretation. All contestants are judged on demeanor and behavior as well. A good dancer is a good partner and failing to be courteous will be judged accordingly.
5. During all contests, shorts, cutoffs or inappropriate attire is not allowed. Inappropriate attire will be determined by the head judge, but generally will constitute clothing that is ill-fitted or unable to maintain its position for coverage of the body that is considered lewd by most standards. During finals, we ask that you not wear jeans as well.
6. Contestants may sign up for the Strictly West Coast Swing, Jack and Jill and Routine contests up to our designated sign-up cutoff times. These will be listed in the schedule prior to the event. If there is a question or issue about sign-ups or you have a problem signing up through our systems, please contact Bruce at 954-464-9210 to make any needed arrangements to allow your participation in the event.
7. All contest entrants must have a weekend ticket and must show proof of such (wristband) at time of sign up/check in at the contest registration desk if registered in advance.
8. There is no maximum limit to the number of entries per division or contest. If there are fewer than five (5) entries in any division, Miami Dance Magic reserves the right to combine or cancel that division or have it danced as an exhibition with no points awarded.
9. Miami Dance Magic reserves the right to run a contest in a "heat" format in lieu of prelims, or spotlight format if needed, due to time restraints. We also reserve the right to cancel or have a contest go straight to finals depending on time and/or number of contestants in a contest.
10. Each contestant must sign an entry/waiver form before competing.
11. Pro-Ams: In all pro-am contests that have levels, Miami Dance Magic will use the appropriate rules for their execution. In West Coast Swing, each amateur is allowed to dance in one (1) division level and an age level if available.
12. In all contests, the head judge has final say in rulings regarding eligibility, judging and inclusion in any contest.
13. Awards will be generally presented the evening of the final for that contest. Exceptions due to scheduling issues are possible, but will be avoided where possible. In any case, if you cannot be present for awards, please make arrangements with other dancers to pick up and deliver your award(s).

Dance Categories and Rules (Continued):

West Coast Strictly Swing

Strictly Swing contests are entered as a couple (male leader/female follower). The music to be danced during the contest will be chosen by the competition DJ or organizer.

1. Dancers may compete in one skill level and one age based level and as many pro-am levels in which they qualify. In cases where a competitor qualifies and wishes to dance in two strictly contests, they must do so with a different partner in each contest.
2. This is a lead/follow format swing competition and routines are not allowed. Dance content must be 90% swing. Swing is a series of double and triple steps within 2 beat music units. 6 beat patterns are usually double-triple-triple and 8 beat patterns are double-triple-double-triple in rhythm pattern content. Variations are allowed, but extremes of all doubles or all triples will be considered outside the normal swing content and judged accordingly.
3. No lifts, drops or aerals are allowed.
4. The music will be provided randomly by our DJs, and no music information will be given out in advance.
5. A "Heat" or spotlight may be used for prelims or finals.
6. Costumes are not allowed but matching colors are allowed.
7. All novice and intermediate level Swing competitors must follow AANCE guidelines to qualify for the AANCE finals. First place winners and the top 20% in the division will qualify as long as there are at least 10 couples in the contest.

Jack and Jill West Coast Swing Contests

J&J contests are entered as an individual dancer. During preliminary and semi-final rounds of the contest, all contestants are judged as individuals within the context of their experience in that dance with that partner. In the finals, a new partner is chosen and becomes your partner in that round. Judging converts to couples and results are determined accordingly. All music is chosen by the competition DJ or organizer.

1. Contestants must meet the World Swing Dance Council minimum points and wins requirements for the contest they enter. The WSDC point registry will be used for all point verifications and will be available at the event. Dancers may petition to the Chief Judge to dance up or down a level prior to the sign up deadline.
2. Dancers may dance in only one skill level contest, one age level contest and one Pro-Am Jack and Jill Swing Contest for a total of three (3) Swing Jack and Jill contests. Swing dancers may also enter in the appropriate Hustle Jack and Jill competitions.
3. No lifts, drops or aerals are allowed except in the Championship division.
4. "Heat" or Spotlight formats may be used for prelims or finals.
5. The music will be provided randomly by our DJs, and no music information will be given out in advance.
6. Check the World Swing Dance Council registry at <http://www.swingdancecouncil.com> for rules and point information.
7. First place winners and the top 20% in the Novice and Intermediate divisions qualify for the AANCE Finals as long as there is a minimum of 10 couples entered.

Dance Categories and Rules (Continued):

Pro-Am Divisions in West Coast Swing

Pro-Am divisions feature one professional dancer partnered with a student. The couple competes in a division designated by the skill or age level of the student. Judging is considered for the student only. Professional dancers may dance as a leader or a follower depending on the needs of the student (male students as leaders, female student as followers).

1. Each Professional partner may dance with up to five (5) different partners per level per division per dance. This should enable us to have a maximum of five (5) heats per level.
2. Each Amateur must dance at their own level or age level.
3. No lifts, drops or aerals are allowed.
4. This is a lead/follow category. Choreographed routines are not allowed.
5. The music will be provided randomly by our DJs, and no music information will be given out in advance.
6. Costumes, matching colors and complimentary attire are allowed.
7. There will be a top teacher award made for best results overall with the Pro-Am Divisions.

Pro-Am Jack & Jill Division in West Coast Swing

In this J&J contest, each professional dancer is paired with a series of amateurs over a series of heats. The amateurs are assigned randomly to the professional dancers. All judging in the preliminary round is focused on the dance of each amateur with that professional. The amateur scoring 1st place with that professional advances to the final round with that professional. In the final round, the judging is couple based, taking the partnership into account for placement.

1. Prior to the contest, a determination of how many professionals in each division (male or female) is determined. The total number of amateur entries is evenly distributed in random to the professional "assignments."
2. During the preliminary contest, heats will be conducted. Each professional assigned a partner in that round will dance. Judges will score the result against the other students assigned to that professional and a finalist will be determined from that score.
3. The music will be chosen by the competition DJ or organizer. No information will be given out in advance.
4. No lifts, drops or aerals are allowed.