

SEATTLE'S EASTER SWING 2008 COMPETITION RULES

1) General

- a) A couple competing in J&J and NASDE competitions consist of a male leader and a female follower. Strictly Swing divisions are exempt from this rule.
- b) Contestants (except Invitational and juniors) must hold a 3-day convention package ticket.
- c) Contestants must be age 15 or over except juniors division (17 or under) and Masters Division (50 or over). Contestants must be 18 or over (or turn 18 on or before Sunday, March 23, 2008) to compete in our NASDE Showcase and Classic competitions.
- d) Contestants may compete in any Jack and Jill for which they qualify (i.e., Masters and/or Novice *or* Intermediate *or* Advanced) and in only one Strictly Swing contest. Contestants may compete in Classic and Showcase and Strictly Swing as long as they dance with a different partner in each.
- e) Couples dancing in strictly divisions will dance at the level of the partner with the HIGHEST standing in the WSDC competitor registry.
- f) Seattle's Easter Swing (SES) reserves the right to eliminate or combine competitions if there are fewer than five couples entered in one division and to adjust prize money accordingly.
- g) SES reserves the right to reclassify any contestant for any reason.
- h) Challenges to any person or couple competing at a specific level must be made at or before the contestants' meeting for that specific competition. SES reserves the right to adjust any rules as needed as long as competitors are notified prior to competition.

2) Entry Form/Waiver

- a) An entry form and waiver must be signed by each contestant and submitted along with the required fee by the official entry deadline. Failure to do so will preclude participation in the event. The registration fee will not be refunded if a contestant misses a meeting and is thus not able to compete. Contestants under 18 years of age must also submit a signed parental waiver. Participation in competition(s) implies agreement to follow these rules and consent to the competition liability waiver.

3) Duplicate Entries

- a) No individuals or couples will be allowed to enter more than once in any division; however, if there is an uneven number of men and women in a Jack & Jill competition, the computer will randomly generate from the total number of contestants to determine who will dance a second time.

4) Cancellations

- a) A contestant who cancels his or her application before March 15th, 2008, will have the entry fee refunded. Cancellations after that date will not be refunded. Changes in a partnership require a new entry form/waiver signed by both contestants.

5) Contestant Meetings

- a) You must attend the contestant meeting for each competition you have entered (see the weekend schedule for times). There is NO meeting for Invitational J&J (You are responsible to register and check in for the J&J when you arrive at the event with the contest coordinator).
- b) If you miss a meeting without prior approval from our Competition Director, we will not allow you to compete and you will forfeit your entry fee.
- c) For the couple's competitions (Strictly Swing, Classic, and Showcase), you or your partner may represent both of you at the meeting. However, both of you are responsible for all matters discussed at the meeting.

6) Order of Dance

- a) Contestants in Showcase and Classic must draw for order of dance at the meeting on Saturday afternoon.

7) Re-starts

- 1) A restart will be allowed only if the music system falters or an unforeseen catastrophe occurs. Safety on the floor is paramount.
- 2) You must request a restart prior to your departure from the floor, and the Chief Judge must approve your request. The Chief Judge may also call for a restart at any time.

8) CONTEST DESCRIPTIONS AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

9) JACK & JILLS

- a) If a competitor does not meet a division's qualifications as stated in this document and as checked against the World Swing Dance Council (WSDC) Competitor Registry, he or she may petition to be accepted into a specific category. It is highly recommended that each competitor review his or her points on the Jack and Jill Competitor's Point Registry at www.Swingdancecouncil.com before the convention and that each competitor have a printed copy in hand at the time of registration to avoid delays and to expedite petitioning.
- b) Dancing must consist of at least 90% recognizable swing patterns (as determined by judges, see Definitions below). If there is a preliminary round, contestants will dance in groups with several different partners; they will be judged individually in the preliminaries and as a couple in the finals. No NASDE points are given for Jack & Jills except in All-Star Division. Trophies will be awarded to 5th place. Points are awarded in accordance with WSDC guidelines. We are offering these Jack & Jill events in 2007:

Novice Jack & Jill

1st: \$300 2nd: \$150 3rd: \$100 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- This division is part of the Americas Amateur Novice Championship Events and intended for dancers with limited or no prior competition experience at the national level.
- You must have never danced in a Non-Pro, Intermediate, Advanced/Pro or higher Class category, in any Classic, Showcase, Intermediate or higher Strictly Swing/Just Dance style or equivalent categories, or as a Pro in a Pro-Am, in any style of dance. Jack & Jill competitions are not excluded. You cannot have ever taught any style of partner dance. This division is not open to all levels.
- To enter this division, you should know at least the following basic WCS patterns: starter step, basic throw-out, tuck and turn throw-out, underarm turn, left side pass, right side pass, push break, whip, lock whip, whip to closed, and whip with inside turn, outside turn, and behind-the-back hand change variations.
- Except for the exclusions given above, you may compete in this division if ANY of the following apply:
 - *You are relatively new to competition and haven't earned any WSDC points; OR*
 - *You have earned fewer than 20 Novice, or Newcomer points in the past five years; OR*
 - *You have earned 20 or more Novice or Newcomer points (and no points at a higher level) but have not won 1st place in a Novice Jack & Jill competition;*
 - *OR*
 - *You submit a successful petition to compete at this level.*

Intermediate Jack & Jill

1st: \$400 2nd: \$200 3rd: \$100 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- This division is part of the Americas Amateur Novice Championship Events and intended for dancers with some previous competition experience and success at the national level.
- You must have never danced in a Rising Star, Advanced/Pro or higher Class category, in Classic, Showcase, Advanced or higher Strictly Swing/Just Dance style or equivalent categories, or as a Pro in a Pro-Am, in any style of dance. Jack & Jill competitions are not excluded. This division is not open to all levels.
- Within the guidelines given above, may compete in this division if ANY of the following apply:
 - *You already compete at the Intermediate level and have earned Intermediate points (and no points at a higher level) in the past five years; OR*

- *You have earned 20 or more Novice or Newcomer, and are ready to move up to the Intermediate level; OR*
- *You submit a successful petition to compete at this level.*

Advanced Jack & Jill

1st: \$500 2nd: \$250 3rd: \$150 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- This division is intended for dancers with significant competition experience and success at the national level. You may compete in this division if ANY of the following apply:
- *You already compete at the Advanced level and have earned Advanced points (and no points at a higher level) in the past five years; OR*
- *You have earned 25 or more Intermediate points (including at least one 1st place win) and are ready to move up to the Advanced level; OR*
- *You submit a successful petition to compete at this level (see section J).*

All-Star Jack & Jill

1st: \$700 2nd: 400 3rd: \$300 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- This division must have a minimum of 10 couples to be a valid contest. If fewer than 10 couples enter, contestants will be automatically registered in the Advanced Division.
- This division is intended for dancers with significant competition experience and success at the national level. Dancers who win or place in this division will earn NASDE Jack & Jill points.
- You may compete in this division if ANY of the following apply:
 - *You already compete at the All-Stars level and have earned All-Stars points in the past five years; OR*
 - *You have earned 40 or more Advanced points (including at least one 1st place win) and are ready to move up to the All-Stars level; OR*
 - *You submit a successful petition to compete at this level.*

Masters Jack and Jill

1st: \$400 2nd: \$200 3rd: \$100 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- This division is intended for experienced, mature WCS competitors. You may enter this division if you are at least 50 years old and you know the basic WCS patterns. (See the Novice Jack & Jill division for a list of the basic WCS patterns.)

Invitational Jack & Jill

1st: \$1,500 2nd: \$1,000 3rd: \$700 4th: \$600 5th: \$500 6th: \$400 7th: \$300

- This competition is for those who have been invited by the convention organizers. The Invitational division is not a level of dance. It is the promoter's option to invite competitors to dance at his or her discretion.

10) STRICTLY SWING (NOVICE, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED, MASTERS, AND PROFESSIONAL)

- a) Couples will compete at a level based on the WSDC standing of the highest level partner based on the Jack and Jill criteria above.
- b) The Novice and Intermediate divisions are part of the Americas Amateur Novice Championship Events and intended for dancers with limited or no prior competition experience at the national level.
- c) Dancing in this category must consist of at least 90% recognizable swing patterns (as determined by judges, see Definitions below).
- d) Costumes are not allowed; but dramatic, tasteful dance clothing is accepted - and, encouraged.
- e) A costume is defined as, "Attire that is specifically designed or selected for a couple's competition and would not generally be worn on the social dance floor."
- f) Appropriate attire is required.
- g) Decisions as to use of heats or spotlights and length of performance are the prerogative of the promoter/chief judge.
- h) Pre-choreographed moves are not allowed; choreography that is "on the fly" and strictly lead and follow is the essence of this division.
- i) Drops, leans, circular movements, and other partner weight support moves are allowed so long as both partners keep at least one foot on the floor.
- j) Physical contact between partners must be maintained except for spins, turns, short breakaways, and recoveries.

Masters Strictly Swing

1st: \$400 2nd: \$200 3rd: \$100 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- k) Both participants must be 50 years of age or older.

Novice Strictly Swing

1st: \$300 2nd: \$150 3rd: \$100 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- l) Both participants must be 15 or over.

Intermediate Strictly Swing

1st: \$400 2nd: \$200 3rd: \$100 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- m) Both participants must be 15 or over.

Advanced Strictly Swing

1st: \$500 2nd: \$250 3rd: \$150 4th: Trophy 5th: Trophy

- n) Both participants must be 15 or over.

Professional Strictly Swing

1st: \$1,000 2nd: \$500 3rd: \$260 4th: \$140 5th: \$100

- Participants must be 15 or over.
- A couple consisting of one Professional and one amateur must compete in this division.
- A professional in this contest is defined as any competitor who is
 - *Presently a full-time dance teacher, or*
 - *Has earned more than \$2,000 in Swing dance teaching earnings in the last 12 months.*
 - *Earns more than 1/3 of his or her income from teaching dance, or*
 - *Has been a finalist in a Champion or Invitational Jack & Jill competition in any event listed in the WSDC Competitor Registry.*

11) NASDE CLASSIC, SHOWCASE and JACK & JILL

NASDE Swing Dance Competition Divisions: NASDE sponsors the swing dance competition divisions of Showcase, Classic, and Strictly Swing to help promote, preserve, and improve swing dancing. The objective is to provide a competitive performance venue for the various unique styles of swing that have developed across the nation to include the Carolina Shag, Dallas Push, East Coast Swing, Hand Dancing, Hollywood Swing, Houston Whip, Imperial Swing, Jive, Jitterbug, Lindy Hop, Rock-n-Roll, and West Coast Swing, to name a few.

NASDE Statement of Swing to be used to identify the presence of Swing in the NASDE competition divisions. Swing is an American Rhythm Dance based on a foundation of 6-beat and 8-beat patterns that incorporate a wide variety of rhythms built on 2-beat single, delayed, double, triple, and blank rhythm units. The 6-beat patterns include, but are not limited to, passes, underarm turns, push-breaks, open-to-closed, and closed-to-open position patterns. The 8-beat patterns include, but are not limited to, whips, swing-outs, Lindy circles, and Shag pivots. Although they are not part of the foundation of the dance as stated above, 2- beat and 4-beat extension rhythm breaks may be incorporated to extend a pattern, to phrase the music, and/or to accent breaks.

NASDE Sportsmanship Expectations:

Sportsmanship is a fundamental aspect of our competition. Competing for the NASDE prize fund is privilege, not a right. The event director may flag a competitor's behavior as un-sportsman like. Said behavior will be reviewed by the NASDE board at the next schedule NASDE Board meeting. Redress for violations can include but are not limited to deduction of points, dropping in level in the over all standing, or removal of competitor from the NASDE list.

Classic Division:

1st: \$1,200 2nd: \$600 3rd: \$300 4th: \$200 5th: \$100

Swing dancing that allows choreography with an "on the ground" approach to the dance. Drops, leans, circular movements and other partner weight support moves are allowed as long as both partners keep at least one foot on the floor.

NASDE Rules apply. If any Event rule conflicts with published NASDE rules, the NASDE rules take precedence.

General

- a) Contestants must be 18 years or older by the end of the event to participate.
- b) Competitors will be one Male Leader and one Female Follower.
- c) The maximum number of entries in each division is at the Event's discretion. There is no minimum number of entries. If fewer than ten couples enter a division, NASDE points will still be awarded.
- d) Guidelines for expected swing content are: at 80% in Classic. It is at the judges' discretion to determine that the swing content requirement has been met.
- e) An individual is not permitted to dance twice within the same division.

Specific

- f) Performance time is a minimum of 2 minutes and maximum of 3 minutes. The clock begins when the performance starts as determined by the chief judge.
- g) Competitors select their own music.
- h) Costumes are allowed and encouraged.
- i) Time and judging starts at first movement of performance with or without music.
- j) Separate entrances are permitted but the couple must physically join together within 32 beats of music.
- k) Couples must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short break-a-ways, and recoveries.
- l) Dancers must maintain their own physical contact with the floor during partner weight support moves.
- m) At most five partner weight support moves are permitted.

Showcase Division:

1st: \$1,200 2nd: \$600 3rd: \$300 4th: \$200 5th: \$100

- n) Swing dancing that allows choreography with flair toward lifts and other partner weight support moves.
- o) NASDE Rules apply. If any Event rule conflicts with published NASDE rules, the NASDE rules take precedence.

General

- p) Contestants must be 18 years or older by the end of the event to participate.
- q) Competitors will be one Male Leader and one Female Follower.
- r) The maximum number of entries in each division is at the Event's discretion. There is no minimum number of entries. If fewer than ten couples enter a division, NASDE points will still be awarded.
- s) Showcase couples are required to do a majority of swing in their routine which is defined as more than half. It is at the judges' discretion to determine that the swing content requirement has been met.
- t) An individual is not permitted to dance twice within the same division.

Specific

- u) Performance time is a minimum of 2 minutes and maximum of 3 minutes. The clock begins when the performance starts as determined by the Chief Judge.
- v) Competitors select their own music.
- w) Costumes are allowed and encouraged.
- x) Time and judging starts at first movement of performance with or without music.
- y) Separate entrances are permitted.
- z) Break-a-ways and side-by-side patterns are permitted.
- aa) At least three partner weight support moves are required with the partner at knee level or above.
- bb) At least one partner weight support move is required with the partner above the waist.
- cc) There are no lift maximums.

12) NASDE NATIONAL JACK AND JILL TOUR Rules

- a) Each NASDE event may host a NASDE Jack and Jill category. Each event may conduct this Jack and Jill competition
- b) according to its own rules.
- c) The highest level NON Champion/Invitational Jack and Jill an event runs will be the point placing category.
- d) Points for placements: 1st place 10 points, 2nd place 9 points, 3rd 8 points, 4th 7 points, 5th 6 points, All finalists 1 point. In the event of a tie at the end of the tour, the first tie-breaker will be whoever earned NASDE J&J points at the most events during the year. The second tie-breaker will be relative placement among the qualifying events.
- e) The following year, winners may participate again in the tour.
- f) Eligibility: At the end of the tour, awards will be given to the male and female dancers who have earned the most NASDE J&J points during the year. Dancers who have finished in the top five places for the NASDE couples tour (Classic, Showcase, and Strictly Swing points) are not eligible for the NASDE J&J award. Dancers who have placed as a finalist in a Champions, Invitational, or Professional Jack and Jill at a NASDE member event also are not eligible. If during the year a dancer crosses over to the Champions or Invitational level, competes at that level, and becomes a finalist, they accumulated NASDE J&J points would be forfeited at that time.
- g) Awards: First place finishers, male and female, will receive the "NASDE Magic Pass" good for free entry into 6 member events. Second place will receive free passes to four member events. Third place will receive free pass to two member events. In the event of a tie: 1st criteria whomever attended the most events, 2nd criteria is relative placement.
- h) Passes to specific events for the first, second, and third place winners will be selected at random from a pool of all NASDE member events.
- i) The passes are Non transferable passes.
- j) The winners will be announced at the US Open each year.