

1. Material used should be based on the N.D.C.A. syllabus, Fred Astaire and Arthur Murray social step list or any approved syllabi of member organizations of the N.D.C.A.

2. Following categories pertain to Pro-Am and Amateur American Free Styles only:

Prelim Bronze 1 through 5
Intermediate Bronze 1 through 8
Full Bronze 1 through 10
Prelim Silver 1 through 5
Intermediate Silver 1 through 8
Full Silver 1 through 10
Prelim Gold 1 through 8
Gold 1 through 10

Following categories pertain to Pro-Am and Amateur International Single Dances only:

Pre-bronze thru Closed Gold - any approved syllabi of member organizations of the N.D.C.A.

Open Gold and Gold Star - there are no restrictions other than the use of lifts. (Any variations of each level syllabus.

3. **Pro/Am & Student/Student Age Divisions** - you can only enter in TWO age divisions: your actual age and one age division lower. (Except Juvenile, Pre-Teen and Junior)

4. **LEVEL OF DANCE** in American and International Style - Pro/Am or Amateur Couples
You may dance up to 3 LEVELS + TWO OPEN LEVELS. The levels must be in consecutive order, you can not skip a level. Students entering Beginner 1 level should have taken less than 50 private lessons.

5. No continuity style in Bronze.

A panel of invigilators will be used for all restricted categories. These categories will be strictly supervised and competitors committing infraction will risk being disqualified.

6. **DRESS CODE:** - costumes are permitted at any levels. Juvenile and Pre-Teen competitors must adhere to NDCA rules.

Spectator Attire: Please help us maintain an elegant atmosphere in the ballroom. With competitors in beautiful gowns and suits, we request you maintain the spirit of our event when considering your attire. Daytime: Dressy casual and resort wear. No shorts, please. Evening: Formal, Semi-Formal or cocktail for both men and women.

7. In any category with fewer than three entries the organizer reserves the right to eliminate the age and sex divisions and merge competitors into one open division.

8. No Solo Exhibition is to exceed three (3) minutes. Music will be faded out after three (3) minutes. Music must be on Cd's.

9. **Scholarships** are unisex competitions for adults. To qualify for scholarship events, a student must enter the same number of single dances **PER SCHOLARSHIP EVENT ENTERED**, in the same style.

Bronze Level Students may dance up to Silver, Silver Level Students may dance up to Open.

Dancing down levels is not allowed.

10. **ON DECK:** Competitors are requested to report to a designated area and check in at least 30 minutes prior to their scheduled heat. Competitors who do not take the floor when called by the Master of Ceremonies will face disqualification for that event.

11. **Professional Showdance:** Couples will be judged performing a solo routine of their own choice, not to exceed four minutes duration, including walk-on and walk-off music. Therefore, all competitors entering this event must come prepared with their own special music on a CD.

12. **PROFESSIONAL EVENTS & AMATEUR EVENTS:** All competing professionals and amateurs must be currently registered with the NDCA. Proof of current registration must be provided in order to compete at the California Open. Visiting non-US professionals must Be registered with the WD & DSC

For further information please contact: National Registrar For Professional and Amateurs:

Register online at www.ndca.org

13. All persons attending this event, whether as spectators or as Officials or as Competitors or guests of the Organizer, shall be bound by N.D.C.A. rules and by participating in the CHICAGO CRYSTAL BALL automatically become obliged to adhere to them.

14. Cancellation/Refund Policy:

- The deadline for cancellation is 14 days prior to the opening day of the event (May 31, 2018) Refunds will be made by mail 30 days following the competition and there will be a minimum of 20% service charge for non-recoverable processing fees per participant.
- Cancellations must be in writing.
- Cancelled entries taken at the event can not be substituted by another entry and no refund will be made on such a cancellation.
- If the organizer is not notified of cancellation after the deadline, credit will be considered in cases of emergency only and must accompany a doctors certificate.
- No refunds or exchanges will be given for any cancellation or changes within one week of the event.
- Tickets are non-refundable after May 31, 2018

15. PAYMENT:

Deadline for entries is May 22, 2018. Payment can be made by personal/business check, cashiers check, money order or cash.
Personal/business checks received after May 22, 2018 will not be accepted. Please send a Money Order or Cashiers Check

16. AWARDS:

- Top Bronze, Silver and Open, both man and lady, will be awarded a top student award. Also, Senior I (61+) & Senior II (71+) To be eligible for top student awards, a student must enter a minimum of 8 dances in that style.
 - Top Studios : 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Each studio must have a minimum of 50 entries.
 - Top Teacher Qualifications: Teachers must have a minimum 60 Pro/Am entries.
- To qualify for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd places, a teacher must have a minimum of 250, 200 & 150 Pro/Am entries, respectively. In the event the 1st, 2nd & 3rd top teacher does not meet the minimum requirements, prize money will be awarded one place down.

All entries must be danced to qualify for top teacher points.

Entries received at the competition will not count towards top teacher awards.

Points for Top Teacher will be awarded on the following basis:

| | ADULT SINGLE, 2- DANCE ENTRIES | 3-4-5-DANCE ENTRIES |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| For each first place... | 8 points | 20 points |
| For each second place... | 7 points | 15 points |
| For each third place... | 6 points | 10 points |
| For each fourth place... | 5 points | 8 points |
| For each fifth place... | 4 points | 6 points |
| For each sixth place... | 3 points | 4 points |
| For each seventh place... | 2 points | 2 points |
| For each eighth place... | 1 points | 2 points |
| For each recall from a previous round place... | 2 points | 2 points |
| For each Pro/Am Youth Entry... | 1 points | 2 points |

If a placement is an uncontested division, the points remain the same.

All persons attending this event, whether as a spectator, competitor, official, studio employee, or guest of the organizers, shall be bound by the NDCA rules, and by participating in this event, automatically become obligated to adhere to them.

Chicago Crystal Ball and participating studios accept no responsibility for any loss or theft of articles left in changing rooms, ballroom, or hotel rooms, or for any loss or injury sustained by persons attending this event, whether as a spectator, competitor, official, studio employee, or guest of the organizers. Everyone does so at his or her own risk.

No video taping or filming will be allowed. A professional video production company will be present to video participants dancing.

Chicago Crystal Ball will not be held liable for any personal charges made at the hotel. All participants must pay for their own personal charges, room service, etc.

The Chairman of Judges shall be the sole arbiter on decisions concerning ties, or any problem in scoring. The decision of the Chairman of Judges shall be final. No judge shall be harassed or questioned by the competitors about the reasons for the markings.

The Organizer has the right to make final decisions on the acceptance of entries.

Any judge, competitor, or official who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, or in any manner that reflects poorly on the sport/art of dancing, is subject to disciplinary action by the NDCA.

THERE WILL BE NO SMOKING ALLOWED IN THE BALLROOM OR CHANGING ROOMS.

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