

CLARIFICATION ON SHOWDANCE RULES

This document does not replace the WDSF Competition Rules or parts of it. The only intention is to support Athletes and Coaches by explaining the WDSF Showdance Rules (Chapter “H” of WDSF Competition Rules).

The document has been issued by the WDSF Sports Commission, Sports Policies Development Committee under the supervision of the WDSF Vice President for Sports, Mr. Shawn Tay.

**BASED ON THE WDSF COMPETITION RULES STATUS: JUNE 17, 2018 WDSF
AGM, LAUSANNE (V2) updated 01.09.2018**

H. Rules for Competitions (Showdance Competitions)

1. Rule H.1 (Character of Latin and Standard)

- 1.1. A Showdance may never suppress the character of the Latin and/or Standard dances. The minimum requirement is that the Showdance is in balance with the Latin and/or Standard character.
- 1.2. A Showdance may never suppress the balance between Latin and Standard character.

2. Rule H.2 (Dances)

- 2.1. Dances: In Latin and Standard Showdance competitions the dances must be selected from a minimum of three (3) up to a maximum of five (5) regular Standard or Latin dances.

[Comment: In Latin Showdance competitions the dances must be selected from a minimum of three (3) up to a maximum of five (5) regular Latin dances. In Standard Showdance competitions the dances must be selected from a minimum of three (3) up to a maximum of five (5) regular Standard dances.]

- 2.2. The minimum duration of each of the Latin or Standard choreographic segments included in the Showdance performance shall be 20 seconds per continuous segment and no single dance segment (Standard, Latin or other) shall exceed 90 seconds, excluding the duration of the lifts, covered by Rule H5.
- 2.3. Any additional Latin or Standard dance added on top of the initial 3 selected dances can be performed to any duration.

[Comment: In Latin Showdance Competitions the fourth and fifth regular Latin dance can be in segments shorter than 20 seconds. In Standard Showdance Competitions the fourth and fifth regular Standard dance can be in segments shorter than 20 seconds.]

- 2.4. Elements from other dances may be used to enrich and complete the choreography, with respect to the character of Latin and Standard dances (refer to Rule H 1). The character of Standard and Latin dances must be clearly recognizable.

[Comment: In Latin Showdance Competitions a minimum of 60% of the duration of the performance has to be with elements from the five regular Latin dances. In Standard Showdance Competitions a minimum of 60% of the duration of the performance has to be with elements from the five regular Standard dances.]

- 2.5. Elements of other dances and dance forms may be included up to a maximum of 40% of the duration of the performance.

- 2.6. Competitors must provide the organizer with an accurate list of all performed dances (Latin, Standard, others) in order of presentation including the duration of each element within their Showdance choreographies.

[Comment: see Rule H 13.1]

- 2.7. Competitors must provide the organizer with an accurate list of all performed dances (Latin, Standard, others) in order of presentation including the duration of each element within their Showdance choreographies.

3. Rule H.3 (Originality)

- 3.1. Each competitive choreography should be an original piece of work created for the given couple. Plagiarism (not an admitted cover version) will result in a disqualification of the couple (including subsequently, after the competition).

4. Rule H.4 (Music)

4.1. Music

Competitors must provide the Organizers no later than 7 days before the competition with:

- a) the full list of the music titles and other data, such as publisher(s), composer(s), arranger(s) needed by the organiser to comply with the copyright regulations.

[Comment: see Rule H 13.1]

4.2. Competitors must provide the Organizers with:

- a) two (2) copies of a compact disc ("CD") recording of their selected music, and
b) a full, accurate and current list of selected titles on the CD or CDs including title(s), composer(s), arranger(s), publisher(s) and CD or record number(s).

[Comment: it is recommended that couples sent a copy of their selected music (mp3 file) together with the list with all details; see Rule H 13.1]

- c) Music burnt using some ordinary computer software onto a CD must first be tried out using a CD player by the competitor before submitting to the organizer. Music from other sources such as a mobile phone will not be accepted for use at the competition.

4.3. Time Limit

The whole performance consists of the entry to the dance floor, the main part and the exit from the dancefloor. Any entry or exit performed without music, are not judged and should not exceed 15 seconds each.

The performance can be started at any place at the floor, a clear sign or agreement with the DJ to start the music has to be arranged during the rehearsal.

The main part of the performance, which is judged, begins with the start of the music and finishes when the music stops. The duration of the total music must be a minimum of 3:00 minutes and the maximum of 3:30 minutes.

[Comment: During the announcement of the couple by the Master of Ceremonies (see Rule H.13) the competitors have time to get to their starting positions, following spotlights are off. Immediately after the end of the announcement (The name of the show) following spotlights are switched on and the entry begins. The main part and the music start according to the agreement during rehearsal. After the music finishes the couple has 15 seconds in the exit part to leave the floor.]

- 4.4. Couples not complying with the time limit requirements may be disqualified by the Chairperson.

5. Rule H.5 (Lifts)

- 5.1. A lift is any movement during which one member of a couple has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of the other partner.
- 5.2. There is no restriction to the number of lifts to be performed.
- 5.3. Lifts can only be performed with the assistance of the dance partner without any use of the props.

6. Rule H.6 (Holds)

- 6.1. In Showdance Standard the couple may release the normal Standard Hold for a maximum of 50% of the total duration of the performance. Alternative hold is allowed if the Standard character is maintained.
- 6.2. In Showdance Latin there are no restrictions regarding the couple's hold.

7. Rule H.7 (Rehearsals)

- 7.1. Organizers must grant each couple an opportunity to conduct a full rehearsal on the proposed competition floor, at a reasonably convenient time, for a minimum of 10 minutes' rehearsal time, to test the competition floor and the Organizer's production of the couple's selected music.

Every couple should be present a minimum of 15 minutes before they start their rehearsal.

- 7.2. All athletes, all WDSF Chairpersons, the WDSF Invigilator, and all camera operators, sound engineers, and lighting engineers must be present for the duration of all such rehearsals.
- 7.3. All shows will be filmed under rehearsal and during the show to be used only as information in any decision about violations of these Rules. The Chairperson must disqualify any couple who fail to appear for any rehearsal.
- 7.4. During a rehearsal the invigilator shall judge the dances based on any rules and regulations set by WDSF. In case of a violation of one or more of such rules and regulations the invigilator shall inform the respective couple, so they can make adjustments to their show.
- 7.5. Except for the above-mentioned changes in a Showdance all dancers must show the same show and choreography throughout the rehearsal and the competition. During the rehearsal and all competition rounds, the same dresses and costumes must be used, and the lighting and music shall be the same.
- 7.6. If a technical problem with the music occurs during a Showdance, the affected couple must be given the opportunity to demonstrate once more after the last couple in the rehearsal and must be given time to solve the problem with the music. If the problem cannot be solved they must be disqualified from the competition. If such problems occur for the first time during the first round, the same procedure applies so that the affected couple may repeat their performance after the last couple performs in the first round. The Invigilator shall immediately disqualify a couple who experience subsequent technical music problems.

8. Rule H.8 (Order of Performance)

- 8.1. In each round, the order of performances must be drawn under the scrutiny of the Chairperson. The draw made for rehearsals is used also for the first round of the competition

9. Rule H.9 (Lighting)

9.1. All couples must perform in the same lighting conditions in all rounds. Colour lighting may be used together with spotlights.

Follow spotlights may only be used to illuminate every couple in the same way.

9.2. Any direct glare of the competing couple has to be avoided by suitable measures such as positioning the spotlights as high as possible.

10. Rule H.10 (International Showdance Competitions)

10.1. International Showdance Competitions are held in the following disciplines:

- a) Standard Showdance
- b) Latin Showdance

10.2. Format

10.2.1. For up to 18 couples a Showdance competition comprises only two (2) rounds including the final. The number of finalists depends on the number of entries as follows:

- 7 or less couples final only
- 8 to 12 couples → 6 finalists
- 13 to 14 couples → 7 finalists
- 15 to 16 couples → 8 finalists
- 17 to 18 couples → 9 finalists

If 19 or more couples enter the competition, there must be 3 rounds. In this case, the number of the couples selected for the semi-final round is 12 for up to 24 couples and 50% of all couple dancing in the first-round if 25 couples or more enter the competition.

10.2.2. Competitors must perform the same choreography in the same order and to the same musical arrangement in every round.

10.2.3. There must be no pauses during any rounds.

10.2.4. The minimum interval between rounds is 30 minutes.

10.2.5. The minimum interval between rehearsal and first round is 3 hours.

11. Rule H.11 (Grades of Competition)

11.1. WDSF Showdance World Championships

11.1.1. Adult and Youth

a) Types of competition

WDSF World Championships are held:

- aa) in the Standard dances
- bb) in the Latin American dances

b) Invitations:

Invitations must be sent to all WDSF Member bodies.

c) Eligibility:

Every WDSF Member body may nominate two couples.

d) Reimbursement of expenses:

No travel expenses, two nights' hotel accommodations. See rule B 5 and Appendix

11.2. WDSF Showdance Continental Championships

11.2.1. Adult and Youth

a) Types of competition

WDSF Continental Championships are held:

- aa) in the Standard dances
- bb) in the Latin American dances

b) Invitations:

Invitations must be sent to all WDSF Member bodies in the relevant continent. For this purpose, Israel is counted as a part of Europe.

c) Eligibility:

Every WDSF Member body has the right to nominate two couples.

d) Reimbursement of expenses:

No travel expenses, two nights' hotel accommodations. See rule B 5 and Appendix.

11.3. International Showdance Invitational Competitions

- a) Except for International Team Matches and Formation Competitions a competition may only be described as an “International Showdance Invitational Competition” if it includes couples from at least four WDSF Member bodies
- b) Invitations:
Invitations must be sent only to WDSF Member bodies unless decided otherwise by the Presidium.
- c) Reimbursement of expenses:
The reimbursement of participants shall be subject to agreement between the relevant Member bodies.

12. Rule H.12 (Competition Numbers)

- 12.1. During the first draw a competition number must be issued to each couple or their representative. The competition number of the couple performing must be displayed so that it is visible to the Adjudicators and the Audience

13. Rule H.13 (Announcements)

- 13.1. The organizer must provide a Master of Ceremonies (“compere”) to make announcements during the competitions.

All couples must complete a form in which details of their show and the theme of the show are described. When the couple has been announced they must immediately start their performance and enter the floor immediately to begin their show.

For all preliminary rounds the information included in the announcements must be:

- The couples’ names;
- The countries they represent;
- The name of the show;

All couples are obliged to hand over the technical description of choreography. This description must include

- The name of the competitors
- The NMF the couple represents
- Description (“runbook”) of the musical artwork including the “story” of the show and order of dances and music used including order of lifts and effects.
- This listing of dances is basis for reduction of Choreography and Presentation (CP) described in H 2.1. The reduction points are set

beforehand by the scrutineer on advice of the Chairperson once the show has been approved by the rehearsal.

and

- In the final, if additional information it is made available by the couple. The compere's announcements must end with the name of the show.
- The name of the choreographer, the name of the choreographer's school and any other information about the choreographer, may not be mentioned in the announcements.

[Comment: all couples have to fill a form provided by WDSF with all requested information. This form has to be sent to the organizer of the Showdance competition not later than seven (7) days before the competition. The Chairperson may disqualify couples who fail to provide the completely filled form in time.]

14. Rule H.14 (Adjudication System)

- 14.1. The version of the WDSF Absolute Judging System adjusted for Showdance competitions with 10 or 12 adjudicators, each judging all 4 judging criteria during the couple's performance, shall be used in Showdance competitions in all the preliminary and final rounds.

[Comment: In the adjusted AJS for Showdance the components TQ, MM & PS have a multiplier of 1.00; the component CP a multiplier of 1.50; the theoretical maximum of scores is 45.00 points]

15. Rule H.15 (Props/Accessories/Stage Decoration)

- 15.1. Up to 2 non-electrical, non-flammable light props can be used which will not litter the floor and can be carried by one person.

[Comment: Definition of props in Cambridge Dictionary: "an object used by the actors performing in a play or film". Props can be typical accessories (e.g. flowers, umbrella, chair) but also parts of the competition dress (e.g. scarf, cape, gloves, hat, cap) if used by the competitors as independent objects during their performance.]

16. Rule H.16 (Dress and Costumes)

- 16.1. WDSF Dress Regulations As minimum requirement the following parts of the WDSF Dress Regulations shall apply:

- 16.1.1. Intimacy Area (IA): Body zones, which must be covered by non-transparent materials or transparent materials lined with non

transparent materials. If skin colour is used, it must be SwD (Skin with Decoration)

16.1.2. Good Taste Rule: Any use of material or colour or construction or other contrivance that gives the appearance of non compliance with H.16.1.1, even though there is no breach of the literal wording of these rules, will be a breach of these rules if so determined by the Chairperson of Adjudicators.

16.2. The choice of dress and/or costume for man and lady should suit and complement the theme of the show.

16.3. Makeup and hair styling for man and lady can suit and complement the theme of the show.

17. Rule H.17 (Chairperson and Invigilator)

17.1. Chairperson and Invigilator

A WDSF Invigilator and a WDSF Chairperson must be appointed by WDSF to chair each competition, to supervise and monitor the organizer's adherence to the Rules, and to disqualify any couple who break any WDSF Rules, regulations or codes or contravene any WDSF policy or Operating Policy. The WDSF Invigilator is responsible to determine whether and ensure that all performances by all couples are presented in accordance with all the rules set out in this part "H. Rules for Competitions (Showdance Competitions)" during both the rehearsals and all competition rounds.

17.2. The organizer must provide a camera operator, an up-to-date video camera, and a screen and facilities for slow-motion and still-picture viewing for the invigilator, only for World and Continental Championships.

17.3. Every performance in every round, including rehearsals, must be recorded for use in checking for violation of any WDSF Rules, regulations or code or contravention of any WDSF policy or Operating Policy and as proof of violation or contravention in case of disqualification.

17.4. Disqualification

Any violation of these Rules in a competition by either athlete in a couple may lead to immediate disqualification of that couple by the Chairperson.

In case of a disqualification a detailed report signed by the WDSF invigilator and WDSF Chairperson, including the video recording of the performance as proof of violation of the Rules or other reason, shall be sent to the WDSF Sports Director not later than 1 week following the conclusion of the competition.

17.5. Final Decision

In any case in which these Rules are silent, incomplete or uncertain, the Invigilator's decision shall be final.