

THE GREATER PHOENIX SWING DANCE CLUB - 4TH OF JULY CONVENTION 2010

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

(Rules for all competition divisions with the exception of Champion of Champions)

CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS: Contestants must have a weekend convention ticket and must have reached the age requirement of the divisional finals contest in which they compete. Contestants may compete in an age and skill division. All competitors must complete an entry form and sign the waiver to be eligible to compete. There are seven levels of competition including the Champion of Champions division. The Champion of Champions contestants earn their way into the division and are selected by vote. This is **not** an open division. For all other divisions, please note the qualifications listed in the "Jack & Jill and Strictly Swing Competition Divisional Guidelines". The outlined criteria should be met in order to be eligible to compete in any given division.

All contestants are required to attend their Divisional Roll Call meetings. Bring your assigned bib number to the Contestant's Roll Call Meeting. **Any contestant absent from the Mandatory Roll Call meeting will not be allowed to compete.**

PETITIONS: An individual who does not qualify for a particular division as defined in the "Competition Division Guidelines" may petition to compete in that division. The petitioning contestant must be prepared to dance in the division for which they are otherwise eligible until the petition is officially approved. The **registration coordinator** and **contestant liaison** will review and **approve or deny** all petitions.

CONTESTANT NUMBER: The assigned bib number is your contestant number throughout the convention. You must wear this number each time you compete. There will be a **\$10 charge to replace** a lost bib number.

CONTEST TYPE: All contests will be West Coast Swing Jack & Jill and Strictly Swing contests with one All-American. A Jack & Jill contest consists of a male and female paired at random from the pool of eligible contestants, who then dance to a randomly selected song. Strictly Swing contests consist of a male and female couple paired at their own selection that then dance to a randomly selected song. Costumes and routines are not allowed in the Strictly Swing Division. West Coast Swing is an American rhythm dance consisting mostly of 6 and 8 count patterns plus extended patterns danced in a slot. The All-American contest allows for any level of dancer to compete in the one contest, i.e., Junior with Advanced, Champion with Novice. Heats will be determined by number of contestants.

CONTEST FORMAT: The DJ will randomly select the music for all contests. All contestants should be present in the ballroom ready to compete with their bib number pinned in place when their names are called.

Preliminary & Semi-Final Rounds - The computer will randomly assign the competitors to specific heats and dance order. Competitors will be judged individually for Jack & Jill and as a couple for Strictly Swing. Once on the dance floor, each contestant will be rotated for a minimum of 3 times to dance with at least 3 different partners for Jack & Jill and each couple will dance a minimum of 3 times for Strictly Swing.

Final Rounds - Contestants will draw for partners for the Jack & Jill. Strictly Swing finalists will dance with their chosen partner. Spotlight dances will be held for **Finals on Sunday only**. There will be group finals for all other divisions.

JUDGING CRITERIA: Timing, Technique, Teamwork, Choreography and Projection. At least 80% of the dance **must be West Coast Swing**. Complimentary dances - Shag, Balboa, Jitterbug, Lindy, etc., if used should be **no more than 20%** of the total dance. Lifts, acrobatics and aerials are **not** permitted. The common thought is: "When in doubt, leave it out." The dance should consist of lead and follow - action and reaction moves, with hand-to-hand contact maintained throughout, except for free turns, spins, side by sides and breakaways.

APPROPRIATE DRESS: This is a dance competition and appropriate attire is required. No jeans or shorts, please! Inappropriate attire may result in disqualification.

SPORTSMANSHIP: Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct and rude behavior will not be tolerated and exhibitions of such will result in suspension from further contest participation.

ON BEHALF OF THE GREATER PHOENIX SWING DANCE CLUB, WE WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK!