



May 21, 2024

## Newsletter

www.worldsdc.com

### Upcoming Registry Events

WSDC Trial Events are shown in PURPLE

- **USA GRAND NATIONAL DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (NASDE)**  
May 23 - 27, 2024
- **MICHIGAN CLASSIC**  
May 30 - June 2, 2024
- **HUNGARIAN OPEN**  
May 31 - June 2, 2024
- **ORANGE BLOSSOM DANCE FESTIVAL**  
June 6- 9, 2024
- **JACK & JILL O'RAMA**  
Jun 6 - 10, 2024
- **BALTIC SWING**  
Jun 6 - 10, 2024
- **Dance N Play**  
Jun 13 - 16, 2024
- **D-TOWNSWING**  
Jun 14 - 16, 2024
- **COLORADO COUNTRY CLASSIC**  
Jun 20 - 23, 2024
- **SWINGAPALOOZA**  
Jun 21- 23, 2024
- **LIBERTY SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS (NASDE)WSDC MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
Jun 27 - 30, 2024
- **NEVERLAND SWING**  
Jun 27 - Jul 1, 2024
- **INDY DANCE EXPLOSION**  
Jun 27 - 30, 2024  
Unconfirmed
- **SWING FICTION**  
Jun 28 - 30, 2024
- **AMERICANO DANCE CAMP**  
July 4 - 8, 2024
- **WILD WILD WESTIE**  
July 4 - 7, 2024
- **PHOENIX 4TH OF JULY**  
July 4 - 7, 2024
- **BIG APPLE DANCE FESTIVAL**  
July 11 - 14, 2024
- **ODYSSEY WEST COAST SWING**  
July 11 - 14, 2024

### *New Registry Events*

We would like to welcome the following new Registry Events that have been approved in 2024:

<b>Swing Crush</b> in San Antonio, TX	February 20-23, 2025
<b>Arousa Westie Fest</b> in Galicia, Spain	February 20-23, 2025
<b>Euro Dance</b> in Freiburg, Germany	March 4-9, 2025
<b>Slovenian Open</b> in Ljubljana, Slovenia	April 17-20, 2025*
<b>Swingin' Festival</b> in Bonn, Germany	April 25-27, 2025
<b>Swing of Music</b> in Wels, Austria	April 25-27, 2025*
<b>Spring Time Swing</b> in Freiburg, Germany	April 30 - May 5, 2025*
<b>BeeMad</b> in Madrid, Spain	May 1-4, 2025*

*An asterisk means the Event Director has not confirmed the dates and this is the forecast date based on the event's officially approved date in 2024.*

### *General Membership Meeting at Liberty Swing and on Facebook Live 6-29-2024*

The next General Membership Meeting will be held at Liberty Swing Dance Championship in New Brunswick, New Jersey on Saturday, June 29th from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM Eastern Standard Time in the USA in conference Room B/C. Attend in person or attend online via FaceBook Live!

Please use our Facebook Event Page to post your questions and topics of discussion early so that we can organize our agenda for the meeting and included as many questions and topics that are feasible within the one and a half hour timeframe. Please note that you will be allowed to post questions or feedback on the day of the meeting, but posts made early will be given priority.

### *WSDC Chief Judge Training and Certification Program*

The WSDC has developed a new Chief Judge Certification Training Program and the roll-out has started. The initial program is being rolled out into 2 phases, by invitation only.

**Phase One:** April 2024: Invitations sent to 35 experienced chief judges who have been Chief Judges for 4+ events since 2018.

**Phase Two:** TBD -- Invite chief judges who have chief judged 1-3 events since 2018.

We would like to thank our experienced and well-known Chief Judges in our community for their essential and thoughtful input. And, a thank you to our current and past board members who have worked on this program since the beginning: Demery Leyva, Estelle Bonnaire, Jim Tigges, John Lindo, and Yvonne Antonacci.

#### **Here is a list our Chief Judge Committee:**

Yvonne Antonacci	Demery Leyva
Kelly Casanova	John Lindo
Peter Fradley	Jim Tigges
Dawn Garrish	Torri Zzaoui
Marc Heldt	

## New Petition Process for dancing up

The World Swing Dance Council Points Registry enables WSDC events to sort competitors into Jack and Jill levels. Competitors earn their way from one level to the next through their dance skills and their success in WSDC Jack and Jill competitions. This system is designed to be useful to events and as fair as possible to competitors by establishing uniform criteria for advancement from one level to the next. The overall popularity and usefulness of this system is demonstrated at WSDC events, all over the world, every weekend of the year.

While most of our community is served well by this universal advancement process, in rare cases, a competitor may have extraordinary circumstances and an exceptional level of skill that combine to create the need for an individual exception to the advancement chart. In those unusual cases, a competitor may use the petition process to ask to "dance up" in a higher skill level division.

In order to improve the reliability and fairness of this system, petitions to "dance up" will now be handled through the WSDC Chief Judges Committee. Rather than being reviewed by an individual event's Chief Judge and specific only to that event, petitions will now be reviewed by this designated committee of nine experienced chief judges. Petitions will need to be submitted with at least three weeks lead time. A successful petition will be valid at any WSDC event for six months.

Here is how the new petition process for dancing up a level will work:

All petitions to "dance up" at events that take place after July 1, 2024 must be submitted to the WSDC Chief Judges Committee (CJC) using this link: [www.worldsdc.com/level-up-petition/](http://www.worldsdc.com/level-up-petition/). The CJC will review the competitor's Points Registry record and submitted videos, and reach out to the competitor for any additional information they need to make a decision. Please note that this new process takes time to complete. The CJC will notify the competitor of their decision to approve or deny the petition within three (3) weeks from the date of submission.

Petitions that are approved will allow the dancer to enter that higher-level division for six (6) months at any WSDC event anywhere in the world. Competitors will need to earn at least one point in that higher division in order to keep dancing at that level after the six months have passed.

Competitors who wish to "petition down" will continue to be handled, as usual, through rapid petitions submitted to the Chief Judge at the individual event. Petitions down are event-specific and not transferable. Competitors must submit a new petition to dance down at their next event. Petitions shall not be approved for the purpose of making a Tier (i.e., to meet the minimum number of required competitors for a Tier). Competitors added to a contest through the use of petitions will not count towards meeting a Tier 1's minimum requirements (i.e., the contest could not be held if the petition was not approved). The new centralized process is only for petitions to "dance up."

The members of the 2024 WSDC Chief Judge Committee are: John Lindo (chair), Yvonne Antonacci, Kelly Casanova, Peter Fradley, Dawn Garrish, Marc Heldt, Demery Leyva, Jim Tigges, and Torri Zzaoui. Submission of petition requests should be made through the website link above. If you have other questions or need to reach out to the Chief Judge Committee, their email address is: [cjcommittee@worldsdc.com](mailto:cjcommittee@worldsdc.com)

## Event Contest Rules are required to be posted on your website

In our recent review of WSDC Members' websites, we found that many events have old WSDC rules from previous years listed or have links to our WSDC website rules page with links that are broken. Some websites had no rules posted (which is a violation of WSDC requirements). Dancers need to be able to view your event rules prior to attending your event.

Rule 3.1.9. Registry Events must publish their contest rules in advance of the event.

Please check your website(s) and make sure that this important information is listed.

## Upcoming Registry Events

WSDC Trial Events are shown in PURPLE

- **TORONTO OPEN SWING & HUSTLE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
July 11 - 14, 2024
- **SAUNASWING**  
July 12 - 14, 2024
- **ROCK THE BARN**  
July 18 - 21, 2024
- **MIDWEST WESTIE FEST**  
July 18 - 21, 2024
- **SAINT PETERSBURG WCS NIGHTS**  
July 18 - 21, 2024
- **RIGA SUMMER SWING**  
July 25 - 29, 2024
- **DANCE MARDI GRAS**  
July 25 - 28, 2024
- **THE BEND CONNECTION**  
July 25 - 28, 2024
- **FLORIDA DANCE MAGIC**  
July 26 - 28, 2024
- **SEA SUN & SWING CAMP**  
July 27 - Aug 3, 2024
- **ARIZONA DANCE CLASSIC**  
August 1 - 4, 2024
- **NEW ENGLAND DANCE FESTIVAL**  
August 1 - 4, 2024
- **SWINGTACULAR: THE GALACTIC OPEN**  
August 1 - 4, 2024
- **GERMAN OPEN WCS CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
August 1 - 4, 2024
- **SWING FLING**  
August 8 - 12, 2024
- **LONESTAR INVITATIONAL**  
August 8 - 11, 2024
- **UPTOWN SWING**  
August 9 - 12, 2024
- **BRISTOL SWING FIESTA**  
August 9 - 11, 2024

## New WSDC Champions division rules

What makes a “Champion” west coast swing dancer? Dance ability, technical knowledge, showmanship, community leadership, teaching, transformative routines, legacy - we have so many talented dancers around the world who contribute and have contributed to our dance in immense and varied ways.

Although it is far from the only measure of a champion, dancing in the WSDC Champions Jack & Jill Division is also an important and visible way of establishing “Champion” status in our community.

On January 1, 2020, the World Swing Dance Council published new rules to begin defining WSDC Champion J&J divisions in alignment with the advancement chart, by establishing a requirement that dancers with 150+ All Star points be allowed to dance in this division. Prior to this time, Champions division eligibility rules were entirely at the discretion of individual events. Common eligibility rules included a wide range of requirements, including varying numbers of points, contest wins in NASDE Classic, NASDE Showcase or NASDE Strictly divisions, or approval of the individual event’s Chief Judge.

In recent months, the WSDC has looked at data and sought feedback from Event Directors, Chief Judges, and competitors about creating better consistency for the rules for advancement from All Star into the Champions division. The discussion was complex, wide-ranging, and passionate, and we appreciate each of you who engaged with us on this issue.

New WSDC division rules for Champions Jack & Jill are intended to create a clear and more consistent path for today’s dancers to move from All Star to the Champion division in our WSDC advancement chart, and to reduce the variability that different, event-specific rules create for advancement into this prestigious division. These new, universal rules are a significant change and are considered “interim” rules at this time, as we seek to understand their impact on our complex and diverse system.

Effective July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, on an interim basis for approximately one year, WSDC Champion Jack and Jill contest eligibility will be defined as follows:

- Any dancer that has 150+ All Star points or 1+ Champion points is eligible to dance in a WSDC Champion Jack and Jill contest.
- Any dancer that has 225+ All Star points is required to dance in the WSDC Champion division if it is offered and they wish to compete. They may not enter All Star.
- Any dancer that has 10+ Champion points is required to dance in the WSDC Champion division if it is offered and they wish to compete.
- Events may offer a combined WSDC All Star /Champion contest. Points will be awarded to the All Star division.
- Events may no longer define their WSDC Champion division by event specific qualification rules. (There may be possible exceptions during the July 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024 transition period.)

This interim WSDC definition for WSDC Champion divisions will become effective July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, with the intention to gather additional input for a review by the WSDC Board by June 30, 2025. July 1 – December 31, 2024 will be a transition period. Registry Events, that (1) occur during this transition period and (2) have published their Champion definition for their WSDC Champion Jack and Jill publicly prior to May 20, 2024, must obtain approval to maintain their previously published definition by the WSDC Board. Events that have not yet published their Champion definition for WSDC Champion Jack and Jill prior to May 20, 2024 or who do not receive Board approval for a variation must follow the definition listed above.

## Upcoming Registry Events

WSDC Trial Events are shown in PURPLE

- **SWINGTIME DENVER**  
August 15 - 18, 2024
- **CHICAGOLAND COUNTRY & SWING DANCE FESTIVAL**  
August 16 - 18, 2024
- **SUMMER HUMMER (NASDE)**  
August 22 - 25, 2024
- **UKRAINIAN OPEN**  
Canceled due to war
- **SHAKEDOWN SWING**  
August 23 - 25, 2024
- **DESERT CITY SWING**  
Aug 29 - Sept 2, 2024
- **ROLLING SWING**  
Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2024
- **JAX WESTIE FEST**  
Aug 29 - Sept 2, 2024
- **SOUTH BAY DANCE FLING**  
Aug 29 - Sept 2, 2024
- **SEA Q-FEST**  
September 1 - 8, 2024
- **TRILOGY SWING**  
September 5 - 8, 2024
- **BAVARIAN OPEN WCS CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
September 12 - 15, 2024
- **BEST OF THE BEST**  
September 12- 15, 2024
- **PHILLY SWING DANCE CLASSIC**  
September 13 - 15, 2024
- **MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
September 19 - 22, 2024
- **RETALIATION SWING**  
September 19 - 23, 2024
- **FINNFEST**  
September 20- 23, 2024
- **THE ALOHA OPEN**  
September 25 - 29, 2024

## New WSDC Champions division rules (Continued)

We will continue to monitor the rollout of our new definition of Champions over the next 12 months and evaluate contest results and feedback from the community. As stated above, Event Directors are still able to hold a Champions Division contest with their own criteria by holding a non-pointed Invitational Jack and Jill or staff show. We encourage Event Directors to hold WSDC contests, even when they hold an Invitational Jack and Jill, if time permits. Our All Star dancers need opportunities to move up to Champions and the community appreciates your support in the development of our future Champions.

Chart 3: WSDC Skill Level Jack and Jill Advancement Chart

Skill Level <sup>1</sup>	WSDC Category Definitions	Allowed (Dancers are given the <i>option</i> to move to the next skill level)	Required (Dancers are <i>required</i> to move to the next skill level)
Champion	Champions are defined for WSDC Champion Jack and Jill contests (i.e., events may no longer define their Champion division for WSDC Champion J&J contests).	Allowed to dance in Champions with 1 Champion points	Required to dance in Champions with 10 Champion points
All Stars	All Stars should be extremely competitive.	Allowed to move up with 150 All Star points	Required to move up with 225 All Star points
Advanced	Advanced should be very competitive.	Allowed to move up with 60 Adv points	Required to move up with 90 Adv points or 1+ All Star point
Intermediate	Intermediate dancers are perfecting their competitive dance skills.	Allowed to move up with 30+ Intermediate points	Required to move up with 45+ Intermediate points or 1+ Advanced point
Novice	Novice dancers demonstrate basic dance skills.	Allowed to move up with 16+ Novice points	Required to move up with 30+ Novice points or 1+ Intermediate point
Newcomer <sup>3</sup>	Newcomers are new to WSDC competition in their role.	Allowed to move up at the dancer's discretion	Required to move up with 1+ Newcomer point or 1+ Novice point (by role)

<sup>1</sup> The points required for moving up (or down) is based on the points in the dancer's primary role, not the combined points in their primary and secondary roles.

<sup>2</sup> Events must follow rule 3.2 #10 for all WSDC Champion J&Js. See footnote for 3.2 #10 for additional details regarding the transition timeframe

<sup>3</sup> Newcomer division is not offered at all events. Competitors may select either Newcomer or Novice divisions, but must dance in Novice once they receive one (1) point in either Newcomer OR Novice in their selected role (primary or secondary).

WSDC Registry Event Rules, effective July 1, 2024

RER Version 2024.2A

## Random and unbiased selection

Reminder! Music, partners, and order selection must be random and unbiased!

The WSDC rule Section 3.4 #7 states: "All WSDC Jack and Jill contests must maintain the integrity of random and unbiased selection (i.e., rotating partners, pairing of partners, and music selection)." This applies across all aspects of the contest besides matching partners in the J&J. DJs may not preferentially choose songs for a particular couple; and MCs may not change the order of a contest spotlight to benefit one couple. However, a choice of music categories for finals may be offered, as long as it's fair to all competitors.

## Upcoming Registry Events

WSDC Trial Events are shown in PURPLE

- **MIDLAND SWING OPEN 15TH ANNIVERSARY**  
September 26 - 30, 2024
- **KOREA WESTIVAL**  
September 26 - 29, 2024
- **AUSTIN ROCKS**  
September 27 - 29, 2024
- **WCS PARTY**  
September 27 - 30, 2024
- **MOOSELAND SWING**  
September 27 - 30, 2024

## General Questions

[info@worldsdc.com](mailto:info@worldsdc.com)

## Registry Points Issues

[points@worldsdc.com](mailto:points@worldsdc.com)

## WSDC Membership

[membership@worldsdc.com](mailto:membership@worldsdc.com)

## Surcharge and Payments

[treasurer@worldsdc.com](mailto:treasurer@worldsdc.com)

## New Events

[wscnewevents@worldsdc.com](mailto:wscnewevents@worldsdc.com)

## Ombudsman Committee

[ombudsman@worldsdc.com](mailto:ombudsman@worldsdc.com)

#worldswingdc

#worldsdc

#westcoastswing

#wswing

## Mission:

To inspire swing dancing around the world and guide events in creating the ideal environment to promote community growth.