



# RULES & REGULATIONS

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.

CALIFORNIA OPEN 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.

Because of NDCA rules, no video taping will be allowed. However, a professional video production company will be on hand to record your dancing. DVDs will be made available for purchase.

CALIFORNIA OPEN 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.

**MEDALIST MATERIAL** should be based on any NDCA recognized syllabus. Out-of-category material executed in the closed divisions will be penalized through a penalty judge. The competition will be inviolated and competitors committing infractions shall be warned or risk disqualification.

**AGE DIVISIONS:** See entry forms for breakdown. For further exposure, Pro/Am and Student/Student competitors may enter their own age division and/or one age division younger (except Teddy Bear, Pre-Teen, and Junior).

**DANCE LEVEL CATEGORIES:** See entry forms for breakdown. Pro/Am and Amateur competitors may enter up to three consecutive levels in each style (eg: Intermediate Bronze, Full Bronze and Beginning Silver) plus one open level in the single dances. Students entering the Newcomer level should have taken less than 50 private lessons, having not yet competed at a ballroom competition.

Open divisions are not material-restricted, and can be used for showcase material and for additional entries for further exposure.

An instructor may submit no more than one entry per dance/level/age category.

In any category with three entries or less, the organizers reserve the right to eliminate the age and sex divisions, and merge competitors into one category.

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS** should not exceed two minutes and forty-five seconds (2:45) due to time constraints. Music must be on individually labeled CDs. Solo exhibition critique/score sheets will be available to studio personnel on Sunday at the registration desk.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** are unisex competitions for Pro/Am adults. To qualify for scholarship events, a student must enter in the same number of freestyle dances PER SCHOLARSHIP EVENT ENTERED, in the same style. A student may not dance in two (2) scholarship levels in the same style.

**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.

**DRESS CODE:** A *costume* is an outfit that is worn expressly for the purpose of performing, such as dance tails, ball gowns, Latin dresses, or matching attire. Costumes are allowed, but not required, for the Intermediate Bronze and above levels. Evening wear is suggested as costuming for newcomers (i.e. cocktail dresses for ladies, jackets or vests for men).

Competitors should remain in the same costume for the completion of each freestyle group or division in a particular style (Smooth, Rhythm, Standard, or Latin). Adequate time for costume changes between divisions will be allowed.

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**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: Eleanor Wiblin, National Registrar  
Tel: (801) 378-8124 Fax: (801) 378-3734  
Eleanor\_Wiblin@byu.edu  
Or register online at [www.ndca.org](http://www.ndca.org)

Professional Rising Star is open to professionals who have not placed in the final round of the US National Championship, or any ISTD Championship which held a semi-final.

Competitors performing Theater Arts solos must come prepared with their own special music CD. Routines are restricted to four minutes in length, including walk-on and walk-off music.

## **CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY:**

- A. The deadline for cancellation is 14 days prior to the opening day of the event (February 2, 2012). Refunds will be made by mail 30 days following the competition, and there will be a minimum of \$50 service charge for non-recoverable processing fees per participant.
- B. Cancellations taken at the event cannot be substituted by another entry, and no refund will be made on such cancellations.
- C. No exchanges or refunds will be made on admission tickets. **All ticket sales are final.**
- D. If the organizer is notified of cancellations after the deadline, credit will be considered in cases of emergency only and must accompany a doctors certificate.
- E. No refunds will be given for any cancellation received during the event.

## **AWARDS RULES & REGULATIONS:**

Top students in each division, both man and lady, will be awarded a trophy.

**Top Studio Qualifications:** A small studio must consist of 1 or 2 competing students. A medium studio must consist of 3-6 competing students. A large studio must consist of 7 or more competing students. Each must have a minimum of 50 entries. Points are calculated from all entries and placements.

**Top Teacher Qualifications:** Teachers must have a minimum 80 pro/am entries.

To qualify for 1st, 2nd & 3rd places, a teacher must have a minimum of 200, 175 & 125 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.**

**Calculation of Entries:** Each single dance counts as 1 entry. Each Multi-Dance event counts as 2 entries. Closed Scholarship events count as 2 entries while Open Scholarship events count as 3 entries.

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

	<b>ADULT SINGLE, 2- OR 3-DANCE ENTRIES</b>	<b>4- OR 5-DANCE ENTRIES</b>
For each first place...	8 points	16 points
For each second place...	7 points	14 points
For each third place...	6 points	12 points
For each fourth place...	5 points	10 points
For each fifth place...	4 points	8 points
For each sixth place...	3 points	6 points
For each seventh place...	2 points	4 points
For each eighth place...	1 point	2 points
For each recall from a previous round...	1 point	2 points

## **PRE-TEENS, JUNIORS AND YOUTH**

If couples or pro-am pay full fees, they receive points as described in adult entries.

If couples or pro-am pay reduced fees, they receive 1/2 points.

If couples or pro-am pay no fees, they receive no points.

## **VISIT OUR WEBSITE!**

**[www.californiaopen.com](http://www.californiaopen.com)**

## **ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:**

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