



British DanceSport Association Competition Rules and Regulations

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Definitions	4
GENERAL SECTION	4
1. Registration	4
2. Eligibility	4
3. Secondary National Organisations.....	4
4. Country Representation for Competitors.....	4
COMPETITORS SECTION	5
5. Open and Closed BDSA Championships and Competitions	5
6. Tempos and Recommended Length of Music	6
7. Age Categories	6
8. Status of competition categories	8
9. Loss of Amateur status.....	8
10. Age Category Complaints	8
11. Additional Age Categories	8
12. Showdance Rules	9
12.1. Scope.....	9
12.2. Dances.....	9
12.3. Choreography.....	9
12.4. Adjudication	9
12.5. Para DanceSport.....	9
13. Time.....	9
14. Lifts.....	10
15. Music.....	10
16. The Competition	10
17. Props	10
18. Order of Dancing.....	10
19. Time between Rounds.....	10
20. Marking system	11
21. Chairperson of Adjudicators.....	11
22. Additional duties of the Chairperson in Showdance events (for information only)	11
23. Formation Rules.....	11
24. Sections.....	12
25. Conditions of Formation Championships.....	12
25.1 Solo Work	12
25.2 Replacements	12



25.3 Dress.....	12
25.4 Props	13
25.5 Lifts.....	13
25.6 Injuries	13
25.7 Substitutions	13
26. Time Limits	13
27. Age Categories/Divisions	13
28. Divisions.....	14
29. Formation Adjudicators	14
30. Performance Order	15
31. Rehearsals	15
32. Rounds/Finals.....	15
33. Disqualification	16
34. Competition Code of Dress.....	16
35. Adjudicators.....	17
35.1 Adjudicators' Licence	17
35.2 Eligibility	17
35.3 Scope of Adjudication	17
35.4 Representation.....	17
35.5 Appointment of Adjudicators	18
35.6 Championship Panels	18
35.7 Diversity.....	18
35.8 Consecutive Appointments	18
35.9 Failure to Comply.....	18
35.10 Professional and Amateur Championships:.....	18
36. Chairperson.....	19
37. ORGANISERS SECTION	23
37.1 BDSA Name and Logo.....	23
37.2 Organiser Refunds.....	23
37.3. Adjudicators' Fee	23
37.4 Adjudicators Payment.....	23
37.5 Prizes.....	24
37.7 Recommended Competitors' Entry Fees	24
38. RANKING EVENTS.....	25
38.1 Ranking Events included to be organised:.....	25
38.2 Access to the Marks.....	25
38.3 Insurance.....	25
38.4 First Aid	26
38.5 TV / Video rights	26
38.6 Organisers Financial Obligations	26
38.7 Security.....	26
38.9 Health and Safety	27

39.0 Safeguarding.....	28
39.1 Anti-doping policy?	28
39.2 Facilities	28
APPENDIX A.....	30
APPENDIX B.....	39
APPENDIX C.....	40
APPENDIX D.....	41
APPENDIX E.....	42

Definitions

Resident means a person who is lawfully and ordinarily resident in a country and whose principal and permanent home is in that country. The British DanceSport Association may require satisfactory documentary evidence of residence to determine eligibility to represent that country. Residence is distinct from nationality or citizenship.

GENERAL SECTION

1. Registration

1.1 All dancers competing at competitions conducted under the British DanceSport Association (BDSA) Rules must comply with the BDSA entry requirements and registration process. All entries must be processed through a BDSA-approved entry system or other entry process approved by the BDSA.

1.2 To dance in any British DanceSport Association (BDSA) competition all competitor couples and solo dancers have to be registered as a BDSA member at the time of the competition to qualify for league points.

1.2.1 Only members of the BDSA will receive the BDSA member benefits, and these will not applied to non-members participating in our competitions.

1.2.2 All dancers who are members will be eligible to receive BDSA awards, non-members will only be entitled to receive competition medals, certificates and trophies, as appropriate.

1.2.3 Only BDSA member dancers will be eligible to receive ranking points.

2. Eligibility

2.1 All dancers must dance within the eligibility criteria for the category in which they are competing i.e. age and grade categories.

2.1.1 Should you be found to not be within the eligibility criteria you will be subject to immediate expulsion from the competition and may be subject to a disciplinary hearing and sanctions.

2.2 Only BDSA professional members and affiliate associations, who have paid all applicable fees, will be permitted to apply to organise BDSA championships and ranking competitions.

3. Secondary National Organisations

Event Organisers may establish support and recognition of their Secondary Organisations, if approved by the BDSA.

4. Country Representation for Competitors

4.1 At all BDSA events, at least one competitor in a couple who are representing their Country, must adhere to either or both of the following:

- Citizenship of the country by Birth or Naturalisation (or the procedure recognised in that Country to be a recognised National).
- By being a permanent resident of that Country.

- See definition of resident to ensure compliance.
- Everyone is only permitted to dance for 1 Country within 1 calendar year (00:00 1st January to 23:59 31st December).

COMPETITORS SECTION

5. Open and Closed BDSA Championships and Competitions

5.1 BDSA Championships and Competitions may be designated as either Open or Closed.

5.1.1 Open competitions are open to all competitors who satisfy the eligibility requirements of these Rules, with no restriction on the number of entries from any country, unless otherwise stated in the event regulations.

5.1.2 Closed competitions may restrict eligibility to competitors representing a specified geographical area, including, but not limited to:

- a Home Nation (England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland);
- a county;
- a district or region; or
- any other geographical area approved by the BDSA and published in the event regulations.

5.1.3 The eligibility requirements for any Closed competition shall be clearly stated in the official event regulations and shall be binding on all competitors.

5.1.4 All competitors must satisfy the eligibility requirements applicable to the competition in which they are entered.

5.2 All competitors can participate in open competitions.

5.3 Dance Styles, Dances and Running Order

The British DanceSport Association (BDSA) recognises and sanctions competitions in a variety of dance styles and disciplines. The dances, number of dances and running order shall be determined by the style and format of the competition.

5.3.1 Unless otherwise stated in these Rules or the official event regulations, the following running orders shall apply:

- a) Ballroom: Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep.
- b) Latin American: Cha Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive.
- c) Ten Dance: Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot, Quickstep, Cha Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive.

5.3.2 Competitions conducted in other recognised BDSA dance styles or disciplines, including but not limited to American Smooth, American Rhythm, Showdance, Formation, Solo, Sequence, Freestyle, Theatre Arts and any other style recognised by the BDSA, shall be conducted in accordance with the event regulations approved by the BDSA.

5.3.3 The official event regulations shall specify, where applicable:

- the dance style and discipline;
- the dances to be performed;
- the number of dances;
- the running order of the dances;
- any elimination or round format; and

- any style-specific rules approved by the BDSA.

5.4 Championship Format

5.4.1 Unless otherwise specified in these Rules or in the official event regulations, Ballroom and Latin American Championships shall comprise five dances from the first round and Ten Dance Championships shall comprise ten dances from the first round.

5.5 Juvenile Championships

5.5.1 Juvenile Championships must comprise of a minimum of four dances in Ballroom, four dances in Latin American, or a combined eight-dance event. The dances to be used shall be published in the official event regulations before entries open, and the same dances shall be used throughout that Championship.

6. Tempos and Recommended Length of Music

6.1 All competitions conducted under these Rules shall use the music tempo, duration and format approved by the British DanceSport Association (BDSA) for the relevant dance style and competition.

6.1.1 The approved tempos and recommended lengths of music for Ballroom, Latin American, American Smooth and American Rhythm are set out in Appendices B to E respectively.

6.1.2 The approved tempos, recommended lengths of music and any style-specific musical requirements for all other dance styles and disciplines recognised by the BDSA shall be approved by the BDSA prior to publication and published within the official event regulations, technical regulations or other BDSA-approved documentation before the competition.

6.1.3 Event organisers shall ensure that all music used complies with the BDSA-approved requirements applicable to the relevant competition.

7. Age Categories

7.1 Age categories shall be determined in accordance with the requirements of the relevant dance style and competition.

7.1.1 Unless otherwise stated in these Rules or the official event regulations, the following age categories shall apply to Ballroom and Latin American competitions:

7.1.1.1 Juvenile I - Under 8

7.1.1.2 Juvenile II - Under 10

7.1.1.3 Juvenile III - Under 12

7.1.1.4 Junior I - Under 14

7.1.1.5 Junior II - Under 16

7.1.1.6 Youth I - Under 19

7.1.1.7 Youth II - Under 21

7.1.1.7.1 Youth I and Youth II competitors may also compete in the Amateur category.

7.1.1.7.2 Where combined age categories are offered, competitors may compete only within the published combined category.

7.1.1.8 Amateur - 16 years and over.

7.1.1.9 Professional - 18 years and over.

7.1.1.10 Senior I - 35 years and over.

7.1.1.10.1 At least one partner must be 35 years of age or over and the other partner must be at least 30 years of age.

7.1.1.11 Senior II - 45 years and over.

7.1.1.11.1 At least one partner must be 45 years of age or over and the other partner must be at least 40 years of age.

7.1.1.12 Senior III - 55 years and over.

7.1.1.12.1 At least one partner must be 55 years of age or over and the other partner must be at least 50 years of age.

7.1.1.13 Senior IV - 65 years and over.

7.1.1.13.1 At least one partner must be 65 years of age or over and the other partner must be at least 60 years of age.

7.1.1.13.2 Senior competitors may also compete one age category below their own.

7.1.1.14 Student/Teacher and Professional/Amateur categories:

Up to 11 years – this may be split into:

- Under 6 – this will include up to and including 5 years old.
- Under 8 – this will include age 6 and 7 years old
- Under 10 – this will include age 8 and 9 years old
- Under 12 – this will include age 10 and 11 years old

12 to 15 years

- Under 14 – this will include age 12 and 13 years old

Under 16 years

- 14 to 15 – this will include age 14 and 15 years old.

16 to 21 years

- 16 to 20 – this will include ages 16 to 20 years old.

21 to 30 years – this will include ages 21 to 29 years old.

30 to 40 years - this will include ages 30 to 39 years old

40 to 50 years – this will include ages 40 to 49 years old

50 to 60 years – this will include ages 50 to 59 years old.

60 to 70 years – this will include ages 60 to 69 years old.

70+ years - this will include ages 70 and above.

7.1.1.15 In addition to the age categories specified above, the BDSA may approve competitions using combined age categories where appropriate for the relevant dance style or discipline. Unless otherwise stated in the official event regulations, the following combined age categories may be used:

- a) Juvenile - competitors aged 11 years or under.
- b) Junior - competitors aged 15 years or under.
- c) Youth - competitors aged 20 years or under.
- d) Adult - competitors aged 21 years and over.

The use of combined age categories shall be approved by the BDSA prior to publication and shall be clearly stated in the official event regulations.

7.1.2 Other dance styles and disciplines recognised by the BDSA may operate different age categories where appropriate to the discipline.

7.1.3 Any age categories applicable to dance styles other than Ballroom and Latin American must be approved by the BDSA prior to publication and shall be published in the official event regulations before entries open.

7.1.4 The advertised age categories for a competition shall form part of the eligibility requirements for that competition and shall be binding on all competitors.

8. Status of competition categories

8.1 Amateur; (In the Professional/Amateur category) A dancer (non-teaching Amateur) who dances with a registered/qualified Professional Teacher/dancer.

8.2 Definition of a Professional, Student/Teacher and Professional/Amateur, Dancer

8.2.1 Student: (In the Student/Teacher Category) A dancer who dances with a teacher, a registered Amateur Teacher or an instructor. An amateur can assist at the request of the school principal in any amateur competition however this excludes Pro/Am competitions.

8.2.2 Professional; A Professional dancer must have declared to the BDSA that they are Professional and are qualified with a recognised awarding body, any professional who does not hold the appropriate qualifications will be regarded as an instructor.

8.2.2.1 An Instructor; Is a dance teacher that is neither qualified or can be classified as an amateur teacher, they should not be a competitive dancer.

8.3 Being qualified as a Professional in any of the dance styles within the BDSA, you are classified as a Professional only in the styles you are qualified in through your awarding body/bodies and approved by the BDSA for the style of dance.

9. Loss of Amateur status

9.1 Loss of Amateur status will occur when:

9.1.1 An Amateur is teaching and has not disclosed this to the BDSA.

9.1.2 A competing amateur takes the role of MC, scrutineer or music person without prior permission from the BDSA.

9.1.3 When an amateur adjudicates at a competition.

10. Age Category Complaints

In the event of an organiser receiving a written complaint, regarding a competitor dancing in the incorrect age category, the BDSA will request a copy of the competitor's proof of age.

11. Additional Age Categories

Age groupings cannot be changed without prior permission of the BDSA.

12. Showdance Rules

12.1. Scope

12.1.1 The British DanceSport Association (BDSA) may organise Showdance competitions in any dance style or discipline recognised by the BDSA, including Para DanceSport.

12.2. Dances

12.2.1 In Ballroom Showdance competitions, choreography shall be based upon one or more of the five recognised Ballroom dances.

12.2.2 In Latin American Showdance competitions, choreography shall be based upon one or more of the five recognised Latin American dances.

12.2.3 In all other BDSA-recognised dance styles and disciplines, including Para DanceSport, choreography shall be based upon the recognised techniques and characteristics of the relevant dance style. The permitted dances and any style-specific requirements shall be approved by the BDSA and published in the official event regulations prior to the competition.

12.3. Choreography

12.3.1 Competitors shall perform the same choreography throughout the official rehearsal and the competition unless otherwise authorised by the Chairperson of Adjudicators.

12.3.2 Choreography shall maintain the recognised character and technical content of the dance style being performed.

12.4. Adjudication

12.4.1 Adjudicators shall assess performances in accordance with the published judging criteria for the relevant dance style.

12.4.2 Particular consideration shall be given to technical quality, musical interpretation, choreography, presentation and the preservation of the recognised character of the dance style.

12.5. Para DanceSport

12.5.1 Para DanceSport Show dance competitions shall be conducted in accordance with these Rules and any additional technical requirements approved by the BDSA.

12.5.2 Wheelchair users may compete individually, as a wheelchair duo, or in partnership with a standing dancer where the event regulations permit.

12.5.3 The use of a wheelchair or other approved mobility equipment shall form part of the competitor's performance and shall not in itself influence adjudication. Adjudicators shall assess performances against the published criteria for the relevant category.

12.5.4 Any classifications, eligibility requirements or technical adaptations applicable to Para DanceSport events shall be approved by the BDSA and published in the official event regulations prior to the competition.

13. Time

13.1 The time of the show must be up to a maximum of 4 minutes.

13.2 Under no circumstances must the time limit be exceeded.

13.3 The time limit is to include the commencement of the music or when a dancer walks on to the floor and their final exit which includes the audience's applause.

14. Lifts

14.1 Three lifts are permitted for the whole performance including entry and/or exit lifts.

14.2 Definition of a Lift 'A movement in which 1 of the partners is elevated with assistance of the partner to any height, sustained there for at least two seconds and set down on the floor'.

14.3 The time limit should not exceed 15 seconds per lift.

15. Music

15.1 The invitation for a Show Dance Competition must advise the couples of possible sound machines. The sound machines for a Show Dance Competition will always be:

15.1.1 Compact Disc

15.1.2 MP3 player, iPod, iPad or USB audio device, should you wish to use an alternative form, please communicate the promoter in advance.

16. The Competition

16.1 Conditions including lighting must be the same for all competitors throughout the show including entrance and exit.

16.2 Preceding every Show Dance Competition there must be an official rehearsal, where all the couples have a reasonable time to test their show dance on the actual floor, where the competition is taking place.

16.3 To attend the rehearsal is an obligation for all couples and the chairman of adjudicators.

16.4 It is not permissible to change partners at or during a competition.

16.4.1 Entries can include solo dancing, but couples must remain consistent throughout.

16.4.2 It is not permissible for anyone to dance at the same competition with different partners.

17. Props

A prop can be used at any time throughout the performance, provided it is attached to their attire.

18. Order of Dancing

Order of dancing shall be drawn by ballot, at which all the competitors or chosen representatives have a right to be present.

19. Time between Rounds

There is to be a minimum of 30 minutes between each round of a Show Dance competition.

20. Marking system

The normal system of marking will be applied. (i.e., in the Final the adjudicators will place the couples in order of merit).

21. Chairperson of Adjudicators

21.1 In all cases the decision of the Chairperson of Adjudicators is final.

21.2 The Chairperson for all BDSA championships, ranking events and events may be non-voting.

21.3 The Non-Voting Chairperson shall remain non-voting throughout the competition except where a Voting Adjudicator is unable to continue owing to illness, injury, absence, conflict of interest, disqualification, withdrawal or other exceptional circumstance that would otherwise prevent the competition from proceeding with the required adjudicating panel. In such circumstances, the Non-Voting Chairperson may replace that Adjudicator and act as a Voting Adjudicator only for the period necessary to complete the affected round or, where unavoidable, the remainder of the competition. The reasons for the substitution and the period during which the Chairperson acted as a Voting Adjudicator shall be recorded in the Chairperson's Report, which shall be submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

22. Additional duties of the Chairperson in Showdance events (for information only)

22.1 The Chairperson will hold a meeting with all competitors present to remind them of the rules of the Show dance event with particular reference to time limits, lifts and Props.

22.2 The Chairperson will hold a meeting with all Adjudicators prior to the start of the event to inform them of their duties to ensure that the performances meet the requirements and rules of the style of dance.

22.2.1 The Chairperson must inform:

22.2.1.1 The Adjudicators

22.2.1.2 The relevant dancer/dancers of any disqualification immediately following the round being completed with the reason for disqualification.

23. Formation Rules

23.1 BDSA Registration

23.1.1 All Formation teams entering BDSA Formation Championships must be registered with the BDSA.

23.1.2 Formation dancers need to register with the BDSA individually if they wish to participate in other BDSA events.

23.1.3 Each formation team may carry a maximum of 2 reserves.

23.2 Definition of Formation Competitions and Championships

23.2.1 A Formation competition or championship is a team event in which competitors perform a choreographed routine in accordance with the technical requirements of the recognised dance style or discipline.

23.2.2 Formation routines shall be based upon the recognised techniques, figures and character of the relevant dance style or discipline.

23.2.3 The dances, permitted choreography, technical requirements and any style-specific restrictions applicable to a Formation competition shall be approved by the BDSA prior to publication and published in the official event regulations.

23.3 Formation Championships

23.3.1 The BDSA may grant Formation Championships in any dance style or discipline recognised by the BDSA.

23.3.2 The recognised dance style or discipline, together with the applicable technical requirements, shall be stated in the official event regulations.

23.3.3 The BDSA may also grant Open Formation Championships combining two or more recognised dance styles or disciplines where approved by the BDSA.

23.3.4 The BDSA may organise Synchronised Solo Formation Championships or other Formation formats as approved by the BDSA. The applicable rules and technical requirements shall be published in the official event regulations.

24. Sections

In each division, there are two sections:

24.1 Four couple teams

24.2 Six, Seven or Eight couple teams

24.3 The BDSA reserve the right to approve different team scenarios dependent on genre.

25. Conditions of Formation Championships

25.1 Solo Work

25.1.1 Solo work shall be permitted only to the extent authorised by the technical requirements of the relevant dance style or discipline.

25.1.2 Any restrictions relating to the duration, content or presentation of solo work shall be approved by the British DanceSport Association (BDSA) prior to publication and published in the official event regulations.

25.2 Replacements

An eligible reserve may replace a team member at any time before the commencement of a round, provided prior notification is given to the Chairperson of Adjudicators and the replacement complies with these Rules and the published event regulations.

25.3 Dress

Competitors shall wear attire appropriate to the recognised dance style or discipline and shall comply with the current BDSA Costume Rules and any additional requirements published in the official event regulations.

25.4 Props

25.4.1 No change of costume shall be permitted during the performance unless expressly authorised within the official event regulations.

25.4.2 Props shall not be permitted unless expressly authorised in the official event regulations approved by the BDSA.

25.5 Lifts

25.5.1 Lifts shall not be permitted in any competition involving competitors under the age of 16 years unless expressly authorised by the BDSA for the relevant dance style or discipline.

25.5.2 Where lifts are permitted, the conditions governing their use shall be specified in the official event regulations approved by the BDSA.

25.5.3 Unless otherwise provided within the official event regulations, lifts shall not be performed during the judged portion of the routine.

25.6 Injuries

Only an eligible reserve may replace an injured team member in accordance with these Rules and the published event regulations.

25.7 Substitutions

25.7.1 Substitutions shall only be permitted in the following circumstances:

- a) illness or injury occurring before the commencement of the competition or before the commencement of any subsequent day of competition;
- b) the substitution is notified to and approved by the Chairperson of Adjudicators no later than 30 minutes before the published commencement time of the relevant competition or round.

25.7.2 No substitutions shall be permitted once a team has commenced dancing in the Final unless authorised by the Chairperson of Adjudicators in exceptional circumstances affecting the safe continuation of the competition.

25.7.3 Any substitution approved under this Rule shall be recorded in the Chairperson's Report and submitted to the British DanceSport Association.

26. Time Limits

26.1 For competitions involving competitors under the age of 12 years, the total performance time, including entry and exit, whether with or without music, shall not exceed 4 minutes.

26.2 For competitions involving competitors aged 16 years and over, the total performance time, including entry and exit, whether with or without music, shall not exceed 4 minutes 30 seconds.

26.3 Entry and exit shall be clearly identifiable and distinct from the judged performance.

26.4 Teams failing to comply with these time limits or any other requirements of this Rule may be liable to disqualification at the discretion of the Chairperson of Adjudicators

27. Age Categories/Divisions

27.1 Ballroom and Latin American Formation Teams

27.1.1 In Ballroom and Latin American Formation competitions and championships, a competitor may continue to compete in the applicable age category until 31 August of the competition year, provided they were eligible for that category on 1 September of the preceding year.

27.1.2 A competitor who competes in an Adult Formation competition or championship shall no longer be eligible to compete in a Junior Formation Team competition or championship during that competition year.

27.1.3 A competitor who competes in a Junior Formation competition or championship shall no longer be eligible to compete in an Under 12 Formation Team competition or championship during that competition year.

27.2 All Other Dance Styles and Disciplines

27.2.1 For all other BDSA-recognised dance styles and disciplines, age eligibility shall be determined using the calendar year from 1 January to 31 December.

27.2.2 A competitor shall remain eligible for the applicable age category throughout the calendar year in which they reach the maximum age for that category, unless otherwise stated in the official event regulations approved by the BDSA.

27.2.3 Any exceptions or alternative age category arrangements for a recognised dance style or discipline must be approved by the BDSA prior to publication and published in the official event regulations.

28. Divisions

28.1 Adult Formation Team competitions are open only to teams that satisfy the eligibility requirements for the Adult category.

28.2 Junior Formation Team competitions are open only to teams that satisfy the eligibility requirements for the Junior category.

28.3 Juvenile Formation Team competitions are open only to teams that satisfy the eligibility requirements for the Juvenile category.

28.4 Beginners Formation Team Match competitions are open only to teams that satisfy the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 27. No individual member of a Beginners Formation Team shall have competed in a Junior, Juvenile or Adult Formation Team competition or championship on more than three (3) previous occasions.

29. Formation Adjudicators

29.1 Formation Championships must have 9 Adjudicators.

29.2 Formation competitions must have a minimum of 5 adjudicators.

29.3 A minimum of 3 Adjudicators must have formation experience.

29.4 All adjudicators must hold a Adjudicator Licence or a recognised International licence to adjudicate a Formation Competition/Championship.

29.5 In all cases the Chairperson's decision is final.

29.6 The Chairperson for all BDSA Championships, Ranking Events and Events should be Non-Voting.

29.7 The Non-Voting Chairperson shall remain non-voting throughout the competition except where a Voting Adjudicator is unable to continue owing to illness, injury, absence, conflict of

interest, disqualification, withdrawal or other exceptional circumstance that would otherwise prevent the competition from proceeding with the required adjudicating panel. In such circumstances, the Non-Voting Chairperson may replace that Adjudicator and act as a Voting Adjudicator only for the period necessary to complete the affected round or, where unavoidable, the remainder of the competition. The reasons for the substitution and the period during which the Chairperson acted as a Voting Adjudicator shall be recorded in the Chairperson's Report, which shall be submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

30. Performance Order

The order of dancing for each round will be determined by draw, under the supervision of the chairperson of adjudicators, or his designated representative.

31. Rehearsals

31.1 Whenever possible adequate revision or team rehearsals should be made.

31.2 Each Team must be allocated equal amounts of time to rehearse with music.

31.3 The Chairperson must attend the rehearsals and warn any Team/competitors infringing the rules.

31.4 Once warned, a Team may be disqualified if they continue to infringe the rules.

31.5 The Chairperson shall determine whether a disqualification is appropriate following consultation with the panel of Adjudicators and the Promoter of the event. The Chairperson shall consider the views of the Adjudicators and the Promoter before reaching a decision. The Chairperson's decision shall be final and binding. Where the Adjudicators are equally divided in their opinion, the Chairperson shall exercise a casting vote.

32. Rounds/Finals

32.1 When there are more than 6 teams in a championship a second round must be held.

32.2 In each round of the competition, no more than 50% of the teams should be eliminated from the next round.

32.3 No more than 9 teams should participate in the final round.

32.4 If the Chairperson has requested the appropriate number of recalls, the number of teams advanced to the next round shall not be fewer than 50% of the teams in the preceding round unless all Adjudicators unanimously agree that fewer than 50% should be recalled. Where such a unanimous decision is made, the Chairperson may advance fewer than 50% of the teams to the next round. The decision, together with the reasons for the decision and the marks from the affected previous round, shall be recorded in the Chairperson's Report. The Chairperson's Report shall be submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

33. Disqualification

The Chairperson shall determine whether a disqualification is appropriate following an infringement of the rules. After consultation with the panel of Adjudicators and the Promoter of the event. The Chairperson shall consider the views of the Adjudicators and the Promoter before reaching a decision. The Chairperson's decision shall be final and binding. Where the Adjudicators are equally divided in their opinion, the Chairperson shall exercise a casting vote.

34. Competition Code of Dress

34.1 All competitors, coaches and officials shall comply with the current British DanceSport Association (BDSA) Competition Code of Dress Rules as published by the BDSA.

34.2 The BDSA Competition Code of Dress Rules forms part of these Competition Rules and shall apply to all competitions conducted under the authority of the BDSA.

34.3 The Competition Code of Dress Rules specify the requirements applicable to the relevant dance style, discipline, age category and competition format, including, where applicable:

- costume requirements;
- footwear;
- hairstyles;
- make-up;
- jewellery;
- sponsorship logos are permitted materials and decorations
- any other dress or appearance requirements approved by the BDSA.

34.4 The dress requirements for Ballroom and Latin American competitions are contained within the current BDSA Competition Code of Dress Rules.

34.5 The BDSA may approve separate dress requirements for other recognised dance styles or disciplines, including but not limited to American Smooth, American Rhythm, Solo Dance, Formation, Show dance, Para DanceSport, Theatre Arts, Sequence, Freestyle and any other discipline recognised by the BDSA. Such requirements shall be approved by the BDSA prior to publication and shall form part of the Competition Code of Dress Rules or other BDSA-approved technical regulations.

34.6 The Chair of Adjudicators shall have the authority to interpret and enforce the Competition Code of Dress Rules at all BDSA competitions. The Chair may require a competitor to modify or replace any item of attire or appearance that does not comply with the Competition Code of Dress Rules or the published requirements for the relevant dance style or discipline.

34.7 Where a competitor fails to comply with the Competition Code of Dress Rules or any lawful direction given by the Chair of Adjudicators, the Chair may prohibit the competitor from competing until the non-compliance has been remedied or may disqualify the competitor if the breach cannot be remedied before the competition.

34.8 The British DanceSport Association may amend, replace or issue supplementary Competition Code of Dress Rules from time to time. Any such amendments shall become

effective from the date published by the BDSA and shall apply to all competitions conducted thereafter.

Juvenile Syllabus

Juvenile I, II and III couples and solos must only dance syllabus steps up to and including Guinea. Please see Appendix A.

Graded Events

Beginner = Guinea Beginner = Guinea

Novice = Guinea Novice = Guinea

Intermediate = Guinea Intermediate = Open syllabus

Pre-Amateur = Guinea Pre-Amateur = Open syllabus

The above grades are for all 5 Ballroom and all 5 Latin dances.

35. Adjudicators

35.1 Adjudicators' Licence

All adjudicators officiating at competitions, ranking events, Championships, World Championships or European Championships conducted under the authority of the British DanceSport Association (BDSA) shall hold a current Adjudicators' Licence.

35.2 Eligibility

To be eligible for a BDSA Adjudicators' Licence an applicant shall:

- a) be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- b) hold an Enhanced DBS Adjudicators' Qualification, or an equivalent adjudicating qualification recognised by the BDSA, in each dance style or discipline they intend to adjudicate;
- c) satisfy any continuing professional development requirements prescribed by the BDSA;
- d) comply with the BDSA Safeguarding Policy and any associated safeguarding requirements; and
- e) comply with the BDSA Code of Conduct and any other policies applicable to licensed adjudicators.

35.3 Scope of Adjudication

35.3.1 An adjudicator shall only adjudicate those dance styles or disciplines for which they hold an Enhanced DBS, qualification or an recognised by the BDSA.

35.3.2 Recognition of equivalent qualifications shall be determined solely by the BDSA.

35.3.3 Where a competition contains more than one recognised dance style or discipline, an adjudicator shall hold the appropriate qualification for each style or discipline they are appointed to adjudicate.

35.4 Representation

35.4.1 An adjudicator shall represent only one country during any calendar year unless prior written approval has been granted by the BDSA.

35.5 Appointment of Adjudicators

35.5.1 Event organisers shall appoint adjudicators based upon their qualifications, technical knowledge, integrity, experience and standing within the relevant dance style or discipline.

35.5.2 The proposed adjudicators' panel shall be submitted to the BDSA for approval not less than seven (7) days before the commencement of the competition.

35.5.3 Where an appointed adjudicator becomes unavailable, a replacement adjudicator may be appointed, provided the replacement satisfies these Rules and is approved by the BDSA or its authorised representative.

35.6 Championship Panels

35.6.1 The minimum number of adjudicators required for each Championship or competition shall be determined by the BDSA and published within the official event regulations.

35.6.2 The BDSA may prescribe different panel sizes for different dance styles, disciplines, competition formats or Championship categories.

35.7 Diversity

Event organisers shall use reasonable endeavors to appoint adjudicating panels that demonstrate diversity, inclusion and an appropriate balance of experience, whilst maintaining the highest standards of technical competence.

35.8 Consecutive Appointments

With affect from 1st January 2027: An adjudicator must not be appointed to adjudicate the same BDSA Championship in consecutive years unless otherwise approved by the BDSA.

35.9 Failure to Comply

Failure by an organiser to comply with these Rules or any direction issued by the BDSA relating to the appointment of adjudicators may result in disciplinary action, including the withdrawal of approval to organise BDSA Championships or other sanctioned competitions.

Professional and Amateur Championships:

- A minimum of 9 adjudicators shall be invited for BDSA Amateur and Professional Championships.
- Juvenile, Junior, Youth, Senior, Student/Teacher, and Professional/Amateur

Championships:

- A minimum of 9 adjudicators for the Juvenile, Junior, Youth, Senior, Student/Teacher, and Professional/Amateur Championships, shall be invited to BDSA Events.
- Selection of Adjudicators for Smooth and Rhythm Championships

35.10 Professional and Amateur Championships:

Total minimum 9 adjudicators must be invited for BDSA Amateur and Professional Championships.

35.10.1 Every reasonable endeavour should be made to demonstrate diversity and inclusion on the adjudicator panel.

35.10.2 No adjudicator shall be invited to judge the same category Championships the following year.

35.10.3 In case the organiser refuses to follow the rules of the BDSA regarding selection of the adjudicators panel, the BDSA may revoke the organiser's right to run the BDSA Championships.

Professional Competitors Adjudicating

35.10.4 Professional Competitors wishing to adjudicate BDSA events must hold a Adjudicator Licence.

35.10.5 Professional Competitors will be permitted to adjudicate BDSA events and Ranking Competitions, but will not be permitted to adjudicate any Championships or other Professional Competitions.

35.10.6 A Professional Competitor who wishes to adjudicate at any BDSA event will not be permitted to compete at the same event, under the same Organiser, even if their category is on a different day. This includes Amateur/Professional categories.

36. Chairperson

Chairperson of Adjudicators

36.1 The Chairperson for all BDSA Championships, Ranking Events and Events must be non-voting where the number of dancers exceed 250.

36.1.1 The Non-Voting Chairperson shall remain non-voting throughout the competition except where a Voting Adjudicator is unable to continue owing to illness, injury, absence, conflict of interest, disqualification, withdrawal or other exceptional circumstance that would otherwise prevent the competition from proceeding with the required adjudicating panel. In such circumstances, the Non-Voting Chairperson may replace that Adjudicator and act as a Voting Adjudicator only for the period necessary to complete the affected round or, where unavoidable, the remainder of the competition. The reasons for the substitution and the period during which the Chairperson acted as a Voting Adjudicator shall be recorded in the Chairperson's Report, which shall be submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

36.2 The Chairperson needs to vacate their position a chair for the remainder of the competition and resume the position as scrutineer and an adjudicator must step up to the position as chair for the remainder of the competition, by vote of the adjudicators. The scrutineer may not serve as a Chairperson of adjudicators, save in exceptional circumstances.

Chairperson's Report

36.3 The Chairperson of adjudicators and vice versa should submit a report to the BDSA in accordance with the form provided by the BDSA within (3) days of the competition concluding.

Guidelines

36.4 An adjudicator is expected to adjudicate with independence, assessing what they see on that day and not be influenced by any previous performance or result.

36.5 From the commencement of the first round until the conclusion of the competition, an Adjudicator shall not engage in conversation or communication with any competitor, coach, team manager, parent, spectator, member of the public or fellow Adjudicator whilst carrying out their adjudicating duties.

36.5.1 Communication shall be limited solely to that which is necessary for the proper administration of the competition and shall be conducted through the Chair of Adjudicators where reasonably practicable.

36.5.2 The only exception to this Rule shall be where communication is necessary during an emergency, the evacuation of the venue, or where required to protect the health, safety or welfare of any person.

36.5.3 Any breach of this Rule may be treated as misconduct and referred to the British DanceSport Association for investigation and disciplinary action.

36.6 It is the Adjudicator's responsibility to hold a current Adjudicator Licence and must produce this licence to the Chairperson of the Panel before any competition and upon request.

36.7 An adjudicator who is not present for the first dance of any round, or arrives late on the floor, may not adjudicate the remainder of that round.

36.8 Subject to the right of appeal, the Chair of Adjudicators shall be responsible for ensuring that every Adjudicator conducts themselves professionally, impartially and in accordance with these Rules, the BDSA Code of Conduct and any other policies or regulations issued by the British DanceSport Association.

36.8.1 Where the Chair of Adjudicators is satisfied that an Adjudicator is unable or unwilling to perform their duties competently, impartially or in accordance with these Rules, the Chair may, after considering all relevant circumstances, direct that the Adjudicator cease adjudicating for the remainder of the competition.

36.8.2 An Event Organiser or any member of the adjudicating panel may raise concerns regarding the conduct or performance of an Adjudicator with the Chair of Adjudicators. The decision as to whether an Adjudicator shall continue to officiate shall rest solely with the Chair of Adjudicators.

36.8.3 Where an Adjudicator is directed to cease officiating under this Rule, the Chair of Adjudicators shall record the circumstances and reasons in the Chair's Report and submit the report to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

36.8.4 The removal of an Adjudicator from officiating at a competition shall not of itself constitute disciplinary action. Any further investigation or disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted by the British DanceSport Association in accordance with its disciplinary procedures.

36.8.5 Where the removal of an Adjudicator would reduce the adjudicating panel below the minimum number prescribed by these Rules or the official event regulations, the Chair of Adjudicators shall determine, after consultation with the remaining Adjudicators and the Event Organiser, whether the competition may continue with the reduced panel or whether the competition or the affected Championship shall be postponed, suspended or abandoned.

36.8.6 The Chair of Adjudicators shall not be required to assume the role of a Voting Adjudicator solely because an Adjudicator has been removed under this Rule.

36.8.7 Any decision to continue with a reduced adjudicating panel, or to postpone, suspend or abandon the competition, together with the reasons for that decision, shall be recorded in the Chair's Report and submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

36.9 It is the responsibility of every Adjudicator to be fully familiar with the adjudication system, marking criteria and competition format applicable to the event. Where an Adjudicator

is uncertain as to any aspect of the adjudication process, they shall seek clarification from the Chair of Adjudicators before the commencement of the competition.

36.9.1 Every Adjudicator shall determine their marks solely upon the performance presented during the relevant round of the competition. Marks shall be awarded independently, impartially and objectively, without reference to previous competitions, historical results, reputation, ranking, nationality, club, teacher, partnership, previous performances or any other extraneous consideration.

36.9.2 An Adjudicator shall not seek to predict, preserve or influence the outcome of a competition by reference to previous results or perceived expectations. Each round shall be judged as a separate and independent performance on its own merits.

36.9.3 Before submitting their marks for each round, every Adjudicator shall satisfy themselves that their marks represent their own independent assessment of the performances observed and have been awarded fairly, consistently, without fear or favour, prejudice or bias, and in accordance with these Rules.

36.9.4 The Chair of Adjudicators shall be responsible for reminding the adjudicating panel of these obligations before the commencement of the competition and for taking appropriate action where there is reasonable evidence that an Adjudicator has failed to comply with this Rule.

36.9.5 Any suspected breach of this Rule shall be recorded in the Chair's Report and referred to the British DanceSport Association for consideration under its disciplinary procedures.

36.10 Adjudicators are expected to be dressed in appropriate attire. Daytime attire should be smart and appropriate for the competition; evening attire should be more formal and appropriate for the competition genre. (Information to be provided by the organiser.)

36.11 It is the responsibility of both organisers to issue enforceable contracts to adjudicators, duly signed, prior to the event commencing.

36.12 Adjudicators are not permitted to make any comment or reference about any particular individual or individuals who have participated in the competition, this also applies to all social platforms.

Skating System

36.13 A Skating System must be used to assess the marks; this excludes the 10 Dance Competitions. Please see Rule 37 for all Ballroom and Latin events, for alternative genres an appropriate marking system should be used.

Access to the Marks

36.14 Only the Chairperson of Adjudicators, adjudicators, BDSA Officials, Scrutineer and Organiser shall have access to the event marks until the end of the competition. After the competition, the organiser has to submit the marks to the BDSA and Ranking List administrator and may publish marks on the BDSA's website.

Recalls

36.15 If the Chairperson has requested the appropriate number of recalls, the number of participants advanced to the next round shall not be fewer than 50% of the participants in the preceding round unless all Adjudicators unanimously agree that fewer than 50% should be recalled. Where such a unanimous decision is made, the Chairperson may advance fewer than 50% of the participants to the next round. The decision, together with the reasons for the decision and the marks from the affected previous round, shall be recorded in the

Chairperson's Report. The Chairperson's Report shall be submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

Ten Dance calculation of placing

36.16 Ten Dance Championships are to be contested over single dances, with individual recalls and single dance final placings, points gained in semi-final or other rounds forming the basis of calculation of the position attained by couples not reaching the final round.

Final Round

36.17 The Chairperson must ask Adjudicators to recall at least 6 couples into the Final.

36.18 Due to the mathematical possibility a minimum of 5, and up to 9 couples/participants can be recalled to the Final round if couples are tied on the same marks.

36.19 The Chairperson will make the final decision on the number of couples/participants recalled, in the event of 3 or more couples obtaining the same recall marks, after careful deliberation with the other adjudicators.

36.20 Couples/participants will only be recalled in the situation that 9 couples/participants are tied equally into the final.

Ranking Event Adjudicators

36.21 For Adjudicator numbers for Ranking Events, see the adjudicators tiering system for clarification.

Formation Adjudication

36.22 A BDSA Ballroom and Latin American Adjudicator licence will allow the holder to adjudicate a BDSA Formation Championship/Event.

36.23 For Adjudicator numbers for Formation championships, see the adjudicators tiering system for clarification.

Adjudicators and Immediate Family

36.24 Conflicts of Interest

36.24.1 An Adjudicator shall not adjudicate any competition category in which there is an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest that may compromise, or reasonably be perceived to compromise, the independence or impartiality of their adjudication.

36.24.2 Without limitation, a conflict of interest shall be deemed to exist where a competitor is:

- a) a member of the Adjudicator's immediate family, including a spouse, civil partner, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew or first cousin;
- b) a godchild or ward of the Adjudicator
- c) a permanent member of the Adjudicator's household
- d) the Adjudicator's current or regular dance partner or
- e) an immediate family member, as defined in Rule 36.26.2(a), of the Adjudicator's current or regular dance partner.

36.24.3. An Adjudicator shall declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest to the Chair of Adjudicators as soon as it becomes known and, in any event, before the commencement of the competition.

36.24.4 Where a conflict of interest exists, the Adjudicator shall not adjudicate the affected competition category. The Chair of Adjudicators shall make such arrangements as are necessary to preserve the integrity of the competition.

36.24.5 Subject to Rule 36.X.4, the Adjudicator may continue to adjudicate any other competition category or event during the same competition where no conflict of interest exists.

36.24.6 The Chair of Adjudicators shall record all declared conflicts of interest and any action taken in the Chair's Report, which shall be submitted to the British DanceSport Association within three (3) days of the conclusion of the competition.

36.24.7 Failure to declare a conflict of interest may constitute misconduct and may result in disciplinary action by the British DanceSport Association.

36.24.8 Colour coded cards:

1. White Card: minor infringement i.e. wrong size hair flower
2. Yellow Card: higher infringements i.e. floor craft and choreography
3. Red Card: disqualification for serious violations including safeguarding and repeat infringements

The Chairperson shall determine whether a White, Yellow or Red Card is appropriate following an infringement of the rules. After consultation with the panel of Adjudicators and the Promoter of the event. The Chairperson shall consider the views of the Adjudicators and the Promoter before reaching a decision. The Chairperson's decision shall be final and binding. Where the Adjudicators are equally divided in their opinion, the Chairperson shall exercise a casting vote.

37. ORGANISERS SECTION

37.1 BDSA Name and Logo.

37.1.1 BDSA name and Logo can only be used with the approval of the BDSA Board.

37.1.2 BDSA Logos must be added to programs and all advertising of the event without exception.

37.1.3 BDSA Logos should be prominently displayed throughout the event.

37.1.4 BDSA Logos must clearly be displayed for the awards ceremony.

37.1.5 The BDSA Logos cannot be used in any other capacity unless authorised with the BDSA Board of Directors.

37.2 Organiser Refunds

No Fees will be refunded to any organiser if the event/championship is not organised unless a cancellation is caused by a 'Force Majeure'.

37.3. Adjudicators' Fee

37.3.1 Adjudicators must be paid a minimum of £130 GBP inclusive of VAT and travel per day of judging Championships.

37.3.2 Adjudicators should all be paid the same amount.

37.3.3 The Chairperson must be paid a minimum of £150 inclusive of VAT and travel per day of judging Championships.

37.4 Adjudicators Payment

37.4.1 The Adjudicators must receive their fee. The information about where and when will be supplied by the organiser. Stipulated by the organiser.

37.4.2 There can be no cash payments made.

37.4.3 Adjudicators and Chairperson shall invoice the Organiser and be paid upon submission of an invoice within 28 days.

37.5 Prizes

37.5.1 Prize money is available in all categories and must be advertised in advance. The level of any prize money must be agreed by the BDSA Board of Directors in advance of any publication of event.

37.5.2 Agreement should be sought by emailing the BDSA Board of Directors at info@bdsassociation.com.

37.6 Prize Money

37.6.1 The Organiser must advertise the prize money on their website and/or on social media for each event.

37.6.2 The Organiser must pay all winner prize money within 28 days of the competition concluding

37.7 Recommended Competitors' Entry Fees

37.7.1 No additional admission fees will be added to the entry fee for any competitor.

- Juveniles – up to £25 GBP per competitor
- Juniors – up to £25 GBP per competitor.
- Youth – up to £25 GBP per competitor.
- Amateur – up to £45 GBP per competitor.
- Professional- Up to £65 GBP per competitor.
- Solo – up to £25 GBP
- Senior – up to £45 GBP
- Student/Teacher- £25 GBP
- Spectators – up to £25 GBP

Professional non-competitive BDSA members are invited free of charge to attend competitions.

37.8 Timetable

37.8.1 The Organiser shall draw up a timetable and make it available to all competitors prior to the competition, [at least one week prior before the date of the event].

37.8.2 The organiser is responsible for adhering to the timetable accurately.

37.8.3 The first round of the championships shall not start ahead of the scheduled time.

37.8.4 Organisers are not required to delay the program for the benefit of late arrivals.

Rounds

37.8.5 Breaks between Rounds in all genres.

37.8.5.1 During all Championships there should be a minimum of 15 minutes break between each round.

37.8.5.2 From the Quarterfinal round onwards there should be a minimum of 20 minutes break.

Ten Dance Rounds

37.8.6 Ten Dance Championships, there must not be more than four rounds in each section, in one day.

37.8.6.1 Each round must be completed in all ten dances.

Ten Dance – Breaks

37.8.7 There should be a break of at least 40 minutes between the two sections, and at least 15 minutes between the rounds.

Ten Dance: Order of sections

37.8.8 In Ten Dance Championships, the final round should end with Latin. Each round should begin with the same style that the previous round ended with. It is permissible to run all rounds of ballroom till the final followed by all rounds of Latin till the final.

Award Ceremonies for Championships

37.8.9 Organisers must ensure that the presentation of results and awards is done in an appropriate manner for BDSA Championships.

37.8.10 Trophy for the Champions must be approved or purchased from the BDSA and awarded.

37.8.11 Medals for top 3 placed must be approved or purchased from the BDSA.

37.8.12 Diplomas or certificates of placement to all finalists can be given with official BDSA signature or stamp.

37.8.13 Result/Award Ceremonies for Juvenile and Juniors must be completed before 8pm.

38. RANKING EVENTS

38.1 Ranking Events included to be organised:

Juvenile I, II and III

- Junior I and II
- Youth I and II
- Professional
- Amateur
- Seniors I, II, III and IV
- Solos

38.2 Access to the Marks

38.2.1 Only the Chairperson of Adjudicators, adjudicators, BDSA Officials, Scrutineer and organiser shall have access to the marks until the end of the competition.

38.2.2 Within 48 hours the Organiser must submit the marks to the BDSA and Ranking list administrator.

38.2.3 The marks must also be made available both on the Organisers website and/or in the venue on the day of the event following the Awards/Results Ceremony.

38.3 Insurance

38.3.1 Event organisers must have liability insurance when hosting any Championship, BDSA Ranking Competition/s or any BDSA Event/s. (All BDSA members will be covered by BDSA liability insurance.)

38.3.2 The organiser must submit proof of insurance to the BDSA at least 4 weeks before their event.

38.4 First Aid

38.4.1 First Aid personnel shall be in attendance at all competitions and shall carry the minimum certification of first aid responder.

38.4.2 The number of First Aid personnel required should be proportionate to the number of people attending the event.

- a) up to 100 there should be four first aid personnel
- b) between 101 and 200 participants there should be six first aid personnel
- c) between 201 and 500 participants, there should be eight first aid personnel
- d) above 500 participants there should be a minimum of ten first aid personnel

38.5 TV / Video rights

BDSA Advises that organisers use this disclaimer on the entry form:

'In the event of television coverage or production of a video recording for commercial purposes of any competition or Championship event, all competitors agree that the rights to any fees from such television or video recording will vest solely with the Organiser and no Competitors or Associations shall have any claim against the BDSA, organiser, television company or video producer at any such event.'

38.6 Organisers Financial Obligations

Organisers who do not fulfil their financial obligations will face the possibility of disciplinary action of Board compliant with the BDSA's Fair-Dealing Policy.

38.7 Security

38.7.1 Every BDSA competition shall operate in accordance with all applicable security legislation and any security requirements issued by the British DanceSport Association.

38.7.2 The Event Organiser shall be responsible for ensuring that an appropriate security and emergency plan has been prepared for the competition and is implemented throughout the event.

38.7.3 The security plan shall be proportionate to the size, nature and location of the event and shall include procedures for emergency response, evacuation, communication and liaison with the emergency services where appropriate.

38.7.4 All officials, volunteers and staff shall be briefed on the security and emergency procedures applicable to the event before the commencement of the competition. All officials, volunteers and staff should have a DBS or equivalent check, all relevant checks should be provided to the event organiser prior to the event.

38.7.5 The Event Organiser shall undertake an appropriate risk assessment prior to the event, including consideration of security risks, and shall implement reasonable measures to mitigate any identified risks.

38.7.6 The Event Organiser shall ensure that suitable arrangements are in place to report, record and respond to any security incident or suspicious activity occurring during the event.

38.7.7 Where required by law or by the BDSA, the Event Organiser shall appoint a suitably competent person to oversee the implementation of the event security plan.

38.7.8 The Chair of Adjudicators and the Event Organiser shall have the authority to suspend, delay or abandon any competition where, in their opinion, there is a risk to the safety or security of competitors, officials, spectators or any other person.

38.7.9 Failure to comply with this Rule or with any applicable security legislation may result in disciplinary action by the BDSA, including the withdrawal of approval to conduct BDSA competitions or Championships.

38.9 Health and Safety

BDSA Health and Safety Policy

- a) A written Health & Safety Risk Assessment.
- b) A Fire Risk Assessment (where required).
- c) A designated Health & Safety Officer.
- d) Adequate first aid provision, including trained first aid personnel.
- e) Accident and incident reporting procedures.
- f) Emergency contact procedures.
- g) Safe access and egress for competitors and spectators.
- h) Suitable crowd management arrangements.
- i) Welfare arrangements, including drinking water and toilet facilities.
- j) Electrical safety for equipment and staging.
- k) Trip hazard management, including cables and temporary flooring.
- l) Safe assembly and dismantling procedures.
- m) Safeguarding arrangements for children and adults at risk.
- n) Appropriate public liability insurance.
- o) Security (including Martyn's Law)

Where the legislation applies, or where adopted as BDSA best practice, organisers should have:

- a) A written Security Risk Assessment.
- b) A documented Security and Emergency Plan.
- c) A nominated Security Lead.
- d) Procedures for identifying and reporting suspicious behaviour.
- e) Emergency communications procedures.
- f) Evacuation procedures.
- g) Lockdown or invacuation procedures where appropriate.
- h) A process for contacting the Police and emergency services.
- i) Staff and volunteer security briefing before the event.
- j) Defined responsibilities for all officials during an emergency.
- k) Procedures for managing lost children and vulnerable persons.
- l) Procedures for dealing with suspicious packages or vehicles.
- m) Control of public access where appropriate.
- n) A system for recording security incidents.
- o) Post-incident reporting and debriefing.

Under Martyn's Law, qualifying premises and events must have public protection procedures, and larger premises and events have additional duties to assess vulnerabilities and implement reasonably practicable protective security measures. The Act is regulated by the Security Industry Authority (SIA). It sits alongside existing health and safety, fire safety and equality legislation rather than replacing them.

For the BDSA Rule Book, I would not list all of these operational requirements. Instead, I would require organisers to produce and implement appropriate plans. For example:

38.9.1 Every Event Organiser shall prepare and implement appropriate Health and Safety, Security and Emergency Management Plans appropriate to the size, nature and location of the competition.

38.9.2 The Event Organiser shall complete suitable and sufficient Health and Safety and Security Risk Assessments prior to the commencement of the competition and shall implement all reasonably practicable control measures identified by those assessments.

38.9.3. Every competition shall have appointed persons responsible for Health and Safety, Security, Safeguarding and Emergency Management throughout the duration of the event.

38.9.4 All officials, volunteers and contractors shall receive an appropriate briefing on emergency procedures, evacuation arrangements, security procedures and their individual responsibilities before the commencement of the competition.

38.9.5 Every competition shall have written procedures covering evacuation, invacuation or lockdown where appropriate, fire, medical emergencies, suspicious items or behaviour, and communication with the emergency services.

38.9.6 Event Organisers shall comply with all applicable legislation relating to health and safety, fire safety, safeguarding, public protection and security, including the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 where applicable.

38.9.7 The BDSA may require the Event Organiser to provide copies of any Health and Safety, Security or Emergency Management documentation before or after the competition as a condition of approval.

39.0 Safeguarding

[BDSA Safeguarding Children and Young Person's Policy](#)

[BDSA Safeguarding Help-Line Information](#)

[BDSA Safeguarding Handbook](#)

[BDSA How to Report a Safeguarding Concern Flow-Chart](#)

39.1 Anti-doping policy?

39.2 Facilities

39.3 Venue and Facilities Requirements

39.3.1 Every competition venue shall be suitable for the safe conduct of the competition and comply with all applicable legislation relating to health and safety, fire safety, equality, safeguarding, accessibility, security and public protection.

39.3.2 The Event Organiser shall ensure that the venue has adequate facilities appropriate to the size and nature of the competition.

Competition Facilities

39.3.3 The venue shall provide:

- a) a suitable dance floor and competition area;
- b) an appropriate marshalling area;
- c) suitable seating for competitors, officials and spectators;
- d) adequate lighting, heating or cooling, ventilation and sound systems;
- e) suitable toilet and handwashing facilities;
- f) access to drinking water;
- g) suitable waste disposal facilities.

Changing Facilities

39.3.4 Appropriate changing facilities shall be provided for competitors.

39.3.5 Where separate changing rooms are provided, they shall be clearly identified and managed in accordance with the BDSA Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, Safeguarding Policy and all applicable legislation.

39.3.6 Where changing facilities are shared or limited, the Event Organiser shall implement suitable arrangements to ensure privacy, dignity and safeguarding for all competitors.

Accessibility

39.3.7 Competition venues shall be accessible, so far as is reasonably practicable, to disabled competitors, officials and spectators.

39.3.8 Reasonable adjustments shall be made where required to enable participation in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Medical and Welfare

39.3.9 Appropriate first aid facilities and suitably qualified first aid personnel shall be available throughout the competition.

39.3.10 The Event Organiser shall provide suitable facilities for safeguarding, welfare and the management of lost or vulnerable persons where appropriate.

Security

39.3.11 The Event Organiser shall implement appropriate security arrangements proportionate to the size and nature of the competition.

39.3.12 Security arrangements shall include emergency procedures, evacuation procedures, communication arrangements and any additional requirements arising under applicable public protection legislation.

39.3.13 All officials, volunteers and contractors shall be briefed on emergency and security procedures before the commencement of the competition.

Compliance

39.3.14 The Event Organiser shall complete suitable and sufficient risk assessments before the competition and shall implement all reasonably practicable control measures identified by those assessments.

39.3.15 The BDSA may require evidence of compliance with this Rule before granting approval for, or following the conclusion of, any competition.

BDSA Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Policy - [DEI policy](#)

APPENDIX A

WALTZ

1. Closed changes
2. Natural turn
3. Reverse turn
4. Natural spin turn
5. Whisk
6. Chasse from PP
7. Closed impetus
8. Hesitation change
9. Outside change
10. Reverse Corte
11. Back whisk
12. Basic weave
13. Double reverse spin
14. Reverse pivot
15. Backward lock
16. Progressive Chasse to R
17. Weave from PP
18. Closed telemark
19. Open telemark and cross hesitation
20. Open telemark and wing
21. Open impetus and cross hesitation
22. Open impetus and wing
23. Outside spin
24. Turning lock
25. Drag Hesitation
26. Passing (Open) Natural turn
27. Quick Wing
28. Closed wing
29. Turning lock to right
30. Fallaway reverse and slip pivot
31. Hover Corte
32. Fallaway whisk
33. Left whisk

Pro/Am and Teacher Student

Beginner Class 1-6

Britannia Class 1-16

Sovereign Class 1-25

Guinea Class 1-33

TANGO

1. Walk
2. Progressive sidestep
3. Progressive link



4. Closed promenade
 5. Rock turn
 6. Open reverse turn
 7. Back Corte
 8. Open reverse turn, lady in line
 9. Progressive sidestep reverse turn
 10. Open promenade
 11. Rock back on L.F. and R.F.
 12. Natural twist turn
 13. Natural promenade turn
 14. Promenade link
 15. Four step
 16. Fallaway promenade
 17. Back open promenade
 18. Outside swivels
 19. Reverse outside swivel
 20. Four step change
 21. Brush tap
 22. Basic reverse turn
 23. Mini five step
 24. Open telemark
 25. Back whisk
 26. Passing (Open) natural turn
 27. Fallaway four step
 28. The chase
 29. Fallaway reverse and slip pivot
 30. Five step
 31. Reverse Pivot
 32. Outside Spin
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
 Beginner 1~8
 Britannia Class 1~13
 Sovereign Class 1~21
 Guinea Class 1~32

VIENNESE WALTZ

1. Natural Turn
 2. Reverse Turn
 3. Change step danced forward or backward
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
 Beginner
 Britannia
 Sovereign
 Guinea.

Only the following additional figures can be danced in unrestricted categories:



4. The Reverse and Natural Fleckerl
5. Contra Check (1 bar)

SLOW FOXTROT

1. Feather Step
 2. Three Step
 3. Natural Turn
 4. Reverse Turn incorporating Feather Finish
 5. Closed Impetus and Feather Finish
 6. Impetus Turn
 7. Natural Weave
 8. Change of Direction
 9. Basic Weave
 10. Weave after 1-4 Reverse Wave
 11. Reverse Wave
 12. Closed Telemark - Telemark
 13. Open Telemark, Feather Ending
 14. Top Spin - Top Spin after Feather Finish (all alignments)
 15. Hover Feather
 16. Hover Telemark
 17. Natural Telemark
 18. Hover Cross
 19. Open Telemark, Natural Turn, Outside Swivel, Feather Ending
 20. Open Impetus Turn
 21. Weave from PP
 22. Natural Twist Turn
 23. Reverse Pivot
 24. Quick Open Reverse
 25. Quick Natural Weave from PP
 26. Curved Feather to Back Feather
 27. Curved Feather
 28. Back Feather
 29. Curved Feather from PP
 30. Natural Zigzag from PP
 31. Fallaway Reverse & Slip Pivot
 32. Natural Hover Telemark
 33. Bounce Fallaway with Weave ending
 34. Extended Reverse Wave
 35. Curved Three Step
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
Beginner Class 1~5
Brittania Class 1~9
Sovereign Class 1~19
Guinea Class 1~ 35

QUICKSTEP

1. Quarter turn to R
2. Natural turn
3. Natural turn with hesitation
4. Natural pivot turn
5. Natural spin turn
6. Progressive chasse
7. Chasse reverse turn
8. Forward lock step
9. Backward lock step
10. Closed impetus
11. Reverse pivot
12. Progressive chasse to R
13. Tipple chasse to R
14. Running finish
15. Natural turn and back lock
16. Double reverse spin
17. Quick open reverse
18. Fishtail
19. Running right turn
20. Four quick run
21. V.6
22. Closed telemark
23. Open impetus
24. Outside spin
25. Passing (Open) Natural turn
26. Curved feather
27. Cross swivel
28. Six quick run
29. Rumba cross
30. Tipsy to R and L
31. Hover Corte
32. Quarter turn to left
33. Change of direction
34. Cross chasse
35. Outside change
36. Tipple chasse to left
37. Zig Zag, back lock and running finish

Pro/Am and Teacher Student

Beginner 1~8

Britannia Class 1~16

Sovereign Class 1~22

Guinea Class 1~37

CHA CHA CHA

1. Basic movements (closed, open and place)
 2. New York (to left or right-side position)
 3. Spot turns to left or right (including switch turns and underarm turns)
 4. Shoulder to shoulder (left side and right side).
 5. Hand to hand (to right or left side)
 6. Fan
 7. Alemana
 8. Hockey stick
 9. Time steps
 10. Three cha cha chas
 11. Side steps (to left or right)
 12. There and back
 13. Natural top
 14. Natural opening out movement
 15. Closed hip twist
 16. Open hip twist
 17. Reverse top
 18. Opening out from reverse top
 19. Aida –
 20. Spiral turns (spiral, curl and rope spinning)
 21. Cross basic
 22. Cuban breaks (including split)
 23. Chase
 24. Advanced hip twist
 25. Hip twist spiral
 26. Turkish towel
 27. Sweetheart
 28. Follow my leader
 29. Foot changes
 30. Runaway chasse
 31. Syncopated open hip twist
 32. Close and open hip twist spirals
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
Beginner 1~10
Britannia Class 1~15
Sovereign Class 1~23
Guinea Class 1~32

SAMBA

1. Basic movements (natural, reverse and progressive)
2. Whisks (also with lady's underarm turns)
3. Samba walks
4. Rhythm bounce
5. Volta movements

6. Traveling bota fogos forward
 7. Criss cross bota fogos (shadow Bota fogos)
 8. Traveling bota fogos back
 9. Bota fogos to promenade and counter promenade
 10. Criss cross volta
 11. Solo spot volta
 12. Foot changes
 13. Shadow traveling volta
 14. Reverse turn
 15. Corta Jaca
 16. Closed rocks
 17. Open rocks
 18. Back rocks
 19. Plait
 20. Rolling of the arms
 21. Argentine crosses
 22. Maypole
 23. Shadow circular volta
 24. Samba side chasses
 25. Contra boto fogos
 26. Roundabout
 27. Natural roll
 28. Reverse roll
 29. Promenade and counter promenade
 30. Three step turn
 31. Samba locks
 32. Cruzados walks and locks
 33. Drag
 34. Dropped Volta
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
- Beginner 1~7
- Britannia Class 1~16
- Sovereign Class 1~23
- Guinea Class d 1~34

RUMBA

1. Basic movements (closed, open, in place and alternative)
2. New York (to left or right-side position)
3. Spot turns to left or right (including switch turns and underarm turns)
4. Hand to hand (to right or left side position)
5. Fan
6. Alemana
7. Hockey stick
8. Shoulder to shoulder (left side and right side)
9. Opening out to right and left

10. Cucarachas (LF and RF)
 11. Progressive walks forward and backward)
 12. Side steps (to left or right)
 13. Cuban rocks
 14. Natural top
 15. Natural opening out movement
 16. Closed hip twist
 17. Open hip twist
 18. Reverse top
 19. Opening out from reverse top
 20. Aida
 21. Spiral turns (spiral, curl and rope spinning)
 22. Syncopated cuban rocks
 23. Sliding doors
 24. Fencing
 25. Three threes
 26. Three Alemanas
 27. Hip twists (Advanced, continuous and circular)
 28. Runaway Alemana
 29. Syncopated Open Hip Twist
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
- Beginner 1~8
- Brittania Class 1~16
- Sovereign Class 1~20
- Guinea Class 1~29

PASO DOBLE

1. Basic Movement – March – Sur Place
2. Chasses to R & L – including Elevations
3. Drag
4. Deplacement – (Attack)
5. Promenade Link – including Promenade Close
6. Ecart
7. Fallaway Whisk
8. Appel
9. Huit
10. Promenade
11. Separation
12. Fallaway Ending to Separation
13. Sixteen
14. Promenade & Counter Promenade
15. Grand Circle
16. Alternative Entries to PP
17. Open Telemark
18. Twist Turn

19. La Passe
 20. Banderillas
 21. Fallaway Reverse
 22. Coup de Pique
 23. Coup de Pique – changing from LF to RF - from RF to LF - syncopated
 24. LF Variation
 25. Spanish Line
 26. Flamenco Taps
 27. Syncopated Separation
 28. Methods of Changing Feet
 29. Travelling Spins from PP
 30. Travelling Spins from CPP
 31. Fregolina – including the Farol
 32. Twists
 33. Chasse Cape – including Outside Turn
 34. Chasse Cape
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
- Beginner Class 1~ 9
- Britannia Class 1~17
- Sovereign Class 1~26
- Guinea Class 1~34

JIVE

1. Basic in place
2. Fallaway rock
3. Fallaway throwaway
4. Link (with alternatives to 1-2 of link:
 - 4a. Flick (or point), ball change.
 - 4b. Hesitation, ball change.
 - 4c. Hesitation, close, forward.
 - 4d. Hesitation, half close, forward.
5. Change of places right to left
6. Change of places left to right
7. Change of hands behind back
8. Hip bumps (left shoulder shove)
9. American spin
10. Stop and go
11. Walks
12. Mooch
13. Whip
14. Whip throwaway
15. Reverse whip
16. Windmill
17. Spanish arms
18. Rolling of the arms

- 19. Simple spin
 - 20. Miami special
 - 21. Chicken walks
 - 22. Curly Whip
 - 23. Shoulder Spin
 - 24. Toe Heel Swivels
 - 25. Chugging
 - 26. Catapult
 - 27. Stalking Walks, Flicks and Walks
- Pro/Am and Teacher Student
- Beginner Class 1~8
- Brittania Class 1~14
- Sovereign Class 1~20
- Guinea Class 1~27

APPENDIX B

BALLROOM TEMPOS & LENGTH OF MUSIC

RECOMMENDED LENGTH OF MUSIC FOR ALL BDSA EVENTS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

BPM = Bars per Minute

Category B length of music is possible to use for all Events (non-World Championships)
when 4 couples or less are on the floor in all categories.

A	B
PROFESSIONAL, AMATEUR, YOUTH, JUNIOR, JUVENILE CATEGORIES	SENIOR, AMATEUR/PROFESSIONAL, STUDENT/TEACHER
Waltz: BPM 28-30	Waltz: BPM 28-30
Minimum: 4+40 Bars 1.34 Minutes	Minimum: 4+24 Bars 1.00 Minute
Maximum: 4+48 Bars 1.51 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.33 Minutes
Tango: BPM 32-34	Tango: BPM 32-34
Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.40 Minutes	Minimum: 4+32 Bars 1.10 Minutes
Maximum: 4+56 Bars 1.52 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.25 Minutes
Viennese Waltz BPM 56-60	Viennese Waltz BPM 56-60
Minimum: 4+80 Bars 1.30 Minutes	Minimum: 4+56 Bars 1.02 Minutes
Maximum: 4+96 Bars 1.47 Minutes	Maximum: 4+80 Bars 1.27 Minutes
Slow Foxtrot: BPM 28-30	Slow Foxtrot: BPM 28-30
Minimum: 4+40 Bars 1.34 Minutes	Minimum: 4+24 Bars 1.00 Minute
Maximum: 4+48 Bars 1.52 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.33 Minutes
Quickstep: BPM 48-50	Quickstep: BPM 48-50
Minimum: 4+72 Bars 1.35 Minutes	Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.05 Minutes
Maximum: 4+88 Bars 1.55 Minutes	Maximum: 4+72 Bars 1.34 Minutes

APPENDIX C

LATIN TEMPOS & LENGTH OF MUSIC

RECOMMENDED LENGTH OF MUSIC FOR ALL BDSA EVENTS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

BPM = Bars per Minute

Category B length of music is possible to use for all Events (non-World Championships) when 4 couples or less are on the floor in all categories.

A	B
PROFESSIONAL, AMATEUR, YOUTH, JUNIOR, JUVENILE CATEGORIES	SENIOR, AMATEUR/PROFESSIONAL, STUDENT/TEACHER
Cha Cha Cha: BPM 28-30	Cha Cha Cha: BPM 28-30
Minimum: 4+40 Bars 1.34 Minutes	Minimum: 4+32 Bars 1.10 Minute
Maximum: 4+48 Bars 1.51 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.23 Minutes
Samba: BPM 50-52	Samba: BPM 50-52
Minimum: 4+64 Bars 1.30 Minutes	Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.05 Minutes
Maximum: 4+88 Bars 1.50 Minutes	Maximum: 4+64 Bars 1.30 Minutes
Rumba BPM 24-26	Rumba BPM 24-26
Minimum: 4+40 Bars 1.30 Minutes	Minimum: 4+32 Bars 1.15 Minutes
Maximum: 4+48 Bars 2.00 Minutes	Maximum: 4+44 Bars 1.30 Minutes
Paso Doble: BPM 56-60	Paso Doble: BPM 56-60
Minimum: 4+64 Bars 1.08 Minutes	Minimum: 4+56 Bars 1.05 Minute
Maximum: 4+96 Bars 1.40 Minutes	Maximum: 79 Bars 1.20 Minutes

APPENDIX D

SMOOTH TEMPOS & LENGTH OF MUSIC

RECOMMENDED LENGTH OF MUSIC FOR ALL BDSA EVENTS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

BPM = Bars per Minute

Category B length of music is possible to use for all Events (non-World Championships)
when 4 couples or less are on the floor in all categories.

A	B
PROFESSIONAL, AMATEUR, YOUTH, JUNIOR, JUVENILE CATEGORIES	SENIOR, AMATEUR/PROFESSIONAL, STUDENT/TEACHER
Waltz: BPM 30-32	Waltz: BPM 28-30
Minimum: 4+40 Bars 1.28 Minutes	Minimum: 4+24 Bars 1.00 Minute
Maximum: 4+48 Bars 1.50 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.33 Minutes
Tango: BPM 30-32	Tango: BPM 30
Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.40 Minutes	Minimum: 4+32 Bars 1.10 Minutes
Maximum: 4+56 Bars 2.00 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.25 Minutes
Viennese Waltz BPM 54-56	Viennese Waltz 53-54
Minimum: 4+88 Bars 1.36 Minutes	Minimum: 4+56 Bars 1.02 Minutes
Maximum: 4+104 Bars 1.52 Minutes	Maximum: 4+80 Bars 1.27 Minutes
Foxtrot: BPM 32-34	Foxtrot: BPM 30
Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.37 Minutes	Minimum: 4+24 Bars 1.00 Minute
Maximum: 4+56 Bars 1.52 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.33 Minutes

APPENDIX E

AMERICAN RHYTHM TEMPOS & LENGTH OF MUSIC

RECOMMENDED LENGTH OF MUSIC FOR ALL BDSA EVENTS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

BPM = Bars per Minute

Category B length of music is possible to use for all Events (non-World Championships) when 4 couples or less are on the floor in all categories.

A	B
PROFESSIONAL, AMATEUR, YOUTH, JUNIOR, JUVENILE CATEGORIES	SENIOR, AMATEUR/PROFESSIONAL, STUDENT/TEACHER
Cha Cha Cha: BPM 30	Cha Cha Cha: BPM 28-30
Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.50 Minutes	Minimum: 4+24 Bars 1.00 Minute
Maximum: 4+56 Bars 2.00 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.33 Minutes
Rumba: BPM 32-36	Rumba: BPM 30-32
Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.40 Minutes	Minimum: 4+32 Bars 1.10 Minutes
Maximum: 4+56 Bars 1.52 Minutes	Maximum: 4+40 Bars 1.25 Minutes
Swing BPM 34	Swing BPM 34
Minimum: 4+88 Bars 1.36 Minutes	Minimum: 4+56 Bars 1.02 Minutes
Maximum: 4+104 Bars 1.52 Minutes	Maximum: 4+80 Bars 1.27 Minutes
Bolero: BPM 24-26	Bolero: BPM 24
Minimum: 4+40 Bars 1.50 Minutes	Minimum: 4+24 Bars 1.00 Minute
Maximum: 4+48 Bars 2.10 Minutes	Maximum: 4+32 Bars 1.30 Minutes
	(Second highlight)
Mambo: BPM 48-51	Mambo: BPM 47
Minimum: 4+80 Bars 1.44 Minutes	Minimum: 4+48 Bars 1.05 Minutes
Maximum: 4+96 Bars 2.05 Minutes	Maximum: 4+72 Bars 1.34 Minutes

Version	2.0
Policy Owner	National Safeguarding Lead
Approved By	Board of Directors
Approval Date	
Effective Date	
Review Date	(12 months from approval)

Early Review

This Policy may be reviewed and amended at any time before the scheduled review date where there are changes in applicable legislation, statutory guidance, case law, regulatory requirements, safeguarding practice, organisational structure, operational requirements, or where lessons learned from incidents, complaints or investigations indicate that revision is necessary.

-Policy End-