

Extreme Ballroom Fall Dance Festival 2009: Rules and Regulations

1. The door fee is **\$5 for spectators only or \$20 per immediate family**. Registration fees to compete are **\$15 per pre-teen through yth. competitor, \$8 per pee-wee competitor. This includes their \$5 admission fee, so they do not pay this at the door.** This fee also allows for unlimited events, as long as it stays within the rules of the comp. Payment deadline is **September 28, 2009**. There will be an additional **\$10 late fee per couple if after the deadline**. If you are already registered and add an event that day, you must still pay the \$10 per couple late fee. This will only be considered if it does not add an extra round. (See entry form for mailing address—Checks should be made payable to Extreme Ballroom).
2. Any couple who fails to appear at the scheduled time for the first round of any event will be disqualified from the event. Any event with less than 3 entries may be cancelled.
3. No person may compete in an age classification lower than their own. A couples age classification is determined by the age of the older partner on the day of the competition, however, this does not allow the younger member of the partnership to dance up two age levels.
4. Dancers may only enter two levels of dance within a category. For example, they can enter Bronze and Silver Waltz or Gold Syllabus Rumba and Open Latin.
5. Syllabus Categories:
 - Pee Wee – 9 and younger;
 - Pre-Teen or Elementary– Grades K – 6;
 - Junior – grades 7-9th;
 - Youth – grades 10 – 12.

Elementary school competitors may not dance in the Youth category even if partnered by a Junior or Youth. Pee Wees may dance up to the Elementary Category but not in the same style of dance they are signed up for in Pee Wee's. Junior High school competitors may dance up one designation to the "High School" Category but not in the same style of dance that they are signed up for in Junior. For example, I can sign up for Pee Wee Swing and Cha Cha and Pre-Teen Waltz and Samba. I cannot sign up for Pre-Teen Swing and Cha Cha because I am dancing them in Pee Wee. In addition, if a student is enrolled in a tech. class above their current age level, they must dance with that class, and will not be allowed to dance below that age level. For instance, if a Jr. aged syllabus student is enrolled in a youth tech. class, they may dance as a youth only in regards to syllabus events. For open events, they would follow the rules below.

6. Open Categories: For open categories age classifications become effective on January 1st of the year in which the individual's classification is attained, regardless of the actual birth date.
Pre-Teen: Competitors whose 11th birthday or less occurs within the calendar year. "Pre-Teen" competitors may dance up one age classification to the "Junior" category. A Pre-teen may not dance in the Youth category even if partnered by a Junior or Youth.
Junior: Competitors whose 12th, 13th, 14th, or 15th birthday occurs within the calendar year. "Junior" competitors may dance up one age classification.
Youth: Competitors whose 16th, 17th, or 18th birthday occurs within the calendar year. Competitors turning 19 in the calendar year may also dance in the youth category until they graduate from high school.

7. All international style syllabus competitions are restricted to the ISTD Bronze, Silver & Gold syllabus. Newcomer and American style syllabus events may use any syllabus from member organizations of the NDCA. Couples must dance within the framework of the accepted syllabi without embellishment. Couples dancing out of syllabus will be warned once and then disqualified.
8. A competitor is eligible to dance in the “newcomer” event (elementary, junior and high school) if they began dancing within the last school year (after August 2008).
9. Syllabus Competitors: Ladies must wear a white top with sleeves and black skirts that must not be shorter than three inches above the knee cap and no longer than one inch below the knee cap. Small earrings allowed and flowers may be worn in the hair. Men must wear a long-sleeved white dress shirt, dark tie and black pants. Pee-Wee girls are allowed to wear a simple party dress.
10. Any amateur competitor who wears a costume deemed by the organizers to be unsuitable will be requested to change. If such request is not followed, the competitor will not be allowed to dance and their entry will be cancelled without a refund of fees. Costume specifics are as follows:

Gentlemen:

 - Latin shirts may be open to a point eight inches down from the Supra Sternal Notch (Jugular Notch).
 - Sheer Fabric may only be worn on the arm. No sleeveless shirts.
 - Long hair must be worn in a pony tail. No earrings allowed.
 - Pre-Teen costumes for both boy and girl must not have any fringe, sequin, rhinestones, glitter, or similar decorations.
 - Pre-Teen shoes heel height may not exceed 1.5 inches for both boys and girls and must be block heel style if a dance shoe.

Ladies:

 - Pre-Teens may wear light make-up.
 - Regular cut dance trunks and fishnet hose must be worn (Pre-teens are not required to wear fishnets, but they must wear dance tights.)
 - Straps over both shoulders of at least one inch and width are required. If multiple straps go over a shoulder, at least one strap must be the required one inch from front to back.
 - Halter tops or designs that resemble them are not allowed.
 - Lower back must be covered from a point 5 inches above the waist line.
 - Sheer fabric on the bodice may be used in front from the top of the bust line, and in the back from five inches above the waist up. In this case straps are not required.
 - Slits may be broken or slitted from the trunk line down, but must cover the legs to mid-thigh when not in motion.
 - Cutouts or nude fabrics are not allowed.
 - Skin from the front to a point several inches behind the sides (axilla line) must be covered.
 - Heel guards must be worn at all times.
 - No entry will be considered fully accepted without final costume approval. All competitors must be approved one hour before their scheduled event.
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11. Competitors in the Latin-American divisions must not be overly suggestive in their movement at all times while on the floor. Couples who are viewed as inappropriate will be warned once, and then will be subject to disqualification.