

# 2008 Grand Prix of Swing

## Competition Rules

**Entries:** Every Competitor must have purchased a Weekend Pass, paid applicable contest entry Fees, and signed an entry waiver form, before the contest entry deadline.

**General:** Dancers must dance at the same level of competition for all contests. No one may enter a particular contest more than once, or more than one dance level in any contest, except Professionals, who may dance with up to five (5) amateurs in the Pro/Am Division.

**Requirements – Strictly & J&J Divisions:** All competitors are responsible for having read the rules. All competitor couples will be comprised of a male leader and a female follower. The divisions are lead/follow only. Choreographed routines are not allowed! There must be 90% Recognizable swing content. It is the judges' discretion to determine if swing content requirement has been met. Lifts, drops, aerials, and gymnastic moves are prohibited. Slides, leans, circular Movements, and partner support moves are acceptable, with consideration for safety and content, but both partners must keep one foot on the floor. Physical contact between partners must be maintained except for spins, turns, short breakaways, and recoveries. Coordinating outfits are acceptable, however costumes are not allowed in these divisions.

**Routine Requirements – Masters:** This is an OPEN style division. Costumes are **REQUIRED**. Lifts, drops, aerials, and gymnastic moves are allowed although not required. Both competitors must have attained the age of 50 at the time of the event. Routines will be between 2 and 3 minutes starting when the first music is heard. Competitors are responsible for making sure that the event DJ has a copy of the CD with one track only on it, and clearly marked with male name, female name, routine division and dance order (when known) as well as any special instructions: i.e. Pitch changes, volume settings etc. We recommend that you also keep a copy as a back up. There must be 60% recognizable swing content. It is the judges' discretion to determine content.

**Routine Requirements – Pro-Am:** This is an OPEN style division. Costumes are **REQUIRED**. Lifts, drops, aerials, and gymnastic moves are allowed although not required. Routines will be between 2 and 3 minutes starting when the first music is heard. Competitors are responsible for making sure that the event DJ has a copy of their CD with one track only on it, and clearly marked with male name, female name, routine division and dance order (when known) as well as any special instructions: i.e. Pitch changes, volume settings etc. We recommend that you also keep a copy as a back up. There must be 60% recognizable swing content. It is the judges' discretion to determine content.

**Floor Tryouts-Routine Divisions:** The ballroom will be made available to each routine division at a specific time. Only competitors for that division will be allowed into the ballroom. No cameras/filming allowed. No changes to the floor surface will be allowed

without the consent of the event directors. Times will be posted at the event for the two separate try out times.

**Classifications:** If you are not sure....**ASK before you sign up for a competition.** It is the intent of the GPOS to allow a fair and “level playing field” for all competitions. Please use good judgment and keep a good sportsmanlike attitude when deciding level.

**1. Dance Level:** The WSDC guidelines will be used to determine dance level.

- a) **Newcomer:** Contestants may not have competed in more than two (2) West Coast Swing competitions, or won **any** swing competition, regardless of the level or venue, including club and local events.
- b) **Novice:** Per World Swing Dance Council (WSDC) guidelines for Jack & Jill.
- c) **Intermediate:** Per WSDC guidelines for Jack & Jill.
- d) **Advanced:** Per WSDC guidelines for Jack & Jill.

**2. Age Requirements:** Competitors in the Master’s Division must be 50 years of age by the date of the contest. The combined ages of couples entering the GP 100 must equal at least 100.

**3. Strictly Swing Levels:** In general the Jack & Jill and the Strictly Swing divisions should match each other in skill level. If you are solely entering into a Strictly Swing division you should choose the appropriate level for your experience using WSDC rules as a guideline.

Petitions for re-classification of dance level must be made to the Event Coordinator, or Head Judge for review by the Petition Committee prior to the registration deadline. The GPOS Officials reserve the right to re-classify any competitor.

**Judging:** Judging will be based on Timing, Teamwork, Technique, Music Interpretation, and Presentation. Wardrobe malfunctions will not be considered grounds for a restart. The Judges decisions are final. Protests are not allowed.

**Other:** The Grand Prix of Swing Officials reserve the right to limit the number of competitors in each category. Furthermore, GPOS officials also reserve the right to cancel or combine any category(s) that receive(s) less than five (5) couple entries. The GPOS Event Coordinator will have the final judgment in the case of any conflict or error in these rules.

**Petition Committee:** The petition committee shall be comprised of the Cowtown Swing Dance Club board of directors present and the event Head Judge.