

2017-2018 Amateur Athletic Union

AAU Dance Handbook



Sports For All, Forever!

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This will be the governing handbook for the AAU Program in Dance.

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AAU Dance Rule Book & Regulations

PREAMBLE

The AAU Dance National Committee has been established in order to promote the benefits of participation in athletics and hereby adopts these rules & regulations for the advancement of that purpose. The AAU Dance Committee operates under the governance of the AAU Code in addition to rules herein.

I. NATIONAL SPORT COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A. National Committee Structure and Procedures

1. **National Chair** – The President of the AAU appoints the Chair from the recommendations of the National Sport Committee after approval of a majority of the National Officers.
2. **Executive Committee Composition**
3. **National Sport Committee Composition** - The Committee will consist of the National Sports Chair, the elected or appointed officers or committee chairs as defined by the sport's operating rules, the elected or appointed Sport Director of each District, or a representative designated by the District Governor and one appointed representative from each Affiliated member that registers members in the sport. The President may appoint up to five (5) members-at-large
4. **Other Committee Positions** –
N/A
5. **Voting** –Persons eligible to vote shall be the National Sport Chair, elected or appointed officers, chairs of Committees as defined by the sport's operating rules, the elected or appointed District sports director or a representative from each Affiliated member that registers members in the sport, and any members-at-large. Only representatives from Districts which registered a minimum of .5% (a half percent) of the total number of athletes in that sport in the previous year shall be allowed to vote in the National Sport Committee meeting.

B. Sport Committee Meetings

1. **National Sport Committee Regular Meetings.** Regular Meetings of the National Sport Committee shall be in conjunction with the AAU Convention.
2. **Non – Regular Sport Committee Meetings** - National Sport Committee may hold a Non-Regular National Sport Committee meeting in odd years subject to the following provisions:
 - a. The meeting is called by the Chair following approval of the National Office.
 - b. The National Office has the right to coordinate the meeting and pick the site for the meeting.
3. **National Sport Committee Special Meetings.** Special meetings of a Committee are scheduled at the request of the Chair or upon written request of

at least one half (1/2) of the Committee members. The purpose of the Special meeting must be stated in the Notice for the meeting.

4. **National Sport Executive Committee Meetings** – The National Chair shall determine the date and location of Executive Committee Meetings.
5. **Agenda Additions -**
 - a. **Sport Committee Meeting Order (Agendas)-** The Regular National Sport Committee meetings, the Non-Regular National Sport Committee meetings, and National Sport Committee Special meetings shall follow meeting order (agenda format) as established by Code (Bylaw 9.5)

DANCE/DRILL

II. SPORT POLICIES

a. SPORTSMANSHIP

Is a general way of thinking and behaving. The following sportsmanship policy items are listed for clarification:

- i. Be courteous to all (participants, advisors, judges, staff and fans).
- ii. Know the rules, abide by and respect the judges' decisions.
- iii. Win with character and lose with dignity.
- iv. Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- v. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school.
- vi. Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities. All parents, teachers and athletes will hold the sport of dance in the highest regard.
- vii. All entries must be processed on regulation entry forms.
- viii. No videos or flash photography will be permitted.
- ix. Dancers/parents shall not sit in the vicinity of the judges or approach the judges. All inquiries shall be made through coaches only.
- x. No coaching from wings or audience.
- xi. Appropriate music, costuming and choreography will be utilized. All entries must be considered "family entertainment."

b. MEDICAL PROCEDURES

- i. **Bleeding** - When it is detected that a participant is bleeding, has an open wound or an excessive amount of blood on the uniform/costume, the participant shall stop performing to receive proper treatment.
- ii. **Communicable Disease Procedures** - While risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to nonexistent, there is a remote risk that other blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:
 1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform/costume, it must be changed before the member may participate.

2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all blood contaminated surfaces and equipment with a solution made from a proper dilution of household bleach (CDC recommends 1-100) or other disinfectants before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth to mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
7. Teachers/coaches/trainers with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolved.
8. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of or disinfected.
9. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling blood dressing, mouth-guards and other articles containing body fluids.

c. **SANCTIONS**

Proposals for a competition to be sanctioned by score4dance or the AAU Dance Division may present a request to the AAU Dance Chairperson.

d. **AGE**

20 and under = youth

21 and up = adult

III. **SPORT OPERATIONS**

a. **RULES**

None are available at this time.

b. **EVENT OPERATING RULES:**

i. **SAFETY TIPS**

1. Always spot head and shoulders first.
2. Use full body to absorb falling person's weight (bear hug to upper torso). Spotter should keep quiet and listen for cues from top person.
3. Don't abandon the stunt/pyramid even if it appears steady.
4. It is better to come down from a poorly built stunt than to force it to stay up.

ii. **AWARDS**

1. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals awarded to overall individual team winners.
2. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals awarded to solo participants.
3. Placement will be determined by ranking scored. The score from each judge will be ranked according to the place they fall within each individual team score.

a. Ranking points are as follows:

- i. 1st place: 1 point
- ii. 2nd place: 2 points

- iii. 3rd place: 3 points
- iv. 4th place: 4 points
- v. 5th place: 5 points

If there is a tie in the points one judge gives to two teams, then the ranking points are added together and divided in half.

Note: Each judge will keep a running total of their scores to prevent them from tying two teams. If there is a tie in ranking points, then the total points are used. If the total points are also the same, then both will be awarded the placement.

Ranking points rather than total points is a safe guard from a low scoring judge, because even though their score may be low, the teams get credit for where that judge places them in relationship to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. This allows the team to receive points for the placement they receive from each judge's individual scores.

Example:

	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Ranking points	Total ranking points
Team 1	93	80	91	1-3-3	7
Team 2	85	99	94	3-1-2	6
Team 3	88	90	96	2-2-1	5

The lowest numbers are the best ranking scores.

Team results:

- 1st place: Team #3
- 2nd place: Team #2
- 3rd place: Team #1

c. **COMPETITION**

i. **QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Any competition sanctioned by the AAU or under the direction of Score4Dance will be a qualifying competition. Other reputable competitions sanctioned by Score4Dance will also be qualifying events. The board of directors may offer a bid to any team that meets the standards required for the Dance Division of the AAU Junior Olympic Games. Check our web site at www.aausports.org for qualifying competitions.

1. **QUALIFYING STANDARDS:**

Participants must compete and qualify at an AAU Sanctioned or Score4Dance approved competition held throughout the country. If no qualifying events are held in your area, contact Jackie Fullmer – Dance National Chair – (801) 867-3639 or jackiefullmer@hotmail.com; Wade Collings – (619) 482-2511 or score4dance@excite.com; or Anastasia Saunders (407) 934-7200.

Check the AAU Dance web site at www.aausports.org for a list of events.

- a. Not all-qualifying competitions will be AAU sanctioned events.
- b. All participants must be members of AAU to compete in AAU sanctioned events and in the AAU Junior Olympic Games.

ii. **ELIGIBILITY**

1. **CLASSIFICATION ELIBILITY AND AGE DIVISIONS:**

a. **SCHOOL** - Eligibility for performers in elementary school, middle school/junior high school, high school and collegiate competitions will be determined by the grade level at the time of the qualifying competition.

i. Elementary classification will be elementary schools.

ii. Junior classification will be junior high/middle schools.

iii. Senior classification will be high schools.

iv. Collegiate classification will be College/University schools.

*Solo and Officers competition in the Junior High/Middle School, Senior High School and Collegiate divisions only (12 & up). *Minimum competition age is 6 years old - Maximum competition age is 22 years old.

b. **STUDIO AND COMMUNITY/RECREATION PROGRAMS** - Eligibility for studios, community and recreation programs will be determined by the age of the participant at the time of the qualifying competition.

i. *Individual Competition Classification* 8 to 9 years old 10 to 11 years old 12 to 14 years old 15 to 17 years old 18 to 22 years old

ii. *Team Classification - determined by the average age of the team*

1. Elementary Classification - average age of 6 to 8 years old and 9 to 11 years old

2. Junior Classification - average age of 12 to 14 years old

3. Senior Classification - average age of 15 to 17 years old

4. Collegiate Classification - average age of 18 to 22 years old

*These guidelines will be used for each individual event.

*Minimum competition age is 6 years old – Maximum competition age is 22 years old. *Solo, duo and trio competition begins at 12 years of age.

iii. **UNIFORM:**

1. **SHOES**

A floor judge will check shoes prior to performance and **any shoe not in compliance must be corrected before the performance or the shoes cannot be used.** Precaution should be taken so that the performing area is not marred. In general, good quality leather, crepe or soft-soled shoes may be worn. Any shoes that will scuff floors must be taped with non-marking tape. The coach is responsible for having shoes checked at the specified time.

2. **PROPS**

Props and sets may be used; however, all props or sets used in such a way that may mark or damage the floor must have rubber, carpet, foam or padding that will protect it from scarring the floor. (This includes any section that is touching the floor in the choreography of the routine.) Consideration must be given to the weight and use of the prop or set and the size of the wheels and surface coverings. A floor judge will check props prior to performance. Coaches/teachers are responsible for having all props checked

at the specified time. Any props not in compliance must be corrected before the performance or the prop cannot be used. If a prop is dropped and damages the floor, a fine will be assessed.

3. **MUSIC**

- a. All music must be recorded on a new high quality cassette or CD.
- b. Start recording directly after the leader. Do not have anything recorded on either side of the tape except for your performing music.
- c. No additional entrance or exit music may be used.
- d. Each performance needs a separate tape or CD.
- e. Record at a good middle volume.
- f. Bring a good back-up tape or CD and another one for your practice.
- g. Punch out the tabs on both sides of the cassette to prevent accidental erasing.
- h. Tape from cassettes or CD's, not TV or radio.
- i. Have cassette or CD cued to start of music. A deduction of 1 point for cassette or CD not cued to start of music.
- j. Music must be played by competition staff on a competition audio system.
- k. Do not plan on a tape or CD speed adjustment.
- l. A representative of each team that knows your music must be present at the announcer's table when their team is performing.
- m. Music will be returned at the end of competition.
- n. Bring your tape or CD in its case with a label ON THE CASSETTEE or CD on side #1 stating:
 - i. School/Studio name
 - ii. Category and division entered
 - iii. Name of song
 - iv. Competition Number

iv. **CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION:**

1. **DESCRIPTION OF STUDIO AND COMMUNITY/RECREATION CATEGORIES:**

NOTE: - At the AAU Junior Olympic Games, all Studio and Community/Recreation competitions will be on a theater stage. If props and scenery are used, in the proper categories, they must be put on and taken off by the dancers or those designated by the dancers.

- a. **BALLET** - All ballet entries, regardless of style, will be judged together in the BALLET category only (classical, modern ballet, abstract and character). Props are permitted but must not be a major point in the routine. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- b. **POINTE** - Any style of dance may be used however all female dancers must wear pointe shoes. At least 50% of the routine must be on pointe. Time: 2-3 minutes. Must be three (3) or more teams in each division and age group or Pointe will be judged in the Ballet category.
- c. **JAZZ** - All Jazz (up-tempo, funk, and hip-hop) entries will be judged together in the JAZZ category only. Routine or costumes should not be thematic or characteristic. Dance movements must be in good taste and appropriate for family viewing and for age of

performers. Props are permitted but must not be a major point in the routine. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.

- d. **LYRICAL** - Routine must have poetic styled choreography. Any appropriate costume may be worn. Props are permitted but must not be a major point in the routine. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- e. **TAP** - All tap entries judged together in TAP category only. Props are permitted but must not be a major point in the routine. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- f. **NOVELTY** - Any variety of dance styles may be used. Routine emphasis must be on characterization or be of unique thematic nature. Entrants must use clever costumes, make up and unusual or innovative moves extensively. Overall general effect of presentations must be novel in nature. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Backdrops must be protected and secure, check AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- g. **ALL MALE** - Any variety of dance styles may be used. Movements and costumes must be appropriate and in good taste. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- h. **SHOW PRODUCTION** - Any variety of dance or acrobatic/dance styles may be used. Routine emphasis should be on over all entertainment value. This category is open to participants of ages 6 to 22 years of age. Props are permitted. Thematic costumes, music and choreography may be used. Pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Time: 3 – 5 minutes. Minimum of 15 participants.
- i. **ACROBATIC/DANCE** - Routine to include unlimited tumbling/acrobatic skills with any style of dance. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Time 2-3 minutes.
- j. **DANCESPORT/BALLROOM** – Please refer to their specific rules
- k. **SWING** - Please refer to their specific rules.
- l. **CLOGGING** - Please refer to their specific rules. Clogging techniques must be used, concentrating on the use of rhythm patterns, style and formations. All dancers must wear clogging shoes. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- m. **HIP HOP/FUNK/STEP DANCE** - Choreography should be “street style” dance or contemporary jazz with emphasis on these styles of dance. Time: 2 – 3 minutes.
- n. **MODERN/ABSTRACT** - Movements should be predominately modern/abstract in style, concentrating on the use of time, space and energy. Other styles may be incorporated within the routine. May use a theme, idea, vision or pure modern technique. Time: 2-3 minutes. Must be three (3) or more teams in each division and age group or Modern/Abstract will be judges in the Lyrical category.
- o. **SOLO-DUO/TRIO** - Any or all styles of dance within the STUDIO CATEGORIES may be used. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Time: 1 1/2 – 2 minutes.

p. DIVISIONS – Competition divisions will be based upon the number of participants in each routine. Small Division: 4 – 10 participants

i. Medium Division: 11 – 16 participants

ii. Large Division A: 17 – 30 participants

iii. Large Division B: 31+ participants

* May enter 1 performance in a Division per Category ** May not duplicate routine in any Division or Category

2. DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL CATEGORIES:

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL/JUNIOR HIGH, HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGIATE: This division includes teams from academic institutions only. Note: At the AAU Junior Olympic Games, all school competitions will be on a standard gymnasium floor.

a. MILITARY - Routine emphasis must be on precision marching, maneuvering and formations. Overall general effect of presentation must be military in nature. Routine should not be thematic or characteristic in nature. **DO NOT USE**

b. DANCE STEPS. No jazz hands, head rolls, body rolls, torso movements or hip movements. Gymnastics may not be used. Splits are acceptable under the AAU/Score4Dance Rules. All kicks are acceptable. Props and backdrops may not be used. Time: 2–3 minutes.

c. DANCE - Jazz. Dance movements must be in good taste and appropriate for family viewing and for age of performers. The overall effect should be DANCE. Pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Routine or costumes should not be thematic or characteristic. Tumbling, pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Props may be used but must not be a major part of the routine. Backdrops may not be used. Time: 2–3 minutes.

d. LYRICAL - Routine must have poetic styled choreography. Any appropriate costume may be worn; however it must be in compliance with the AAU/Score4Dance guidelines. Props are permitted but must not be a major point in the routine. Time: 2–3 minutes.

e. PROP - Routine emphasis must be on the use of a prop or a variety of props. Overall general effect of presentation must have the manipulation of the prop as the **major focal point**. If stairs, ramps, etc. are used in this category, they must be used or manipulated in some form. Backdrops cannot be used. Props used as a base may not be over 5 feet high. Tumbling, pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. **Costumes, music, and props should not carry a theme.** Standard school uniform must be worn in this category. Time 2-3 minutes.

f. NOVELTY - Any variety of dance styles may be used. Routine emphasis must be on characterization or be of unique thematic nature. Entrants must use clever costumes, make up and unusual or innovative moves extensively. Overall general effect of presentations must be novel in nature. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Backdrops must be protected and secure, check AAU/ Score4Dance Safety Rules. Pyramids and

lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Time: 2–3 minutes.

- g. HIGH KICK** - Three fourths of the routine must be high kick. Focal point should read “High Kick” using a variety of kicks and formations. Time 2-3 minutes.
- h. CO-ED TEAM** - Division open to dance/drill teams. Division B open to any school organized dance team. Any variety of dances may be used. Teams need to have a minimum of 4 participants. Movements must be appropriate and in good taste. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Time 2-3 minutes.
- i. DANCE/SPORT (BALLROOM)** – Please refer to their specific rules.
- j. SWING** - Please refer to their specific rules.
- k. CLOGGING** - Please refer to their specific rules.
- l. ALL MALE** - May be organized through the dance/drill team adviser or any school official dance team or club. Any variety of dance styles may be used. Movements and costumes must be appropriate and in good taste. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. Pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Time: 2–3 minutes.
- m. SHOW PRODUCTION** - Any variety of dance styles may be used. Routine emphasis should be on over all entertainment value. Props and backdrops may be used. Thematic costumes, music, and choreography may be used. Pyramids and lifts may be used under AAU/Score4Dance Safety Rules. Minimum of 15 participants. Time: 3–5 minutes.
- n. MODERN/ABSTRACT** - Movements should be predominately modern/abstract in style, concentrating on the use of time, space and energy. Other styles may be incorporated within the routine. May use a theme, idea, vision or pure modern technique. Time: 2 – 3 minutes. Must be three (3) or more teams in each division and age group or Modern/Abstract will be judges in the Lyrical category.
- o. OFFICERS** - Participants must be official team officers in leadership position. (must follow guidelines for solos). **2-5 participants**
- p. SOLO** - Any or all styles of dance within the DANCE/DANCE DRILL TEAM CATEGORIES may be used. Props are permitted but must not be the major focal point of routine. No more than three gymnastic tricks may be used. Time: 1 1/2–2 minutes.
- q. DIVISIONS** – Competition divisions will be based upon the number of participants in each routine.
 - i.** Small Division: 4 – 10 participants
 - ii.** Medium Division: 11 – 16 participants
 - iii.** Large Division A: 17 - 30 participants
 - iv.** Large Division B: 31+ participants

* May enter 1 performance in a Division per Category
** May not duplicate routine in any Division or Category

v. RULES/RESTRICTIONS:

1. ROUTINE PENALTIES

As stated in the definition section of the Dance category, thematic uniforms cannot be used. In the Prop category, costumes, music and props shall not carry a theme. If the routine judge feels that you are in violation, he/she will reflect it in the score.

a. TIMING PENALTIES:

- i. Length of the routine will be 2 - 3 minutes in all categories except Production which will be 3 - 5 minutes and solos, duos, trios, and officers which will be 1 1/2 - 2 minutes.
- ii. Judging and timing will start with the first note of music. The entrance and exit must be walk on, concise and direct. Entrances and exits are not to be judged unless they are to music and part of the 3-minute time limit.
- iii. Judging and timing will stop with the last note of music. The combined total time from entrance and exit may only be 60 seconds. For prop and novelty category, entrance and exit may only be a combined total time of 2 minutes (prop and team). The penalty judge will assess a 3-point penalty for time violation.

SWING

II. SPORT POLICIES

a. BEHAVIOR

All Competitors must demonstrate courteous and professional behavior at all times at the AAU Competition, both on and off the competition floor. Failure to adhere to these standards could cause disciplinary action by the Organizer, or penalties from the Judges.

e. REQUIREMENTS

The AAU Swing Dance Championships Director encourages all Competitors, who believe they are qualified, to submit their application.

All who plan to compete must adhere to the following requirements in (a) through (e):

- i. Must have AAU Membership - please visit our web site at www.aausports.org.
- ii. Pay the required entry fees when the application is submitted.
- iii. Sign the waiver. No Competitor will be allowed to compete without a signed Waiver, and every member of a Team or Cabaret Act must sign the Competition Waiver. Competitors under 18-years of age must have a parent or guardian sign their Waiver and any other required forms
- iv. Register by the official entry deadline and complete the following:
 1. The Entry Form
 2. The signed Waiver for each competitor
 3. Payment for Entry into the competition
 4. Meet all the specific requirements outlined in these rules.

f. ENTRY FEES

i. Refund of Competition entry fee

After the cut-off date, competition fees will not be refunded for any reason.

g. AGE DIVISION

20 and under = youth

21 and up = adult

III. SPORT OPERATIONS

a. RULES

None are available at this time.

b. EVENT OPERATING RULES:

i. HOST RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. STAFF** - The Organizer will select a panel of Judges, an Information Manager, a Chief Judge, and a Contestants' Representative. The names of the people in these positions will be available prior to the event. In case of an emergency such as illness or transportation difficulties, the Organizer reserves the right to substitute a qualified person, and will announce that substitution as soon as it occurs.
- 2. SCHEDULE** - The Organizer will determine the date and time for each competition and the location for the Competitors' Meeting, and will announce this information prior to the event. The Organizer reserves the right to cancel a division if the number of entries is under the posted minimum, and to rearrange the schedule if necessary. Entry fees are non-refundable.
- 3. AWARDS** - The Organizer will determine and award all prizes.
- 4. POSTING OF SCORES** - The results of the competitions will be posted for Finalists to review after the Awards Ceremony.
- 5. PRELIMINARIES, SEMI-FINALS, FINALS, AND HEATS** - At any time prior to the Competition, the Organizer reserves the right to determine whether or not a division will consist of a Preliminary, Semi-Final and a Final, and whether or not rounds are danced in heats or as spotlight. This decision will be communicated as soon as possible, on the website or through announcements at the event.

c. COMPETITION

i. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION:

1. DIVISION RESTRICTIONS

(all age requirements apply)

- a.** A Competitor may enter only one of the following couples divisions: Young Adult or Youth.
- b.** A Competitor may enter into a couples division and both the Formation Team and Strictly Swing Division. Competitors entering the Strictly Swing Division must dance with a different partner

ii. RULES/RESTRICTIONS:

1. RULES

All Competitors are responsible for reading and understanding the rules prior to participating in the competition. Competitors are responsible for adhering to these rules whether or not they have been read.

2. DANCE ORDER

The event organizer will create and post the dance order of all competitors for each event.

3. PERFORMANCE FEEDBACK

Scores will be visible posted for all Competitors to review.

4. DEADLINES

Failure to comply with deadlines and attendance at mandatory meetings may result in disqualification from competing in the event without a refund of entry fee. These decisions will be made solely at the discretion of the Organizer.

- 5. CONTENT** - Since this is an amateur SWING Dance Championship; the Judges will expect to see Swing content in all competition events, including Formation Team divisions. Specific guidelines about Swing content required in each division are discussed under the rules for that division. The statement that Judges will use to identify the presence of Swing content is as follows: "Swing is an American Rhythm Dance that is identified primarily by 6-beat and 8-beat patterns that incorporate a wide variety of rhythms. 6-beat patterns include, but are not limited to, passes, underarm turns, pushbreaks, and open-to-closed/closed-to-open position patterns. 8-beat patterns include, but are not limited to, whips, swing-outs, Lindy circles, and Shag pivots. Although they are not part of the foundation of the dance as stated above, 2-beat and 4-beat rhythm breaks may be incorporated to phrase the music, to extend a pattern, and/or to accent breaks." This statement will be used only to identify the presence of Swing content in a performance. It is not intended to be a full definition of Swing, nor to be used to evaluate the quality of the performance. Each Judge will evaluate the presence of Swing content, which will be one of the criteria that determine a final score.

- 6. JUDGING CRITERIA** - The Relative Placement System will be used to judge all the competitions. In all divisions, the amount of Swing content will be evaluated. All Competitors will be judged using the following criteria:
- 7. TIMING** - Swing is danced beginning on the downbeat. Timing extends too much finer distinctions than a single beat. It includes fractionally ahead or behind the beat, as well as matching the syncopated "swing" of the music.
- 8. TEAMWORK** - Swing is a connected, partner dance. The demonstration of this connection and the appearance of lead/follow or action/reaction between the partners is an expected part of any competition. One partner ignoring or out-dancing the other, or jeopardizing the safety of the other (or other Competitors), indicates poor teamwork.
- 9. TECHNIQUE** - How well the Competitors execute the movements comprising their dance constitutes technique. This includes control of balance and weight, foot placement, bodylines, and spins.
- 10. CHOREOGRAPHY** - The selection and order of movements and transitions executed during a dance comprises choreography. Good choreography demonstrates an intimate connection with the music and its phrasing, as well as variety and contrast.
- 11. PRESENTATION** - To create an atmosphere of excitement by inviting and generating interest in a performance is the desired effect of good presentation. While providing a good show is one aspect of presentation, a good show is not a substitute for good dancing. Judges decisions are final.

12. ERRORS, VIOLATIONS, AND PENALTIES - If the rules outlined in this document are broken, the judges will assign penalties depending on the severity of the breach. There are two breach levels:

- a. **AN ERROR** - An error is a minor and apparently unintentional breaking of the rules. It is a mistake. For example, a dancer unintentionally loses contact with his or her partner, when the rules state that they must keep contact. Each error will be penalized at the discretion of the Judge who observed the error, and will be factored into the judge's final score.
- b. **A VIOLATION** - A violation is a serious, and apparently intentional, breach of rules. A violation shows disrespect towards a partner, the Judges, other dancers, the Organizer, the audience, or the rules. The penalty for a violation is disqualification. Examples of intentional violations could be: a pre-choreographed routine in Strictly Swing, the lack of enough Swing content, an inappropriate costume in a Junior Division, a performance that runs overtime, or a move that causes injury. Recognize, that each of these examples do not necessarily always qualify as a violation.

13. BEGINNING AND ENDING A ROUTINE

- a. **ENTRANCES AND EXITS** - Choreographed entrances to and exits from the dance floor are permitted, but not required, in choreographed routines. Timing and judging will begin from the first movement of the performance, with or without music or sound. If a choreographed exit is used, it will be included in judging and timing requirements.
- b. **RESTARTS** - A restart will be allowed only if the music system falters or an unforeseen catastrophe occurs. Events such as a broken dress strap, untied shoelace, etc... does not warrant a restart.

14. FORMATION TEAM DIVISION

This division consists of teams of eight or more dancers comprised of any combination of gender, age, and skill-level. They will be judged as a group.

- a. This division requires Formation Routines to be based on "Couples Dance(s)."
 - i. Examples of "Couples Dances" include, but are not limited to, Swing, Shag, Hustle, Salsa, and Waltz.
 - ii. Examples of dances recognized as "Non-Couples Dances" include but are not limited to, Jazz Dancing, Line Dancing, Hip-Hop, and Break Dancing.
- b. Lifts, aerials, acrobatic moves, drops, slides, break-always, switching of partners, and reverse lead/follow are all allowed.
- c. A Competitor can be a member of only one Formation Team.
- d. 4. All team members can no exceed the event age limit of 20 years of age.
- e. A team member is allowed to enter a Couples Division and/or the Cabaret Division.
- f. Routines must be a minimum of three-minutes and a maximum of four minutes in length.
- g. Formation Teams select their own music.
- h. Costumes are required.

15. YOUNG ADULT DIVISION

This division is for Competitors age 14 through 20-years of age.

- a. The rules governing this division are the same rules that govern the Showcase Division with the following exceptions:
 - i. Lifts & aerals that have 1 partner's torso rise above the other partner's shoulders are not allowed.
 - ii. All other partner weight support moves are optional.
- b. Age requirements:
 - i. If partners have competed previously but one partner is older than 17-years of age, that couple may petition the Organizer for an exception to the age restrictions rule. The intent of this rule is to allow youngsters who have formed a partnership and advanced their dancing together to continue to compete together in the Young Adult Division.
 - ii. If one partner has reached the age of 14, and the other partner is under the age of 14, this couple must compete in the Young Adult Division.
- c. Routines, choice of music, and costumes must be in good taste and appropriate for this age group.
- d. Routines will be a minimum of two-minutes and a maximum of three minutes in length.
- e. Competitors select their own music.
- f. Tasteful, age appropriate Costumes are required.

16. YOUTH DIVISION

This division is designed to feature young dancers age 6 through 13-years of age.

- a. The rules governing this division are the same as the rules that govern the Showcase Division with the following exceptions:
 - i. Lifts & aerals that have 1 partner's torso rise above the other partner's shoulders are not allowed.
 - ii. All other partner weight support moves are optional.
- b. Competitors must have reached the age of 6-years old in order to compete. If one partner is 14years of age or older, and the other partner is under the age of 14, this couple must compete in the Young Adult Division.
- c. Routines, choice of music, and costumes must be in good taste and appropriate for this age group.
- d. Routines must be a minimum of two-minutes and a maximum of three minutes in length.
- e. Competitors select their own music.
- f. Tasteful, age appropriate Costumes are required.

17. JUNIOR STRICTLY SWING DIVISION

This division is designed to highlight social Swing dancing skills with an emphasis on lead/follow technique.

- a. This division is for Competitors age 6 through 20-years of age.
- b. Recognizable Swing content, as described in the Statement of Swing, must be present throughout the performance.
- c. Semi-Finals will be danced in a group format. Finals may be danced in a Group and/or Spotlight format.
- d. This is a "lead/follow" dance.

- e. "In the air" partner weight support moves, such as Lifts, aerials, and acrobatic moves are not allowed.
- f. "On the ground" support moves (such as drops, slides, and splits) are allowed (but not required) to the degree that they would be considered safe and appropriate on a social dance floor.
- g. Short break-aways (breaking of contact, immediately followed by an effort to re-establish physical contact) are allowed.
- h. Music will be randomly selected by the Event Organizer. It will not be previewed in advance by the Competitors.
- i. Costumes are not allowed, but dramatic, tasteful dance clothing is encouraged.

18. CABARET

Any style of dance, other than swing, is allowed in this event. Dancers will be evaluated in their overall music interpretation and execution within their selected dance style. Contestants will be allotted a maximum time limit of 4 minutes from the time the music begins to the time the music completely ends.

Dancesport/Ballroom

II. SPORT POLICIES

a. ENTRY FORMS:

Entry forms may be found on the AAU Dance website, wwwaausports.org, which includes space for the name and address of each partner and their current AAU registration numbers. For athletes under the age of 18, the consent signature of a parent or guardian must also be obtained.

b. AGE REQUIREMENTS

i. RULES FOR AMATEUR COMPETITORS

1. Age Category Classifications:

The following definitions determine competitive age categories:

- a. **Pre-Teen:** competitors who are 12 years old and younger. Pre-teen competitors may dance up one age classification to the Junior category. A Pre-teen competitor may not dance up to the Youth category unless they request permission in writing and receive approval. Under no circumstance will a Pre-teen competitor be allowed to compete in the Adult age category.
- b. **Junior:** competitors who are 13, 14, or 15 years old. Junior competitors may dance up one age classification to the Youth category. A Junior competitor may not apply for permission to dance up to the Adult category until they are 15 years old.
- c. **Youth:** competitors who are 16, 17, or 18 years old. Nineteen-year-olds may also dance as youths until they have graduated from High

School. Youth competitors may concurrently dance up one age classification into the Adult category.

- d. **Amateur or Adult:** competitors who are 19 years of age or older. Adult B classifications are for those adults who are 35 years of age or older. Senior classifications are for those adults who are 50 years of age or older.
- e. A couple's age classification eligibility is defined as the age of the older partner on the day of the competition for the Pre-teen, Junior, Youth and Adult classifications.

ii. **AGE DIVISION**

20 and under = youth

21 and up = adult

h. **ROSTERS**

- i. Coaches of formations teams are required to submit a roster with the name and social security number of each competitor on their team, including reserves, at least 30 days prior to the competition.

i. **RULES FOR ORGANIZERS**

1. Organizers are not required to hold a formation team competition in any category that has less than three entries.
2. Before a competition adequate facilities must be provided for formation rehearsals.
 - a. Each formation team must be permitted an equal time span in which to rehearse in the facility.
 - b. This time span should be a minimum of ten minutes per team.
3. Formation coaches are required to submit a roster, which includes birth dates to the competition organizer at least 30 days prior to the competition.
4. A member of the event organizing committee must be appointed. He, or his designated representative, must attend rehearsals and warn any team infringing the rules. Once warned, a team may be disqualified if they continue to infringe upon the rules. Disqualification would be by the chairman, after consultation with the adjudicators and organizer.
5. The chairman is allowed to videotape each team's performance at their official rehearsal in the facility, for the purpose of confirming adherence to the rules.
6. The order of dancing for each round will be determined by draw, under the supervision of the chairman of judges, or his designated representative.
7. Each round of each competition must be conducted without any interruption.
8. In each round of competition, no more than 50% of the teams should be eliminated for the subsequent round. No more than eight teams should participate in the final round. If the Chairman calls for the appropriate number of callbacks and the marks do not allow for the correct number of teams to be advanced, then the Chairman has the authority to place less than 50% of the teams in the subsequent round. This can be considered especially if an additional round would be required in order to comply with the desired 50%.
9. In the preliminary rounds judges must call back the required number of formation teams. This will be done by secret ballot, with the complete judging results being released after the competition has concluded.

10. Secret ballots must be used by the adjudicators for the finals of Pre-Teen and Junior formation competitions. For the finals of Youth and Adult formation competitions the adjudicators may use the open marking system. Again, the complete judging results must be released after the competition has concluded.
11. During the duration of each performance the formation team's entry number/letter, as listed in the program, must be clearly shown near the dance floor for the benefit of the judges.
12. The adjudicators should be positioned at an appropriate distance from each other, and in the front for formation competitions. They may be positioned at either a close or far proximity to the dance floor, or a combination of both. At least some adjudicators should be positioned in an elevated place if at all possible.
13. The coach (es) of each formation team may stand adjacent to or on, the floor when their team is competing. The organizer has the right to direct the coach (es) as to where they may be allowed to stand when their team is dancing.

iii. REGISTRATION

1. 1. General guidelines for Registration:
 - a. Registration will be accepted through the AAU website, www.aausports.org or on Official Registration Forms.
 - b. Registration with the AAU runs from September 1st through August 31st, regardless of when the registration is received throughout the year.
 - c. All registrants must register with the AAU for the following year or will not be allowed to participate at any AAU event until they are correctly registered.
 - d. All registrants will receive a numbered registration card indicating the valid registration period. It is the responsibility of all registrants to show competition organizers their valid registration cards when so requested. Additionally, all registrants can print a copy of the AAU Dancesport Rulebook off of the AAU Dance web site at www.aaudance.org. Awareness of the contents of the Rulebook is the responsibility of each registrant. Please read and study them carefully.
 - e. All registered competitors must present their current competitor's registration card before receiving their competition number from the organizer.

III. SPORT OPERATIONS

a. RULES

None are available at this time.

b. EVENT OPERATING RULES:

i. OFFICIALS

DANCE SPORT/BALLROOM

1. SELECTION OF OFFICIALS:

- a. Required number of judges and scrutineers:
 - i. At all AAU sanctioned events, at least one qualified Chairman of Judges must officiate.

- ii. In all Amateur Championship Events, a minimum of seven (7) judges shall officiate.
 - iii. At all AAU sanctioned events, at least one qualified Scrutineer must officiate.
- b. Judges Qualifications:
 - i. Organizers must select Judges who are qualified and certified in the categories they are to judge, i.e. International Style, American Style, Theatre Arts/Cabaret/Exhibition Styles, Swing, etc.
- c. Chairman of Judges Qualifications:
 - i. The Chairman of Judges for AAU sanctioned events must be a resident of the U.S.A. and must hold a full qualification in all categories included in the event.
- d. Announcement of Adjudicators and Officials:
- e. The organizer shall, in all advertising, announce the proposed list of Judges and officials who will officiate and the competitions in which they will officiate.

2. RULES FOR JUDGES:

a. JUDGES RESTRICTIONS:

- i. the adjudicating panel for each category, level and style shall consist of an odd number of qualified judges who are certified as a judge.
- ii. A judge must excuse himself from an adjudicating panel on any occasion when he has a member of his immediate family, or any member of the same household dancing in a particular heat of competition. "Immediate family" is defined as first cousin or above, their spouses, domestic partners and household members.
- iii. Judges must be Qualified and Certified in the type and style of the competition they are engaged to adjudicate.
- iv. Officials, including Judges, Scrutineers, Registrars, Masters of Ceremonies, Music Directors and Organizers, are not allowed to give coaching lessons, on or off the premises, during the entire period of time commencing at noon on the day of the first competitive session and concluding with the end of the last session. This does not apply to Lectures or Seminars scheduled by the organizer and open to any interested parties.
- v. If officials and competitors mutually consent to discuss markings and results after the conclusion of the event, they should do so in a civil, ethical, and professional manner.

b. JUDGES CONDUCT:

- i. Judges shall stand or be seated apart from one another and at such locations that they do not interfere with the competitors.
- ii. Judges are reminded that if they converse with any spectators, contestants, or coaches, they may not discuss any competitors' performance until after the close of the entire event.
- iii. Judges are not to compare notes and must judge independently.

- iv. Judges may move about freely in order to see all couples.
- v. Judges are required to remain on the floor until the end of the music.
- vi. Judges shall mark and sign their score cards in ink, including the code letter, and shall initial each and every alteration.
- vii. While on the competition premises, judges shall conduct themselves with the utmost of professional decorum, including refraining from consuming alcohol during a judging session.

c. CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES:

- i. a. The Chairman of Judges shall be responsible for the following:
 - 1. Determining the number of couples to be recalled.
 - a. The Chairman must ask for at least 50 % of the number of couples to be recalled in each round. However, if the number of couples that are actually recalled by the adjudicators would require an additional round, then the Chairman is allowed to recall less the 50% of the couples. If the chairman asks for a 50 % recall for a second round and the actual number is more than 50%, the chairman may still call for a 50% recall of his original desired number of couples in the third round, etc.
 - b. The maximum number of couples that will be allowed in any final round will be eight.
 - c. For any championship competition, if there are eight or more couples pre-registered to compete then a semi-final round must be scheduled. Likewise, if there are fifteen or more couples pre-registered then a quarterfinal must be scheduled.
 - d. The chairman should consult with the competition organizer whenever there is a question in regards to the number of couples to be recalled.
 - e. The chairman should determine when a semi-final should be split into two heats, taking into account the size of the floor, the number of couples in the semi-final, and the style being danced. This should be done in consultation with the competition organizer. When the semi-final is split all couple must dance concurrently for a minimum of 30 seconds prior to any heat being split.
 - f. When the judges are instructed to select a given number of couples to dance in a final, only that number shall dance, except in the event of a tie.

- g. In all matters relating to the conduct of the competition, questions on judges' markings, and changes in program scheduling, the Chairman's decision shall be final.
- ii. No more than eight (8) couples shall dance in any Final round.
- iii. Observance of the established timetable for the competition, or alteration to the established timetable if required.
- iv. Instructing judges on points of evaluation and scoring system.
- v. Correct interpretation of marks by inspecting marks after each heat, and verifying that they have been correctly transcribed.
- vi. Referring any score card requiring correction to the adjudicator concerned.
- vii. In all matters related to the conduct of the competition, questions on judges marking, changes in program scheduling; the Chairman's decision is final.
- viii. Excusing a judge from officiating when he feels that his sound judgment might be impaired.
- ix. The signing of all Final Summary Marking Sheets.
- d. The ISDF Skating System will be utilized in all competitive events. A description of the Skating System is included at the end of the rulebook.
- e. No individual, official, judge or organization shall discriminate against any competitor on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin; neither deny or threaten to deny any eligible competitor the opportunity to participate in competitive events for which he or she is eligible if he or she has adhered to all requirements.

ii. **HOST RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. **CONDUCT OF COMPETITIONS:**

- a. The organizer is responsible for the observance of the following:
 - i. The organizer shall draw up a timetable and make it available to all competitors prior to the competition. The organizer is responsible for adhering to this timetable so that the individual events do not start more than thirty (30) minutes earlier or run more than thirty (30) minutes later than the scheduled time. The first event of the day shall not start ahead of the scheduled time. Organizers must appoint all adjudicating panels before the event commences, and these panels should be strictly adhered to expect incases of emergency.
 - ii. The organizer shall arrange for suitable and separate changing room facilities for male and female competitors.
 - iii. The organizer is required to adhere to all categories, dances and levels specified in his promotional material. The organizer is also responsible for enforcement of all AAU rules regarding Syllabus and/or Dress, particularly for the Pre-

teen, Junior, and Youth categories as well as applying penalty marks for infractions.

- iv.** No participating dancers will be permitted to compete unless registered with the AAU.
- v.** At least two (2) couples must participate in any featured event for it to be accepted as a bona-fide competition. For Championship competitions, at least three (3) couples must participate.
- vi.** In events where only one couple is entered the following are offered as suggestions:
 - 1.** When the event is a one-dance event and the category is at medalist level, the judges may adjudicate the couple against an accepted standard and the couple's placement is determined by majority opinion of the judges.
 - 2.** When the event is a multiple dance event, each dance may be treated as in (i) above with the overall placement determined by the overall judges' marks. Alternatively, the organizer may choose to allow the couple to dance without evaluation and automatically award the couple first place.
- vii.** During the same competition session in all "championship amateur" competitions an intermission of not less than twenty (20) minutes, and not more than sixty (60) minutes must be granted to couples in between rounds. It is recommended that for other multi-dance amateur competitions that an intermission of five (5) minutes per dance (up to twenty minutes total) be granted.
- viii.** The order to be danced in all Theater Arts/Cabaret divisions shall be determined by draw. Couples must dance the same program for all rounds of the competition.
 - 1.** The Skating System of score evaluation shall be used, with the exception of Formation Teams and Team Matches, which may be judged on a cumulative point system.
- ix.** Each Judge shall mark and sign a score card for each heat adjudicated. The organizer shall appoint a steward who shall be responsible for collecting judges' score cards and delivering them to the scrutineer.
- x.** For Open Amateur events the length of music must be as follows:
 - 1.** Other than for the International Style Viennese Waltz and Paso Doble the music shall be played for a minimum of one minute and thirty seconds to a maximum of two minutes (1:30-2:00).
 - 2.** In the International Style Viennese Waltz the music shall be played for a minimum of one minute and fifteen seconds to a maximum of one minute and thirty seconds (1:15-1:30).

3. In the International Style Paso Doble the complete song must be played in the final round (2:05).
- xi.** Only the Chairman of Judges and Scrutineer shall have access to the marks until the end of the competition.
 - xii.** Master scrutineer sheets, or copies, shall be publicly posted in a conveniently accessible area, for public inspection, only after they have been certified correct by the Scrutineer and Chairman of Judges, and immediately after the results have been announced and the prizes awarded.
 - xiii.** Before the marks are posted the Master Scrutineer Sheets should be signed by the Scrutineer and Chairman of Judges, but not necessarily by the organizer.
 - xiv.** No smoking will be allowed in the ballroom or any designated competitor assembly area at any time.
 - xv.** AAU recognizes that competition/championship organizers own the television and/or video rights to their events.
 - xvi.** Floors for competition must be a minimum of 60 feet long and a minimum of 36 feet wide, or 2,160 square feet. Floors for championship events must be a minimum of 66 feet long and a minimum of 42 feet wide.
 - xvii.** Organizers must pay all officials for services rendered, at that event, before the end of the last session of the last day.
 - xviii.** Unless prior agreement is made with the organizer and/or Chairman of Judges, all officials and adjudicators must be available until the conclusion of the competition as stated in the program of events.
 - xix.** To ensure that the competitors of an AAU event receive an “appropriate” presentation of awards, it is recommended that awards be presented after each level of competition; however, all awards must be presented no later than the conclusion of each session.
 - xx.** In all competition rounds, excluding cabaret, formation teams and team match, all couples in each heat, including the final, must dance against each other concurrently.
 - xxi.** An on-deck area for competitors is required for championships and strongly recommended for competitions. It is also recommended that an on-deck captain be provided during sessions with a large number of entries and/or heats.
 - xxii.** Once a final round commences, if it becomes necessary for a couple to withdraw from the competition (due to injury or illness) then that couple will be awarded last place for any dances in which they did not dance.
 - xxiii.** If a couple withdraws from a competition after any round and before the commencement of the next round, then the chairman may at his discretion replace this couple with the next eligible couple.
 - xxiv.** Organizers who anticipate that their events will be video taped with the intent of distribution to television must clearly outline in the publicity whether the event has been contracted

to appear on television or if the filming is being done “with the intent” of being aired on television.

- xxv.** In the “Theatrical” dance category lifts are allowed for no more than 50% of the number of measures of music. There is no restriction for the “Cabaret” category.
- xxvi.** In a “Ten-Dance” competition each dance shall be a separate competition. The skating system of scrutineering shall be applied to all ten dances together to determine the winner. The number of call-backs from the Semi-final (and Quarter-final if necessary) shall be used to determine placements for couples not making the finals
- xxvii.** Confirmation that all amateur dancers competing at their event are currently registered with the AAU.
- xxviii.** Competitors and officials are not permitted to give media interviews at any time during a competitive round in which they are taking part. Any such interviews may be done between rounds and may not be broadcast to those present in the ballroom.
- xxix.** Organizers are responsible for ensuring that all competitors must comply with the guidelines given in the Dress and/or Grooming section.
- xxx.** The announcement of placement and awarding of prizes should be done as soon after the end of the final round as possible, and within 90 minutes.

iii. EVENT SPECIFICATIONS

1. PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS:

a. SPECIFICATION OF EVENTS:

- i.** In the promotional materials, the organizer must include a full list of categories and divisions offered dances, dress requirements, and any additional rules he may wish to stipulate. The organizer may introduce further subdivisions in the various categories listed in the materials, but he must clearly define these and enumerate them in his advance publicity.
- ii.** The organizer has the responsibility to inform all competitors of the rules under which their competitions will be conducted. Syllabus and/or Costuming requirements must be spelled out correctly and completely on the appropriate entry forms.
- iii.** Information as to how infractions of syllabus and/or costuming requirements will be penalized must be included in writing in the organizer’s promotional material and/or entry forms.

iv. ELIGIBILITY

1. ELIGIBILITY DEFINITIONS:

- a. A competitor is eligible to dance in the “Syllabus”, “Novice”, and/or “Pre-Championship” proficiency classifications until they accumulate three (3) proficiency points. There is no limit to the number of proficiency points that may be accumulated in the “Open Amateur” level.
- b. A competitor receives one point when they either a) place first in their current classification when a semi-final round was danced, or b) dance in the final of a higher proficiency event where a semi-final round was danced.
- c. In the “Syllabus” categories proficiency points should be accumulated independently for each dance.
- d. The eligibility to compete in a classification is applied to individual amateur competitors and not the couple as an entity.
- e. An amateur couple is only eligible to compete in a classification if both members of the couple are eligible.
- f. An amateur competitor’s eligibility is based on his/her accomplishments regardless of the number or length of partnerships they have had.
- g. It is the responsibility of all amateur competitors to insure that they are eligible for the category in which they desire to dance.
- h. An amateur competitor may enter at most two consecutive proficiency classifications in any particular style and age group at a particular competition.
- i. An amateur competitor’s ineligibility begins at the conclusion of the competition in which his/her third point was acquired. In this case the word “competition” refers to the entire event (generally a “weekend”).

v. UNIFORM:

1. DRESS AND/OR COSTUMING

a. PRE-TEEN:

- i. Pre-Teen boys: Dress shirt and pants, optional tie and or cummerbund or vest or black sweater.
- ii. Pre-teen girls: Party dress with no sequins, rhinestones, feathers, glitter, fringe or similar decorations.

b. JUNIOR, YOUTH AND ADULT:

- i. Syllabus:
- ii. **Gentlemen:** Standard and Smooth Divisions: Dress pants, plain shirt and tie, and optional cummerbund or vest or black sweater or tuxedo. No tail suits. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Dress pant, plain or ruffled shirt, optional tie and or vest.
- iii. **Ladies:** Standard and Smooth Divisions: Cocktail dress without excessive adornment. No ball gowns. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Leotards and wrap skirts or party/cocktail dresses without excessive adornment.

c. OPEN AMATEUR

- i. **Gentlemen:** Standard and Smooth Divisions: Tail suits. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Latin costumes.

- ii. **Ladies:** Standard and Smooth Divisions: Ball gowns. Latin and Rhythm Divisions: Latin costumes.

d. OPEN AMATEUR

- i. For “Syllabus” competitions, competitors must wear “Syllabus” dress.
- ii. For “Novice” competitions, competitors may wear either “Syllabus” or “Open Amateur” dress. The organizer may stipulate one or the other for this category.
- iii. For “Pre-Championship” and “Open Amateur” competitions, competitors should wear “Championship” costumes.
- iv. Competition organizers may establish alternative dress and/or costume guidelines if they desire for Juniors, Youth, or Adults.

2. DRESS FOR FORMATION TEAMS:

- a. Pre-Teen formation teams shall be allowed to wear the following for both competitive categories:
 - i. **Boys:** dark trouser, plain, undecorated shirts, optional tie, cummerbund and/or vest. No sequins, rhinestones, fringe or other similar decorations are allowed.
 - ii. **Girls:** a party dress or a simple costume provided it does not have any sequins, rhinestones, feathers, fringe or other similar decorations.
- b. Junior formation teams shall be allowed to wear the dress approved for Pre-Teen formation teams in addition to the following for both competitive categories:
 - i. **Boys** may wear a simple costume, provided it does not have any sequins, rhinestones, fringe or other similar decorations. No jackets (including tail suits) will be allowed.
 - ii. **Girls** may wear a party dress or a simple costumer provided it does not have any sequins, rhinestones, feathers, fringe or other similar decorations.
- c. Youth formation teams shall be allowed to wear the dress approved for Junior formation teams in addition to the following:
 - i. **Boys** may wear jackets in either division, including tail suits for the Standard/Smooth category. Costumes are allowed, including decorations. If tails suits are worn they must be black in color.
 - ii. **Girls** may wear costumes in either division, including decorations.
- d. Adult formation teams shall be allowed to wear the dress approved for Youth formation teams.
- e. The organizer of a formation competition may establish additional dress guidelines if so desired.
- f. No change of clothing/costume is permitted once the competition begins.

vi. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION:

1. PROFICIENCY CLASSICIFICATIONS:

- a. Syllabus: Restricted to “medalist” level figures (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Novice Bronze, Novice Silver, Novice Gold, etc.). Organizers may restrict the level, but must use all approved syllabi for the dance or level in question.
- b. Novice: Open Syllabus. It is recommended that “Novice” competitions generally be restricted to two or three (2 or 3) of the allowed dances for each style. Suggested dances are as follows:
 - i. International Standard: Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep.
 - ii. International Latin: Cha-Cha, Samba and Rumba.
 - iii. American Smooth: Waltz, Tango and Foxtrot.
 - iv. American Rhythm: Cha-Cha, Rumba and East Coast Swing.
- c. Pre-Championship: Open syllabus. It is recommended that “Pre-Championship” competitions generally be restricted to three or four (3 or 4) of the allowed dances for each style. Suggested dances are as follows:
 - i. International Standard: Waltz, Tango, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep.
 - ii. International Latin: Cha-Cha, Samba, Rumba and Paso Doble or Jive.
 - iii. American Smooth: Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot and Viennese Waltz.
 - iv. American Rhythm: Cha-Cha, Rumba, East Coast Swing and Bolero.
- d. Open Amateur: Open syllabus. All of the dances in each style must be danced in this category in all rounds, and in the prescribed order.
- e. Competitors whose choreography is determined by the Invigilator (or Chairman of Judges) not to be within the prescribed or approved syllabus and ability level classification shall be given a verbal warning if the violation occurs in a round prior to the final round or reduced to last place in that dance in a final.

Continued violations may be cause for disqualification from the competition by the Chairman of Judges.

2. DANCES AND TEMPI

a. APPROVED DANCES::

- i. The following dances are approved for Competitions and Championships with the exception of Cabaret, all couple must dance all dances:
- ii. International Style Standard Ballroom: Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quickstep. It is required that the above five dances be used (in the order listed) in all amateur “championship” competitions. When organizers choose to offer additional competitions that may not include all five dances it is recommended that they still offer the dances in the order listed, minus those dances not being offered.
- iii. International Style Latin: cha-cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive. It is required that the above five dances be used (in the order listed) in all amateur “championship” competitions. When organizers choose to offer additional

competitions that may not include all five dances it is recommended that they still offer the dances in the order listed, minus those dances not being offered.

- iv. American Style Smooth: Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot and Viennese Waltz. It is required that the above five dances be used (in the order listed) in all amateur “championship” competitions. When organizers choose to offer additional competitions that may not include all four dances it is recommended that they still offer the dances in the order listed, minus those dances not being offered.
- v. American Style Rhythm: Cha-Cha, Rumba, Swing, Bolero and Mambo. It is required that the above five dances be used (in the order listed) in all amateur “championship” competitions. When organizers choose to offer additional competitions that may not include all five dances it is recommended that they still offer the dances in the order listed, minus those dances not being offered.
- vi. Additional American Style dances: Other American Style dances may be offered as either one dance or multi-dance events by competition organizers. These dances could include but are not limited to: Peabody, Merengue, Salsa, Polka, West Coast Swing, Lindy, Hustle, etc.
- vii. Theater Arts/Cabaret Dances: Theater Arts events are those in which all couples dance at the same time to a pre-selected piece of music. Cabaret dances are those in which couples select their own music and appear one at a time. All Cabaret routines are limited to four (4) minutes long. This includes entrances onto and exits from the floor.
- viii. Lifts: Lifts are allowed in the Theater Arts/Cabaret dance categories only. A lift is any movement during which one of the dancers has both feet off the floor at the same time with the assistance or support of their partner for longer than two beats of music. Couples who perform lifts in categories where lifts are not allowed may be disqualified after one warning, or may be dropped to last place in the final, at the discretion of the Chairman of Judges.

b. APPROVED TEMPI:

- i. The following tempi for International and American Style dances are approved, given in Measures per Minute – MPM.
- ii. Music directors must have the equipment necessary to adjust the tempo/pitch while the music is playing, at the direction of the Chairman of Judges.

International Style	Dance	Measures per Minute
Standard	Waltz	28
	Tango	32
	Viennese Waltz	56-58
	Foxtrot	28
	Quickstep	50-52
Latin	Cha-cha	31
	Samba	50

	Rumba	26
	Paso Doble	60-62
	Jive	44

America Style	Dance	Measures per Minute
Smooth	Waltz	28-30
	Tango	30
	Foxtrot	30
	Viennese Waltz	54
Rhythm	Cha-Cha	30
	Rumba	32
	Swing	36
	Bolero	24
	Mambo	47
	Hustle	28-30
	West Coast Swing	28-32
	Lindy	
	Merengue	29-32

c. MUSIC LENGTH:

- i.** The amount of music played for each dance in each should be monitored and made equal for each heat in a round.

International Style	Dance	Minimum/Maximum
Standard	Waltz	90 secs / 120 secs
	Tango	90 secs / 120 secs
	Viennese Waltz	60 secs / 90 secs
	Slow Foxtrot	90 secs / 120 secs
	Quickstep	90 secs / 120 secs
Latin	Cha-Cha	90 secs / 120 secs
	Samba	90 secs / 120 secs
	Rumba	90 secs / 120 secs
	Paso Doble	90 secs / 120 secs
	Jive	60 secs / 90 secs

America Style	Dance	Minimum / Maximum
Smooth	Waltz	90 secs / 120 secs
	Tango	90 secs / 120 secs
	Foxtrot	90 secs / 120 secs
	Viennese Waltz	90 secs / 120 secs
Rhythm	Cha-Cha	90 secs / 120 secs
	Rumba	90 secs / 120 secs
	East Coast Swing	90 secs / 120 secs
	Bolero	90 secs / 120 secs
	Mambo	90 secs / 120 secs

3. FORMATION TEAMS:

- a.** In formation competitions the make-up of each formation team will be allowed as follows:
- i.** Pre-Teen teams: Confined to Pre-Teens with the following exception: up to two Juniors may participate on a Pre-Teen formation team (one boy and/or one girl).

- ii. Junior Teams: Confined to Juniors with the following exceptions: (a) any number of Pre-Teens may participate on a Junior team, and (b) up to two Youths may participate on a Junior formation team (one boy and/or one girl).
- iii. Youth Teams: Confined to Youths with the following exception: any number of Juniors may participate on a Youth team.
- iv. Adult Teams: Confined to Adults with the following exception: any number of Youths may participate on an Adult team.
- v. All age categories: All competitors may dance one time only in each style at any competition.
- vi. Coaches may replace team members with reserves for any round in the competition.
- vii. Substitutions may not occur during the actual time the team is on the floor competing.

4. SOLO (OPEN) WORK – STANDARD/SMOOTH CATEGORIES:

Solo (open) work is defined as when any couple in the formation team is not in the traditional competitive ballroom hold (which includes the lady's left hand being placed on the man's right shoulder).

vii. RULES/RESTRICTIONS:

1. RULES FOR COMPETITORS

a. DANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- i. Competitors are restricted to entering only those categories for which they are eligible.
- ii. All competitors are required to present a valid and current AAU registration card to the competition registrar before the gentleman's competition number may be issued to them at the event..
- iii. Competitors must adhere to the dress requirements specified by the Organizer, provided such requirements have been specified in his printed advertisements and/or entry blanks.
- iv. Competitors are required to remain on the floor until the end of the music to avoid the possibility of disqualification.
- v. Theater Arts and Cabaret competitors only are allowed to use props. A prop is defined, as any item that is not part of the regular costume worn by the dancers.
- vi. All competitors are subject to Anti-Doping controls as prescribed by IDSF, USOC and AAU.
- vii. While on the premises of a competition, competitors shall conduct themselves in a civil and sportsmanlike manner. Competitors shall not harass or challenge a judge about the markings of that judge before, during or after the event.
- viii. Competitors are responsible for being in attendance and ready to compete thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled

time for the event(s) entered and for checking in with the registrar.

- ix. Competitors are responsible for adherence to the dress code requirement specified by the event organizers.
- x. Competitors are responsible for dancing only in those divisions and classification categories for which they are eligible under the rules found in this rulebook.
- xi. k. Any competitor who removes, defaces, or destroys any of the Master Scrutineering Sheets shall be subject to disciplinary action.

b. CONDUCT:

- i. While on the competition premises, competitors shall conduct themselves at all times in a civil and sportsmanlike manner.
- ii. Competitors must be in attendance at least one-half hour in advance of the advertised time scheduled for the events he is entering. Organizers are not required to delay the program for the benefit of latecomers.
- iii. Competitors shall accept as final the individual markings of the judges, and no appeal against them may be made except when it can be shown that the actual markings have been incorrectly evaluated.
- iv. If officials and competitors mutually consent to discuss markings and results after the conclusion of the event, they should do so in a civil, ethical, and professional manner.
- v. A competitor who removes any of the Master Scrutineer Sheets without the permission of the organizer shall face disciplinary action.
- vi. If a couple fails to appear for an event without notifying the organizer in advance, then the organizer is not obligated to accept entries from that couple for future competitions.

c. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

- i. Dancing as a profession. The following acts are considered evidence that an individual has become a professional.
 - 1. By publicly declaring himself or herself to be a professional, whether verbally or in writing.
 - 2. By competing in a professional category.
- ii. Material gain: Amateur competitors are prohibited from generating a net profit from the use of his or her dance skills, with the exception of those competitors who are considered World Class or Certified by other member organizations.
- iii. Commercial agreements: Amateur competitors are only permitted to enter into commercial or business agreements either written or verbal with individuals or organizations wherein his or her dance skills are provided in exchange for money or other valuables.
- iv. Doping violations: Competitors are not permitted to use substances and/or methods classified as doping under the IDSF, USOC and AAU Anti-Doping codes. Competitors

may not refuse to submit to a doping test administered by the above-mentioned entities.

2. SYALLABUS:

- a. Couples competing in the “Pre-teen” category must dance restricted syllabi as noted. Couples competing in the “Junior”, “Youth”, and “Adult” categories are not restricted in syllabi unless competing in a “Syllabus” event, or otherwise stipulated by the organizer.
- b. Pre-teen couples competing in this age category may only dance Bronze, Silver and Gold syllabus figures from approved syllabi.

3. SIZE OF FORMATION TEAMS:

Teams of four, five, six, seven and/or eight couples may compete in each formation style. A couple is one boy and one girl.

4. TIME RESTRICTIONS:

- a. Pre-Teen Formation Teams shall be limited to two minutes of music for their routine. Up to an additional thirty seconds will be allowed for their entrance and exit combined. This adds up to two and one-half minute’s total on the floor.
- b. Junior Formation Teams shall be limited to three minutes of music for their routine. UP to an additional thirty seconds will be allowed for their entrance and exit combined. This adds up to three and one-half minutes total on and off the floor.
- c. Youth Formation Teams shall dance for a minimum of three minutes, but shall be limited to a maximum of four and one-half minutes of music for their routine. Up to an additional one minute will be allowed for their entrance and exit combined. This adds up to a maximum of five and one-half minutes total on and off the floor.
- d. Adult Formation Teams shall dance for a minimum of three minutes, but shall be limited to a maximum of four and one-half minutes of music for their routine. Up to an additional one and one-half minutes will be allowed for their entrance and exit combined. This adds up to a maximum of six minutes total on and off the floor.
- e. The timing of formation team routines begins when the first person sets foot onto the dance floor. The timing ends when the last person on the team steps off the dance floor.

5. NUMBER OF DANCES:

- a. Pre-Teen formation teams shall be limited to one or two dances from the approved list for each style.
- b. Junior formation teams shall be limited to one, two or three dances from the approved list for each style.
- c. Youth formation teams must perform a minimum of three dances and up to a maximum of five dances from the approved list for each style.
- d. Adult formation teams must perform a minimum of three dances and up to a maximum of five dances from the approved list for each style. Sixteen (16) bars of one additional dance may be performed. This additional dance needs not be one on the approved list for each style.

6. ENTRANCE AND EXITS:

- a. Pre-teen and Junior formation teams are not allowed to use music for their entrance and exit. The team must remain motionless for a period

of at least two seconds before the start of the music and then again at the end of the dance before they start their exit.

- b. Youth and Adult formation teams are allowed to use music for their entrance and exit if desired. When music is used for the entrance and/or exit there must be either a “gong” sound or a complete break in the music for the space of at least two seconds that separates the entrance/exit from the routine music proper. The formation team must remain motionless during this break both before and after the routine proper.

7. LIFTS AND PROPERTIES:

- a. No lifts are allowed at any time in any competitive age category for Pre-Teen, Junior, and Youth formation teams. This includes the team’s entrance and exit.
- b. Lifts are allowed during the entrance and/or exit only for Adult formation teams.
- c. No properties (props) are allowed at any time in any competitive age category for formation teams. This includes the team’s entrance and exit.
- d. A prop is defined as any item that is not part of the regular costume worn by the dancers, and that is not attached to the dancer or their costume for the full duration of time that the dancers are on the floor.
- e. A hat will be considered a prop if it is removed at any time from the dancer’s head, including entrance and exit.

8. SOLO (OPEN) WORK:

- a. In all age categories (Pre-Teen, Junior, Youth and Adult) the formation team may dance up to 50% of their bars of music as solo (open) work. At least 50% of their bars of music must be danced completely in the traditional competitive ballroom hold.
- b. The coach of the formation team should be prepared to present a breakdown of the phrasing of the music, indicating which measures are open, to the Chairman of Judges at the team’s rehearsal in the competition facility.
- c. If a couple is in open position at the end of a bar of music, then that bar is counted as solo. If a couple is in closed position at the end of a bar of music, then that bar is not counted as open.

9. REHEARSAL IN THE COMPETITION FACILITY:

Each formation team will be allowed an equal amount of rehearsal time in the tournament facility. At the commencement of this rehearsal they must dance their routine with music and perform their entrance and exit one time for the Chairman of Judges, or his designated representative.

10. TEAM DISQUALIFICATION

A member of the event organizing committee must be appointed. He or his representative must attend the official rehearsal that is held in the competition facility and warn any team infringing the rules. If the rules are infringed during the contest he will have the right to disqualify formation teams that infringe upon these rules, after consultation with the adjudicators and organizer.

11. JUDGING

a. JUDGING AND MARKING

- i. Formation Events shall be judged by at least three (3) judges who are qualified and certified in the type and style of ballroom dancing concerned.
- ii. Formation Teams shall be judged on:
 - 1. Entry and Exit of teams.
 - 2. Precision and Neatness of Lines and Patterns.
 - 3. Presentation and Character of the Dances(s) performed.
 - 4. Choreography.
- iii. The Skating System of Scrutineering must be used.
- iv. If more than six (6) teams compete, there shall be a Semi-Final round.
- v. Coaches shall not judge formation event in which their own teams participated. This rule covers all persons who are connected with the school (studio) where participating teams are trained.

b. SKATING SYSTEM OF JUDGING

The following is a description of the Skating System of Judging, which shall be used in all competitions:

c. THE MARKING OF ADJUDICATOR'S CARDS

- i. In all rounds each judge must vote for the number of couples demanded by the Chairman of Judges.
- ii. In the Final round the judge shall mark his first couple 1, his second couple 2, his third 3, and so on in each of the dances.
- iii. In the Final round each judge shall place all the competing couples in order of merit in each of the dances.
- iv. A judge must not tie couples for any place in the Final of any dance. Note: In the Final round the open system of marking may be used.

d. THE ALLOCATION OF POSITIONS IN EACH DANCE

The winner of a particular dance is the couple who is placed first by an absolute majority of the judges; second, the couple who is placed second or higher by an absolute majority. The remaining positions are allocated in a similar way.

e. IF MORE THAN ONE COUPLE HAVE A MAJORITY FOR THE SAME POSITION:

The couple with the largest majority shall be allocated the position under review and the couple with the next largest majority, the following position.

Note: If the position under review is the "2nd" and two couples have a majority of "2nd and higher" places, the couple with the larger majority shall be placed "2nd" and the other couple "3rd". We now examine the remaining competitors' markings, and the couple with the largest majority of "3rd and higher" places shall be allocated the next position, which in this example, is the "4th". If none of the remaining couples has a majority of "3rd and higher" places then include the "4th" places (and, if necessary, lower places).

f. If Two or More Couples have an Equal Majority for the Same Position

If such majorities are equal, then the lowest total of marks given by those judges, who form the majority, shall determine the allocation of the position under review.

Note: If the position under review is the “2nd” and two couples have a similar majority of “2nd and higher” places, the couple with the lower total of marks given by those judges who form the majority, shall be allocated the “2nd” position and the other couple the “3rd”. See notes under Rule 6. If the totals of marks are equal, then the next lower place (or places, if necessary), in respect of the particular couples concerned, must be included.

It should be noted that only the couples who have a majority for the position under review (say, for example, the “2nd” position) must be considered at this stage, and only their “3rd” places (and if necessary, lower places) should be referred to, until the “2nd” position has been allocated.

A definite result will eventually be obtained unless the remaining markings are exactly the same, and should the latter be the case, there will, of course, be a tie for “2nd” position. If two couples were concerned, they would be allocated “2 ½” each.

See notes under Rule 6.

g. IF NO COUPLE RECEIVES A MAJORITY FOR THE POSITION UNDER REVIEW:

If no couple receives a majority of “Firsts” then the winner is the couple who are placed “2nd and higher” by a majority of judges. If no couple receives a majority of “1st” and “2nd” places, then the “3rd” places (and if necessary, lower places) must be included. (Subject to Rules 6 and 7.) The “2nd” and other positions should be calculated in a similar way.

h. COMPILATION OF THE FINAL SUMMARY:

When all the dances have been concluded, the order ascertained for each dance shall be carried to another sheet, showing the position achieved by each couple in each dance. The first in each dance shall be given one mark, the second two, and so on. These place marks received by each couple shall be added up and the couple with the lowest aggregate shall be the winner.

i. IF THERE IS A TIE FOR A PLACE IN THE FINAL SUMMARY:

- i.** If this results in a tie for first place, the winner shall be the couple who has actually won the greater number of dances. If there is a tie for the “2nd” place, the “2nd” prize shall be awarded to the couple who has obtained “2nd or higher” in the greatest number of dances. If the couples have obtained the same number of “2nd or higher” place marks, then add the “2nd and higher” place marks together and the couple with the lowest total should be awarded second prize.

Note: If more than two couples tie for second place, the second prize shall be awarded to the couple who has obtained the most “2nd and higher” place marks. Still only considering the remaining “tie” couples, the “3rd” prize is awarded to the couple who has won the most “3rd and higher” place marks.

- ii. If after applying Rules 9 and 10 this still results in a tie, then treat the judges’ marks of the “tied” couples over all dances, as for an individual dance (Rules 5 to 8). If this still results in a tie, there shall be at the discretion of the organizers of the competition, either a re-dance or the prizes for the places under review shall be divided.

1. If the tie is for first place, a majority of “1st” marks to the credit of either of the “tied” couples (4 dances-5 judges-majority 11) would win. If neither of the “tied” couples obtain a majority of “firsts” see Rule 8.
2. If the tie is for second place, a majority of “2nd and higher” marks to the credit of either of the “tied” couples would be necessary. If neither of the “tied” couples obtain a majority of “2nd and higher” marks see Rule 8.
3. The “3rd” or any other “tied” places should be decided on similar principles.
4. If 3 (or more) couples tie for a place under Rule 10 (say, 2nd place) Rule 11 is applied to all couples concerned in the tie, and the best couple is awarded the “2nd” place. Rule 10 is now applied to the remaining “tied” couples for consideration of the place now under review, which is the “3rd”. However, if they now tie for “3rd” place under Rule 10, then Rule 11 is again applied to these “tied” couples, commencing this time with the “3rd and higher” judge’s marks in the individual dance.

II. **EXCERPTS FROM AAU CODE BOOK***(Cannot be changed by Sport Committee)*

- A. **AAU Membership**—All participants must be a member of the AAU in order to participate in any AAU Sanctioned Event. Event Operators may not collect AAU membership money at any AAU sanctioned event.

Membership Requirements -Membership in the AAU is a privilege granted by the AAU. The AAU at its sole discretion reserves the right to accept or reject applicants for membership.

1. **Conditions for Membership.** Membership in any class may be granted only after an application is submitted and approved. By submitting an application, the applicant agrees to comply with all the provisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, policies, procedures and rules of the AAU.

2. **Classes of Membership**

Classes of membership in the AAU are as follows:

- a. **District Member** - The organization chartered by the Congress to provide administrative services within a designated geographic area.
- b. **Club Member** - An organization or group that has been approved for membership after meeting the registration requirements of the Code.
- c. **Individual Member** - A person who has been approved for membership after meeting the registration requirements of the Code. Individual membership categories are:

1. Youth Athlete
2. Adult Athlete
3. Non-Athlete

- d. **Affiliate Member** - An organization or group approved by Congress which is engaged in athletics or sports-related activities.

B. Use of Logos and Trademarks

1. The AAU name, mark, seal, logo, and other insignia (all "AAU marks") are protected through trademark registration and are defined as the intellectual property of the AAU. A user of the AAU's intellectual property must have prior and continued approval of the National AAU. Only those subordinates and affiliated organizations which are expressly authorized by the National AAU may use the intellectual property of the AAU. The National AAU may withdraw its approval to use its marks, in its sole discretion. Members shall immediately comply with notice to cease and desist from the use of the AAU's intellectual property. The unauthorized use of any of the intellectual property of the AAU is a violation of this policy and may subject the member/entity to penalties set out in the AAU Code.
2. Only chartered Districts, District Sport Committees and National Sport Committees may use the AAU marks in their name.
3. There are three (3) levels of AAU club membership. Level 1 AAU Clubs acquire no rights to use the AAU's intellectual property. Level 2 and Level 3 Clubs may use AAU's intellectual property for the promotion of its organization and/or sanctioned AAU events only. Member clubs may not use the name AAU in their legal name.
4. In the event of a dispute or conflict as to a member's/entity's claim(s) to use any of the intellectual property of the AAU.

C. Event Sanctions

1. No event shall be conducted under the auspices of the AAU unless a sanction has been issued for the activity. A sanction is the written approval of the AAU for the conduct of the activity.
2. Only AAU members may participate in sanctioned events unless otherwise provided in the Bylaws.
3. Sanctions may be issued to any club in good standing. Any sanction may be reviewed within 15 days of submission by the District Sport Committee

Director. If the sanction is reviewed and rejected, the Registrar shall notify the organization submitting the sanction.

4. No sanction shall take effect until the 15-day review period has expired, or until the Registrar processes the sanction following approval of the District Sport Committee Director. Beginning with the 2009 Membership year, all applications for sanction must be completed and submitted through the on-line process or the AAU National Office.
5. The National Registration Executive Committee has the authority to issue sanctions as follows:
 - a. For events in locations where there is no active District member.
 - b. For events in Districts where there is no current active participation. (No District Championship in the prior membership year).
 - c. For events directly sponsored by the National AAU or National Sports Committee.
 - d. For inter-District league play.
 - e. Review and approve any sanction rejected by the District.
 - f. Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another organization.
 - g. No sanction will be issued for any event where the word "Olympic" or any derivative thereof is used in any advertisements or notice in connection with the event except upon the specific written approval of the Board of Directors.
 - h. Sanctions must be reviewed and processed by the District Registrar and reported to the National Headquarters. A record shall be kept by each District of all sanctions issued.

D. District Sport Committee Bi-Annual Meeting

1. **District Sport Committee Bi-Annual Meeting** - It is the duty of the District Sport Committee to hold a bi-annual meeting, the date of which shall be approved by the District Executive Committee. [Not the Sport Committee Executive Committee]
2. **Notice of District Sport Meetings**- Notice of the bi-annual or special meetings of the District Sport Committee shall be issued (or issue approved) by the District Secretary, to clubs eligible to vote as of 30 days prior to the scheduled bi-annual meeting.
 - a. **Quorum** - Five (5) member clubs must be present to constitute a quorum of the Annual Sport Committee meeting.
 - b. **Voting** - Each member of a Committee shall have one vote unless the operating rules of the Committee provide for weighted voting. There shall be no voting by proxy. [A club may designate another representative for the club.]

E. Functions of District Sport Committees

1. **District Sport Committees.** In each approved AAU sport in which the District has athletes actively participating, there may be a Committee to manage competition within the District.

2. **Composition.** The District Sport Committee shall include the following:
 - a. Each club member which registers at least five individual members in the sport shall have one representative on the District Sport Committee;
 - b. District Sport Committee Officers and Chairmen of Committees as defined by that sport's operating rules. [Added 10/07].
 - c. The Governor may appoint five (5) at-large members.
3. **Duties.** The duties of the District Sport Committee are to:
 - j. **In even years, hold a Bi-Annual meeting, the date, time and location of which shall be approved by the District Executive Committee. [Added 10/08]**
 - k. Adopt at the Bi-Annual Meeting, rules of operation of the Committee to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and which shall not conflict with the provisions of the AAU Constitution, Bylaws, National Policies or National Sport Committee rules.
 - c Determine whether to establish a Committee operating account and if so to comply with all relevant AAU procedures and policies.
 - d. Conduct of the District championships.

F. Functions of the District Sport Director

1. **District Sport Director.** In each sport in which five or more club members have designated the sport as its primary sport, the Director shall be elected by the Committee at its Bi-Annual Meeting. When there are fewer than five clubs registered to the Sport, the Chair may be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the National Sport Committee Chair. The District Sport Director takes office upon election or upon appointment.
 - a. **Term.** The term of office for an elected District Sport Director shall be four (4) years to run concurrently with the District Officers. The term of office for an appointed District Sport Director shall be one year or until such time as the Sport Committee meets the criteria to elect a Chair.
 - b. **Vacancies.** A vacancy occurring in an elected District Sport Director position shall be filled in accordance with the Sport Committee operating rules. A vacancy occurring in an appointed

District Sport Director position shall be filled by the Governor with the approval of the National Sport Committee Chair.

2. **Duties.** The Sport Committee Director shall :
 - a. Develop a budget for the Sport Committee to file with the District Executive Committee;
 - b. Perform the duties set forth in the Committee Rules of Operation.
 - c. Approve event sanctions in the sport.
 - d. Preside at Sport Committee meetings;
3. **Removal.** District Sport Directors may be removed as follows:
 - a. **By District Sport Committee.** An elected Sport Committee Director may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Sport Committee at the Bi-Annual meeting provided that the Notice of the meeting specifies that a motion to remove is on the agenda. [Rev. 10/07]
 - b. **By National Sport Chair.** Each National Sport Chair shall annually review the number of events held in their sport. If the number of sanctioned events, excluding practice sanctions, are below five (5), the National Sport Chair may remove the District Director. If the District Governor does not agree with the removal, the President shall appoint an arbiter who will make the final decision. [Rev. 10/07]
 - c. **By National Board of Review.** An elected Sport Director may be removed by order of the National Board of Review following the filing of a complaint and the Board's proceedings. [Added 10/07]

G. Membership and Residency

1. Adult members will not be bound by residence requirements.
2. Youth members must register in the District of their bona fide residency, except as follows:
3. A youth member who resides in the county of one District that adjoins a county of another District and who attends a school located in the adjoining county will have the option of registering in either District.
4. A youth member subject to a written joint legal custody arrangement whose custodians reside in different Districts shall have the option of registering in either District.
5. A bona fide student at an educational institution may be considered a resident of the District in which the institution is located.
6. Persons living outside the U.S. may register in the closest District or with the District where the competition they are first participating in will take place. The respective National Sports Committee rules shall govern their participation in AAU competitions.

H. Eligibility

1. A youth member may elect to participate in his or her District of bona fide residence or a District that geographically adjoins that District. Exception: In team sports a maximum of three (3) members may participate with a team in an adjoining District. [Team sports include baseball, basketball, field hockey, hockey, soccer softball and volleyball.]
2. **Club Attachment.** A youth member becomes attached to a club member when he/she competes with that club in any AAU sanctioned event (practice not included). An athlete may attach to additional clubs if he/she participates in additional sports.
 - a. For team/club sports only. If an athlete participates in an AAU sanctioned league for one group member (club), that athlete may elect to affiliate immediately with a second group member (club) for the purpose of qualifying for an AAU National Championship. Participation may be simultaneous. A league is made up of teams/clubs that compete only among themselves for a defined period of time.
3. **Transfers.** An attached youth member may transfer to another club in the same sport under the following conditions:
 - a. If the youth member has not competed in any AAU sanctioned events in that Sport for a period of sixty (60) days.
 - b. If the representative of the club to which an athlete is attached signs a release form permitting an immediate transfer. (Athletes released under this provision are subject to National Championship eligibility restrictions as adopted by National Sport Committees.) [Added 10/07]
 - c. When the transfer is for the purpose of competing with a team which has qualified for a National Championship as provided by National Sport Committee rules.
 - d. If the Registrar determines that the transfer is due to events outside the control of the athlete or that the transfer serves the best interest of the AAU.

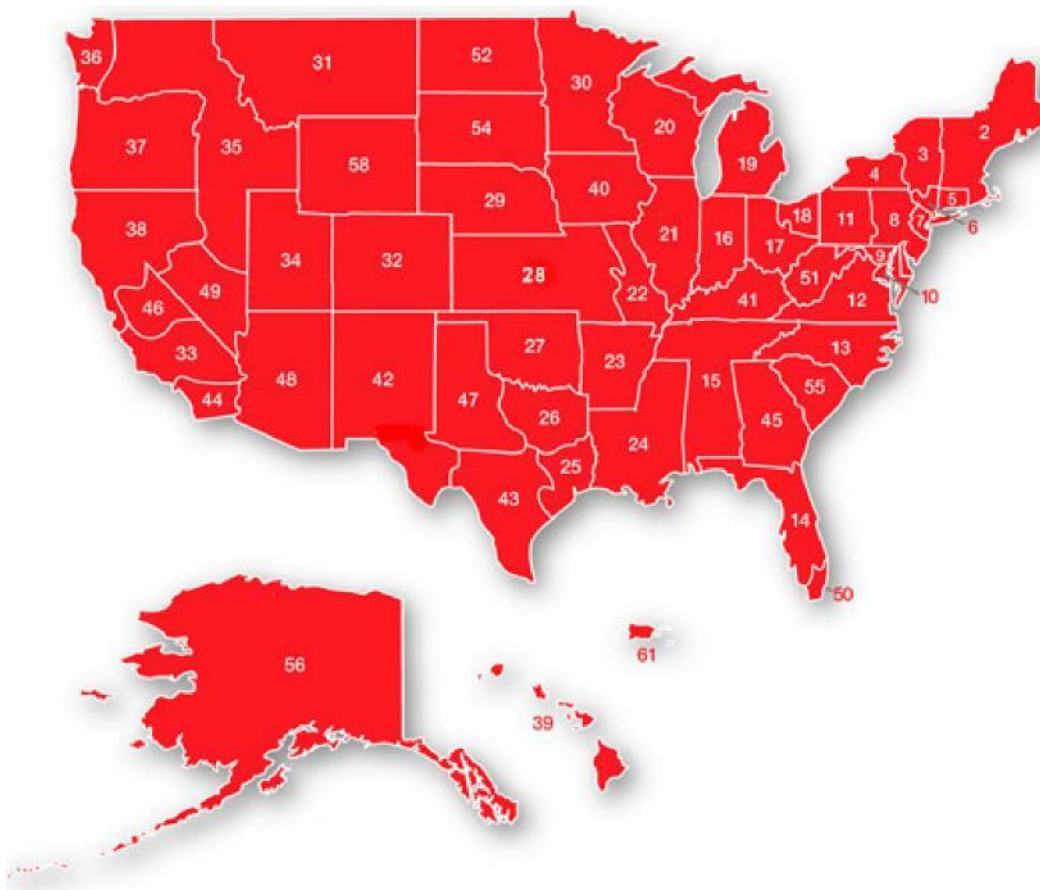
III. APPENDIX

A. District Director Contacts

B. Glossary

APPENDIX A

District Map and Alignment with District Sport Directory



Map #	District	District Sport Director
3	Adirondack (AD)	National Office
56	Alaska (AK)	National Office
23	Arkansas (AR)	National Office
48	Arizona (AZ)	Kym Harris
46	Central California (CC)	National Office
21	Central (CE)	National Office
32	Colorado (CO)	National Office
5	Connecticut (CT)	National Office
14	Florida (FL)	National Office
50	Florida Gold Coast (FG)	National Office
45	Georgia (GA)	National Office
25	Gulf (GU)	Cynthia Bryant
39	Hawaii (HI)	National Office
40	Iowa (IA)	National Office
35	Inland Empire (IE)	National Office
16	Indiana (IN)	National Office
41	Kentucky (KY)	National Office

18	Lake Erie (LE)	National Office
9	Maryland (MD)	Lisa Fitts
19	Michigan (MI)	National Office
8	Middle Atlantic (MA)	Williamay Hudson
30	Minnesota (MN)	National Office
28	Missouri Valley (MV)	National Office
31	Montana (MT)	National Office
29	Nebraska (NB)	National Office
2	New England (NE)	National Office
7	New Jersey (NJ)	National Office
42	New Mexico (NM)	National Office
6	NY Metropolitan (MP)	National Office
4	Niagara (NI)	National Office
13	North Carolina (NC)	National Office
52	North Dakota (ND)	National Office
17	Ohio (OH)	National Office
27	Oklahoma (OK)	National Office
37	Oregon (OR)	National Office
22	Ozark (OZ)	Kandi Staples
38	Pacific (PA)	National Office
36	Pacific Northwest (PN)	National Office
44	Pacific Southwest (PS)	National Office
10	Potomac Valley (PV)	National Office
55	South Carolina (SC)	National Office
54	South Dakota (SD)	National Office
15	Southeastern (SE)	Cindi Jones
24	Southern (SO)	National Office
49	Southern Nevada (SN)	National Office
33	Southern Pacific (SP)	Deborah Huffman * Nat Chair
43	South Texas (ST)	National Office
26	Southwestern (SW)	National Office
34	Utah (UT)	National Office
12	Virginia (VA)	National Office
11	Western Pennsylvania (WP)	Gerald Gresko
47	West Texas (WT)	National Office
51	West Virginia (WV)	National Office
20	Wisconsin (WI)	National Office
58	Wyoming (WY)	National Office

APPENDIX B

GLOSSARY DEFINITIONS

1. AAU Codebook: In addition to sport rules, the AAU Codebook policies and procedures must be followed.

2. Classification of dancers:

Amateur: an amateur is one for who dancing is strictly an avocation, a recreational activity, or competitive sport, and who participates in dancing without seeking or receiving financial gain. Pre-teen, Junior, Youth, and Adult Amateur dancers must be registered with the AAU.

3. Couple: A couple consists of one male leader and one female leader.

a. AAU sanctioned amateur competitions and championships: Open to dancers ages six to twenty-two who are registered with the AAU, or in the case of overseas visitors, those couples who are registered with the recognized amateur organization or other recognized organization of their country.

b. Pre-teen, Junior, Youth and Adult Amateur competitions: Open to dancers ages six to twenty-two who are registered with the AAU, or in the case of overseas visitors, those couples who are registered with the recognized amateur organization or other recognized organization of their country.

c. Formation competitions and championships: Open to dancers ages six to twenty-two who are registered with the AAU, or in the case of overseas visitors, those couples who are registered with the recognized amateur organization or other recognized organization of their country. See also Rules of Formation Team Competitions.

d. Team matches: Open to dancers ages six to twenty-two who are registered with the AAU, or in the case of overseas visitors, those couples who are registered with the recognized amateur organization or other recognized organization of their country. See also Rules for Team Matches.

4. Formation Team Competitions

a. Competitive Styles

i. Standard/Smooth

Routines may be based on the International Styles Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Foxtrot, and Quickstep; and/or American Style Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot and Viennese Waltz. No dances other than the ones listed will be allowed except for Adults Teams.

ii. Latin American/Rhythm

Routines may be based on the International Style Cha-Cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble, and Jive; and/or American Style Cha-Cha, Samba, Rumba, Mambo, Bolero, Swing, and West Coast Swing. No dances other than the ones listed will be allowed except for Adult Teams.

APPENDIX B

GLOSSARY DEFINITIONS

4. Insurance:

- a.** AAU provides limited sports accident insurance and commercial general liability to members.
- b.** The limited sports accident insurance is excess, or secondary coverage. If the insured person has no other medical insurance coverage, then the AAU's coverage becomes primary and will provide benefits. If the insured person has other insurance, the AAU's coverage becomes secondary. A deductible applies in both situations.
- c.** The commercial general liability insurance covers all sanctioned events, members and clubs.
- d.** PLEASE REFER TO THE CURRENT AAU INSURANCE BROCHURE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

5. Organizer: The Amateur Athletic Union is the Organizer of this event. Final decisions on all matters pertaining to these competitions rest solely with the Organizer.