

## THE OFFICIAL AUSTRALIAN LINE

### DANCER COMPETITION RULES, GUIDELINES & GLOSSARY

The following Rules and Guidelines must be read in conjunction with each other. They contain 'words with special meaning' as identified in 'bold print' and are defined for the purpose of this document in the Glossary.

**This document includes rules of relevance to Southern State Line Dance Championships.**  
Please see our Supplementary Rules document for additional rules.

# SOUTHERN STATE LINE **DANCING** CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Victoria



#### INDEX:

#### **1. Glossary**

#### **2. Guidelines**

2.2. Music Submission

2.3. General Information

2.4. Costumes

2.5. Solo's: Standard Sections

2.6. Waltz Sections

2.7 Freestyle Duo, Freestyle Trio & Freestyle Team Sections

2.11 Set Dance Sections

2.12 Set Song Sections

#### **3. Rules**

3.1. General Rules

3.2 Music

3.3. Costumes

3.4. Standard Solo Sections

3.6 Set Dance Sections

3.7 Set Song Sections

3.9. Relatives Duo

3.12 Mixed Age Sections

## 1. Glossary:

**Standard Line Dance:** A Line Dance performed with all Competitors moving in lines on the same foot, at the same time, in the same direction - identically - in which a step pattern is repeated at least once to any Track or Piece of Music. Tags and bridges do not form a part of the repeating step pattern.

**Freestyle Line Dance:** A Line Dance performed to any Track or Piece of where Competitors do not have to perform a Standard Line Dance.

**Competitor(s):** One (1) or more performers per entry per section.

Solo: A Competitor with one (1) performer

Duo: Competitors with two (2) performers

Trio: Competitors with three (3) performers

**Instructor:** must conduct at least one (1) advertised class per week.

**Student:** must attend on average one (1) advertised line dance class per week.

**Prop:** An item that is not worn as clothing, footwear or headwear.

**Track:** One (1) or more songs that are cut, extended or spliced together for a performance to fit within time limitations.

**Piece of Music:** One (1) song that is cut or extended for a performance to fit within time limitations. Unlike a Track, the Piece of Music cannot be enhanced by splicing two or more tracks together.

**Variation:** A competitors own choreographed interpretation of the Piece of Music or Track and Set Dance for the performance in question and within the Rules. Applies only in a solo section.

**Vanilla:** The Set Dance that has been choreographed and selected for the performance in question. Applies only in a solo section.

**Set Dance:** A Standard Line dance choreographed by someone and which has a written dance sheet, and which is selected and provided to Competitors by the Event Director.

**Set Song:** A Piece of Music provided by the Event Director/s for the relevant section.

**Athletic Movements:** Any movement that involves taking the complete weight of any Competitors body off both legs at the same time for more than two (2) counts of the music and also includes but is not limited to;

- Placing body weight on any other part of the body for any number of beats (hands / arms / head / torso / etc)
- Splits, flips or rolls (somersaults)

**Country Music:** A Piece of Music or Track that is produced by a recognised country artist or band and/or is/or has been in the country music charts.

**Choreography:** A competitors own choreographed interpretation of the Piece of Music or Track that is a Line Dance / Standard Line Dance or Freestyle Line dance as appropriate.

**Club:** A team of Competitors whom represent a Coach and/or a class instructor(s).

**Official Program:** The document produced by the Event Director outlining the following minimum details for the event.

**Start Position:** The beginning position on the floor for Solo Competitors, as directed by the Head Judge.

**Styling:** A Competitors own choreographed interpretation of the Piece of Music or Track for the performance in question and that does not alter the Set Dance. This means that choreographed movements of the entire body may be used to add to the performance, so long as the Set Dance is still adhered to.

**Costume:** May include:

Males: A shirt, vest, trousers or jeans.

Females: A dress, shirt, top, leotard, trousers, skirt, jeans, cat suit (jumpsuit). Dance tights must be worn with skirts/dresses.

Both Genders: Country boots, Country Hat, Cap, street shoes. \*Costumes should be appropriate to the music and the dance.

## 2. Guidelines

### 2.2 Music Submission

2.2.1. All music must be submitted to the Event Director with Dropbox links provided to club representatives. It is the Competitors responsibility to ensure that all Pieces of Music and/or Tracks are provided correctly.

### 2.3. General Information

2.3.1. For all sections, a minimum of three (3) Competitors is required. Competitors who enter sections that do not meet this requirement will be contacted by the Event Director or other nominated event staff to discuss options as soon as possible after closing date.

2.3.2. The maximum number of Competitors (per section) may be limited at the discretion of the Event Director.

2.3.3. Competitors must dance in a formation of choice for the performance and must maintain this formation, without change, for the duration of the performance.

2.3.4. Introductions are permissible (including freestyle type choreography) where introductory music allows.

2.3.5. Judging begins from the beginning of the Piece of Music or Track and continues until the Piece of Music or Track ceases, or the Competitors step off the dance floor – whichever comes first.

2.3.6. Choreography should be appropriate to a family audience. When creating and choreographing a performance, consideration should be given to:

- i. The entire body, not just foot, arm or head placement.
- ii. The tempo of the Piece of Music or Track
- iii. The entertainment value of the performance
- iv. The style of dancing being performed.

2.3.7. Hand/arm positions may differ between male and female Competitors where differing costumes allow skirt and hats to be used to add to the presentation of a performance. Otherwise, hand and arm positions should be identical.

## **2.4. Costumes**

2.4.1. All Competitors must remain in competition costume for presentations to be eligible to accept awards.

2.4.2. Hats are not compulsory for either male or female Competitors for any performance although it is suggested cowboy hats are worn when performing to Country Music.

2.4.3. Modesty skirts to be worn at the competitor's discretion.

2.4.4. Hats and skirts used during a performance are not considered props.

## **2.5. Solo's: Standard Sections**

2.5.1. Competitors in the Solo Sections are required to perform the Set Dances for their category as identified by the particular event. The competitors should complete the dance as written on the official step sheets which will be issued to all upon entry.

2.5.2. Styling is encouraged to be added to performance according to the music, and the style of dance e.g., hats or skirts may be utilised to add to the presentation of the performance.

2.5.3. Music for Competitors in the Solo sections will be provided by the Event Director or other nominated staff.

## **2.6 Waltz Sections**

2.6.1. It is recommended and strongly encouraged that the technique of Waltz is adhered to with all competition routines regardless of music timing.

## **2.7. Freestyle Duos, Freestyle Trios and Freestyle Team Sections**

2.7.1. Competitors may (amongst other things):

- i. Dance facing each other, or in opposite directions – Contra and/or mirror image;
- ii. Split or separate provided they follow an organised and/or choreographed flow of movement;
- iii. Complete the same dance movements, though not necessarily at the same time (in a wave or cannon motion);

### **2.11 Set Dance Sections**

2.11.3. Competitors are required to perform the Set Dance as provided by the Event Director. The Competitors should perform the dance as written on the official step sheets which are provided on the competition website.

2.11.4. Styling is encouraged to be added to the performance according to the music and the style of dance E.G. hats or skirts may be utilised to add to the performance.

2.11.7. Set Dance sections may be danced in heats, as listed in the Official Program.

2.11.8. Competitors listed in each heat will compete on the floor at the same time (subject to change as required).

### **2.12 Set Song Sections**

2.12.2. Competitors are required to perform a Choreographed dance to the Set Song as provided by the Event Director.

2.12.5. Set Song sections may be danced in heats, as listed in the Official Program.

2.12.6. Competitors listed in each heat will compete on the floor at the same time (subject to change as required).

## **3. Rules**

### **3.1. General Rules**

3.1.1. Competitors may compete only once in any section they enter. Penalty – Disqualification

3.1.2. Competitors may be removed or substituted from team entries on day of competition. One performer per section/entry may be substituted where no rules are broken.

3.1.4. Age is determined as of the date of the competition. Proof of age is to be provided at the request of the event directors. Penalty - Disqualification

3.1.5. Competitors must dance in the order published in the Official Program. Competitors must be ready to compete when called as per the published program. Competitors are provided with no more than two calls per performance.  
Penalty – Disqualification

3.1.6. Competitors must remain on the floor for the duration of the performance, however dancing onto the floor during the introduction and off the floor as the Piece of Music or Track fades out is allowed.

3.1.7. No Athletic movements are allowed. Penalty – Disqualification

3.1.8. No Props allowed. Penalty – Disqualification

3.1.9. No crude, inappropriate or overly suggestive body movements allowed in the Choreography of all performances. Penalty – Disqualification

### **3.2. Music**

3.2.3. Music for the Standard Sections must be no more than one Piece of Music. Penalty – disqualification

3.2.6. No crude, inappropriate or offensive music is to be used. Penalty – Disqualification

### **3.3. Costumes**

3.3.1. No strapless items of clothing are allowed. Outfits must not have a bare midriff (this includes when part of the costumes ride ups and exposes a bare midriff).  
Penalty – Disqualification

3.3.2. Should any of the Competitors costume be dropped or fall to the floor it should be picked up immediately. Penalty – 1 point per judge for every 4 counts until the piece(s) of the costume is retrieved

3.3.3. A Competitors costume must not be placed on the floor.  
Penalty – 1 point per judge for every 4 counts until the piece(s) of the costume is retrieved

### **3.4. Standard Solo Sections**

\*The following rules apply in addition to the General Rules.

3.4.1. Solo Competitors must perform the Set Dance applicable. Penalty - Disqualification

### **3.6 Set Dance Sections** \*The following rules apply in addition to the General Rules, Music and Costume Rules

3.6.1. Competitors must perform the Set Dance applicable as provided by the Event Directors Penalty – Disqualification

3.6.2. Competitors must be aware of their personal dance space and not intentionally or carelessly intrude on another dancer's area. Penalty – Disqualification

### **3.7 Set Song Sections** \*The following rules apply in addition to the General Rules, Music and Costume Rules

3.7.1. Competitors must perform a Standard Line Dance only. Penalty – Disqualification

3.7.2. Competitors must be aware of their personal dance space and not intentionally or carelessly intrude on another dancer's area. Penalty – Points lost for non-compliance with this rule.

### **3.9. Relatives Duo** \*The following rules apply in addition to the Standard Section and General Rules.

3.9.1. Both Competitors must be related by birth or marriage. Penalty - Disqualification.

### **3.12. Mixed Age Sections**

\*The following rules apply in addition to the Standard Section and General Rules.

3.12.1. There must be a minimum of fifteen (15) years age difference between at least two (2) Competitors. Penalty – disqualification.