



Rulesbook

**Welcome dancers to the organisation GOLD –
Global Organisation of Line Dance**

**Version 1.4
Updated: May 2022**

INTRODUCTION

The intention of the GOLD Rules board is to simplify the rules as much as possible, but yes we do need rules.

We try to generalize as much as possible as many rules are the same for many categories. Our goal is to clarify the rules, so it is understandable for all dancers, teachers, judges etc. GOLD is an organisation created by dancers for dancers and everybody should always have a chance to influence this organisation. Everything included in the Rules is voted on democratically.

GOLD has decided to change many things, but mostly to accomodate all the wishes and requests we have heard throughout the years. There is always room for us to change things if necessary.

DIVISIONS & LEVELS OFFERED BY GOLD

<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Levels</u>
❖ Mini	- Mini 1 - Mini 2
❖ Line Classic ❖ Line Open ❖ Couples Classic ❖ ProAm Classic	- Starter - Newcomer - Novice - Intermediate - Advanced
❖ ProPro Classic	- ProPro
❖ Star	- Line Star - Couples Classic Star - Couples Showcase Star - ProAm Star - ProPro Star
❖ Line Showcase Classic ❖ Line Showcase Open ❖ Couples Showcase ❖ ProAm Showcase ❖ ProPro Showcase	- Showcase
❖ Partner Dance	- Partner Starter - Partner Experienced
❖ Teams	- Team Classic Starter - Team Classic Experienced - Team Showtime - Team Wheelchair
❖ Choreography	- Beginner - Improver/Intermediate - Advanced
❖ Wheelchair	- Wheelchair Starter - Wheelchair Experienced

General Rules

COMPETITION PROCEDURE

- ❖ Competition schedule/timetable will be provided by the event director before the competition start.
- ❖ It's not allowed to participate in more than 1 age division at the same competition (example: Newcomer Jade and Newcomer Adult).
- ❖ Competitors must report to the floor coordinator 15 minutes prior to their competition.
- ❖ A Floor Coordinator will position the competitors on the dance floor.
- ❖ As a dancer/competitor make sure that you are up to date with the rules of GOLD before competing, or ask your teacher to help you.
- ❖ Medical issues should be addressed with the first aider working at the competition, to help the first aider to be prepared before competition (i.e. asthma).
- ❖ The staging area and dressing rooms should be near to the dancefloor.
- ❖ The Contest Coordinator always has the final decision during the competition.
- ❖ All questions and doubts should be directed to the Contest Coordinator before and during a competition. The Contest Coordinator will be announced by the Event Director. It is the responsibility of the Contest Coordinator (mandatory at all GOLD international competitions) to organize the entire competition, between Floor Coordinators, Judges, Event Directors, dancers, dancefloor, staging area and more.
- ❖ Dancing at a competition will always be the dancers own choice and responsibility.
- ❖ All International Judging Panels must consist of a minimum of 2 different nationalities and 5 Judges (min. 3 international Judges in every Judging Panel).
- ❖ Yearly membership fee is mandatory to be paid before any dancer can compete at a GOLD competition. Membership fee is paid through the GOLD website.
- ❖ Everybody competing in the GOLD organisation has to pay membership fee (Except Mini Divisions), as it also includes online workshops and free competition music edits.

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

- ❖ Maximum of 10 dancers in any final heat 11 to 16 will cut to 8 (7 if tie)
- ❖ 17+ will cut to 10 (9 if tie)
- ❖ These rules are not applied to the Star Divisions
- ❖ This does not apply to Teams, Choreography and Wheelchair

COSTUMES

- ❖ Cowboy boots and hats are required ONLY for the CLASSIC DANCES in Linedance and Showcase.
- ❖ Hats are only required for Men and Leaders.
- ❖ Couple, ProAm, ProPro & Partner hats are required for the leader in all dances except for WCS.
- ❖ Boots are mandatory for all Couple, ProAm, ProPro & Partner divisions.
- ❖ In all divisions there are no clothes restrictions except boots and hats, but dress appropriately and panty hose are required for women.
- ❖ Props are not allowed except during Team Showtime & Medleys.
- ❖ Stars Line: Boots are required based on the motion danced, which includes Smooth, Waltz & Lilt. Hats are required for Men.
- ❖ Starter Divisions, Line Mini, Teams & Wheelchair. No boots and hats are mandatory, but desired when appropriate with the music choice.
- ❖ Cowboy boots must have a minimum heel height of 2,5 cm (1 inch).
- ❖ Dance related adverts are not allowed, only small sponsored logos on costumes are allowed. Logos should be tasteful and not detract from the costume.

MUSIC

This is just a range of suggested BPM that will be used throughout all divisions. Some songs might pitch down/up depending on original BPM.

❖ Triple Two	80 / 90 BPM
❖ Polka	100 / 115 BPM
❖ Nightclub	55 / 65 BPM or 110 / 130 BPM
❖ Cha Cha	100 / 120 BPM
❖ Waltz	80 / 90 BPM
❖ Two Step	85 / 95 BPM or 170 / 190 BPM
❖ East Coast Swing	130 / 140 BPM
❖ West Coast Swing	90 / 115 BPM

Phrasing for Classic Couples & ProAm. No Tags or Restarts in the songs.

❖ Triple Two	16 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing
❖ Polka	16 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing
❖ Nightclub	16 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing
❖ Cha cha	16 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing
❖ Waltz	24 Counts intro – 24 Counts phrasing
❖ Two Step	32 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing
❖ East Coast Swing	16 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing
❖ West Coast Swing	16 Counts intro – 32 Counts phrasing

Length Of Music

- ❖ The music length for the Line Dance, Partner & Wheelchair will be approx. 2 min.
- ❖ The 2 mins will start counting when the dance starts. The original music will be used throughout the whole year.
- ❖ Showcase music will be approx. 2 - 2 1/2 min, depending on the music edit.
- ❖ ProAm, ProPro & Couples Classic will be approx. 1 1/2 min.

Music Preview

- ❖ Music preview in all divisions except Teams and Choreography will be a maximum of 30 seconds per dance. The music preview will be played 1 time per scheduled shift.
- ❖ ProAm & Couples Classic music will change every heat.

FLOOR DANCE ETIQUETTES

- ❖ All competitors must respect the dance arena and not use any liquids, powders, chemicals or any other materials which could alter or damage the dance floor or cause stress to another competitor or Event Director.

FLOORCRAFT

- ❖ All competitors must be respectful to other competitors and not interfere with or disrupt them.
- ❖ Leaving the dance floor during your heat is not allowed and can result in a penalty.
- ❖ After the Floor Coordinator has spaced the competitor on the floor, their dance space is determined.
- ❖ The competitor must remain within the flow of the step description.
- ❖ Variations should never interfere with another competitor.

GENDER REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ GOLD has no gender restrictions in Couples/ProAm/ProPro & Partner.
- ❖ They will be referred to as Leader and Follower.
- ❖ All Line Dance Divisions (Except Mini Divisions) will dance Male against Male and Female against Female.
- ❖ In the Wheelchair & Mini Divisions Male and Female will dance against eachother.

DATE CHANGES FOR NEW DANCES

- ❖ Can be found on the GOLD website – www.gold-dance.com

GRADUATION CRITERIA

A level graduation table (for further detailed information see below the table).

Division Level	Graduating to:	Points needed:
Line Mini 1	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Line Mini 2	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Line Starter	Line Newcomer	2
Line Newcomer	Line Novice	2
Line Novice	Line Intermediate	4
Line Intermediate	Line Advanced	6
Line Advanced + Line Showcase	Line Star	12
Line Star	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Couples Starter	Couples Newcomer	1
Couples Newcomer	Couples Novice	1
Couples Novice	Couples Intermediate	2
Couples Intermediate	Couples Advanced	3
Couples Advanced + Couples Showcase	Couples Star	6
Couples Star Classic	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Couples Star Showcase	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
ProAm Starter	ProAm Newcomer	1
ProAm Newcomer	ProAm Novice	1
ProAm Novice	ProAm Intermediate	2
ProAm Intermediate	ProAm Advanced	3
ProAm Advanced + Proam Showcase	ProAm Star	6
ProAm Star	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
ProPro + ProPro Showcase	ProPro Star	6
ProPro Star	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Partner Starter	Partner Experienced	2
Partner Experienced	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Choreography Beginner	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Choreography Improver/Intermediate	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Choreography Advanced	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Team Starter Classic	Team Experienced Classic	2
Team Experienced Classic	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Team Showtime	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Wheelchair Starter	Wheelchair Experienced	2
Wheelchair Experienced	Graduation is not applicable in this division	
Wheelchair Team	Graduation is not applicable in this division	

General

- ❖ All Starter competitors may self-graduate to the Newcomer Division at any time.
- ❖ All Newcomer competitors may self-graduate to the Novice Division at any time.
- ❖ All Novice competitors may self-graduate to the Intermediate Division at any time.
- ❖ All Intermediate competitors CAN`T self-graduate to the Advanced Division.
- ❖ All Advanced competitors CAN`T self-graduate to the Star Division.

- ❖ Only Intermediate and Advanced competitors will earn points in the Showcase Division towards the Star Division.
- ❖ Graduation shall take place the day after the World Championships ends.
- ❖ Your age is the age you will be on the last day of that calendar year.
- ❖ Graduation points are transferable between age divisions.
- ❖ If there are 2 or less dancers in any division at Worlds, the dancer will not be forced to graduate to the higher division.
- ❖ If a MUST is received to graduate to the next level it will be posted on your personal profile.
- ❖ To receive a MUST you have to at least once win an overall placement with 2 or more competitors against you.

Points accumulated with numbers of participants for all Divisions (except for Teams)

Overall Competitors Placement					
Competitors	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place
1	0,5 point				
2	0,5 point				
3+	1 point				
10+	1 point	0,5 point			
15+	1 point	0,5 point	0,25 point		
20+	1 point	0,5 point	0,25 point	0,25 point	
25+	1 point	0,5 point	0,25 point	0,25 point	0,25 point

Line Dance

- ❖ **Starter** will get a MUST to graduate to Newcomer after accumulating 2 points in Classic or Open Line (no matter in which Age Division the points are accumulated).
- ❖ **Newcomer** will get a MUST to graduate to Novice after accumulating 2 points in Classic or Open Line (No matter in which Age Division the points are accumulated).
- ❖ **Novice** will get a MUST to graduate to Intermediate after accumulating 4 points in Classic or Open Line (No matter in which Age Division the points are accumulated).
- ❖ **Intermediate** will get a MUST to graduate to Advanced after accumulating 6 points in Classic & Open Line (Obligatory 2 points in Classic, 2 points in Open and the last 2 points free of choice for the Division). If points are earned in showcase this will be accumulated to graduate to Star.
- ❖ **Advanced** will get a MUST to graduate to Star after accumulating a total of 12 points:
 - 6 points in Classic & Open Line (Obligatory 2 points in Classic, 2 points in Open and the last 2 points free of choice for the Division).
 - 6 points in Classic & Open Showcase Line (Obligatory 2 points in Classic, 2 points in Open and the last 2 points free of choice for the Division).
- ❖ **Line Star:** Prime Star is not allowed to self graduate to Elite Star before turning 20 in the same calendar year.
- ❖ **Line Star:** Grand, Majestic, Imperial and Glorious Star can move down to a lower Age Division up to Elite Star if they have qualified for that Division.

Couples & ProAm

- ❖ **Starter** will get a MUST to graduate to Newcomer after accumulating 1 points in Classic.
- ❖ **Newcomer** will get a MUST to graduate to Novice after accumulating 1 points in Classic.
- ❖ **Novice** will get a MUST to graduate to Intermediate after accumulating 2 points in Classic.
- ❖ **Intermediate** will get a MUST to graduate to Advanced after accumulating 3 points in Classic. If points are earned in showcase this will be accumulated to graduate to Star.
- ❖ **Advanced** will get a MUST to graduate to Star after accumulating a total of 6 points:
 - 3 points in Classic
 - 3 points in Showcase
- ❖ **Couple Stars:** Blooming Stars is not allowed to self graduate to Ultimate Stars before turning 20 in the same calendar year.

- ❖ **Couple Stars:** Sublime, Divine, Amazing and Dazzling Stars can move down to a lower age Division up to Ultimate Stars if they have qualified in that Division.
- ❖ **Proam Star:** Shining Star is not allowed to self graduate to Shining Star before turning 20 in the same calendar year.

ProPro

- ❖ **ProPro** will get a **MUST** to graduate to ProPro Star after accumulating a total of 6 points:
 - 3 points in Classic
 - 3 points in Showcase

Partner

- ❖ Graduation applies to Partner Starter when 2 points are accumulated they **MUST** graduate to Partner Experienced.
- ❖ All Starter competitors may self-graduate to the Experienced Division at any time.

Teams

- ❖ All Team Starter competitors may self-graduate to the Team Experienced Division at any time.

Wheelchair

- ❖ Graduation applies to Wheelchair Starter when 2 points are accumulated they **MUST** graduate to Wheelchair Experienced.
- ❖ All Starter competitors may self-graduate to the Experienced Division at any time.

PENALTIES

- ❖ Non-Conference Penalty Codes: One (1) Placement Reduction:
- ❖ **C B F U M T**
 - C - Costume and Appearance
 - B - Basic Pattern (only applicable in Line, Partner & Wheelchair Divisions)
 - F - Courtesy and Floorcraft
 - U - Unacceptable Behaviour
 - M - Movement
 - T - Timing (only applicable in Couples, ProAm & ProPro)
- ❖ Conference Penalty Code:
 - ❖ X - The only conference judge call when extreme circumstances and can result in either disqualification or last place.

Penalty Record

- ❖ A log of all penalties issued at an event will be recorded by the contest coordinator at the scrutineer's table.

QUALIFICATION AND QUALIFICATION PERIOD

- ❖ Every competitor must be a registered **GOLD** member **BEFORE** they can compete.
- ❖ Across **ALL** Divisions dancers always keep their points already achieved. That means that there is no limitation to the points a dancer has already earned.
- ❖ Only Intermediate & Advanced are allowed to dance in the Showcase Division.
- ❖ Moving down in all the Star divisions (except Stars under 20 years old) is only allowed up to the qualified level.
- ❖ All levels below 30 can only dance in their own age division.
- ❖ You may remain in your current division until after the World Championships. You can also graduate to a higher level during the Dance year (you don't have to wait until after worlds) but still doing 3 international events to qualify for worlds, and 1 of the 3 has to be an overall and it is the dancers choice in which division you do the overall in.

- ❖ If a competitor does not compete in any GOLD competition for a continuous 2 full dancing year periods, they may re-enter at 1 lower level, excluding to the Newcomer division.
- ❖ You may not compete in the Starter/Newcomer division, if you have competed at a higher level at any time at GOLD.
- ❖ From Advanced to Stars you will have to provide documentation that you have qualified in another international line dance organisation for this division.
- ❖ If you have earned any points in another international Country & Western organisation then you will have to provide documentation of how many points you have. Only in the Line Dance Divisions we will double your points.
- ❖ Your current level registered at the time of your GOLD membership registration will be the level that will count for your equal cross over from another international Country & Western organisation.
- ❖ All the documentation needs to be sent to contact@gold-dance.com and be referred to the Registration Team.
- ❖ Across all divisions it is not allowed to move up to an older age division, until you have reached that certain age.
- ❖ For Couples & Partners it is allowed to dance together with 2 different age divisions. Couples and Partners then have to compete in the division closest to Adult Age division.

DISPENSATION

- ❖ Dispensation requests for costumes, boots, hats etc. Must be sent to GOLD in proper time before competing and by email to:

contact@gold-dance.com
The rules board will then respond.
- ❖ A medical certificate can be required from the rules board.
- ❖ If there are any extreme circumstances, the Rules board will consider these requests.

All international dancers from all organisations can cross over to GOLD to the same division they competed in. They must provide the following information with their request:

- ❖ The name of the organisation, where they won the title.
- ❖ Proof of their qualification and the date it was achieved.
- ❖ Proof of an event where they competed with a full programme in this division.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ All competitors, except Mini Line, Teams, Partner, Wheelchair and Starter dancers, **MUST** compete at 3 international GOLD competitions in all divisions, (minimum of 1 must be for overall, where overall is applicable).
- ❖ You may remain in your current level division until after the World Championships. You can also graduate to a higher level during the Dance year (you don't have to wait until after worlds) but still doing 3 international events to qualify for worlds, and 1 of the 3 has to be an overall and it is the dancers choice in which level division you do the overall in.
Example:
You have reached the required points during the year.
First competition: Line Intermediate Jade Classic (Overall)
Second competition: Line Advanced Jade Classic (1 Dance)
Third competition: Line Advanced Jade Classic (1 Dance)
This qualifies you to compete in Line Advanced Jade Classic at Worlds that year.
- ❖ If they are alone at a competition in their division, dancers can move to a lower age division.
- ❖ Competitors in all Mini Line, Starter, Partner, Team and Wheelchair divisions **MUST** compete in an overall in at least 1 International GOLD competitions to qualify for Worlds.
- ❖ Competitors in Choreography must compete in at least 3 International GOLD competitions in the selected Choreography division to qualify for Worlds. The choreography that will be danced at Worlds has to be qualified in the same year at a international GOLD competition.
- ❖ Competitors from continents outside of Europe must compete in an overall in at least 1 International GOLD competitions to qualify for Worlds.

Linedance Mini Rules

AGE DIVISIONS

- ❖ Mini 1 0 – 6 Years (All dancers are winners)
- ❖ Mini 2 7 – 9 Years

DANCES

- ❖ Mini 1 – Only required Dance 1
- ❖ Mini 2 – Required Dance 1 and Dance 2

ENTRY RULES

- ❖ Every competitor has to be a registered Free GOLD member before they compete.
- ❖ Competitor must be in the offered age category.
- ❖ Competitor does not dance in other offered divisions in GOLD.

BASIC RULES - LINEDANCE

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Boy and Girl dancers will compete against each other.
- ❖ Only vanilla pattern and no variations are allowed.
- ❖ Two Lead dancers need to be present in the front/back.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - LINEDANCE

- ❖ A stationary dancing introduction is allowed within the radius of 1 single step during the music prior to the start of the dance.

Linedance/Showcase Rules

AGE DIVISIONS

- ❖ Tiny 0+
- ❖ Kiddie 8+
- ❖ Junior 12+
- ❖ Youngster 16+
- ❖ Adult 20+
- ❖ Jade 30+
- ❖ Pearl 40+
- ❖ Ruby 50+
- ❖ Emerald 60+
- ❖ Platinum 70+ - This age division is not offered in Showcase Line

DIVISIONS & DANCES

- ❖ Divisions:
 - Starter
 - Newcomer Classic
 - Newcomer Open
 - Novice Classic
 - Novice Open
 - Intermediate Classic
 - Intermediate Open
 - Advanced Classic
 - Advanced Open
 - Showcase Classic Line
 - Showcase Open Line
- ❖ Classic motions are:
 - Smooth
 - Rise & Fall
 - Lilt
- ❖ Open motions are:
 - Cuban
 - Funky
 - Showdance

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ All divisions need a minimum of 2 dances for overall placement
- ❖ Best scored dances will be picked for scoring

BASIC RULES - LINEDANCE

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Only vanilla pattern and no variations are allowed for starter and newcomer divisions.
- ❖ Novice/Intermediate/Advanced should start with a full vanilla pattern. Variations are allowed with 8 counts (= 2 measures) of 4/4 time music or 6 counts (= 2 measures) of 3/4 time music. Throughout the dance, each variation must be followed by 2 measures of basic.
- ❖ Variations need to follow the flow of the dance.

- ❖ In an ABC or Tag dance, each section of the dance; A, B or C, or the Tag must begin with a full vanilla before any variation may be performed.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - LINEDANCE

- ❖ A stationary dancing introduction is allowed within the radius of 1 single step during the music prior to the start of the dance.
- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics, jetés, splits, sitting or lying on the floor are not allowed. (exception only if one of those moves is choreographed in the dance)

BASIC RULES - SHOWCASE

- ❖ There will be no counting in.
- ❖ It should be a choreographed routine with the intention to interpret the music.
- ❖ Competitors must dance repetitive patterns choreographed to the phrasing of the music.
- ❖ The competitor may begin the routine in an area of their choice on the dance floor, as long as they do not interfere with the space of the other competitors.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - SHOWCASE

- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics and lying on the floor are not allowed.

Linedance Stars Rules

AGE DIVISIONS

- ❖ Prime Star under 20
- ❖ Elite Star 20+
- ❖ Grand Star 30+
- ❖ Majestic Star 40+
- ❖ Imperial Star 50+
- ❖ Glorious Star 60+

STAR DIVISION SET UP

- ❖ 3 Classic + 3 Showcase + 1 Medley
- ❖ Overall requirements: 5 of the 6 Classic/Showcase + 1 Medley
- ❖ 15 % for every Classic/Showcase dance and 25 % for the Medley

BASIC RULES - STAR LINE

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Stars should start with a full vanilla pattern. Variations are allowed with 8 counts (= 2 measures) of 4/4 time music or 6 counts (= 2 measures) of 3/4 time music. Throughout the dance, each variation must be followed by 2 measures of basic.
- ❖ Variations need to follow the flow of the dance.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - STAR LINE

- ❖ A stationary dancing introduction is allowed within the radius of one (1) single step during the music prior to the start of the dance.
- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics, lying or sitting (except for recovering from splits) are not allowed

BASIC RULES - STAR SHOWCASE

- ❖ There will be no counting in.
- ❖ It should be a choreographed routine with the intention to interpret the music.
- ❖ Competitors must dance repetitive patterns choreographed to the phrasing of the music.
- ❖ The competitor may begin the routine in an area of their choice on the dance floor, as long as they do not interfere with the space of the other competitors.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - STAR SHOWCASE

- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics and lying on the floor are not allowed.

STARS MEDLEY

- ❖ Music length is between 4 and 7 minutes, which includes the total set up and tear down time.
- ❖ No other limitations apply for the medley.

Couples/ProAm/ProPro Rules

AGE DIVISIONS

- ❖ Tiny 0+
- ❖ Kiddie 8+
- ❖ Junior 12+
- ❖ Youngster 16+
- ❖ Adult 20+
- ❖ Jade 30+
- ❖ Pearl 40+
- ❖ Ruby 50+
- ❖ Emerald 60+
- ❖ Platinum 70+ - This age division is not offered in Showcase division

DIVISION - THE STAIR SYSTEM

In all Couple/ProAm Divisions (except Partner and Stars) GOLD introduces the Stair System:

- ❖ Starter = 3 Dances - Cha Cha, Two Step, WCS
- ❖ Newcomer = 4 Dances - NC2S, Cha Cha, Two Step, WCS
- ❖ Novice = 6 Dances - NC2S, Cha Cha, Waltz, Two Step, ECS, WCS
- ❖ Intermediate = 8 Dances - Triple Two, Polka, NC2S, Cha Cha, Waltz, Two Step, ECS, WCS
- ❖ Advanced = 8 Dances - Triple Two, Polka, NCS, Cha Cha, Waltz, Two Step, ECS, WCS

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Starter needs a minimum of 2 dances for overall
- ❖ Newcomer needs a minimum of 3 dances for overall
- ❖ Novice, Intermediate and Advanced need a minimum of 5 dances for overall
- ❖ Best scored dances will be picked for scoring

BASIC RULES - CLASSIC

- ❖ In Couple/ProAm Starter & Newcomer only basic timing are allowed and no variations, except for one partner executing a foot change when moving between same foot as partner. These divisions have to start in close position.
- ❖ In Couple/ProAm Novice to Advanced Division and ProPro dancers must show 1 Basic Timing within each phrasing of the music (see below for Basic Timing). These divisions can start in any connected position.
- ❖ Showcase can start in any position (also not connected position).

Basic Timing

- ❖ Triple Two 1,2 3&4 5&6
- ❖ Polka 1&2 3&4 5&6 7&8
- ❖ Night Club 1 2&3 4&5 6&7 8& (S QQS QQS QQS QQS QQ)
- ❖ Cha Cha 1 2 3 4&5 6 7 8&
- ❖ Waltz 1 2 3 4 5 6
- ❖ Two Step QQSS – or – QQS QQS – or – QQQQS S
- ❖ East Coast Swing 1&2 3&4 5 6 – or – 1&2 3 4 5&6 7 8
- ❖ West Coast Swing 1 2 3&4 5&6 – or – 1 2 3&4 5 6 7&8

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - CLASSIC

- ❖ Moves not allowed from Starter to Advanced: Lifts, rides, acrobatics, non-lead patterns, non-connected side by side patterns (chase allowed in Cha Cha), sitting, lying and splits.

BASIC RULES - SHOWCASE

- ❖ There will be no counting in.
- ❖ It should be a choreographed routine with the intention to interpret the music.
- ❖ The competitor may begin the routine in an area of their choice on the dance floor, as long as they do not interfere with the space of the other competitors.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - SHOWCASE

- ❖ Moves that include Lying and Lifts where all of partner's body is raised above the waist of the supporting partner are not allowed.

Stars Couples/ProAm/ProPro Rules

AGE DIVISIONS - COUPLE STAR

- ❖ Blooming Stars under 20
- ❖ Ultimate Stars 20+
- ❖ Sublime Stars 30+
- ❖ Divine Stars 40+
- ❖ Amazing Stars 50+
- ❖ Dazzling Stars 60+

AGE DIVISIONS - PROAM & PROPRO

- ❖ Shining Star (all age divisions)

STAR DIVISION SET UP

2 Couples Star Divisions: Star Classic and Star Showcase

Star Couples Classic Division: 8 Classic Dances

- Triple Two, Polka, Nightclub, ChaCha, Waltz, Two Step, ECS & WCS
- ❖ Overall requirements:
 - A minimum of 5 dances for Overall
 - Best scored dances will be picked for scoring

Star Couples Showcase Division: 3 Showcase + Medley

- ❖ Overall requirements:
 - All dances + Medley
- ❖ 20 % for every showcase dance and 40 % for the Medley

Star Proam/ProPro

- ❖ 3 Classic + 3 Showcase + 1 Medley
- ❖ Overall requirements:
 - A minimum of 5 dances + Medley for Overall
 - Best scored Classic/Showcase dances will be picked for scoring
- ❖ 15 % for every Classic/Showcase dance and 25 % for the Medley

BASIC RULES - CLASSIC

- ❖ There will be no counting in.
- ❖ Dancers must show 1 Basic Timing within each phrasing of the music (see below for Basic Timing). These divisions can start in any position (also not connected position).

Basic Timing

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| ❖ Triple Two | 1,2 3&4 5&6 |
| ❖ Polka | 1&2 3&4 5&6 7&8 |
| ❖ Night Club | 1 2&3 4&5 6&7 8& (S QQS QQS QQS QQS QQ) |
| ❖ Cha Cha | 1 2 3 4&5 6 7 8& |
| ❖ Waltz | 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| ❖ Two Step | QQSS – or – QQS QQS – or – QQQQS S |
| ❖ East Coast Swing | 1&2 3&4 5 6 – or – 1&2 3 4 5&6 7 8 |
| ❖ West Coast Swing | 1 2 3&4 5&6 – or – 1 2 3&4 5 6 7&8 |

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - CLASSIC

- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics, lying and lifts where all of partner's body is raised above the waist of the supporting partner are not allowed.

BASIC RULES - SHOWCASE

- ❖ There will be no counting in.
- ❖ It should be a choreographed routine with the intention to interpret the music.
- ❖ The competitor may begin the routine in an area of their choice on the dance floor, as long as they do not interfere with the space of the other competitors.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - SHOWCASE

- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics, lying and lifts where all of partner's body is raised above the head of the supporting partner are not allowed.

SHOWCASE DIVISION: STARS MEDLEY

- ❖ Music length is between 4 and 7 minutes, which includes the total set up and tear down time.
- ❖ No other limitations apply for the medley.

Partner Rules

AGE DIVISIONS

Your age is the age you will be on the last day of that calendar year

- ❖ Junior: 0+ (If one of the dancers is Adult, then they will have to dance in the Adult division)
- ❖ Adult: 20+
- ❖ Senior: 50+ (If one of the dancers is Adult, then they will have to dance in the Adult division)

DIVISIONS

- ❖ Partner Starter
- ❖ Partner Experienced

ENTRY RULES

Partner Starter Division

- ❖ This division is only for dancers who have never competed in any other Partner, Couples or ProAm division except any other Starter division.
- ❖ Once registered as a leader or follower no change is allowed during the whole year.

Partner Experienced Division

- ❖ This division is for dancers who graduated from Partner Starter and all dancers who want to be in this division.
- ❖ Once registered as a leader or follower no change is allowed during the whole year.

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ All divisions need a minimum of 2 dances for Overall placement.
- ❖ Best scored dances will be picked for scoring.

BASIC RULES - PARTNER STARTER

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Starter dancers must dance only full basic vanilla patterns with no variations.
- ❖ Starting position: As per the dance step description.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - PARTNER STARTER

- ❖ No introduction steps are allowed.

BASIC RULES - PARTNER EXPERIENCED

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Partner Experienced should start with a full vanilla pattern. Variations are allowed with 8 counts (= 2 measures) of 4/4 time music or 6 counts (= 2 measures) of 3/4 time music. Throughout the dance, each variation must be followed by 2 measures of basic.
- ❖ Variations need to follow the flow of the dance.
- ❖ Starting position: As per the dance step description.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - PARTNER EXPERIENCED

- ❖ A stationary dancing introduction is allowed within the radius of 1 single step during the music prior to the start of the dance.
- ❖ Moves that include lifts, rides, acrobatics, jetés, knee slides, splits, non-lead patterns, sitting or lying on the floor are not allowed. (exception only if one of those moves is choreographed in the dance)
- ❖ Dance movements that rotate because of a leg kick or swing are not permitted to turn more than 360 degrees.

Choreography Rules

DIVISIONS

GOLD offers one united category for choreography, but split into 3 levels.

- ❖ Beginner
- ❖ Improver/intermediate
- ❖ Advanced

BASIC RULES

- ❖ Free music and motion style.
- ❖ Stepsheet is included in the judges scores, so it is mandatory to send the stepsheet for the dances to the event director prior to competition start, so the event can print and prepare the stepsheets for the judges.
- ❖ Stepsheets must be in english and include the following: Motion, Name of Dance, Counts, Tag/Bridge/Restart, Level of Dance, Number of Walls.
- ❖ A penalty will be given if the stepsheet is not sent in 1 week prior to the competition.
- ❖ Music will be played 2 ½ minutes for all entries.
- ❖ 1 choreographer needs be on the floor presenting his/her own dance.
- ❖ Only 1 choreographer can present the same dance at the same competition.
- ❖ Props are not allowed in choreography.

ENTRY RULES

- ❖ Only 1 dance per division is allowed.

COSTUME

- ❖ No costume restrictions

Team Rules

DIVISIONS

- ❖ Team Starter Classic
- ❖ Team Experienced Classic
- ❖ Team Showtime

ENTRY RULES

Team Starter Classic

- ❖ This division is only for Starter classic Team dancers who have never competed in any team category before.
- ❖ Starter dancers may only dance in the Starter Divisions.

Team Experienced Classic & Showtime

- ❖ This division is for dancers who graduated from Team Starter Classic and all dancers who want to be in this division.

REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Each Team Captain must be a registered GOLD member before the Team competes.
- ❖ Each Team should have a Team name and may only perform 1 dance in any specific division at each event under this name.
- ❖ Every Team name will be registered.
- ❖ Teams competing in separate categories must have different music selections and different dance routines.

BASIC RULES

- ❖ A Team should consist of a minimum of 3 members (except in Showtime where a team can consist of 2 members) from all ages.
- ❖ A dance or medley of dances choreographed to music of the Team's choice.
- ❖ It is an open category where Line, Solo and Couple dance may be used in any combination.
- ❖ No props allowed in Team Classic division.
- ❖ Contest coordinator will time/clock Team competitor.
 - Team Starter Classic (3-6 min.)
 - Team Experienced Classic (3-6 min.)
 - Team Showtime (3-8 min. incl. Setup and teardown)

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS – TEAM STARTER CLASSIC

Moves not allowed: acrobatics, aerials, lifts, lying, bridges, sits, and jetés.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS – TEAM EXPERIENCED CLASSIC

Moves not allowed: acrobatics, aerials, lifts, lying, sits, and jetés which rotate.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS – TEAM SHOWTIME

There are no movement limitations when performing a Showtime routine.

Wheelchair Rules

DIVISIONS

GOLD introduces 3 categories for Wheelchair for both manual and electric wheelchairs for all ages.

- ❖ Wheelchair Starter Division
- ❖ Wheelchair Experienced Division
- ❖ Wheelchair Team Division

ENTRY RULES

- ❖ Every competitor must be a registered GOLD member before they compete.
- ❖ Dancers must be a person with disabilities.
- ❖ Wheelchair dancers may only dance in the Wheelchair and Choreography divisions
- ❖ Male and Female dancers will compete against each other.
- ❖ All Starter competitors may self-graduate to the Experienced division at any time.

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ All divisions need a minimum of 2 dances for overall placement (This rule is not applicable for Wheelchair Teams)
- ❖ Best scored dances will be picked for scoring

BASIC RULES - WHEELCHAIR STARTER

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Wheelchair dancers must dance only full basic vanilla patterns.
- ❖ No variations are allowed.
- ❖ All wheelchair dancers will compete in the same division without any differentiation.
- ❖ The dancer must control his/her displacements without obstructing other competitors.
- ❖ Obstructing other competitors will result in a penalty.
- ❖ A guided dancer/teacher is allowed to dance with the Wheelchair dancers as a reference. This person will not be judged.

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - WHEELCHAIR STARTER

- ❖ A stationary dancing introduction within the radius of the arms and body, prior to the start of the dance is allowed.

BASIC RULES - WHEELCHAIR EXPERIENCED

- ❖ Music will be counted in.
- ❖ Wheelchair Experienced should start with a full vanilla pattern. Variations are allowed with 8 counts (= 2 measures) of 4/4 time music or 6 counts (= 2 measures) of 3/4 time music. Throughout the dance, each variation must be followed by 2 measures of basic.
- ❖ Variations need to follow the flow of the dance.
- ❖ Starting position: As per the dance step description

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - WHEELCHAIR EXPERIENCED

- ❖ A stationary dancing introduction is allowed within the radius of 1 meter during the music prior to the start of the dance.
- ❖ Moves that include acrobatics, sitting or lying on the floor are not allowed

BASIC RULES - WHEELCHAIR TEAM

- ❖ A Team consist of a minimum of 2 members from all ages.
- ❖ A dance or medley of dances choreographed to music of the Team's choice.
- ❖ Contest coordinator will time/clock Team competitor.
 - Wheelchair Team (3-8 min. incl. setup and teardown)

MOVEMENT LIMITATIONS - WHEELCHAIR TEAM

- ❖ There are no movement limitations when performing a Wheelchair Team routine.