

**2006**

**COMPETITOR HANDBOOK**

**for**

**DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

**sanctioned by**



## International Dance Productions' Affiliations

### The World Swing Dance Council



*A Proud Member Of  
The*



*Through the National FastDance Ass'n,  
this event is officially licensed by:*



**Welcome to International Dance Productions, LLC, ("IDP") an organization committed to furthering the art form and sport of dance at all levels (social, competitive, and professional), through a variety of dance types and music styles.**

**As the founders of IDP, we are personally committed to ensuring that dance events are conducted with:**

- **Integrity and Respect**
- **Quality and Excellence**
- **Open Dialogue toward Improvement**

**We envision an organization that embraces the following elements:**

- **Beginner-friendly social events; welcome entry-level competitors**
- **Professionally organized and consistently run events**
- **Challenging standards for upper level competitors**
- **Respected evaluation of competition dancers by dancers**
- **Cash and quality prizes for all competitive levels**
- **More dancing -- less rules**

**As you read these guidelines or tour our website, you'll find more details about the organization, plans for the future and up-coming events, as well as information on how to partner with us as a competitor, volunteer, event owner, and/or sponsor.**

**We hope you'll join us on our journey to promote the excitement and quality of life available through partner dancing!!**

*Sam & Denise Miller*

*Dale & Anita Strawser*

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## **Section I. Overview**

### **1. IDP - The Organization:**

International Dance Productions, a Limited Liability Corporation (also known as IDP) was formed in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2003, with the mission to “further the art form and sport of dance at all levels (social, competitive, and professional), through a variety of dance types and music styles”. IDP sanctions and establishes the rules and guidelines for these events, offering other like-minded individuals opportunities to partner with IDP through event ownership.

The founding Principals are:

Anita Huffman-Strawser, Dale Strawser, Denise Miller, Sam Miller

Between them, the founders have over 50 years of dance-relevant experience, which includes partner dance instructors, dance studio ownership, conducting dance events, judging dance events, competing at dance events, and simply enjoying the fun of social dancing. Furthermore, they each bring a unique mix of business skills and experiences from other industries to the organization.

More specifically, Sam & Denise Miller are full-time professional dance instructors. They began dancing in 1987 and have since won numerous championships and top teacher titles. In addition to having owned “The Dance Club” studio, they manage a very busy dance-related travel schedule, coaching dancers through-out the United States, as well as in Europe and Canada.

Dale & Anita Strawser began social dancing in 1993 and became amateur dance competitors in 1994, with their most recent championship title being with UCWDC’s World Championships. They are part-time dance instructors in the Northern Virginia area, and also co-Owners of the Potomac Swing Dance Club. In addition, they own a real estate investment and property management company, which Dale manages full-time; Anita provides independent change management consulting and project management services to a variety of businesses.

### **2. Leadership Structure:**

#### **Officers of the Corporation**

The Executive Directors (Anita Huffman-Strawser, Dale Strawser, Denise Miller, & Sam Miller) are also known as the Officers of the Corporation, and hold the sole, exclusive ownership and rights to the organization known as International Dance Productions, LLC, and as such, are the sole Officers unless they elect otherwise at a later date. These Officers also retain sole and exclusive rights to the rules and guidelines governing all IDP-sanctioned dance events.

#### **Board of Directors**

Those who financially partner with IDP to hold an IDP-sanctioned dance event as an “Event Director” will automatically become an active member of the Board of Directors. This Board will provide input to the Officers of the Corporation, and will vote on any Exceptions to the

rules requested by the general membership. Anyone interested in knowing more about becoming an Event Director is welcomed to contact any of the Executive Directors.

### **Dancer's Senate**

As the organization evolves, a Dancer's Senate will be established to ensure that dancer's voices are heard, allowing the leadership of the organization to stay in touch with dancer needs and points-of-view. The general membership will be encouraged to participate on the Dancer's Senate, which will be formed by selecting from individuals who volunteer to sit on the Senate. The Senate will consist of a number to be determined by the Officers of the Corporation and the Board of Directors, as will the specific details of the duties of Senate members.

### **Members**

The general membership are our most valuable source of continuous improvement, and will be encouraged to give feedback and vote on a variety of relevant topics and issues. Membership is required to compete at State, Regional, National and International IDP-sanctioned events. To become a Member, please refer to Section IV (Membership).

## **3. Vision & Goals:**

The five-year goal of IDP is to establish Local, State, Regional, National and International Dance Championships, utilizing a variety of dance styles and music types, with sponsorship cash and merchandise prizes. The first event began in October, 2005 as the first annual U.S. National Dance Championships®, and was held at the Marriott Westfield's Resort & Conference Center in Dulles, Virginia. In 2006, Club Events are being held at various locations in the U.S. To learn more about how you can hold an Event, give us a call or send an email.

While not all of the envisioned Event Types will be available immediately in the first few years, what is described here is the ultimate goal:

**Club Events:** a dance event held in a club-like venue that promotes social dancing at all levels, provides any of the dance types or styles recognized by IDP, and provides professional instruction on a regular basis. There is no limit to the number or locations that will conduct IDP-sanctioned Club Events during the competition calendar year. Club Events must offer a minimum of one Division in any combination of levels, to include Pro-am.

**Local Area Events:** a championship-level dance event held in a location that can accommodate competitors from surrounding cities, with a minimum sized obstruction free dance floor of 32x60 square feet, as well as break-out workshop rooms, and provides all of the dance and music styles recognized by IDP. There is no limit to the number or locations that will conduct IDP-sanctioned Local Area Events during the competition calendar year. Local Area Events competitions must offer all Divisions in all categories, for either Couples, Pro-Am, or both, and will ultimately provide competitors with opportunities to earn qualifying points toward competing at the National level.

**State Events:** a championship-level dance event held in a location that can accommodate competitors from surrounding cities, with a minimum sized obstruction free dance floor of 32x60 square feet, as well as break-out workshop rooms, and provides all of the dance and

music styles recognized by IDP. There is a limit of one event per State that may conduct IDP-sanctioned State Events during the competition calendar year. State Events must offer all Divisions in all categories, and will ultimately provide competitors with opportunities to earn qualifying points toward competing at the National level.

**Regional Events:** a championship-level dance event, held in a location that can accommodate competitors from surrounding states, with a minimum sized obstruction free dance floor of 36x64 square feet, as well as break-out workshop rooms, and provides all of the dance and music styles recognized by IDP. There is a limit of one event per Region (see U.S. map diagram below) that may conduct IDP-sanctioned Regional Events during the competition calendar year. Regional Events must offer all Divisions in all categories and will ultimately provide competitors with opportunities to earn qualifying points toward competing at the National level.

**National Events:** a championship-level dance event, held in a location that can accommodate competitors from across the country, with a minimum sized obstruction free dance floor of 36x64 square feet, and provides all of the dance and music styles recognized by IDP. There is a limit of one National event sanctioned by IDP during the competition calendar year in a given Country. National Events must offer all Divisions in all categories, and competitors will eventually be required to qualify to compete at National events. The National level events will ultimately provide competitors with opportunities to qualify to compete at the International level.

**International Events:** a championship-level dance event, held in a location that can accommodate competitors from around the world, with a minimum sized obstruction free dance floor of 36x64 square feet, and provides all of the dance and music styles recognized by IDP. There is a limit of one International event sanctioned by IDP every 18-24 months. International Events must offer all Divisions in all categories, and competitors will eventually be required to qualify to compete at International events.

## **Section II. Competitors**

### **1. Couples & Pro-Am Competition Categories & Divisions**

IDP offers the following Competition Dance Categories and Divisions (levels-of-dance) for Couple\* competitors, as well as for Pro-Am\*\* competitors:

#### **Categories**

**Open:** both partners over the age of 17

**The Classics (40):** both partners over the age of 39

**The Classics (55):** both partners over the age of 54

**Juniors:** both partners under the age of 18, broken down into 2 sub-categories:

**Teen:** 13-17

**Youth:** to age 12

\*Definition of a Couple: consists of one man and one woman; the man representing the lead and the woman representing the follow in the partnership. However, for Pro-Am there are no gender requirements.

\*\*Definition of an Amateur: does not teach dance as a primary occupation.

\*\*Definition of a Pro: teaches dance as a primary occupation.

#### **Couples & Pro-Am Divisions**

**Division V:** This is an entry-level Division for all Categories. If you have not danced as a competitor in a nationally recognized dance event, and you are interested in trying out the "competition thing", this is the Division for you and your partner.

**Division IV:** A more advanced entry-level Division for all Categories. If you have danced as a competitor in a nationally recognized dance organization, and want to compete with other novice-level dancers, this is your Division.

**Division III:** An intermediate-level Division for all Categories.

**Division II:** An advanced-level Division for all Categories.

**Division I:** An advanced-level Division for all Categories; to enter this Division, you must graduate\*\*\* from Division II (except for the 2005 & 2006 competition years).

**Pro-Am Graduate:** The highest obtainable advanced-level Division for Pro-Am's who compete in any of the Pro-Am Categories; to enter this Division you must graduate\*\*\* from Division I.

**Masters:** The highest obtainable advanced-level Division for Couples who compete in The Classics and Open Categories; to enter this Division you must graduate\*\*\* from Division I.

\*\*\*Graduation criteria are detailed in Section II, 7. below

## Couples & Pro-Am Categories & Divisions – Summary View

### Open: Couples over the age of 17

Open Division V	Open Division IV	Open Division III	Open Division II	Open Division I	Open Masters
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### Open Pro-Am: Amateurs over the age of 17

Open Division V	Open Division IV	Open Division III	Open Division II	Open Division I	Open Pro-Am Graduate
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### The Classics: Couples over the ages of 39 & 54 respectively

Classics 40+ Division V	Classics 40+ Division IV	Classics 40+ Division III	Classics 40+ Division II	Classics 40+ Division I	Classics' Masters (combined ages)
Classics 55+ Division V	Classics 55+ Division IV	Classics 55+ Division III	Classics 55+ Division II	Classics 55+ Division I	

### The Classics Pro-Am: Amateurs over the ages of 39 & 54 respectively

Classics 40+ Division V	Classics 40+ Division IV	Classics 40+ Division III	Classics 40+ Division II	Classics 40+ Division I	Classics' Pro-Am Graduate (combined ages)
Classics 55+ Division V	Classics 55+ Division IV	Classics 55+ Division III	Classics 55+ Division II	Classics 55+ Division I	

### Juniors: Couples under the age of 17\*

Teen Division V	Teen Division IV	Teen Division III	Teen Division II	Juniors Division I
Youth Division V	Youth Division IV	Youth Division III	Youth Division II	

### Juniors Pro-Am: Amateurs under the age of 17\*

Teen Division V	Teen Division IV	Teen Division III	Teen Division II	Teen Division I
Youth Division V	Youth Division IV	Youth Division III	Youth Division II	Youth Division I

\*Juniors Division competitors may dance in Division V, VI, III, or II once they reach the next age level.

## **2. Cabaret Division**

IDP offers a competitor Cabaret Division where Individuals, Couples, and Teams can showcase talents not necessarily allowable elsewhere during the Event.

This Division is open to any individual or any combination of couples or teams, and can be either a specific dance style or a performance medley, with a maximum length of 5 minutes.

Only one competitor combination will perform at a time, and no movement limitations or other types of competitor rules apply, except for costuming (see Section II, 8. Competitor Attire), and except that obscene and/or vulgar movements or gestures are not allowed for any reason.

Awards will be made for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest placements of Cabaret Division competitors – no distinction will be made by competitor combination.

## **3. Jack & Jill Competitions**

IDP offers a Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced competitor Jack & Jill Divisions sanctioned and governed by the World Swing Dance Council (WSDC); therefore, WSDC J&J competitors will abide by WSDC rules. IDP will score these Jack & Jill's in accordance with rules provided by WSDC, and will submit this information to WSDC after the event is completed.

IDP may also offer a variety of types of IDP-sanctioned Jack & Jill competitions through-out an Event, and those competitors will abide by IDP rules. IDP Events will score these Jack & Jill's in accordance with rules determined by IDP.

#### 4. Competitor Movement Allowances & Limitations

To continue the focus on IDP's goal of "more dancing - less rules", our desire is to have as few movement limitations as possible. However, the few limitations that are established will be enforced\* for the safety of our competitors.

Therefore, what follows is a general description of the movements that are allowed at which levels of experience:

**All Divisions, including Jack & Jill competitions and Cabaret:** Obscene and/or vulgar movements or gestures are not allowed at any level for any reason.

**All Divisions, except Masters/Pro-Am Graduates and Cabaret:** Overhead Lifts or Aerial movements are not allowed for any reason.

**Masters/Pro-Am Graduates:** all lower-level movements are allowed, plus a maximum of 2 Overhead Lifts.

**Division I:** all lower-level movements are allowed, plus Low Lifts where both feet of the supported partner leave the floor. (Low lifts do not allow the supported partner's hips and feet to pass above the supporting partner's waist at the same time.)

**Division II:** all lower-level movements are allowed, plus any vertically supported movement where at least one foot of the supported partner maintains contact with the floor at all times. These movements are allowed to rotate or move at this level.

**Division III:** all lower-level movements are allowed, plus Rotating Leverage Movements. Rotating leverage meaning body weight is counter-balanced from a horizontal connection and rotates.

**Division IV:** all lower-level movements are allowed, plus stationary drops. Drop being defined as a vertically supported movement where weight is lowered toward the floor. These movements may not travel or rotate.

**Division V:** Leverage moves that do not rotate are allowed at this level. Leverage meaning body weight is counter-balanced from a horizontal connection. Movements requiring a Vertically Supported connection may not be used in this division.

**\*NOTE:** If a movement violation occurs because of an error, judges will use their own discretion to determine whether or not the violation was blatant or was an error. If a judge decides that a blatant violation has occurred, they will indicate this on their scoring card and no raw score points will be awarded from that judge.

For Jack & Jill competitions, Novice level may use Division IV allowances, Intermediate level may use Division II allowances, and Advanced level may use Division I allowances, except for WSDC J&J competitions, during which competitors must abide by WSDC allowances/limitations.

## 5. Music & Dance Styles Offered for Couples & Pro-Am Competitors

While not every dance and music style can be offered, IDP strives to offer a variety from the more popular dances available today across a wide spectrum of dance cultures. Depending on popularity and input from members, dance styles may be added or removed over time.

Listed below are the dance and music styles currently offered, along with the beats-per-minute range detailed by Division. **The dance styles are open to artistic interpretation (e.g., Waltz could be danced as any of several styles – International, American, or Country). Furthermore, none of the dance styles are restricted to syllabus.**

### **Music & Dance Styles Currently Offered**

Beats-per-Minute Range (BPM) & Measures-per-Minute Range (MPM)

Dance Style*	Divisions V & IV		Division III & II		Divisions I, Masters & Pro-Am Graduate	
	BPM	MPM	BPM	MPM	BPM	MPM
Foxtrot	128-136	32-34	120-128	30-32	112-120	28-32
Waltz	90-96	30-32	84-90	28-30	78-84	26-28
Salsa	176-184	44-46	184-192	46-48	192-200	48-50
Cha Cha	104-112	26-28	112-120	28-30	120-128	30-32
Nightclub	60-64	15-16	56-60	14-15	52-56	13-14
East Coast	132-144	33-36	144-156	36-69	156-168	39-42
Two Step	164-176	41-44	176-188	44-47	188-200	47-50
Lindy	132-156	33-39	156-180	39-45	180-204	45-51
Carolina Shag	104-116	26-29	116-128	29-32	128-140	32-35
Argentine Tango	112-120	28-30	120-128	30-32	128-136	32-34
Hand Dance	104-112	26-28	112-120	28-30	120-128	30-32
Hustle	96-108	24-27	108-120	27-30	120-132	30-33
West Coast	88-100	22-25	100-112	25-28	112-124	28-31
Rumba	120-128	30-32	112-120	28-30	104-112	26-28

**Planned order of dance at an Event:** Foxtrot, Waltz, Two Step, East Coast, Nightclub, Cha Cha, Rumba, West Coast, Hustle, Hand Dance, Carolina Shag, Argentine Tango, Salsa, Lindy

### **Length of Music by Category**

**Couples:** 2 minutes per dance (or to the end of the phrase)

**Pro-Am:** 1.5 minutes per dance (or to the end of the phrase)

**Masters & Pro-Am Graduates:** 7 minutes (max) for Performance Medley routine

## 6. Championships Available for Couples and Pro-Am Competitors

Many dancers find that they come to love and/or excel in some dance styles, but not in others, and only enjoy competing in one or two of their favorite dance styles. Others enjoy the challenge of becoming proficient in many different dance styles, and prefer competing in as many dance styles as possible.

To accommodate this range of preferences, two types of Couples and Pro-Am championships will be offered by Division/by Category at IDP-sanctioned events: Individual Dance Champion, and Division Dance Champion.

### 1. Individual Dance Champion:

- a. Everyone who enters an IDP-sanctioned dance competition in a Couples or Pro-Am Division will be scored toward the Individual Dance Champion award (this is in addition to being scored toward Division Dance Champion – see below).
- b. You may enter either one specific dance style (e.g., Waltz) or several different dance styles (e.g., Waltz, Hustle, Hand Dance, and Foxtrot).
- c. You may enter different Divisions/Categories (e.g., Division IV-Open and Division III-Open); however, you may only enter one Division/Category per dance style (i.e., Waltz cannot be entered in both Division IV-Open and Division III-Open).
- d. The Top 3 placements for each dance style in each Division and respective Category will be recognized with prizes/awards.

### 2. Division Dance Champion:

- a. Everyone who dances the required number of dances in their Couples or Pro-Am Division (see "Division Requirements for Division Dance Championships", page 14) will be automatically considered for the Division Dance Championship in their respective Division/Category.
- b. In this championship category, there are specific requirements that must be met to qualify, as detailed below (see "Division Requirements for Division Dance Championships", page 14). To meet these requirements, the dances entered must all be danced in the same Division/Category (e.g., Division III, Open). Additionally, each of these dances will also be considered individually toward the Individual Dance Champion Award.
- c. A First Place Division Dance Championship will be awarded for each Division/Category, based on the highest calculated raw scores from that Division/Category of competitors. (For example, if a competitor dances 8 dance styles in a Division/Category, yet only 5 are required for that Division/Category, then only their 5 highest raw scores will be counted toward their Division Dance Championship placement. Further, if a competitor dances 5 dance styles and, for example, 4 are in Division III Open, and 2 are in Division IV Open, then only their 4 highest raw scores in Division III Open will be counted for Division III Open Championships placement, as they did not dance the required number of dances in Division IV Open to also have those counted toward the Division IV Championship.) See Section II.10 for an explanation of "raw scores".

## **Division Requirements for Division Dance Championships\***

**Division V:** A Division Championship award will not be offered for this Division. Each dance that a competitor enters will be judged and awarded equally and individually as "Individual Dance Champion".

**Division IV:** Competitors must compete in at least 3 dance styles to qualify for Division IV Champion.

**Division III:** Competitors must compete in at least 4 dance styles to qualify for Division III Champion.

**Division II:** Competitors must compete in at least 5 dance styles to qualify for Division II Champion.

**Division I:** Competitors must compete in at least 6 dances to qualify for Division I Champion.

**Masters & Pro-Am Graduates:** Competitors will compete in a Performance Medley which must consist of 3 dance styles (each represented equally), at least one of which must have been one of their winning dance styles from Division I. The music for both Pro-Am Graduate's and Master's Performance Medley is solely determined by the competitors and can be no more than 7 minutes in length.

**NOTE:** For Divisions I – V, competitors will have the option of attending a warm-up session shortly before competing, at which time music will be played in the same BPM range as their Division's competition music.

\*These are the requirements to qualify for Division Dance Champion; competitors may choose to dance in more dance styles than the stated requirements, however, only the highest placement raw scores of the required number of dance styles will be calculated toward their Division Dance Championship Award.

## **7. Competitor Graduation Criteria for Couples & Pro-Am**

For USNDC Event years 2005 and 2006, Couples and Pro-Am Competitors will self-select into the Division of their choice for Divisions V, IV, III, II, and I. However, no one may self-select into the Pro-Am Graduate or Masters Divisions, but must rather graduate as detailed below.

For the year 2007, Competitors may only self-select into Divisions V, IV, III, and II. Therefore, no one may self-select into Divisions I, Pro-Am Graduate, or Masters, but must rather graduate as detailed below.

Note: For the years 2005 and 2006, any Competitor who does not place as noted below may self-select to move back to the next lower Division for the 2007 competition year. However, after the 2007 National Dance Championships concludes, any Competitor who does not place as noted below must petition the Board of Directors before being allowed to move back.

At any point, competitors must move into the next available level when they dance at an IDP-sanctioned National Dance Championship event and place as follows:

- Division V:** **Everyone who danced in this Division in the previous year must move up to Division IV**
- Division IV\*:** **Top 10% must move up to Division III**
- Division III\*:** **Top 5% must move up to Division II**
- Division II\*:** **Top 5% must move up to Division I**
- Division I:** **No one must move from Division I to Masters or Pro-Am Graduates; however, anyone may move up if they so choose after having won Division I in an Individual Dance Championship or a Division Dance Championship**

\*Graduation in these divisions is based on individual dance styles only, e.g., if a competitor places 1<sup>st</sup> in Waltz in Division IV and 5<sup>th</sup> in Lindy in Division IV, the competitor must move up to Division III in Waltz only.

## **8. Competitor Attire for All Event Competitors**

Generally speaking, "dance attire" or "costuming" should reflect the style and type of dance being performed and if not, may be reflected in your judge's scores.

However, while one of the stated goals of IDP is "more dancing – less rules", we have determined a few dance-attire/costuming rules that will be enforced:

### **All Divisions:**

- ❑ Clothing and footwear must be worn
- ❑ Any area that is normally covered by undergarments must be covered with non-see-through material, and private parts may not be displayed at any time
- ❑ Sponsorship labels are permitted on clothing
- ❑ Competitor identification number\* must be visible on the Lead (Couples) or on the Amateur (Pro-Am)

### **Division V:**

- ❑ Follow the rules stated above for All Divisions
- ❑ Street attire is acceptable

### **Division IV:**

- ❑ Follow the rules stated above for All Divisions
- ❑ Dress in a style appropriate to social/club dancing

### **Division III thru Masters & Pro-Am Graduate and Cabaret:**

- ❑ Follow the rules state above for All Divisions
- ❑ Dress in costuming reflective of the style and type of dance being performed
- ❑ Partner's attire should be complimentary of the other partner's attire

\*Competitor Identification Number: A Competitor Identification Number (or "CID" for short) enables IDP to efficiently track competitor results. Therefore, each competitor will need to obtain a CID. (Note: Couples will display the Lead's CID on the Lead during the competition; for Amateurs, the Am will display their own CID.) See Section III (Membership) for additional details.

## 9. Awards & Prizes

As dancers and competitors, the leadership of IDP-sanctioned events understands that there are many individual and collective reasons why people choose to put so much of their heart and soul into social and competitive dance; recognition and reward are but two of the reasons that can be acknowledged through competition. To that end, IDP believes that competitor achievement should be recognized and rewarded at all levels.

Therefore, all Couples, Pro-Am, and Cabaret competitors are eligible for cash and/or scholarships, or other prizes, as may be made available through IDP-sanctioned Sponsors (e.g., cruises, merchandise, etc.), when they place in the Top 3 for Individual Dance Championships and Cabaret\*, or in 1<sup>st</sup> place in their respective Division Dance Championships\*.

Individual awards for each dance style in a particular Division, as well as the Division Dance Championship award for a particular Division will be presented shortly after that Division has been completed, while Competitors are still in costume, and their friends/family are still in the ballroom to share in the moment.

All Professionals dancing with Amateur's in Pro-Am competitions are eligible for two types of Top Teacher awards. One award is based on raw score placements (i.e., results), and the second award is based on number of competing students (i.e., volume). All Top Teacher Awards will be presented at a day/time to be announced in the Event program.

\*See Section II.6. "Championships Available"

## **10. Scoring & Judging**

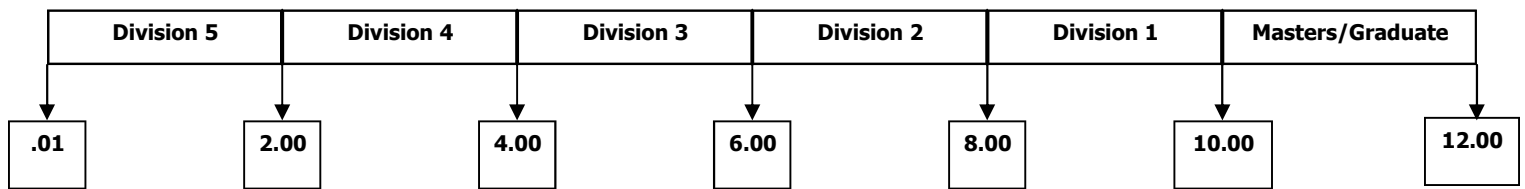
Our goal is to create judging panels from a wide variety of professional instructors and competitive dancers who are current and well-respected in the various dance communities. They will be encouraged to set the standards and shape our dance form, earning the ultimate award -- the respect of those they are judging.

Judges will use a "raw score" scoring system created by IDP (a graphic and explanation are shown on the next page), and competitors will know who their judges are and how each judge scored them.

A tie will result in equal placement of both pairs of competitors, and awards, prizes, and titles for the tied category (as well as the adjoining category) will be combined and distributed equally.

All results will be considered final upon award presentation.

## The IDP "Raw Score" Scoring System®



The Raw Score Scoring System® is utilized by IDP to allow judges to give competitors a more accurate reflection of their dance level than can be attained through a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> placement. Through the use of this scoring concept, a judge is able to score a competitor against what they believe through their experience is the standard for that Division level, vs. only ranking the competitors against each other.

In other words, while a competitor may place 1<sup>st</sup> against his/her competition, is this competitor dancing at the entry-level of the division, at the advanced-level of the division, or somewhere in between? Should this competitor actually be competing at a lower level? Is this competitor ready to move to the next division?

For example, if a judge scores a Division III competitor as 5.25, this tells the competitor that s/he is dancing at a solid Division III dance level. If, however, the judge scores this competitor as 4.05, this tells the competitor that s/he is dancing at the entry range of Division III, with 5.99 indicating that s/he is dancing at the advanced range of Division III.

In addition, a judge is allowed to score midway back into the previous lower division or midway up into the next higher division.

For example, if a judge scores a Division III competitor as 3.25, this tells the competitor that instead of showing an ability to dance at the Division III level s/he entered, s/he is showing an ability to dance at a Division IV level. Conversely, if this Division III competitor receives 6.25, this tells the competitor that s/he is showing an ability to dance at the Division II level.

All of the judges' raw scores are added together by competitor for each Division by dance style. This "raw score calculation" (or combined score) is then compared to the combined scores of the other competitors for that Division/dance style, resulting in awards placement for the Individual Championship Awards, and ultimately for the Division Dance Championship Award.

### **Section III. Membership**

For 2005 and through the 2006 U.S. National Dance Championships®, membership is not mandatory in order to compete in IDP-sanctioned dance events.

However, we strongly encourage you to become a Charter Member in order to receive the following services and benefits:

- A reduced membership fee of \$25 (good through the 2006 U.S. National Dance Championships® currently scheduled for October, 2006)
- A portion of monies collected through membership fees will be used toward Cash Prizes
- Personalized "vanity" CID\* on cloth (\$15 fee waived) – see details below
- Competitor Scores (\$10 fee waived)
- Printed copy of this Handbook
- Eligible to vote on relevant topics & issues
- Eligible to participate in Dancer's Senate

#### **Personalized "Vanity" Competitors Identification (CID)**

At any IDP-sanctioned dance event, competitors will receive a randomly chosen competitor number, unless they are a Member and choose to pre-order a personalized "vanity" identification number (CID). Think of this like a personalized license plate for your car.

When choosing your personalized CID, keep the following in mind:

- The personalized CID can be up to five numbers and/or letters.
- No lewd or vulgar words/implications will be allowed.
- International Dance Productions will supply the initial vanity CID on cloth, if ordered within 6 weeks prior to an Event – otherwise your initial personalized CID may be on paper until the cloth version is available (if the cloth CID is lost or damaged, you will be responsible for the cost of replacement)
- For Couple's competitors, the Lead's CID will be worn (by the Lead).
- For Pro-Am competitors, the Am's CID will be worn (by the Am).

#### **How to Become a Member & Order Your Personalized CID**

Complete the Membership and Personalized CID Application Forms on pages 20 & 21; mail these forms to International Dance Productions (details on Forms), along with payment.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM: 2005/2006  
INTERNATIONAL DANCE PRODUCTIONS, LLC**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your planned Competitor Division & Categories below:

<b>Competitor Division</b>	<b>Categories</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Division V <input type="checkbox"/> Division IV <input type="checkbox"/> Division III <input type="checkbox"/> Division II <input type="checkbox"/> Division I <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Am Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Masters	<input type="checkbox"/> Couples Open <input type="checkbox"/> Couples Classics 40+ <input type="checkbox"/> Couples Classics 55+ <input type="checkbox"/> Couples Teen <input type="checkbox"/> Couples Youth  <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Am Open <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Am Classics 40+ <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Am Classics 55+ <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Am Teen <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Am Youth

For 2005 and through the 2006 U.S. National Dance Championships®, membership is not mandatory in order to compete in IDP-sanctioned dance events. However, we strongly encourage you to become an annual member in order to receive the following services and benefits:

- A reduced membership fee of \$25
- A portion of monies collected through membership fees are used toward Cash Prizes
- Personalized "vanity" CID\* on cloth (\$15 fee waived)
- Competitor Scores (\$10 fee waived)
- Membership for 2005 through the 2006 U.S. National Dance Championships®
- Printed copy of this Handbook
- Eligible to vote on relevant topics & issues
- Eligible to participate in Dancer's Senate

**After completing this form, mail it along with your payment of \$25.00 to:**

International Dance Productions, LLC  
12712 Melville Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033 (703) 803-9621

Note : *if interested in applying for a personalized CID, please also enclose a completed Personalized CID Form.*

**PERSONALIZED COMPETITOR IDENTIFICATION (CID)  
APPLICATION FORM  
INTERNATIONAL DANCE PRODUCTIONS, LLC**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like my personalized CID to be one of the following choices:**

1 <sup>st</sup>					
2 <sup>nd</sup>					
3 <sup>rd</sup>					

If one of your three choices is no longer available, you will be notified immediately; your completed CID will be mailed to you (time permitting), or you will be able to pick it up at the next IDP-sanctioned Event.

**Personalized "Vanity" Competitors Identification (CID)**

At any IDP-sanctioned dance event, competitors will receive a randomly chosen competitor number, unless they choose as a member to pre-order a personalized "vanity" identification number (CID). Think of this like a personalized license plate for your car.

When choosing your personalized CID, keep the following in mind:

- The personalized CID can be up to five numbers and/or letters.
- No lewd or vulgar words/implications will be allowed.
- International Dance Productions will supply the initial vanity CID on cloth, if ordered within 6 weeks of an Event – otherwise your initial personalized CID may be on paper until the cloth version is available (if the cloth CID is lost or damaged, you will be responsible for the cost of replacement)
- For Couple's competitors, the Lead's CID will be worn (by the Lead).
- For Pro-Am competitors, the Am's CID will be worn (by the Am).

**After completing this form, mail it with your Membership Form to:**

International Dance Productions, LLC  
12712 Melville Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033 (703) 803-9621

## **Section IV. Up-Coming Events**



### **US National Dance Championships, October 2006**

As indicated earlier, the five-year goal of IDP is to establish Local, State, Regional, National and International Dance Championships, utilizing a variety of dance styles and music types, with sponsorship cash and merchandise prizes.

The second National event will be held October 6-8, 2006 at the Marriott Westfield's Resort & Conference Center in Chantilly, Virginia, only 5 miles from Dulles Airport. Rooms are currently available at a special rate of \$99 per night, and a free shuttle from/to Dulles Airport is available to hotel guests.

To book your room, call Westfield's Marriott at 703-818-0300. To receive the special Event rate, you must state that you are registering for the "U.S. National Dance Championships<sup>®</sup>", being held October 6-8, 2006.

Event/competitor registration is available at our websites, or by calling our office at 703-803-9621; hotel registration is available now and early hotel registration is strongly encouraged; call Westfield's Marriott at 703-818-0300 or 800-635-5666.

We encourage you to visit our websites @ [www.InternationalDanceProductions.com](http://www.InternationalDanceProductions.com) and [www.usndc.com](http://www.usndc.com) for up-dates and additional information. We welcome your questions and input, and we look forward to seeing you on the dance floor !!

## Change Control Table

### Changes made to the IDP Competitor Handbook as of version 5.14.b, July, 2006:

Cabaret Division added; handbook up-dated elsewhere as appropriate
Jack & Jill explanation added; handbook up-dated elsewhere as appropriate
Masters' lifts limitation changed to allow overhead lifts
Overall Dance Championships renamed to "Division Dance Championship", and the total concept revised (i.e., from qualifications to be considered, to how prizes are awarded)
Revised the number of required dances to qualify for Division Dance Championship; removed requirements to choose dance styles from Group A or B
Removed Masters/Pro-Am Graduate requirement to compete in any type of individual dance styles; changed Master/Pro-Am Graduate requirement to consist of a Performance Medley
Competitor Graduation Criteria exception changed to include 2006
Competitor Movement Allowances "Note" clarified regarding blatant violations
Div V graduation criteria changed
Div I graduation criteria changed
Awards & Prizes language changed to reflect revisions previously noted
Added Scoring System graphic and explanation
Added Competitor Registration forms – Couples and Pro-Am Forms, with Event Passes and Cabaret registration included
Removed Qualifying Section
Up-dated Up-coming Events Section
Added Change Control Table; up-dated Table of Contents