



DC Tango Challenge Events Dancing Rules

Please read the following important information below for the category/-ies you want to register:

Contestants must always behave correctly and respect the judges, championship directors/coordinators, choreographers and other participants. All participants release the usage of their own image for promotion of the event. Release form must be signed when forms and fees are submitted.

All the competition rounds will be open to spectators. In a **single dance** competition (Tango Salon/de Pista, Vals, Milonga & Tango Nuevo), a "heat" will consist of **one song** where the competitors will be grouped together to dance a selected dance for 90 seconds approximately. Different competitions may be combined within the same heat. At this category, amateur couples will be evaluated as a couple; however, pro-am couples will be evaluated based on the performance of the amateur student. Pro/Am Ladies and Pro/Am Leaders will be in the same competition. No professionals will be allowed to register with another professional at any single dance events.

The single dance competitors shall select the dance, the age group, and the level they choose to compete. There are **3 age groups** available for enrollment: A (35 and younger), B (36 to 60), and C (61+) Adults. Any participant may enroll in younger age groups also but not in older.

There are **3 levels** available for enrolment in single dances:

BG - Beginner and up. Student in development with less than 60 lessons or 18 months of training. Students in Development BG may also challenge the more experienced dancers, enrolling in IT.

IT - Intermediate. Any students with more than 18 months of training or more than 60 lessons. Students in Intermediate Level may also challenge the advanced dancers, enrolling in AD level. IT dancers shall not enroll in BG.

AD – Advanced Dancer is for dancers with 3 or more years of proficient tango. Competitors in Advanced - AD level, shall not compete in easier levels.

Single dances can be repeated by the same competitor at the same level and age group up to 3 times, also competitors may choose to dance uncontested to be judged only technically. In this case the placement will be based by threshold according to the scoring table below.

Couples, as in a real dance hall, must constantly move counter-clockwise and avoid remaining in the same place for too long to contribute to good floor circulation.

Elegant social dance wear for women and traditional suits for men are advised although costumes will not be considered as a specific evaluation point in this category. (single dances)

The term "Amateur" means that the dancer does not charge for teaching and, or, dancing/performing tango, and it has nothing to do with the level or expertise of the performer.

Regarding to the Tango Salon/de Pista, Vals and Milonga dances, the judges will take into consideration the following guidelines guideline:

- Once a couple forms a dance frame, the partners shall not separate as long as the music is playing. This means that they cannot break the embrace, which is considered as the Tango dance position.
- For the position to be considered correct, partners must constantly hold each other by means of the embrace. It is understood that, in certain figures, this may be flexible; but not throughout the entire piece of music.
- All movements shall be performed within the space allowed by the couple's embrace.
- Within these guidelines, participants may perform any figure commonly used, including barridas (sweeps), sacadas (close to the floor), enrosques (twists), etc.
- Ganchos (hooks), saltos (jumps), trepadas (climbs) and any other typically stage tango possibilities where both feet lose contact with the floor are completely excluded.
- None of the members of the couple may lift his/her legs beyond the line of the knees. Some foot embellishments are allowed within this limit.

Regarding to the Tango Nuevo dance, the judges will take into consideration the following guidelines guideline:

- There is no restrictions in relation to the tango embrace, nor "on the floor" dance figures. (figures where at least one foot of each dancer is on the floor)
- Soltadas, underarm turns, solo spins, ganchos, boleos, colgadas, volcadas, and figures pertinent to "on the floor" stage tango are allowed.
- Lifting a leg beyond the line of the knees is allowed. Couples are not allowed to touch/kick other couples. Accidents will be penalized.

Regarding to the scoring for Tango Salon/de Pista, Vals, Milonga and Tango Nuevo:

The Judges will give special relevance to the couple's musicality and connection, technique, music interpretation and elegant walking style. For Milonga and Vals, the judges will give special relevance to the fluidity, personality, and distinct rhythmic interpretation as essential evaluation points. The judges will score the competitors from 0 to 100. In the 3-Dance and Tango Salon Scholarships the result will be based on the accumulated scores of all judges.

Scoring 98 -100 – Congratulations! **Outstanding** music interpretation and performance, with emotional connection between music and partner. Excellent/Consistent technique and personality.

Scoring 95-97 – Congratulations! **Outstanding** music interpretation and performance, with emotional connection between music and partner. Excellent/Consistent technique. **Work on your personality, expression and, or styling.**

Scoring 91-94 – Congratulations! **Great** music interpretation and performance, with emotional connection

between music and partner. However, you may have also some **minor technical inconsistencies, or miss synchronicity**. Work to maintain your great musicality, form, personality and connection throughout the whole dance. Take this competition as the training for the next one.

Scoring 85-90 – Good Performance with **some mistakes**. You may have great skill but not consistent yet! Continue working on your skills, creating further awareness about the music, connection with your partner, alignments, balance & control. Scan your figures for consistent dance position, posture, poise, timing, balance, footwork, and partnership. You are so close...Keep up the good work! Or learn to hide better your mistakes.

Scoring 71-84 – Good Performance with **some consistent mistakes**. Continue working on your skills, creating further awareness about the music, connection with your partner, alignments, balance & control. Scan your figures for consistent dance position, posture, poise, timing, balance, footwork, and partnership. You are a good dancer but you may be lacking some important information that will take you to the next level. Do not feel discouraged you had a good performance after all and you are a pleasant dancer.

Scoring 51 to 70 – Performance with many mistakes. It is time to re-group and really focus on the essential elements of this dance, starting from the foundation. Continue working on your musicality, connection, elegance, dance figures. Find out more information about the music, proper dance hold, posture, poise, timing, balance, footwork, and partnership. Maybe you just got extra nervous and messed up?! It happens to everybody. Find here the motivation to work harder.

Scoring under 50 – Ups! You have major tango make over to do. Talk to your instructor to make a plan, make it fun and do not lose the passion.

Uncontested competitors will not have their scores compared to other contestants for placement. The placement will be given following the Threshold:

94 and above – 1st Place	89-94- 2nd Place	below 89 – Third Place
--	------------------------------------	-------------------------------

Regarding to the Tango Showdance (Stage Tango)

- In the Stage Tango Category, each couple will compete individually, dancing to a choreographed song of their choice, one couple at a time.
- Length of a piece has to be less than 3.30 minutes. Couples must prepare and submit a clean and good quality CD and/or flash drive that has 1 piece of music.
- All music must be sent to Fabio@ForeverDancing.com ahead of time, by email with the following information on the email's body: couple's name, song name and orchestra name. It is suggested that you bring a backup in case there is a problem with your music file.
- Participants will be able to express their personal view on the Tango dance: this means they may use movements, figures, acting and applications that are not usually related to traditional Tango, however, the choreography must include traditional figures of Tango such as: ochos, turns, long walks, voleos, ganchos, and also the "milonguero embrace".
- Couples may break the embrace and use techniques derived from other dance disciplines, as long as these are justified and performed for the benefit of the interpreter.

- Aerial tricks and other movements characteristic of other dances must not be excessive, (this means that they must not exceed one third of the performance). The couple must perform progressing (walking) sequences onto the floor using the whole scenic space.
- Tango costumes and make up maybe considered for evaluation (use of inappropriate costumes that are not typically for performing tango such as salsa or ice skating costumes will be penalized).
- If a technical problem should occur, the jury will decide if the repetition of the choreography at the end of the assigned slot is necessary.
- In the case of a couple having a problem with the choreography. The couple will decide whether to continue dancing or not, but the couple will not be allowed to repeat the performance. The jury will indeed evaluate the manner and grace with which the couple has solved the problem.
- The Judges will score the performance based on the **following Tango Showdance evaluation criteria:** Choreographic composition, use of the stage space, choreographic and postural technique, couple's synchronicity, choreographic effects, music Interpretation, & musical accuracy. Scores will be from 0-100.

Regarding to the 3-Dance Challenge:

The heat(s) in this category will consist of 3 songs to dance Tango, Vals and Milonga. One age group, one level, professional and Amateur combined. Competitors will dance the whole song.

Regarding to the Tango Salon/de Pista Scholarship. This heat will consist of 3 tangos of different composers to be danced by the competitors. One age group, one level, professionals and amateur combined. Competitors will dance the whole song.

Regarding to the Jack and Jill. Jack and Jill (TS,TS,TS) + Final (TS)

Dancers will enter this contest as an individual leader or follower. All participants including followers should have an identifying number. The couples will be formed randomly by the MC to dance each song. In the Semi-Final rounds the songs will be played for 90 seconds. 3 Leaders and 3 followers will be recalled to advance to the finals round. Finalists will be randomly paired again to dance a final tango. (full length)

Regarding to the Awards

Single Dances Competitors winners will be award ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place.

3-Dance Challenge will be awarded ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place. All winners will receive discounts for the Tango Passion in Buenos Aires Dancing Trip (DancingTrips.com). 1st place will also receive special prizes from our sponsors.

Tango Showdance 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place will be awarded a DCTW picture plaque. 1st place will also receive special prizes from our sponsors.

Tango Salon/de Pista Scholarships will be awarded Medals 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place.

Special prizes from our sponsors. Discounts for the Tango Passion in Buenos Aires Dancing Trip (DancingTrips.com) and a scholarship money prize for first place winner (only) in the amount of **30% of the total accumulated entry fees for this competition.**

Jack and Jill - 1st Place Winners Leader and Follower will be awarded medals.

DC Tango Challenge Special Awards

All participants (“milongueiros”) in single dances competition accumulate points, throughout the competition according to their overall participation and performance: 1st place- 5 points, 2nd Place 3 points, 3rd Place 1 point, and 1 point per single dance entry. At the end of the event, the winner with more points will be announced and recognized as “Top Milongueiros”. They will receive a picture plaque by mail to honor their great participation. The Top Milongueiros Awards are separated in the following categories:

Top Beginner, Top Intermediate, Top Advanced, Top Amateur Couple, Top Overall

We also keep track of the most skilled dancers. They have received the highest judges scores and for that they will be awarded a plaque by mail. These awards are separated by the nature of the competition and not by level:

Highest Scored Pro/AM Female, Highest Scored Pro/AM Male, and Highest Scored Amateur Couple

DC Tango Challenge will post the at the Competition Website “Hall of The Fame” Page, together with other inspiring competitors such as the Showdance Champions, 3-Dance Champions and the Tango Salon Scholarship Champions.