

Rose City Swing 2025 Competition Rules

Rose City Swing complies with the competition guidelines of the World Swing Dance Council (WSDC). As a competitor, you are responsible for knowing the divisions in which you are eligible/required to compete, for understanding the WSDC Points Registry Rules, and for using your WSDC Competitor ID number (if one has been assigned) when registering for competitions. WSDC rules, which can be found at www.worldsdc.com, mandate that you dance in the Jack & Jill divisions at the appropriate skill levels for which you qualify.

To compete at Rose City Swing 2025, you must:

- Hold a full weekend event pass.
- Register for competitions by the deadline listed and pay the required entry fees.
- Sign a legal waiver. If you are under 18, your parent or guardian must sign the legal waiver for you, indicating their consent.
- If you are under the age of 18, you must have your parent or guardian with you while in the ballroom, and you should also be comfortable social dancing with adults.
- Follow the Rose City Swing Code of Conduct.
- Demonstrate good sporting conduct at all times, both on and off the competition floor. This includes treating your partners, other competitors, competition officials, spectators, and the event itself with respect.
- Know the rules. Read the rules carefully prior to the competition. You are responsible for following the rules whether or not you have read them.

In addition,

- Multiple registrations are allowed. You may choose to enter any competitions for which you meet the entry requirements. However, if you enter more than one Strictly Swing competition, you must enter with a different partner each time.
- Chief Judge Kelly Casanova will conduct a voluntary competitor meeting at Rose City Swing. Please refer to the final event schedule for the time and location of this meeting.
- You are responsible for checking the event schedule and knowing the time of your competitions.
- The Event Directors reserve the right to cancel any division with fewer than five couples.
- If your name is not called by the final preliminary heat in your division, see the emcee or Chief Judge immediately to let them know you signed up but were not yet called.
- If you are not in the ballroom when the last name is called to the floor for the final preliminary heat in your division, you will not compete.
- During semi-final and final rounds, if you are not present in the ballroom after the last name has been called to the floor, we will call the alternate(s) to dance in your place. Once the alternate has been called, the dancer not present is out of the competition.
- There are no refunds. If you miss or withdraw from a competition, you forfeit your entry fee.
- For age-based divisions (Masters, and Sophisticated), you must meet the age requirement as of the close of the event. Competitors who meet the age requirements may compete in both Masters Jack & Jill and Sophisticated Jack & Jill.

WSDC JACK & JILLS

Rose City Swing offers both skill level and age-based Jack & Jills, as defined in WSDC rules. All Jack & Jills are gender neutral.

WSDC Skill Level Divisions

Please refer to WSDC Rules at www.worldsdc.com for the qualifications and requirements of the WSDC skill level divisions, which are Newcomer, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, and All-Star.

You may compete in a maximum of two skill-level divisions, once in your primary role and once in your secondary role. No petition is needed when your secondary role is one level down from your primary role AND you qualify to compete at that level according to the WSDC points registry. Per WSDC rules, you must petition to compete two levels down in your secondary role. Please refer to the **Petition Process** below. Competitors will not be permitted to dance both roles in the same division.

You must maintain your role, either as a leader or follower, throughout the competition. Once entered as a leader or a follower, you must remain in that same role throughout the specific skill level competition (prelims, semi-finals, and finals). Role switching within the dance is not permitted in any round of competition in WSDC skill-based and age-based Jack & Jills.

PETITION PROCESS – NEW FOR 2025

Rose City Swing recognizes the WSDC petitioning process for WSDC Jack & Jill skill-based divisions. If you want to enter a competition for which you do not meet the entry requirements or want to change divisions, you must submit a petition. You may submit a petition for your primary or secondary role.

In most cases, WSDC rules only allow you to submit a petition to move one skill level up or one skill level down in your primary role. However, if you have limited success in your **secondary** role, WSDC also allows you to petition to compete two levels down in that role.

To petition, register for your Jack & Jill competition at the level for which you currently qualify. Then fill out the appropriate WSDC petition form, available online at <https://www.worldsdc.com/wsdc-forms/>.

Petitioning Up: If you want to petition to move up one skill level, you must submit a *Petition to Move Up Form* to the WSDC at least 15 days before the event (by February 6, 2025). You must include a detailed explanation as to why you should be allowed to move up a skill level. Additionally, you must upload one or two videos of yourself dancing in a finals competition. Petitions to move up will be reviewed and approved/denied by the WSDC Chief Judges committee.

If your petition is approved, you will receive an official, certified letter from the WSDC. You can use the approval letter at WSDC events for six months from the date of issue. When you present your certified approval letter, Rose City Swing will move your Jack & Jill registration to the higher level. You should be prepared to compete in the original division if your petition is denied.

Petitioning Down: If you want to petition to move down, download and fill out the WSDC *Petition to Move Down Form*, available at the link above. Submit your petition to Chief Judge Kelly Casanova for review and approval/denial at least 24 hours before your competition. If your petition is successful, we will notify you and move your Jack & Jill registration to the lower level. You should be prepared to compete in the original division if your petition is denied.

All decisions of competition officials are final, and no appeals are allowed.

WSDC Age-Based Divisions

Sophisticated Jack & Jill Dancers aged 35 and above may compete in the Sophisticated Jack & Jill division in addition to their skill-based levels.

Masters Jack & Jill Dancers aged 50 and above may compete in the Masters Jack & Jill Division in addition to their skill-based levels.

Competitors may compete as a leader or follower in a skill level Jack & Jill and in the same or opposite role in an age-based Jack & Jill.

NON-WSDC JACK & JILLS

All American Jack & Jill This division is open to competitors of all levels and you may enter in the role of your choice. Once randomly paired, the dancers compete as a couple through all rounds of competition. This competition is gender neutral, but role switching within the competition is NOT allowed.

You Got Served Jack & Jill A high-energy, super-fun late night dance battle where west coast swing is combined with hip hop and open to all adult competitors. Show off your dance skills and let the music be your inspiration. Breakaways, drops, and side-by-side moves are allowed. Demeaning behavior and sexually inappropriate moves are NOT permitted in any round of competition. Couples are voted on by the audience and winner take all.

Rose City Inspirational Jack & Jill Participation is at the discretion of the Event Directors. Lifts below the shoulder are permitted in this division.

STRICTLY SWING DIVISIONS

Competitors may compete in any and all Strictly Swing divisions for which they qualify, as long as they have different partners for each division. All registrations for all strictly swing divisions must be listed under the leader's bib number. You pick your partner; we pick the songs.

Novice Open Strictly Swing The objective of this division is to partner newer dancers with more experienced dancers. For this reason, one of the partners must be a true newcomer or novice dancer in accordance with WSDC definitions. Dancers who qualify for either Novice or Intermediate based on their points and choose to dance in the Intermediate J&J may not compete as a Novice in the Novice Open. Those who have Intermediate points or above may not compete in the opposite role as the "Novice" in the partnership. This division is gender neutral and role switching within the dance is allowed.

Intergenerational Strictly Swing The objective of this division is to partner dancers of different ages. For this reason, dancers in the partnership must be at least twenty years apart in age. This division is gender neutral and role switching within the dance is allowed.

Doppelgänger Strictly Swing The objective of this fun division is to dance with someone with whom you bear a recognizable resemblance. For this reason, dancers in the partnership are expected to look and dance alike. This division is gender neutral and role switching within the dance is allowed. A special prize is awarded to the couple who best achieves the "Spirit of the Doppelgänger" by optimizing partnership through dressing and dancing alike.

Switch-It-Up Strictly Swing This division is open to dancers who can both lead and follow. Couples are evaluated on their skills as a leader AND a follower and especially their ability to switch between roles.

All-Star / Champions Strictly Swing To compete in this division, both partners must currently qualify for the rank of All-Star or Champion in the WSDC points registry. This competition is gender neutral and role switching within the dance is allowed. Lifts below the shoulder are permitted in this division.

COMPETITION FORMATS

- All dancing must be lead/follow. Pre-choreographed routines, in whole or in part, are not allowed.
- For all competitions except You Got Served, at least 70% recognizable swing content is required.
- For Jack & Jills, all competitors must wear their bib numbers for all rounds of competition. Bibs are only required for leaders in the Strictly Swing competitions. Bibs are not required for the Rose City Inspirational Jack & Jill.
- You and your partner must maintain physical contact except for spins, turns, short breakaways, and recoveries.
- “In the air” partner weight support moves (lifts above the shoulder, aerials) and acrobatic maneuvers are not allowed in any competition. Lifts below the shoulder are permitted in All-Star/Champion Strictly Swing and the Rose City Inspirational J&J ONLY.
- “On the ground” support moves (such as drops and slides) are allowed. However, you and your partner must each maintain at least one foot in physical contact with the floor during support moves.

Rose City Swing makes every effort to conduct all competitions in accordance with current WSDC guidelines and reserves the right to update our Competition Rules should WSDC requirements change. **Rose City Swing** also reserves the right to make any changes in the competition schedule or format as we deem necessary.