

## *Rose City Swing 2026 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 in both your primary and secondary roles, 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](http://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 2026**, you must:

- Hold a full weekend event pass. Attendees holding Day and/or Evening passes are not eligible to compete.
- Register for competitions by the registration deadline (stated each day on the event schedule) and pay the required entry fees.
- Sign a legal waiver. If you are under 18, a parent or guardian must sign the legal waiver for you, indicating their consent.
- If you are under the age of 18, you must have a parent or guardian with you while in the ballroom, and you should also be comfortable social dancing with adults.
- competition, you must enter with a different partner each time.
- Follow the Rose City Swing Code of Conduct. It is posted on our website.
- Always demonstrate good sporting conduct, 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 competition for which you meet the entry requirements. However, if you enter more than one Strictly Swing, you must dance with a different partner in each strictly swing contest.
- The Event Directors reserve the right to cancel any division with fewer than five couples.
- Entering a contest indicates your consent for Rose City Swing to unrestrictedly use your name and image in photos and videos that may appear in future promotions.
- 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.

Marshalling:

- You are responsible for checking the event schedule and knowing the times of your competitions. Once heat sheets are posted, you are also responsible for knowing the heat(s) you have been assigned.

- All rounds of all competitions will be marshalled in a designated location outside of the main ballroom. Line ups will be announced in the main ballroom prior to each round.
- When your division and heat are announced, you must line up in bib number order and check in with the contest coordinators in the designated location. If you are not in line and checked in by the time the final heat of your contest is ready to begin, you will be scratched.
- Semi-finalists, semi-final alternates, finalists, and finals alternates must line up in the designated location when their contest rounds are called. During semi-final and final rounds, if you are not in line and checked in with the contest coordinators, the alternate(s) will 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.

## 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](http://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. Competitors are not 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.

### Primary and Secondary Roles – new for 2026

To determine where you may compete in your secondary role, it is important to understand the distinction between **allowed** to compete and **choose** to compete, as outlined in the Secondary Role WSDC Skill Level Jack & Jill Advancement Chart. Your points record in the WSDC Points Registry indicates the division or divisions in which you are **allowed** to or **may** compete. When your record in the Points Registry indicates a choice of division, the Jack & Jill division you enter is where you **choose** to compete at Rose City Swing.

The level a competitor is **allowed** to compete in their primary role determines their allowable level in their secondary role. Rose City Swing recommends that competitors compete in their secondary role one level down from the level they enter in their primary role.

Competitors may dance two levels down from the highest level they are allowed to compete in their primary role, with the following clarifications:

1. When a competitor has a choice of primary role levels, the highest level the competitor qualifies to compete in sets the level for their secondary role. The division a competitor chooses for their primary role at the event does not affect the level they may compete at for their secondary role.

For example, you are an advanced dancer in your primary role who now qualifies to dance in all-star. The lowest level you may compete at in your secondary role is intermediate (two levels down from all-star), even if you **choose** to compete in advanced at Rose City Swing.

2. When a competitor has a choice of secondary role levels (has reached the “may move up” level in their secondary role), they must dance only one level down from their primary role.

3. Competitors may dance in their secondary role in Newcomer under the following scenarios:

- They have no points in either role.
- They have no points at any level in their secondary role and fewer than 16 Novice points in their primary role.
- Competitors allowed to compete in Intermediate in their primary role are not permitted to enter Newcomer in their secondary role.

Individuals who compete in a role in violation of WSDC advancement charts will lose any points they have earned at Rose City Swing.

### **Petition Process**

**Rose City Swing** recognizes the WSDC petitioning process for WSDC Jack & Jill skill-based divisions.

- Competitors may submit petitions to dance one level up or down for their primary role only. Petitions must be approved, or the competitor will not receive points for placement.
- Petitions are not allowed for secondary roles.
- 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/>. All petitions must be submitted to the WSDC with the WSDC Event Reporting form.

**Petitioning Up (primary role only)** Petitions must be submitted to the WSDC Chief Judges Committee (“CJC”) at least 15 days in advance of the event (by February 11, 2026), along with two videos of the competitor’s dancing. Petitions and videos must be submitted via this link: <https://www.worldsdc.com/level-up-petition>. The CJC may approve or deny the petition after reviewing the competitor’s Points Registry record and videos.

Approved petitions are valid and transferable for six months. When you present your approval, 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. Competitors who obtain a point in the higher division will remain in the higher division.

**Petitioning Down (primary role only)** 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 at event registration at least 24 hours before your competition. The Chief Judge, or qualified individual(s)/committee designated by the Chief Judge, may approve or deny the petition after reviewing competitor’s Points Registry record. 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. Petitions are event-specific and not transferable.

### **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. Competitors are judged as couples and the winners take all.

**Rose City Inspirational** Participation in this non-judged professional show is at the discretion of the Event Directors.

### **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. Costumes and props are not allowed, but coordinating attire is acceptable.

**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 ONLY.

## 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.
- 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 **ONLY** in All-Star/Champion Strictly Swing.
- “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.

