



WORLD PARA DANCE SPORT

2026 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Foreword

The new Rules and Regulations of World Para Dance Sport

The World Ability Sport Federation proudly announces the release of the updated Rules and Regulations for World Para Dance Sport, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to promoting inclusivity, excellence, and innovation in sports. This comprehensive update reflects our dedication to ensuring fair competition, enhancing athlete safety, and fostering a vibrant community where athletes of all abilities can thrive.

World Para Dance Sport, with its unique blend of artistry and athleticism, brings exceptional value to the World Ability Sport Federation. It not only highlights the grace and skill of our athletes but also emphasizes the importance of diversity and representation in the world of sports. Through dance, athletes can express their creativity, build confidence, and break down barriers, demonstrating that sport is a universal language that unites us all.

The integration of Para Dance Sport within the World Ability Sport Federation enriches our portfolio, showcasing the versatility and adaptability of our athletes. It provides a platform for dancers to shine on a global stage, inspiring audiences and fostering a greater understanding and appreciation of the abilities and talents of people with disabilities.

As we unveil these new regulations, we reaffirm our commitment to providing a structured and supportive environment where all athletes can pursue their dreams and achieve excellence. We look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of Para Dance Sport, and we are excited about the future it promises within the World Ability Sport Federation.

Table of contents

Contents

1	Definitions and Abbreviations.....	8
2	Introduction	10
2.1	Printing of Rules and Regulations.....	10
2.2	Effect of World Dance Sport Federation Sport Technical Rules and Regulations	10
2.3	Amendments to these Rules and Regulations.....	10
3	World Para Dance Sport Recognised Competitions.....	11
3.1	Competition Levels	11
3.2	Competition Management	12
3.3	Athletes	12
3.3.1	Athlete Eligibility	12
3.3.2	Entries	13
3.3.3	Wild Card Entry	14
3.3.4	Gender	14
3.3.5	Technical Meeting	14
3.4	Officials.....	15
3.4.1	Technical Delegate.....	15
3.4.2	Chairperson of Adjudicators	16
3.4.3	Duties and functions of World Para Dance Sport Adjudicators.....	16
3.4.4	Dress Code	18
3.4.5	Classification Panels.....	18
3.5	Results.....	19
3.6	Rankings.....	19
3.7	Protests.....	19
3.8	Anti-Doping	20
3.9	Medical Services	20
3.10	Injuries.....	21
4.	World Para Dance Technical Rules.....	22

4.1 General Rules.....	22
4.1.1 Events and Programme of Events.....	22
a) Conventional Events:.....	22
World Para Dance Sport Conventional Events consist of the following dances:.....	22
b) Freestyle	22
4.1.2 Sport Class allocations, Competition Classes for Duo Events:.....	23
Competition Class Allocation in Duo Events.....	23
4.1.3 Composition of Participants.....	25
4.1.4 Dance Floor.....	26
4.1.5 Lighting	26
4.1.6 Temperature in the venue	26
4.1.7 Sound	26
4.1.8 Start Number	27
4.1.9 Uniform Advertising	27
4.1.10 Medals and Certificates.....	27
4.1.11 Disqualifications.....	28
4.1.12 Discipline	28
4.2 Rules for Conventional events: Skating and Absolute Points Judging systems.....	28
4.2.1 General Rules for Conventional events.	28
4.2.2 Music.....	29
4.2.2.1 Music Time Duration	29
4.2.2.2 Music Bar/Minute	29
4.2.3 Dress Code for Athletes for Conventional events.....	30
4.2.4 Disqualifications: Disqualifications in Conventional Events for Skating Judging System.....	30
4.2.5 Dance Rounds	31
4.2.5.1 Preliminary Rounds	31
4.2.5.2 Preliminary Rounds schedule with Re-dance Round	32
4.3 Rules for Freestyle Events	34
4.3.1. General Rules for Freestyle events.....	34
4.3.2 Music for Freestyle Events.....	35
4.3.3 Dress Code for Freestyle competition costumes.....	36
4.3.4 Use of Props in Freestyle Events.	36

4.3.5	Dance Rounds in Freestyles Events	36
4.4.	Deductions in the Absolute Points Judging System for Conventional and Freestyle events	
	37	
4.4.1	Deductions in Conventional events	37
4.4.2	Deductions in Freestyle events	38
4.5	Marking System in the Final Round	38
4.5.1	Skating Judging System in Conventional events	38
4.5.2	Absolute Points Judging System in Conventional and Freestyle events.	38
4.6	Judging criteria for Conventional and Freestyle events	43
4.6.1	Evaluation Criteria “Technical Skills”	43
4.6.1.1	Wheelchair Dance Skills	43
4.6.1.2	Performance/Execution	43
4.6.2	Musicality/ Choreography/ Presentation	43
4.6.2.1	Choreography	43
4.6.2.2	Interpretation	44
4.6.2.3	Timing	44
4.6.3	Difficulty Level	44
5.	Index	45
	APPENDIX 1 Competition Requirement	47
	Appendix 2 World Rankings	48
	APPENDIX 3 Protest Form	57
	APPENDIX 4 Start Number	59
	APPENDIX 5 Uniform and Equipment Guidelines	6059
	APPENDIX 6 Visual impaired Rules	66
	APPENDIX 7 Pilot Events	67

1 Definitions and Abbreviations

Absolute Points Judging System – means the judging system whereby the Adjudicators mark couples/athletes with absolute points in the following three (3) areas: technical skill; choreography, musicality and presentation; and difficulty level. Place one (1) is the highest score.

Accessory - hats, gloves, masks, glasses, fans and hair, ribbons and feathers provided they form part of the costume are not a prop.

CAS - Court of Arbitration for Sport

Competition -One or a series of Events conducted together under one ruling body.

Competition Medical Director - the person appointed by the LOC for a World Para Dance Competition and/or a World Para Dance Sport Sanctioned Competition who is responsible to implement the World Para Dance Sport ‘Scope of Event Medical Services’.

Conventional Event – events which are based on standard and Latin dances listed in these Rules

Dancing against the line of the dance - In Ballroom Dancing, dancers follow the line of dance anticlockwise around the floor. To go in a clockwise direction is dancing against the line of dance.

Field of play - an indoor venue with dance floor, lighting, temperature conditions and sound provided in accordance with these Rules

Freestyle Event – a free dance competition held according to these Rules.

IPC - the International Paralympic Committee, the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement.

Latin - a conventional event which consists of Latin American dances listed in these Rules.

LOC – means a Local Organising Committee, a committee that is endorsed by the host NPC to organise a Recognised Competition.

MO - A member organisation that is not an NPC.

National Coach – means any person responsible for the training and supervision of a national Para Dance Sport team.

NPC – means National Paralympic Committee, a national organisation recognised by the IPC as the sole representative of athletes with an impairment in that country or territory to the IPC.

Professional Standing Dancer – means an athlete who participates in Dance Sport (as defined by the World Dance Sport Federation) in accordance with the World Dance Sport Federation Professional Division Supplementary Competition Rules.

Props - any movable or portable object used on the dance floor during a performance that is not an accessory.

Recognised Competition – means a Para dance sport competition as defined in Rule 3

Rules and Regulations – means these World Para Dance Sport Rules and Regulations, as published and updated by World Para Dance Sport.

Skating Judging System – means the judging system whereby the Adjudicators place the couples/athletes. Place one (1) is the best place marking. The same place must not be given to more than one (1) couple/athlete.

Sport Congress - means the meeting held by World Para Dance Sport to discuss any sport related matters in relation to Para Dance Sport, to be held annually in the last quarter of the year. The Sports Congress can be held in person, online or a hybrid of both

STC - The World Para Dance Sport, Sport Technical Committee, is responsible for delivering specified sport technical activities and services in accordance with the World Abilitysport Federation regulations and providing advice to the World Para Dance Sport Management Team on all World Para Dance sport technical matters.

Team Leader - means any person who is a Para Dance Sport leader, coach or representative recognised by a NPC/MO or a Disabled Sports Federation/Association to lead a National Team during a recognised WPDS competition

World Para Dance Sport Adjudicator - a person appointed by World Para Dance Sport from the sport official list to judge international competitions.

World Para Dance Sport Approved International Competition – This is the lowest level of competition that an athlete can achieve ranking points at and may include Youth Games, Sub Regional Games and competitions endorsed by an NPC.

World Para Dance Sport Chairperson of Adjudicators - a person appointed by World Para Dance Sport from the sport official list to fulfil the duties in accordance with these Rules.

World Ability Sport Federation -The legal entity of World Abilitysport and the governing body of World Para Dance Sport

World Abilitysport Federation Handbook - World Abilitysport Federation/handbook can be found here [Handbook - World Abilitysport](#) .

World Para Dance Sport Management Team - the team responsible for representing the World Abilitysport Federation's Board of Trustees and World Para Dance Sport in managing the business affairs of World Para Dance Sport and in all proceedings.

World Para Dance Sport Classifier - a person appointed by World Para Dance Sport from the sport official list to provide Classification of the athletes at the competition in accordance with the Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations.

World Para Dance Sport Recognised Competition – These are the highest level of international competitions and include, World and Regional Championships, World Cups and any other event that WPDS may sanction.

World Para Dance Sport DJ - a person approved by World Para Dance Sport who can provide music for the competition in accordance with these Rules

World Para Dance Sport Scrutineer - a person approved by World Para Dance Sport to support the competition judging process in accordance with these Rules.

World Para Dance Sport Technical Delegate - a person appointed by World Para Dance Sport to monitor and oversee a World Para Dance Sport Competition or World Para Dance Sport Sanctioned Competition and to ensure all technical operations are conducted in accordance with these Rules.

2 Introduction

These Rules and Regulations are mandatory for all World Para Dance Sport Recognised Competitions. The overall governance and management of World Abilitysport Federation World Para Dance Sport is subject to the detailed provisions of World Abilitysport Federation Handbook.

2.1 Printing of Rules and Regulations

These Rules and Regulations are the copyright property of World Abilitysport Federation and have been published for the benefit of NPCs/MO, athletes, officials and those who are engaged in an official capacity with World Para Dance Sport. These Rules and Regulations may be reprinted or translated by any organisation with a legitimate need to do so, subject to World Abilitysport Federation continuing ability to assert its copyright in the Rules and Regulations, including the right to insist on an assignment to World Abilitysport Federation- of the copyright in any translated version of these Rules and Regulations. The English version of these Rules and Regulations shall be accepted as the authoritative version for the purpose of interpretation.

2.2 Effect of World Dance Sport Federation Sport Technical Rules and Regulations

The World Dance Sport Federation Sport Technical Rules only apply to Conventional Events and in circumstances where these Rules and Regulations are silent. The World Dance Sport Federation Sport Technical Rules supplement these Rules and Regulations.

2.3 Amendments to these Rules and Regulations

These Rules and Regulations will be reviewed at the Sport Congress and recommendations will be made to the STC for potential amendments. The Sport Congress will provide opportunities to discuss any sport related matters, but the formal review of the Rules and Regulations will normally be discussed in the designated meetings according to the following timeline:

- Year 1 (Regional Championships): World Para Dance Sport shall make any minor updates and clarifications to the Rules and Regulations it considers necessary.
- Year 2 (World Championships): following the World Para Dance Sport World Championships WPDS, in consultation with the STC, shall conduct a full review of the Rules and Regulations.
- Year 3 (Regional Championships): World Para Dance Sport shall make any minor updates and clarifications to the Rules and Regulations it considers necessary.
- Year 4 (World Championships): following the World Para Dance Sport World Championships WPDS, in consultation with the STC, shall conduct a full review of the Rules and Regulations.

3 World Para Dance Sport Recognised Competitions

3.1 Competition Levels

3.1.1 World Para Dance categorises Competitions based on their scale, size, and nature to determine the application requirements.

3.1.2 World Para Dance Sport Recognised Competition levels are as follows:

a) World Para Dance Sport Championship:

- World Para Dance Sport World Championship
- World Para Dance Sport Regional Championships.
- World Para Dance Sport World Cup

b) World Para Dance Sport Approved Competitions

- Youth Games,
- World Abilitysport Games
- Sub-Regional Games,
- International competitions endorsed by a NPC or MO, National Dance Federation supported by NPC or MO.
- Any other World Para Dance international competitions determined by World Para Dance Sport

c) World Para Dance Sport Endorsed Competitions

- National Dance Sport Competition or National Open Competition organised by NPC or MO
- International Competitions organised by International Dance Sport Federation, supported by World Para Dance Sport, NPC or MO.
- Any other World Para Dance Sport competitions determined by World Para Athletics.

d A four-year-cycle for World Para Dance Sport World and Regional Championships will be adopted as follows:

- Year 1: Regional Championships (except if included in Regional Games)
- Year 2: World Championships
- Year 3: Regional Championships (except if included in Regional Games)
- Year 4: World Championships

The requirements for each of the Recognised Competitions are set out in Appendix 1 of this document and is also available on the WPDS Website.

3.1.3 An NPC or MO may make an application to World Abilitysport to hold an Endorsed or Approved Competition with a modified adjudicator panel. World Abilitysport will review the event information and have sole discretion in granting the application. World Abilitysport will determine the number of WPDS international and LOC national adjudicators to be used. World Abilitysport will appoint a qualified Technical Delegate and an International or National Chairman of Adjudicators.

To host a World Para Dance Sport recognised competition, the LOC must complete and send to World Abilitysport the Bid application form. <https://paradancesport.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/20250502-Bid-Para-dance-sport-Competition-blank-form.pdf>

3.2 Competition Management

- a) World Para Dance Sport alone shall have the right to manage World Para Dance Sport Competitions. The words “World” and “World Para Dance Sport” may not be used in connection with any disability dance sport event without the prior written consent of World Para Dance Sport.
- b) World Para Dance Sport shall have jurisdiction over all matters not assigned by these Rules and Regulations to the Adjudicators, or other officials and shall have the power to postpone events.
- c) Championships and Approved Competitions must comprise of one (1), two (2) or three (3) consecutive days. In endorsed competitions there are no restrictions on the minimum length a competition should run.
- d) In all Approved International Competitions and Endorsed Competition each event must have a minimum of one (1) participating country and a minimum of two (2) eligible athletes/couples by the final entries' deadline.
- e) In World Para Dance Sport Championships, each event must have a minimum of two (2) participating countries and a minimum of two (2) eligible athletes/ couples or dancers by the final entry's deadline.
- f) For Championships and Approved Competitions, a LOC shall be approved by World Para Dance Sport to manage the competition. This does not apply to endorsed competitions
- g) Each LOC, subject to the overall control and direction of World Para Dance Sport, shall be responsible for the entire management of Recognised Competitions, including the arrangement of the programme of events, classification, and technical equipment (including the installation of such equipment).
- h) To facilitate communication, each LOC must provide at least one (1) organiser with knowledge of the English language for the whole duration of a Championship or approved Competition (prior and during the competition).

3.3 Athletes

3.3.1 Athlete Eligibility

All athletes and standing dancers who wish to compete in Recognised Competitions must:

- adhere to the World Abilitysport Federation Athlete Nationality Policy in the World Abilitysport Federation Handbook.
- to compete in a junior sport discipline at Recognised Competitions, the athlete must be a minimum of 13 years of age by 31 December in the year of the Recognised Competition and a maximum of 20 years of age by 31 December in the year of the Recognised Competition*.
- to compete in any non-junior sport discipline at Recognised Competitions, be a minimum of 13 years of age by 31 December in the year of the Recognised Competition.
- hold a valid World Para Dance Sport licence (after completing the World Abilitysport Federation Athlete Eligibility Agreement).
- be entered by their NPC, or other recognised federation, in good standing with World Abilitysport Federation.
- comply with and be assigned a Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations*or meet the eligibility criterion for Visually Impaired
- Must not be a National Coach, Team leader or International Adjudicator.
- not otherwise be disqualified or suspended from Para Dance Sport.

Those conditions marked with an * do not apply to standing dancers

3.3.2 Entries

a) In World Para Dance Sport World and Regional Championships, each NPC/ MO is permitted to enter a maximum of three (3) couples or athletes per event and per class. This rule applies even after a couple changes class during classification. This rule does not apply to World Cup events

b) To compete in the World Championships a dancer must have competed in the previous year's Regional Championship. The exceptions to this are

- I. The relevant Regional Championship did not take place in the previous year.
- II. The dancer is a new athlete, and this is their first year of competition.
- III. The dancer failed to meet the necessary qualifying standard for the previous year's Regional Championship.
- IV. The dancer, was ill, injured or on maternity leave and couldn't compete in the previous year's Regional Championships.

This rule will apply for the first time for the 2027 World Championships.

c) In addition, subject to Rule 3.4. 2(d) below, each NPC/MO must ensure that all couples or athletes entered for World Championships or Regional Championships have competed in at least one (1) World Para Dance Sport Championship or Approved Competition in the current season of the respective Para Dance Sport Competition. This rule will apply for the 2027 World Championships. Until that time the current 70% of couples or athletes' rule will apply.

d) For World Para Dance Sport World or Regional Championships, if an NPC or MO does not have a qualified athlete or couple or has only one (1) qualified athlete or couple, it may apply for a wild card entry in accordance with Rule. 3.4.3.

e) All entries for Recognised and Approved Competitions must be submitted by the deadlines determined by World Para Dance Sport and the LOC.

f) Late entries (Championships only) will be subject to a penalty fee of £100 to be paid to World Para Dance Sport and will be accepted on a case-by-case basis in the sole discretion of the World Para Dance Sport.

g) For World Para Dance Sport Approved International Competitions and World Cups there is no limit in the number of couples per NPC/ MO per event per class.

3.3.3 Wild Card Entry

a) To apply for a wild card entry an NPC/MO must contact the World Para Dance Sport office no later than the opening date of the entries by number of the relevant World Para Dance Sport World or Regional Championship. World Para Dance Sport will assess each application on a case-by-case basis and make a non-appealable determination in its sole discretion taking into account the following principles:

- I. to ensure participation of athletes who have not had the opportunity to formally qualify via other methods because of extraordinary circumstances.
- II. to ensure representation of athletes with high support needs.
- III. to ensure events will have sufficient representation for viability.
- IV. to ensure better regional representation.
- V. to enable greater representation by gender.

b) Wild cards will only be allocated to individual athletes or couples, not to NPCs/ MOs.

c) Wild cards will be allocated at the discretion of World Para Dance Sport. When allocating wild cards to individual athletes World Para Dance Sport must ensure that rule 3.3.2 (a) is adhered to.

3.3.4 Gender

a) Subject to 3.4.4(c) , below, an athlete shall be eligible to compete in men's competition if he is:

- recognised as a male in law; and
- eligible to compete under these Rules and Regulations.

b) Subject to Rule 3.4.4(c), below, an athlete shall be eligible to compete in women's competition if she is:

- recognised as a female in law; and
- eligible to compete under these Rules and Regulations.

c) World Para Dance Sport will deal with any cases involving transgender athletes in accordance with the IOC's transgender guidelines (as amended by the IOC from time-to-time) and any applicable World Para Dance Sport regulations.

d) The eligibility of persons recognised as third gender in law will be determined by the World Abilitiesport Federation on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with any applicable World Para Dance Sport regulations.

3.3.5 Technical Meeting

Before the start of each Recognised Competition there must be a technical meeting with at least one (1) (and no more than two (2)) representative(s) of each participating country and the LOC, supervised by the World Para Dance Sport Technical Delegate or by the Chairperson of Adjudicators at approved

competitions. At least one (1) of the representatives from each country must be proficient in English. An athlete will only be permitted to be a representative at the technical meeting where they are the only representative of a country, or the official representative does not speak English.

In the case of endorsed competitions where only one country is present the technical meeting should include a representative of all team delegations represented in the competition.

3.4 Officials

3.4.1 Technical Delegate

a) Prior to each World Championship and at the discretion of WPDS, the Technical Delegate (appointed in accordance with Rule 3.5.3) shall be responsible for conducting site visits if applicable to:

- check the dance floor and its surrounding area, the classification room, the Adjudicators and changing rooms, and the music equipment and results systems.
- ensure that the competition will run smoothly and according to these Rules and Regulations.

b) During each Championship Competition, the Technical Delegate shall be responsible for:

- the competition dance floor and its surrounding area.
- ensuring the competition is run smoothly and according to these Rules and Regulations.
- all technical matters.
- all World Para Dance Sport officials appointed to each competition.
- cross-checking the personal data of athletes with the results systems used for the competition.
- checking the start lists at least two (2) months prior the start of each competition for World Para Dance Sport World and Regional Championships and at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of World Cups .
- checking the start numbers are correct (not duplicated) and the correct couples are on the dance floor from round to round.
- determining the number of couples to be recalled from the qualifying rounds and the number of couples for the final round of each competition.

c) During endorsed competitions the technical delegate is responsible for:

- Supporting the LOC, and Nationally appointed Chair of Adjudicators and Adjudicators to ensure the smooth running of the competition.
- Highlight any training requirements of National Adjudicators with Chair of Adjudicators to the LOC.
- Ensure the competition is run in accordance with WPDS rules and Regulations
- Chair the technical meeting associated with the competition they have been appointed
- Ensure that the results of the competition are published and submitted in accordance with WPDS guidelines
- If classification is being conducted at the event, support the classifiers to ensure that the classification process is conducted in accordance with classification rules and regulations

3.4.2 Chairperson of Adjudicators

a) At each Championship and Approved Competition, the Chairperson of Adjudicators shall be responsible for:

- checking the scrutineers' equipment.
- informing the Adjudicators about the heats and the rounds during the Adjudicators' meeting.
- checking if the dance dresses comply with these Rules and Regulations and, for Conventional Events, the World Dance Sport Federation Sport Technical Rules (in exceptional circumstances, in his or her sole discretion the Chairperson of Adjudicators may permit dance dresses to be worn that do not comply with the applicable rules).
- checking if the music used for each dance is correct.
- checking if the music time limits for each dance comply with these Rules and Regulations (in his or her sole discretion if he or she considers it necessary for the fair adjudication of the relevant event the Chairperson of Adjudicators may grant exceptions to such rules).
- and checking if the correct number and panel of Adjudicators are on the dance floor in each round.
- At an approved competition the Chairperson of Adjudicators may assume some of the duties of the Technical Delegate.

b) The Chairperson of Adjudicators can arrange for an Adjudicator's replacement to be appointed in case of emergency during a competition.

c) Only the Chairperson of Adjudicators can decide on the number of couples per heat based on the dance floor size.

d) The Chairperson of Adjudicators works closely together with the Technical Delegate, the competition announcer, and the scrutineers.

e) The Chairperson of Adjudicators has sole discretion to disqualify participants in accordance with Rules 4.2.1(e, f, g) and 4.2.4.

f) Only the Chairperson of Adjudicators has the right to stop an event in a competition if the music, numbers of couples or music bars is not in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

3.4.3 Duties and functions of World Para Dance Sport Adjudicators

a) Only persons from the list of accredited/ licenced World Para Dance Sport Adjudicators can be appointed as International adjudicators for Championship or Approved Competitions.

b) Adjudicators must follow the World Abilitysport Federation Code of Ethics.

c) In the final of World Para Dance Sport Championship or Approved Competitions the Adjudicators shall place the couples. For all Recognised Competitions, the Adjudicators shall use either the Skating Judging System or the Absolute Points Judging System as determined by the LOC and World Para Dance Sport.

d) Closed marking is used in all rounds of Championship approved and endorsed Competitions.

e) At World Para Dance Sport Championship Competitions, World Para Dance Sport shall appoint:

- One (1) Technical Delegate.

- One (1) Chairperson of Adjudicators. This person can be from the host country as long as he/she is currently accredited/ licenced for World Para Dance Sport and not fulfilling another role at the competition.
- At least nine (9) Adjudicators two (2) of which may be from the host country. In World Cups the number of adjudicators should be 7
- The chief classifier and an appropriate number of other classifiers if applicable.

The LOC may recommend to World Para Dance Sport one person as the Chairperson of Adjudicators and two person as the Adjudicator representing the host country.

The Technical Delegate, and Chairperson of Adjudicators must arrive at least two (2) days prior the opening ceremony and depart one (1) day after the closing ceremony.

Adjudicators must arrive at least one (1) day prior to the opening ceremony and depart one (1) day after the closing ceremony.

All costs for Technical Delegate, Chairperson of Adjudicators and Adjudicators, of accommodation, transportation (international and local), meals during the competition will be covered by the LOC.

The per diems paid to all technical officials by the LOC is outlined in a separate document World Para Dance Officials per diem rates found at this link [Para-Dance-Sport-Costs-2026-.pdf](#)

f) For World Para Dance Sport Approved International Competitions World Para Dance Sport shall appoint:

- one (1) Chairperson of Adjudicators (who may be from the host country provided they are recognised by World Para Dance Sport and not fulfilling any other role at the competition).
- the determined number of International Adjudicators to officiate, two of whom may come from the host country provided they are on the list of approved licenced officials.
- the LOC may nominate four (4) International Adjudicators for approval by World Para Dance Sport.

It is recommended that the number of adjudicators for approved competitions is between 5-7. In consultation with WPDS and dependent on the number of international adjudicators appointed the LOC may nominate a further three national adjudicators. These adjudicators must have experience in adjudicating Para Dance competitions and hold a recognised qualification with WPDS or one of the able-bodied federations.

All International Adjudicators must be on the current WPDS accredited adjudicators list and must not have any responsibilities with a team delegation participating at the competition where they are appointed to judge.

The nominated list of International and National Adjudicators from the LOC must be sent to World Para Dance Sport at least twelve (12) weeks prior to the start of the competition. World Para Dance Sport will review the nominated list of adjudicators and determine which adjudicators will be appointed. The National Adjudicators must sign the World Abilitysport Code of Conduct agreement and do the World Abilitysport safeguarding training.

g) For World Para Dance endorsed Competitions

World Para Dance Sport will appoint:

- One (1) Technical Delegate

- The LOC will appoint a National Chair of Adjudicators and between 5-7 adjudicators. These adjudicators must have some experience of adjudicating Para Dance competitions and hold a recognised qualification with WPDS or one of the National able-bodied federations.
- The LOC must supply the name of the chair of adjudicator, and a list of the adjudicators appointed 4 weeks prior to the date of the competition and ensure they sign the World Abilitysport Code of Conduct agreement and do the World Abilitysport Safeguarding training.
- The LOC must apply for the endorsement of any national competition at least 3 months before the scheduled date of the competition. If the LOC wishes classification to take place at the competition, then the application must be submitted at least 6 months prior to the date of the competition.
- Entries for Endorsed competitions will not be done through WPDS competition management system, but results will be submitted to info@paradancesport.org
- Only results for athletes that are licenced and have a Confirmed, or Fixed Review date classification status will qualify to have their results included on the international rankings
- WPDS may not endorse a competition if there is a conflict of dates between the competition seeking endorsement and a approved or championship competition.

3.4.4 Dress Code

a) During WPDS competitions the following dress code must be followed by the Technical Delegate, Chairperson of Adjudicators, Adjudicators and all other officials (including, but not limited to, any speaker, chairperson, scrutineer or manager).

Men : Black business suit, white dress shirt, neck tie, and black dress shoes without decoration

Women: black business suit with either a skirt (covering the knees) or trousers, white dress blouse, and black dress shoes

b) Classifiers are permitted to wear sportswear while performing classification prior to the commencement of a Recognised Competitions but must wear a black/dark business suit during each competition.

3.4.5 Classification Panels

a) The chief classifier and classifiers shall be appointed by World Para Dance Sport and subsequently communicated to the LOC in accordance with the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations.

b) All classifiers must arrive latest one (1) day prior the start of the classification evaluation process for the relevant Recognised Competition. All costs of accommodation, transportation (international and local) and meals, during the Recognised Competition will be covered by the LOC.

The per diems paid to all technical officials by the LOC is outlined in a separate document World Para Dance Officials per diem rates [Para-Dance-Sport-Costs-2025-.pdf](#)

3.5 Results

- a) Only results from Recognised Competitions are recognised by World Para Dance Sport.
- b) For all Recognised Competitions, the results system recognised by World Para Dance Sport must be used and supplied by each LOC.
- c) The LOC must submit the results from all events of each ~~all~~ Recognised Competition in electronic version to World Para Dance Sport no later than after the end of the closing ceremony of the relevant competition.

3.6 Rankings

- a) The ranking system is based on the points that athletes can achieve by participating in Recognised Competitions.
- b) Athletes' best four (4) results from Recognised Competitions over a 2 year cycle, a maximum of two(2) will be considered from any year for the final ranking.
- c) An athlete may receive between 1 and 100 points in a Recognised Competition.
- d) In Freestyle competition, the best result achieved over the two year period multiplied by the appropriate coefficient will determine the ranking points
- e) The ranking system is based on coefficients where the different levels of competitions are taken into consideration. For instance, the World Championships has the highest coefficient.
- f) The coefficient tables are set out in Appendix 2 can be found as part of this document.

3.7 Protests

- a) The protest form attached as Appendix 3 is to be submitted by the team leader, or the official representative of the delegation, within 30 (thirty) minutes after the conclusion of the heat or round of an event or 30(thirty) minutes after the need for a protest becomes apparent. Any protest must be made no later than 30(thirty) minutes before the medal ceremony
- b) A protest can only be made against a violation of the rules and regulations.
- c) The protest form must be submitted to the World Para Dance Sport Technical Delegate together with the protest fee of EUR 100. The protest form must include an explanation as to why the protest has been made and reference the specific rule(s) of these Rules and Regulations alleged to have been breached. If the protest is successful, the Euro 100 will be returned.
- d) The protest panel will be responsible for determining the outcome of any protest.
- e) For all Championship Competitions the protest panel shall consist of the Technical Delegate, the Chairperson of Adjudicators and either one of the STC members who is not involved in any other function for the competition or one of the Adjudicators (selected by the Technical Delegate).
- f) For Approved Competitions the protest panel shall consist of the Chairperson of Adjudicators and either one of the STC members who is not involved in any other function for the competition and one adjudicator or two Adjudicator if no member of the STC is present.

g) The protest panel must not include any person who was involved in the decision being protested. It is also advisable that the protest panel should not include any person from the country making the protest. It is acknowledged that this is not always practical and should be left to the discretion of the Technical Delegate at recognised competitions or Chair of Adjudicators at approved competitions.

h) The officials sitting on the protest panel should be announced at the team managers meeting prior to the competition. The Technical Delegate or Chair of Adjudicators should also announce a reserve panel member to step in if a situation as described in rule 3.7(g) arises.

i) The decision of the protest panel is final.

j) There will be no mechanism to make a protest at an endorsed competition.

3.8 Anti-Doping

All athletes and each athlete support personnel who participate in or are involved in any Recognised or Approved Competition as a coach, trainer, manager, team staff, official, medical, paramedical or other similar personnel is bound by the provisions of the World Abilitysport Federation Anti-Doping Code as a condition of such participation or involvement. The World Abilitysport Federation Anti-Doping Code can be found in the following link: <https://worldabilitysport.org/anti-doping/>

3.9 Medical Services

a) Medical Code: The World Abilitysport Federation Medical Code (outlined in the World Abilitysport Handbook) applies to all Recognised Competitions. The World Abilitysport Federation has appointed the World Abilitysport Federation Medical Advisory Committee under the guidelines of the World Abilitysport Federation Handbook to provide Para dance sport with general advice on medical matters.

b) Responsibilities:

- In accordance with the World Abilitysport Federation Medical Code, athletes are responsible for their own physical and mental health and for their own medical supervision.
- By participating in a Recognised Competition, all participants specifically release World Abilitysport Federation and World Para Dance Sport from any liability to the extent permitted by law for any loss, injury or damage that he or she may suffer in relation to or as a result of his or her participation in the Recognised or Approved Competition.
- Notwithstanding the above provisions, NPCs/MO's shall use best efforts to ensure that all athletes under their jurisdiction competing in Recognised Competitions are in a state of physical and mental health that is compatible with elite level competition in Para dance sport.
- Every NPC/MO shall use best efforts to ensure that appropriate and continuous medical monitoring of its athletes is undertaken. It is further recommended that NPCs/MO's organise, for a period, health evaluation of each athlete that it enters into competitions.
- NPCs/ MO's are responsible to ensure suitable medical provision and medical insurance coverage for their delegation during travel to and from Championships or Approved Competitions.
- It shall be the responsibility of the LOC in each case to ensure that suitable medical provision, medical services and medical insurance coverage are provided at all Recognised Competitions. The scope of medical services may vary according to the following factors: the size and nature of the Recognised Competition, the number of athletes participating, the number of support staff and spectators and the health standards of the country where the recognised or approved

Competition takes place. The World Abilitysport Federation Medical Advisory Committee shall issue and keep updated practical guidelines to assist LOCs in providing adequate medical services and taking appropriate safety measures at recognised competitions.

- A Chief Medical Officer (CMO) shall be appointed by the LOC for each Championship or approved Competition to prepare and co-ordinate the medical services and safety requirements during the competition and liaise with the World Abilitysport Federation Chair of Medical Advisory Committee if necessary.

c) Medical Exclusions: In exceptional circumstances, if an athlete has a medical condition that requires special treatment or poses special risk and cannot be reasonably managed by the LOC or World Para Dance Sport that condition may represent grounds for a refusal to accept the entry of that athlete. The World Abilitysport Federation Chair of Medical Advisory Committee will make a final decision, in consultation with the World Abilitysport Federation Medical Advisory Committee and sport-technical experts as identified by the STC. The affected athlete and his/her NPC/MO must be given opportunity to provide evidence that the medical risks are manageable. In making the decision, the following factors should be weighed:

- the risk to the athlete's health, including both the likelihood of an incident and its potential severity.
- the risk to other athletes and officials who will be on the dance floor at the same time.
- the medical resources which will be available at the Recognised Competition and the practicality and cost of any additional measures necessary to protect the athlete.
- the extent of insurance coverage obtained by the athlete, the team, and the relevant NPC/MO, and the LOC; and
- any evidence produced by the affected athlete and the NPC/MO.

While awaiting any final decision of the World Abilitysports Federation Chair of Medical Advisory Committee, the athlete will not be allowed to enter the Recognised or approved Competition. The athlete and NPC/MO are therefore required to bring possible exceptional circumstances to the attention of Para dance sport in a timely fashion.

3.10 Injuries

At competition venues, it is the responsibility of the team physician to determine whether an injured athlete may continue or return to the competition. This decision should not be delegated to other professionals or personnel. In the absence of the competent physician, other professionals or personnel should adhere strictly to the instructions that he or she has provided. At all times, the overriding priority should be to safeguard the health and safety of athletes. The outcome of the competition should never influence such decisions.

4. World Para Dance Technical Rules

4.1 General Rules

4.1.1 Events and Programme of Events

World Para Dance Sport Championship Competitions and World Para Dance Sport Approved Competitions must consist of the following events (subject to prior approval of World Para Dance Sport, World Para Dance Sport Endorsed Competitions can consist of all or some of the following events):

a) Conventional Events:

Sport Discipline	Events (competition class)	
Combi Standard		Class 1, Class 2, VI
Duo Standard		Class 1, Class 2
Combi Latin		Powerchair (Class 1) Class 1, Class 2, VI
Duo Latin		Class 1, Class 2
Single	Men	Class 1, Class 2
	Women	Class 1, Class 2
Single Powerchair	Mixed	Class 1
Junior Single	Mixed	Class 1, Class 2

World Para Dance Sport Conventional Events consist of the following dances:

Sport Discipline	Dances
Standard Dances	Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot, Quickstep
Standard Dances VI	Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot, Quick step,
Latin Dances	Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba, Paso Doble, Jive
Latin Dances VI	Samba Cha cha cha, Rumba, Paso Doble Jive
Single Dances*	Waltz, Tango, Samba, Rumba, Jive
Junior Single Dances **	Waltz, Samba, Jive

*The dances are fixed – always five (5) dances of Standard and Latin

**The dances are fixed – always three (3) dances of Standard and Latin

b) Freestyle

Sport Disciplines	Events	
Combi		Class 1 (Powerchair), Class 1, Class 2, VI
Duo		Class 1 (Powerchair), Class 1, Class 2
Single	Men	Class 1, Class 2
	Women	Class 1, Class 2
Single Powerchair	Mixed	Class 1 (Power chair)

4.1.2 Sport Class allocations, Competition Classes for Duo Events:

Sport Discipline	Class 1 (Powerchair)	Class 1	Class 2
Combi Standard	N/A	SC1	SC2
Duo Standard*	N/A	Duo SD1	Duo SD2
Combi Latin	L&F1	L&F1	L&F2
Duo Latin*	N/A	Duo L&F1	Duo L&F2
Single	Men	N/A	L&F1
	Women	N/A	L&F1
			L&F2
Single Powerchair	Mixed Mixed	L&F1 (powerchair) L&F1 (powerchair)	N/A
Single Junior	Mixed		L&F1
Combi Freestyle		L&F1 (powerchair)	L&F1
Duo Freestyle		L&F1 (powerchair)	Duo L&F1
			Duo L&F2

*For Duo events, the competition class is decided by the sum of the scores of the two athletes in a couple, the allocation is described in as follows:

Competition Class Allocation in Duo Events

a) Duo Standard Events

- Duo ST1: A couple will compete in Duo ST1, if both athletes are allocated an SD1 Sport Class, or if the sum of both Athletes scores from the Technical Assessment (as defined in the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations), is less than 50 points.
- Duo ST2: A couple will compete in Duo ST2, if both athletes are allocated an SD2 Sport Class, or if the sum of both Athletes scores from the Technical Assessment (as defined in the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations), is equal to or greater than 50 points.

b) Duo Latin Events

- Duo L&F 1: A couple will compete in Duo L&F 1, if both athletes are allocated an L&F1 Sport Class, or if the sum of both Athletes scores from the Technical Assessment (as defined in the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations), is less than 50 points.

- Duo L&F 2: A couple will compete in Duo L&F 2, if both athletes are allocated a L&F2 Sport Class, or if the sum of both Athletes scores from the Technical Assessment (as defined in the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations), is equal to or greater than 50 points.

c) Duo Freestyle Events

- Duo L&F1: A couple will compete in Duo L&F1, if both athletes are allocated L&F1 Sport Class, or if the sum of both athletes scores from the Technical Assessment (as defined in the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations), is less than 50 points.
- Duo L&F2: A couple will compete in Duo L&F2, if both athletes are allocated a L&F2 Sport Class, or if the sum of both athletes scores from the Technical Assessment (as defined in the World Para Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations), is equal to or greater than 50 points.

d) Powerchair Events

- Any athlete who meets the eligibility criteria for Class 1 and is a regular power chair user can compete in this event. This will be a temporary measure until a power chair dance class is finalised.
- The power chair dancers will remain class 1 athletes but for the purposes of the Sports Management Data System they will be referred to as category zero (0) dancers
- Athletes who compete in powerchair category cannot also compete in WPDS competitions in manual chair.
- Single competitions will be mixed gender.
- Duo freestyle and Combi freestyle can be same gender couples.
- In Duo events both dancers must be in powerchairs.
- Powerchair dancers will compete in Singles conventional and freestyle, duo freestyle and combi freestyle and Latin.
- The dancers competing with powerchairs will only be allowed to compete in Class 1 manual chair events where the event is not offered in these rules or where the powerchair entries mean a stand alone power chair event is not viable.
- The adjudicators will apply the same judging rules as other Para Dance Events.

e) Online competitions

- Official online competitions will be offered when deemed necessary to develop the sport.
- Athletes will have to be registered according to the Sport Registration, Licensing and Classification Rules.

Only World Para Dance Sport is authorised to grant exceptions to the event programmes of Recognised Competitions.

4.1.3 Composition of Participants

a) Singles

A Singles participant must consist of one (1) individual athlete (either a man or a woman), who is a wheelchair user and who meets the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 3.3.1 A Singles participant can participate in Conventional Events, Freestyle Events or both Conventional Events and Freestyle Events. A Singles participant participates in either the women's section or the men's section.

b) Combi

In Conventional event combi participants must consist of one (1) male and one (1) female athlete who both meet the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 3.3.1 one of whom must be a wheelchair user and meet minimum impairment criterion for the sport and the other a licenced standing athlete .

In freestyle events participants can also consist of (2) dancers of any genders set out in Rule 3.3.4 who both meet the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 3.3.1 one of whom must be a wheelchair user and meet minimum impairment criterion for the sport and the other a licenced standing athlete.

A standing dancer may partner a VI dancer and a wheelchair user in the same season and at the same competition. The competition schedule should not be altered to solely to accommodate a standing partner with multiple dance partners

Duo

In Conventional event duo participants must consist of one (1) male and one (1) female athlete who both meet the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 3.3.1 both of whom must be wheelchair users and meet minimum impairment criterion for the sport.

In freestyle events participants can consist of (2) dancers of any genders set out in Rule 3.3.4 who both meet the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 3.3.1 both of whom must be a wheelchair user and meet minimum impairment criterion for the sport.

Combi and Duo participants must always dance with the same partner in Standard, Latin and Freestyle sections throughout the duration of each season (1 January – 31 December). Partners can be different (or changed) only between Duo and Combi.

Wheelchair classes 1 and 2 may compete in Singles, Combi and Duo.

Athletes may dance in all sections (Standard, Latin or Freestyle) or only one section.

4.1.4 Dance Floor

- a) For World Para Dance Sport World and Regional Championships, the dance area must be a wooden floor with size at least 350m². For all other Recognised Competitions, the dance floor must have a surface area of at least 250m², where no side length is below 10m.
- b) A maximum of eight (8) couples or athletes are permitted to enter on each dance floor in one heat.

4.1.5 Lighting

- a) Only white lights can be used.
- b) The minimum of illumination of the dance floor should be not less than 200lx, where 1lx = 1lm / 1m² (1lux = 1lumen on 1square meter), which is normalized horizontal on the dance floor surface.
- c) The optimal temperature shall be 4000 K (4000 Kelvin - natural white light).
- e) Follow spotlights may only be used during single dances to illuminate each and every couple in the same way.
- f) Any direct glare of the competing couple has to be avoided by suitable measures such as positioning the spotlights as high as possible.

4.1.6 Temperature in the venue

- a) The temperature regime at the sport venue shall be between 18-21 degrees Celsius and ventilation during the competition should also be provided.
- b) For athletes with thermoregulation disorder (high level spinal cord injuries), the teams and/ or the athletes should remind in advance to prepare appropriate clothing for breaks during the competition.

4.1.7 Sound

- a) Simultaneous and uniform sounding in every part of the dance floor should be provided. Judges should not get the impression that the couple/athlete is dancing with a delay or ahead of the rhythm of the music because of the so called "sound delay".
- b) Music and speech should be heard loudly and clearly in all spectators' places. The main task is to provide the maximum simultaneous and uniform sounding in any part of the dance floor. From any side of the dance floor Judges should not get the impression that the couple/athlete is dancing with a delay or ahead of the rhythm of the music because of the so called "sound delay".
- c) Music and speech should be heard loudly and clearly in all spectator places.
- d) Optimal positioning of the Speaker - evenly suspended or laid along the sides of the dance floor.
- e) The least recommended location for the speakers is at the four corners of the dance floor at an angle of approximately 45 degrees to the short side of the dance floor.
- f) The "angle of disclosure" of the Speaker must ensure full "filling" of the dance floor.

- g) In case of insufficient volume or sound quality between the Speakers, it is necessary to install or suspend additional Speakers.
- h) The VIP zones and the area designated to the adjudicators during refereeing can be equipped with additional speakers, if necessary.
- i) For big venues, in order to ensure synchronous propagation of sound waves, the time delay effect, i.e. sound speed in the air, should be taken into consideration.
- j) The maximum power of Speaker sets should have a reserve from the required power.
- k) Surely, the venues with stationary installed acoustics can be used, but additional acoustic systems might be needed in order to fulfil the criteria.

4.1.8 Start Number

- a) The start numbers are produced and distributed by the LOC.
- b) A start number must be assigned to each participating couple and single athlete and such numbers, together with the corresponding athlete names, must appear on all competition lists and timetables.
- c) The start numbers must be worn always on the athletes back.
- d) If the wheelchair dancers backrest is high, then the start numbers must be worn on his backrest.
- e) In Duo and Combi Dance both athletes must wear the start number.
- f) The start numbers must be visible at all times.
- g) The start numbers must always be printed in black on a white background (or vice versa). The colours for the competition name and sponsor field may vary.
- h) The start numbers must be A5 in size and adhere to the design requirements set out in Appendix 4.

4.1.9 Uniform Advertising

The World Para Dance Sport Uniform and Wheelchair Advertising Guidelines must be applied at all Recognised Competitions. (Appendix 5)

4.1.10 Medals and Certificates

In Championship and Approved competitions, Gold, silver and bronze medals shall be awarded to those couples/athletes who finish in the first three places of each event. For the avoidance of doubt both athletes in a couple shall receive a medal.

- a) In World Para Dance Sport World and Regional Championships the World Abilitysport Protocol for such competitions level apply.
- b) In Regional and World Championships, if an event is finalised with only three (3) couples/athletes, medals will be awarded only to the first and second ranked

couple/athlete. The third ranked couple/athlete will get only a certificate.

4.1.11 Disqualifications

Participants may be disqualified at the sole discretion of the Chairperson of Adjudicators for any one or more of the following reasons:

- a) Failing to meet the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 3.3.1
- b) Not showing up to a Recognised Competition (No Show) (if an entered couple/athlete does not show up without providing prior notice to the LOC) In this case, the couple/athlete will be disqualified from the next Recognised Competition.
- c) Not adhering to any one or more of the rules set out in these Rules or Regulations.

4.1.12 Discipline

World Para Dance Sport may take disciplinary action for any breach of these Rules and Regulations and/or for any conduct that, in the opinion of World Para Dance Sport, is, or could be, harmful to another person and/or detrimental to the sport of Para dance sport. If World Para Dance Sport takes such disciplinary action it will do so under the advice of the World Abilitysport Federation Legal Counsel and in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

4.2 Rules for Conventional events: Skating and Absolute Points Judging systems

4.2.1 General Rules for Conventional events.

The following rules apply to Single, Duo and Combi sections, relevant or specific information for each section is outlined in the correspondent points.

- a) The judging begins when the competitor(s) adopt their dancing position and ends only when the music stops. The adjudicator must check his or her marks during the entire dance and amend them if necessary.
- b) If a competitor prematurely breaks off the dance, they will receive the lowest judging. Exceptions are short interruptions of a dance due to collisions, technical failure, or similar occurrences.
- c) Standard Dances in Combi section must be danced in a Closed Hold throughout. If a competitor ignores that rule, he/she will get the lowest judging in that dance. Exception accepted for wheelchair athletes using electric wheelchair in Class 1, where it is impossible to make a Closed Hold.
- d) In Combi Standard Class 1 and Class 2 events, the standing partner should not start or stop the movement of the wheelchair with their legs or feet.
If a competitor ignores that rule it must get the lowest judging in that dance.
- e) In Conventional events it is not allowed to dance against the Line of Dance i.e. anticlockwise around the dance floors. If a couple/ athlete ignores this rule, the couple/ athlete must get the lowest judging in that dance. Exception will happen in case of avoiding the collision. A

couple/ athlete will be disqualified if the offence is repeated after the Chairperson of Adjudicators has provided a warning to the team leader

- f) Dangerous movements as high back kicks, laying or sitting on the floor, uncontrolled speed of wheelchair, are prohibited in Conventional events. If a competitor ignores that rule it has to get the lowest judging in that dance. A couple/ athlete will be disqualified if the offence is repeated after the Chairperson of Adjudicators has provided a warning to the team leader.
- g) Lifts in Conventional events are not permitted. A lift is any movement with one partner having no contact to the floor caused by assistance or support of partner or wheelchair. Lifts of the front wheels or short jumps are allowed. The sitting partner can lift the chair with own force, but not with the help of the partner. If a competitor ignores that rule it has to get the lowest judging in that dance. A couple/ athlete will be disqualified if the offence is repeated after the Chairperson of Adjudicators has provided a warning to the team leader.

4.2.2 Music

The music must be relevant to the dance.

4.2.2.1 Music Time Duration

In all rounds of Recognised Competitions, the music played shall be as follows:

- a) A maximum of one and a half (1½) minutes for Waltz, Tango, Slow Foxtrot, Quickstep, Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha and Paso Doble (up to and including the second highlight).
- b) A maximum of one (1) minute for Viennese Waltz and Jive.
- c) The same style of music must be played during the heats and qualifying rounds of each competition.
- d) Any changes to the music durations outlined above can only be done by the Chairperson of Adjudicators.

4.2.2.2 Music Bar/Minute

In all rounds of Recognised Competitions, the music played shall be as follows:

Standard dances

Dance	Sport Class 1 including powerchair	Sport Class 2	VI Class
	Bar/minute	Bar/minute	Bar/minute
Waltz	28-30	28-30	28-30
Tango	31-33	31-33	3-33
Viennese Waltz	56-58	58-60	58-60
Slow Foxtrot	28-30	28-30	28-30
Quickstep	48-50	50-52	48-50

Latin dances

Dance	Sport Class 1 including powerchair	Sport Class 2	VI Class
	Bar/minute	Bar/minute	Bar/ Minute
Samba	48-50	50-52	50-52
Cha-Cha-Cha	28-30	30-32	30-32
Rumba	24-25	24-25	23-25
Paso Doble	58-60	60-62	60-62
Jive	40-42	42-44	40-42

4.2.3 Dress Code for Athletes for Conventional events

- a) In Latin dances a two-piece dance dress is permitted but the upper part must be decorated and must not, in the reasonable opinion of World Para Dance Sport, look like a bra.
- b) Changes to the dance dress are permitted from round to round but never from heat to heat (between dances).
- c) The only exception is in case that the dance dress is damaged and only after the Chairperson of Adjudicator's approval.
- d) The team leaders are responsible for following the dress code for the athletes. When in doubt, they should contact the chairperson of adjudicators for the dress check and final decision.

4.2.4 Disqualifications: Disqualifications in Conventional Events for Skating Judging System

Participants may be disqualified in the sole discretion of the Chairperson of Adjudicators for any one or more of the following reasons:

- a) Performing dangerous movements (high back kicks, laying or sitting on the floor, uncontrolled speed).
- b) Performing a lift.
- c) Dancing against the line of dance i.e. in a clockwise direction

- d) Rough behaviour on the dance floor (crashing or blocking other couples/athletes on purpose or fighting)

A couple/athlete will be disqualified if the offence is repeated after the Chairperson of Adjudicators has provided a warning to the team leader. If this warning has to be given after the final or the round in which the couple were eliminated, the Chairperson of Adjudicators will highlight this in the competition report to the Sport Manager who will pass the warning on to the COA of the next competition for further follow-up of the dancers involved

If a couple/athlete is disqualified their/his/her results will appear as DSQ.

4.2.5 Dance Rounds

4.2.5.1 Preliminary Rounds

- a) In case of low number of participants World Para Dance Sport competitions should be comprised of at least two (2) qualifying rounds to allow couples/athletes the opportunity to dance twice.
- b) The number of rounds during a competition (First round, Re-dance, second round, etc.) depends on the number of couples/athletes of which the competition consists of.
- c) In the event there are only one or two couples/athletes in Class 1, they will be permitted to compete together with Class 2. Each couple/athlete will get ranking points in their own class, according to the place achieved in the competition.
- d) All couples/athletes must perform all dances in a round. To fulfil this criterion all couples/athletes must be split into different heats. The participants should be mixed from heat to heat in different dances. Those couples/athletes who take part in the last heat preferably should not be called to the first heat in the next dance. This Rule does not apply in case of only 2 heats in each dance or just in case of 1 heat only.
- e) At least 50% of participating couples shall be recalled to the next round excluding the final.
- f) In all preliminary rounds judging happens by “Yes” or “No” principle, where “Yes” means 1 point and “No” – no points. Couples/athletes with bigger amount of points will be qualified to the next round.
- g) Some time it happens that several couples/athletes get the same number of points and through a tie more couples/athletes qualify to the next round, then the number of couples/athletes to dance shall be decided by the Chairperson of Adjudicators.
- h) When the Skating Judging System is used, six (6) couples/athletes must participate in the final of the World Para Dance Sport Competitions, but if more than six (6) couples qualify, the Chairperson of Adjudicators has sole discretion to increase the number of participants in the final round.
- i) When the Absolute Points Judging System is used, no more than twelve (12) couples/athletes should participate in the Final round of the World Para Dance Sport competitions, but in case more than twelve (12) couples/athletes qualify, the Chairperson of Adjudicators will decide whether or not to increase the number of participants. The extension of the Final round can be done up to 15 couples/athletes' maximum.
- j) When the Absolute Points Judging System is used, starting from 10 couples/athletes due to preliminary rounds the participants qualified to the Final have to be split in two (2) groups in accordance with the results shown in preliminary rounds.
- k) When the Absolute Points Judging System is used, it might happen that several couples/athletes get the same number of points in preliminary round and through a tie it is impossible to split participants of the Final in two (2) groups correctly. In this case those couples/athletes which form a tie will be split to the corresponding groups randomly.

4.2.5.2 Preliminary Rounds schedule with Re-dance Round

Number of couples/athletes	Skating Judging System					Absolute Point Judging System				
	1 st round	Re-dance	2 nd Round	Semi-final	Final	1 st round	Re-dance	2 nd round	Final	
	Mark	Mark	In the Round	In the Round	In the Round	Mark	Mark	In the Round	In the Round	
3 couples/athletes	General look					3	General look			3
4 couples/athletes	General look					4	General look			4
5 couples/athletes	General look					5	General look			5
6 couples/athletes	General look					6	General look			6
7 couples/athletes	General look					7	General look			7
8 couples/athletes	3	3	-	-	6	General look (1 or 2 heats)			8	
9 couples/athletes	3	3	-	-	6	General look (2 heats)			9	
10 couples/athletes	3	3	-	-	6	Mark 5 (2 heats)			10 (5/5)	
11 couples/athletes	3	3	-	-	6	Mark 6 (2 heats)			11 (5/6)	
12 couples/athletes	3	3	-	-	6	Mark 6 (2 heats)			12 (6/6)	
13 couples/athletes*	6	4	-	10	6	6	4	-	10 (5/5)	
14 couples/athletes*	7	5	-	12	6	7	5	-	12 (6/6)	
15 couples/athletes*	7	5	-	12	6	7	5	-	12 (6/6)	
16 couples/athletes	7	5	-	12	6	7	5	-	12 (6/6)	
...	7	5	-	12	6	7	5	-	12 (6/6)	
24 couples/athletes	7	5	-	12	6	7	5	-	12 (6/6)	
25 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12	6	12	6	18	12 (6/6)	
26 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12	6	12	6	18	12 (6/6)	
27 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12	6	12	6	18	12 (6/6)	
...	12	6	18	12	6	12	6	18	12 (6/6)	

Number of couples/athletes	Skating Judging System					Absolute Point Judging System			
	1 st round	Re-dance	2 nd Round	Semi-final	Final	1 st round	Re-dance	2 nd round	Final
36 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12	6	12	6	18	12 (6/6)

*) When the Absolute Points Judging System is used, the competitions from thirteen (13) to fifteen (15) couples/athletes may proceed by the schedule as follows:

Number of couples/athletes	Absolute Points Judging System	
	1 st round	Final
13 couples/athletes*	Mark 6 (2 heats)	13 (7/6)
14 couples/athletes*	Mark 6 (2 heats)	14 (8/6)
15 couples/athletes*	Mark 6 (2 heats)	15 (9/6)

4.2.5.4 Final Round

- Final Round in Skating Judging System

All the finalists are performing all the dances of the event one by one in one heat without leaving the Dance Floor.

- Final round in Absolute Points judging system

a) The Final round usually consists of up to 12 couples/athletes.

b) The principle of performance of couples/athletes: no more than 3 couples/athletes in 1 heat.

1.2.3. The forming system of the heats is identical to that used in the preliminary rounds.

c) At least 2 couples/athletes should be entered in each heat of a current dance in the Final round.

The heats format in accordance with the number of participants in the table below:

Number of couples/athletes n/n/n/n – Number of couples/athletes in one heat showing the number of heats

12	3/3/3/3
11	3/3/3/2
10	3/3/2/2
9	3/3/3
8	3/3/2
7	3/2/2
6	3/3
5	3/2
4	2/2
3	3

d) It could happen that after the preliminary rounds several couples/athletes form so called “tie”.

It means that several couples/athletes get the same markings and could not be split. In this case the Chairperson of Adjudicators can make a decision of the Extension of the Final round up to 15 couples/athletes maximum.

In this case the heats format will be as follows:

Number of couples/athletes/n/n/n – Number of couples/athletes in one heat showing the number of heats

13	3/3/3/2/2
14	3/3/3/3/2
15	3/3/3/3/3

4.3 Rules for Freestyle Events

4.3.1. General Rules for Freestyle events.

- a) Judging consists of marking with absolute points in three different aspects:
Technical Skills
Choreography, Musicality and Presentation
Difficulty Level
and Deductions
- b) The judging of a participant begins from the entrance to the dance floor and ends only when the music stops. The entrance could be with or without music.
- c) The adjudicator is prohibited from any discussion about the competitors and/or their performance with any person prior to the close of the competition.
- d) The adjudicator can correct the marks after 10 performances or in the end of the section if less than 10 performances occurred. The Chairperson of Adjudicators allows up to 5 minutes to the adjudicators for corrections, if necessary.
- e) In order to gain admission to the World or Regional Championships in WPDS, couples/athletes must show the reasonable result in at least one competition of the current season:
 - For Class 1 – not less than 15,000 points
 - For Class 2 – not less than 18,000 points
 - For Powerchair – not less than 13,000 points
 - For VI – not less than 15,000 points
- f) Movement Vocabulary and Content for Freestyle events
 - Many types of movement's styles, repertoires and their adaptations are allowed (folk, hip-hop, breaking, latin, standard, ballet, contemporary, street dance, salsa, Argentinean tango, cumbia, belly dance).
 - Movements and body language should be appropriate to be seen by all ages.
 - Strength, energy, power, sensuality, passion, caring and love actions are allowed, but explicit violent or sexual manifestations are not allowed.
- g) Deduction and lower Judging

In case of falling due to misbalance a competitor will get the lower judging in that dance. See Deductions.

It is allowed to leave the wheelchair as a transition or fragment in the beginning or in the end of the

program but should not be the main part of it; wheelchair dancers have to fulfil the technical skills in the wheelchair primarily. In case of wheelchair dancer performing on the floor out of his/her wheelchair in Freestyle events the lower judging will be applied to that performance. See Deductions.

In case of usage of accessories and/or props in Freestyle events the lower judging will be applied to that performance. See Deductions.

In case of violation of time limits of performances in Freestyle events the lower judging will be applied. See Deductions.

In case of violation to the dress code in Freestyle events the lower judging will be applied to that performance. See Deductions.

A maximum of 3 lifts are allowed during the whole presentation in Freestyle section. A lift is any movement with one partner having no contact to the floor caused by assistance or support of partner or wheelchair. If a competitor ignores that rule it must get the lower judging in that dance for each extra lift starting from 4th one. See Deductions.

Lifts shall be organically included in the concept and idea of dance but shall not be the main action of the dance. Competitor shall avoid long lasting lifts, when just one lift can be considered by adjudicators as the main action of dance which leads to a lower judging of the MCP criterion of the dance. Lift as a lift shall not give any priorities in overall judging (TS, MCP and DL) and shall not be judged higher than other dance elements.

Acrobatic movements are allowed in Freestyle section and shall be organically included in the concept of the dance but shall not constitute a certain set of acrobatic elements without any idea, or be the main action of dance which leads to a lower judging of the MCP criterion of the dance. Acrobatic element as itself shall not give any priorities in overall judging (TS, MCP and DL) and shall not be judged higher than other dance elements.

4.3.2 Music for Freestyle Events

- a) Athletes may choose any type of music for Freestyle Events
- b) The music must meet a specific length:
 - The duration of the free dance presentation for Singles: 1:30 min to 2min
 - The duration of the free dance presentation for Combi: 2:30 to 3min
 - The duration of the free dance presentation for Duo: 2:00 to 2:30min
- c) Athletes must submit their music prior to the relevant competition in mp3 format, and should give credit to the artist.
- d) Music should be audible and clear.
- e) The Chairperson of Adjudicators is responsible for checking the length of the music provided by each couple/athlete meets the requirements above.

4.3.3 Dress Code for Freestyle competition costumes.

- a) Costumes and make-up
 - All types of costumes and make-up are permitted provided they reflect the programme, performance and age of the athletes.
 - All costumes must cover the intimate areas of the athletes' bodies.
 - Changes to costumes are not permitted at any time.
- b) Decoration and jewellery
 - Religious symbols as decoration or jewellery are not permitted (unless otherwise approved by World Para Dance Sport). Any other decoration or jewellery is permitted.
- c) Accessories
 - The only accessories permitted are: hats (up to 40 cm in diameter and up to 30 cm in height (with the exception of sombreros), gloves, masks, glasses, fans and hair ribbons and feathers provided they form part of the costume and are not a prop.
 - Any accessories used by athletes must not be placed on the floor, on a wheelchair or handed to another person during dances.
- d) Underwear
 - Must provide full coverage.
 - Skin colour underwear is not permitted.
 - Breasts must be covered.
- e) Skirts and Trousers
 - Hip line skirts or pants are permitted, provided the line between the buttock muscles (the inter-gluteal line) is not visible.
 - All types of trousers, shorts, dresses and skirts are permitted, provided the length, in the opinion of the Chairperson of Adjudicators, is appropriate.
- f) Shirts and blouses
 - Men may wear short, long or no sleeves, provided the torso is covered.
 - Men's tops or shirts may only be open until the centre of the belt buckle or the centre of the trousers top line.
 - All blouses and tops are permitted, provided coverage, in the opinion of the Chairperson of Adjudicators, is appropriate.
- g) Tights and leotards
 - All tights and leotards are permitted.
- h) Colours
 - All colours and combinations are permitted.
- i) Shoes
 - All types of dance shoes (including trainers) are permitted except character shoes with cloves or spikes that could damage the dance floor.
 - Bare feet are also permitted.

The Chairperson of Adjudicators, in his or her sole discretion, may require an athlete to remove an item of jewellery or dress if it presents a danger to that athlete or other athletes.

4.3.4 Use of Props in Freestyle Events.

Props (any movable or portable object used on the dance floor during a performance that is not an accessory as defined in Rule 4.3.3., are not permitted in Freestyle Events. The one exception is Intellectually impaired dancers

4.3.5 Dance Rounds in Freestyles Events

- a) There are no preliminary rounds in Freestyle section. All participants present their programme to

the Adjudicators only once.

- b) The order of performances in the Final round is determined by a draw.
- c) All couples/athletes participate on the dance floor one by one and get points after the performance.
- d) If an athlete falls during a performance and can recover immediately, he may continue to compete without interruption. In case assistance is needed, the music will be stopped and then, if the athlete is able to continue, restarted from the point of the fall.

In exceptional cases, by the decision of the Chairperson of Adjudicators, it may be allowed to present the composition from the beginning. Such a decision can be made, for example, if it is impossible to continue the performance from the place of the fall.

4.4. Deductions in the Absolute Points Judging System for Conventional and Freestyle events

4.4.1 Deductions in Conventional events

Chairperson of Adjudicators is responsible for deductions in the Final round.

In case of any of Adjudicators and/or Chairperson of Adjudicators notice violation, then a collegial decision of an Adjudicators team is required. If the majority of Adjudicators vote "for", then the deduction is applied. In case of no agreement between Adjudicators the final decision is under Chairperson of Adjudicators responsibility. This decision is final and not subject to revision.

The decision should be made during the pause between final rounds of dances from one dance to the next one.

The following actions will result on loss of points:

Violation	Deductions (points)
Falling due to misbalance Exception is in case of couples'/athletes collisions	-1,0 for each
Prematurely break off a dance. Exceptions are short interruptions of a dance due collisions, technical failure or similar occurrences.	-2,0
A gap of Closed Hold in Combi Standard Exception is when couples break the hold in order to avoid collision	-1,0
Pushing wheelchair with foot to start the movement / stopping wheelchair with the standing partner's foot in Combi Standard or Latin.	-3,0
Wheelchair athlete stops or starts the movement of wheelchair with a foot (feet)	-3,0
Illegal element violation - Lifts Exception is the case of an unintended Lift, which occurs due to a technical failure of execution of an element. In this case Adjudicators should put lower markings in Technical Skills section as the element was executed in a wrong way.	-1,0
Dancing against the line of dance (LOD) Exception is in case of movement avoiding the collision	-2,0
Dangerous movements (high back kicks, laying or sitting on the floor, uncontrolled speed) Exception is at the highlight in Paso Doble	-2,0
Rough behaviour on the dance floor (crashing on purpose or fighting)	-5,0 for the first time

	DSQ in case of repeat
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4.4.2 Deductions in Freestyle events

Chairperson of Adjudicators is responsible for deductions.

The following actions will result on loss of points:

Violation	Deductions (points)
Falling due to misbalance	-1,0 for each
Wheelchair dancer performing on the floor out of his/her wheelchair **)	-5,0
Usage of accessories and/or props **)	-3,0
Violation of time limits of performances	-2,0
Violation to the dress code	-1,0
More than 3 lifts starting from the 4 th one	-1,0 for each

**) A collegial decision is required at these points. If the majority of adjudicators vote "for", then the deduction is applied. In case of no agreement between adjudicators the final decision is under Chairperson of Adjudicators responsibility. This decision is final and not subject to revision.

4.5 Marking System in the Final Round

4.5.1 Skating Judging System in Conventional events

- The marks from each adjudicator for each dance in the Final are the places for the couples/athletes, with the 1st place being the highest.
- All places from 1 to 6 must be assigned to all 6 couples/athletes in the Final and no ties are allowed, i.e. an adjudicator cannot put the same place twice to different couples/athletes in one dance.
- The place marks awarded in the individual dances are added, and the couple/athlete with the lowest total score (i.e., the highest number of 1st places) is the winner.

4.5.2 Absolute Points Judging System in Conventional and Freestyle events.

Judging consists of marking with absolute points in three different aspects:

- Technical Skills
- Musicality, Choreography and Presentation
- Difficulty Level

Adjudicators will mark two (2) of three (3) aspects in accordance with the Table presented in point 9.2.c)

4.5.2.1 Composition of the Adjudicators panel for competitions depending on the number of Adjudicators team:

Composition of Adjudicators Team is the same for Conventional and Freestyle sections.
Judging consists of marking with absolute points in three different aspects:

- a) Technical Skills

- b) Musicality, Choreography and Presentation
- c) Difficulty Level

The Adjudicators Team consists of in between 7 to 9 Adjudicators plus 1 Chairperson of Adjudicators.

Each Adjudicator is identified by the capital letter of the Latin alphabet: A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; J. Adjudicators will mark two (2) of three (3) aspects in accordance with the Table presented in 1.3.5.

Composition of Adjudicators panel per competition:

Number of Adjudicators in a competition	Evaluating group in Technical Skills (TS)	Evaluating group in Musicality, Choreography and Presentation (MCP)	Evaluating group in Difficulty Level (DL)
7 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G)	A, B, C, E, G	A, C, D, E, F	B, D, F, G
8 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)	A, B, C, E, G	A, C, D, E, F, H	B, D, F, G, H
9 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J)	A, B, C, E, G, J	A, C, D, E, F, H	B, D, F, G, H, J

4.5.2.2 Marking system

a) Technical Skills marking

Adjudicators should evaluate the Technical Skills of the couple/athlete in absolute points in accordance with Technical Skills evaluation criteria using the scale from 5,0 to 9,9 with increments of 0,1 (9,9 is the highest mark). The scale can be extended to the range up to 1,0 if needed. This opportunity is necessary to have for those participants whose level of performance can be quite weak, for example, beginners and for usage at the National level.

See the scale below.

POINTS	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
0,9									
0,8									
0,7									
0,6									
0,5									
0,4									
0,3									
0,2									
0,1									
0,0									

b) Musicality, Choreography and Presentation marking

Adjudicators should evaluate the Musicality, Choreography and Presentation of the couple/athlete in absolute points in accordance with Musicality Choreography and Presentation evaluation criteria using the scale from 5,0 to 9,9 with increments of 0.1. (9,9 is the highest mark). The scale can be extended to the range up to 1,0 if needed. This opportunity is necessary to have for those participants whose level of performance can be quite weak, for example, beginners and for usage at the National level.

See the scale below.

POINTS	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
0,9									
0,8									
0,7									
0,6									
0,5									
0,4									
0,3									
0,2									
0,1									
0,0									

c) Difficulty Level marking

Adjudicators should evaluate the Difficulty level of the performance in absolute points in accordance with Difficulty level evaluation criteria using the scale from 1,00 to 1,50 with increments of 0.05 (1,5 is the highest mark). See the scale below.

Difficulty coefficients:

1,00	1,05	1,10	1,15	1,20	1,25	1,30	1,35	1,40	1,45	1,50
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

Each adjudicator should put marks in accordance with his judging appointment.

For example, adjudicator "A" should mark 3 participants in a current heat (see the table)

Number	Adjudicator A	
10	TS	6,7
	MCP	7,8
17	TS	7,5
	MCP	7,4
21	TS	8,9
	MCP	9,1

In this example the Adjudicator "A" have to evaluate participants with numbers 10, 17 and 21 in Technical Skills (TS) and Musicality, Choreography and Presentation (MCP).

In case of necessity after all participants have performed a current dance, adjudicators can ask for 2-3 minutes for checking markings or for making a collegial decision (points 7.1. and 7.2., Part D).

4.5.2.3 The Result Formula

a) The Formula below shows how the points are allocated to the participants for one dance: (Value 1 + Value 2) x Value 3 – (Deductions Value if any) = Result

Where

Value 1 – Technical Skills Value

The highest and the lowest marks will be ignored

The Average mark will be determined from the other marks for Technical Skills

Value 2 – Choreography and Presentation Value

The highest and the lowest marks will be ignored

The Average mark will be determined from the other marks for Technical Skills

Value 3 – Difficulty Level Value

The highest and the lowest marks will be ignored

The Average mark will be determined from the other marks for Technical Skills

For example:

Considering 7 Adjudicators markings for one dance of one participant:

	TS					Value 1	MCP					Value 2	DL				Value 3	- Deductions	Result
Ad j.	A	B	C	E	G		A	C	D	E	F		B	D	F	G			
Ad j.	7,5	7,4	7,5	7,7	7,8	7,567	8,1	8,1	8,4	8,3	8,2	8,2	12,5	13,5	13,0	13,5	1,325	0	20,891

After taking away the highest and the lowest marks in each section, the average mark can be determined. The result for this dance in this example will be as follows:
(Value 1 + Value 2) x Value 3 – Deductions = Result

$$(7,567 + 8,200) \times 1,325 - 0 = 20,891$$

b) The points shown in the individual dances are added and the final result is determined by the sum of points for all dances. The example below shows the final result of a couple after performing 5 dances:

Number	Family Name / Name	Number	1 Dance	2 Dance	3 Dance	4 Dance	5 Dance	Number	Result	Rank
11	Athlete M / Athlete F	11	17,340	15,745	18,154	15,750	15,694	11	82,683	7

- c) The winner is the couple/athlete with the highest total score shown in the Final.
- d) In Freestyle section, due to the reason of having only one dance in the program, a situation can happen with a tie between two or more couples/athletes.

See the example below:

Adj.	TS					Value		CP					Value		DL					Value		Ded	Result	Place		
	A	B	C	E	G	min	max	1	A	C	D	E	F	min	max	2	B	D	F	G	min	max	3			
48	7,9	6,0	7,2	5,2	5,6	5,2	7,9	6,267	7,5	7,3	6,3	5,4	5,5	5,4	7,5	6,367	1,00	1,05	1,20	1,10	1,00	1,20	1,075		13,581	7-8
36	7,5	6,2	6,1	6,7	5,8	5,8	7,5	6,333	7,9	6,2	5,8	6,9	5,3	5,3	7,9	6,300	1,00	1,05	1,10	1,15	1,00	1,15	1,075		13,581	7-8

In order to untie the situation and rank the couples/athletes it is necessary to switch off the highest and the lowest marks neglect. All marks should be accepted. In this case under additional indicators ranks can be determined:

Adj.	TS					Value		CP					Value		DL					Value		Ded	Result	Place	
	A	B	C	E	G	1	A	C	D	E	F	2	B	D	F	G	3	3	3	3	3	3			
48	7,9	6,0	7,2	5,2	5,6	6,380	7,5	7,3	6,3	5,4	5,5	6,400	1,00	1,05	1,20	1,10	1,086							13,879	7
36	7,5	6,2	6,1	6,7	5,8	6,460	7,9	6,2	5,8	6,9	5,3	6,420	1,00	1,05	1,10	1,15	1,075							13,846	8

This procedure shall be done only for the couples/athletes getting in tie position and only for determination of the rank. In official protocols the “tie” result should be kept. It means that in the example presented the participant with number 48 will get the 7th place with the result 13,851 points and number 36 will be 8th with 13,851 points.

- e) In Conventional section it is practically impossible, but in case with a tie between two or more couples/athletes with the same sum of the total score in the Final the following procedure should be done:
 - a.1. The ranks for each dance are added and the couple/athlete with the lowest sum of places will get the higher Final Rank.

See the example bellow:

Number	Family Name / Name	Total Score Result	Current Rank	1 Dance Rank	2 Dance Rank	3 Dance Rank	4 Dance Rank	5 Dance Rank	Ranks Sum	Final Rank
11	Athlete M / Athlete F	82,683	7	7	9	7	6	8	37	8
23	Athlete M / Athlete F	82,683	7	8	6	6	8	7	35	7

This procedure shall be done only for the couples/athletes getting in tie position and only for determination of the Final Rank. In official protocols the “tie” result should be kept. It means that in the example presented the participant with number 11 will get the 8th place with the result 82,683 points and number 23 will be 7th with 82,683 points.

- a.2. If happens that the couples/athletes are still cannot be “untied”, because of the equal Ranks Sum “all marks accepted” should be used for all dances of the Final round. The couple/athlete with the

highest Total Score Result will get the rank higher than the other.4.6 Judging criteria for Conventional and Freestyle events

4.6 Judging criteria for Conventional and Freestyle events

4.6.1 Evaluation Criteria “Technical Skills”

Overall wheelchair control quality: the flow over the dance floor demonstrated in connection of wheelchair and an athletes' body, the clarity of wheelchair technique and use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed of movements including different types of turns.

4.6.1.1 Wheelchair Dance Skills

- Balanced connection of an athlete's body with their wheelchair
- Notional axis through the head and the body of an athlete is vertical and optimally harmonious
- Flow and effortless rolling of a wheelchair
- Mastery ability to direct a wheelchair through space while dancing through the use of the body work
- Cleanness and sureness of hand work of an athlete with hand rims in “steps”, arc movements and turns of wheelchair
- Power / energy, acceleration and precise stopping of wheelchair
- Mastery of multi-directional wheelchair moving
- Equal mastery of wheelchair technique by both partners shown in interaction (Duo Standard and Latin)
- Balanced connection and interaction with an able-bodied athlete in Combi categories (Combi Standard, Latin, Freestyle events).

4.6.1.2 Performance/Execution

Performance is the involvement of the wheelchair athlete (Singles)/Duo couple/Combi couple physically, emotionally and intellectually as they translate the intent of the music and choreography. Execution is the quality and precision of the movement itself and in connection with the following movement. This includes harmony of movements in Singles, Duo and Combi couples' presentations.

- Physical, emotional and intellectual involvement
- Bodylines (in Singles, Duo and Combi as well as connection in couples)
- Style and individuality/personality
- Clarity of movement
- Posture and hold (especially in Combi Standard)
- Unity in a couple (Duo and Combi events)
- Spatial awareness between partners management of changes of hold (Duo in all events and Combi in Latin and Freestyles)

4.6.2 Musicality/ Choreography/ Presentation

The intentional developed and/or original types of movements; according to the principles of proportion, unity, space, pattern, structure and phrasing

4.6.2.1 Choreography

- Purpose (idea, concept, vision)
- Choreographic content
- Phrasing and form (movements and parts structured to match the phrasing of the music)

- Originality of purpose, movement and design
- Shared responsibility in achieving purpose (Duo and Combi couples)

4.6.2.2 Interpretation

The personal and creative “translation/adaptation” of the music into body movement, performed on the space.

- Effortless movement in time to the music
- Expression of the music's style, character, rhythm
- Use of finesse* to reflect the nuances of the music
- Relationship between the partners reflecting the character of the music (Duo and Combi)

4.6.2.3 Timing

The ability of the athlete/couple to dance strictly in time with the music and to reflect the rhythm patterns and prescribed beat values of the dance.

- Dancing in time to the music
- Dancing on the strong beat
- Dancing under the prescribed beat values for each step/move
- Introductory steps/moves (dance starting on the correct measure of the music)

4.6.3 Difficulty Level

The varied wheel/foot and body work, positions, movements and holds that link all elements. This also includes the “entrances” and “exits” of all elements.

- Variety
- Difficulty (flow and effortless, wheelchair dancing by using the body work)
- Quality (wheelchair control including unity in couples)
- Balance of workload between partners (Combi and Duo)
- Variety of positions
- Variation of speed and linking movements including turns/multiple turns
- Music interpretation by physical dynamics of the wheelchair athlete as well as standing partner
- Usage of sophisticated and syncopated rhythms

5. Index

Alphabetical list of important terms and concepts with references to the article number and page

Abbreviations: article 1	page 8
Adjudicators (duties and functions): article 3.4.3	page 16
Ambulant class Appendix 7	page 67
Amendments to the Rules and Regulations: article 2.3	page 10
Anti-Doping: article 3.8	page 20
Athlete eligibility: article 3.3.1	page 12
Chairperson of Adjudicators: article 3.4.2	page 16
Classification panels: article 3.4.5	page 18
Competitions Classes for Duo Events: article 4.1.2	page 23
Competitions events (programme of): article 4.1.1	page 22
Competitions Management: article 3.2	page 12
Composition of Participants: article 4.1.3	page 25
Conventional events (general rules): article 4.2.1	page 28
Dance floor: article 4.1.4	page 26
Dance Rounds (conventional): article 4.2.5	page 31
Dance rounds (freestyle): article 4.3.5	page 33
Deductions in conventional events: article 4.4.1	page 36
Deductions in freestyle events: article 4.4.2	page 38
Definitions: article 3	page 8
Designation of competitions (general requirements)	page 13
Designation of competition appendix 1	page 47
Discipline: article 4.1.12	page 27
Disqualification in conventional events: article 4.2.4	page 30
Disqualifications: article 4.1.11	page 27
Dress Code for Athletes (conventional): article 4.2.3	page 30
Dress Code for Athletes (freestyle): article 4.3.3	page 36
Dress Code officials: article 3.4.4	page 18
Entries: article 3.3.2	page 13
Events and programme of events: article; 4.1.1	page 22
Freestyle (general rules): article 4.3.1	page 34
Gender: article 3.3.4	page 14
Injuries: article 3.10	page 21
Intellectual impairment: appendix 7	page 66
Judging criteria (conventional and freestyle): article 4.6	page 43
Lighting of the venue and the dance floor: article 4.1.5	page 26
Marking system in the final round (absolute point system): article 4.5.2	page 38
Marking system in the final round (conventional skating system): article 4.5.1	page 38
Medals and Certificates: article 4.1.10	page 27
Medical Services, responsibilities and exclusions: article 3.9	page 20
Music conventional events - time duration and bars/minute: article 4.2.2	page 29
Music freestyle events: article 4.3.2	page 35
Online competitions: article 4.1.2 (e)	page 24
Participating countries (number of): article 3.2	page 12

Powerchair events: article 4.1.2 (d)	page 24
Printing of Rules and Regulations: article 2.1	page 10
Props (use of): article 4.3.4	page 36
Protest: article 3.7	page 19
Protest form: appendix 3	page 57
Ranking system: article 3.6	page 19
Ranking System (appendix 2)	page 48
Results of the competition: article 3.5	page 19
Sound in the venue and on the dance floor: article 4.1.7	page 27
Sport Class allocations: article 4.1.2	page 23
Start number: article 4.1.8	page 27
Start Number appendix 4	page 59
Technical Delegate: article 3.4.1	page 15
Technical Meeting: article 3.3.5	page 14
Temperature in the venue: article 4.1.6	page 26
Uniform and equipment advertising: article 4.1.9	page 27
Uniform and equipment advertising appendix 5	page 60
Visual impaired events: article appendix 6	page 66
Wild Card Entry: article	page 12

APPENDIX 1 Competition Requirement

	World/Regional Championships and World Cup	Approved Competition	Endorsed Competition
Legal Terms of Reference	Host Contract	Host Contract	
Athlete Licensing	All athletes licensed	All athletes licensed	No requirement to have all athletes licenced
Results Recognition	Results automatically apply to Rankings	Results automatically apply to Rankings	Results of licenced athletes manually applied to rankings
Fee	Sanctioning fee	Competition application fee	Competition application fee
Officiating	Technical Delegate and Chairperson of adjudicators required, full panel of International Technical Officials required as described in the WPDS rules and regulations	Chairperson of adjudicators required, Officials required as described in the WPDS rules and regulations	Technical Delegate Appointed by WPDS
Classification	Full International panels required	Full International panels required	No international panel required but can request
Doping Control	WA results management subject to Doping Control Agreement	Run under National Jurisdiction or Major Event Organiser Jurisdiction,	Run under National Jurisdiction
Media and Communications	Service Level Agreement between WA and LOC	No set requirements	No set requirements
Broadcasting	Broadcasting agreement between WA and LOC	No set requirements	No set requirements
Branding	Branding guidelines apply, Sport logo and competition title usage mandatory	Branding guidelines apply, Sport logo and competition title usage mandatory	No set requirements
Commercial Rights	Commercial rights granted to LOC	No set requirements	No set requirements
Publications	To be approved by WA	No set requirements	No set requirements
Protocol	Protocol Guidelines apply	No set requirements	No set requirements
Services	Standards apply as set out in Manuals, Guidelines and/or MOU	Standards set by LOC	Standards set by
Look	To be directed and approved by WA	No set requirements	No set requirements
Technology	PRIS requirements apply, OVR supplied through Games or WA supplier	OVR supplied through Competition supplier	No set requirements
Research	WA Research protocols apply	WA Research protocols apply	No set requirements

Appendix 2 World Rankings

WPDS RANKING SYSTEM for Events score by skating System

The Ranking system is based on coefficients where different World Para Dance Sport competitions are taken into consideration.

It is based on the points that participants can get by competing in World Para Dance Sport approved competitions.

Participant get from 100 down to 1 base point depending on their ranking in a specific type of competition (Table 1) and the number of participants (Table 2).

Participant means: couple or single

Table 1

The final score depends on the number of participants attending the competition:

Table of coefficients of the Rank of the competition	
TYPE OF WPDS COMPETITIONS	COEFFICIENTS
WPDS World Championships	1.5
WPDS Regional Championships or Regional Para-Games, World Cups (European, Asian, Americas Championships)	1.3
WPDS International approved competitions	1.0
WPDS endorsed National Competition	0.8

Table 2

Table of corrective coefficients	
up to 3 participants	0.1
up to 6 participants	0.5
up to 12 participants	0.8
up to 16 participants	1.0
up to 24 participants	1.2
over 24 participants	1.5

The 4 best results are considered at the WPDS World Ranking List during a 2 year period. The 2026 ranking will cover the period from January 1st 2025 until December 31st 2026 and the 2027 rankings will cover the period 1st January 2026 to 31st December 2027

In case participant shows 1 result – it is in the WPDS World Ranking List

In case participant shows 2 results – they are in the WPDS World Ranking List

In case participant shows 3 results – they are in the WPDS World Ranking List

In case participant shows 4 results – they are in the WPDS World Ranking List

In case participant shows 5 results - the best 4 results are shown on the WPDS World Ranking List

Bellow, tables showing how participants get the Result are presented.

If more than 24 participants compete – coefficient 1.5

Place (Rank)	Basis Points	WPDS Endorsed National Competition Coefficient 0.8	WPDS Approved Competitions Coefficient 1.0	WPDS Regional Championshi ps or Regional Para Games/ World Cups Coefficient 1.3	WPDS World Championships Coefficient 1.5
1	100	120.00	150.00	195.00	225.00
2	90	108.00	135.00	175,50	202,50
3	80	96.00	120.00	156.00	180.00
4	70	84.00	105.00	136.50	157.50
5	60	72.00	90.00	117.00	135.00
6	50	60.00	75.00	97.50	112.50
7	40	48.00	60.00	78.00	90.00
8	30	36.00	45.00	58.50	67.50
9	20	24.00	30.00	39.00	45.00
10	15	18.00	22,50	29,25	33,75
11	10	12.00	15.00	19.50	22.50
12	5	6.00	7.50	9.75	11.25
13-16	4	4.80	6.00	7.80	9.00
17-20	3	3.60	4.50	5.85	6.75
21-24	2	2.40	3.00	3.90	4.50
25 and below	1	1.20	1.50	1.95	2.25

The Formula is: (Basis Points for the Place) x 1,5 x (Coefficient of the Rank of the Competition)

If up to 24 participants compete – coefficient 1.2

Place	Basis Points	WPDS Endorsed National Competition Coefficient 0.8	WPDS Approved Competitions Coefficient 1.0	WPDS Regional Championships or Regional Para Games/World Cups Coefficient 1.3	WPDS World Championships Coefficient 1.5
1	100	96,00	120,00	156,00	180,00
2	90	86,40	108,00	140,40	162,00
3	80	76,80	96,00	124,80	144,00
4	70	67,20	84,00	109,20	126,00
5	60	57,60	72,00	93,60	108,00
6	50	48,00	60,00	78,00	90,00
7	40	38,40	48,00	62,40	72,00
8	30	28,80	36,00	46,80	54,00
9	20	19,20	24,00	31,20	36,00
10	15	14,40	18,00	23,40	27,00
11	10	9,60	12,00	15,60	18,00
12	5	4,80	6,00	7,80	9,00
13-16	4	3,84	4,80	6,24	7,20
17-20	3	2,88	3,60	4,68	5,40
21-24	2	1,92	2,40	3,12	3,60

The Formula is: (Basis Points for the Place) x 1,2 x (Coefficient of the Rank of the Competition

If up to 16 participants compete – coefficient 1.0

Place	Basis Points	WPDS	WPDS	WPDS Regional Championships, Regional Para Games, World Cups	WPDS World Championships
		Endorsed National Competition	Approved Competition		
		Coefficient 0.8	Coefficient 1.0	Coefficient 1.3	Coefficient 1.5
1	100	80.00	100.00	130.00	150.00
2	90	72.00	90	117.00	135.00
3	80	64.00	80	104.00	120.00
4	70	56.00	70	91.00	105.00
5	60	48.00	70	78.00	90.00
6	50	40.00	50	65.00	75.00
7	40	32.00	40	52.00	60.00
8	30	24.00	30	39.00	45.00
9	20	16.00	20,00	26,00	30,00
10	15	12.00	15,00	19,50	22,50
11	10	8.00	10,00	13,00	15.00
12	5	4.00	5,00	6,50	7.50
13-16	4	3.20	4,00	5,20	6.00

The Formula is: (Basis Points for the Place) x 1,0 x (Coefficient of the Rank of the Competition)

If up to 12 participants compete – coefficient 0.8

Place	Basis Points	WPDS Endorsed National Competition Coefficient 0.8	WPDS Approved Competitions Coefficient 1.0	WPDS Regional Championships, Regional Para Games, World Cups Coefficient 1.3	WPDS World Championships Coefficient 1.5
1	100	64,00	80,00	104,00	120,00
2	90	57,60	72,00	93,60	108,00
3	80	51,20	64,00	83,20	96,00
4	70	44,80	56,00	72,80	84,00
5	60	38,40	48,00	62,40	72,00
6	50	32,00	40,00	52,00	60,00
7	40	25,60	32,00	41,60	48,00
8	30	19,20	24,00	31,20	36,00
9	20	12,80	16,00	20,80	24,00
10	15	9,60	12,00	15,60	18,00
11	10	6,40	8,00	10,40	12,00
12	5	3,20	4,00	5,20	6,00

The Formula is: (Basis Points for the Place) x 0,8 x (Coefficient of the Rank of the Competition)

If up to 6 participants compete – coefficient 0.5

Place	Basis Points	WPDS Endorsed National Competition Coefficient 0.8	WPDS Approved Competitions Coefficient 1.0	WPDS Regional Championships, Regional Para Games, World Cups Coefficient 1.3	WPDS World Championships Coefficient 1.5
1	100	40.00	50,00	65,00	75,00
2	90	36.00	45,00	58,50	67,50
3	80	32.00	40,00	52,00	60,00
4	70	28.00	35,00	45,50	52,50
5	60	24.00	30,00	39,00	45,00
6	50	20.00	25.00	32,50	37,50

The Formula is: (Basis Points for the Place) x 0,5 x (Coefficient of the Rank of the Competition)

If up to 3 participants compete – coefficient 0.1

Place	Basis Points	WPDS	WPDS	WPDS Regional Championships . Regional Para Games, World Cup	WPDS
		Endorsed National Competition	Approved Competitions	Coefficient 1.3	World Championships
1	100	8.00	10,00	13,00	15,00
2	90	7.20	9,00	11,70	13,50
3	80	6.40	8,00	10,40	12,00

The Formula is: (Basis Points for the Place) x 0,1 x (Coefficient of the Rank of the Competition)

Rankings for Freestyle Competition Scored on Absolute Points Score System

The best result is considered at the WPDS World Ranking List during a 2 year period. The 2026 ranking will cover the period from January 1st 2025 until December 31st 2026 and the 2027 rankings will cover the period 1st January 2026 to 31st December 2027. The ranking will be based on the absolute points score achieved multiplied by the Competition coefficient. To qualify for the World or Regional Championships your ranking score must be achieved at an approved level of competition or above

Absolute Points Score	WPDS Endorsed National Competition	WPDS Approved Competitions	WPDS Regional Championships Regional Para Games or World Cup	WPDS World Championships
		Coefficient 1.0	Coefficient 1.3	Coefficient 1.5
100.00	80.00	100.00	130.00	150.00

APPENDIX 3 Protest Form

PROTEST FORM	
DETAILS OF THE PERSON SUBMITTING THE FORM	
Given Name:	
Family name:	
NPC:	
Function:	
Date:	
Event:	
Time of event end:	
Time of protest form submission:	
FOR WORLD PARA DANCE SPORT USE ONLY	
Date and time form received:	
Protest fee paid: TD signature	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Protest panel decision:	
Protest panel members names and signatures:	Name 1: Name 2: Name 3:
Protest status:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Declined
Protest fee returned:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

PROTEST DESCRIPTION

(please provide an explanation as to why the protest is being made and reference the specific rule(s) of the World Para Dance Sport Rules and Regulations alleged to have been breached)

PROTEST FORM

APPENDIX 4 Start Number

COMPETITION/ CHAMPIONSHIPS NAME

START NUMBER

SPONSOR

APPENDIX 5 Uniform and Equipment Guidelines

Uniform and Equipment Advertising Guidelines, June, 2013

1 Definitions

WPDS	means World Para Dance Sport
Advertising	Any advertising and display of a promotional nature.
Manufacturer	The manufacturer of the Wheelchair used in the competition.
Sponsor	Companies which are granted sponsorship, recognition or commercial rights of association with the athlete
Dress	The clothing worn by the athletes during the competition
Logo	Any symbol, name, design or other graphical identification or catch-phrase, slogan or tagline denoting a manufacturer, sponsor or any other company, and/or the name of any product of such an entity.
WPDS Rule	World Para Dance Sport Rules

2 General Principles

2.1 Integrity of the Sport

To protect the integrity of WPDS, any advertising at the Competition must be in accordance with these regulations and must not adversely interfere with the technical conduct of the Competition.

WPDS reserves the right to prohibit the use of any authorised identification on any given item in order to ensure the spirit, the principles of WPDS and these guidelines are respected.

2.2 Safety

All advertising must comply with any applicable safety regulations of a Competition.

2.3 Maximizing National and Para-sport Identity

Wherever possible, Athletes are encouraged to utilize all opportunities to maximize their national and Para-sport identity. This may be achieved through the use of the NPC emblem, the official national colours, the official country name and/or acronym, the official national flag.

2.4 Sponsors of the Athlete

WPDS permits the athletes to display advertising on their dress and equipment during competitions. However, this should be placed according to the guidelines and instructions mentioned below:

- 2.4.1** In total there can be only two different sponsors. No third sponsor could be present on the dress or wheelchairs combined. However, it is allowed to advertise multiple logos of the two sponsors at the positions specified in the guidelines.
- 2.4.2** In total, there are 7 positions where sponsors logo could be placed. 1 on each competitor dress. 1 on each wheel, 1 on the backrest and 1 on each side guards.
- 2.4.3** The sponsors logo should be placed only on the positions as specified in this guidelines and the sizes specified for each position.
- 2.4.4** The two sponsors should not be adjacent or close to each other. Both of the sponsors logo should be placed separate from each other.
- 2.4.5** Advertising should not be close to or adjacent to the national or Para sport identity.

2.5 Prohibited Advertising Content

2.5.1 General

No use of any identification or logo and no item may be used for promoting or advertising which in a view of the WPDS political, religious, providing false impression of the sport or to the identity or reputation of the competition or any Local organizing committee or any NPC or competitor. Advertising of products which harms the integrity of the sport or its athletes for e.g. Tobacco is also prohibited.

WPDS will have the general discretion to object to any form of advertising which hurts the integrity of the sport, its athletes or gives a bad image to the competition.

2.5.2 WPDS Name/Logo

The name/Logo of WPDS may not be displayed on the dress or the Wheelchair.

2.6 Duration and Place

The following regulations apply for the whole duration of the Competition, including the event itself, all ceremonies (victory, opening and closing), interviews and press conferences. Furthermore, the regulations refer to all venues and sites of the Competition.

3 Advertising on Dress

In all WPDS Competitions advertising by up to 2 sponsors is allowed on a couple's dress. The male may advertise one sponsor logo and the female may advertise one sponsor logo. The size of the advertisement may be no more than 40 square cm for each sponsor. Such advertising may only be displayed and located on the waist, chest or sleeves.

Start Number

The start numbers are produced and distributed by the Local Organizing Committee. The advertising on the start number will be at the discretion of the Local Organizing Committee and cannot be objected by any competitor.

Advertising on the competition number card of the couple is limited to a maximum of 20% of the size of the Start number on the card. The size of couples' start number card may be up to DIN A5 plus 20% reserved for Advertising purposes. Couples must accept the number card as issued and may not tamper with or reduce the size of the number card.

Example of Start Number



4 Advertising on the Wheelchair

The placement of the advertising logos on the wheelchair should be according to these guidelines.

4.1 Manufacturer of the Wheelchair

In all Competitions, the logo of the manufacturer may be displayed on each item of equipment as commercially available (as supplied by manufacturer at the point of sale i.e. no enhancement may be made of the usual manufacturer identification).

4.2 Sponsor Recognition

The athlete can have two sponsors logo present on the wheelchair. However, both sponsors logo cannot be adjacent/close to each other.

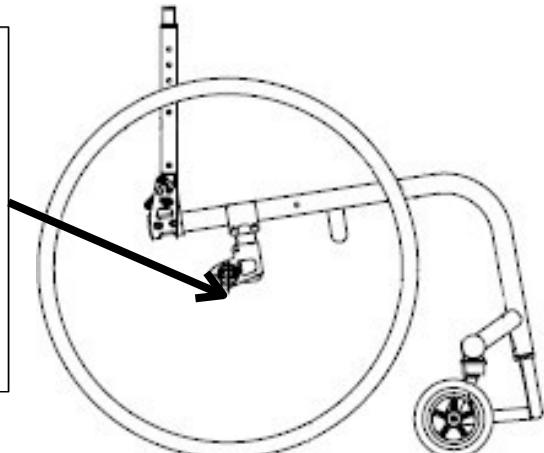
Both sponsors have to be place at distinctive positions as specified below.

4.2.1 On the Wheels

Only one sponsor logo could be present on each wheel.

If the athletes are using two sponsors, then they are not allowed to use both sponsors logo on the same wheel.

The size of the logo can take up to the size of the circle making the spoke.



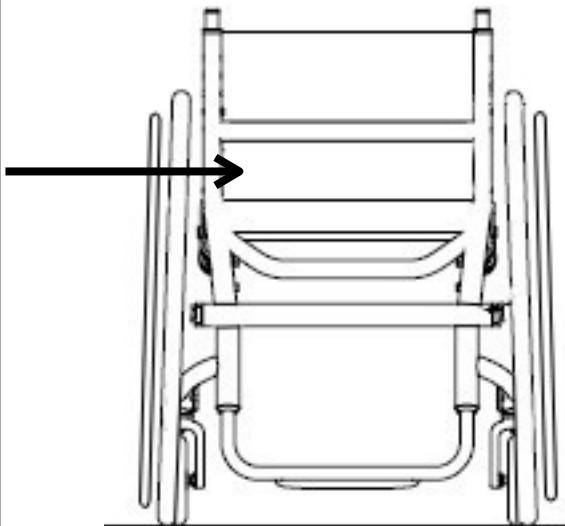
4.2.2 On the bottom of the backrest

Only one sponsor recognition is permitted on the back of the wheelchair.

The size of the logo of the sponsor should not exceed 20 X 7 cm.

The logo on the backrest could be placed only at the bottom and should not in any case block the visibility of the start number of an athlete in case the start number is placed on the Backrest.

WDS will have the right to cover the logo in case it blocks the visibility of the start number.

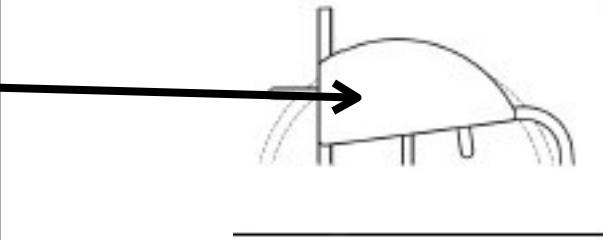


4.2.3 On the side guards of the wheelchair

Only one sponsor recognition is permitted on the safeguards of the wheelchair.

The size of the logo of the sponsor should not exceed 15 X 10 cm.

The athletes are allowed to use two different sponsors on the side guard. Each sponsor can be placed on each side of the side guard.



In case you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact World Para Dance Sport at info@worldparadancesport.org



APPENDIX 6 Visual impaired Rules

Visual Impaired Rules

- Visually Impaired (VI) dancers are included in the Para Dance Rules and Regulations.
- The dancers competing in this group must be registered visually impaired in their country of residence and submit a Medical Diagnosis Form detailing the underlying health condition and the severity of their impairment
- The dancers can compete in combi Latin, combi Standard and combi freestyle.
- The VI dancer must always wear an eye mask during their routine.
- The mask will be checked by Chair of Adjudicators to ensure no light can penetrate the mask
- The skating system will be used to judge Latin and standard dances
- The absolute points score system will be used in freestyle.
- Hold a valid World Para Dance Sport licence (after completing the World Abilitysport Federation Athlete Eligibility Agreement).
- All other rules will be in accordance with WPDS Rules and Regulations and or World Dance Sport Rules and Regulation.



APPENDIX 7 Pilot Events

Ambulant class

Ambulant dancers are included in the rules as a pilot.

- Dancers in this group must meet the minimum impairment criterion (MIC) for their impairment type and the TD and Chief classifier considers them safe to compete standing.
- The dancers can compete in singles freestyle.
- We will adapt our current judging systems to judge this group.
- Hold a valid World Para Dance Sport licence (after completing the World Abilitysport Federation Athlete Eligibility Agreement).
- While this category remains a pilot event, dancers currently competing in Class 2 in a wheelchair may also compete standing if able.
- It will be at the discretion of the LOC and WPDS whether competitions for ambulant dancers will take place at an event.
- A athlete who has both a physical and Intellectual impairment must choose which category they dance in but cannot dance in both. While these are pilot events an athlete can switch categories at the start of the next season but they cannot switch during the season.

Intellectual Impairment

Intellectual Impairment are included in the rules as a pilot

- Dancers must have been certified at National level for Virtus eligibility criteria (as outlined on the Virtus website at [Applying for athlete eligibility - VIRTUS](#))
- Hold a valid World Para Dance Sport licence (after completing the World Abilitysport Federation Athlete Eligibility Agreement).
- II dancer can compete in Freestyle, Standard, and Latin in both singles combi and duo events. In combi events one dancers must have met the Virtus Eligibility criterion and in duo events both must have met the Virtus Eligibility Criterion.
- In standard and Latin events, they will compete in 3 dances. In Standard this will be Waltz, Tango and Quickstep for Latin the dances will be Samba, Cha, Cha, Cha and Rumba. The bar/minute are the same as those for VI dancers
- Small props are allowed for II freestyle: hats, umbrellas, fans, etc



- The duration of music in conventional events are in line with rule 4.2.2.1 and for freestyle in line with rule 4.3.2
- We will adapt our current judging systems to judge this group.
- It will be at the discretion of the LOC and WPDS whether competitions for Intellectual Impaired dancers will take place at an event.
- A athlete who has both a physical and Intellectual impairment must choose which category they dance in but cannot dance in both. While these are pilot events an athlete can switch categories at the start of the next season but they cannot switch during the season.