

Competition Rules

What is considered an SOLO dancer?

A Solo Dancer is considered to be one single participant, pro or amateur, competing without the aid of props.

Objective

The objective of this competition is for the Solo competitors, to showcase their interpretation of Salsa music through their dance representation without emphasizing on tricks, flips and acrobatics. In other words, the tricks should not be the most important part of your routine.

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS – Location & Time TBA

- There is no placement structure in the preliminary round. Only qualifying competitors advancing to the finals will be announced.
- Preliminary warm up rounds for all divisions are 1.5 - 2.0 minutes and competitors will dance to the DJ's pre selected music. There is no routine or choreography required for the warm up round.
- Each contestant will then perform their freestyle (non-choreographed routine) one by one to a song selected by the DJ (all contestants will dance to the same song one-by-one).
- Performing a choreographed routine will result in immediate disqualification from the competition.
- Absolutely no props allowed.
- Out-of-town competitors may compete on Finals night.
- Limit of 4 tricks (maximum).

Please refer to "Trick" definition later in this document.

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FINALS – 2012 Toronto Salsa Festival – Estonian House - Saturday, April 7, 2012

- ROUTINE OR CHOREOGRAPHY REQUIRED
- All contestants must check in by 4:00pm sharp and submit music
- All contestants in the Solo category will dance together in a warm-up song chosen by the DJ (not exceeding 1:30 minutes). Each contestant will then present their choreographed routine using their choice of music. Routine must be no longer than 2:00 minutes long.
- Song chosen for the finals must be 90% salsa = max 12 seconds of non-salsa content
- Only CD's will be accepted and must be clearly labeled with participants' names and category. There must be ONE SINGLE TRACK on the CD!
- Costumes will contribute to the overall presentation score, and are highly suggested. Absolutely no jeans or street-wear allowed for the Final Competition.
- There will be a panel of 4-6 local and international judges. All of whom have several years of experience teaching, performing and/or competing in Salsa.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Choreographed routines will be judged by the following criteria:

A. TIMING 20 %

Was the correct rhythm maintained throughout the routine? Were syncopations deliberate and within the acceptable deviations of timing for the dance?

Points will NOT be deducted if you are dancing 'on 1' and return by breaking on '5'. The same if you are dancing 'on 2' and return by breaking on '6'. If you were to return on any other beat than that mentioned you will be deducted points.

B. TECHNIQUE 20 %

Is technique reflected through balance, placement and lines? Contestants must reflect adequate Latin/Salsa Motion and 'Isolations' as designated by the dance style. Movement should appear to be effortless. These are all reflections of good dance technique.

C. DIFFICULTY 10 %

What was the level of skill used in the turns used in the routine? Were there single footed and multiple turns incorporated? How intricate were the shines? Were there any movements in the choreography requiring exceptional balance, flexibility or strength? Were all movements attempted successfully executed?

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D. CONNECTION WITH THE AUDIENCE 10%

How well did the contestant work with the energy of the audience? Did they project to the audience and capture their attention? The judges may take into consideration the audience reaction if they so feel that it is genuine.

E. CHOREOGRAPHY 10%

How well put together was the performance? Did the routine flow easily from one movement to the next? How musical was it? Did the routine reflect the music chosen?

F. ORIGINALITY 10%

Was there something clever or new that was part of the routine?

G. APPEARANCE 10%

Costumes are important, including make-up, accessories, shoes, etc. No Jeans allowed as costumes. Points will be deducted. Suggestions: tasteful, colorful professional costumes. Ladies: If wearing skirts or dresses please wear proper dance leggings / tights / fishnets. Gentlemen: socks with costumes when wearing long pants and shoes are suggested.

H. SHOWMANSHIP 10%

How professional and polished did the contestant and choreography appear to be?

ADDITIONAL RULES & TIPS FOR COMPETITORS

There will be a maximum of four tricks / acrobatics allowed.

SOLO TRICKS:

Solo tricks can be performed by independent dancers in solo choreographies, such as Back layout, Back tuck, Back walkover, Cartwheel, Chest stand (chin stand), Elbow stand, Front aerial, Handspring, Handstand, Hand walking, Kip up, Roundoff, Side aerial, Valdez, etc.

Tricks and trick combinations are expected to remain within the confines of salsa timing and/or musicality of the routine.

TRICK COMBINATIONS - MULTIPLE POSITIONS:

Trick Combinations are allowed but no more than 4 Total Positions may be achieved in any combination. However, there cannot be any stops during the combinations. Positions must consistently flow from one to the next, with no stops. If there is a stop, each position will be counted as a separate trick, and will count toward the 4 trick limit. No trick or trick combination can last more than two 8-counts (4 measures).

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URNS AND CONTINUOUS TURNS:

All turns and preparations for turns must maintain basic timing. If dancing 'On-1': Preps must occur on the '1-2' or the '5-6'. If dancing 'On-2': Preps must occur on the '2-3' or the '6-7'.

STOPS /FREEZES:

Dancers cannot maintain an extended Stop or Freeze position for more than one 8-count (2 measures). Extended Stops or Freezes cannot happen more than two times in the routine

CONTENT AND CHOREOGRAPHY:

Routines must ideally reflect the following

- Turns (which will be judged on level of difficulty and/or originality)
- Open Shines, Footwork, Floor-Craft (proper usage of the stage space)
- Tricks or Trick Combinations appropriate for this division.
- Routines should show Originality, or something unique to showcase the contestant

POINTS DEDUCTIONS:

- Deviation from min and max routine time (5 points)
- Additional tricks (5 points per incident)
- Music (non-Salsa) (5 points for every 30 seconds of music)

*All decisions are final and are to be determined by the Head Judge

To register in to compete in this division, please visit www.TorontoSalsaFest.com

For further inquiries pertaining to competition rules above please contact Head Judge Paula Videla of Dance To Live Studio via e-mail only info@dancetolivestudio.com